



Racial Equity Data Standards Pilot

About the Data Standards Pilot

The Office of Racial Equity (ORE) developed the data standards pilot as part of our charge to identify opportunities for “The development of effective systems to capture, coordinate, and share racial equity data across agencies” (D.C. Code 2-1471.02). **Collecting and analyzing high-quality data on program and policy outcomes for District residents is essential for measuring both the current state of racial equity and our progress toward achieving our racial equity goals.** However, agencies’ ability to collect, store, and analyze race and ethnicity data differs widely based on their unique missions, reporting requirements, and legal contexts. The [Lab @ DC](#) and the Office of the Chief Technology Officer’s [Data Team](#) will serve as advisors on this pilot.

Note: At no point in the pilot will agencies be required to send data to ORE. Instead, agencies will use tools developed as part of the pilot to assess and discuss their own data quality.

Activities & Timeline

ORE has convened a cohort of four agencies for 2022: **DC Public Library, the Office of the State Superintendent of Education, Child and Family Services Agency, and Department of Energy and Environment** to participate in the following stages:



Assess the current state of race and ethnicity data for a subset of their program or service data
January - March



Identify and engage community-based organizations (CBOs) interested in providing feedback on how agencies ask about race and ethnicity
March - May



Test and implement where feasible data standards related to the collection, quality, and documentation of race and ethnicity data
September - November

Benefits

At the end of the 12-month pilot, agencies will have:



Reusable tools for auditing existing race and ethnicity data and planning for new data collection



Short-, medium-, and long-term guidance and data standards for improving collection and analysis of race and ethnicity data specific to their unique mission and context



CBO feedback on their collection and use of race and ethnicity data

Agency Participation Criteria

Agencies that will get the most out of the Data Standards Pilot have the following characteristics:

1. Considers how their program outcomes may differ across different racial and ethnic groups, but may have challenges collecting, standardizing, or analyzing data
2. Can identify at least one resident-facing program or service where agency leaders would like to know more about racial and ethnic differences in outcomes
3. Has at least one dataset in the [Enterprise Data Inventory](#) or is interested in adding one
4. Can identify at least one CBO who may be interested in providing feedback on the agency’s collection of race and ethnicity data

Please reach out to Hannah Eli (hannah.eli@dc.gov) with questions or to learn how to get involved.



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