

PEW RESEARCH CENTER
SOCIAL & DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS PROJECT
2015 MULTIRACIAL AMERICANS
Feb 6 – Apr 6, 2015

N=1,555 multiracial American adults

(The sample of multiracial adults was identified after contacting and collecting basic demographic information from 21,224 adults nationwide. For comparative purposes, an additional 1,495 adults from the general public were surveyed, including oversamples of 154 adults who are single-race black and non-Hispanic and 208 adults who are as single-race Asian and non-Hispanic.)

The survey was conducted by the GfK Group for the Pew Research Center using KnowledgePanel, its nationally representative, probability-based online panel.

The survey was conducted in English and Spanish.

GfK collects demographic information on its panelists periodically; demographic variables that begin with "PP" are part of the profile data collected by GfK and were not asked in this survey.

Variables detailing the order of randomized questions, the interview start and finish times, and the respondent's device type are available upon request.

This survey of multiracial Americans focuses on identity, personal experiences, and political and social views.

This dataset includes data from the survey of multiracial Americans and those who were screened for it, and from the general population survey that includes oversamples of single-race black and Asian respondents. Below is a description of some key filter variables and the weights included in this dataset. For a detailed description of the survey methodology and weighting procedures, see "[Appendix A: Survey Methodology](#)."

If you have questions about analyzing this dataset, contact a researcher at socialtrends-info@pewresearch.org

Filter variables

QFLAG This variable indicates whether or not a respondent qualified for the survey of mixed race Americans at each replicate. This variable has a value of 1 for respondents who qualified for the survey and a value of 2 for respondents who did not.

- XMIXED** This variable indicates which sample the respondent came from. The variable ranges from values 1 to 8, but should be combined as follows:
 XMIXED=1-7 when analyzing results from the general population survey
 XMIXED=8-11 when analyzing results based on the 21,224 adults who were screened for the multiracial survey and for whom demographic information was collected and when analyzing results based on those who qualified for the survey
- FILTER** This variable indicates the different ways in which a respondent could be considered mixed race. The variable has the following values (a more detailed description of each criteria can be found in [Appendix A: Survey Methodology](#)):
 FILTER=1 Respondents who selected 2+ census races for themselves
 FILTER=2 Respondents who didn't fit the criteria in FILTER=1 but are considered multiracial when the race(s) of their parents are taken into account
 FILTER=3 Respondents who didn't fit the criteria in FILTER=1-2 but are considered multiracial when the race(s) of their grandparents are taken into account
 FILTER=4 Respondents who didn't fit the criteria in FILTER=1-3 but are considered multiracial when the race(s) of their great-grandparents or earlier ancestors are taken into account
 FILTER=5 Respondents who didn't fit the criteria in FILTER=1-4, consider being Hispanic a race, and selected Hispanic and one census race for themselves ("Hispanic +1")
 FILTER=6 Respondents who didn't fit the criteria in FILTER=1-5, consider being Hispanic a race, and are considered Hispanic +1 when their parents' background is taken into account
 FILTER=7 Respondents who didn't fit the criteria in FILTER=1-6, consider being Hispanic a race, and are considered Hispanic +1 when their grandparents' background is taken into account
 FILTER=8 Respondents who didn't fit the criteria in FILTER=1-7, consider being Hispanic a race, and are considered Hispanic +1 when their great-grandparents' or earlier ancestors' background is taken into account

Weights

- WEIGHT1** Use WEIGHT1 when analyzing results based on the 21,224 adults who were screened for the multiracial survey (for example, to calculate the percentage of multiracial adults in the U.S. population). The filter XMIXED=8-11 must be applied when using this weight.
- WEIGHT2** Use WEIGHT2 when analyzing results based on respondents who qualified for the multiracial survey. The filters XMIXED=8-11 and QFLAG=1 must be applied when using this weight. In addition, the variable FILTER can be used to define the universe of mixed race adults for analysis. For example, the Pew Research analysis only considered FILTER=1-3 (multiracial based on what respondent selected for self, parents and grandparents). Other examples of how FILTER could be used include FILTER=1 for a

narrower definition of “multiracial” that only includes how people described their own race or FILTER=1-4 for a broader definition that takes into account the racial background of respondents’ great-grandparents or earlier ancestors.

WEIGHT3 Use WEIGHT3 when analyzing results based on the general population survey, which includes oversamples of single-race black and Asian respondents. The filter XMIXED=1-7 must be applied when using this weight. Because of the way this weight was created, it should not be used to analyze each of the oversamples separately (XMIXED=2 and XMIXED=5). It is appropriate, however, to use this weight when looking at single-race black and Asian respondents in the combined general population sample.

Summary

Weight	Required filter(s)	Other filters	
WEIGHT1	XMIXED=8-11		
WEIGHT2	XMIXED=8-11 QFLAG=1	FILTER=1	Pew Research definition
		FILTER=2	
		FILTER=3	
		FILTER=4	
		FILTER=5	
		FILTER=6	
		FILTER=7	
		FILTER=8	
WEIGHT3	XMIXED=1-7		