11/20/20 Using REALD Data to Advance Equity Session: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Important note – Dr. Marjorie McGee used Oregon 2014-18 Census PUMS data to create examples for the webinar. Note however that working with Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) data requires both advance expertise by the data analyst, as well as statistical software capable of handling survey weight. All percentages associated with the American Community Survey (ACS) data used in the webinar were weighted percentages.

1. **Could someone describe how missing data were imputed by ACS?**
   A: The Census maintains a website for technical documentation for the PUMS data: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/pums/documentation.html This paper is from 2015, but it may also be helpful in understand the issues of imputation -specific to race/ethnicity: https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/working-papers/2015/adrm/carra-wp-2015-08.pdf

2. **Rather than analyzing race/ethnicity as one categorical variable, I'm curious if there are analytic methodologies that use binary variables for *each* race/ethnicity category, rather than lumping those with multiple identities (& heterogeneous experiences of racism) as multiracial?**
   A. Please see here for an example of using alone or in combination from Lindsay Hixson (see PDF); this approach is also explained in the Implementation Guide on pages 91-92. Also, please check the REALD website after December 7th for an Excel template that may be helpful.

3. **Can you please explain again why Vietnamese isn't showing up on this "preferred language by access needs" but it was high on the previous slide?**
   A: The slide relating to language access needs by preferred language included just those with 40% or greater need of access needs in the subgroup population (to fit on a ppt slide for the webinar). For example, for those reporting Tagalog, 41.2% indicated language access need. While a relative high number of Vietnamese people have language access needs in the state, as a group, about 32% indicated having a language access need.

4. **Is there a census dataset like this regarding persons reporting disability(ies) who do not receive any kind of benefit(s) beyond Medicaid? See here for a data dictionary for the 2014-18 PUMS data:** https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/tech_docs/pums/data_dict/PUMS_Data_Dictionary_2014-2018.pdf

5. **Did you sort out how may or what percentage of the disabled were prior veterans?**
   It is possible to do this, but this was not a focus on the webinar.

6. **Is there a list of different data sets (and how to access them) and what they provide, what are their limitations?**
   We are not aware of one list of different states; however see here for data sets containing disability vars as a demographic. This list with disability vars likely has variables relating to race, ethnicity and language as well (but may not be REALD specific).