

Notes on the FY 2015 data on Peace Corps Volunteer On-Board Strength by Post and Race / Ethnicity:

Until FY 2014, data on race and ethnicity were collected from applicants using a single question. Starting in FY 2015, the Peace Corps began reporting on-board strength (OBS) using more detailed information from two voluntary questions on race and ethnicity. The Peace Corps now uses both questions to determine the total number of minorities.

The following are the two questions that are asked of applicants:

1. Please select the racial category or categories with which you most closely identify. Check as many as apply.
 - American Indian or Alaska Native. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.
 - Asian. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam.
 - Black or African American. A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.
 - Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.
 - White. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa.

Note: Applicants who select two or more racial categories are coded as “two or more races.”

2. Are you Hispanic or Latino? (A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.)
 - Yes
 - No

Notes on the structure of the data file:

- Columns A and B list the post’s name and region.
- Column C lists the total number of Volunteers at the post.
- Columns D – J lists the data on racial categories.
- Column K summarizes the data from Columns E – I for all non-white Volunteers and trainees.
- Columns L – N lists data on ethnicity.
- Column O lists the unduplicated number of minorities from any combination of non-white racial categories (Columns E – I) and/or Hispanic ethnicity (Column L).