

Testing of NHANES A-CASI Reactions to Race Questions  
Results of Interviews Conducted November 2008-February 2009

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June 15, 2009

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### Introduction

This report summarizes the findings from a research project designed to evaluate questions on race identity and racial discrimination proposed by the Division of Health & Nutrition Examination Surveys, to be used on the 2009 National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey. Because NHANES is a multi-language survey, this project evaluated both a Spanish and English version of the proposed race questions. This evaluation is based on 20 English interviews that were conducted in the Questionnaire Design Research Laboratory (QDRL) at the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), and nine English interviews and 30 Spanish interviews conducted by staff at Research Support Services.

Questions were evaluated using cognitive interviewing, a methodology used to uncover potential response problems that may not be readily apparent, as well as, depicts the meaning that the survey data actually captures. (See Willis, 2005 for more detailed description). The main goals of the project were to: 1) assess respondents' interpretation of the survey questions and gain a better understanding of the processes respondents engaged in when responding to the questions 2) identify any potential question response problems that could lead to error in the survey data and 3) identify potential translation effects on interpretation.

The following section outlines the cognitive testing methodology and describes how analysis of the data was conducted. The final section of the report provides a question-by-question summary of the findings.

## Methodology

### Sample

For this project, a purposive sample of respondents was recruited in order to evaluate the English and Spanish versions of the questionnaire. See Appendix A for a copy of the English questionnaire and Appendix B for a copy of the Spanish questionnaire used during testing. The sample consisted of 59 adults aged 18-59. Twenty-nine of these adults received the English version of the questionnaire and 30 received the Spanish version of the questionnaire. This sample reflected a variety of demographics in terms of gender, ethnicity/race, education level and income (Table 1). It should be noted that the respondents who received the Spanish version of the questionnaire were monolingual or had very limited English language skills, with a low degree of acculturation to the United States. Therefore, this group is representative of first generation Hispanic immigrants. Recruitment for the study was done using newspaper advertisements, flyers, word-of-mouth, or by contacting participants from past QDRL projects. Respondents were paid \$40 for participating.

Table 1: Demographic summary of respondents in total and for English and Spanish speaking respondents

		English Interviews	Spanish Interviews	Total (%)	
		n=29	n=30	N=59	
<b>Age</b>					
	Under 35	12	11	23	39%
	35 & Over	17	19	36	61%
	DK	0	0	0	0%
<b>Gender</b>					
	Female	16	17	33	56%
	Male	13	13	26	44%
	DK	0	0	0	0%
<b>Hispanic/Non-Hispanic</b>					
	Hispanic	2	30	32	54%
	Non-Hispanic	27	0	27	46%
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>					
	White	9	4	13	22%
	Black	16	0	16	27%
	Asian	1	0	1	2%
	Multi-Racial	2	0	2	3%
	American Indian/Alaska Native	0	3	3	5%
	DK	1	23	24	41%
<b>Education</b>					
	Less than HS	3	23	26	44%
	HS/GED	6	6	12	20%
	Some college	10	0	10	17%
	4-year degree or more	10	0	10	17%
	DK	1	0	1	2%
<b>Income</b>					
	Under 20,000	9	15	24	41%
	20,000 +	18	15	33	56%
	DK	2	0	2	3%

### Interviewing Procedures

Due to the perception that some of these questions could be sensitive, they are intended to be fielded using an A-CASI questionnaire in the NHANES's Mobile Examination Center. In order to replicate the conditions in which respondents will receive the survey in the field, respondents were initially administered the questionnaire using an A-CASI questionnaire. At the beginning of the interview the respondents were given a brief training on how to use the A-CASI program. Respondents were then administered the race section of the questionnaire on the A-CASI, followed by the cognitive interview. In the interviews, retrospective, intensive verbal probing was used to

collect response process data. Respondents were orally administered the proposed question again and in some of the interview respondents were asked to recall the answer they gave when filling out the A-CASI instrument.<sup>1</sup> Following this, interviewers administered concurrent probes, which asked respondents to recall how they came to their answer. Probe questions including such things as: Why did you answer the way you did? Can you tell me more about that? What do you think this question is asking? All interviews were audio taped; the audio tapes and interview summaries were used to conduct the analysis. Once the interviews were completed researchers then printed out the respondents' answers given during the A-CASI. Comparisons were then made between respondents' answers to the A-CASI and the answers they provided during the cognitive interview.

As a qualitative method, cognitive interviewing provides detailed insight into patterns of error as well as patterns of interpretation and calculation that respondents use to answer questions. Using a systematic and comparative analysis, the method can additionally indicate why particular subgroups of respondents process survey questions differently than other groups. Data from the interviews were analyzed using qualitative techniques, specifically, the constant comparative method (Lincoln and Guba, 1985; Strauss and Corbin, 1990; Creswell, 1998). Patterns of interpretation and cognitive processing problems were identified, as well as, specific patterns that emerged across and within the various respondent subgroups. Analysts used Q-Notes, an analysis software tool developed by the National Center for Health Statistics, which facilitated a comparative analysis of the data, including a comparison of interviews conducted in each language and potential translation effects on interpretation.

### Question by Question Review

The first four questions were intended to measure distinctions between persons' socially assigned identity (how they are identified by others) and persons' personal identities (how they identify themselves) for both race and Hispanic ethnicity. While it is impossible to capture a true socially assigned identity within the context of the survey setting (interviewing only the respondent and not 'the others'), it is theoretically feasible to capture respondents' perceptions of their socially assigned identity. However, it is important to recognize that, when analyzing resulting data, these two theoretically distinct concepts are not necessarily consistent. That is, how individuals believe they are seen by others is not always an accurate substitute for how others actually view them (Shrauger & Schoeneman 1979; Felson 1989; Felson 1981; Felson 1985; DePaulo et al 1987).

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<sup>1</sup> Interviewers had difficulty getting respondents who received the Spanish version of the questionnaire to recall their answers from the A-CASI, therefore this procedure was only used for the first 10 Spanish interviews. For the remaining Spanish interviews, the interviewer used the printout of answers from the A-CASI during the cognitive interview.

In our examination of the questions, we understood the social identity question as serving only as a proxy for an actual or true measure of social identity. The primary focus of the evaluation, then, was to determine whether respondents were able to conceptually distinguish between their own self-identity and the way they perceived others to view them. Equally important, we examined the cognitive and interpretive processes by which respondents considered and formulated a cohesive summary measure of ‘others’ perceptions. Question proposers define this summary as an ‘ad hoc measure of racial classification by others.’ As the following question-by-question summaries demonstrate, the distinction between the two identity concepts were not always clear cut and discernable to survey respondents. While it is possible to conceptually separate out the two concepts, in practice, many respondents had difficulty making that distinction. Even when respondents understood the conceptual intent of each question, when actually formulating an answer to the question, they were often unable to maintain that distinction. Furthermore, respondents did not consistently formulate a summary measure of ‘others’ perceptions.’ While some respondents attempted to average across experiences to formulate a version of the generalized other, others only selected particular experiences. Depending on the particular strategy they used, their answer could shift dramatically.

In addition, and not surprising given the lack of distinction made by respondents between the two concepts as well as the possible different strategies used to formulate a generalized other, inconsistencies were found in how some respondents answered the personal identity and social identity questions in the A-CASI and what they reported in the cognitive interview. It was not always possible to uncover why inconsistencies in reporting occurred. However, some respondents’ narratives suggested that perceptions of identity varied according to the particular context of interaction that they considered. As respondents recalled different experiences with different contexts, their answer would shift. This type of inconsistency illustrates that this measure, being context-specific, is susceptible to reliability problems. The following review will outline these problems in more detail.

RRQ.010\_ This next set of questions asks about your health and how other people identify you and treat you. Please remember that your answers to these questions are strictly confidential.

RRQ.010a How do other people usually see you in this country?  
Would you say people see you as Hispanic or Latino?

- Yes ..... 1
- No..... 2
- REFUSED ..... 7
- DON'T KNOW ..... 9

RRQ.010\_ Este siguiente grupo de preguntas es acerca de su salud y de cómo otras personas le identifican y le tratan. Por favor recuerde que sus respuestas a estas preguntas son estrictamente confidenciales.

RRQ.010a ¿Cómo suelen verlo(a) otras personas en este país?  
¿Diría que las personas lo(a) ven como hispano(a) o latino(a)?

- Sí..... 1
- No..... 2
- REFUSED ..... 7
- DON'T KNOW ..... 9

While intending to capture a measure for social identity, analysis of interviews revealed that respondents based their answers on a variety of different conceptualizations that did not necessarily reflect what they believed were others' perceptions. Approximately half of the respondents, however, did provide an answer that could arguably be operational for a social identity. These respondents drew upon particular experiences with others or cited physical characteristics that are associated with particular social groups. However, other respondents based their answer on a personal identity, that is, how they self-identified and did not take into account others' perceptions. Additionally, a significant number of Hispanic respondents, who received the Spanish version of the question, interpreted it as asking if they have ever been discriminated because of their ethnicity. The following section discusses these findings in more detail.

### Social Identity: Social Interactions & Physical Characteristics

Approximately half of the respondents based their answer on their perceptions of others' beliefs, drawing upon either particular interactions with others or considering physical characteristics that would be perceived (according to them) as belonging to a particular social group. Those respondents who based their answer on particular interactions described three types of experiences: 1) whether others asked them if they were Hispanic, 2) whether others spoke Spanish to them or asked them if they spoke Spanish, 3) or whether others treated them differently than other ethnic groups. Interestingly, only self-identified non-Hispanics referenced the first and second types of experiences, while the vast majority of respondents referencing the third type of experience were self-identified Hispanics.

Often respondents' explanations of their answer were time and context dependent. For example, one respondent, who self-identified as non-Hispanic and African American, responded "yes" to this question and went on to describe a particular interaction she had with a Hispanic man. "A couple months ago a Hispanic dude, he didn't speak English, he just walked up to me and started speaking Spanish. I guess because of the way I had my hair he thought that I was Hispanic. So I just told him I speak Spanish but I don't know it." When asked on how often this type of experience occurred, she reported that this has only happened when interacting with people who are of Hispanic descent and has never occurred when interacting with non-Hispanic people.

How each respondent weighed out and considered these contextual factors, however, varied across respondents. For example, another respondent, who reported that he is often perceived as Hispanic in particular contexts, responded "no" to this question. This respondent stated that he believed that most "random people" would identify him as white, although when he is with his Latino friends he feels that he very easily slips into their culture and his Latino friends and other Latinos often perceived him to be Latino. He goes on to describe his reasoning for answering "no" to this question:

"I think just the random people in the mall probably see me as white. I'm sure that they do. My friends who know me, even some of my Latino friends they view me as Latino as they are.... I would view my situation as being statistically far from the norm. So if I had to pick one I would pick no because I think most people in most situations would say no. I think there are very few situations, few people who would say yes. Those situations exist but I think most people in most situations generally would say no."

Even though the question contained the term "usually" to explicitly cue respondents for an average, as already evidenced in the presented examples, this was not consistently followed by respondents; some respondents who are only occasionally mistaken for Hispanic responded "yes," while others respond "no." For at least one respondent, her inconsistent A-CASI and cognitive interview responses could be attributed to her inconsistent consideration of context for the two times she answered the questions. In the A-CASI she answered "no" assumingly thinking of her usual encounters or averaging across all of her daily interactions. However, during the interview she answered yes and explained that within particular contexts, specifically those Hispanic-dominated places, she has been mistakenly identified: "The flea market, at the stores..., especially at the flea market there are a lot of Hispanic people there." While one respondent did indicate that she is mistakenly perceived as Hispanic across all types of contexts, this was a clear exception. By far, respondents who considered specific experiences formulated their answer within the parameters of the particular encounters that they recalled—which may or may not be representative of their usual encounters with "others." Furthermore, if respondents recalled another experience within a different context, their answer could shift.

Apart from social interactions, some respondents based their answers on physical characteristics that they believed were representative of a particular race or ethnic group. Again, this interpretive pattern could also be seen as operational for a self-perceived socially assigned identity. These characteristics included skin color, hair, facial features, stature and style of dress. When simply seen by others, these respondents believed, there would be no question that others would view them as belonging or not belonging to a Hispanic ethnicity. For example, one respondent who answered “no” explained, “Because I’m perceived to be Asian.... Because of my hair color, my skin color, eye color, facial features.” Because this respondent recognized her physical features as representative of the Asian race, she assumed others recognized this as well and could not perceive her as being Hispanic. Others simply stated, “Because I’m clearly not Hispanic or Latino. I’m black,” and “I’m obviously not that... In no way, shape or form do I look Hispanic.”

### Personal Identity

While some respondents clearly understood the conceptual intent of the question and attempted to report some version of a self-perceived social identity, other respondents were unable to distinguish between their personal identity and an identity assigned by others (as they perceived it). Rather than basing their response on others’ view of their ethnicity, they reported their self-identity. Their response to this question was so automatic that they gave little, if any, thought to how others might view their ethnicity. For example, one respondent, who answered “no” in the A-CASI, stated during the cognitive interview, “I didn’t really process it. I thought it was a straightforward question -whether I’m Latino or Hispanic. So I didn’t think anything of it.”

Other respondents stated that they assumed others would simply view their ethnicity in the same way that they did and, therefore, did not need to consider others’ perceptions. This occurred for both respondents who received the English and the Spanish version of the question. For example, one respondent, who responded “no” explained that he does not view himself as Hispanic and went on to say “I guess it’s a matter of how I perceive myself, that’s going to affect how I think others see me.” Similarly, other respondents discussed how they chose to present themselves to others, which would influence how others would view them. When asked why he answered the way he did (which was “No”), one respondent replied “It will depend in the way I am dressed. ...The tone of my voice I use... It is not really a way of how they, other people treat me. Maybe how I present myself.”

### Indicator of Discrimination—for self-identified Hispanics

A significant number of respondents who received the Spanish version interpreted this question as asking whether they had been discriminated against because they were Hispanic. To understand this interpretation, it is necessary to understand the particular context of this question for Hispanic respondents. The introduction to the tested questions states:

This next set of questions asks about your health and how other people identify you and treat you. Please remember that your answers to these questions are strictly confidential.

The intent of this introduction is to set the stage for a few questions about identification (by others and by self) followed by questions about potential differential treatment because of ethnicity and race. After the introduction, respondents are immediately asked whether they are seen by others as Hispanic or non-Hispanic. For those who do not consider themselves Hispanic, the question appears to be interpreted as asking if others “mistake” them for Hispanic. However, for those who do consider themselves Hispanic, the introduction appears to have a priming effect. These respondents who consider themselves Hispanic understood the following questions as asking about how they are identified and treated, and then they are asked if others see them as Hispanic. Thus, in many cases, they interpret the question as asking if they are discriminated against because of being Hispanic. This is supported by responses in which respondents rephrased the verb “see” in the question “how other people usually SEE you” (in Spanish, “cómo suelen VERLO(A)”) as “look,” as in what kinds of looks do they get from others: a concept tied to overt (even if passive) discriminatory behavior. The life experience of immigrant, non-English speaking Latinos in the United States includes experience with discrimination, if not felt personally, felt by others around them, and it is easily present in respondents’ minds.

Instead of answering based on whether or not they perceived others to view them as Hispanic, these respondents based their answer on whether or not they were discriminated against. For example, one respondent, who self-identified as Hispanic, and perceived others to view him as Hispanic, answered "No" to this question because he feels that he is not discriminated against based on his Hispanic ethnicity and that he is treated as equal to other races, whereas other respondents, who self-identified as Hispanic, answered “Yes” to this question because they do in fact feel discriminated against because they are Hispanic. However, some respondents reported experiences with discrimination when answering this question that were not associated with being Hispanic. For example, one respondent, who also self-identified as Hispanic, answered "Yes," despite the fact that she feels that she is not discriminated against based on her Hispanic ethnicity. She answered “yes” because she feels that she is discriminated against because her of poor English language skills.

In sum, this question appears to be capturing an assortment of conceptualizations that can vary across respondents. While many respondents understood the intent of the question, the responses were based on their own self-perceptions and not those of others. These perceptions are typically context based and are susceptible to change if respondents recall and consider alternative contexts. Nevertheless, even if another person asks a respondent whether they are Hispanic, it does not indicate that the other person believes the respondent is Hispanic. The other person in the interaction could have thought the respondent was not Hispanic or could have been unsure and, therefore, asked the respondent about their ethnicity. Similarly, if others speak to the respondent in Spanish does not necessarily mean that those persons perceive the respondent to be

Hispanic. These other persons may only speak Spanish and have no other way of communicating to the respondent. Without additional evidence, it is impossible to conclude that these other persons view the respondent to be Hispanic or non-Hispanic. Finally, a significant portion of the respondents who received the Spanish version of this question interpreted this question as asking if they were discriminated against because they were Hispanic. Therefore, both the English and Spanish version of this question is likely to lack validity in terms of the original intent of the question.

RRQ.010b Again, how do other people usually see you in this country?  
You may select more than 1 of these categories.

Would you say . . .

White.....	1
Black or African American.....	2
Asian.....	3
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander..	4
American Indian or Alaska Native.....	5
REFUSED .....	77
DON'T KNOW .....	99

RRQ.010b Nuevamente, ¿cómo suelen verlo(a) otras personas en este país?  
Puede seleccionar más de una de estas categorías.

¿Diría que . . .

Blanco(a).....	1
Negro(a) o africano(a) americano(a).....	2
Asiático(a).....	3
Nativo(a) de Hawai o de otra isla del Pacífico..	4
Indio(a) americano(a) o nativo(a) de Alaska.....	5
REFUSED .....	77
DON'T KNOW .....	99

Like the previous question, the intent of this proposed question was to capture an operationalized form of socially assigned identity, meaning how respondents perceive others to view them and to serve as a proxy for others’ actual views of the respondents’ race. However, as in the previous question, analysis of interviews revealed that respondents based their answers on a variety of different conceptualizations that did not necessarily reflect others’ perceptions. Like the previous question, the majority of respondents did provide an answer that could arguably operationalize social identity. These respondents drew upon particular experiences with others or cited physical characteristics that they associate with particular social groups. However, other respondents based their answer on a personal identity, that is, how they self-identified and did not take into account others’ perceptions. Finally, unlike the previous question, self-identified Hispanics had difficulty answering the question because they perceived their race to be “Hispanic”—an option that was not included in this race question. The following section discusses these findings in more detail.

## Social Identity: Social Interactions & Physical Characteristics

As in the previous question, respondents based their answer to on their perceptions of others beliefs, considering either particular social interactions with others or their own physical characteristics. Respondents who based their answer on particular interactions described two types of experiences: 1) others asked them about their race, and 2) others treated them differently than other racial groups.

Once again, respondents' explanations of their answers were context dependent, however, rather than reporting on experiences in racial enclaves, respondents reported on specific others. For example, several respondents answered this question "black or African American," because they believed that most non-blacks view them as black. However, these respondents also noted that other black people often ask them if they have Native American heritage. Because, they perceived, it was only blacks that viewed them as Native American, they did not report it in their answer. Similarly, other respondents, who reported in the previous question that Hispanics often mistake them as Hispanic, reported here that they believed non-Hispanic others perceived them to be black or African American. Finally, one respondent answered "Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and American Indian or Alaska Native" in the A-CASI based on what she believes her friends think. However, during the cognitive interview she answered African American, explaining that that most others (strangers) perceive her to be black.

Again, as in the previous question, the term "usually" was not consistently understood. While some respondents did report how most people or the "general public" view them, others, as detailed above, report on specific groups of the population.

While a significant portion of the respondents based their responses on experiences in social interactions, the vast majority of respondents discussed how their personal characteristics must indicate their racial identity to others. For example, one respondent, who answered "Black or African American," explained that "When I look at myself or see myself I don't see myself as having... different features of another race. Meaning like some Cherokees they have very very high cheek bones or Caucasian, maybe their nose is more...straight.... I just think they would say oh she's African American." Another respondent, who answered "Black or African American," stated that she did so because she believes that the way she dresses indicates to others her race, because she believes that African Americans dress differently from whites and they buy different brands of clothing.

Finally, it is important to note that, unlike the previous ethnicity question, this racial question is more complex simply because there are multiple races. Respondents themselves may hold more than one racial identity or think of themselves as mixed, while at the same time, may believe that others might have multiples perceptions of their racial identities. For example, this question was difficult for one respondent, who is often perceived to be multi-racial but is not sure what races others might perceive him as. He

reported that others will typically ask him what he is “mixed with.” He stated, “Today even, at work today, you know, they look and they’re like ‘man what are you mixed with’ . . . I’m sure they knew that I was African American and then, but at the same time I do look mixed.” Because this respondent does not know how others perceive him, he decided to report how he self-identified, which is black and West Indian. However he did not know how to indicate West Indian on the questionnaire and consequently he replied “Black or African American and American Indian or Alaska Native.”

### Personal Identity

As in the previous question, some respondents had difficulty distinguishing between the two concepts of personal and social identity. Consequently, these respondents based their response on their own self-conceptualization. These responses appeared to be automatic, meaning respondents did not put much thought into how they should answer the question. For example, when asked why she reported only African American even though she is also Native American and is frequently asked if she is Native American, one respondent replied:

“Oh I actually didn’t go that far. Didn’t really think about it at that time. . . . You know what? So many times you are asked on- well I don’t know if they still do but I know in school they would ask your race and stuff and you could only choose one and you just go for the- it’s almost like my response on that one was a quick African American, black African American because that’s typically how you know you see it.”

Similarly, another respondent who answered “white” to this question in the A-CASI, only realized when discussing her answer in the interview that she did not think of others’ perceptions.

“I think I said white, but you know it’s funny, like the more- I’m almost feeling like I should probably go back to start and just answer them over because I kind of just you know answered them as how do I see myself but if how other people see myself, maybe they don’t see me as white. I don’t know.”

### Inadequate Response Options

Finally, the response options provided in this question were found to be problematic for a number of respondents, primarily those who self-identified as Hispanic and received the Spanish version of the question. These respondents either did not use the same response categories to describe their race or they considered Hispanic to be their race. As a result, invalid responses were given for this question by the majority of respondents (21 out of 30), who self-identified as Hispanic, and who received the Spanish version of the question.

As found in previous studies, the concept of race was found to be conceptually different between Hispanics and Non-Hispanics (Martinez, Marín, and Schoua-Glusberg 2002). The concept of race in Latin America (and therefore for the less acculturated Latinos in this study) is not the same as the concept of race in the United States. Race, or (in Spanish) “raza,” may appear as the same term or as an equivalent translation. However, “la raza” is commonly used (particularly in Mexico) to describe the ethnicity which resulted from the mixing of Latin American native peoples and Spaniards. None of the categories offered for the race question reflect such ethnicity, so many Latinos who have not internalized the American concept of race expect a category that reflects that ethnicity. These respondents reported that they did not find “Hispanic,” or “Latino,” or their national origin, nor do they find themselves represented in categories that describe their skin color (they feel neither “white” nor “black” in skin color). While some respondents were able to skip out of the question by selecting “refused” or “don’t know” the majority of Hispanics who answered this question selected a random race in order to advance to the next question.

In sum, while the majority of respondents interpreted this question as asking about their perceptions of how others view their race, these respondents based their responses on their own self-conceptualizations that do not necessarily reflect others’ views. While some respondents based their answer on information acquired during social interactions, others based their response on their own recognition that they possess characteristics that they associate with particular races, or based on their own self-conceptualizations and do not consider at all how others might view their race. Finally the concept of race was found to be conceptually different for Hispanics and Non-Hispanics and, therefore, Hispanic respondents provided invalid responses.

RRQ.020 Do you consider yourself to be Hispanic or Latino?

Yes .....	1
No .....	2
REFUSED .....	7
DON'T KNOW .....	9

RRQ.020 ¿Se considera usted hispano(a) o latino(a)?

Sí.....	1
No .....	2
REFUSED .....	7
DON'T KNOW .....	9

Most respondents, regardless if they received the Spanish and the English version of the question, interpreted this question as asking about a personal identity or how they self-identified in terms of a Hispanic ethnicity. As in question RRQ.010a, the majority of respondents who received the English version of the questionnaire responded “no” to this question, and all of the respondents who received the Spanish version of the questionnaire responded “yes” to this question.

Among the respondents who received the Spanish version interpreted the question as asking about a personal identity. When asked how they formed their response, these respondents discussed their country of origin and the fact that they speak Spanish as reasons for why they identify with this ethnicity. However, for some respondents their answer was based more on the fact that they originated from a Latin American country. For these respondents being Hispanic meant that they were not American. For example, one respondent stated that only immigrant generations were Hispanic, and that the children of immigrants would not be considered Hispanic. In addition, respondents who self-identified as Hispanic also mentioned that to identify as Hispanic meant to honor their roots and to continue to practice the customs and traditions from their culture, even though they live in the United States. As in the previous question a few respondents also perceived their physical appearance to be characteristic of a Hispanic ethnicity, more specifically their skin color and their style of dress.

A few respondents, who received the Spanish version, interpreted this question as asking about whether or not they have an awareness of their ethnicity or if they remember their roots. Additionally, two respondents confused this question with RRQ.010a and discussed their perceptions of how others view their ethnicity.

Among the respondents who received the English version of the questionnaire, only three respondents answered “yes” while all other respondents answered “no.” It was difficult for some respondents to explain why their response was no, often replying to probing with statements such as, “just no,” “because I’m not,” “to me it’s obvious, you know it’s difficult to say why.” However, other respondents were able to explain their responses. For some respondents this meant that they themselves or their family did not originate from a Latin American country. It was also common to find respondents discussing their racial identities in this question, which for them served as counter-identities to being Hispanic. Respondents did not seem to differentiate between race and ethnicity when answering this question and therefore often drew on their race to explain why they did not see themselves as Hispanic. For example several respondents discussed the race that they self-identified with as evidence that they were not Hispanic, “My mom and dad are both Swedish, Scandinavian. So like my relatives several generations back are, I’ve always considered myself white.”

However, this did not mean that respondents always answered according to their genealogical background. For example one respondent, who answered “no” to this question, discussed having grandparents who were Hispanic. Despite this, his parents only identified as African American and therefore he himself identified as only African American. Conversely, another respondent who self-identified as white, and stated that his genealogy was white, responded “yes” to this question because he had chosen a Hispanic identity for himself.

“I think I appear very white but I’ve submerged myself- most of my friends are Latino. I only go to- I hang out in Latino bars, I study South America. I read South America Press. I’m finishing my dissertation on

Latin America. I have full intentions to move there and live out the rest of my life there. So I have and I associate much more closely with stereotypical Latino culture....I have white skin but as I always say that's an accident. I think race is an accident. So given a choice I would like to be Latino because I feel that way. I don't think I'm seen that way."

Additionally, this respondent points out that the terms Hispanic and Latino could be interpreted "as either a culture or a skin color." When thinking about how others may perceive him this respondent uses the interpretation of Hispanic as referring to skin color. This respondent thinks he looks white, and therefore believes that most others would identify him as white. However, when asked how he self identifies he interprets the term Hispanic in terms of a cultural characteristics, and because he deeply identifies with the Hispanic culture, he self-identifies as Hispanic and not white.

Not all respondents based their responses to this question on their own personal conceptions of their ethnicity or race. Some respondents based their responses on how others treat them and what others have told them about their race. For example, one woman who identified herself during the screening as white and Hispanic, responded "yes" to this question in the A-CASI, but then answered "no" to this question in the cognitive interview. She discussed that she answered "no" because she is perceived as white and is therefore treated better than Hispanics. When asked directly if she sees herself as Hispanic, she answered "no" because the world sees her as white. Additionally, other respondents commented on how they were never perceived by others to be Hispanic, therefore they do not see themselves as Hispanic. A couple of respondents discussed that they based their response on what others have told them. For example, one respondent stated that she does not perceive herself to be Hispanic because "on my birth certificate it says I'm African American."

Finally, it should be noted that several respondents found this question to be repetitive and became agitated or laughed when hearing the question. Because they did not differentiate between the intent of the two questions as well as did not discern between race and ethnicity, the four questions appeared to be asking for the same information.

In sum, while this question does appear to capture how respondents self-identify in terms of having a Hispanic ethnicity, there was some differentiation in how respondents conceptualized the intent of the question. Additionally, respondents based their responses on a number of things, such as genealogy, their own chosen identities, and information others have told them about their ethnicity or race.

RRQ.030b What race do you consider yourself to be?  
 You may select more than 1 of these categories.

Would you say . . .

White .....	1
Black or African American .....	2
Asian .....	3
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander .	4
American Indian or Alaska Native .....	5
REFUSED .....	77
DON'T KNOW .....	99

RRQ.030b ¿De qué raza se considera usted?  
 Puede seleccionar más de una de estas categorías.

¿Diría que . . .

Blanca .....	1
Negra o africana americana .....	2
Asiática .....	3
Nativa de Hawai o de otra isla del Pacífico	4
India americana o nativa de Alaska .....	5
REFUSED .....	77
DON'T KNOW .....	99

As in question RRQ.010, respondents who received the Spanish version of the questionnaire found it difficult to provide a valid response. Respondents reported that they did not find “Hispanic,” or “Latino,” or their national origin, nor do they find themselves represented in categories that describe their skin color (they feel neither “white” nor “black” in skin color). While some respondents were able to skip out of the question by selecting “refused” or “don’t know,” the majority of Hispanics who answered this question selected a random race in order to advance to the next question.

Respondents often commented during the cognitive interview that they could not find Hispanic on the list of response options. Others defined the term “raza” as “what country we are from,” “when people come from your same country, speak the same language,” “the place you are from, where you are born,” and one respondent commented that she would have like to have seen country of origin in the list of response options. Because respondents could not indicate Hispanic or country of origin for this question they were forced to either skip the question or provide an invalid answer. Among these respondents nine skipped this question by either selecting “don’t know” or “refused.” The remaining respondents selected a race from the list but were quick to point out that they did not typically self-identify as such. For example, upon probing one respondent commented that she would have selected Latino or Hispanic but this was not an option so she selected “American Indian” instead.

A couple respondents defined the term “raza” as referring to one’s skin color, and because they identified their skin color as either white or black they had little trouble

providing an answer. However, some who understood this question as asking about one's skin color and who still considered their race to be Hispanic, commented that they chose a response because it was closest to their skin tone. For example, one respondent reported that he chose "African American" because he could not find Hispanic on the list but he thought his skin color was closest to African Americans and "for the white person, we are all dark." Respondents also wanted to differentiate between countries of origin when answering, despite the fact that they interpreted this question as asking about skin color. For example, one respondent commented that the list offered other races such as white, but she did not understand if white meant "white American" or if it could mean "white Hispanic."

Finally, some respondents did not see this as a distinct question from the previous race question. One respondent provided a response based on how she perceived others to view her race and not based on how she herself identified. This respondent identifies her race to be Hispanic, however she believes that in the United States she is seen as white, therefore she responded "white" to this question. Two other respondents, who identified their race as Hispanic, thought this question was a repeat of question RRQ.010. These respondents believed that because they had initially skipped question RRQ.010, they were being administered it again and they should provide an answer, even if it was not correct.

Fewer problems were found in the evaluation of the English version of the questionnaire. The majority of respondents interpreted this question as asking about how they self-identified in terms of race. Respondents based their answer on a number of factors, such as their genealogy, their physical characteristics, and what others have told them about their race (such as bureaucratic labels including driver's licenses and birth certificates). However the most common reason given was genealogy, with typical comments including, "I am not mixed. I am Vietnamese. My parents are Vietnamese," "Because both of my parents were (white) and because I was born here," "We don't have any other countries like mixed in our family. Neither on my mom's or my dad's side."

Other respondents, who had less awareness of their genealogy, based their answer on their physical appearance.

"I'm looking, you know because basically nobody's really the same the same pure, we're all mixed with a little something but basically I'm looking at African American because that's what my mother looked like. My father he's light skinned but he was a black guy. He was probably mixed with something but I don't know. But I always considered myself just being African American."

Significantly, respondents' answers did not always coincide with their genealogy. For example, one respondent who only identified as "black or African American" gave the following reason, "Because everyone else in my family is African American, in like my immediate family, so... grandma, well I guess grandma is kind of mixed but mom, dad, brothers and sisters, aunts, uncles." Despite having Native American in her family

genealogy, this respondent did not include this in her answer. Her reasoning was: “I know it’s in my blood but I don’t consider that to be my race. Because there [sic] be more black. I just consider whatever the most of then that’s what it is.”

Finally, despite being given the option of selecting more than one race some multi-racial respondents only selected one race. These respondents mentioned experiences in the past when they have filled out forms and been forced to choose one race and how these experiences influenced their thought process when filling out this questionnaire. For example, one respondent, who reported in the interview that she was both African American and Native American, only selected African American in the A-CASI. When asked why she answered the way she did, she replied,

“I chose African American and again I think just from previous experiences- standardized tests – I think you when you’re answering questions you go back to what you already know. Although it does say that you can choose more than one just typically you are- have been- have had- been trained to pick one box and stay with it.

Similarly another respondent shifted his answer between the A-CASI and the cognitive interview, commenting that often it is only possible to select one race. This respondent reported in the interview that he self-identified as African American and Native American and, in fact, answered this way during the A-CASI portion of the interview, but then reported in the interview that he only answered African American on the A-CASI. Although it was not apparent to the interviewer at the time that the respondent’s two answers were inconsistent, the interviewer did probe why the respondent answered the way he did. When asked what he was thinking about when answering, this respondent replied, “A lot of times on questionnaires it might not even have the American Indian on there. They just have like African American. Sometime it might have other and I’ll put American Indian there, you know, just to honor that part.” When asked how he usually answers this type of question he replied, “African American and if they have American Indian I’ll circle American Indian ‘cause usually they’ll have like something (Alaska Native) like next to it.”

In sum, little difference was found between how respondents responded to question RRQ.010b and how respondents responded to this question. While this question does appear to capture how respondents’ self-identify, there was some differentiation in how respondents were interpreting the question. Additionally, the concept of race was found to be conceptually different for Hispanics and Non-Hispanics, which made it difficult for Hispanic respondents to provide a valid response and is likely to lead to bias in the data when this question is fielded, as the majority of Hispanic respondents chose an invalid response.

RRQ.040 How often do you think about {being Hispanic or Latino/being RACE REPORTED IN RRQ.030/your race or ethnicity}?

Would you say . . .

Never .....	1
Once a Year .....	2
Once a Month .....	3
Once a Week .....	4
Once a Day .....	5
Once an Hour .....	6
Constantly .....	7
REFUSED .....	77
DON'T KNOW .....	99

RRQ.040 ¿Con qué frecuencia piensa en {que es hispano(a) o latino(a)/que es RACE REPORTED IN RRQ.030/su raza u origen étnico}?

¿Diría que . . .

Nunca .....	1
Una vez al año .....	2
Una vez al mes .....	3
Una vez a la semana.....	4
Una vez al día.....	5
Una vez por hora .....	6
Constantemente .....	7
REFUSED .....	77
DON'T KNOW .....	99

The intent of this question was to measure “race consciousness,” meaning the reflection of the racial climate at a given time or place. However, when responding to this question respondents included a variety of reasons for why they think about their race or ethnicity and what they based the frequency of these thoughts on. Often these reasons had nothing to do with racial discrimination. Furthermore, the responses to this question were heavily skewed, with the majority of respondents who self-identified as Hispanic responding “constantly,” and the majority of respondents who self-identified as non-Hispanic responding “never.” The third most popular response option chosen was “once a week” which was also predominantly selected by non-Hispanic respondents. The following section will discuss these findings in more detail.

Almost all of the respondents, who self-identified as Hispanic, chose the response option “constantly” when responding to this question. Respondents were probed on why they answered “constantly” to this question and a variety of reasons were given, including, thinking about their race/ethnicity during social interactions, being mindful of their Hispanic origins, because their race/ethnicity is central to their identity, and because of societal reminders and experiences with discrimination. Among these respondents the most common reason given for thinking about their race/ethnicity was because the respondent was mindful of their Hispanic origins. This included a number of factors such

as engaging in cultural traditions, thinking about their country of origin, missing their home country, and to honor their ancestral roots. For example one respondent, who stated that she constantly thinks about being Hispanic, discussed remembering her house in Mexico and what it was like to live there, while another respondent mentioned thinking about her culture and how she surrounds herself with things that make her think about her country of origin, such as the food she cooks, and the people she socializes with, while still another respondent discussed missing her home country and wanting to move back.

Other Hispanic respondents reported that they constantly thought about their race/ethnicity because of incidents that occurred during social interactions. These incidents included having difficulty communicating with others because they only speak Spanish or they have poor English skills, while others reported making social comparisons, which included things like comparing customs in the U.S. to customs in their home country. For example, one woman discussed how different her children's friends' lunches are compared to the ones that she prepares for her children.

Finally, some Hispanic respondents reported that they constantly thought about their ethnicity because of societal reminders of their ethnicity and one respondent mentioned direct discrimination. Among these respondents some commented on often being asked what country they were from. For example one respondent stated, "When you're at home and doing your thing and preparing your meals, then you got to a store and they sometimes ask you whether you are Mexican." Only one respondent, who identified as Hispanic and stated that he constantly thought about being Hispanic, reported that he did so because he is discriminated against.

While the majority of Hispanic respondents chose the response option "constantly," many of the respondents who self-identified as non-Hispanics chose the response option "never," often stating that they tried to not think about their race, or that there was nothing they could do to change their race, so it did not make sense to spend time thinking about it. For example, one respondent, who self-identified as African American, reasoned: "I never think about it. Because I know it. When I go to bed, I wake up, and in between and I go look in the mirror I'll be the same guy I've been looking at." Similarly, another respondent, who self-identified as African American, replied:

"Because I just don't think that those kind of categories related on life. You're not supposed to think about 'oh am I really Latino? Do I have whites in my family?' You're not really suppose to think about stuff like that. It shouldn't be a category of your life when you first wake up. My theory is you should be glad that you wake up, you know?"

Finally, another respondent who self-identified as both African American and Native American discussed how she is curious about her genealogy, but it is not something that she spends time thinking about.

"I don't. I don't really think about it. I mean I want to know but I really don't think about it. I just don't think about it. I be doing other things. So

that doesn't even really cross my mind.... It crosses my mind every now and then but I really don't even try to think about that...it's just an awareness.”

Despite the large majority of respondents who answered “never” to this question, many respondents reported throughout the interview incidents where they were treated differently by others because of their race, and how these incidents had made them feel bad about themselves. It was clear that some respondents thought about their race more often than they were letting on in this question.

Additionally, some respondents thought this was a strange question to ask because they did not think people thought about their race. For example, one respondent, who self-identified as African American and replied “don’t know” to this question stated, “I mean who would sit around and count how many times a week or month they think about their race?” Similarly another respondent stated during the cognitive interview,

“I don’t sit down, I mean I don’t sit there and say okay so once a day do I sit back and think about .... And then I was like okay, do I really think about my race? Then I was like okay, I was about to put down once a day but I was like no, I don’t do it once a day, ‘cause she told me to be as honest as possible so I went back and said never....unless it’s placed in your face or unless somebody questions it then it’s not an issue to me. My ethnic background has nothing to do with how I get a job, how I mentally or emotionally or psychologically perform a job or if I can care for a household. Now those are my perceptions. Other people’s perceptions may be different.”

Finally, one respondent thought this was a very strange question to be asked, to the point where she seemed offended. “It's weird to want to know. ‘What are you thinking about?’ She described this question as “getting a curve ball,” and stated, “Where did that come from? Don't you see my race?” Although this respondent was ultimately able to provide a response she felt this was a very odd question.

“I think I said once a week. Yeah or I don't know which one it was either once a week or once a day.... Well that question I was like why are you- (laughs), I was like do I go around- originally I said does a person really go around every day you know thinking about 'hey I am Hispanic' or 'hey I am this.' Do they have to have a reality check all the time or something? And the reason why I answered maybe once a week or once a day is because you're constantly seeing things in the media and hearing things on the radio like 'if you are a black African American or if you are Hispanic or whatever race that they're talking about then you need to do X, Y, and Z- or this could be for you.' You know so at least once a day or I really think I said once a day, at least once a day or at least once a week because it's the media is constantly around you. Uh when I say media I'm talking

about radio, TV, movies, uh the public, um signs, there's something always around you to remind you hey you know if you forgot what you are, it's a reminder. Not purposefully by subconsciously to keep you on your toes I guess. I just thought that was a little weird.... I mean if you know who you are or your race why would you need a reality check once a week or once a day or whatever the other choices were.”

This respondent then went on to say that race is not something that she chooses to think about but she is constantly reminded of her race every day.

Some respondents interpreted this question as asking about how often they think about their race in relation to being discriminated against. Respondents who felt they had never been discriminated against because of their race, felt they had no reason to think about it and therefore they gave a “never” response. For example, one respondent, who reported never experiencing any kind of racism stated, “It seems like it’s asking if I’ve had any problems where my race might be a big part of it. I hope it never comes to pass. I don’t want to think about that in a way like that.” Similarly, another respondent stated during the probing of this question “Even though I’m African American a lot of people think they’re like harassed just because of that. I don’t feel that way, you know. So maybe if I was in an environment where I was being discriminated against I would have to think about my race.”

Conversely, one respondent, who felt he was discriminated against based on his race, replied “once a week” to this question.

“Because in your daily living you can see how people treat you differently. They might not say it, but you can see it and sometimes it comes from your own race of people also. They can be more subjected to be negative towards you. Just for little silly things that somebody else might say 'oh sure go ahead', but if I ask for it totally different mannerisms. So you notice that in your daily living.”

However, this respondent also stated that he shouldn’t let other’s discriminatory behavior bother him. “You can't let it bother you because it will take you somewhere you don't want to go.” Similarly, another respondent, who answered “constantly” to this question did so because he often thinks about how his life would be if he were white instead of African American.

“I don't encounter a lot of racism, but there are some situations where I might perceive it as something racist or bigotry or something like that. I often wonder how it would be like if I were white. Would it be different? That's a constant I guess with the average black. I never had a lot of bad encounters or anything, but it's just a thought.”

Another respondent who replied constantly did so because “You’re constantly reminded about your race in one way or another, indirectly or directly, so you can’t help but to

think about it.” This respondent discussed how thoughts about his race might come up in his day to day interactions, such as in conversation or during altercations with others. He also mentioned thinking about discussions he had with his parents regarding race while growing up.

In addition to the multiple interpretations and reactions to this question, there were also a number of inconsistencies discovered in respondents’ answers to this question and their narrative responses. For example, one respondent who answered “constantly” in the A-CASI questionnaire then went on to discuss in the interview how she never thinks about her race, “Because I already know that I am. Why should I have to think about it? I see myself every day. It’s not a question you know that you can do anything about. You’re here and that’s what you are, and why think about it anymore?” Similarly, another respondent answered “constantly” in the A-CASI and then stated in the cognitive interview, “I put once a day... or it could constantly or every day, either way. But it’s always there in the back of- you know. It’s something that you always know.” When asked what she thought this question was asking about, this respondent stated “I think it’s something I always have in the back of my mind whether or not it necessarily is a factor that comes into play during the day between interactions between people but it’s something that you always have in the back of your mind.” This respondent couldn’t give any example of when she has actively thought about her race, she just kept talking about how it’s generally always there as part of your conscious.

It became apparent in some of the other interviews that part of the reason respondents’ answers to this question shifted was because the answer they gave was dependent upon a particular context and, as contexts shift, so do respondents’ answers. For example, one woman who answered “once a week” in the A-CASI and then stated that the answer she gave during the A-CASI was “once a month” and then still later stated that her race is not something she usually thinks about. When probed on why she answered the way she did she discussed two very recent experiences that have caused her to think about her race:

“(Laughed) I think I put once a month. I think about that only because matter of fact the guy who brought me over here. I got a metro access to take me over here and we were talking about how the Hispanic people have really you know come over and kind of spread out and made me think about that being black when I saw that. Usually I don’t even think about it that much but seeing... them (Hispanics) hanging around...”

This respondent’s answer to this question appears to be highly influenced by her recent conversation about others’ ethnicities. In addition, she also mentioned that she has thought about her race lately because of the recent presidential election and conversations she has had with her friend. Race is not something that this respondent typically thinks about, but because of recent events she has thought of it more, it appears she is trying to give an answer that reflects her recent thoughts about the subject. However, since race is not something that she typically thinks about she may be having problems quantifying her answer and/or recalling her response.

Other respondents also mentioned having thought of their race more recently due to the presidential election and for at least one respondent this complicated his question response. For example, one respondent who doesn't typically think about his race, stated that he has more recently due to the election

"I thought that was a funny question. I don't know I just thought it was a funny question because I don't usually think about being white. I said once a week because lately I feel like race issues especially in light of our new president I think the race issues have been coming up in conversation and discussion a lot lately. So I said once a week but I couldn't tell you what context I think about being white in. I don't even know."

Likewise, another respondent who does think about her race at times because she is in a bi-racial relationship, mentioned thinking about it more often recently because of the election.

"I think I answered once a week because I'm married to a black guy so in our household, in our family, you know also living in DC. DC is a very like special place in that way because it's such a mix of people in this city and we love that. We have all kinds of nationalities. And at least once a week it makes you think about something or we have a lot of discussions at home about race and you know especially this year you know election year...so I wouldn't say once a day I mean but definitely once a week if not more."

Finally, respondents also noted that this question was hard to answer, as it is difficult to quantify how much one thinks about anything. For example, one responded, who answered "once a week" stated that he did so because "just with your daily interactions with people it will come to mind. Maybe I offend them or they offend me and obviously with race obviously the race card is in play. If I were interacting with an African American perhaps I offend them or they offend me perhaps there may be a body language interchange or very interchange instances like that you would think of yourself as white." However, this respondent noted that this was a difficult question for him to answer. "I really don't know what a valid answer is. How often do I think about being white? I guess when you're involved in a confrontational situation with someone of a different race that makes it obvious to you that you are white and they are not. But how often do I consciously think of myself as white that's a very difficult question to answer."

The problem of quantifying a response to this question may very well be due to the fact that respondents are often aware of race and this awareness may come and go as they interact with others. For example, one respondent stated, "I picked once a day but I found the question confusing because it's circumstantial. I mean the once a day, once an hour thing, I guess sometimes I don't think about it or I'm not thinking about it until someone else points it out or if I'm transitioning of environments, going from teaching... to going out for drinks."

Another respondent, who ultimately answered “don’t know” to this question, did so because she felt that although she never thinks about her race, she is constantly aware of her race and because your mind is constantly going it’s hard to quantify how much thought you put into one particular thing. Similarly another respondent had difficulty quantifying “I think I put, no matter of fact I put once a hour. I picked once an hour because I think that’s the most realistic one to put, yeah at least once an hour. Out of the whole 60 minutes I might have that thought again cross my mind like you know, just race, whether it be good or bad, just you know it crosses my mind a lot.” Then he went on to say, “Actually I could have put once a day.” But he wouldn’t say that he constantly thinks about his race because that would mean “that’s all you think about all day.” Finally, after thinking about it some more he settled on “once a day,” however he had a very difficult time describing what he thought about or when he thought about it and stated that his thoughts about race are more subconscious.

In sum, this was not an easy question for many respondents to answer. Although the question itself was fairly straightforward, providing a valid response was a complicated task. Respondents had great difficulty quantifying their answers and even when respondents did provide a response they felt confident in, the narratives used to support the responses varied greatly, indicating a potential reliability problem (i.e. a never response does not necessarily mean the same thing across respondents). In addition, systematic differences in how respondents approached this question emerged between Hispanics and non-Hispanics.

RRQ.050 Within the past 12 months, have you seen a doctor or other health care professional at a doctor's office, clinic or emergency room or stayed in the hospital?

- Yes ..... 1
- No ..... 2 (RRQ.070)
- REFUSED ..... 7 (RRQ.070)
- DON'T KNOW ..... 9 (RRQ.070)

RRQ.050 En los últimos 12 meses, ¿ha visto un médico u otro profesional de cuidado de salud en un consultorio médico, clínica o sala de urgencias o ha estado hospitalizado(a)?

- Sí..... 1
- No ..... 2 (RRQ.070)
- REFUSED ..... 7 (RRQ.070)
- DONT KNOW ..... 9 (RRQ.070)

Respondents who answered yes to this question included visits to their primary care physician, specialists, psychiatrists, psychiatric in-patient treatment, nutritionists, dentists, emergency room visits, hospital stays, and medical studies, which included an exam by a physician. A few problems emerged with this question. Two respondents provided inconsistent responses the A-CASI portion of the interview and the cognitive interview. It was not clear why they did so. Another respondent incorrectly answered

“no” during both the A-CASI portion of the interview and the cognitive interview. Despite having a physical one month prior to the interview, one respondent responded “no” to this question. This physical was required for work and the respondent did not initially think of it when he first answered the question. Another respondent thought this was an odd question to receive in the middle of a questionnaire about race. She reported thinking: “Why are they asking me this? Why are they asking me about health? Because I was like I thought it was about race. So it kind of like threw me for a quick jolt and then I said okay well I’ll just answer the questions.”

RRQ.060 Within the past 12 months, when seeking health care do you feel your experiences were worse than, the same as, or better than people of other races?

Worse Than Other Races or Ethnicities ....	1
Same as Other Races or Ethnicities .....	2
Better Than Other Races or Ethnicities ....	3
REFUSED .....	7
DON'T KNOW .....	9

RRQ.060 En los últimos 12 meses, al solicitar asistencia médica, ¿cree que sus experiencias fueron peores, iguales o mejores que las de personas de otras razas u orígenes étnicos?

Peores que las de personas de otras razas u orígenes étnicos .....	1
Iguales que las de personas de otras razas u orígenes étnicos .....	2
Mejores que las de personas de otras razas u orígenes étnicos .....	3
REFUSED .....	7
DON'T KNOW .....	9

The majority of respondents answered this question “same as other races or ethnicities,” regardless of whether they received the Spanish or English version of the questionnaire. In fact only four respondents replied “worse than other races,” one respondent replied “better than,” one respondent replied “don’t know,” and one respondent refused to respond.

No major differences were found in the interpretation and response patterns to this question between those who received the Spanish version of the questionnaire and those who received the English version of the questionnaire. However, three distinct patterns of responding emerged across all of the interviews during the evaluation of this question.

First, some respondents based their response solely on observations of their own treatment when seeking healthcare, and did not compare this treatment to the treatment of others. For example respondents tried to recall whether or not they had felt they were treated poorly at the doctor’s office or some other health care facility. One respondent stated,

“Um when I answered that question I tried to recall very quickly the welcome or how I was treated when I was there- it was nothing out of the

ordinary to have me say oh you know what I think she's hating on me or it - I wasn't focused on. If they did anything, it didn't bring attention to my mind and say okay I want to see a different doctor or a different nurse. It was fine.”

However other respondents based their responses to this question on comparisons they made between their observations of how they were treated and their observations of how others were treated when seeking health care. For example, one respondent stated, “I just went to the doctor last Monday and everybody sits and waits. There were all types of races there and I didn't see any preferential treatment. We were all waiting, all complaining, all twiddling our thumbs.”

Finally, some respondents based their responses on their assumptions about how others would be treated if they sought medical care from the same doctor/facility. However, unlike the previous respondents, their responses were not based on any observation of others' treatment. For example, one respondent stated, “I just figured...I mean I just went to a normal doctor. I just figured if a black guy or Hispanic guy went to the same doctor he would probably get the same treatment.”

In addition to variations in response processes, there were also a number of inconsistencies found between respondents' answers in the A-CASI and their answers given during the cognitive interview, as well as inconsistencies between the answer respondents provided to the survey question and their narratives from the cognitive interview. While for some respondents it was unclear why these inconsistencies in reporting occurred, for others it was attributable to assumptions made in the survey question and difficulty differentiating treatment due to race from other reasons, such as insurance, gender, and quality care across health care facilities.

Two underlying assumptions were found in this question during the evaluation. First, the question assumed respondents have knowledge of others' experiences. Respondents often did not know how people of other races were treated in health care settings. While many respondents speculated about how their treatment compared to other races, some respondents were unable to provide a response at all. Among the respondents who could not provide an answer, one respondent's comment about this question summed up a lot of the trouble others were having with this question:

“I think it was that one that I said ‘I don't know’ because you know, I don't know. I don't have anything to compare it with, you know... I can't really compare it to anyone else, you know? Let's say I was at the clinic and I don't know what their experiences were so...um, but then if I think my experiences would be different, no I really don't know...”

Second, the question assumes that respondents have similar experiences across various healthcare contexts. Some respondents reported difficulty choosing a response because their response was highly dependent upon the type of health care setting and the social characteristics of the doctor.

“I think that sometimes it depends on the health care professional themselves because sometimes I see doctors of different races, so I think that might affect how the treatment was. It depended on the type of doctor and the ethnicity of the professional. Sometimes I actively pick certain doctors or genders, so it depends on the gender, it depends on the race.”

Similarly, another respondent discussed how some hospitals treat patients better than other hospitals. This respondent answered “same as other races or ethnicities,” but then went on to say, “But that has variables. Depending on where you go. Because if they went to where I went they would be treated the same as me... A lot of people that told me that the hospital that I prefer to go to, they prefer to go to, people of white, black, they tell me this.” Note that this respondent was not answering this question based on differences in how patients of different races are treated within a particular medical setting, but how patients in general are treated between medical settings. This leads to the final response error found in this question – respondents wanted to report on experiences that did not necessarily involve race.

Some respondents had experiences where they felt they were treated differently at a health care facility for reasons other than race, and wanted to report these experiences when responding to this question. These respondents discussed times when they perceived they were being treated differently than people of different races because of their weight, their health insurance, and their education level. These respondents were able to determine that these issues played a factor in their treatment but they could not assess whether or not these factors were ultimately related to their race. The narratives these respondents provided further demonstrated the complexity of this question. For example, one respondent, who had difficulty remembering how he answered this question in the A-CASI, discussed how his treatment at the doctor’s office may have been attributed to a number of factors that are all intimately tied together and hard to tease apart.

“I don’t know if I answered same as or better than. But I remember- I think I answered same as but I’m not sure. I might have put better than because I was thinking that my race might have been an issue but not the leading issue. I was probably viewed differently because of my education level, the fact that I was (in a PhD program) and I have insurance, my age. I was thinking of a number of other factors not related to my race. I think all things being equal that might have been something that might factor in but- so the reason I might have put better than- I can’t remember. I remember thinking about it because I was thinking the white folks are more likely to have insurance, more likely to have an education, more likely to speak the same language as their caregiver and that would play a factor in me being treated better. If all things were held equal I’m only guess the same as. But all things are not being held equal, so I guess I don’t see race as being a primary factor in the relationship to how I’m

treated in a health care environment. Having insurance is the primary factor.”

Similarly, another respondent stated, “This is a weird one for me too. Because I think it’s insurance. I mean I don’t think the folks treated me badly because of race but I think that some problems that I’ve had have been with insurance. But then the question, you know, I don’t know, I mean...but then see I don’t want to make it complicated. How do you know how somebody else’s insurance is? I would say same as- somewhere between same as and worse.... See I don’t know what other people are dealing with. I don’t know what happens with you being non-black going to healthcare. I don’t know what happens with you. I don’t know if you could get in to a specialist right away or not.”

In sum, the ability of respondents to provide a valid answer to this question depends upon not only their knowledge of other races’ experiences when receiving health care, but also the race of the health care provider, the quality of the health care facility. Other factors may also play a role in how respondents answer this question, such as whether they have insurance, their education level, and their gender. Additionally, responses to this question may be context dependent, making it difficult for respondents to provide an answer.

RRQ.070 Have you worked at a job anytime in the past year?

Yes .....	1
No .....	2 (RRQ.090)
REFUSED .....	7 (RRQ.090)
DON'T KNOW .....	9 (RRQ.090)

RRQ.070 ¿Ha trabajado en un empleo en algún momento el año pasado?

Sí.....	1
No .....	2 (RRQ.090)
REFUSED .....	7 (RRQ.090)
DONT KNOW .....	9 (RRQ.090)

This question was not extensively probed. However, respondents’ narratives in the evaluation of question RRQ.080 did appear to correspond to respondents’ answers to this question. Some inconsistencies were found between respondents’ responses to the A-CASI question and their narratives regarding their employment. For example one respondent, who received the Spanish version of this question, answered “no” to this question in the A-CASI but then later stated in the interview that he was currently working at a restaurant. However it was not clear why these respondents gave inconsistent answers.

RRQ.080 Within the past 12 months at work, do you feel you were treated worse than, the same as, or better than people of other races ?

Worse Than Other Races or Ethnicities ....	1
Same as Other Races or Ethnicities .....	2
Better Than Other Races or Ethnicities .....	3
REFUSED .....	7
DON'T KNOW .....	9

RRQ.080 En los últimos 12 meses, ¿cree que en su lugar de trabajo le trataron peor, igual o mejor que a personas de otras razas u orígenes étnicos?

Peor que a personas de otras razas u orígenes étnicos .....	1
Igual que a personas de otras razas u orígenes étnicos .....	2
Mejor que a personas de otras razas u orígenes étnicos ....	3
REFUSED.....	7
DON'T KNOW.....	9

As in question RRQ.060 the majority of respondents chose “same as other races or ethnicities.” Seven respondents answered “worse than” and two respondents answered “better than.” One respondent refused to answer. No major differences were found in the interpretation of this question between respondents who received the Spanish version of this question and the English version of this question.

Respondents did appear to answer this question within the reference period provided. For example, many respondents reported experiencing discrimination in their workplace, however because these events occurred longer than 12 months ago, they did not include them in their answer to this question.

Respondents who felt they were treated the same as other races or ethnicities at work often mentioned the variety of races and ethnicities at their job and how employers’ expectations for their employees were the same for all employees, regardless of race. Conversely, respondents who felt they were treated worse than other races or ethnicities at work discussed times at work when they felt discriminated against by their employer based on their race. For example, one respondent, who reported that she was treated worse than other races or ethnicities at work, reported that her supervisor had on several occasions failed to acknowledge the work that she did and at times gave credit to other employees (of different races) for work that she had done. During conversations, this supervisor had also made stereotypical assumptions about the respondent and other minority employees.

During the evaluation of this question, this question was found to have a number of underlying assumptions regarding the nature of the workplace and the race of the parties involved when discrimination occurred.

First this question assumes that respondents interact with coworkers and supervisors on a daily basis at work. For example, one respondent replied to this question, “Well the same as because I was the only one there at the time.” This respondent was the only employee at her job and although she had a supervisor, this

person was never present when the respondent was at work. Although this respondent was able to provide a response, the meaning of her response of “same as other races and ethnicities” could be very different from a respondent who works with many coworkers in a racially/ethnically diverse workplace.

The racial composition of the workplace and the race of the person who was acting discriminatory toward the respondents were also a factor in how respondents answered this question. Many respondents interpreted this question as asking about situations when white employers acted discriminatory toward minority employees and therefore modified or qualified their answers accordingly. For example, one respondent who answered “same as other races or ethnicities,” then qualified her answer because she worked in a very homogenous workplace. “I said same as other races but at my job though we’re only white people. There are only six people at the office.” Similarly, another respondent, who responded “worse than other races and ethnicities” to this question then qualified her answer by stating her supervisor was not white, but was Asian. One respondent responded “same as other races and ethnicities” to this question despite having experienced discrimination in his workplace. He describes this experience below.

“I can remember being treated different by my own race. I was working with a friend of mine, a Hispanic. The supervisor felt the Hispanic worked better than I did and I didn't think so. That's what I say a misperception that most black people have - especially employers. That Hispanics are harder workers, more diligent. So that would be what? Reverse racism?”

Although this respondent was treated differently than a person of another race/ethnicity, he was unsure if he should report it because the person who discriminating against him was the same race as him.

Some respondents reported experiencing different treatment in the workplace as a result of their race; however this treatment was not from employers, supervisors, or coworkers but from clients and customers. It was not clear if these types of incidents should be included in their response. For example, one respondent, who was white, reported witnessing a co-worker, who was black, being treated poorly by a client. In his description of the incident he reported, “It wasn’t by an employer it was by a client. One of the clients of one of the attorneys came in and made racial remarks to our secretary who was African American and it was some pretty scathing remarks that this guy made and that was pretty intense.” Another respondent, who was African American, recalled an incident at the restaurant where she works, when a white customer asked to have a white server instead of her. It was not clear if these types of incidents should be included in respondents’ answers to this question.

Finally, respondents were also unclear how to answer this question because they were not uniformly treated the same way by all persons in the workplace and across all work situations. This ambiguity appeared to have different effects on how respondents answered this question. For example, one respondent answered that she was treated “the

same as others,” despite the fact that she could recall times in the past 12 months when she was treated worse than other races at work. She reported that she responded to this question “the same as others” because she felt that overall she was treated well and these events were rare occasions and only occurred when interacting with particular customers, and not her employee or coworkers. However another respondent, who was unable to provide an answer to this question stated,

“Again it depends on the situation. So I didn’t answer that one. I think sometimes my office- we have mixed groups in my office and I think some people of a similar ethnicity treat each other better. Some of them sit together more or have similar friendships. It may come down to assignments or what types of assignments you get compared to other people. So some people of the same race will give their same race coworker better assignments if they have them... some people will get better assignments than I.”

When asked why she didn’t answer worse than others, this respondent stated “Because it depends on the situation and it depends on, you know, yeah it depends of the situation.” But when asked if there were situations when she felt she was treated the same as or better than others, she replied “no.” She then went on to say, “I feel it changes in the different dynamics. In one situation it could be better than, one situation it could be worse than, one situation it could be as equal... again it’s situation specific, and who may be giving out the assignment, who may be providing the treatment and who’s receiving it.”

In sum, there are a number of underlying assumptions and ambiguities in this question, which make it difficult for some respondents to provide valid answers. This question assumes that respondents work in diverse workplaces and interact daily with other coworkers and employers. In addition, it is not clear to respondents if they should report rare instances of discrimination or if they should report discriminatory behavior directed toward them from persons other than their employer and/or coworkers. Finally, it is not clear if incidents of discrimination should be included if they involve interactions with members of the same race.

RRQ.090 Within the past 30 days, have you experienced any physical symptoms, for example a headache, an upset stomach, tensing of your muscles, or a pounding heart, as a result of how you were treated because {you are Hispanic or Latino/you are RACE REPORTED IN RRQ.030/of your race or ethnicity}?

Yes ..... 1  
 No..... 2  
 REFUSED ..... 7  
 DON'T KNOW ..... 9

RRQ.090 En los últimos 30 días, ¿ha sentido algún síntoma físico, por ejemplo, dolor de cabeza, malestar estomacal, tensión en los músculos o fuerte latir del corazón, por la manera en que le trataron debido a {que es hispano(a) o latino(a)/que es RACE REPORTED IN

RRQ.030/su raza u origen étnico }?

Sí.....	1
No.....	2
REFUSED .....	7
DON'T KNOW .....	9

The majority of all respondents answered “no” to this question. Respondents, both those who received the Spanish version of the question and the English version of the question, had a difficult time separating physical symptoms from emotional symptoms when answering this question. Less than half of the respondents interpreted this question as asking about experiencing physical symptoms as a result race discrimination. These included such things as headaches, stomachache, heart palpitations, fatigue, and tensing muscles. Some respondents interpreted this question as asking about emotional symptoms, such as feeling angry, depressed, and discouraged. However, a significant number of respondents interpreted this question as asking about both physical and emotional symptoms. For some respondents their discussions demonstrated how these two types of symptoms are linked together and how one is likely to experience both as a result of how they are treated. For example, one respondent stated, “When you’re discriminated against it makes you angry and if you don’t have anywhere to put that anger you might have a headache from it.” Another respondent stated that a stomachache can be emotional if it comes from anger. However, for other respondents it was clear they could not conceptually differentiate between the two types of symptoms. For example, one respondent stated that a physical symptom could be pain, or feeling depressed because of the way you are treated.

While both respondents who received the Spanish and the English version of the question had difficulty separating physical and emotional symptoms when answering this question, some respondents who received the Spanish version of the question provided a clear misinterpretation of the term ‘síntomas físicos’ or it was clear they did not know the meaning of the term. For example, some respondents interpreted the question as asking if they have been physically assaulted or emotionally abused as a result of racial discrimination. When asked how they interpreted the term physical symptoms these respondents stated “if someone hits you or you are hurt,” “being hit or physically abused,” “treated badly, humiliated,” or “being physically attacked.”

Another respondent, who received the Spanish version of the question, appeared to mix up the definition of physical and emotional symptoms, despite the examples given. When probed, she stated that physical symptoms were when one felt depressed or lonely and that emotional symptoms were when you experience a headache or stomach pain. Finally one respondent reported that she did not know what the term ‘síntomas físicos’ meant but she was able to determine what the question was asking based on the examples given.

Finally, some respondents reported vague symptoms, such as feeling stressed or not feeling well and it was difficult for interviewers to determine if these respondents were reporting based on physical or emotional symptoms.

Despite understanding that this question was asking about physical symptoms, some respondents did not base their response on whether or not they experienced these symptoms alone, instead these respondents responded to this question based on their ability to control these symptoms when encountering racial discrimination. For example, one respondent described how a recent incident on a bus made her feel stressed and gave her a headache. Although she tried not to let this incident affect her, she still had a physical reaction to it. This respondent answered “yes” to this question. Conversely, another respondent, who responded “no” to this question, also reported that he tries to not let others behaviors toward him influence how he feels. During the cognitive interview this respondent stated, “The way I deal with other people is if you allow other people get into your head you're letting them take control of you. So I try not to let nobody get me upset or get me beyond what I choose to be. I try to keep control of myself.” While both respondents reported that they try to not let others’ behaviors affect them, one respondent was more successful at achieving this. While these respondents appeared to still provide a valid response to this question, other respondents may respond “no” to this question because of the fact that they try to not let things bother them, rather than answering based on whether or not they felt any physical symptoms. For example, one respondent, who answered “no” to this question and stated that he tried to not let things like this bother him, he could still recall incidents where he felt a physical reaction to how he was treated because of his race.

Respondents appeared to adhere to the reference period provided in the question. Several respondents mentioned that they had experienced these symptoms because of the way they were treated based on their race, however they did not report them in this question because these experiences occurred outside of the timeframe provided. For example, one respondent reported that she had not experienced these symptoms as a result of the way she was treated because of her race in many years. The last time she could recall experiencing this was over 13 years ago when she was in college. During this time she had applied to a nursing program but was not accepted. This respondent attributed this to her race, which caused her to feel all of these symptoms listed in this question. Other respondents provided similar examples, where they had experienced discriminatory behavior that caused them to have a physical reaction, however these events occurred outside of the timeframe provided and therefore they did not report them here.

Some misreporting and inconsistent reporting between the A-CASI and the cognitive interview was also found. Another respondent, who reported “no” in the A-CASI, and stated in the cognitive interview that she has never experienced these kinds of symptoms, however, when probed on whether she has ever experienced physical symptoms because of the way she was treated because of her race, she responded “yes” and replied “probably when I have gotten mad or angry, when your heart starts to pound. You just don’t know if you’re going to launch out or not. But I guess I have control so I

don't..." She reluctantly then discussed a situation that happened in the past week when she had a physical altercation with another person who was making racist remarks toward her. When asked why she did not respond "yes" to this question, she stated "I just felt that I just choose no because I already answered yes to the first question (referring to question RRQ.060). This respondent had to go to the emergency room after this altercation and because question RRQ.060 brought this incident to mind, this respondent felt as if she had already reported about it and didn't feel like she had to report on it again here in this question. It was also clear that this respondent was not comfortable talking about this incident and may not have reported it in this question in order to avoid talking about it.

Additionally, one respondent also had a problem with who the implied "other" was in this question. This respondent, who answered "no" to this question in the A-CASI then stated during the cognitive interview: "I'm hesitating because when you just asked that question my- I'm answering these questions based on another race- the white race- because I said for me it's black and white." She then looked at the question again and said, "Okay, that's still no." When asked what she was thinking about this respondent then went on to say: "I've experienced some of these symptoms but not because I was black but because of the differences in the black race and not, not being this way or that way or measuring up." This respondent assumed this question was asking about experiencing physical symptoms due to how others of another race treat you because of your race. She has never experienced this. However, she has experienced these symptoms based on how others within her own race have treated her. She has experienced this recently because of the situation with her ex-husband. "I mean I've always felt like I wasn't what he wanted. In terms of complexion, size, definitely intellect and perceptions of life. We come from two different worlds... but because of the racism in the black race I've always felt like an outsider, trying to fit here or fit there." This is something this respondent has always felt however she has experienced it more recently because of problems she is having with her ex-husband.

Finally, a couple of respondents thought this was a strange question to be asked. One respondent upon hearing this question in the cognitive interview stated, I said no. I thought this one was kind of funny too. I couldn't imagine myself sitting there with a pounding heart because I'm white." Similarly, another respondent who identified as African American also found this to be a very strange question:

"My initial thought with that question was along with the other one it's very meaningless. It's like who gets sick because they're being discriminated against? You know, I'm black, I have a headache cause you think you don't like black people. You know, it's like I don't think that that would cause any physical stress. I think if anything have you had your feelings hurt or been depressed or anything like that because of how you're treated about your race but not, you know, like headaches and back aches, and you know like, I don't think that's relevant."

This respondent had never experienced these symptoms as a result of how she was treated because of her race and cannot comprehend how others could experience such symptoms due to things like racism.

Finally, while the majority of respondents discussed experiencing these symptoms as a result of racial discrimination in general, a small percentage of respondents discussed experiencing these symptoms as a result of how they were treated at work, which they attributed to their race. The fact that this question directly follows a question, which ask about discrimination at work, may prime respondents to be thinking of discrimination only in this context.

In sum, there were a number of problems found with this question. Respondents had a difficult time separating out their experiences of physical and emotional symptoms they may have experienced as a result of racial discrimination and as a result often reported both types of symptoms when answering this question. Responses to this question were also censored based on whether respondents felt they were able to “control” these symptoms that they experience and the context in which they experienced them. Additionally, some Hispanic respondents misinterpreted this question as asking about experiencing physical assault as a result of racial discrimination, which led them to essentially answer a different question than non-Hispanics.

RRQ.100 Within the past 30 days, have you felt emotionally upset, for example angry, sad, or frustrated, as a result of how you were treated because {you are Hispanic or Latino/you are RACE REPORTED IN RRQ.030/of your race or ethnicity}?

Yes .....	1
No.....	2
REFUSED .....	7
DON'T KNOW .....	9

RRQ.100 En los últimos 30 días, ¿se ha sentido afectado emocionalmente, por ejemplo enojado(a), triste o frustrado(a), por la manera en que le trataron debido a {que es hispano(a) o latino(a)/que es RACE REPORTED IN RRQ.030/su raza u origen étnico}?

Sí.....	1
No.....	2
REFUSED .....	7
DON'T KNOW .....	9

Again, the majority of all respondents who received this question answered “no” to this question, although slightly more respondents answered “yes” to this question than the previous question. Unlike in the previous question the majority of respondents, both those who received the English and the Spanish version of the questionnaire, interpreted this question as asking about emotional symptoms, which included things like feeling frustrated, upset, and angry because of the way they were treated as a result of their race. However, one respondent interpreted this question as asking about physical symptoms, and one respondent interpreted as asking about physical and emotional symptoms. Two respondents who received the Spanish version of the questionnaire reported difficulty

comprehending this question. One of these respondents indicated that she did not know what the term 'afectada emocionalmente' meant, but could answer based on the examples provided in the question.

Because respondents often reported experiencing emotional symptoms as a result of racial discrimination in the previous question, their response to this question elicited the same experiences as discussed in the previous question. In fact some respondents thought this question was asking about the same thing as the previous question. For example, respondents often gave the same interpretation here as they did in the probing of the last question "I think I'm pretty much going to go back to like I said some type of racial experience that went, you know – I don't even want to keep racial for – I mean but racial has part to do with that question, do you think? It sounds like a racial encounter that went wrong." In addition, these respondents would often discuss the same incidents that they had discussed in the previous question. However, some respondents did see a difference between this question and the previous question. For example, one respondent stated, "I think that's just the exact same thing except rather than physical its mental or emotionally do you get that worked up."

Some respondents, who answered "no" in the previous question, answered "yes" to this question. For example, one respondent who stated that he never experienced any physical symptoms as a result of how he was treated because of his, was able to provide an example of a time where he felt emotionally upset because of how he was treated. This respondent reported an incident when he accidentally bumped into a person of another race and then overheard this person making comments about him. This respondent attributed the other person's comments to the fact that he was African American and this made him feel angry.

As in the previous question, respondents often had experiences of feeling emotionally upset because of the way others had treated them as a result of their race, however these events occurred outside of the reference period provided in the question. One respondent, who is now in her thirties, answered "no" to this question but then recalled times when this had happened in her early twenties, "I'm thinking just younger year. Maybe even out of college, first, you know first new jobs." Similarly another respondent, who answered "no" to this question, then stated, "Oh that happened years ago." She went on to discuss how the same incident that she reported in the previous question also made her feel very angry.

Finally, as in the last question there were many inconsistencies found in respondents responses to this question and the narratives they provided during the cognitive interview. For example, one respondent who answered "no" to this question, later stated in the cognitive interview that she didn't remember how she answered and then proceeded to discuss why she could have answered "yes" to this question. This respondent discussed how she has frequent encounters with people who treat her badly because of her race. "Yeah it happens all the time, yeah it happens a lot when you ride the metro. When you ride the bus. They give you dirty looks and they will bump you or they will say things. I try to ignore it but I hear it so I'm frustrated." This respondent discussed

how she tries to not let other peoples' actions bother her but they still do. Similarly, another respondent answered "no" to this question. However this was inconsistent with her narrative that she provided during the cognitive interview. At another point in the interview this respondent discussed an incident where she recently had an altercation with a friend over racial remarks this friend made towards her. The respondent discussed how she felt very hurt that a friend would act this way towards her. When asked why she responded no to this question this respondent said she did not know. However she also did not report this incident in the previous question either.

Another respondent, who answered "yes" to this question during the A-CASI, stated that she answered "no" in the cognitive interview. However, she then went on to discuss how she was recently out of work and having a hard time finding a job. She attributed this to the fact that she was black and a lesbian and this made her feel very frustrated. When asked why she responded "no" to this question she stated,

"Oh I said no, because it wasn't 30 days ago. It was when I first lost my- when I first quit my job at (restaurant) I was going like immediately thinking okay I just had a job I can easily find another one... From then I probably looked for a job for up until maybe September and that's when I stopped because I felt frustrated. Like I couldn't find any job at all and then I starting thinking well look money's kind of tight, I need a job so I got back out there and I got a job."

The timeframe that she gave in her narrative was outside of the 30 day reference period in the question. This event that she is describing occurred about two months ago and this could have caused some of the confusion she had in switching her answer.

Similarly, another respondent, who answered "yes" to this question, however in her narrative it was revealed that the incident she was thinking about was outside of the reference period. This respondent discussed an incident that occurred sometime in the beginning of this past summer at her grocery store. She remembered it was the beginning of summer because it had just gotten warm out and she was sweating while waiting in line. The respondent had wiped her face and then handed her cash to the cashier, but the cashier refused to take her money out of her hand. The respondent attributed the cashier's behavior to the fact that the respondent was African American and the cashier was white. It was clear that this incident upset this respondent, however when asked how it made her feel she stated that it made her feel sad for the cashier.

There were also some hidden assumptions in this question that were revealed during the cognitive interview. One respondent interpreted this question as asking having an emotional reaction as result of how people of other races treated her, and as a result of this interpretation answered "no" to this question. However, she has felt this way as a result of how other members of her own race have treated her. "I put no because I didn't feel like I've experienced any of that based on the white race. Going back to before yes, I have had that experience from the black race, specifically my kids' father or our relationship." Another respondent assumed that this question was targeted toward

minorities and was interested in capturing if minorities had emotional reaction to how they were treated based on their race. This respondent, who is white, reported that he often feels emotionally upset because he is often treated in a more privileged manner than are his Hispanic friends and he attributes this to the fact that he is white. This upsets him greatly, especially when he is out in public with his Hispanic friends. Although, this respondent did answer “yes” to this question he didn’t feel like his answer was very valid.

As in the previous question, while the majority of respondents discussed experiencing these symptoms as a result of racial discrimination in general, a small percentage of respondents discussed experiencing these symptoms as a result of how they were treated at work, which they attributed to their race. The fact that this question directly follows a question, which ask about discrimination at work, may prime respondents to be thinking of discrimination only in this context.

In conclusion, this question appeared to pick up the same information as the previous question, as many respondents reported experiencing emotionally symptoms as a result of racial discrimination in the previous question. Additionally, respondents once again censored their responses to this question depending on the context in which the experiences occurred.

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## Appendix A – Reactions to Race English Questionnaire Used During Testing

### REACTIONS TO RACE (RRQ) Target Group: SPs 18-69 (Audio-CASI)

RRQ.010\_ This next set of questions asks about your health and how other people identify you and treat you. Please remember that your answers to these questions are strictly confidential.

RRQ.010a How do other people usually see you in this country?  
Would you say people see you as Hispanic or Latino?

Yes .....	1
No.....	2
REFUSED .....	7
DON'T KNOW .....	9

RRQ.010b Again, how do other people usually see you in this country?  
You may select more than 1 of these categories.

Would you say . . .

White .....	1
Black or African American .....	2
Asian .....	3
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander .....	4
American Indian or Alaska Native.....	5
REFUSED .....	77
DON'T KNOW .....	99

RRQ.020 Do you consider yourself to be Hispanic or Latino?

Yes .....	1
No.....	2
REFUSED .....	7
DON'T KNOW .....	9

RRQ.030b What race do you consider yourself to be?  
 You may select more than 1 of these categories.

Would you say . . .

White .....	1
Black or African American .....	2
Asian .....	3
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander .....	4
American Indian or Alaska Native.....	5
REFUSED .....	77
DON'T KNOW .....	99

RRQ.040 How often do you think about {being Hispanic or Latino/being RACE REPORTED IN RRQ.030/your race or ethnicity}?

Would you say . . .

Never .....	1
Once a Year .....	2
Once a Month .....	3
Once a Week .....	4
Once a Day.....	5
Once an Hour .....	6
Constantly .....	7
REFUSED .....	77
DON'T KNOW .....	99

CAPI INSTRUCTION:

IF RRQ.020 = 1 AND RRQ.030b = 1, 2, 3, 4, OR 5, DISPLAY {your race or ethnicity}.  
 IF RRQ.020 = 2, 7, OR 9 AND MORE THAN ONE CATEGORY SELECTED FOR RRQ.030b,  
 DISPLAY {your race or ethnicity}.  
 IF RRQ.020 = 1 AND RRQ.030b = 77 OR 99, DISPLAY {being Hispanic or Latino}.  
 IF RRQ.020 = 2, 7, OR 9 AND RRQ.030b = 1, 2, 3, 4, OR 5, DISPLAY {being RACE  
 REPORTED IN RRQ.030b}.  
 OTHERWISE, DISPLAY {your race or ethnicity}.

RRQ.050 Within the past 12 months, have you seen a doctor or other health care professional at a doctor's office, clinic or emergency room or stayed in the hospital?

Yes .....	1
No.....	2 (RRQ.070)
REFUSED .....	7 (RRQ.070)
DON'T KNOW .....	9 (RRQ.070)

RRQ.060 Within the past 12 months, when seeking health care do you feel your experiences were worse than, the same as, or better than people of other races?

- Worse Than Other Races or Ethnicities ..... 1
- Same as Other Races or Ethnicities..... 2
- Better Than Other Races or Ethnicities ..... 3
- REFUSED ..... 7
- DON'T KNOW ..... 9

RRQ.070 Have you worked at a job anytime in the past year?

- Yes ..... 1
- No..... 2 (RRQ.090)
- REFUSED ..... 7 (RRQ.090)
- DON'T KNOW ..... 9 (RRQ.090)

RRQ.080 Within the past 12 months at work, do you feel you were treated worse than, the same as, or better than people of other races?

- Worse Than Other Races or Ethnicities ..... 1
- Same as Other Races or Ethnicities..... 2
- Better Than Other Races or Ethnicities ..... 3
- REFUSED ..... 7
- DON'T KNOW ..... 9

RRQ.090 Within the past 30 days, have you experienced any physical symptoms, for example a headache, an upset stomach, tensing of your muscles, or a pounding heart, as a result of how you were treated because {you are Hispanic or Latino/you are RACE REPORTED IN RRQ.030/of your race or ethnicity}?

- Yes ..... 1
- No..... 2
- REFUSED ..... 7
- DON'T KNOW ..... 9

CAPI INSTRUCTION:

IF RRQ.020 = 1 AND RRQ.030b = 1, 2, 3, 4, OR 5, DISPLAY {of your race or ethnicity}.  
IF RRQ.020 = 2, 7, OR 9 AND MORE THAN ONE CATEGORY SELECTED FOR RRQ.030b, DISPLAY {of your race or ethnicity}.  
IF RRQ.020 = 1 AND RRQ.030b = 77 OR 99, DISPLAY {you are Hispanic or Latino}.  
IF RRQ.020 = 2, 7, OR 9 AND RRQ.030b = 1, 2, 3, 4, OR 5, DISPLAY {you are RACE REPORTED IN RRQ.030b}.  
OTHERWISE, DISPLAY {of your race or ethnicity}.

RRQ.100 Within the past 30 days, have you felt emotionally upset, for example angry, sad, or frustrated, as a result of how you were treated because {you are Hispanic or Latino/you are RACE REPORTED IN RRQ.030/of your race or ethnicity}?

- Yes ..... 1
- No..... 2
- REFUSED ..... 7
- DON'T KNOW ..... 9

CAPI INSTRUCTION:

IF RRQ.020 = 1 AND RRQ.030b = 1, 2, 3, 4, OR 5, DISPLAY {of your race or ethnicity}.

IF RRQ.020 = 2, 7, OR 9 AND MORE THAN ONE CATEGORY SELECTED FOR RRQ.030b, DISPLAY {of your race or ethnicity}.

IF RRQ.020 = 1 AND RRQ.030b = 77 OR 99, DISPLAY {you are Hispanic or Latino}.

IF RRQ.020 = 2, 7, OR 9 AND RRQ.030b = 1, 2, 3, 4, OR 5, DISPLAY {you are RACE REPORTED IN RRQ.030b}.

OTHERWISE, DISPLAY {of your race or ethnicity}.

## Appendix B – Reactions to Race Spanish Questionnaire Used During Testing

### REACTIONS TO RACE (RRQ) Target Group: SPs 18-69 (Audio-CASI)

RRQ.010\_ Este siguiente grupo de preguntas es acerca de su salud y de cómo otras personas le identifican y le tratan. Por favor recuerde que sus respuestas a estas preguntas son estrictamente confidenciales.

RRQ.010a ¿Cómo suelen verlo(a) otras personas en este país?  
¿Diría que las personas lo(a) ven como hispano(a) o latino(a)?

Sí.....	1
No.....	2
REFUSED .....	7
DON'T KNOW .....	9

RRQ.010b Nuevamente, ¿cómo suelen verlo(a) otras personas en este país?  
Puede seleccionar más de una de estas categorías.

¿Diría que . . .

Blanco(a) .....	1
Negro(a) o africano(a) americano(a) .....	2
Asiático(a).....	3
Nativo(a) de Hawai o de otra isla del Pacífico .....	4
Indio(a) americano(a) o nativo(a) de Alaska.....	5
REFUSED .....	77
DON'T KNOW.....	99

RRQ.020 ¿Se considera usted hispano(a) o latino(a)?

Sí.....	1
No.....	2
REFUSED .....	7
DON'T KNOW .....	9

RRQ.030b ¿De qué raza se considera usted?  
Puede seleccionar más de una de estas categorías.

¿Diría que . . .

Blanca .....	1
Negra o africana americana .....	2
Asiática .....	3
Nativa de Hawai o de otra isla del Pacífico ...	4
India americana o nativa de Alaska.....	5
REFUSED .....	77
DON'T KNOW .....	99

RRQ.040 ¿Con qué frecuencia piensa en {que es hispano(a) o latino(a)/que es RACE REPORTED IN RRQ.030/su raza u origen étnico}?

¿Diría que . . .

Nunca .....	1
Una vez al año .....	2
Una vez al mes .....	3
Una vez a la semana.....	4
Una vez al día.....	5
Una vez por hora.....	6
Constantemente .....	7
REFUSED .....	77
DON'T KNOW .....	99

CAPI INSTRUCTION:

IF RRQ.020 = 1 AND RRQ.030b = 1, 2, 3, 4, OR 5, DISPLAY {su raza u origen étnico}.  
IF RRQ.020 = 2, 7, OR 9 AND MORE THAN ONE CATEGORY SELECTED FOR RRQ.030b, DISPLAY {su raza u origen étnico}.  
IF RRQ.020 = 1 AND RRQ.030b = 77 OR 99, DISPLAY {que es hispano(a) o latino(a)}.  
IF RRQ.020 = 2, 7, OR 9 AND RRQ.030b = 1, 2, 3, 4, OR 5, DISPLAY {que es RACE REPORTED IN RRQ.030b}.  
OTHERWISE, DISPLAY {su raza u origen étnico}.

RRQ.050 En los últimos 12 meses, ¿ha visto un médico u otro profesional de cuidado de salud en un consultorio médico, clínica o sala de urgencias o ha estado hospitalizado(a)?

Sí.....	1
No.....	2 (RRQ.070)
REFUSED .....	7 (RRQ.070)
DONT KNOW .....	9 (RRQ.070)

RRQ.060 En los últimos 12 meses, al solicitar asistencia médica, ¿cree que sus experiencias fueron peores, iguales o mejores que las de personas de otras razas u orígenes étnicos?

- Peores que las de personas de otras razas u orígenes étnicos..... 1
- Iguales que las de personas de otras razas u orígenes étnicos..... 2
- Mejores que las de personas de otras razas u orígenes étnicos ..... 3
- REFUSED ..... 7
- DON'T KNOW ..... 9

RRQ.070 ¿Ha trabajado en un empleo en algún momento el año pasado?

- Sí..... 1
- No..... 2 (RRQ.090)
- REFUSED ..... 7 (RRQ.090)
- DONT KNOW ..... 9 (RRQ.090)

RRQ.080 En los últimos 12 meses, ¿cree que en su lugar de trabajo le trataron peor, igual o mejor que a personas de otras razas u orígenes étnicos?

- Peor que a personas de otras razas u orígenes étnicos ..... 1
- Igual que a personas de otras razas u orígenes étnicos..... 2
- Mejor que a personas de otras razas u orígenes étnicos ..... 3
- REFUSED ..... 7
- DON'T KNOW ..... 9

RRQ.090 En los últimos 30 días, ¿ha sentido algún síntoma físico, por ejemplo, dolor de cabeza, malestar estomacal, tensión en los músculos o fuerte latir del corazón, por la manera en que le trataron debido a {que es hispano(a) o latino(a)/que es RACE REPORTED IN RRQ.030/su raza u origen étnico}?

- Sí..... 1
- No..... 2
- REFUSED ..... 7
- DON'T KNOW ..... 9

CAPI INSTRUCTION:

IF RRQ.020 = 1 AND RRQ.030b = 1, 2, 3, 4, OR 5, DISPLAY {su raza u origen étnico}.

IF RRQ.020 = 2, 7, OR 9 AND MORE THAN ONE CATEGORY SELECTED FOR RRQ.030b, DISPLAY {su raza u origen étnico}.

IF RRQ.020 = 1 AND RRQ.030b = 77 OR 99, DISPLAY {que es hispano(a) o latino(a)}.

IF RRQ.020 = 2, 7, OR 9 AND RRQ.030b = 1, 2, 3, 4, OR 5, DISPLAY {que es RACE REPORTED IN RRQ.030b}.

OTHERWISE, DISPLAY {su raza u origen étnico}.

RRQ.100 En los últimos 30 días, ¿se ha sentido afectado emocionalmente, por ejemplo enojado(a), triste o frustrado(a), por la manera en que le trataron debido a {que es hispano(a) o latino(a)/que es RACE REPORTED IN RRQ.030/su raza u origen étnico}?

- Sí..... 1
- No..... 2
- REFUSED ..... 7
- DON'T KNOW ..... 9

CAPI INSTRUCTION:

IF RRQ.020 = 1 AND RRQ.030b = 1, 2, 3, 4, OR 5, DISPLAY {su raza u origen étnico}.

IF RRQ.020 = 2, 7, OR 9 AND MORE THAN ONE CATEGORY SELECTED FOR RRQ.030b, DISPLAY {su raza u origen étnico}.

IF RRQ.020 = 1 AND RRQ.030b = 77 OR 99, DISPLAY {que es hispano(a) o latino(a)}.

IF RRQ.020 = 2, 7, OR 9 AND RRQ.030b = 1, 2, 3, 4, OR 5, DISPLAY { que es RACE REPORTED IN RRQ.030b}.

OTHERWISE, DISPLAY {su raza u origen étnico}.