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**MEASURING RACE: BEYOND MUTUAL EXCLUSION TO HONOR LATINX
RACIAL IDENTIFICATION**

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This research pertains Latinx racial identification demographics. Current measurements of race are not yet standardized to the level they could be. The 2020 US census utilizes categories of mutual exclusion whereby respondents must select one (or more) race(s), prefaced by an ethnicity question where respondents may enumerate or deny Hispanic/Latinx origin. According to the PEW research center, only about 53% of surveyed Hispanic participants felt as though this format appropriately captured their racial identity, whereas 100% of White respondents and 97% of Black respondents felt similarly. This, among a growing mound of research, indicates that something is remiss between the institutional and laymen understandings of race for Latinx people. Extant research remains unconsolidated despite calls for standardization within race and ethnicity demographic collection. That is the gap this research hopes to fill; synthesizing ideas of past research, taking pieces from the puzzles of recent scholars and standardizing the strongest, most respectful, and accurate method of collecting race and ethnicity data. There exists far more than one facet of an individual's racial identity, including their skin color, their origins, their language, their features, how society racializes them, how individuals racialize them, et cetera. My hope is to provide recommendations on how to collect race data most efficiently, while explaining why an understanding of the multiplicative dimensions of race an absolute requisite for any level of race data collection. Further, I provide arguments on why criticisms against self-identification do not hold enough weight to prevent standardization and empirical journeys into abandoning mutually exclusive categories. By utilizing Dr. Wendy Roth's five dimensions of race and enumerating questions for collecting each, we can more accurately understand and collect data on the non-White, non-Black Latinx experience.