

The Evergreen State College
Evergreen New Student Survey 2007
Tacoma Program

How do you identify racially/ethnically?

Students were asked how they identify racially and ethnically. This question was open-ended and students responded in a variety of ways, including references to nationality and culture, which are generally considered to be distinct from race and ethnicity. Students' responses were analyzed and grouped into the categories below. These categories were created in an attempt to describe the complex identities of students.

Racial/Ethnic Group	Number of new Tacoma students (N=46)*	Percentage of new Tacoma students
Asian/Pacific Islander/Asian American, Asian nationality, culture, ethnicity	0	0.0%
Black or African American, African nationality, culture, ethnicity	16	34.8%
Hispanic or South American nationality, culture, ethnicity	1	2.2%
Middle Eastern, Jewish, Middle Eastern nationality, culture, ethnicity	0	0.0%
Multiracial or Multiethnic	5	10.9%
Native American/American Indian	0	0.0%
White/Caucasian or European descent, European nationality, culture, ethnicity	17	37.0%
Not able to code/Other	7	15.2%
Total	46	100.0%

*Four respondents skipped this question

The table below gives examples of the ways in which students described themselves and how responses were categorized. General descriptions and terms are used as revealing the exact response of every student may inadvertently reveal the identity of some survey respondents.

Racial/Ethnic Categorization	Description
Black or African American, African nationality, culture, ethnicity	Students described themselves as: Black, Black-American, African American, Afro-American.
Hispanic or South American nationality, culture, ethnicity	A student described their self in general terms as Hispanic.
Multiracial or Multiethnic	Students described themselves in terms of two or more races or ethnicities.
White/Caucasian or European descent, European nationality, culture, ethnicity	Students described themselves as White, White/Caucasian, White/Non-Hispanic, and in terms of mixed European heritages.
Not able to code	Some students wrote in comments or responses that could not be coded into the above categories. Examples include: "From the United States," "Human," "I don't," "American," "What do you mean?"