



**ANNOUNCEMENTS, COUNCIL BUSINESS,  
& LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

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FEBRUARY 16, 2023



# Topics

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- End of COVID-19 national emergency declarations
- Federal race/ethnicity data standards
- 2023 Legislative Session



# End of COVID-19 national emergency declarations

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- The Federal Administration [intends to ends the COVID-19 national emergency](#) and public health emergency (PHE) declarations on **May 11, 2023**.
- U.S. Health and Human Services [COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Transition Roadmap](#)
  - What will/will not be affected
  - Access to COVID-19 vaccinations, testing, and treatments; out-of-pocket expenses; telehealth flexibilities; reporting of COVID-19 lab results and immunization data; etc.



# End of COVID-19 national emergency declarations (continued)

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- Apple Health (Medicaid) and the Public Health Emergency (PHE)
  - Continuous eligibility for Apple Health coverage ends March 30, 2023.
  - “Once the PHE ends, [the Health Care Authority] will spend the next 12 months redetermining clients’ eligibility for Apple Health based on clients’ post-PHE renewal dates.”
  - Roughly **450,000 clients** may be impacted during the 12-month redetermination period.
- Info Sources
  - [Public info page](#) & [Guide](#)
  - [January 30, 2023 work session](#): Medicaid disenrollment – post eligibility review ([presentation](#))
  - [Client eligibility data dashboard](#)



# Federal race/ethnicity data standards

## Current minimum standards

- [1997 OMB Statistical Policy Directive No. 15](#)

Ethnic reporting categories:

- Hispanic or Latino

Racial reporting categories:

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- White

## Initial proposals for updating standards

- [Notice and request for public comment](#)
  1. Collect race and ethnicity information using one combined question
  2. Add “Middle Eastern or North African” as a new minimum reporting category
  3. Require the collection of detailed race and ethnicity reporting categories by default
  4. Update terminology (e.g., “majority” and “minority”)
  5. Guidance necessary to implement revisions
  6. Additional topics and future research



## Race/ethnicity data standards: past Council recommendations

- Ensure data are routinely collected, analyzed, and disseminated to track disparities and evaluate the effectiveness of interventions.
- Collect racial/ethnic and other data, disaggregated to the most detailed extent possible, to unmask where inequities are experienced by racial/ethnic groups.

[Past Council Reports](#)





# 2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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- [2023 State of the State Address](#)
- [Health Impact Reviews](#)
  - SB 5002 – Concerning alcohol concentration
  - HB 1169 – Concerning legal financial obligations
  - HB 1562 - Reducing the risks of lethality and other harm associated with gun violence, gender-based violence, and other types of violence
  - SB 5304 - Testing individuals who provide language access to state services
  - HB 1440 / SB 5434 - Concerning the jurisdiction of juvenile court
  - HB 1368 - Requiring and funding the purchase of zero emission school buses
- Priority bills



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# THANK YOU

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To request this document in an alternate format, please contact Kelie Kahler, Washington State Board of Health Communication Manager, at 360-236-4102, or by email at [kelie.kahler@sboh.wa.gov](mailto:kelie.kahler@sboh.wa.gov)  
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