

From: [Hodgson, Laura \(COM\)](#)
To: [City Planner](#)
Cc: [Info](#)
Subject: RE: RDI data for small cities
Date: Friday, March 7, 2025 5:13:29 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[Millwood_Spokane_Commerce RDI Tool EXPORT 2023 0316_CORRECTED.xlsx](#)

Hi Amanda,

Sorry for the delay in getting you answers. Please see the answers to your questions below.

- 1. Q: How is households of color defined in Chart 13a. Millwood number of households by income category and race, 2019? For example, in a mixed race household, if there is one member that is a person of color, is that household then included under households of color?**

A: The Census identifies a "household" as a "household of color" if the *householder* identifies as a person of color. The householder is the person (or one of the persons) in whose name the housing unit is owned or rented. In outdated, colloquial terms you have seen this described as "head of household."

A household comprised of people with different racial and ethnic identifies could be identified as a "White household" if the householder identifies as "White." For example, a household comprised of a parent plus two children would be considered a "household of color" if the parent self-identifies as Asian, Black or African American, American Indian and Alaskan Native, Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, another race (Other), and Two or More Races or Hispanic or Latino. If the parent identifies as "White" but identifies the children as "Two or more Races", the household would not be categorized as a "household of color" despite the presence of two members who do not identify as "White."

- 2. Q: Can you explain the negative numbers in Chart 14a and Chart 15? I know having the negative allows the lines to add up to 100% but how is a negative % generated?**

A: The negative numbers has so do with the with how the data get reported and the different treatment of ethnicity and race. Someone who identifies as "Hispanic or Latino" can identify as any race or not identify as a race. CHAS data does not report percentages at all, so we calculate those. To set the charts up to display by percentages we had to calculate a denominator that netted out the households for which race and ethnicity was not available. There is some imprecision due to the fact that CHAS doesn't get complete information on income, race, and ethnicity on every household, so that the estimates from the individual categories don't add up to the "all" estimate. Millwood had an unusual case in which every householder who reported having Hispanic and Latino ethnicity also reported that they identified as "White" which created a small double counting of 4 households, creating a negative number in the "race not reported" category. Because the number of households in each income by race category is so small for Millwood, that negative 4 carried through to create the -13% figure in Chart 14a and -17% figure in Chapter 15 for the City of Millwood. The corrected figures are included in the attached Millwood file in the tab titled "Income UPDATED." The updated chart corrects this issue with the

double counting.

Please let us know if you have any other questions. Have a great weekend!

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From: City Planner <planner@millwoodwa.us>
Sent: Friday, February 28, 2025 5:32 PM
To: Hodgson, Laura (COM) <laura.hodgson@commerce.wa.gov>
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Subject: RE: RDI data for small cities

External Email

I presented the RDI data to the City of Millwood Planning Commission on February 26th and two questions came up that I couldn't find answers to in the spreadsheet "Readme" section.

How is households of color defined in Chart 13a. Millwood number of households by income category and race, 2019? For example, in a mixed race household, if there is one member that is a person of color, is that household then included under households of color?