

This weekend is the deadline for federal agencies to submit their action plans for implementing **SPD 15***.

Behind every statistic is a person.

New race and ethnicity standards will enhance the ability of federal agencies to deliver services to all Americans, regardless of background.



Here's why it matters >>



The Leadership
Conference
Education Fund



America's Essential Data

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*2024 Statistical Policy Directive No. 15: Standards for Maintaining, Collecting, and Presenting Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity

After Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) data revealed a long-term disparity in mortality among Black infants, **New Jersey was able to expand community-based case management services...**

A photograph of a woman with glasses and a striped shirt holding a baby up in the air. The baby is wearing a white patterned shirt and blue jeans. The background is bright and out of focus.

So this new mom...

has easier access to prenatal care, doulas, and support groups.

In 2011, ACS data revealed that only 48% of Black working-age men in New Orleans were employed.

After a ten-year city-wide effort to increase employment among Black men, rates went up by ten percentage points.



An American Indian student feels safer and less isolated because **their school now sponsors heritage clubs**, drawing from **Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)** data that shows belonging at school protects against suicide attempts.



Because her local clinic knew from National Vital Statistics System (NVSS) data that dangerously high blood pressure is more likely among Black women, health workers were able to **provide her with an at-home blood pressure kit.**



Transportation planners use ACS race and ethnicity data to identify proposed service changes that disproportionately limit access to transportation, and can **readjust route plans so communities of color are better protected** from unfair transit plans.



Asian American communities **rallied to provide safety escort services** for community elders to run their daily errands safely after **local hate crime data** collected and reported to the FBI revealed an increase in anti-Asian hate crimes during the COVID-19 pandemic.





By implementing SPD-15 across these datasets (and more)...



Researchers, policymakers, and program officers will have *more detailed, accurate data* that **increase visibility into disparities and support more equitable outcomes.**



As demonstrated in EssentialData.US, federal datasets that collect race and ethnicity data **benefit American lives and livelihoods.**



And resources like wearethedata.us can provide improved tools to *advance the new race and ethnicity standards* through the **engagement and empowerment of communities.**

