

APPENDIX E: DETERMINATION OF CHILD'S RACE

Beginning in 1989, the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) changed their standards for determining a child's race. Since that time, a child's race has been determined by the race of the mother as reported on the birth certificate. Following are NCHS guidelines for determining the child's race.

- If the mother is a mixture of Hawaiian and any other race, the child's race is recorded as **Hawaiian**.
- If the mother is a mixture of races other than Hawaiian, the child's race is the **first listed race** of the mother.
- If the mother's race is listed as "Col.", "N", "Negro", "Colored", "B", "Brown", "AA", or "Afro-American", the child's race is recorded as **Black**.
- If the mother's race is listed as Asian, Yellow, Oriental, or Mongolian, and the mother's birth place is given as China, Japan, the Phillipines, Hawaii, India, Korea, Vietnam, Samoa, or Guam, the child's race is recorded by the **country of the mother's birth**. If the birth place is not one of those places, the child's race is recorded as **Other Asian or Pacific Islander**.
- If the mother's race is Indian and the mother's birth place is not in North, Central, or South America, the child's race is recorded as **Other Asian or Pacific Islander**.
- If "part _____" or "1/4, 1/2, 3/4 _____" is given, the child's race is recorded as the **first reported race** of the mother. The prefix is ignored.
- If the mother's race is shown as unknown, the child's race is recorded as **Unknown**.

In this report, for any decedents born in Alaska in 1989 or later, a comparison has been made between the decedent's race as shown on the death certificate and the mother's race as shown on the birth certificate. If the two are not the same, the mother's race has been used for statistical analysis.