

Appendix B. Local Skin Color Descriptors

Spanish Descriptor	Approximate English Equivalent	Contextual Note
<i>jíncha / transparente</i>	very light / pale-skinned	Used to describe very light skin; sometimes used humorously.
<i>blanco / blanquito</i>	white / light-skinned	Used to describe light skin; may also be used affectionately or pejoratively.
<i>cremita</i>	cream-colored / light beige	Used to describe fair or light brown skin.
<i>colorao / coloraita</i>	reddish / red-toned	Used for reddish undertones.
<i>oliva / piel oliva</i>	olive-skinned	Used for yellow/green undertones; sometimes overlaps with <i>trigueño</i> .
<i>café con leche</i>	light brown	Used for medium tones; culturally familiar descriptor.
<i>trigueño / trigueña</i>	wheat-colored / light brown	Used for intermediate tones between light and dark skin; often a euphemism to avoid <i>negro</i> (Black).
<i>indio / india</i>	"Indian"	Used to describe darker skin combined with straight or wavy hair; common euphemism downplaying African ancestry.
<i>moreno / morena</i>	brown / dark-skinned	Often used affectionately but may also carry racialized meanings; sometimes used as a general descriptor for darker skin.
<i>jabao / jabaita</i>	light-skinned Black / mixed	Used to describe a person with light skin and Afro-descendant features; a phenotype-based color term whose meaning varies by context.
<i>negro / negrita</i>	Black / "little Black"	Used regardless of skin tone and may function in both affectionate and racialized contexts.

Note: The table lists descriptive terms participants used during cognitive interviews when discussing skin color. English equivalents are approximate translations intended to convey general meaning; usage and connotations vary by context.