



Demographic Profile of Indian Country
Prepared January 10, 2007

Total American Indian/Alaska Native alone population: 2.48 million or .9% of the US population.
 Total AI/AN in combination with other races: 4.12 million or 1.5% of the US population.
 States with the highest proportion of AI/AN: Alaska (19%), Oklahoma (11%), New Mexico (10%).
 States with the largest populations of AI/AN: California, Oklahoma, Arizona, Texas, New Mexico.

Basic Living Characteristics	American Indian /Alaska Native	Total Population
Lacks complete plumbing ⁱ	11.7%	1.2%
No access to electricity ⁱⁱ	14.2%	1.4%
Lacks kitchen facilities	11%	1%
Overcrowded homes ⁱⁱⁱ	14.7%	5.7%
No telephone service available ^{iv}	32.1%	2.4%

Telephone Subscribership on Selected Reservations^{iv}	Rate for Tribe	National Rate
Navajo Nation	38%	97.6%
Wind River Reservation	76%	97.6%

Employment Statusⁱ	AI/AN	Total
Unemployed	8.6%	4.5%

Selected Reservations^v	Unemployed % of Labor Force
Colville Tribe, WA	53%
Blackfeet Tribe, MT	69%
Gila River Indian Reservation, AZ	39%

Income in the Past 12 Monthsⁱ (in 2005 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars)	AI/AN	Total
Median household income	33,300	46,200
Median family income	38,600	55,800
Per capita income	16,200	25,000

Poverty Ratesⁱ	AI/AN	Total
All families	21.2%	10.2%
All people	25.4%	13.3%
Under 18 years	32.4%	18.5%

Educational Attainment^{vi}	AI/AN	Total
Graduate or professional degree	4.5%	10.0%
Bachelor's degree or higher	13.6%	27.2%
Bachelor's degree	9.1%	17.2%
Some college or associate's degree	31.5%	27.5%
High school graduate or higher	76.3%	84.2%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	31.2%	29.6%
Less than high school diploma	23.7%	15.8%

Tribal Economies^{vii}

- Between 1992 and 1997, the number of Native-owned businesses grew by 84% to a total of 197,300 businesses, and their receipts increased by 179%.
- Between 1990 and 2000, income levels rose by 33% and the poverty rate dropped by 7%, with little difference between those tribes with gaming operations and those tribes without gaming.
- Real per capita income of Indians living on reservations is still less than half of the national average and unemployment is still double the rest of the country.

Health Disparities

- Indian life expectancy is 2.4 years less than all other races in the 1999-2001 rates. Indian life expectancy has increased by 4 years from the 1996-1998 rates.
- Native people die at higher rates than other Americans from
 - tuberculosis: 600% higher
 - alcoholism: 510% higher
 - motor vehicle crashes: 229% higher
 - diabetes: 189% higher
 - unintentional injuries: 152% higher
 - suicide: 62% higher
- Native infants die at a rate of 8.5 per every 1,000 live births, as compared to 6.8 per 1,000 for the U.S. all races population (2000-2002 rates).^{viii}
- Indian youth have the highest rate of suicide among all ethnic groups in the US and is the second-leading cause of death for Native youth aged 15-24.^{ix}

Public Safety and Security

- In 2001 half the tribes in the lower 48 states employed at least 1 full-time sworn officer with general arrest powers.^x
- Indian Country has a 42% unmet staffing need in law enforcement officers. There are 2,555 officers, yet a needed total of 4,409, resulting in a gap of 1,854 officers.^{xi}
- About 59% of tribes have a tribal judicial system.^{ix}
- The rate of violent crime against American Indians is twice the national average (101 per 1,000 as compared to 41 per 1,000 annually).^{xi}
- 1 out of 10 American Indians (12 and older) become victims of violent crime annually.^{xii}
- More than 25 Indian tribes govern lands that are either adjacent to borders or directly accessible by boat from the border. These tribal lands encompass over 260 miles of international borders – a distance 100 miles longer than California's border with Mexico.

Energy on Tribal Lands

- Indian land contains an estimated 10% of all energy resources in the United States.

Housing and Infrastructure

- Native Americans are becoming homeowners at an increasing rate, 39% more from 1997 to 2001.
- Fannie Mae's investment in mortgages increased exponentially, from \$30 million in 1997 to more than \$640 million in the most recent 5 year period.

Forestry

- There are 302 forested Indian reservations which encompass 17.9 million acres of Indian forest lands – 7.7 million acres of timberlands and 10.2 million acres of woodlands.
- 199 reservations contain timberlands and 185 reservations contain woodlands.

ⁱ US Census, 2000

ⁱⁱ Energy Information Administration, *Energy Use and Renewable Energy Development Potential on Indian Lands*, 2000

ⁱⁱⁱ US Census Bureau, 2000

^{iv} 2006 GAO 06-189 Report, *Challenges to Assessing and Improving Telecommunications For Native Americans on Tribal Lands*

^v Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of Interior, *Labor Force Report*

^{vi} US Census Bureau, *Profile of American Indians and Alaska Natives: 2005 American Community Survey*

^{vii} Taylor, J. & Kalt, J., *Indians on Reservations: A Databook of Socioeconomic Change Between the 1990 and 2000 Censuses*, January 2005

^{viii} Indian Health Service, *Facts on Indian Health Disparities, January 2006*

^{ix} SAMHSA, *National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2003*

^x US Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *2002 Census of Tribal Justice Agencies*

^{xi} BIA 2006 Gap Analysis of police to service population based on the FBI's 2004 Uniform Crime Report and BIA data

^{xii} 2004 report, *American Indians and Crime, A BJS Statistical Profile, 1992-2002*