Southern Plains and Eastern Oklahoma Area Regional Profile
Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas
Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reservations and Oklahoma Tribal Statistical Areas (OTSAs)</th>
<th>Eastern Oklahoma, OTSAs</th>
<th>S. Plains OK OTSAs</th>
<th>Texas Reservations</th>
<th>Kansas Reservations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>#</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>#</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,899,806</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>657,582</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIAN Alone or in Combination</td>
<td>336,148</td>
<td>17.7%</td>
<td>71,344</td>
<td>10.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>11,578</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>5,181</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>AIAN Alone</td>
<td>230,527</td>
<td>12.1%</td>
<td>49,542</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>6,447</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>2,996</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statewide</th>
<th>OK (Includes E. OK and S. Plains in OK)</th>
<th>Texas</th>
<th>Kansas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>#</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>#</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3,751,351</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>25,145,561</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIAN Alone or in Combination</td>
<td>482,760</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
<td>315,264</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>23,582</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>137,137</td>
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<tr>
<td>AIAN Alone</td>
<td>321,687</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
<td>170,972</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>12,954</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>90,386</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census American Indian and Alaska Native Summary File, DP-1

Demographics

The figures below show age distribution for the AIAN, non-Hispanic population statewide compared to the White, non-Hispanic population of Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas. Dependents (including young dependents under 15 and elderly dependents over 65) rely upon the economically active for economic support. In the three states, the AIAN population has a higher percentage of young dependents compared to the White populations of each state.

The age distribution for the entire population of Kansas differs from the American Indians state-wide population.

- 26.3 percent of AIAN, NH people in Kansas were less than 18 years old, compared to 22.3 percent of the White, NH population.
- The median age for AIAN people in Kansas is 32 statewide, compared to about 39.9 for the White population of Kansas.
In Oklahoma, 32.7 percent of the AIAN, non-Hispanic population was under the age of 18 in 2010, compared to 20.2 percent of the White, non-Hispanic population.

The median age for the AIAN population was 29.3 and was 41.5 for the White, non-Hispanic population.

In Texas, 23.2 percent of the AIAN, non-Hispanic population was under the age of 18 compared to 20.4 percent of the White, non-Hispanic population.

The median age for the AIAN, non-Hispanic population of Texas was 37.4 and 41.3 for the White, non-Hispanic population.
Types of Families with Own Children under 18

In Oklahoma, out of 30,947 AIAN families with children under 18, a quarter are female headed households, 9 percent are male-headed, and two-thirds are married couple families.

Oklahoma

In Kansas, 14 percent of family households with children are male-headed, 28 percent are female-headed, and 58 percent are married couple households.

Kansas

Texas AIAN family households with children have the largest percentage of female headed households among AIAN and White families with children in the region.

Texas
Educational Attainment
The figure below shows the percentage of persons age 25 and over with a high school diploma or higher and a bachelor’s or higher degree, by state, in the Southern Plains and Eastern Oklahoma Regions (KS, OK, TX). In Oklahoma, about 16 percent of AIAN persons 25 and older have a bachelor’s degree or higher, compared to 24 percent of the White population. In Texas, about 87 percent of AIAN people 25 and older had a high school diploma or higher.

![Graph showing educational attainment by state](image)

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Census Bureau, 2008-2010 American Community Survey (ACS) 3-Year Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) data.

The following figures\(^1\) show more detail of the highest level of education attained for AIAN people 25 and over compared to the White population in each state. In Kansas, 14 percent of the 11,615 AIAN people over 25 highest level of education was a bachelor’s degree (compared to 20 percent of the White population), 6 percent had attained a graduate or professional degree (compared to 10 percent of the White population), and 13 percent had less than a high school diploma or equivalent.

![Bar chart showing educational attainment by level](image)

\(^1\) Confidence intervals are displayed at the 90-percent confidence level. A 90-percent confidence interval can be interpreted roughly as providing 90 percent certainty that the interval defined by the upper and lower bounds contains the true value of the characteristic.
In Oklahoma, the highest level of education for 11 percent of the 139,182 AIAN people 25 and over was a bachelor’s degree; for 4 percent, a graduate or professional degree; and for 37 percent, a high school diploma or equivalent.
Economic Characteristics

In Oklahoma, more than a quarter of AIAN, NH families with related children under 18 years old were in poverty, compared to 15 percent for the corresponding White, NH families. In Kansas, 22 percent of AIAN, NH families with related children under 18 were in poverty, twice the rate as the White, NH families with children under 18.
Employment

The Census definition of unemployment\(^2\) differs from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) measure of unemployment. Persons are considered by BIA as "unemployed" if they are thought to be available for work, but not employed. This more realistic approach differs from the definition of unemployment in the Census Bureau data which requires that a person be "actively seeking work" within the last four weeks to be counted as unemployed. The Census definition does not take into account job seeking patterns where persons do not actively search for work when they know it is not available, common for many reservation areas. With that caveat, below is the percent unemployed as well as percent of the population 16 years and older not in the labor force according to the 5 year estimate (2006-2010).

Of the 15,471 AIAN, non-Hispanic (NH), persons 16 and over in Kansas, 39 percent were not in the labor force\(^3\), compared to 31 percent of the White population in that state. The percent of AIAN, NH persons unemployed was 7 percent compared to 5 percent. In Oklahoma, about 10 percent of the 178,159 AIAN persons 16 and over were unemployed, compared to 5 percent of the White population; 38 percent of the AIAN Oklahoma over 16 population was not in the labor force.

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\(^2\) Unemployed – All civilians 16 years old and over are classified as unemployed if they (1) were neither “at work” nor “with a job but not at work” during the reference week, and (2) were actively looking for work during the last 4 weeks, and (3) were available to start a job. Also included as unemployed are civilians who did not work at all during the reference week, were waiting to be called back to a job from which they had been laid off, and were available for work except for temporary illness. Examples of job seeking activities are: registering at a public or private employment office; meeting with prospective employers; investigating possibilities for starting a professional practice or opening a business; placing or answering advertisements; writing letters of application; being on a union or professional register.

\(^3\) Labor Force – All people classified in the civilian labor force plus members of the U.S. Armed Forces (people on active duty with the United States Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard). Not in Labor Force – All people 16 years old and over who are not classified as members of the labor force. This category consists mainly of students, homemakers, retired workers, seasonal workers interviewed in an off season who not looking for work, institutionalized people, and people were doing only incidental unpaid family work (less than 15 hours during the reference week).
Median Annual Earnings and Gender Earnings Ratio for Full-Time Workers

The figure below shows the median annual earnings for men and women for AIAN, NH and White, NH full time workers in Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas. The figure shows that the gender wage gap is smallest for AIAN full-time workers in Oklahoma and Kansas. Women of White and AIAN groups earn less than men of the same group, with the female/male earnings ratios ranging from a low of 73 percent for White full-time workers in the three states to a high of 79 percent for AIAN workers in Kansas and Oklahoma.

[Graph showing median earnings and gender earnings ratio for full-time workers in Kansas (KS), Oklahoma (OK), and Texas (TX), with data for White and AIAN full-time workers.]

Industry

The category of Educational Services, Health Care, and Social Assistance employed about 22 percent of the civilian employed AIAN population 16 years and over in Kansas (8,689 persons) and Manufacturing employed about 14 percent. Both percentages were comparable to the White employed population in the state. The largest difference between industry areas was Public Administration, which employed 8 percent of AIAN workers and 5 percent of White workers.
The percentages of civilian AIAN workers and White workers by industry were similar in Oklahoma, except for Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, and Accommodation (employing 12 percent of AIAN, NH and 7 percent of White, NH workers), Public Administration (8 percent for AIAN, NH and 6 percent for Whites, NH), Professional, Scientific, and Management, and Administrative and Waste Management Services (6 percent for AIAN, NH and 8 percent for Whites, NH).
The civilian employed AIAN population in Texas showed similar proportions to the White, NH population.

**Housing Characteristics**

Tenure: out of the 101,976 AIAN occupied housing units in Oklahoma, 35 percent were rented and 65 percent were owned, 15 percent out of the total owned free and clear and 40 percent owned with a mortgage or loan. The 65 percent homeownership rate is lower than the White, non-Hispanic homeownership rate of 72 percent in Oklahoma.
Median Value of Owner-Occupied Units

The median value of the 16,715 AIAN owner occupied units in Oklahoma was $84,500 compared to $109,200. The median value of AIAN owner-occupied housing units was highest in Texas, at $116,700.

The next figures show the breakdown of values owner-occupied units for Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas.

In Kansas, about a quarter of owner-occupied units were valued less than $50,000 compared to 14 percent of the White, non-Hispanic population.
In Oklahoma, out of 52,632 AIAN owner-occupied housing units, 36 percent were valued between $50,000 and $99,999 and a quarter were valued less than $50,000.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey, Table DP04