

# The American Indian and Alaska Native Population: 2010

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# Overview

- 2010 Census Questionnaire
- OMB definition of “American Indian or Alaska Native” (AIAN)
- Population Characteristics
- Census Bureau Summary Data on “AIAN” Population
- Non-Response & Bureau Rejection Rate
  - “AIAN” Race Term
  - Tribal Sub-question & Instructions



# Definition of “AI or AN” Used by U.S. Census Bureau (DOC)

According to the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB), “American Indian or Alaska Native” refers to a person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.

# OMB Definition of “American Indian or Alaska Native” Used in the 2010 Census

- Includes people who marked the “American Indian or Alaska Native” (AIAN) race category
- Respondents also asked to report tribal names such as:
  - North American Indian groups (e.g., Navajo)
  - Alaska Native groups (e.g., Yup’ik)
  - Central American Indian groups (e.g., Mayan)
  - South American Indian groups (e.g., Taino)

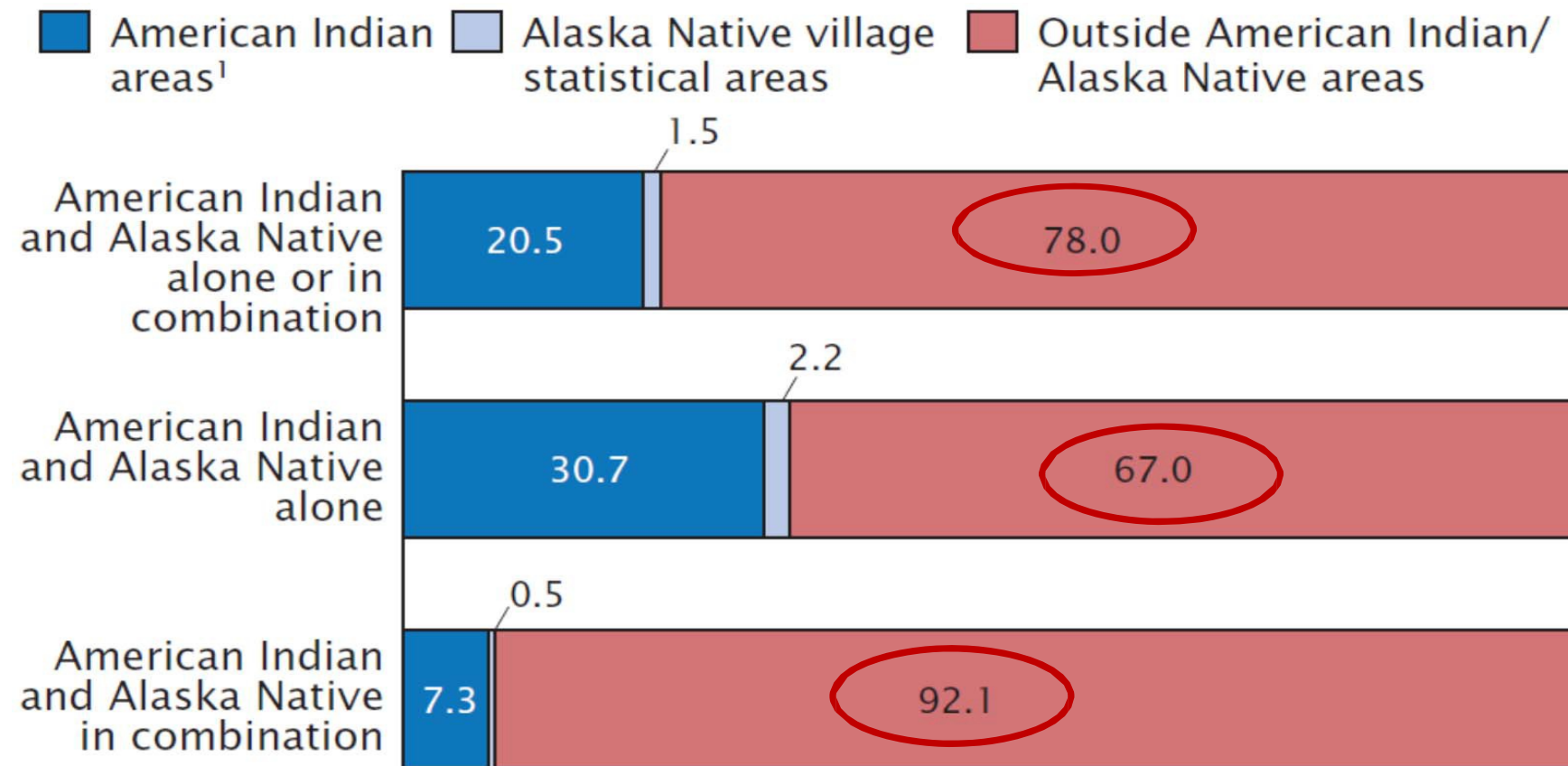
# Race Concepts

- Race ***alone*** population – people who reported a single race group (e.g., American Indian and Alaska Native alone)
- Race ***in combination*** population – people who reported more than one race group (e.g., American Indian and Alaska Native ***and*** White; American Indian and Alaska Native ***and*** Black)
- Race ***alone or in combination*** population – all people who reported a particular race group, either alone, or in combination with one or more other race groups

# AIAN Population: 2000 and 2010

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>Increase</u>
<b>AIAN alone or in any combination</b>	<b>4,119,301</b>	<b>5,220,579</b>	<b>1,101,278</b>
<b>AIAN alone</b>	<b>2,475,956</b>	<b>2,932,248</b>	<b>456,292</b>
<b>AIAN in combination</b>	<b>1,643,345</b>	<b>2,288,331</b>	<b>644,986</b>

# Percentage Distribution of the AIAN Population by Area of Residence: 2010



<sup>1</sup>Includes federal American Indian reservations and/or off-reservation trust lands, Oklahoma tribal statistical areas, tribal designated statistical areas, state American Indian reservations, and state designated American Indian statistical areas.

Note: Percentages may not add to 100.0 due to rounding. AIAN refers to American Indian and Alaska Native.

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## INTRODUCTION

According to the 2010 Census, 5.2 million people in the United States identified as American Indian and Alaska Native, either alone or in combination with one or more other races. Out of this total, 2.9 million people identified as American Indian and Alaska Native alone. Almost half of the American Indian and Alaska Native population, or 2.3 million people, reported being American Indian and Alaska Native in combination with one or more other races. The American Indian and Alaska Native in combination population experienced rapid growth, increasing by 39 percent since 2000.

This report provides a portrait of the American Indian and Alaska Native population in the United States and discusses that population's distribution at the national level and at lower levels of geography.<sup>1</sup> It is part of a series that analyzes population and housing data collected from the 2010 Census.

The data for this report are based on the 2010 Census Redistricting Data (Public Law 94-171) Summary File, which was the first 2010 Census data product released with data on race and Hispanic origin, including information on the American Indian and Alaska Native population, and was provided to each state for use in drawing boundaries for legislative

<sup>1</sup> This report discusses data for the 50 states and the District of Columbia, but not Puerto Rico.

Figure 1.  
Reproduction of the Question on Race From the 2010 Census

6. What is this person's race? Mark (X) one or more boxes.

<input type="checkbox"/> White		
<input type="checkbox"/> Black, African Am., or Negro		
<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native — Print name if enrolled in tribal tribe. <sup>2</sup>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Asian Indian	<input type="checkbox"/> Japanese	<input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian
<input type="checkbox"/> Chinese	<input type="checkbox"/> Korean	<input type="checkbox"/> Guamanian or Chamorro
<input type="checkbox"/> Filipino	<input type="checkbox"/> Vietnamese	<input type="checkbox"/> Samoan
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Asian — Print race, or specify, Hmong, Laotian, Thai, Pakistani, Cambodian, and so on. <sup>3</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Pacific Islander — Print race, or specify, Pitcairn, Tongan, and so on. <sup>4</sup>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Some other race — Print race. <sup>3</sup>		

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census questionnaire.

districts.<sup>2</sup> Data for this report also come from the 2010 Census Summary File 1, which was the first 2010 Census data product to provide information on selected detailed American Indian and Alaska Native tribal groupings, such as Navajo, Cherokee, or Inupiat.<sup>3,4</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Information on the 2010 Census Redistricting Data (Public Law 94-171) Summary File is available online at <<http://2010.census.gov/2010census/data/redistricting-data.php>>.

<sup>3</sup> Information on the 2010 Census Summary File 1 is available online at <<http://2010.census.gov/news/press-kits/summary-file-1.html>>.

<sup>4</sup> American Indian tribal groupings refer to the combining of individual American Indian tribes, such as Fort Sill Apache, Mescalero Apache, and San Carlos Apache, into the general Apache tribal grouping. For Alaska Natives, tribal groupings refer to the combining of individual Alaska Native tribes, such as King Salmon Tribe, Native Village of Kanatak, and Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak, into the general Aleut tribal grouping.

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# The American Indian and Alaska Native Population: 2010 AIAN Brief

<[www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/briefs/c2010br-10.pdf](http://www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/briefs/c2010br-10.pdf)>

United States  
**Census**  
Bureau

U.S. Department of Commerce  
Economics and Statistics Administration  
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

# The American Indian and Alaska Native Population: 2010

## Brief Table 7. Pg. 17 Footnote 1-4

[www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/briefs/c2010br-10.pdf](http://www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/briefs/c2010br-10.pdf)

Table 7.  
**American Indian and Alaska Native Population by Selected Tribal Groupings: 2010**  
(For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/doc/sf1.pdf](http://www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/doc/sf1.pdf))

Tribal grouping	American Indian and Alaska Native alone		American Indian and Alaska Native in combination with one or more other races		American Indian and Alaska Native tribal grouping alone or in any combination <sup>1</sup>
	One tribal grouping reported	Two or more tribal groupings reported <sup>2</sup>	One tribal grouping reported	Two or more tribal groupings reported <sup>3</sup>	
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>2,879,638</b>	<b>52,610</b>	<b>2,209,267</b>	<b>79,064</b>	<b>5,220,579</b>
American Indian tribes, specified.....	1,935,363	96,770	1,211,838	153,180	3,397,251
Apache .....	63,193	6,501	33,303	8,813	111,810
Arapaho .....	8,014	308	2,084	375	10,861
Blackfoot .....	27,279	4,519	54,109	19,397	105,304
Canadian and French American Indian .....	6,433	618	6,981	790	14,822
Central American Indian .....	15,882	572	10,865	525	27,844
Cherokee .....	284,247	16,216	468,082	50,560	819,105
Cheyenne .....	11,375	1,118	5,311	1,247	19,051
Chickasaw .....	27,973	2,233	19,220	2,852	52,278
Chippewa .....	112,757	2,645	52,091	3,249	170,742
Choctaw .....	103,910	6,398	72,101	13,355	195,764
Colville .....	8,114	200	2,148	87	10,549
Comanche .....	12,284	1,187	8,131	1,728	23,330
Cree .....	2,211	739	4,023	1,010	7,983
Creek .....	48,352	4,586	30,618	4,766	88,332
Crow .....	10,332	528	3,309	1,034	15,203
Delaware .....	7,843	372	9,439	610	18,264
Hopi .....	12,580	2,054	3,013	680	18,327
Houma .....	8,169	71	2,438	90	10,768
Iroquois .....	40,570	1,891	34,490	4,051	81,002
Kiowa .....	9,437	918	2,947	485	13,787
Lumbee .....	62,306	851	10,039	73,691	146,096
Menominee .....	8,374	253	2,330	176	11,133
Mexican American Indian .....	121,221	2,329	49,670	2,274	175,494
Navajo .....	286,731	8,285	32,918	4,195	332,129
Osage .....	8,938	1,125	7,090	1,423	18,576
Ojibwa .....	7,272	776	4,274	711	13,033
Palute .....	9,340	965	3,135	427	13,767
Pima .....	22,040	1,165	3,116	334	26,655
Potawatomi .....	20,412	462	12,249	648	33,771
Pueblo .....	49,695	2,331	9,568	946	62,540
Pugot Sound Salish .....	14,320	215	5,540	185	20,260
Seminole .....	14,080	2,368	12,447	3,076	31,971
Shoshone .....	610	610	3,969	571	13,002
Sioux .....	112,176	4,301	46,964	6,669	170,110
South American Indian .....	20,901	479	25,015	838	47,233
Spanish American Indian .....	13,460	298	6,012	181	19,951
Tohono O'odham .....	19,522	725	3,033	198	23,478
Ute .....	7,435	785	2,802	469	11,491
Yakama .....	8,786	310	2,207	224	11,527
Yaqul .....	21,679	1,518	8,183	1,217	32,595
Yumath .....	7,727	551	1,642	169	10,089
All other American Indian tribes .....	270,141	12,606	135,032	11,850	429,629
American Indian tribes, not specified <sup>4</sup> .....	131,943	117	102,188	72	234,320
Alaska Native tribes, specified.....	98,892	4,194	32,992	2,772	138,850
Alaskan Athabascan .....	15,623	804	5,531	526	22,484
Aleut .....	11,920	723	6,108	531	19,282
Inupiat .....	24,859	877	7,051	573	33,360
Tlingit-Haida .....	15,256	859	9,331	634	26,080
Tsimshian .....	2,307	240	1,010	198	3,755
Yup'ik .....	28,927	691	3,961	310	33,689
Alaska Native tribes, not specified <sup>4</sup> .....	10,731	173	9,896	133	29,933
American Indian or Alaska Native tribes, not specified <sup>4</sup> .....	693,709	—	852,253	1	1,545,963

— Represents zero.  
<sup>1</sup> The numbers by American Indian and Alaska Native tribal grouping do not add to the total American Indian and Alaska Native population. This is because the American Indian and Alaska Native tribal groupings are tallies of the number of American Indian and Alaska Native responses rather than the number of American Indian or Alaska Native respondents. Respondents reporting several American Indian or Alaska Native groups are counted several times. For example, a respondent reporting "Cherokee and Navajo" would be included in the Cherokee as well as the Navajo numbers.  
<sup>2</sup> Includes respondents who wrote in an American Indian tribe not specified in the American Indian and Alaska Native Tribal Detailed Classification List for the 2010 Census or wrote in the generic term "American Indian."  
<sup>3</sup> Includes respondents who wrote in an Alaska Native tribe not specified in the American Indian and Alaska Native Tribal Detailed Classification List for the 2010 Census or wrote in the generic term "Alaska Native."  
<sup>4</sup> Includes respondents who checked the "American Indian or Alaska Native" response category on the census questionnaire.  
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census special tabulation.

# AI or AN Tribal Sub-Question: Two Types of Non-Response

	<u>2010</u>	
<b>AIAN Response Rejected by Bureau</b>	<b>264,253</b>	<b>5.1%</b>
<b>AIAN No Response</b>	<b>1,545,963</b>	<b>29.6%</b>
<b>AIAN Response Rejected &amp; No Response</b>	<b>1,810,216</b>	<b>35%</b>

# Post 2010 Census Review & Research

- In 2010-2014, the Census Bureau conducted the Alternative Questionnaire Experiment (AQE)
- Qualitative data captured and measured significant confusion and/or apprehension among mixed race AIAN and AIAN only research participants on AIAN race term
- Significant amount of confusion and apprehension with tribal sub-question under the AIAN checkbox and the instructions

# National Advisory Committee: Recommended Further Testing on Race Question

- In 2014, the NAC recommended additional testing of the proposed combined race and Hispanic origin question.
- NAC also recommended further testing on Race question concerning the AIAN race name and tribal sub-question
- The Bureau designed and conducted a series of qualitative research activities carried out in the fall of 2014
- The research didn't include testing AIAN race name changes

# AIAN Race Term & Tribal Sub-Question

- AIAN is a political and legal status for federally recognized tribes and their membership within in the United States
- OMB Definition has geographical components much larger in scope than “AI or AN” Race Title
- Large numbers of people originating from North, Central, and South America don’t identify nor are familiar with AIAN as a term for race
- OMB definition sets forth a tribal affiliation and community involvement standard and not a membership or enrollment standard
- Millions of Americans are racially AIAN and aren’t enrolled members

# Reasons for Response Rejection

- Respondents check the AIAN box and:
  - Write in a generic name like “Native American” or “Indian”
  - For the large tribal groupings, many respondents write in “Sioux” or “Apache”
  - Write in the traditional name of their tribe or clan name
- U.S. Census Bureau maintains a Detailed Tribal Classification List
  - If tribal sub-question responses do not match with a tribal name on the list, the response is disqualified
  - Unlike non-response follow up by field operations, there is no follow-up with AIAN respondents whose response on tribal sub-question fails to match the classification list

# Reasons for Non-Responses To Sub-Question

- Respondents are confused
  - What does Principal Tribe mean?
  - Must I be an enrolled member to write in a tribal name?
- The AIAN Checkbox and Tribal Sub-Question work together
  - “I know I’m part (INSERT TRIBE), but I’m not enrolled so I don’t check the box”
  - “I know I am part Indian but I don’t know which tribe so I don’t check the box”
  - “I know my tribe, I check the box, but don’t write in the name because \_\_\_\_.”
- Historical Racism

# Need For New Race Category Consistent with OMB Definition

- Geographical component of OMB Definition is correct
- Tribal Affiliation and Community Involvement Component does not reflect reality of race component
- Census Bureau lacks resources to validate tribal enrollment
- If tribal enrollment numbers are needed, the Tribes are proper organizations for that data

# Example Changes for AIAN Race Term

- American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous of the Americas
- Indigenous or Original Peoples of North, Central or South America
- Original Person of the Americas
- Native of North, Central or South America (NNCSA)

# Why Is This Important?

- Representation (Congressional Districting)
- Funding
  - Healthcare
  - Education
  - Housing
  - Infrastructure
- Single biggest Civil Rights Issue for the “AIAN” community