

We the People: American Indians and Alaska Natives in the United States

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By
Stella U. Ogunwole

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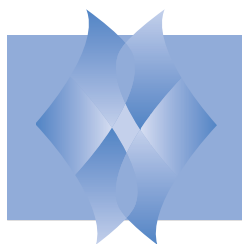
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This report was prepared by **Stella U. Ogunwole**, under the supervision of **Claudette E. Bennett**, Chief, Racial Statistics Branch, and **Jorge del Pinal**, Assistant Division Chief, Special Population Statistics, Population Division. **John F. Long**, then Chief, Population Division, provided overall direction.

General direction was provided by **Judy G. Belton**, Chief, Race and Hispanic Origin Review Branch, Population Division. Within the Race and Hispanic Origin Review Branch, **Linda M. Chase** provided principal statistical assistance, and additional assistance was provided by **Yvonne J. Gist**, **Debra A. Niner**, and **Paula L. Vines**. The contents of the report were reviewed by **Marjorie F. Hanson**, Population Division. **E. Marie Pees** and **Steve Smith**, Population Division, provided computer programming support.

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We the People: American Indians and Alaska Natives in the United States

This report provides a portrait of the American Indian and Alaska Native population in the United States and discusses the largest specified tribal groupings, reservations, Alaska Native village statistical areas (ANVSAs), and areas outside reservations and ANVSAs (outside tribal areas) at the national level.¹ It is part of the Census 2000 Special Reports series that presents demographic, social, and economic characteristics collected from Census 2000.

In Census 2000, 4.3 million people, or 1.5 percent of the total U.S. population, reported that they were American Indian and Alaska Native. This number included 2.4 million people, or 1 percent, who reported only American Indian and Alaska Native as their race. Table 1 shows the number of people reporting a single detailed tribal grouping and a tally of the number of times the grouping was reported.²

Census 2000 reported on six major race categories: White, Black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Native

Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and Some Other Race.³ The term “American Indian or Alaska Native” refers to people having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America) who maintain tribal affiliation or community attachment. It includes people who reported American Indian and Alaska Native or wrote in their principal or enrolled tribe. When the terms “American Indian” and “Alaska Native” are used separately in this report, they refer to two distinct populations.

This report presents data for the following American Indian tribal groupings:

Apache	Iroquois
Cherokee	Lumbee
Chippewa	Navaho
Choctaw	Pueblo
Creek	Sioux

This report presents data for the following Alaska Native tribal groupings:

Alaskan Athabascan
Aleut
Eskimo
Tlingit-Haida

This report also presents Census 2000 data for the single-race American Indian and Alaska Native population for those who lived inside and those who lived outside tribal areas.

The data collected by Census 2000 on race can be divided into two broad categories: people who reported only one race and people who reported more than 1 of the 6 major race categories. People who responded to the question on race by indicating only one race are referred to as the single-race population. For example, respondents who reported their race as only American Indian or Alaska Native and/or wrote in one or more tribes, would be included in the single-race American Indian population, which is identified as American Indian and Alaska Native alone in tables in this report.⁴ Individuals who reported a specific race and one or more other major races are referred to as the race-in-combination population. For example, respondents who reported they were American Indian and Alaska Native **and** White, or American Indian and Alaska Native **and** Black or African American **and** Asian, would be included in the

¹ Tribal grouping refers to the combining of individual American Indian tribes into their general tribal grouping, such as Fort Sill Apache, Jicarilla Apache, and Mescalero Apache into the general Apache tribe, or combining individual Alaska Native tribes, such as American Eskimo, Eskimo, and Greenland Eskimo, into the general Eskimo tribe.

² The data contained in this report are based on the sample of households that responded to the Census 2000 long form. As with all surveys, estimates may vary from the actual values because of sampling variation or other factors. All comparisons made in this report have undergone statistical testing and are significant at the 90-percent confidence level unless otherwise noted.

³ The Census 2000 question on race included 15 separate response categories and three areas where respondents could write in a more specific race group. The response categories and write-in answers can be combined to create the five race categories specified by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) plus Some Other Race. In addition to White, Black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, and Some Other Race, 7 of the 15 response categories are Asian and 4 are Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander.

⁴ Respondents reporting a single American Indian or Alaska Native tribal grouping, such as “Apache” or “Alaskan Athabascan,” would be included in the American Indian and Alaska Native single-race population. Respondents reporting more than one tribal grouping, such as “Apache and Cherokee” or “Alaskan Athabascan and Eskimo and Aleut,” would also be included in the American Indian and Alaska Native alone population.

Table 1.
American Indian and Alaska Native Population by Selected Tribal Grouping: 2000

(Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)

Tribal grouping	American Indian and Alaska Native alone		American Indian and Alaska Native alone or in combination	
	Number	Percent of U.S. population	Number	Percent of U.S. population
Total	2,447,989	0.87	4,315,865	1.53
American Indian, one tribal grouping¹	1,770,046	0.63	2,883,803	1.02
Apache	57,199	0.02	104,556	0.04
Cherokee	302,569	0.11	875,276	0.31
Chippewa	110,857	0.04	159,744	0.06
Choctaw	88,692	0.03	173,314	0.06
Creek	40,487	0.01	76,159	0.03
Iroquois	47,746	0.02	89,371	0.03
Lumbee	52,614	0.02	59,488	0.02
Navajo	276,775	0.10	309,575	0.11
Pueblo	59,621	0.02	73,687	0.03
Sioux	113,713	0.04	167,869	0.06
Alaska Native, one tribal grouping²	96,998	0.03	120,766	0.04
Alaska Athabascan	14,700	0.01	18,874	0.01
Aleut	12,069	-	17,551	0.01
Eskimo	47,239	0.02	56,824	0.02
Tlingit-Haida	15,212	0.01	22,786	0.01
One or more other specified tribal groupings³	755,799	0.27	1,279,089	0.45
Tribal grouping not specified⁴	452,697	0.16	1,017,222	0.36

- Rounds to zero.

¹ The alone population includes people who reported only one American Indian tribal grouping. The corresponding alone-or-in-combination population includes people who reported one American Indian tribal grouping and one or more races.

² The alone population includes people who reported only one Alaska Native tribal grouping. The corresponding alone-or-in-combination population includes people who reported one Alaska Native tribal grouping and one or more races.

³ The alone population includes people who reported one or more American Indian or Alaska Native tribal groupings not listed above or elsewhere classified and no other race, and people who reported 2 or more of the 14 specific tribal groupings listed above (Apache through Sioux and Alaska Athabascan through Tlingit-Haida) and no other race. The corresponding alone-or-in-combination population includes people who reported one or more other specified tribal groupings regardless of whether they also reported another race.

⁴ The alone population includes people who checked the box "American Indian or Alaska Native" only. The corresponding alone-or-in-combination population includes people who checked the box "American Indian or Alaska Native" regardless of whether they also reported another race.

Note: For the 14 specific tribal groupings listed (Apache through Sioux and Alaska Athabascan through Tlingit-Haida), the alone population includes people who reported that one tribal grouping only. The corresponding alone-or-in-combination population also includes people who reported one or more tribal groupings and one or more races.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 special tabulation.

American Indian and Alaska Native in-combination population.⁵

In addition to reporting one or more races, American Indians and Alaska Natives could report one or

more tribes.⁶ People who checked the American Indian or Alaska Native response category on the census questionnaire and wrote in

their tribe as Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians or Minnesota Chippewa, for example, would be included in the Chippewa tribal grouping, or the single-race and single-tribal-grouping population. Respondents who reported their race only as American Indian and Alaska Native and wrote in more than one of the American Indian

⁵ The race-in-combination categories use the conjunction ***and*** in bold and italicized print to link the race groups that compose the combination.

⁶ Like race, the information on tribe is based on self-identification. Tribes include federally or state-recognized tribes, as well as bands and clans. Some of the entries, such as Iroquois, Sioux, Colorado River, and Flathead, represent nations or reservations.

UNDERSTANDING DATA ON RACE AND HISPANIC ORIGIN FROM CENSUS 2000

Census 2000 incorporated the federal standards for collecting and presenting data on race and Hispanic origin issued by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in October 1997, considering race and Hispanic origin to be two separate and distinct concepts. For Census 2000, the questions on race and Hispanic origin were asked of every individual living in the United States, and answers were based on self-identification.

Data on race have been collected since the first U.S. decennial census in 1790. The question on race on Census 2000 was different from the one on the 1990 census in several ways. In 2000, respondents were asked to select one or more race categories to indicate their racial identities. Additionally, three separate categories Indian (Amer.), Eskimo, and Aleut were combined into one category and

renamed American Indian or Alaska Native.* Because of the changes, the Census 2000 data on race are not directly comparable with data from the 1990 census or earlier censuses. Caution must be used when interpreting changes in the racial composition of the U.S. population over time.

Because Hispanics or Latinos may be any race, data in this report for American Indians and Alaska Natives overlap with data for Hispanics. Among American Indians and Alaska Natives who reported only one race, approximately 15.0 percent were Hispanic. The question on Hispanic origin in Census 2000 was similar to the 1990 question, except for its placement on the questionnaire and a few wording changes. For Census 2000, the question on Hispanic origin was asked directly before the question on race, while in 1990, the question on race preceded questions on age and marital status, which were followed by the question on Hispanic origin. Additionally, in Census 2000, a note was included on the questionnaire asking respondents to complete both the question on Hispanic origin and the question on race.

* A more detailed discussion of these changes is provided in Elizabeth M. Grieco and Rachel C. Cassidy, 2001, *Overview of Race and Hispanic Origin: 2000*, U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Brief, C2KBR/01-1. This report is available on the U.S. Census Bureau's Internet site at <www.census.gov/prod/2001pubs/c2kbr01-1.pdf>.

and Alaska Native tribes would still be included in the single-race population. For example, a respondent who reported his or her race as only American Indian and Alaska Native, and wrote in White Mountain Apache and Minnesota Chippewa, would be included both in Apache and Chippewa tribal groupings. Because no other race was reported, this respondent would also be included in the single-race American Indian and Alaska Native population.

Respondents who reported more than 1 of the 6 major race categories and wrote in their tribe as Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians or Minnesota Chippewa, for example, would be included in the race in-combination and

single-tribal-grouping (Chippewa) population.

People who indicated more than 1 of the 6 races and wrote in more than one of the American Indian and Alaska Native tribes would be included in the race in-combination and in-combination tribal-groupings population.⁷

In the text and figures of this report, population characteristics are shown for American Indians and Alaska Natives who reported only one race and one tribe. This

⁷ A more detailed description and presentation of the race and tribal grouping combinations for the American Indian and Alaska Native population is provided in *American Indian and Alaska Native Tribes for the United States, Regions, Divisions, and States: 2000*, U.S. Census Bureau, PHC-T-18. This product is available on the U.S. Census Bureau's Internet site at <www.census.gov/population/www/cen2000/phc-t18.html>.

presentation does not imply that it is the preferred method of presenting or analyzing data. The U.S. Census Bureau uses a variety of approaches. Table 2 summarizes characteristics for the single-race American Indian and Alaska Native population, American Indians and Alaska Natives who reported two or more races, and people who reported they were American Indian or Alaska Native regardless of whether they also reported another race. Data for the American Indian and Alaska Native single-race population, the American Indian and Alaska Native population regardless of whether they reported any other race, and the detailed tribal groupings are in Summary File 4, shown at <www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf>.

Two companion reports provide more information on these concepts and populations. The Census 2000 Brief *The American Indian and Alaska Native Population: 2000* analyzes population data collected from the short-form questions in Census 2000. It shows the American Indian and Alaska Native population distribution at

both the national and subnational levels, as well as tribal groupings at the national level.⁸ In addition,

⁸ Stella U. Ogunwole, 2002, *The American Indian and Alaska Native Population: 2000*, U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Brief, C2KBR/01-15. This report is available on the U.S. Census Bureau's Internet site at <www.census.gov/prod/2002pubs/c2kbr01-15.pdf>.

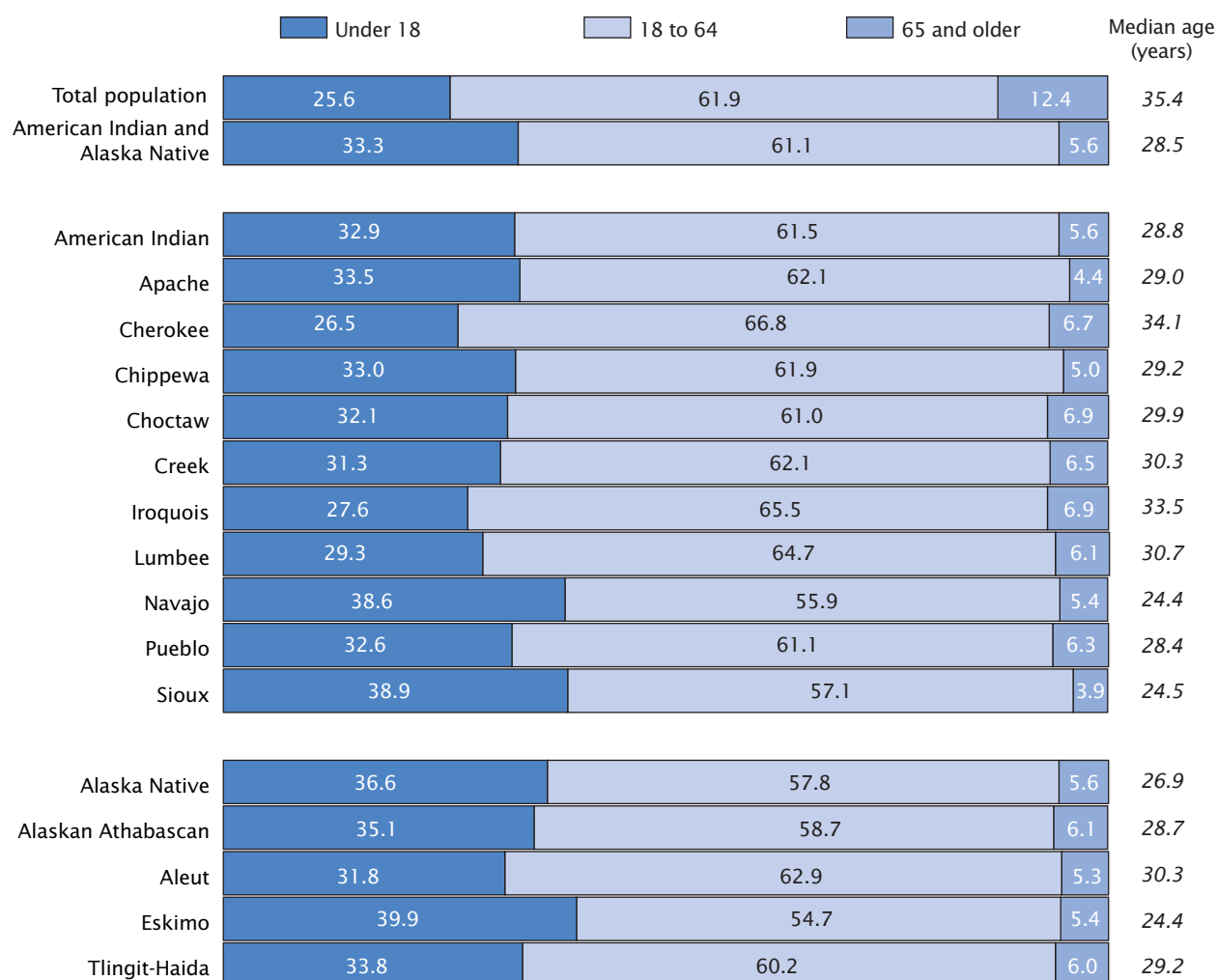
the Census 2000 Brief *Overview of Race and Hispanic Origin: 2000* provides a complete explanation of the race categories used in Census 2000 and information on each of the six major race groups and the Hispanic-origin population at the national level.

The American Indian and Alaska Native population was younger than the total population.

- About 33 percent of the American Indian and Alaska Native population was under age 18, compared with 26 percent of the total population. In the older age group, 5.6 percent of the American Indian and Alaska Native population, compared with 12.4 percent of the total population, was 65 and older.
- The percentage under age 18 of American Indian tribal groupings ranged from 26 percent to 39 percent. The corresponding percentage among the Alaska Native tribal groupings ranged from 32 percent to 40 percent.
- Less than 10 percent of all American Indian tribal groupings were 65 and older.
- The median age of 29 years for American Indians and Alaska Natives was about 6 years younger than the national median of 35 years.

Figure 1.
Selected Age Groups and Median Age: 2000

(Percent distribution. Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)



Note: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 special tabulation.

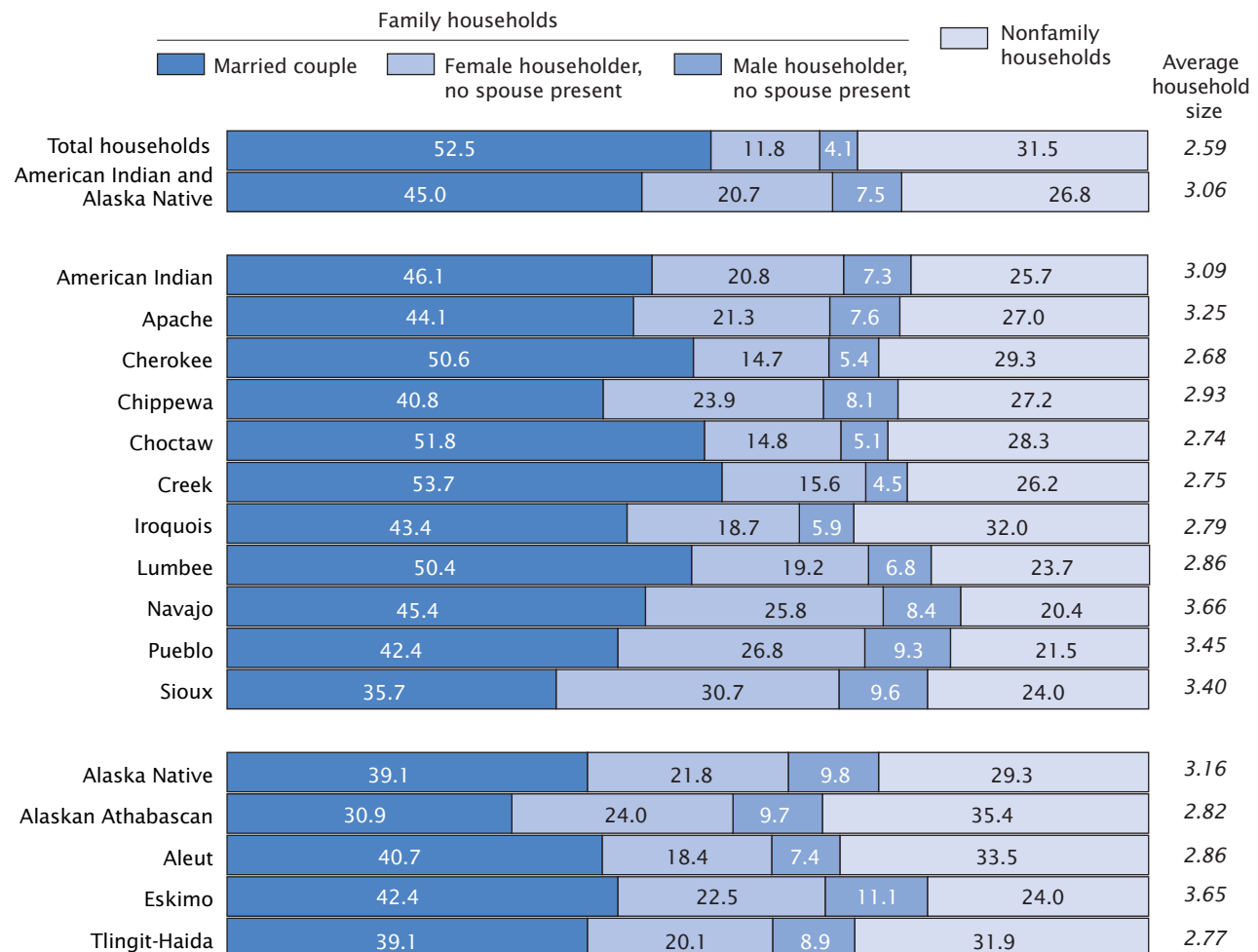
Seventy-three percent of American Indian and Alaska Native households were family households, compared with 68 percent of all households.

- American Indians and Alaska Natives had a higher percentage of family households maintained by a woman with no husband present and a higher percentage of family households maintained by a man with no wife present than the total population.
- Household type varied among the American Indian tribal groupings. The percentage of family households ranged from 68 percent to 80 percent.
- Twenty-five percent or more of Sioux, Pueblo, and Navajo households were family households maintained by women with no husband present.
- Among the Alaska Native tribal groupings, the percentage of family households ranged from about 65 percent to 76 percent. Forty-two percent of Eskimo households were married-couple families, which exceeded the 31 percent of Alaskan Athabascan households.

Figure 2.

Household Type and Average Household Size: 2000

(Percent distribution of households. Households are classified by the race and tribal grouping of the householder. Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)



Note: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 special tabulation.

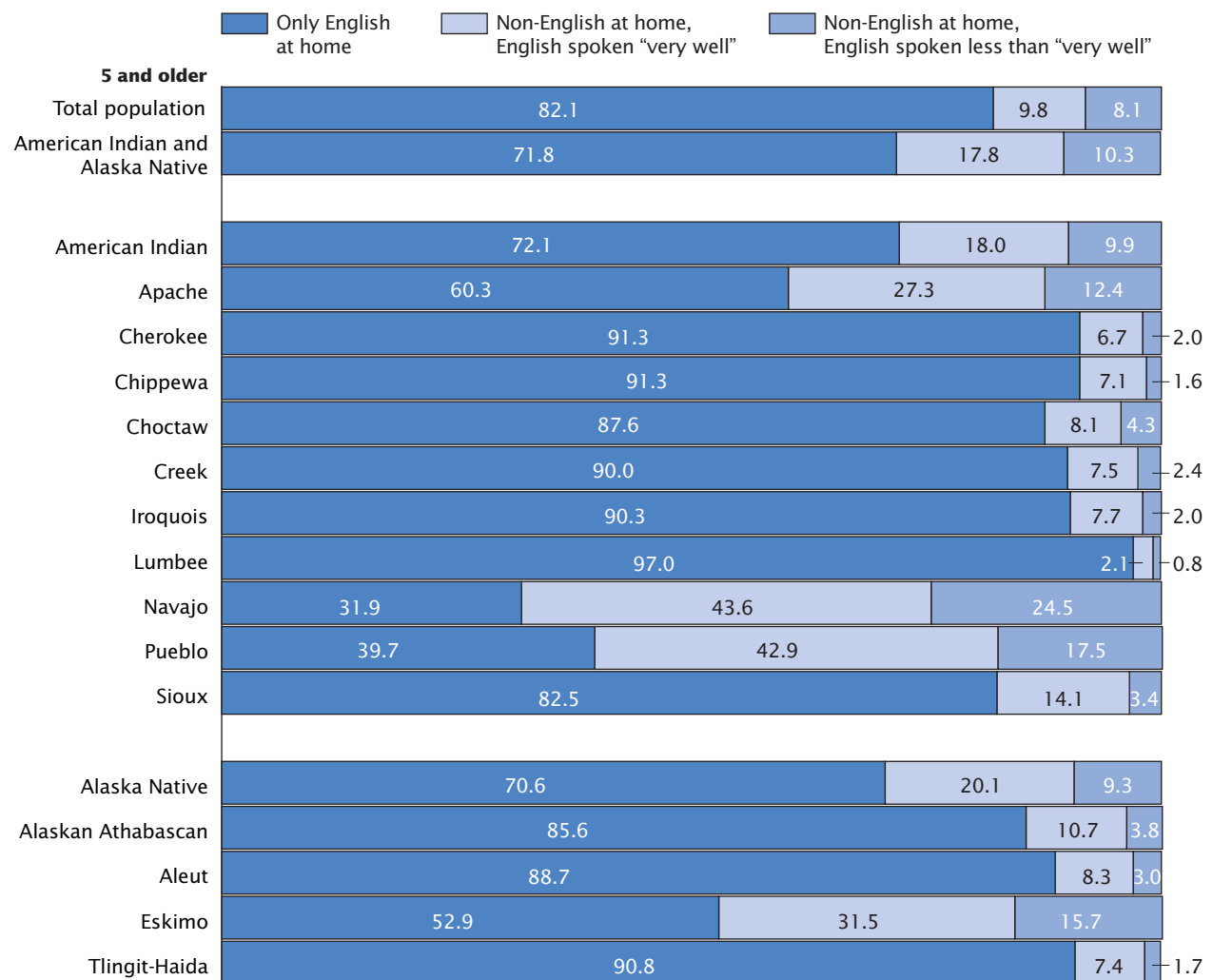
Most American Indians and Alaska Natives spoke only English at home.

- Seventy-two percent of individuals 5 years and older who reported their race as American Indian and Alaska Native spoke only English at home; 18 percent spoke a language other than English at home, yet spoke English “very well”; 10 percent spoke a language other than English at home and spoke English less than “very well.”
- Ninety percent or more of Cherokee, Chippewa, Creek, Iroquois, Lumbee, and Tlingit-Haida spoke only English at home.
- Navajo had the highest percentage who spoke a language other than English at home and reported they spoke English less than “very well” (25 percent).
- Ninety-one percent of Tlingit-Haida spoke only English at home, compared with 53 percent of Eskimo.

Figure 3.

Language Spoken at Home and English-Speaking Ability: 2000

(Percent distribution of population 5 and older. Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)



Note: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 special tabulation.

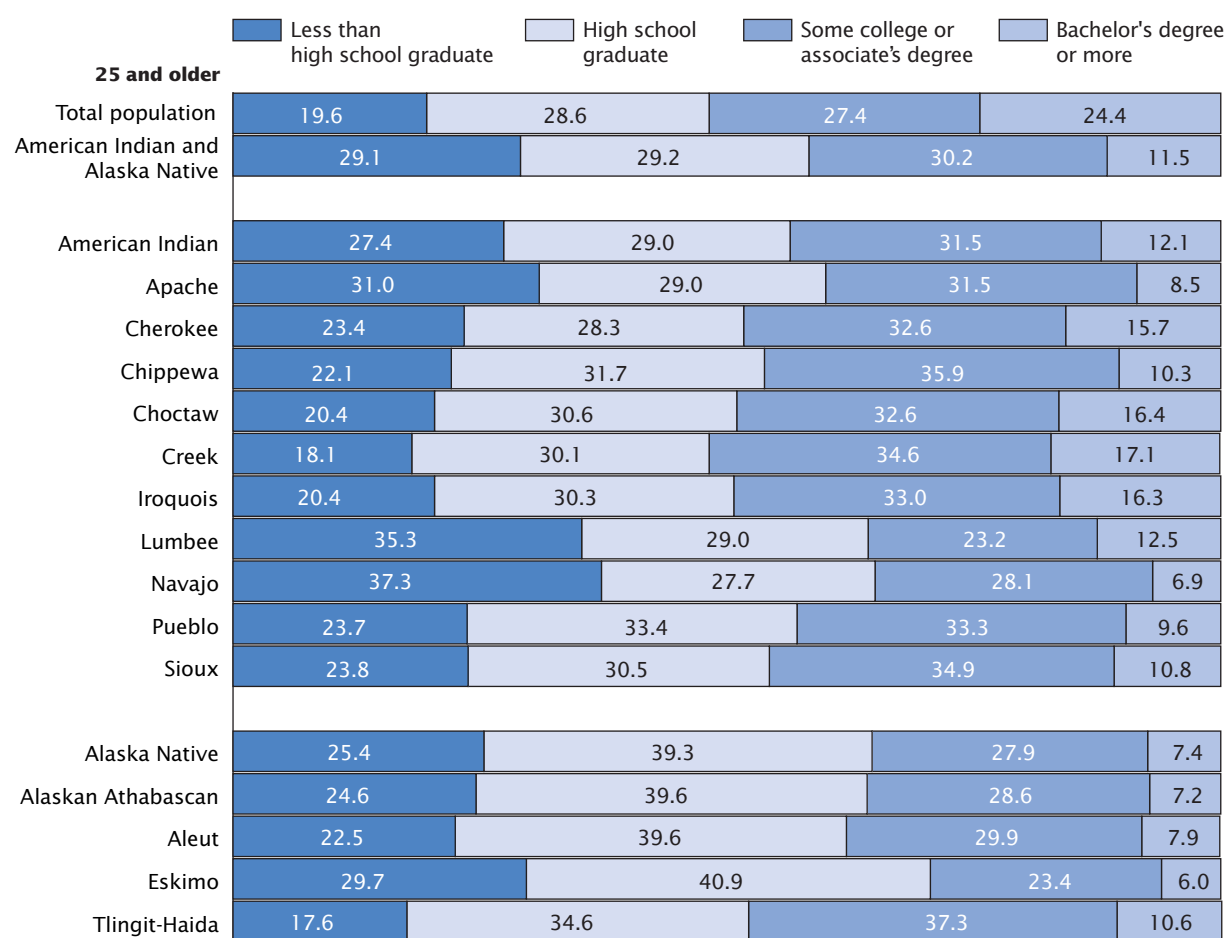
Seventy-one percent of American Indians and Alaska Natives were at least high school graduates.

- The educational levels of American Indians and Alaska Natives were below those of the total population in 2000. Seventy-one percent of American Indians and Alaska Natives 25 and older had at least a high school education, compared with 80 percent of the total population. Eleven percent of the American Indian and Alaska Native population had at least a bachelor's degree, compared with 24 percent of all people.
- Educational attainment varied among the American Indian tribal groupings. About 80 percent of Creek, Choctaw, and Iroquois had at least a high school education. The percentages of the tribal groupings with at least a bachelor's degree ranged from 7 percent to 17 percent.
- Seventy-five percent of Alaska Natives had at least a high school education. Among Alaska Native tribal groupings, 82 percent of Tlingit-Haida had at least a high school education and 11 percent had at least a bachelor's degree, in contrast with 70 percent and 6 percent, respectively, of Eskimos.

Figure 4.

Educational Attainment: 2000

(Percent distribution of population 25 and older. Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)



Note: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 special tabulation.

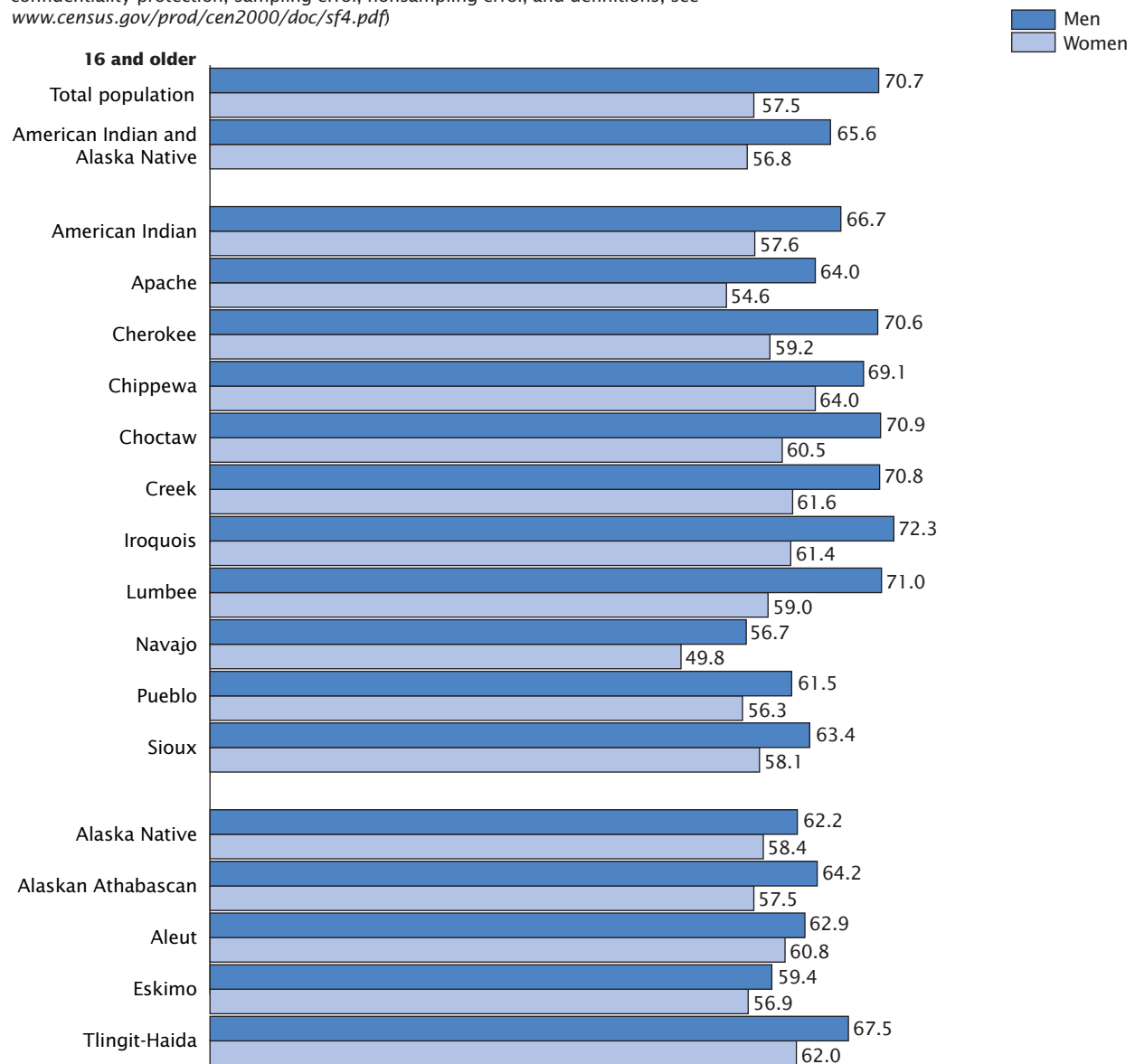
American Indians and Alaska Natives participated in the labor force at a lower rate than the total population, and labor force participation varied by tribal groupings.

- The labor force participation rate for American Indian and Alaska Native men (66 percent) was lower than that of all men (71 percent), while the rate for American Indian and Alaska Native women (57 percent) was slightly lower than for all women (58 percent).
- Among the American Indian tribal groupings, Cherokee, Chippewa, Choctaw, Creek, Iroquois, and Lumbee men had labor force rates higher than those of American Indian and Alaska Native men. Navajo had the lowest labor force participation rate for men (57 percent) and women (50 percent).

Figure 5.

Labor Force Participation Rate by Sex: 2000

(Percent of specified population 16 and older that is in the labor force. Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 special tabulation.

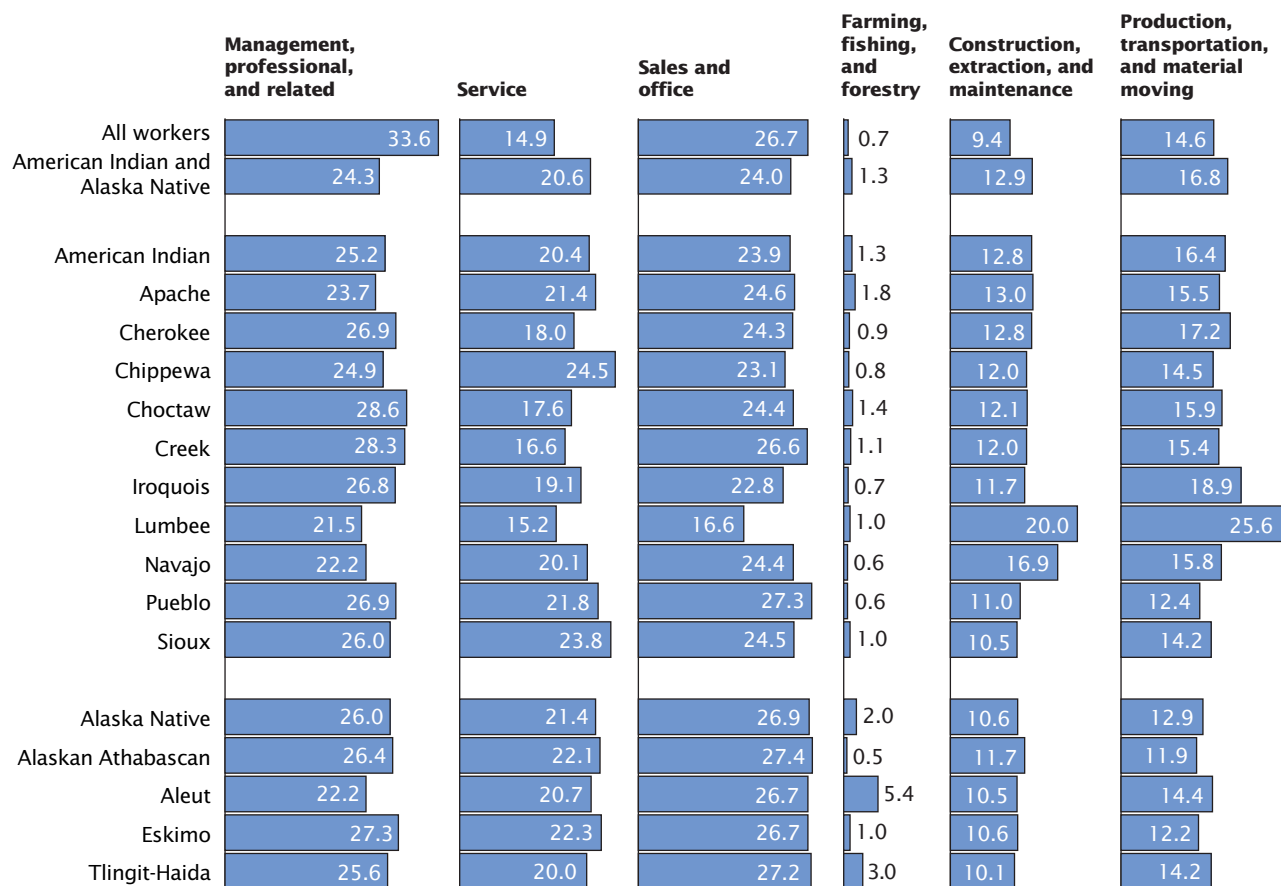
American Indians and Alaska Natives were less likely than the total population to be employed in management, professional, and related occupations.

- The distribution of employed American Indians and Alaska Natives among the six major occupation groups differed from that of the total population. Higher proportions of American Indians and Alaska Natives were employed in service; construction, extraction, and maintenance; production, transportation, and material moving; and in farming, fishing, and forestry jobs. Lower proportions were employed in management, professional, and related jobs; and sales and office jobs.
- Among the American Indian tribal groupings, between 22 percent and 29 percent of all groups were employed in management, professional, and related jobs. Similarly, between 15 percent and 25 percent were employed in service jobs.
- Lower proportions of Alaska Natives than American Indians were employed in production, transportation, and material moving jobs and construction, extraction, and maintenance jobs. Higher proportions of Alaska Natives than American Indians were employed in sales and office jobs and farming, fishing, and forestry jobs.
- Among Alaska Native tribal groupings, between 22 percent and 27 percent were employed in management, professional, and related jobs.

Figure 6.

Occupation: 2000

(Percent distribution of employed civilian population 16 and older. Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)



Note: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.

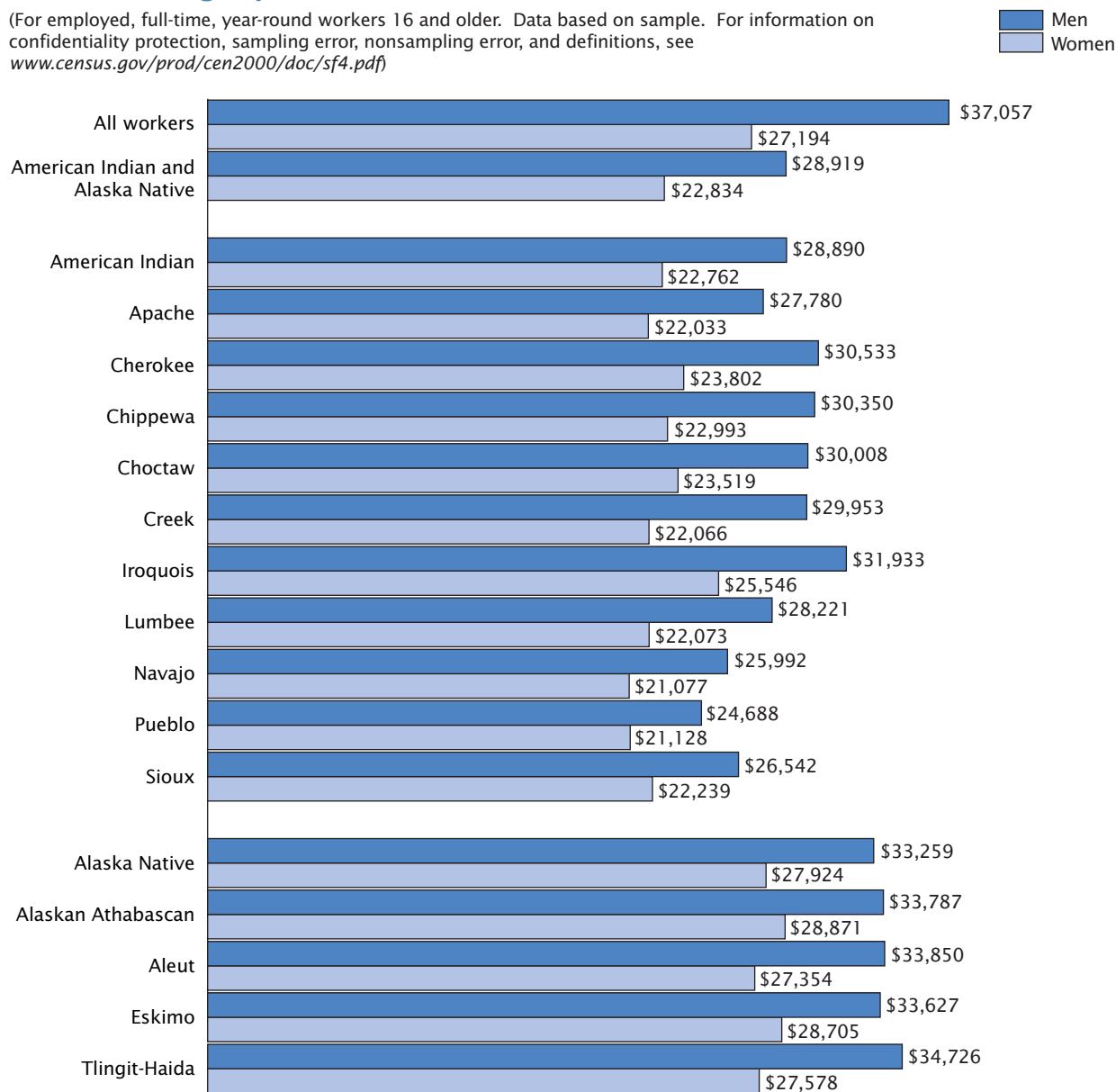
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 special tabulation.

Overall, American Indians and Alaska Natives who worked full-time, year-round earned less than the total population.

- The median earnings of American Indian and Alaska Native men (\$28,900) and women (\$22,800) who worked full-time, year-round were substantially below those of all men (\$37,100) and women (\$27,200).
- Among the tribal groupings for men, Iroquois, Cherokee, Chippewa, Choctaw, and Creek had median earnings of about \$30,000.
- The median earnings of Alaska Native men and women were higher than those of American Indians. The median earnings for men for each of the Alaska Native tribal groupings were comparable. The median earnings for women also were comparable across Alaska Native tribal groupings.

Figure 7.
Median Earnings by Sex: 1999

(For employed, full-time, year-round workers 16 and older. Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 special tabulation.

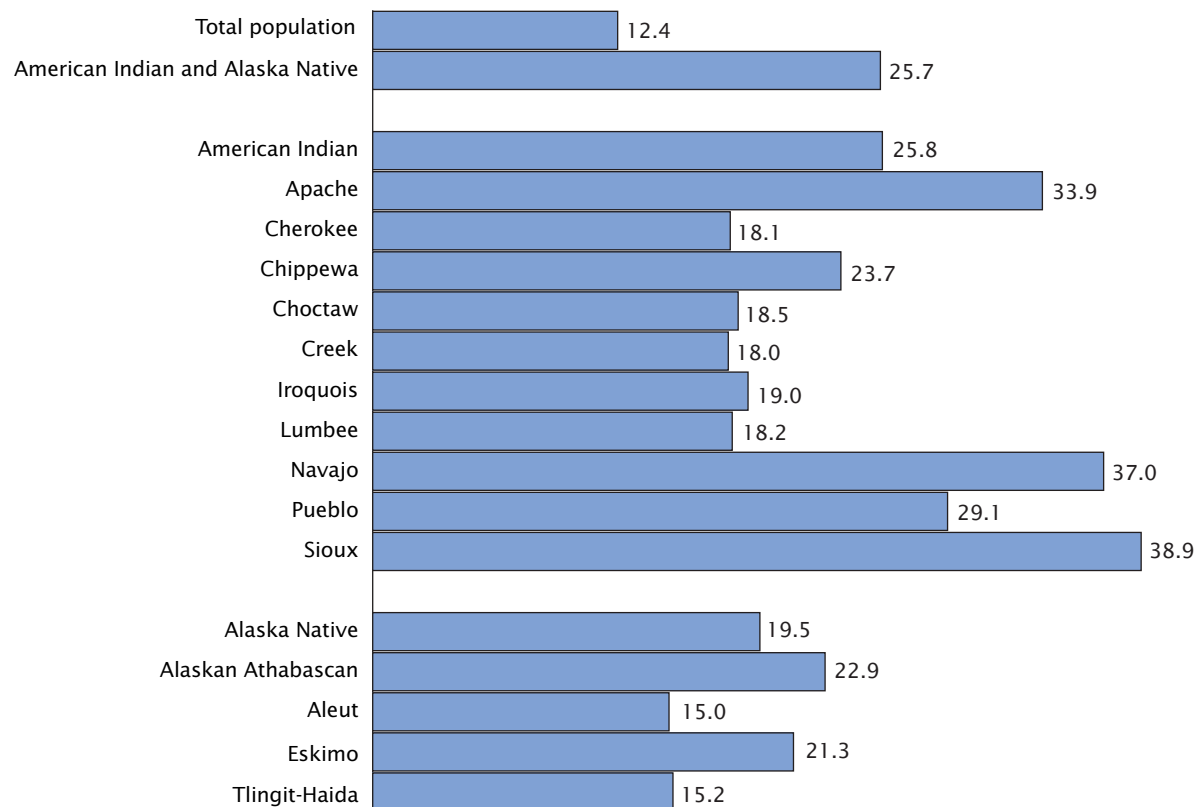
A higher ratio of American Indians and Alaska Natives than the total U.S. population lived in poverty.

- The ratio of American Indians and Alaska Natives living below the official poverty level in 1999 to that of all people was more than 2.
- Among the American Indian tribal groupings, roughly 18 percent of Creek, Cherokee, and Lumbee were in poverty (about 8 percentage points lower than the percentage for all American Indians). Over 32 percent of Sioux, Navajo, and Apache were in poverty in 1999.
- Alaska Natives, with 20 percent, had a lower percentage in poverty than the 26 percent of American Indians.
- More than one-fifth of Alaskan Athabascans and Eskimos lived in poverty in 1999.

Figure 8.

Poverty Rate: 1999

(Percent of specified group in poverty. Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)



Note: Poverty status was determined for everyone except those in institutions, military group quarters, or college dormitories, and unrelated individuals under 15 years.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 special tabulation.

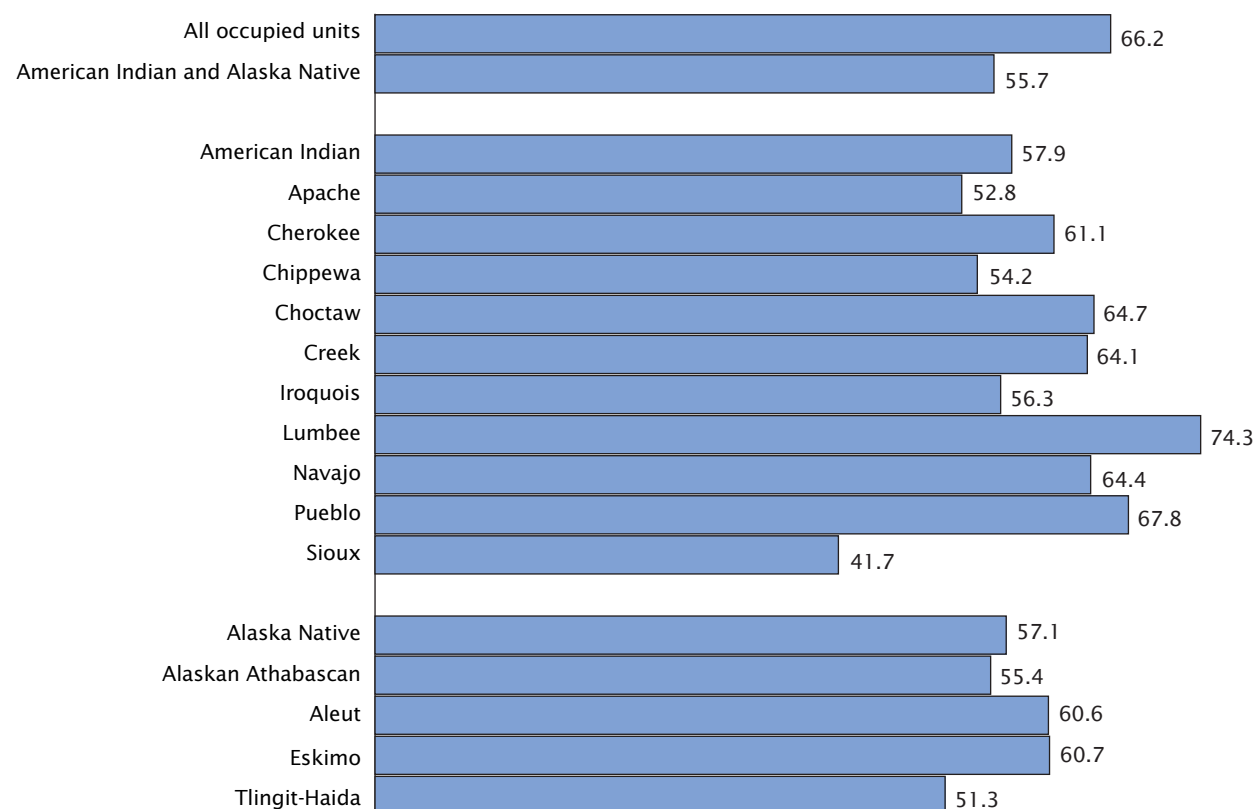
More than one-half of American Indian and Alaska Native-occupied housing units were owner-occupied.

- Fifty-six percent of American Indian and Alaska Native householders were homeowners, compared with 66 percent of total householders.
- Homeownership rates varied among the American Indian tribal groupings and ranged from 42 percent for Sioux to 74 percent for Lumbee. Cherokee, Choctaw, Creek, Lumbee, Navajo, and Pueblo all had homeownership rates of 60 percent or higher.
- Among the Alaska Native tribal groupings, homeownership rates were 50 percent or more for Alaskan Athabaskan, Aleut, and Eskimo householders.

Figure 9.

Homeownership Rate: 2000

(Percentage of occupied housing units. Housing tenure is shown by the race and tribal grouping of the householder. Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 special tabulation.

One-third of American Indians and Alaska Natives lived on reservations and designated statistical areas.

- In 2000, about 34 percent of the American Indian and Alaska Native population lived in American Indian areas (AIAs).⁹
- Two percent of the American Indian and Alaska Native population lived in ANVSAs, while 64 percent lived outside these tribal areas.¹⁰

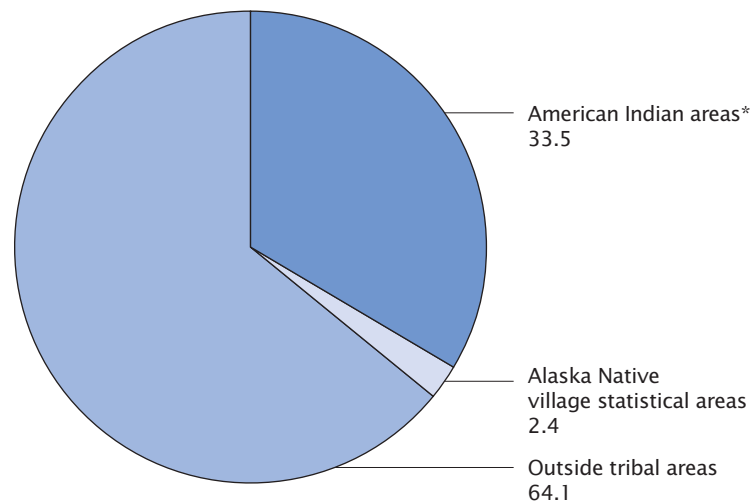
⁹ American Indian areas include American Indian reservations and/or off-reservation trust lands (federal), Oklahoma tribal statistical areas (OTSAs), tribal designated statistical areas (TDSAs), American Indian reservations (state), and state designated American Indian statistical areas (SDAISAs). Selected characteristics for the single-race American Indian and Alaska Native population living in large specific American Indian reservations are provided in Table 3.

¹⁰ Selected characteristics for the single-race American Indian and Alaska Native population living in large specific ANVSAs are provided in Table 3.

Figure 10.

American Indian and Alaska Native Population by Place of Residence: 2000

(Percent distribution. Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)



* Includes federal reservations and/or off-reservation trust lands (20.9 percent), Oklahoma tribal statistical areas (9.3 percent), tribal designated statistical areas (0.1 percent), state reservations (0.04 percent), and state designated American Indian statistical areas (3.2 percent).

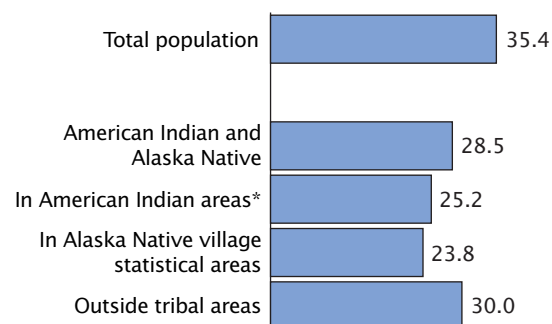
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 4.

The American Indian and Alaska Native population living on tribal lands was relatively young.

Figure 11.

Median Age by Place of Residence: 2000

(Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)



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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 4.

- The median age of American Indians and Alaska Natives living in AIAs (25 years) was younger than that of the total population (35 years), of all American Indians and Alaska Natives (29 years), and of those living outside tribal areas (30 years).
- The median age of American Indians and Alaska Natives living in ANVSAs was younger (24 years) than those living outside tribal areas (30 years).

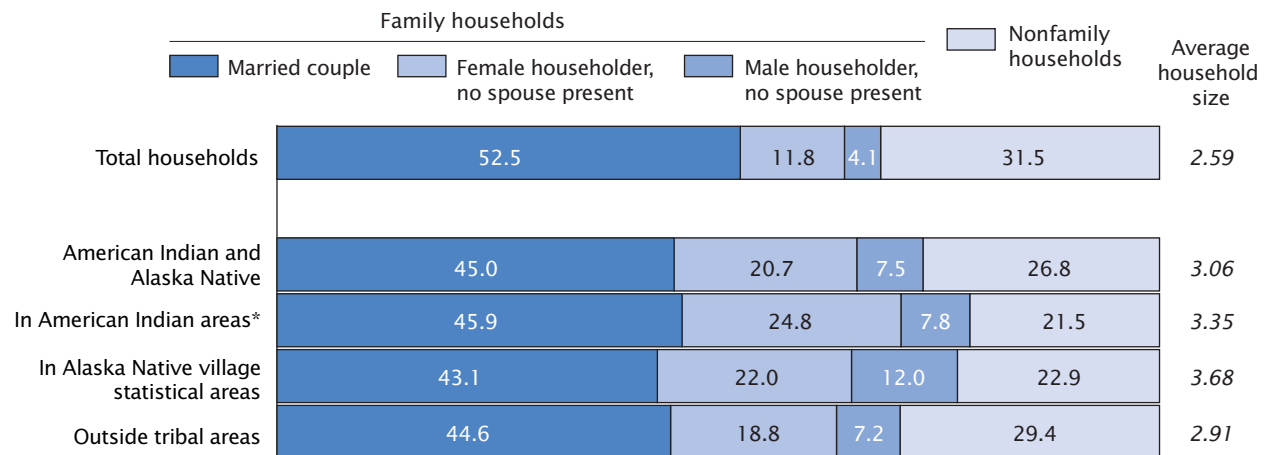
The largest proportion of family households was found in tribal areas.

- Overall, 73 percent of all American Indian and Alaska Native households were family households, compared with 68 percent of all U.S. households. By place of residence, the percentages of American Indian and Alaska Native households in AIAs and those in ANVSAs that were family households were greater than the percentage of family households outside tribal areas (71 percent).
- The proportion of family households maintained by women with no husband present in AIAs was more than twice that of all households. Married-couple family households represented a lower proportion of households outside tribal areas than in AIAs and all U.S. households.

Figure 12.

Household Type and Average Household Size by Place of Residence: 2000

(Percent distribution of households. Households are classified by the race of the householder. Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)



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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 4.

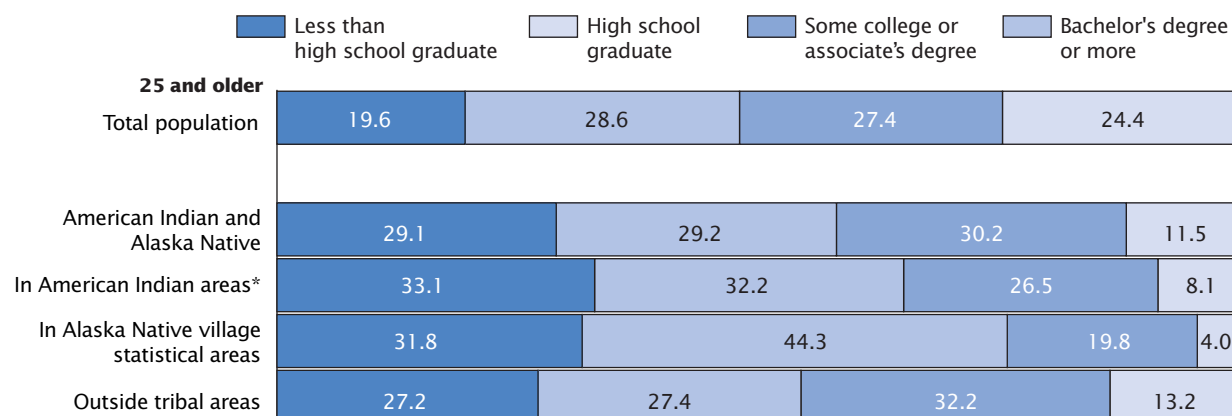
Educational attainment of American Indians and Alaska Natives varied by place of residence.

- Seventy-one percent of the American Indian and Alaska Native population, 73 percent of their counterparts living outside tribal areas, and 80 percent of the total population had at least a high school education. The percentage for American Indians and Alaska Natives in AIAs was somewhat lower, 67 percent.
- A lower percentage of American Indians and Alaska Natives residing in ANVSAs had at least a high school education, compared with those living outside tribal areas (68 percent and 73 percent, respectively).
- The percentages of adults with at least a bachelor's degree among American Indians and Alaska Natives living outside tribal areas (13 percent), the American Indian and Alaska Native population (12 percent), and the total population (24 percent) were higher than those of adults living in AIAs (8 percent) and ANVSAs (4 percent).

Figure 13.

Educational Attainment by Place of Residence: 2000

(Percent distribution of population 25 and older. Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)



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

Note: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 4.

American Indians and Alaska Natives living on tribal lands were more likely to live in owner-occupied housing than those living outside tribal areas.

- More than half (56 percent) of occupied housing units with an American Indian and Alaska Native householder were owned, compared with about two-thirds (66 percent) of all occupied housing units in the United States.
- The homeownership rates of the American Indian and Alaska Native population residing in AIAs and of those residing in ANVSAs were roughly 20 percentage points higher than that of their counterparts living outside tribal areas.

Figure 14.

Homeownership Rate by Place of Residence: 2000

(Percentage of occupied housing units. Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)



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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 4.

ACCURACY OF THE ESTIMATES

The data contained in this report are based on people in the sample of households that responded to the Census 2000 long form. Nationally, approximately 1 out of every 6 housing units was included in this sample. As a result, the sample estimates may differ somewhat from the 100-percent figures that would have been obtained if all housing units, people within those housing units, and people living in group quarters had been enumerated using the same questionnaires, instructions, enumerators, and so forth. The sample estimates also differ from the values that would have been obtained from different samples of housing units, and hence of people living in those housing units, and people living in group quarters. The deviation of a sample estimate from the average of all possible samples is called the sampling error.

In addition to the variability that arises from sampling, both sample data and 100-percent data are subject to nonsampling error. Nonsampling error may be introduced during any of the various complex operations used to collect and process data. Such errors may include not enumerating every household or every person in the population universe, failing to obtain all required information from the respondents, obtaining incorrect or inconsistent information, and recording information incorrectly. In addition, errors can occur during the field review of the enumerators' work, during clerical handling of the census questionnaires, or during the electronic processing of the questionnaires.

While it is impossible to completely eliminate error from an operation as large and complex as the decennial census, the Census Bureau attempts to control the sources of such error during the data collection and processing operations. The primary sources of error and the programs instituted to control error in Census 2000 are described in detail in *Summary File 4 Technical Documentation* under Chapter 8, "Accuracy of the Data," located at <www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf>.

Nonsampling error may affect the data in two ways: first, errors that are introduced randomly will increase the variability of the data and, therefore, should be reflected in the standard errors; and second, errors that tend to be consistent in one direction will bias both sample and 100-percent data in that direction. For example, if respondents consistently tend to underreport their incomes, then the resulting estimates of households or families by income category will tend to be understated for the higher-income categories and overstated for the lower-income categories. Such biases are not reflected in the standard errors.

All statements in this Census 2000 Special Report have undergone statistical testing and all comparisons are significant at the 90-percent confidence level unless otherwise noted. The estimates in the tables and figures may vary from actual values due to sampling and nonsampling errors. As a result, the estimates used to summarize statistics for one population group may not be statistically different from estimates for another population group. Further information on the

accuracy of the data is located at <www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf>. For further information on the computation and use of standard errors, contact the Decennial Statistical Studies Division at 301-763-4242.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

The Census 2000 Summary File 3 and Summary File 4 data are available from American FactFinder on the U.S. Census Bureau's Web site <factfinder.census.gov>. For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, sampling error, and definitions, also see <www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf> or contact the Customer Services Center at 301-763-INFO (4636).

Information on population and housing topics is presented in the Census 2000 Briefs and Census 2000 Special Reports series, located on the U.S. Census Bureau's Web site at <www.census.gov/population/www/cen2000/briefs.html>. These series present information on race, Hispanic origin, age, sex, household type, housing tenure, and social, economic, and housing characteristics, such as ancestry, income, and housing costs.

For more information on race in the United States, visit the U.S. Census Bureau's Internet site at <www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/race.html>.

To find information about the availability of data products, including reports, CD-ROMs, and DVDs, call the Customer Services Center at 301-763-INFO (4636).

Table 2.

Selected Characteristics of the American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) Population— Alone, In Combination With Non-AIAN Races, and Total: 2000

(Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)

Characteristic	Number			Percent		
	Alone	In combination	Total	Alone	In combination	Total
Total American Indian and Alaska Native	2,447,989	1,867,876	4,315,865	100.0	100.0	100.0
AGE						
Under 18 years	814,290	588,994	1,403,284	33.3	31.5	32.5
18 to 64 years	1,496,113	1,151,802	2,647,915	61.1	61.7	61.4
65 years and over	137,586	127,080	264,666	5.6	6.8	6.1
Median age (years)	28.5	30.7	29.4	(X)	(X)	(X)
HOUSEHOLD TYPE						
Households with an American Indian and Alaska Native householder	770,334	649,870	1,420,204	100.0	100.0	100.0
Family households	563,651	433,997	997,648	73.2	66.8	70.2
Married couple	346,536	286,224	632,760	45.0	44.0	44.6
Female householder, no spouse present	159,486	110,811	270,297	20.7	17.1	19.0
Male householder, no spouse present	57,629	36,962	94,591	7.5	5.7	6.7
Nonfamily households	206,683	215,873	422,556	26.8	33.2	29.8
LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME AND ENGLISH-SPEAKING ABILITY						
Population 5 years and over	2,243,344	1,712,591	3,955,935	100.0	100.0	100.0
Only English at home	1,611,831	1,461,452	3,073,283	71.8	85.3	77.7
Non-English at home, English spoken "very well"	399,731	156,402	556,133	17.8	9.1	14.1
Non-English at home, English spoken less than "very well"	231,782	94,737	326,519	10.3	5.5	8.3
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT						
Population 25 years and over	1,350,998	1,077,581	2,428,579	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than high school graduate	392,920	222,203	615,123	29.1	20.6	25.3
High school graduate	395,041	283,901	678,942	29.2	26.3	28.0
Some college or associate's degree	407,968	379,365	787,333	30.2	35.2	32.4
Bachelor's degree or more	155,069	192,112	347,181	11.5	17.8	14.3
LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION						
Men 16 years and over	846,909	644,242	1,491,151	100.0	100.0	100.0
In labor force	555,757	458,834	1,014,591	65.6	71.2	68.0
Women 16 years and over	878,412	699,980	1,578,392	100.0	100.0	100.0
In labor force	499,011	420,982	919,993	56.8	60.1	58.3
OCCUPATION						
Employed civilian population 16 years and over	914,484	795,221	1,709,705	100.0	100.0	100.0
Management, professional, and related occupations	222,142	221,341	443,483	24.3	27.8	25.9
Service occupations	188,678	148,171	336,849	20.6	18.6	19.7
Sales and office occupations	219,461	206,134	425,595	24.0	25.9	24.9
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	12,327	7,090	19,417	1.3	0.9	1.1
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	118,273	88,981	207,254	12.9	11.2	12.1
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	153,603	123,504	277,107	16.8	15.5	16.2
EARNINGS AND INCOME (in 1999)						
Median earnings (dollars) for males ¹	28,919	31,611	30,376	(X)	(X)	(X)
Median earnings (dollars) for females ¹	22,834	25,153	23,884	(X)	(X)	(X)
POVERTY (in 1999)						
Individuals for whom poverty status was determined²	2,367,505	1,820,250	4,187,755	100.0	100.0	100.0
Individuals below the poverty level	607,734	312,726	920,460	25.7	17.2	22.0
HOMEOWNERSHIP						
Occupied housing units	765,474	643,276	1,408,750	100.0	100.0	100.0
Owner-occupied	426,340	348,933	775,273	55.7	54.2	55.0

(X) Not applicable.

¹ Based on full-time, year-round workers.

² Poverty status was determined for everyone except individuals in institutions, military group quarters, college dormitories, and individuals under age 15 unrelated to the householder.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 4.

Table 3.

Selected Characteristics of the American Indian and Alaska Native Alone Population for the Ten Largest American Indian Reservations and Alaska Native Village Statistical Areas: 2000

(Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)

Characteristic	American Indian Reservations									
	Black-foot*, MT	Fort Apache, AZ	Gila River, AZ	Navajo*, AZ-NM-UT	Pine Ridge*, SD-NE	Rosebud*, SD	San Carlos, AZ	Tohono O'odham*, AZ	Turtle Mountain*, MT-ND-SD	Zuni*, NM-AZ
Total	8,259	11,597	10,317	174,847	14,255	8,687	8,769	9,783	7,675	7,377
AGE										
Median age (years)	24.4	20.7	22.1	23.8	19.7	19.4	20.8	25.1	23.1	27.4
HOUSEHOLD TYPE AND SIZE										
Households with an American Indian and Alaska Native householder	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Family households	83.6	83.6	85.2	81.2	87.6	80.4	84.0	81.8	79.8	91.4
Married couple	49.9	42.5	27.7	47.8	34.1	27.3	34.6	29.1	40.9	50.9
Female householder, no spouse present	24.4	34.7	45.3	26.3	41.0	40.3	38.8	39.0	29.2	34.3
Male householder, no spouse present	9.3	6.5	12.1	7.0	12.5	12.8	10.6	13.6	9.8	6.3
Nonfamily households	16.4	16.4	14.8	18.8	12.4	19.6	16.0	18.2	20.2	8.6
Average household size	3.57	4.11	4.17	3.86	4.68	4.01	4.33	3.91	3.36	4.34
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT										
Population 25 years and over	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than high school graduate	25.3	49.0	48.3	45.8	33.7	30.8	43.2	38.1	30.4	37.2
High school graduate	26.0	31.0	34.8	26.9	26.9	32.0	32.6	41.0	24.3	32.0
Some college or associate's degree	39.9	17.8	15.8	22.5	31.0	29.7	22.5	17.2	35.8	27.4
Bachelor's degree or more	8.8	2.3	1.2	4.8	8.4	7.5	1.7	3.7	9.5	3.3
HOMEOWNERSHIP										
Occupied housing units	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Owner-occupied	55.2	63.3	64.3	74.9	49.9	45.0	63.0	73.1	62.6	76.4

Characteristic	Alaska Native Village Statistical Areas									
	Barrow	Bethel	Chickaloon	Dillingham	Emmonak	Hooper Bay	Kenaitze	Knik	Kotzebue	Selawik
Total	2,637	3,284	969	1,256	685	942	1,823	1,521	2,200	726
AGE										
Median age (years)	24.2	23.5	25.2	24.0	21.6	18.8	27.7	25.4	22.0	18.4
HOUSEHOLD TYPE AND SIZE										
Households with an American Indian and Alaska Native householder	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Family households	77.3	74.8	93.2	74.9	78.5	81.8	75.5	77.1	79.4	91.2
Married couple	38.6	35.1	56.8	42.7	48.7	32.1	40.1	54.2	37.8	37.8
Female householder, no spouse present	27.9	28.4	25.6	27.5	13.3	26.8	28.8	17.5	27.9	35.1
Male householder, no spouse present	10.8	11.4	10.8	4.8	16.5	23.0	6.5	5.4	13.7	18.2
Nonfamily households	22.7	25.2	6.8	25.1	21.5	18.2	24.5	22.9	20.6	8.8
Average household size	3.71	3.36	3.28	3.13	4.37	4.53	2.82	3.23	3.78	4.72
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT										
Population 25 years and over	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than high school graduate	18.1	15.8	11.6	16.5	28.7	28.0	11.1	11.7	24.1	42.2
High school graduate	31.1	31.1	29.8	29.7	48.3	50.3	32.1	31.5	32.4	45.8
Some college or associate's degree	30.5	30.4	39.6	31.9	18.5	13.4	37.8	38.0	25.5	6.3
Bachelor's degree or more	20.4	22.7	19.0	21.9	4.5	8.2	19.1	18.8	17.9	5.6
HOMEOWNERSHIP										
Occupied housing units	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Owner-occupied	40.6	43.2	78.9	49.3	79.8	76.5	74.4	8.4	43.6	59.9

* Includes trust lands.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 4.