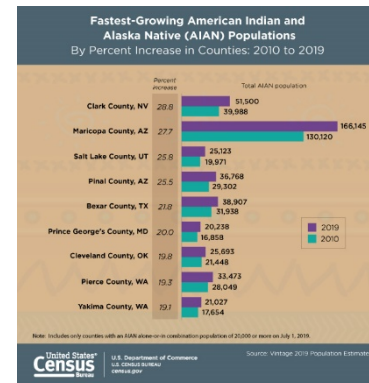


American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month: November 2020

The first American Indian Day was celebrated in May 1916 in New York. The event culminated an effort by Red Fox James, a member of the Blackfeet Nation who rode across the nation on horseback seeking approval from 24 state governments to have a day to honor American Indians. More than seven decades later, then-President George H.W. Bush in 1990 signed a joint congressional resolution designating the month of November “National American Indian Heritage Month.” Similar proclamations have been issued every year since 1994 to recognize what is now called “American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month.” This *Facts for Features* presents statistics for American Indians and Alaska Natives, one of the six major race categories defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget.



The following facts are possible thanks to responses to the U.S. Census Bureau’s surveys. We appreciate the public’s cooperation as we continuously measure America’s people, places and economy.

Did You Know?

6.9 million

The nation's American Indian and Alaska Native population alone or in combination with other race groups in 2019.

Source: [Vintage 2019 Population Estimates](#)

10.1 million

The projected American Indian and Alaska Native population alone or in combination with other race groups on July 1, 2060. They would constitute 2.5% of the total population.

Source: [2017 National Population Projections](#)

324

The number of distinct federally recognized American Indian reservations in 2019, including federal reservations and off-reservation trust land.

Source: U.S. Gazetteer Files

<https://www2.census.gov/geo/docs/maps-data/data/gazetteer/2019_Gazetteer/2019_Gaz_aiannh_national.zip>

574

The number of federally recognized Indian tribes in 2020.

Source: [Bureau of Indian Affairs, 2019](#)

142,972

The number of single-race American Indian and Alaska Native veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces in 2019.

Source: [2019 American Community Survey](#)

More Stats

See a [detailed profile](#) of the American Indian and Alaska Native population, alone or in combination with one or more other races, from the 2019 American Community Survey. Statistics include:

- Families
- Housing
- Languages
- Education
- Jobs
- Income and Poverty
- Health Insurance

Related News Products

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- [Webinar: Accessing Detailed Statistics on Race, Hispanic Origin, and Ancestry Groups](#)

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