



The First Alaskans Institute

We help develop the capacities of Alaska Native people and their communities to meet the social, economic and education challenges of the future, while fostering positive relationships among all segments of our society.

First Alaskans does this through community engagement, information and research, collaboration, and leadership development. The Institute is a non-profit charitable organization whose purpose is to advance Alaska Natives.





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Vision

Progress for the next ten thousand years

True to heritage and values, Alaska Natives are informed and engaged in leading the decisions that shape the future

Mission

Advance Alaska Natives through community engagement, information and research, collaboration, and leadership development

Values

Integrity, Collaboration, Traditional Knowledge, Responsibility, Excellence

Leadership Development

Developing the next generation of Alaska Native leaders, ensuring connections to culture and each other

Community Investments

Funding projects that demonstrate collaborative efforts among community organizations to plan and implement innovative, lasting programs that contribute to healthy and thriving communities

Alaska Native Policy Center

Native Minds Shaping Our Future

Providing Native leaders and other policy makers with the best available knowledge in order that Alaska Natives be proactively involved in – and influence - the education, economic, and social policy issues that impact our future



Alaska Native Policy Center Census Information Center (CIC)

First Alaskans Institute - Windows Internet Explorer
http://www.firstalaskans.org/

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First Alaskans Institute works to advance Alaska Natives through community engagement, information and research, collaboration, and leadership development.

Leadership Development
Helping to develop the next generation of Alaska Native leadership, ensuring that they are connected to their culture and each other.
- 2008 Elders & Youth Conference Information and Registration NOW AVAILABLE

Alaska Native Policy Center
Native Minds Shaping Our Future. Connecting people and ideas producing knowledge that can be used to understand and improve the lives of Alaska Natives and all Alaskans.
- Rural Alaska - Current Conditions in Selected Villages - Final Report - July 2008

First Alaskans News
Congratulations to Memry Dahl on passing her PHR exam 01/28/08
2008 Community Investments Funding Announcement 01/18/08
First Alaskans Institute and the Institute of Social and Economic Research Sign Memorandum of Understanding 12/21/07
First Alaskans Institute Releases New Rural Development Performance Measures Research 10/22/07
First Alaskans Institute Adds Legislative Internship Program 10/22/07
Click here for archived news.

SEARCH SITE
SEARCH
SEARCH

- Facilitate information exchange and outreach.

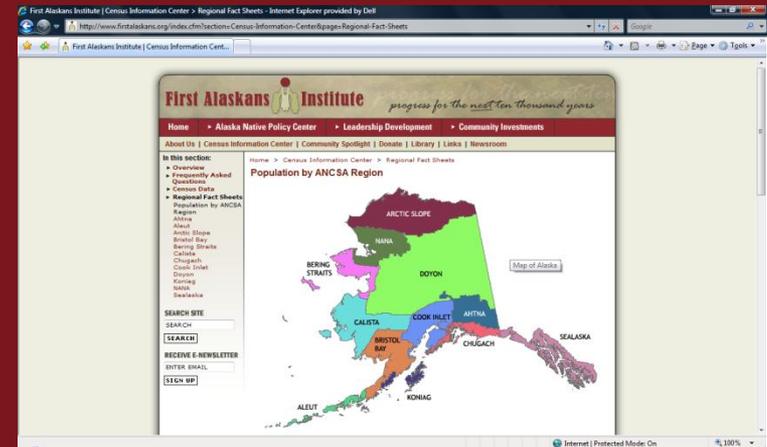
- Facilitate training sessions to enhance Alaska Native people/organization's participation, access, and Census product use.



An Example of the ANPC CIC at Work:

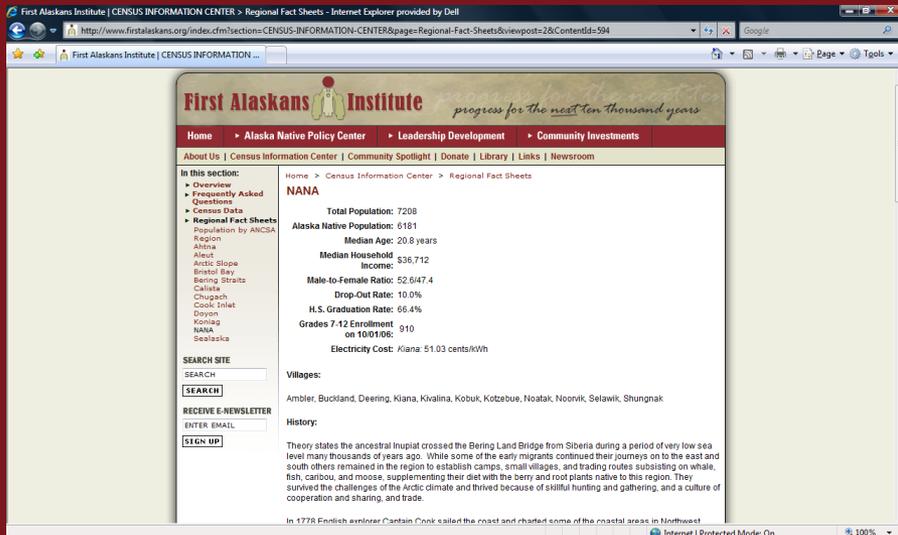
ANPC CIC received an information request concerning the percentage of Alaska Natives graduating from High school in the NANA Region.

NANA Region in dark green----->



ANPC created a Regional Fact Sheet for each region of Alaska from Census data, easily accessed from our webpage, that includes the % of high school graduates in the NANA Region.

----->NANA Regional Fact Sheet





The ANPC CIC Supports 2010 Census Efforts

The CIC helps in promoting the Census 2010 outreach efforts:

- to ensure the complete participation of the Alaska Native population,
- to identify and reduce data disparities, and
- to increase the accuracy of the data collection.



CENSUS HISTORY

- The first United States Census was taken in 1790 and has gone on for 220 years.
- In 1880, the U.S. Census office appointed Ivan Petroff to take the first American Census of Alaska.
 - While he was unable to count every area of Alaska, he did count 33,426 people, 430 non-Native, 1,756 Creole, and almost 33,000 Alaskan Natives.
- There have been inaccuracies in the Census data, largely because of unique conditions, ever since.
 - This concerns Alaska Native people because most funding agencies use, at least in part, the Census population numbers and socio-demographic information.
 - For example, HUD , as a part of its NAHASDA Block Grant formula includes AI/AN Census numbers thus affecting distribution of federal housing dollars.





2010 Census and American Community Survey Differences/Impacts

- There will be a short form only Census (ie. The Population Count)
- The long form (ie. The Population Description), which collected socio-economic data every 10 years, has been fully replaced by the American Community Survey.

The ACS is a nationwide survey designed to provide reliable and timely demographic, housing, social, and economic data that rolls forward with yearly moving averages.

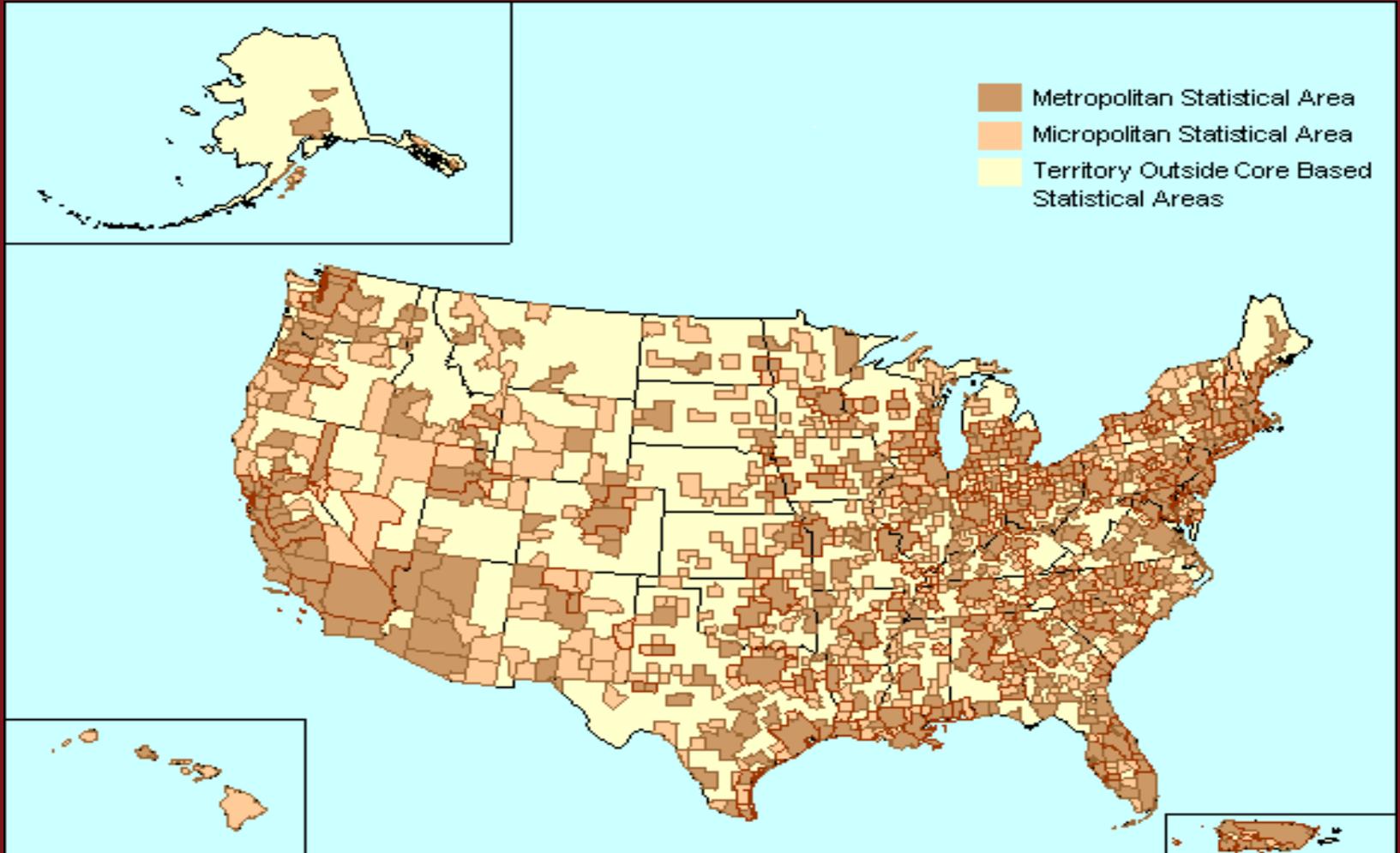
The ACS will impact small areas in Alaska. The sampling size being used for questionnaire distribution will have large impacts on Alaska's rural areas where information about a select few residents is used to estimate characteristics.

2000 Census	American Community Survey
Target Pop.= household	Target Pop.= population
Time= point in time	Time= rolling average
Reference time period= April 1, for current year	Reference time period= 12 months prior-shifting

Source: DCRA, Nicole Grewe, Nov/2008, Alaska Municipal League Annual Conference



ACS - Defined Statistical Areas





Sampling is an issue for the ACS

TYPE OF AREA	Census 2000 Sampling Rate	ACS Sampling Rate	5-Year ACS Sampling Rate
1-199 OCCUPIED HUs	50.0%	10.0%	50.0%
200-799 Occupied HUs	50.0%	7.5%	37.5%
800-1200 Occupied HUs	25.0%	3.7%	18.5%
Tract > 2000 Occupied Hus	12.5%	1.8%	9.0%
Everything Else	16.7%	2.5%	12.5%

Source: AKDOL

Standard error: the larger the sample size, the smaller the standard error. Conversely, the smaller the sample, the larger the standard error.

The margin of error describes the precision of the estimate at a given level of confidence. The confidence level measures the likelihood that the true value is within a certain distance of the results of a sample estimate. The margin of error is the difference between an estimate and its upper or lower confidence bound.



ACS AI/AN ISSUES IMPACTING FUNDING

- Respect for Government to Government Relationship
- Resistance and Privacy Issues
- Promotion and Outreach
- Cultural Differences
- Improving Access to Understanding of Census Data
- Concerns with Census Data Availability



ALASKA - Population Facts and Figures

- Alaska had 38 places with populations of more than 2,000 in the year 2008. 23 of them were incorporated cities or city-boroughs in 2008.
- Alaska's statewide population as of July 1, 2008 is 679,720.
- 11 of the top 15 places that experienced the most rapid growth between 2000 and 2008 are in the Mat-Su Borough.
- "Outside the Anchorage/Mat-su region a majority of communities have flat or declining populations." "13 of the places that had more than 2,000 people in 2000 have declined."
- The Southeast region continued to have the largest overall decline, losing 5.6% of its population since 2000. No Southeast area had long-term growth between 2000 and 2008.

Williams, State DOL Press Release, 2009

- Alaska Natives are projected to experience stable growth in the projection period, from 118,884 in 2006 to 162,820 in 2030, for an increase of 37 %.
- ANC/Mat-Su is expected to increase by more than 128,000 people, 36%.

Hunsinger, Alaska Economic Trends-Population Projections, 10/2007



In Alaska...

Since the last State of Alaska 2000 full Census, the population within Alaska has undergone dramatic change.

- Alaska Native movement and demographic changes within populations are not new events, however the most recent data suggest changes that will profoundly affect the Alaska Native community.

- While decline in rural population is broad-based, some areas are still experiencing population growth mostly due to natural increase.

Overall, rural Alaska has been experiencing lower birthrates than in past decades and is thus declining relative to the general growth of Alaska's population.

- Since 2000, hub schools have lost the most students, but villages student counts have also fallen.

- We are faced with impending school closures, in combination with falling funding levels based on funding formula.

(See most recent DCRA Rural Population and School Populations report)





Remote Rural Alaska

- In 2000 only 10% of Alaskans were living in the part of the state defined as remote rural Alaska, although it was home to 41% of Alaska Natives.
- A quarter of this population lived in 5 regional centers. The rest distributed among 147 smaller places scattered across an area larger by half than Texas.
- Remote Rural Alaska consists of 393,899 square miles.
Goldsmith, The Remote Rural Economy of Alaska, ISER, 4-2007





ACS Remote Alaska Sample UPDATE

In the recent ACS Design and Methodology update that came out in April 2009 there are concessions about administering the survey in remote Alaska:

- They have acknowledged difficulty reaching people during certain times of the year, limited access, and realize that there may not be individual mailing addresses.
- They are assigning the month based on the location and allowing for a 4 month window to complete the sample.
 - This means for 8 months of the year, the ACS is being administered in these remote Alaska areas.



Following the Census: State of Alaska Redistricting

In September 2010 there will be a Redistricting Board whose work will begin prior to the delivery of the Census data they will use to re-draw the representative districts in the State. Redistricting Board make-up:

- 2 appointees from the Governor
- 1 from the presiding officer of the Senate
- 1 from the presiding officer of the House of Representatives, and
- 1 from the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

Unorganized Boroughs-which are directly administered by the state, comprise 57% of Alaska's area and has 13% of the population of Alaska. The population density of rural areas is such that redistricting is likely to leave large areas of land sparsely represented within state government.



Voting Rights Act of 1965

In addition to State constitutional standards for creating election districts, there are important federal rules for redistricting.

These rules stem from provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 that prohibit discrimination against racial minorities in matters of voting and election district boundaries.

In Section 5 of the Voting Rights Acts, changes to how elections are conducted within 16 states, including Alaska, are subject to approval by the Federal Justice Department.

