



# OPPORTUNITIES AND LIMITATIONS OF ACS DATA FOR AMERICAN INDIAN POPULATIONS

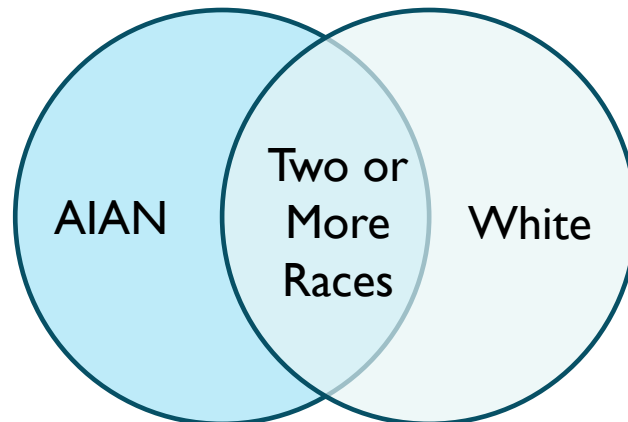
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# RACIAL CATEGORIES

- Data is often reported for race as distinct groups
  - American Indian and Alaska Native alone
  - Asian alone
  - Black alone
  - Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone
  - White alone
  - Some Other Race alone
  - Two or More Races



- Non-distinct groups: alone or in combination
  - American Indian and Alaska Native alone or in combination
  - White alone or in combination



# RACIAL CATEGORIES

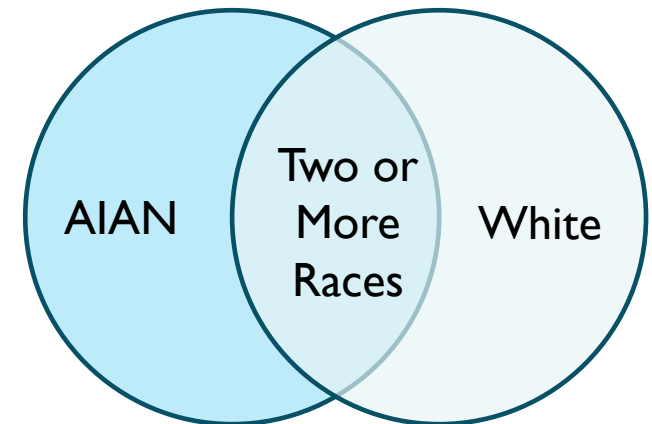
	Montana (2016-2020 ACS)
Total population	1,061,705
AIAN alone	65,523 (6%)
AIAN in combination	22,040 (2%)
AIAN alone + in combination	87,563 (8%)

# RACIAL CATEGORIES

	Montana (2016-2020 ACS)	Montana (2020 Census)
Total population	1,061,705	1,084,225
AIAN alone	65,523 (6%)	67,612 (6%)
AIAN in combination	22,040 (2%)	32,966 (3%)
AIAN alone + in combination	87,563 (8%)	100,578 (9%)

# RACIAL CATEGORIES

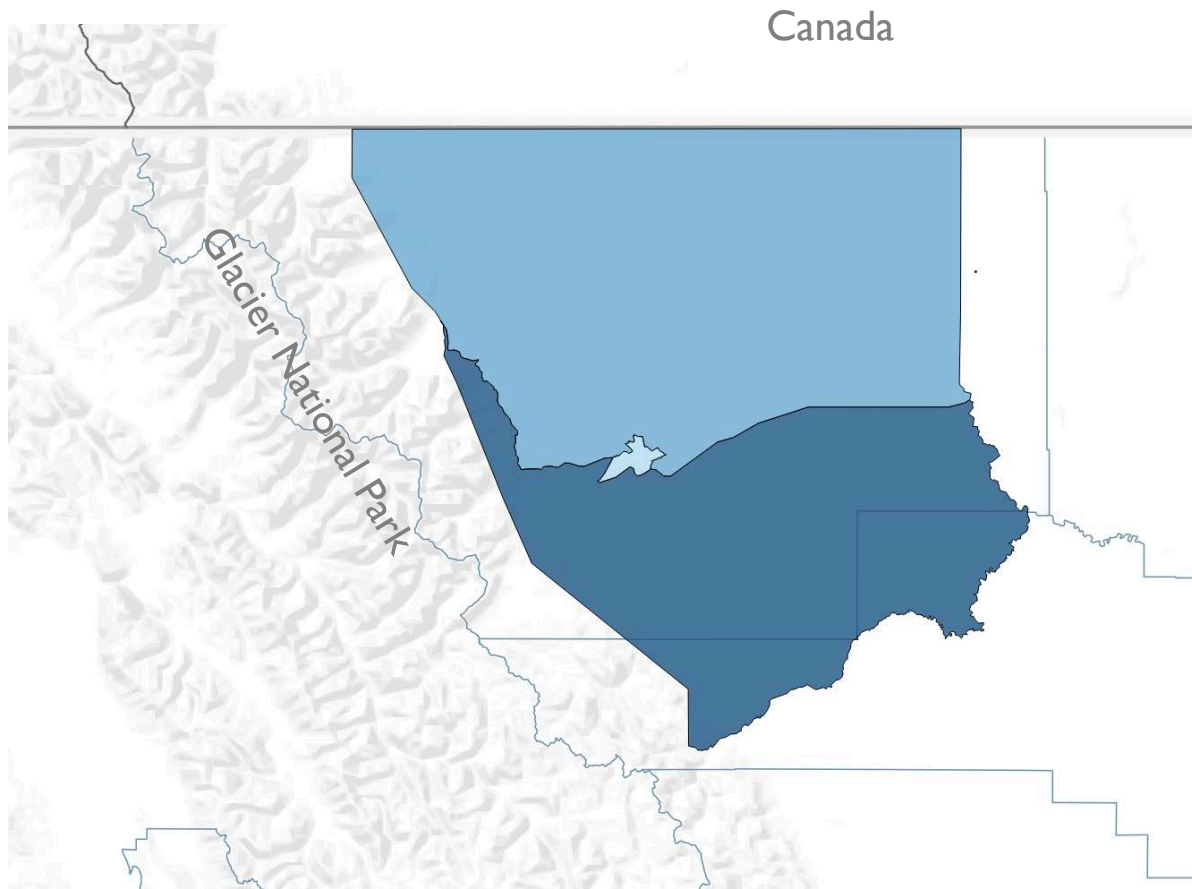
- Many outcomes in ACS are reported for distinct categories
  - Benefits – statistical comparisons
  - Limitation – missing nuances of racial identity



# GEOGRAPHIES

- Handbook for: “The Geography of American Indian and Alaska Native Areas”
  - [https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/publications/2021/acs/acs\\_aian\\_handbook\\_2021\\_ch02.pdf](https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/publications/2021/acs/acs_aian_handbook_2021_ch02.pdf)
- Legal entities
  - Alaska Native Regional Corporations
  - American Indian Reservations (+ State American Indian Reservations)
  - American Indian Off-Reservation Trust Lands
- Statistical entities
  - Alaska Native Village Statistical Areas
  - Oklahoma Tribal Statistical Areas
  - Tribal Designated Statistical Areas (+ State Designated Tribal Statistical Areas)
  - Tribal Tracts and Tribal Block Groups

# GEOGRAPHIES – BLACKFEET NATION



- Blackfoot Reservation overlaps with two counties: Glacier and Pondera
- Blue sections: Blackfoot Reservation
  - ACS: Blackfoot Indian Reservation and Off-Reservation Trust Land
- Blackfoot Reservation is divided into three Tribal Census Tracts
  - T001 – dark blue
  - T002 – medium blue
  - T003 – light blue

# GEOGRAPHIES – BLACKFEET NATION

American Community Survey, Table DP05, 2016-2020

	Glacier County	Pondera County	Blackfeet Indian Reservation and Off-Reservation Trust Land	Tribal Census Tract T001	Tribal Census Tract T002	Tribal Census Tract T003
Total population	13,706	5,911	10,664	2,403	2,768	5,493
AIAN alone	8,809 (64%)	959 (16%)	8,674 (81%)	1,913 (80%)	1,675 (60%)	5,086 (93%)
AIAN alone + in combination	9,118 (66%)	1,049 (18%)	8,842 (83%)	1,939 (81%)	1,722 (62%)	5,181 (94%)



# GEOGRAPHIES

American Community Survey, Table DP05, 2016-2020  
Blackfeet Indian Reservation and Off-Reservation Trust Land

	Total	Percent
Total population	10,664	
White alone	1,499	14%
Black alone	34	<1%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	8,674	81%
Asian alone	45	<1%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	36	<1%
Some other race alone	153	1%
Two or more races	223	2%

American Indian and Alaska Native Geographies **are not the equivalent** of describing the characteristics of the American Indian and Alaska Native population

# ACS DATA MAY LACK CONTEXT – HEALTH INSURANCE

- Seven types of health insurance captured in ACS:
  - Private: Employer/union
  - Private: Purchased directly
  - Private: TRICARE/other military
  - Public: Medicare
  - Public: Medicaid
  - Public: VA
  - Indian Health Service\*
- \*Persons with only Indian Health Services coverage are not considered to be insured because coverage is not always comprehensive

# ACS DATA MAY LACK CONTEXT – HEALTH INSURANCE

- Data for Montana in 2016-2020 (Table S2701)
  - Total population uninsured: 8.4% +/- 0.3%
  - AIAN alone uninsured: 26.2% +/- 1.4%
- More insightful data from IPUMS:
  - Of the ~16,000 AIAN alone with no health insurance in Montana:
    - 91% utilize IHS
    - 9% do not utilize IHS

# ACS DATA MAY LACK CONTEXT – USE ADDITIONAL DATA SOURCES

- How to tell more of the context that may be missing from ACS data?
  - Use IPUMS
  - Supplement with administrative data – e.g. Medicaid participation, Head Start enrollment, education data (public and/or private)
  - Qualitative data