OPPORTUNITIES AND LIMITATIONS OF ACS DATA FOR AMERICAN INDIAN POPULATIONS

XANNA BURG
DIRECTOR OF KIDS COUNT
MONTANA BUDGET & POLICY CENTER
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Montana (2016-2020 ACS)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total population</td>
<td>1,061,705</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIAN alone</td>
<td>65,523 (6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIAN in combination</td>
<td>22,040 (2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIAN alone + in combination</td>
<td>87,563 (8%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total population 1,061,705

AIAN alone 65,523 (6%)

AIAN in combination 22,040 (2%)

AIAN alone + in combination 87,563 (8%)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total population</td>
<td>1,061,705</td>
<td>1,084,225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIAN alone</td>
<td>65,523 (6%)</td>
<td>67,612 (6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIAN in combination</td>
<td>22,040 (2%)</td>
<td>32,966 (3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIAN alone + in combination</td>
<td>87,563 (8%)</td>
<td>100,578 (9%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Many outcomes in ACS are reported for distinct categories
- Benefits – statistical comparisons
- Limitation – missing nuances of racial identity
GEOGRAPHIES


- 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

- Blackfeet Reservation overlaps with two counties: Glacier and Pondera
- Blue sections: Blackfeet Reservation
  - ACS: Blackfeet Indian Reservation and Off-Reservation Trust Land
- Blackfeet 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Glacier County</th>
<th>Pondera County</th>
<th>Blackfeet Indian Reservation and Off-Reservation Trust Land</th>
<th>Tribal Census Tract T001</th>
<th>Tribal Census Tract T002</th>
<th>Tribal Census Tract T003</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total population</strong></td>
<td>13,706</td>
<td>5,911</td>
<td>10,664</td>
<td>2,403</td>
<td>2,768</td>
<td>5,493</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AIAN alone</strong></td>
<td>8,809 (64%)</td>
<td>959 (16%)</td>
<td>8,674 (81%)</td>
<td>1,913 (80%)</td>
<td>1,675 (60%)</td>
<td>5,086 (93%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AIAN alone + in combination</strong></td>
<td>9,118 (66%)</td>
<td>1,049 (18%)</td>
<td>8,842 (83%)</td>
<td>1,939 (81%)</td>
<td>1,722 (62%)</td>
<td>5,181 (94%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
American Community Survey, Table DP05, 2016-2020
Blackfeet Indian Reservation and Off-Reservation Trust Land

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total population</td>
<td>10,664</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White alone</td>
<td>1,499</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black alone</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian and Alaska Native alone</td>
<td>8,674</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian alone</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some other race alone</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two or more races</td>
<td>223</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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