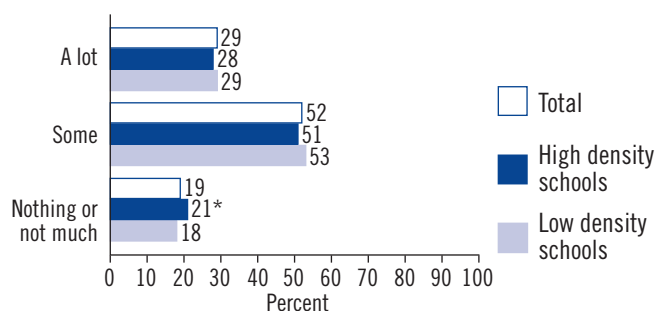


How much do AI/AN students know about their tribe or group?

AI/AN students were asked how much they knew about their own tribe or group. One question was asked of fourth-graders, and two separate questions were asked of eighth-graders. Results are presented here for only those students who identified themselves as AI/AN only or AI/AN plus another race. Overall, 29 percent of self-identified AI/AN students in fourth grade reported that they knew “a lot” about their tribe or group (figure 3-3).

Figure 3-3. Percentage of fourth-grade self-identified AI/AN students’ responses to a question about knowledge of their AI/AN group, by school density: 2007

How much do you know about your American Indian tribe or Alaska Native group?



* Significantly different ($p < .05$) from low density schools.

NOTE: AI/AN = American Indian/Alaska Native. School density indicates the proportion of AI/AN students enrolled. High density schools have 25 percent or more AI/AN students. Low density schools have less than 25 percent. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, 2007 National Indian Education Study.

Among self-identified AI/AN fourth-graders, 30 percent in both BIE schools and public schools reported that they knew “a lot” about their tribe or group (table 3-5).

Table 3-5. Percentage of fourth-grade self-identified AI/AN students, by type of school and students’ responses to a question about knowledge of their AI/AN group: 2007

How much do you know about your American Indian tribe or Alaska Native group?	Type of school	
	Public	BIE
A lot	30	30
Some	52	48*
Nothing or not much	19	21*

* Significantly different ($p < .05$) from public schools.

NOTE: AI/AN = American Indian/Alaska Native. BIE = Bureau of Indian Education. Results are not shown for Department of Defense and private schools. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, 2007 National Indian Education Study.

Eighth-graders were asked more detailed questions about the extent of their knowledge of their culture. Thirty-six percent of eighth-grade self-identified AI/AN

students attending high density schools reported that they knew “a lot” about their AI/AN history, with the corresponding 37 percent for AI/AN traditions. In both cases, these were higher percentages of students than in low density schools (table 3-6).

Table 3-6. Percentage of eighth-grade self-identified AI/AN students, by school density and students’ responses to questions about knowledge of their AI/AN history and traditions: 2007

Question and response choices	Total	School density	
		High	Low
How much do you know about your American Indian or Alaska Native history?			
A lot	32	36*	28
Some	54	50*	57
Nothing or not much	14	13	15
How much do you know about your American Indian or Alaska Native traditions?			
A lot	31	37*	26
Some	44	45	44
Nothing or not much	24	18*	30

* Significantly different ($p < .05$) from low density schools.

NOTE: AI/AN = American Indian/Alaska Native. School density indicates the proportion of AI/AN students enrolled. High density schools have 25 percent or more AI/AN students. Low density schools have less than 25 percent. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, 2007 National Indian Education Study.

A higher percentage of self-identified AI/AN eighth-graders in BIE schools than in public schools said they knew “a lot” about their AI/AN history (40 percent compared to 30 percent) and their AI/AN traditions (45 percent compared to 29 percent).

Table 3-7. Percentage of eighth-grade self-identified AI/AN students, by type of school and students’ responses to questions about knowledge of their AI/AN history and traditions: 2007

Question and response choices	Type of school	
	Public	BIE
How much do you know about your American Indian or Alaska Native history?		
A lot	30	40*
Some	55	47*
Nothing or not much	15	13*
How much do you know about your American Indian or Alaska Native traditions?		
A lot	29	45*
Some	45	42*
Nothing or not much	26	13*

* Significantly different ($p < .05$) from public schools.

NOTE: AI/AN = American Indian/Alaska Native. BIE = Bureau of Indian Education. Results are not shown for Department of Defense and private schools. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, 2007 National Indian Education Study.