

Bureau of the Census Statistical Brief

Housing of American Indians on Reservations — Structural Characteristics

Like the housing of the Nation as a whole, the housing of American Indians on reservations comes in a variety of ages and forms. But the mix is considerably different.

This is one of a series of Briefs that uses data collected in the 1990 Census of Population and Housing to examine housing characteristics of American Indian households on reservations and their associated trust lands. The term “American Indian households” includes all housing units where the householder has identified himself or herself as American Indian, Eskimo, or Aleut.

This Brief looks at two different structural characteristics of homes — their age (the proportion that were either new or old) and type (the percentage that were single-family, mobile homes, or located in multiunit structures).

There are 314 reservations and trust lands in the United States. Trust lands are property associated with a particular American Indian reservation or tribe, held in trust by the Federal Government. In this Brief, the term “reservation” also includes trust lands.



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On reservations, new housing was relatively widespread ...

Homes built between 1985 and March 1990 were considered “new.” As the graph below shows, American Indian households on reservations were far more likely than the typical U.S. household to live in new units.

Among the larger reservations (those with 500 or more American Indian households), new homes were most prevalent on the Pascua Yaqui Reservation, AZ, where they comprised *well over half* of all American Indian homes.

... and old homes were rare.

American Indian households on reservations were only about half as likely as all households nationally to live in an “old” home; that is, one built before 1940. (See graph below.) However, there were a few reservations where old

housing was much more common. One example was the Isleta Pueblo, NM, where over one-quarter of American Indian households lived in such homes.

Single-family homes were even more prevalent on reservations than elsewhere.

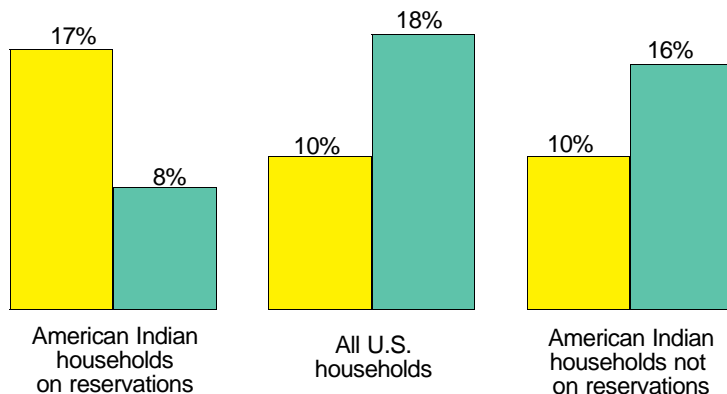
More than three-quarters of American Indian households on reservations resided in one-family houses, higher than the 70 percent of all U.S. households and far greater than the 60 percent of American Indian households living off reservations.

On three large reservations (all in the Southwest), the proportion for American Indian households topped 90 percent. Pascua Yaqui, AZ, at 98 percent, led the way. At the other extreme was the Cattaraugus Reservation, NY, at 53 percent.

New Homes Versus Old Homes

Percent of 1990 households:

■ Living in new units (1985 or later) ■ Living in old units (Pre-1940)



Mobile homes were quite common as well ...

Fourteen percent of American Indian households on reservations lived in mobile homes. The corresponding rates for all households in the United States and American Indian households not on reservations were 7 percent and 12 percent, respectively.

On the larger reservations, mobile homes were most common on the Hoopa Valley, CA and Cattaraugus, NY reservations, where 41 percent and 39 percent, respectively, of American Indian households lived in them.

... but apartments were almost unheard of.

A mere 5 percent of American Indian households on reservations lived in units in multiunit structures. This was far below the 27 percent for all households nationally and the 28 percent for American Indian households living off reservations.

More information:

General Housing Characteristics, American Indian and Alaska Native Areas, Series 1990 CH-1-1A and Detailed Housing Characteristics, American Indian and Alaska Native Areas, Series 1990 CH-2-1A. Contact Customer Services (301-457-4100) for ordering information.

Contacts:

Housing of American Indians on reservations —
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Reservation Recap — Structural Characteristics

Selected structural characteristics — American Indian, Eskimo, or Aleut households, by reservation (500 or more American Indian households): 1990

| | Percent living in new homes (1985 or later) | Percent living in old homes (pre-1940) | Percent living in one-family houses | Percent living in mobile homes or trailers |
|--|---|--|-------------------------------------|--|
| All reservations and trust lands | 17.0 | 7.5 | 76.8 | 14.3 |
| Acoma Pueblo and Trust Lands, NM | 5.8 | 18.2 | 83.4 | 13.1 |
| Blackfeet Reservation, MT | 12.5 | 11.1 | 73.3 | 14.8 |
| Cattaraugus Reservation, NY | 21.0 | 12.2 | 52.9 | 39.4 |
| Cheyenne River Reservation, SD | 13.2 | 4.4 | 73.5 | 16.9 |
| Colorado River Reservation, AZ-CA | 14.3 | 3.9 | 78.2 | 13.7 |
| Colville Reservation, WA | 5.7 | 13.1 | 72.4 | 21.7 |
| Crow Reservation and Trust Lands, MT | 16.3 | 9.8 | 78.8 | 15.7 |
| Devils Lake Sioux Reservation, ND | 20.8 | 9.0 | 80.5 | 9.6 |
| Eastern Cherokee Reservation, NC | 11.9 | 2.1 | 81.5 | 11.1 |
| Flathead Reservation, MT | 15.2 | 14.9 | 69.0 | 18.9 |
| Fort Apache Reservation, AZ | 25.8 | 4.8 | 87.5 | 5.5 |
| Fort Belknap Reservation and Trust Lands, MT | 15.6 | 2.7 | 82.8 | 8.1 |
| Fort Berthold Reservation, ND | 11.2 | 9.0 | 71.1 | 11.6 |
| Fort Hall Reservation and Trust Lands, ID | 7.2 | 7.0 | 70.9 | 27.3 |
| Fort Peck Reservation, MT | 16.5 | 13.6 | 81.3 | 10.1 |
| Gila River Reservation, AZ | 24.8 | 1.0 | 80.7 | 12.2 |
| Hoopa Valley Reservation, CA | 12.3 | 3.0 | 57.9 | 40.6 |
| Hopi Reservation and Trust Lands, AZ | 8.8 | 18.0 | 83.7 | 11.4 |
| Isleta Pueblo, NM | 5.8 | 28.7 | 90.7 | 8.8 |
| Jicarilla Apache Reservation, NM | 22.9 | 5.9 | 75.1 | 14.2 |
| Lac Courte Oreilles Reservation and Trust Lands, WI | 18.8 | 4.9 | 77.6 | 8.4 |
| Laguna Pueblo and Trust Lands, NM | 5.1 | 18.6 | 84.6 | 13.1 |
| Lake Traverse (Sisseton) Reservation, ND-SD | 7.2 | 27.1 | 83.6 | 2.8 |
| Leech Lake Reservation, MN | 13.9 | 9.7 | 74.6 | 14.5 |
| Menominee Reservation, WI | 15.4 | 10.5 | 75.8 | 18.6 |
| Mescalero Apache Reservation, NM | 16.2 | 18.1 | 94.5 | 4.0 |
| Mississippi Choctaw Reservation and Trust Lands, MS | 26.9 | 4.7 | 89.0 | 5.0 |
| Navajo Reservation and Trust Lands, AZ-NM-UT | 18.4 | 3.7 | 70.3 | 16.4 |
| Nez Perce Reservation, ID | 15.9 | 12.8 | 76.9 | 18.1 |
| Northern Cheyenne Reservation and Trust Lands, MT-SD | 8.4 | 4.7 | 79.8 | 7.2 |
| Oneida (West) Reservation, WI | 15.3 | 18.1 | 75.7 | 14.6 |
| Osage Reservation, OK | 9.5 | 20.6 | 79.6 | 14.4 |
| Papago Reservation, AZ | 20.5 | 10.0 | 89.3 | 4.6 |
| Pascua Yaqui Reservation, AZ | 62.2 | 0.8 | 97.7 | 1.3 |
| Pine Ridge Reservation and Trust Lands, NE-SD | 9.0 | 7.6 | 75.3 | 20.9 |
| Red Lake Reservation, MN | 28.7 | 3.7 | 89.9 | 6.0 |
| Rosebud Reservation and Trust Lands, SD | 21.2 | 2.9 | 78.6 | 9.3 |
| St. Regis Mohawk Reservation, NY | 33.8 | 23.4 | 79.5 | 19.0 |
| Salt River Reservation, AZ | 28.8 | 0.8 | 78.9 | 16.1 |
| San Carlos Reservation, AZ | 28.5 | 5.6 | 89.5 | 7.3 |
| Standing Rock Reservation, ND-SD | 9.9 | 9.0 | 76.1 | 10.6 |
| Turtle Mountain Reservation and Trust Lands, ND-SD | 27.7 | 1.6 | 75.3 | 14.6 |
| Uintah and Ouray Reservation, UT | 6.7 | 9.5 | 71.6 | 17.5 |
| Warm Springs Reservation and Trust Lands, OR | 18.3 | 1.7 | 64.0 | 18.8 |
| White Earth Reservation, MN | 14.3 | 13.9 | 74.8 | 14.3 |
| Wind River Reservation, WY | 15.6 | 7.1 | 72.4 | 21.3 |
| Yakima Reservation and Trust Lands, WA | 10.8 | 8.7 | 76.7 | 12.3 |
| Zuni Pueblo, AZ-NM | 10.4 | 11.5 | 83.8 | 11.7 |

This Brief is one of a series that presents information of current interest. It examines data from the 1990 census. A complete description of statistical quality and limitations is included in the above-mentioned reports. Percents

of new and old homes are based on sample data. Consequently, these proportions are subject to sampling variability. Reservations with small numbers of households may have large sampling variability.

Data for Smaller Reservations

The table above shows data only for the 48 reservations with 500 or more American Indian households. To obtain both statistics for reservations not shown and estimates of sampling variability for all reservations, call Robert Bonnette (301-763-8553).