

CELEBRATING NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH



1. According to the 2010 U.S. Census,

about **5.2 million** people in the United States identified as American Indian and Alaska Native, making up 1.7% of the total population.

(Source: <http://www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/briefs/c2010br-10.pdf>)



2. What is the definition of American Indian or Alaska Native?

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) defines American Indian or Alaska Native as a person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America) and who maintains tribal affiliation.



3. Can you guess how many Native American languages there are?

There are about **150 Native American** languages in Canada and the United States. (Source: <http://www.native-languages.org/kidfaq.htm#1>)

4. When was the first American Indian Day celebrated?

The first one **occurred in May 1916** in New York. Red Fox James, a Blackfeet Indian, rode horseback from state to state, getting endorsements from 24 state governments to have a day to honor American Indians. In 1990, President George H.W. Bush signed a joint congressional resolution designating November 1990 as "National American Indian Heritage Month."

(Source: http://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/facts_for_features_special_editions/cb11-f22.html)



77%

5. What are education rates among the Native American community?

77% have a high school diploma, GED or alternative credential. In comparison, **86%** of the overall population earned a high school diploma.

(Source: 2010 American Community Survey for the American Indian and Alaska Native alone population)

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