The Socioeconomic Status of Minorities in Nebraska

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Executive Summary

Nebraska has a rapidly growing minority population. The minority population increased 28% between 2000 and 2007. Hispanics or Latinos were the fastest-growing minority group in Nebraska. The Hispanic/Latino population increased 41.7% between 2000 and 2007, followed by Asians (34.6%), Native Hawaiian and other pacific islanders (27.9%), American Indians (12.4%), and African Americans (12.2%). By contrast, the non-Hispanic White population only increased 0.2% and Nebraska's total population increased 3.7%.

In 2007, among the minority populations in Nebraska, Hispanics were the largest group with a population of 133,832, this accounted for 48.8 % of the total minority population; the second largest group was African American with a population of 78,581(28.7%), followed by Asian 30,317 (11.1%).

In 2006, about 41% of all Hispanics or Latinos in Nebraska lived in Congressional District 2, 34% lived in Congressional District 3, and about 25% lived in Congressional District 1.

Hispanics or Latinos account for 5.6% of the total population of 598,164 in District 1, 8.7% of the total population of 609,320 in District 2, and 7.8% of the total population of 560,847 in District 3.

Compared with the non-Hispanic White population, Nebraska minorities had a larger proportion of young people and a smaller proportion of older people. The median age of the Nebraska minority population was approximately 6-13 years younger than that of the non-Hispanic White population. About 2 out of 5 Hispanics and American Indians were 18 years of age, with 1 out of every 3 for African Americans, compared with 1 in 4 non-Hispanic Whites. About 3-7% of minorities were 65 and older, compared with about 15% of non-Hispanic Whites.

Nebraska minority groups, except Asians, were somewhat less likely to be married than non-Hispanic Whites. Over one-third of Nebraska Hispanics aged 15 and older were never married. African Americans had the highest percentage of those to have never been married among minority groups (48%), and the Asian population was the lowest (30%). Asians and Hispanics were less likely than non-Hispanic Whites to be divorced.

Nebraska minority women had a higher fertility rate than non-Hispanic White women. About 119 out of every 1,000 African American women aged 15 to 50 had given birth in the 12 months prior to being surveyed, compared with about 60 out of every 1,000 non-Hispanic White women aged 15 to 50. A higher percentage of African Americans (72%) and American Indians (41%) who had given birth were unmarried, compared with about 22% of non-Hispanic White mothers.

A smaller proportion of African Americans (24%) and American Indians (34%) were families maintained by married couples than non-Hispanic White households at 54%. On average, all minority households were larger than those of non-Hispanic Whites. Nebraska minority households had a larger proportion of children and other relatives or nonrelatives in their households, compared with non-Hispanic White households.

72% of the Asian population and 43% of the Hispanic or Latino population in Nebraska was foreign born. Among non-Hispanic Whites, only 1% were foreign

born. Nearly two-thirds of Hispanics (67%) and Asians (62%) were U.S. citizens, either through birth or naturalization.

A larger proportion of foreign-born minorities entered the United States in 2000 or later than non-Hispanic Whites (about 22%). Among minority groups, African Americans had the highest percentage (52%) and Asians had the lowest percentage (31%) of those foreign-born to enter the U.S. in 2000 or later.

Among Asians and Hispanics/Latinos aged 5 and older, about three-fourths spoke a language other than English at home. In comparison, 2.7% of non-Hispanic Whites aged 5 and older spoke a language other than English at home. A higher percentage of the minority population than non-Hispanic Whites spoke English less than "very well."

Among minority groups, Asians aged 3 years and over had the largest proportion of population enrolled in college or graduate school at 42%. In comparison, among non-Hispanic Whites aged 3 years and over, nearly 29% were enrolled in college or graduate school. Hispanics, American Indians, and African Americans aged 3 years and over had more than 40% of their populations enrolled in elementary school, which was higher than non-Hispanic Whites aged 3 years and over. Over half of Asians aged 25 years and older had a bachelor's degree or higher education. Half of Nebraska Hispanics/ Latinos aged 25 and older were less than high school graduates. Among non-Hispanic Whites aged 25 and older, about 8% were less than high school graduates and about 29% had a bachelor's degree or more education.

A higher proportion of the minority population aged 16 years and over was civilian unemployed than non-Hispanic Whites aged 16 and over (2.8%). The median income of Asian households in the 12 months prior to being surveyed was about $58,827, which is the highest among any race and ethnic group. The median income of non-Hispanic White households was about $10,000 less than Asian households.

The poverty rate was higher for minorities than for non-Hispanic Whites at 9%. Thirty-six percent of American Indians were living below the poverty level in the 12 months prior to being surveyed, followed by African Americans (35%), Hispanics (22%), and Asians (10%).

The poverty rate was higher for minority families than for non-Hispanic White families. Over half of American Indian and African American families with no husband present lived in poverty, in comparison, to about 24% of non-Hispanic Whites in the same type of female-only household.

Nebraska minority households had a smaller proportion of the population who lived in owner-occupied homes than non-Hispanic White alone households about 34-58% vs. about 72%. In general, minority households, except Asian households, owned a higher percentage of old houses, compared to non-Hispanic White alone households. For Asian households, the median value of owner-occupied homes was $143,600, which is the highest among race or ethnic groups; this was about $23,000 higher than the median value of owner-occupied homes of non-Hispanic White households. American Indian households had the lowest median value of owner-occupied homes at $74,600.

Introduction

This report presents a portrait of the minority populations in Nebraska, and provides critical information on demographic, social, economic, and housing characteristics for the Nebraska minority community. This data represents a portrait of a population in time: while the population itself may experience statistically significant growth overall, often the various components of socioeconomic status do not. In examining health disparities that exist within a population, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Research Network on Socioeconomic Status and Health[1] used the metaphor of a ladder to describe not only access to health care, but also whether or not "good health" was within reach for a population.

Rungs on the ladder depict the resources needed to live life healthy, well, and secure. Education, comfortable housing, social and familial networks, income, and employment place many people in higher positions. Likewise, others experience generational poverty, extended periods of unemployment, poor education, low wages, and substandard housing. In using this data presented herein, rather than see health disparities solely as the result of a genetic determinant, socioeconomic determinants directly impact the health status of a population. As inequities are addressed through better social policies, the ladder to better health outcomes will be less steep, and more rungs within grasp, as more people experience greater access to education, improved income, access to employment, housing, etc.

[1]http://www.macfound.org/site/apps/nlnet/content3.aspx?c=lkLXJ8MQKrH&b=4201565&ct=1455593

Snapshot of the Minority Population in Nebraska

Nebraska continues to become more racially and ethnically diverse. Based on the U.S. Census Bureau's estimates,[2] in 2007, the population of Nebraska was 1,774,571. Minorities represented 15.5% of the total population. Hispanics were the largest minority group at 7.5% of the state population. African Americans were the second-largest minority group at 4% of the state population, followed by Asians at 1.7% and American Indian or Alaska Natives at 1%. The minority population in Nebraska has been increasing much more rapidly than the non-Hispanic White population. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, from 2000 to 2007, Nebraska's racial and ethnic minority population grew from 214,152 to 274,191, a 28% increase. During this same period the non-Hispanic White population increased by only 0.2%.[3]

In the mid-1990s, the U.S. Census projections for the state of Nebraska's minority populations were expected to reach a high by the year 2025, 14.4 % of the total population.[4]

[2]Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau, Estimates of the Population by Race and Hispanic Origin for the United States and States: July 1, 2007. Release Date: May 1, 2008.

[3]Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Estimates of the Population by Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin for Nebraska: April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2007. Release Date: May 1, 2008.

[4]Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau. Projected State Populations by Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin: 1995-2025. Release Date: October 1996.

In 2005, 20 years ahead of those projections, the racial and ethnic minority population of Nebraska was estimated to be 14.6%.

Nebraska has a rapidly growing minority population comprised increasingly of persons of Hispanic/ Latino origin. Hispanics are the fastest-growing minority group in Nebraska. The Hispanic/ Latino population increased from 36,969 in 1990 to 94,425 in 2000, to 133,832 in 2007. These numbers represented a 262% increase for the Hispanic population in the state between 1990 and 2007, a 155.4 % increase between 1990 and 2000, and a 41.7 % increase between 2000 and 2007. In 1990, the population of Nebraska was 1,578,385, of that number, the Hispanic/Latino population accounted for 2.3%. In 2000, the population of Nebraska was 1,711,265 and the Hispanic population accounted for 5.5%. In 2007, the population of Nebraska had risen to 1,774,571 and the Hispanic/Latino population accounted for 7.5% of the total Nebraska population. A detailed recap is provided in the following table.

Table 1: Nebraska's Population by Race and Ethnicity: 2000 and 2007

Race/Ethnicity	**Population* Apr.1, 2000**	**% Population (2000)**	**Population Jul.1, 2007**	**% Population (2007)**	**Change (00-07)**	**%Change (00-07)**
Nebraska Total	1,711,265	-	1,774,571	-	63,306	3.7
White Alone	1,585,619	92.7	1,625,144	91.6	39,525	2.5
African American	70,043	4.1	78,581	4.4	8,538	12.2
American Indian or Alaska Native	15,634	0.9	17,576	1.0	1,942	12.4
Asian	22,528	1.3	30,317	1.7	7,789	34.6
NHPI**	993	0.1	1,270	0.1	277	27.9
Hispanic	94,425	5.5	133,832	7.5	39,407	41.7
White, non-Hispanic	1,497,113	87.5	1,500,380	84.5	3,267	0.2
Minority Population	214,152	12.5	274,191	15.5	60,039	28.0

Notes: *2000 Population Estimates base reflects changes to the Census 2000 population from the Count Question Resolution program and geographic program revisions.
** NHPI: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.
Minority Population = Total Population - White, non-Hispanic Population.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 population estimates (Release date: May 1, 2008), 2000 census estimates base.

Race and Ethnicity in the United States Census

Race and ethnicity in the United States Census is defined by the United States Census Bureau and the Federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB), as self-identification data in which residents choose the race or races with which they most closely identify, and indicate whether or not they are of Hispanic or Latino origin (ethnicity).

The racial classifications used by the Census Bureau adhere to the October 30, 1997 Federal Register Notice entitled "Revisions to the Standards for the Classification of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity" issued by the OMB. [5] The OMB requires five minimum categories (White, Black/ African American, American Indian and Alaska Native, Asian, and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander) for race. The race categories are described below with a sixth category, "Some other race," added with OMB approval. In addition to the five race groups, OMB also states that respondents should be offered the option of selecting one or more races. The following definitions are provided by OMB and the U.S. Census Bureau to identify race.[6]

White. A person having origins from any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa is classified as white. It includes people who indicate their race as "White" or report entries such as "Irish," "German," "Italian," "Lebanese," "Near Easterner," "Arab," or "Polish."

Black or African American. A person having origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa. It includes people who indicate their race as "Black," "African American," or "Negro," or provide written entries such as "African American," "Afro American," "Kenyan," "Nigerian," or "Haitian."

American Indian and Alaska Native. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America) and who maintain tribal affiliation or community attachment.

Asian. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam. It includes "Asian Indian," "Chinese," "Filipino," "Korean," "Japanese," "Vietnamese," and "Other Asian."

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands. It includes people who indicate their race as "Native Hawaiian," "Guamanian" or "Chamorro," "Samoan," and "Other Pacific Islander."

Some other race. Includes all other responses not included in the "White," "Black or African American," "American Indian and Alaska Native," "Asian," and "Native Hawaiian or Other

[5] http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/fedreg/ombdir15.html

[6] http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/fedreg/ombdir15.html
2000 Census of Population, Public Law 94-171 Redistricting Data File: Race. *U.S. Census Bureau.*

Pacific Islander" race categories described above. Respondents providing write-in entries such as multi-racial, mixed, inter-racial, or a Hispanic/Latino group (for example, “Mexican,” Puerto Rican” or “Cuban”) in the "Some other race" write-in space are included in this category. Estimates for years after 2000 reflect an allocation of this category among the other categories.

Two or more races. People may have chosen to provide two or more races either by checking two or more race response check boxes, by providing multiple write-in responses, or by some combination of check boxes and write-in responses.

Race and ethnicity were considered separate and distinct identities, with Hispanic origin asked as a separate question. In addition to their race or races, all respondents are categorized by membership in one of two ethnicities: Hispanic or Latino, and non-Hispanic or Latino. Percentages for the various race categories add up to 100% and should not be combined with the Hispanic percentage.

Hispanic or Latino. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Cuba, Mexico, Puerto Rico, South or Central America or other Spanish culture or origin regardless of race. People who identify their origin as “Spanish”, “Hispanic” or “Latino” may be of any race.

Data Source

The findings presented in this report are based on the American Community Survey (ACS) sample interviewed between 2005 and 2007. The ACS is a large, continuous demographic survey conducted by the Census Bureau that provides up-to-date profiles of America's communities every year. The survey produces yearly demographic, social, economic, and housing data that can be compared across states, communities, and population groups. The 2006 ACS shifted from a demonstration program with a different sample design and sample size to the full sample size and design in 2005. It became the largest household survey in the United States, with an annual sample size of about 3 million addresses. Every year the ACS can support the release of single-year estimates for geographic areas with populations of 65,000 or more. The 2006 data release marks the first time that group quarters populations such as prisons, college dorms, military barracks, and nursing home populations were included in the ACS data products. Prior to 2005, ACS data included estimates for the household population only.[7] In 2007, the ACS accumulated samples over 3-year intervals to produce estimates for smaller geographic areas including census tracts and block groups.[8] For this report, 2005 to 2007 ACS three-year estimates were used, which are based on data collected between January 2005 and December 2007. The three year estimates are published for selected geographic areas with populations of 20,000 or greater.

Every year between 2000 and 2004, the ACS collected information from a sample of over 700,000 addresses in the U.S. In 2005, the ACS collected information from approximately 3 million addresses in the United States and 36,000 addresses in Puerto Rico. In 2006, it also included approximately 200,000 people living in group quarters.[9]

[7] http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/ACS/accuracy2007.pdf

[8] http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/tp67.pdf

[9] http://www.census.gov/acs/www/UseData/sse/sam/sam_def.htm

Table 2 shows ACS sample sizes for Nebraska since 2000.[10] The number of the initial addresses selected for housing units and group quarters population is the 12 month sample for the American Community Survey. The number of the final interviews is the actual sample that is used to produce all weighted estimates for the survey year.

Table 2: ACS Sample Sizes for Nebraska: 2000-2007

	Housing Units		Group Quarters People	
Year	**Initial Addresses Selected**	**Final Interviews**	**Initial Sample Selected**	**Final Interviews**
2007	24,841	17,694	1,195	1,016
2006	25,254	18,307	1,252	1,036
2005	25,458	18,002	N/A	N/A
2004	11,076	8,108	N/A	N/A
2003	10,993	8,210	N/A	N/A
2002	10,046	7,557	N/A	N/A
2001	14,931	11,357	N/A	N/A
2000	15,154	11,164	N/A	N/A

Notes:
Housing Units Initial Addresses Selected - The number of addresses in Nebraska and for the nation that were selected for the ACS sample for a particular year.
Housing Units Final Interviews - The final number of interviews across all three modes of data collection for the ACS in a given year for the nation and by state. This number includes occupied and vacant housing units that were interviewed by mail, telephone, or personal visit methods between January 1 and December 31.
Group Quarters People Initial Sample Selected - The number of people living in group quarters that could be contacted for ACS interviewing in a given year for the nation and by state.
Group Quarters People Final Interviews - The final number of person interviews for the ACS for those living in group quarters in a given year for the nation and by state.

[10] http://www.census.gov/acs/www/acs-php/quality_measures_sample_2007.php

The ACS provides critical information about the characteristics of local communities; it is not designed to count the population. We should use other sources for population counts, such as the Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program. The Population Estimates Program produces the official estimates for population, age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin for the nation, states and counties.

In this report, the terms "Hispanic" and "Latino" are used to refer to all individuals who reported they were Hispanic or Latino and the term "non-Hispanic White" is used to refer to the White-alone, not Hispanic population. The text of this report compares the population and housing characteristics for the minority population with those of the White not Hispanic population. Information on demographic, social, economic, and housing characteristics in the tables and figures are based on data from the 2006 ACS Detailed Tables.

Further information from the ACS 2005 to 2007 is available from the American Fact Finder on the Census Bureau's website. More than 1,000 tables are available, including population profiles for race, Hispanic-origin, and ancestry groups.

Minority Population by Race and Ethnicity

In Nebraska, Whites were the largest group with a population of 1,568,062. This group accounted for 88.9% of the total population for the state. The next largest group was Black or African American 71,351 or 4.0%, followed by Asian (Table 3). There is a very small proportion of the population consisting of two or more races 1.7%.

The Hispanic population 128,675 accounted for 7.3% of the total population in Nebraska (Table 4). Among Hispanics in Nebraska, White Hispanic was the largest group with a population of 71,924, which is over half of the Nebraska Hispanic population. Meanwhile, 84.8% of the total population is White alone and not Hispanic.

Table 3: Population by Race: 2005-2007

	Estimate	Percent of Total Population	Margin of Error
Total:	1,764,131	100.0	(x)
Population of one race:	1,733,540	98.3	1,796
White	1,568,062	88.9	3,037
Black or African American	71,351	4.0	1,539
American Indian and Alaska Native	14,530	0.8	911
Asian alone	28,108	1.6	853
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	1,868	0.1	657
Some other race	49,621	2.8	3,110
Population of two or more races:	30,591	1.7	1,795
Two races including Some other race	3,693	0.2	742
Two races excluding Some other race, and three or more races	26,898	1.5	1,666
Population of two races:	28,501	1.6	1,655
White; Black or African American	8,074	0.5	1,121
White; American Indian and Alaska Native	8,385	0.5	698
White; Asian	4,994	0.3	745
Black or African American; American Indian and Alaska Native	2,486	0.1	742
All other two race combinations	4,562	0.3	748
Population of three races	2,090	0.1	655
Population of four or more races	0	0.0	123

Notes: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2007 American Community Survey.
Margin of Error: This number, when added to and subtracted from the estimate, produces the 90 percent confidence interval around the estimate.

Table 4: Population by Ethnicity: 2005-2007

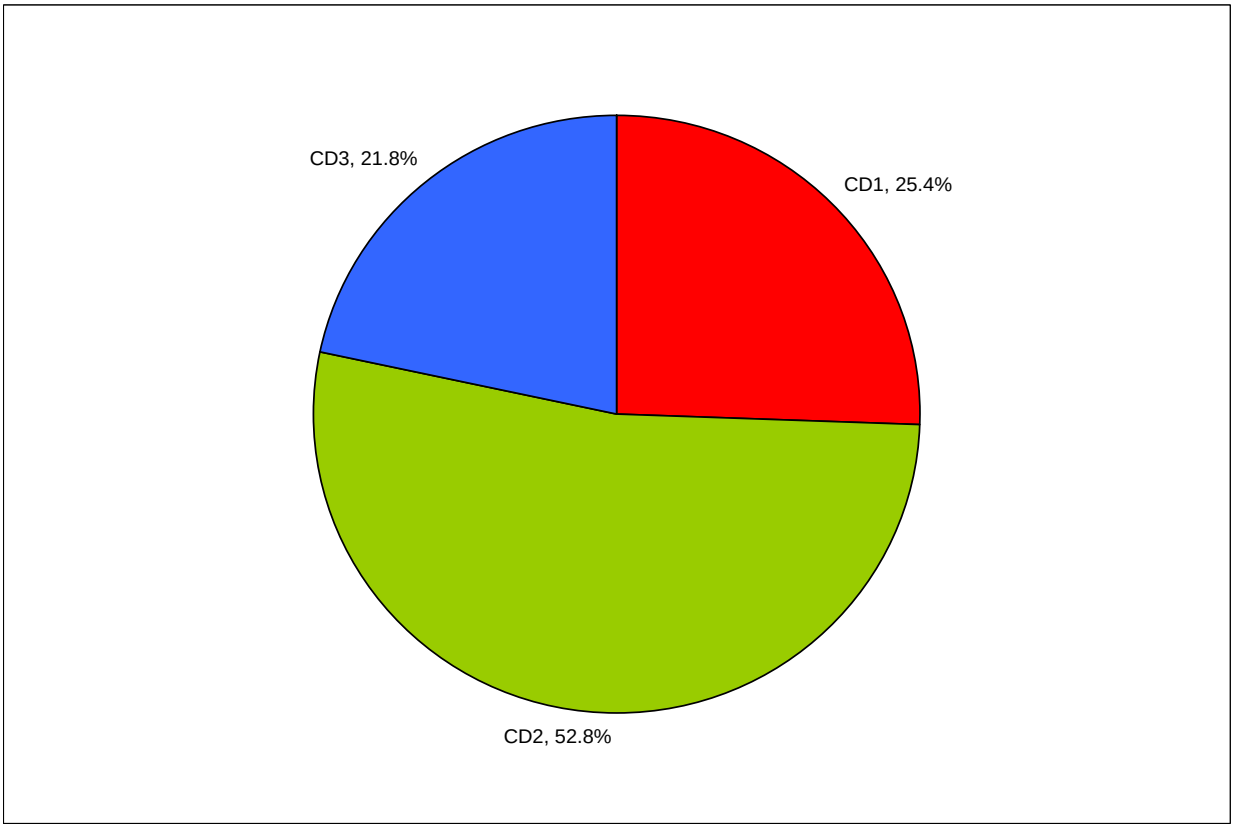
	Estimate	Percent of Total Population	Margin of Error
Total:	1,764,131	100.0	(x)
Not Hispanic or Latino:	1,635,456	92.7	408
White alone	1,496,138	84.8	615
Black or African American alone	70,554	4.0	1,473
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	11,951	0.7	643
Asian alone	27,678	1.6	721
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	1,717	0.1	647
Some other race alone	1,358	0.1	432
Two or more races:	26,060	1.5	1,557
Two races including Some other race	597	0.0	234
Two races excluding Some other race, and three or more races	25,463	1.4	1,585
Hispanic or Latino:	128,675	7.3	408
White alone	71,924	4.1	2,889
Black or African American alone	797	0.0	309
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	2,579	0.1	694
Asian alone	430	0.0	367
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	151	0.0	135
Some other race alone	48,263	2.7	3,094
Two or more races:	4,531	0.3	841
Two races including Some other race	3,096	0.2	637
Two races excluding Some other race, and three or more races	1,435	0.1	534

Notes: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2007 American Community Survey.
Margin of Error: This number, when added to and subtracted from the estimate, produces the 90 percent confidence interval around the estimate.

Minority Population by Congressional District

Approximately 53% of minorities in Nebraska lived in Congressional District 2 (CD 2), 22% lived in Congressional District 3 (CD 3), and about 25% lived in Congressional District 1 (CD 1) (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Minority Population by Congressional Districts: 2005-2007
(Percent Distribution)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2007 American Community Survey, Detailed Tables.

Minority groups account for 11.4% of the total population (599,787) of District 1, 23.2% of the total population (609,182) of District 2, and 10.5% of the total population (555,162) of District 3 (Table 5).

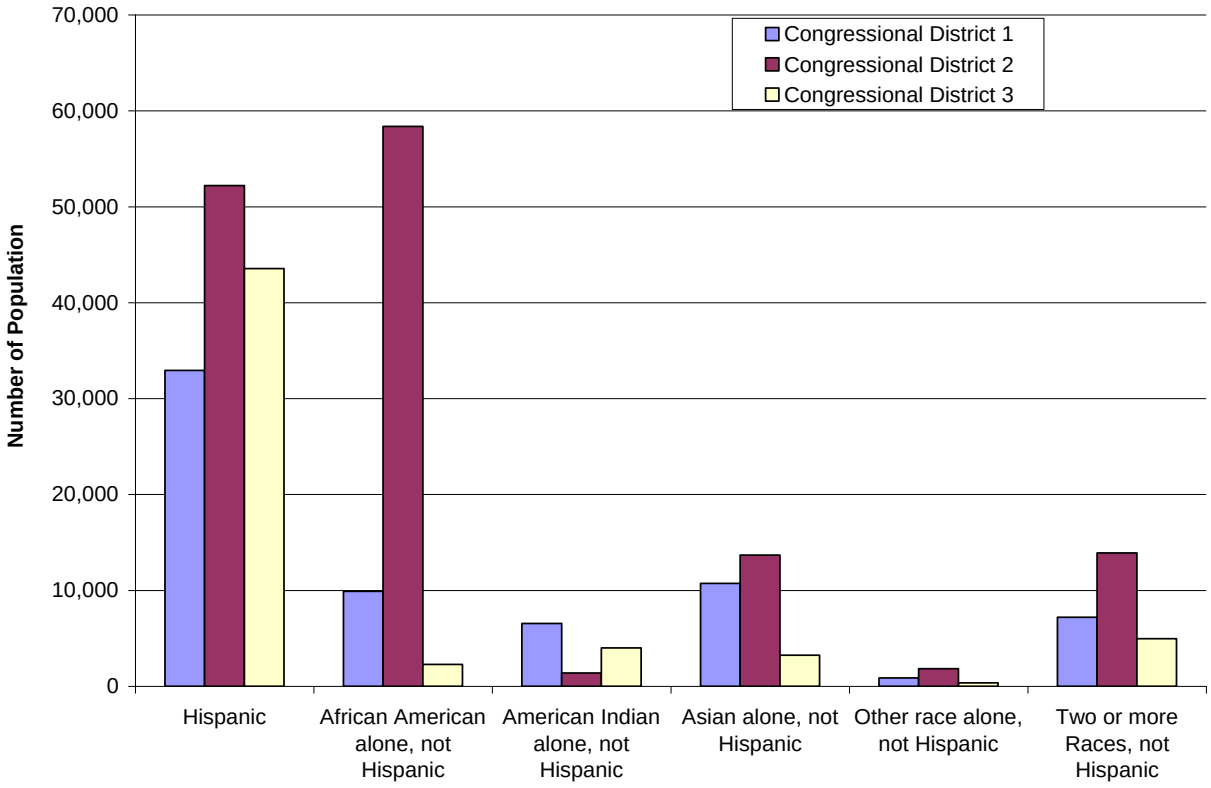
Among minorities in Congressional District 1, Hispanics made up 48.3% of the minority population. The non-Hispanic minority accounted for 51.7%. In Congressional District 2 and District 3, Hispanics made up 36.9% and 74.6% of the minority population, respectively (Table 5).

Table 5: Minority Population by Congressional Districts: 2005-2007

	Congressional District 1		Congressional District 2		Congressional District 3	
	Estimate	Percent of Minority Population	Estimate	Percent of Minority Population	Estimate	Percent of Minority Population
Total	68,195	100.0	141,397	100.0	58,401	100.0
Hispanic	32,937	48.3	52,193	36.9	43,545	74.6
Not Hispanic	35,258	51.7	89,204	63.1	14,856	25.4
African American alone	9,903	14.5	58,367	41.3	2,284	3.9
American Indian alone	6,543	9.6	1,396	1.0	4,012	6.9
Asian alone	10,737	15.7	13,692	9.7	3,249	5.6
Other race alone	874	1.3	1,843	1.3	358	0.6
Two or more Races	7,201	10.6	13,906	9.8	4,953	8.5

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2007 American Community Survey, Detailed Tables.

Figure 2: Nebraska Congressional District Minority Population by Detailed Group: 2005-2007

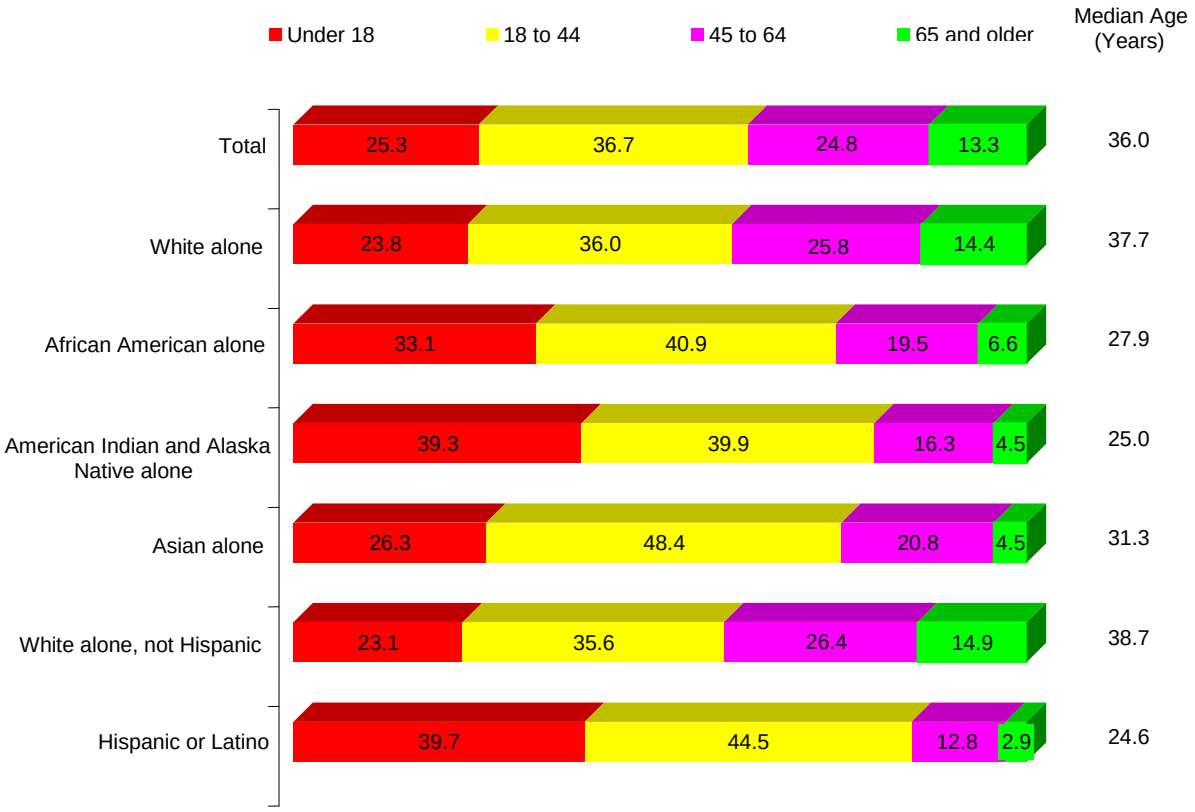


Median Age

All Nebraska minority groups had younger median ages than the median age of the non-Hispanic White population at 38.7 years. The Hispanic or Latino population had the youngest median age (24.6 years) among the minority groups. The American Indian population is second (25.0 years), followed by the African American population (27.9 years). The Asian population is the oldest (31.3 years).

The minority population had a larger proportion of young people and a smaller proportion of older people than the non-Hispanic White population. About 2 out of every 5 Hispanics and American Indians were children under 18 years. Whereas, 1 out of every 3 African Americans compared with 1 out of 4 non-Hispanic Whites was a child. Between 3-7% of the minorities were 65 and older compared with 15% of non-Hispanic Whites.

Figure 3: Selected Age Groups and Median Age: 2005-2007
(Percent Distribution)



Notes: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2007 American Community Survey, Detailed Tables.

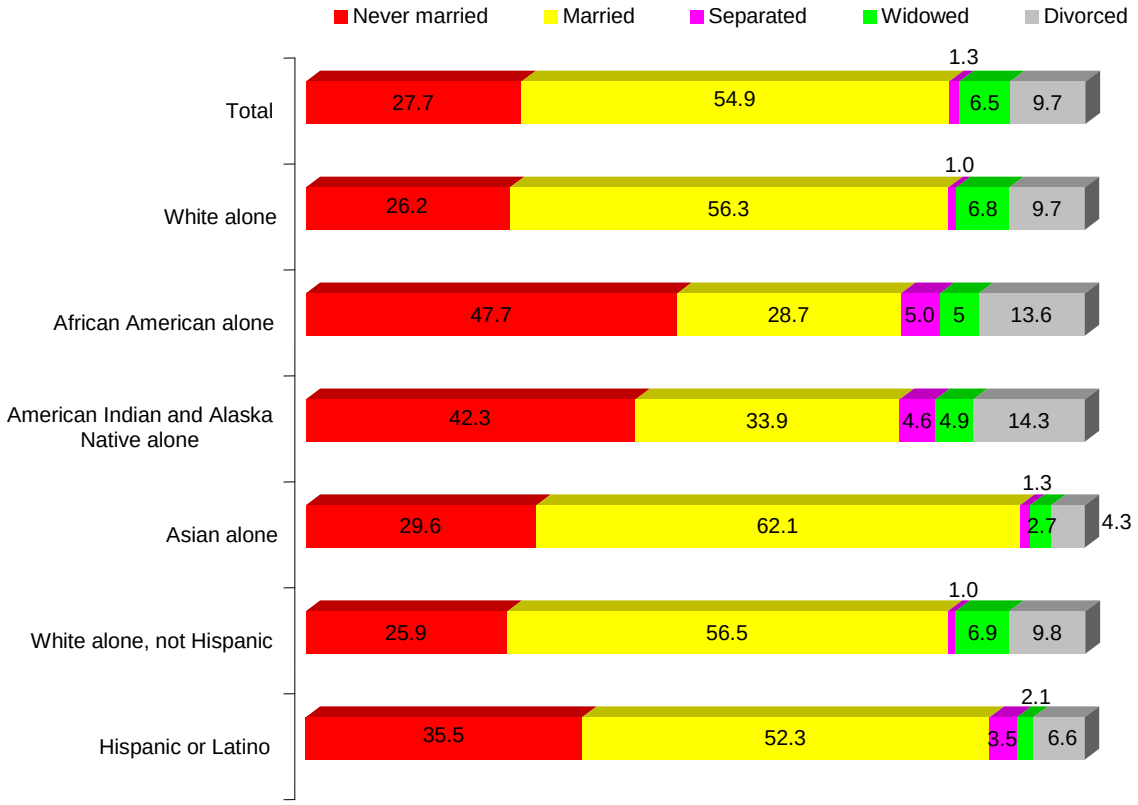
Marital Status

Nebraska minorities aged 15 and older had a larger proportion of never married individuals (30-48%) than non-Hispanic Whites. Non-Hispanic Whites aged 15 and older were less likely never to have been married (about 26%). African Americans had the highest percentage of never to have been married population among minority groups (48%), whereas, the Asian population had the lowest percentage (30%).

A larger proportion of African Americans and American Indians than non-Hispanic Whites were divorced (about 14% verses 10%). Asians (4%) and Hispanics (7%) had a smaller proportion of divorced couples than non-Hispanic Whites.

Nebraska minority groups had a smaller widowed population than non-Hispanic Whites (about 2-5% verses 7%); among minority groups, African Americans are the highest (5%) and Hispanics are the lowest (2%). A higher proportion of minorities (between 1-5%) than non-Hispanic Whites were separated; among minority groups, African Americans are the highest (5%) and Asians are the lowest.

Figure 4: Marital Status: 2005-2007
(Percent Distribution)



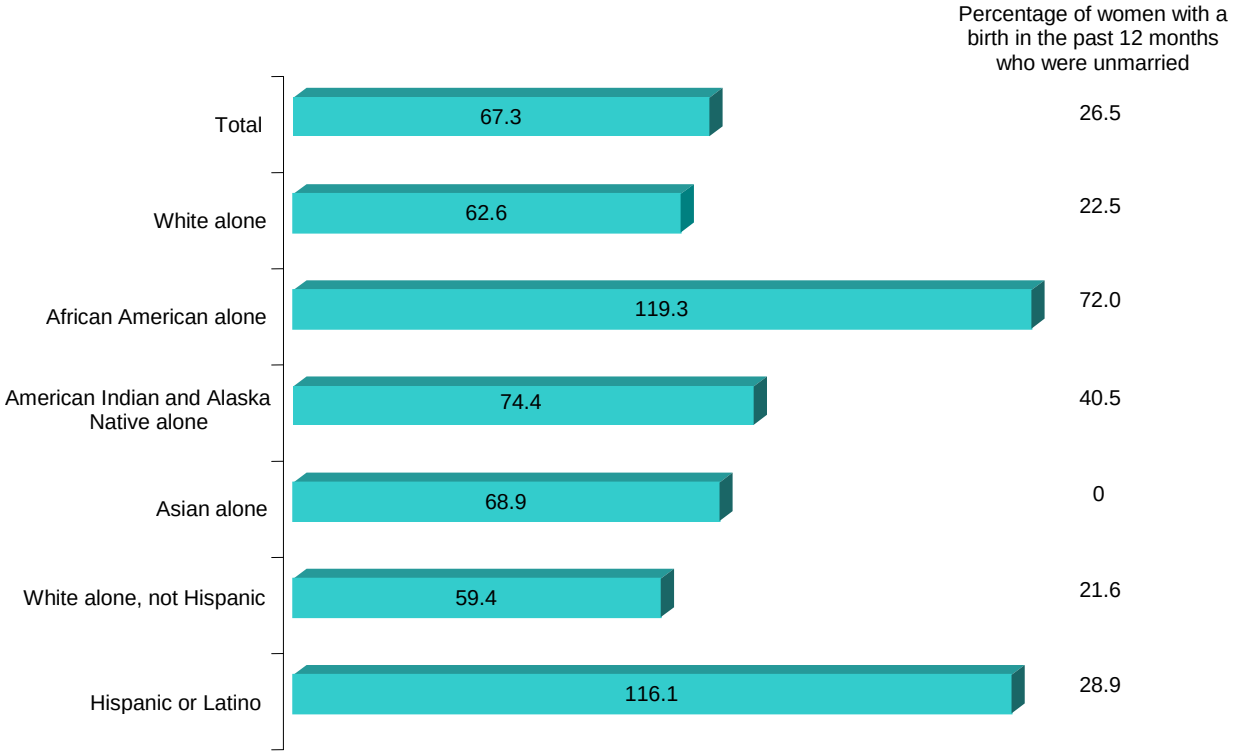
Notes: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2007 American Community Survey, Detailed Tables.

Fertility

Nebraska minority women had a higher fertility rate than non-Hispanic White women. About 119 out of every 1,000 African American women aged 15 to 50 had given birth in the 12 months prior to being surveyed, followed by Hispanics (116), American Indians (74), and Asians (69) compared to about 60 out of every 1,000 non-Hispanic White women.

A higher percentage of African American (72%), American Indian (41%), and Hispanic or Latino mothers (29%) who had given birth were unmarried compared with about 22% of non-Hispanic White mothers. None of the Asian mothers who had given birth were unmarried.

Figure 5: Fertility: 2005-2007



Notes: Of every 1,000 women aged 15 to 50, the number who had given birth in the 12 months preceding the date of the survey, based on the race and Hispanic origin of the mother.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2007 American Community Survey, Detailed Tables.

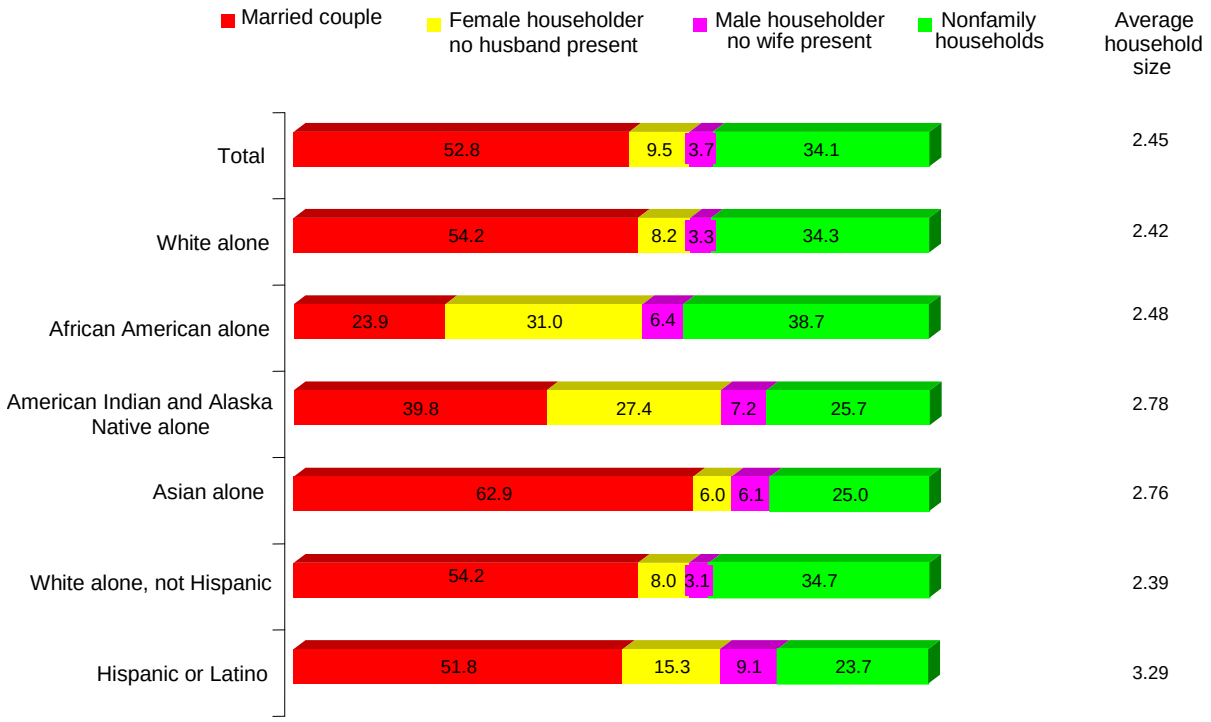
Household Type

A smaller proportion of African American (24%), American Indian (40%), and Hispanic/ Latino households (52%) were families maintained by married couples than non-Hispanic White households (about 54%). Asian households had the highest percentage of families maintained by married couples (about 63%).

A higher percentage of African American (about 31%), American Indian (about 27%), and Hispanic or Latino households (about 15%) were families maintained/supported by a woman with no husband present than non-Hispanic White households (about 8%). A higher proportion of minority households (about 6-9%) than non-Hispanic White households (about 3%) were families maintained by a man with no wife present.

All minority households had a larger household size on average than non-Hispanic White households (2.4 people). Among minority groups, Hispanic or Latino households had the highest, 3.3 people on average, and African American households had the lowest, 2.5 people on average.

Figure 6: Household Type: 2005-2007
(Percent Distribution)



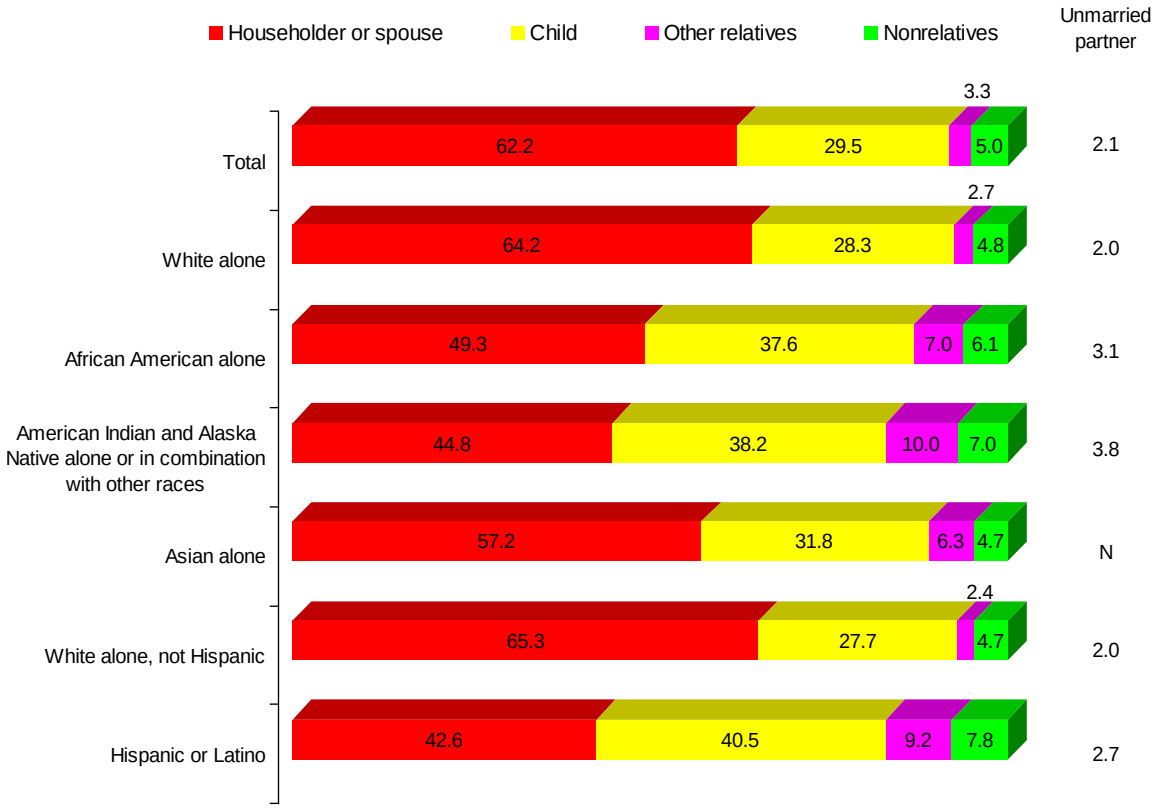
Notes: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2007 American Community Survey, Detailed Tables.

Relationship in Households

Nebraska minority households had a larger proportion of children in households compared with non-Hispanic White households. Among minority groups, Hispanics had the highest percentage of child relationships in households (41%), followed by American Indians (38%) and African Americans (37.6%).

A higher proportion of minority households 11-17% compared to non-Hispanic White households of about 7% lived with other relatives or non-relatives in their households. Among minority groups, Hispanics and American Indians were the highest 17%, and Asians were the lowest at 11%.

Figure 7: Relationship in Households: 2005-2007
(Percent Distribution)



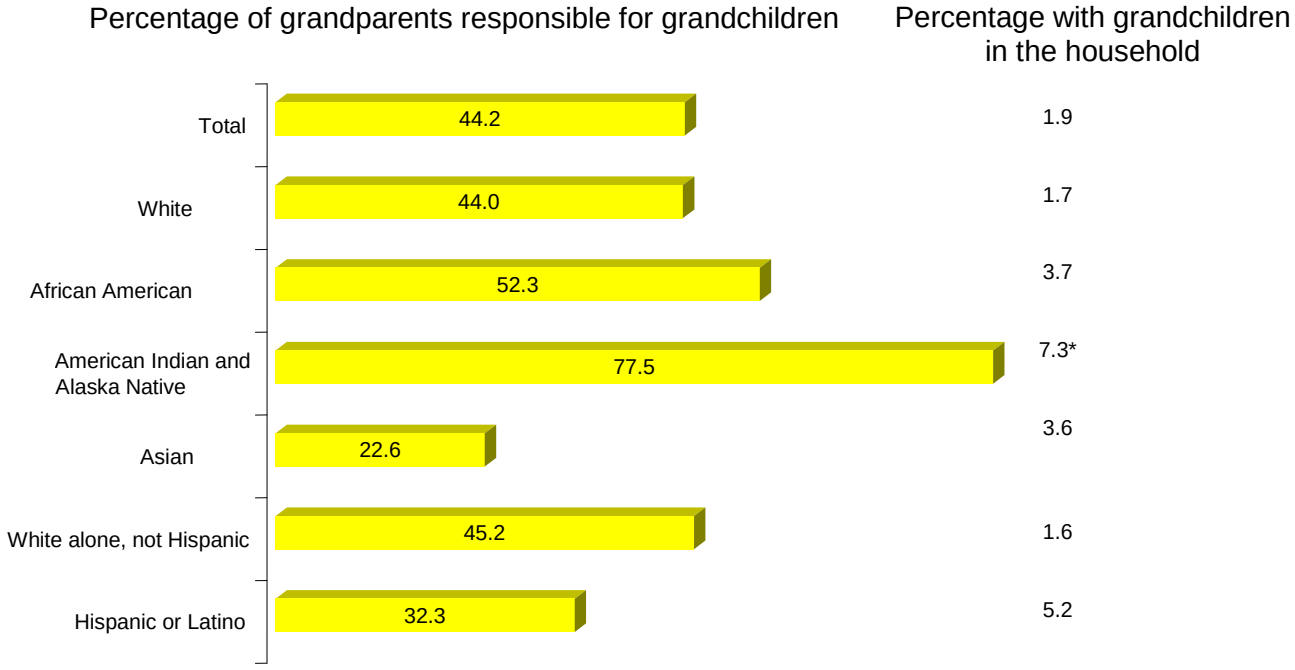
Notes: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2007 American Community Survey, Detailed Tables.

Responsibility for Grandchildren

A higher percentage of Nebraska minorities aged 30 and older were grandparents living in the same household with their co-resident grandchildren younger than 18. In comparison, about 2% of non-Hispanic White grandparents aged 30 and older were living in the same household with their co-resident grandchildren younger than 18; among minority groups, American Indians are the highest (7%) and Asians are the lowest (3.6%).

A larger proportion of American Indian (78%) and African American (52%) grandparents were responsible for their grandchildren's care than non-Hispanic White (45%) grandparents. Asians and Hispanics had a smaller proportion of grandparents (23 and 32% respectively) who were responsible for their grandchildren's care.

Figure 8: Responsibility for Grandchildren Under 18 Years Old: 2005-2007
(Percent of Grandparents 30 and Older)



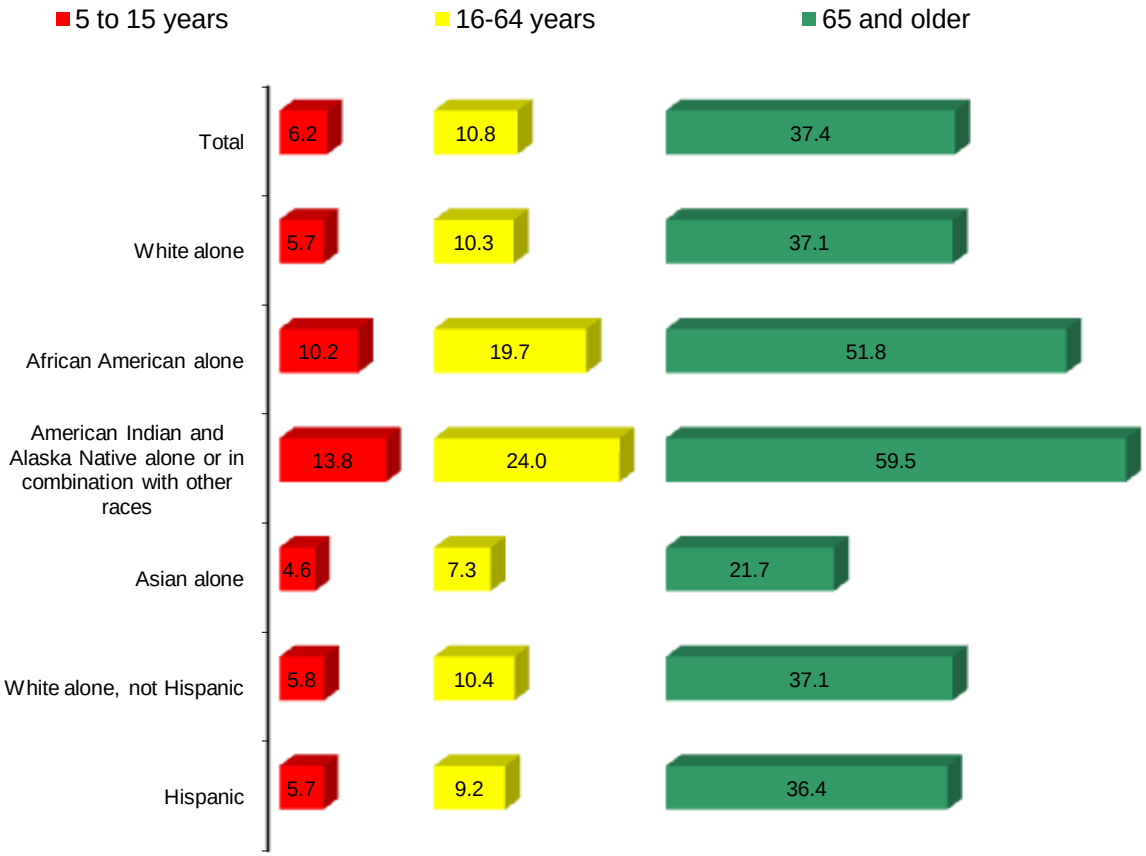
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2007 American Community Survey, Detailed Tables.
* 7.3% of grandchildren in the American Indian and Alaska Native household.

Disability Status

Twenty percent of Nebraska African Americans and 24% of American Indians aged 16 to 64 had disabilities than non-Hispanic Whites (10%) aged 16 to 64. Asians and Hispanics aged 16 to 64 had a smaller proportion of disabilities at 7 and 9%, respectively.

About 60% of American Indians and 52% of African Americans aged 65 and older had a disability, compared with about 37% of non-Hispanic Whites aged 65 and older. Asians had the lowest percentage of disability for ages 65 and older at 22%.

Figure 9: Minority Population with Any Disability: 2005-2007
(Percent by Specific group)



Notes: The Census Bureau introduced a new skip pattern for the disability questions in the 2003 ACS questionnaire. This change mainly affected two individual items -- go-outside-home disability and employment disability -- and the recode for disability status, which includes the two items. Accordingly, comparisons of data from 2003 or later with data from prior years are not recommended for the relevant questions.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2007 American Community Survey, Detailed Tables.

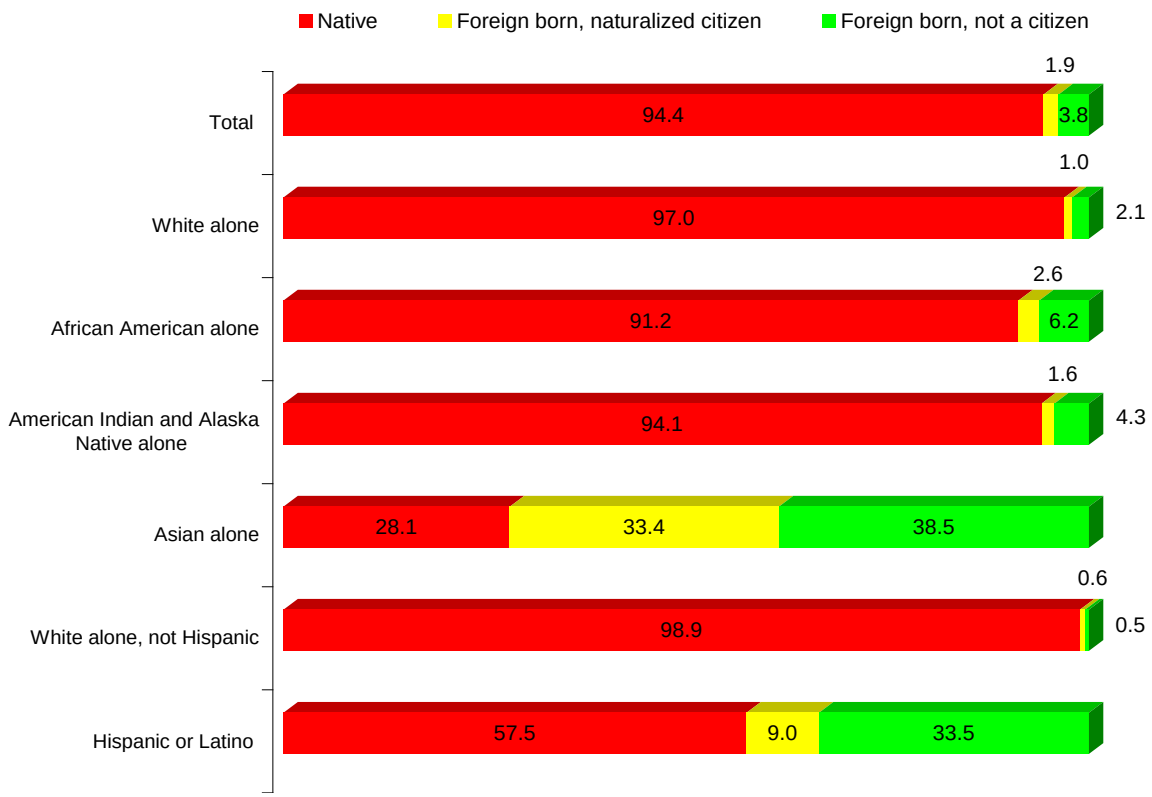
Nativity and Citizenship Status

About 72% of the Asian population and 43% of the Hispanic or Latino population in Nebraska were foreign born. Among non-Hispanic Whites, only about 1% were foreign born. African Americans and American Indians had small percentages of their populations who were foreign born, 9% and 6% respectively.

A higher proportion of Hispanics (about 34%) and Asians (about 39%) than non-Hispanic Whites (0.5%) were born abroad and were not U.S. citizens.

Nearly two-thirds of Hispanics (67%) and Asians (62%) were U.S. citizens, either through birth or naturalization.

Figure 10: Nativity and Citizenship Status: 2005-2007
(Percent Distribution)



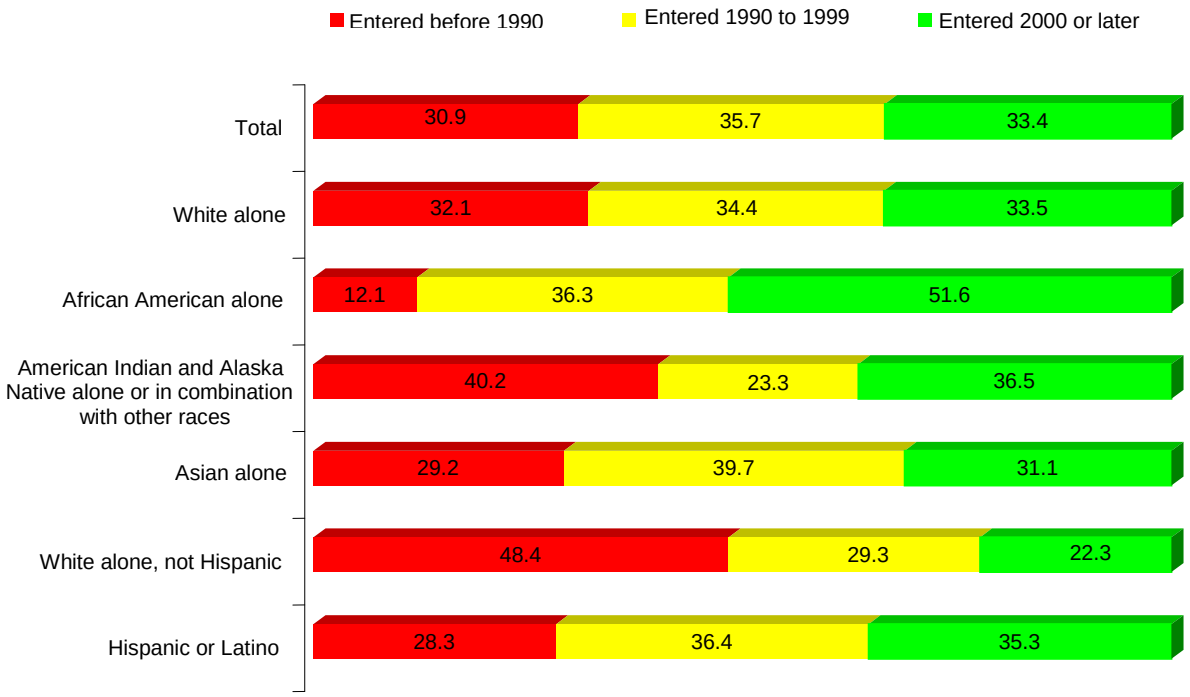
Notes: Nativity is determined by U.S. citizenship status and place of birth. Natives are those born in the United States, Puerto Rico, or a U.S. island area (the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) or born abroad of a U.S. citizen parent. All other individuals are considered foreign born.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2007 American Community Survey, Detailed Tables.

Foreign Born

A higher percentage of foreign-born minorities entered the United States in 2000 or later than non-Hispanic Whites (22%). Among minority groups, African Americans had the highest percentage (52%) and Asians had the lowest at 31%.

Hispanics, African Americans, and Asians collectively (36-40%) all entered between 1990 and 1999. In comparison, about half of foreign-born non-Hispanic Whites entered the United States prior to 1990.

Figure 11: Foreign Born by Year of Entry: 2005-2007
(Percent Distribution)



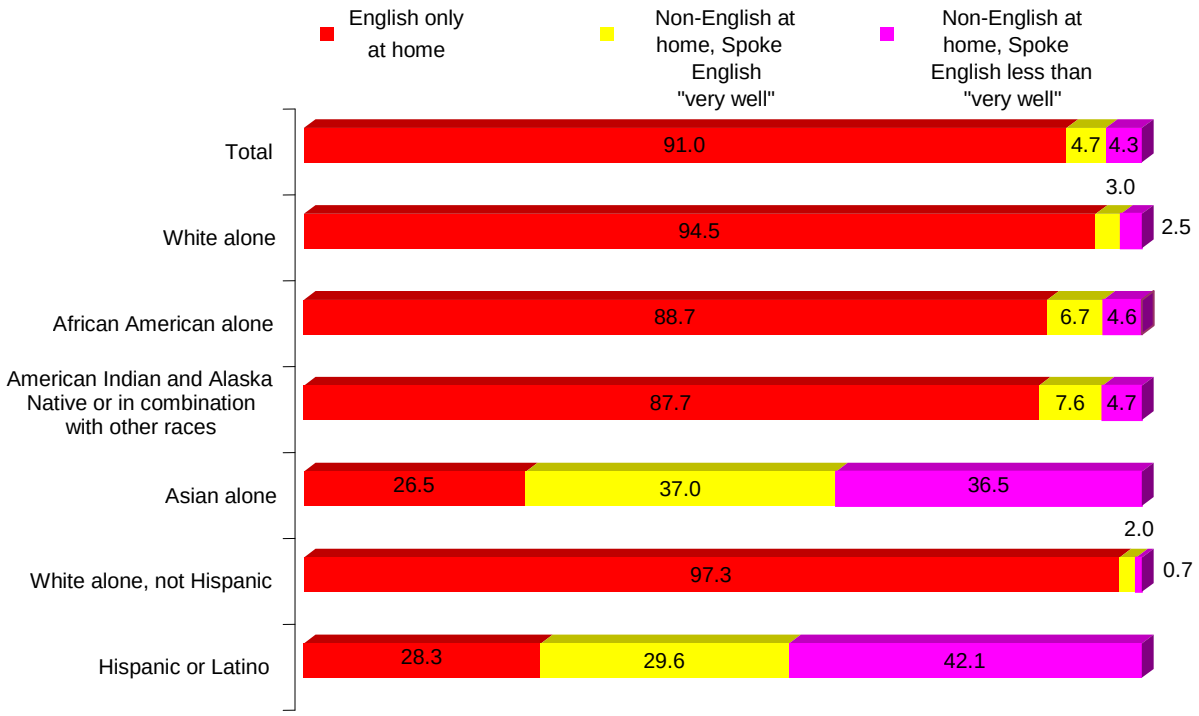
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2007 American Community Survey, Detailed Tables.

Language Spoken

Among Asians and Hispanics/Latinos aged 5 and older, about three-fourths spoke a language other than English at home; for African Americans and American Indians, it was 11 to 12%. In comparison, only about 2.7% of non-Hispanic Whites aged 5 and older spoke a language other than English at home.

A higher percentage of the minority population than non-Hispanic White population spoke English less than "very well." More Hispanics and Asians, 42% and 37%, respectively than African Americans and American Indians (5%) were able to speak English less than "very well."

Figure 12: Language Spoken at Home* and English-Speaking Ability: 2005-2007
(Percent Distribution of Population 5 and Older)



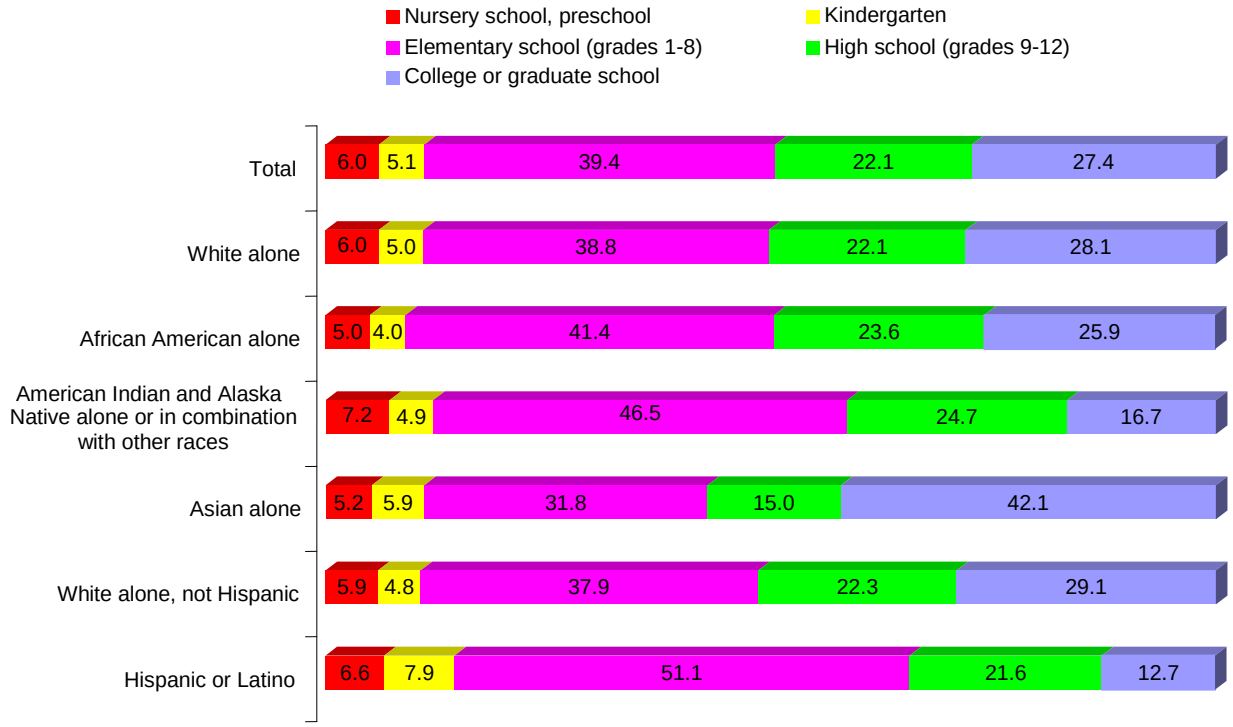
Notes: *The language currently used by respondents at home, either "English only" or a non-English language which is used in addition to English or in place of English. Most respondents who reported speaking a language other than English also spoke English. The questions did not permit a determination of the primary language of persons who spoke both English and another language.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2007 American Community Survey, Detailed Tables.

School Enrollment

Among minority groups, Asians aged 3 years and over had the largest proportion of population enrolled in college or graduate school (42%), followed by African Americans (26%), while American Indians and Hispanics were the lowest at 17% and 13%, respectively. In comparison, among non-Hispanics Whites aged 3 years and over, nearly 29% were enrolled in college or graduate school.

About one-fourth of minorities, aged 3 years and over were enrolled in high school, except Asians (15%). In comparison, 22% of non-Hispanic Whites were enrolled in high school (grades 9-12). Hispanics, American Indians, and African Americans aged 3 years and above had over 40% of the population enrolled in elementary school, which was higher than non-Hispanic Whites 38% aged 3 years and over.

Figure 13: Population 3 years and Over Enrolled in School: 2005-2007
(Percent Distribution)



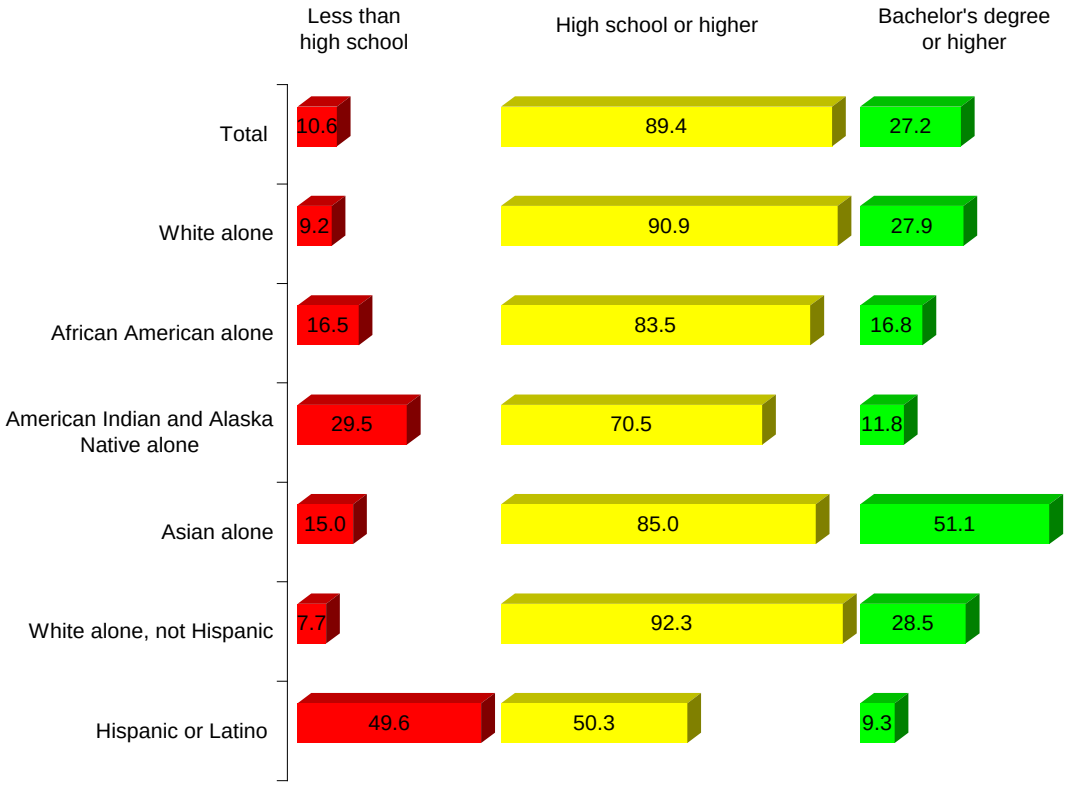
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2007 American Community Survey, Detailed Tables.

Overall Educational Attainment

Over half of Asians aged 25 years and older had a bachelor's degree or higher education, more than any other racial or ethnic group including non-Hispanic Whites alone (about 29%); Hispanics were the lowest at 9%.

Half of Nebraska Hispanics/ Latinos aged 25 and older were 'less than' likely to be high school graduates, followed by American Indians (about 30%); in comparison, among non-Hispanic Whites alone aged 25 and older, about 8% were less than high school graduates.

Figure 14: Educational Attainment Overall: 2005-2007
(Percent of Population 25 and Older)



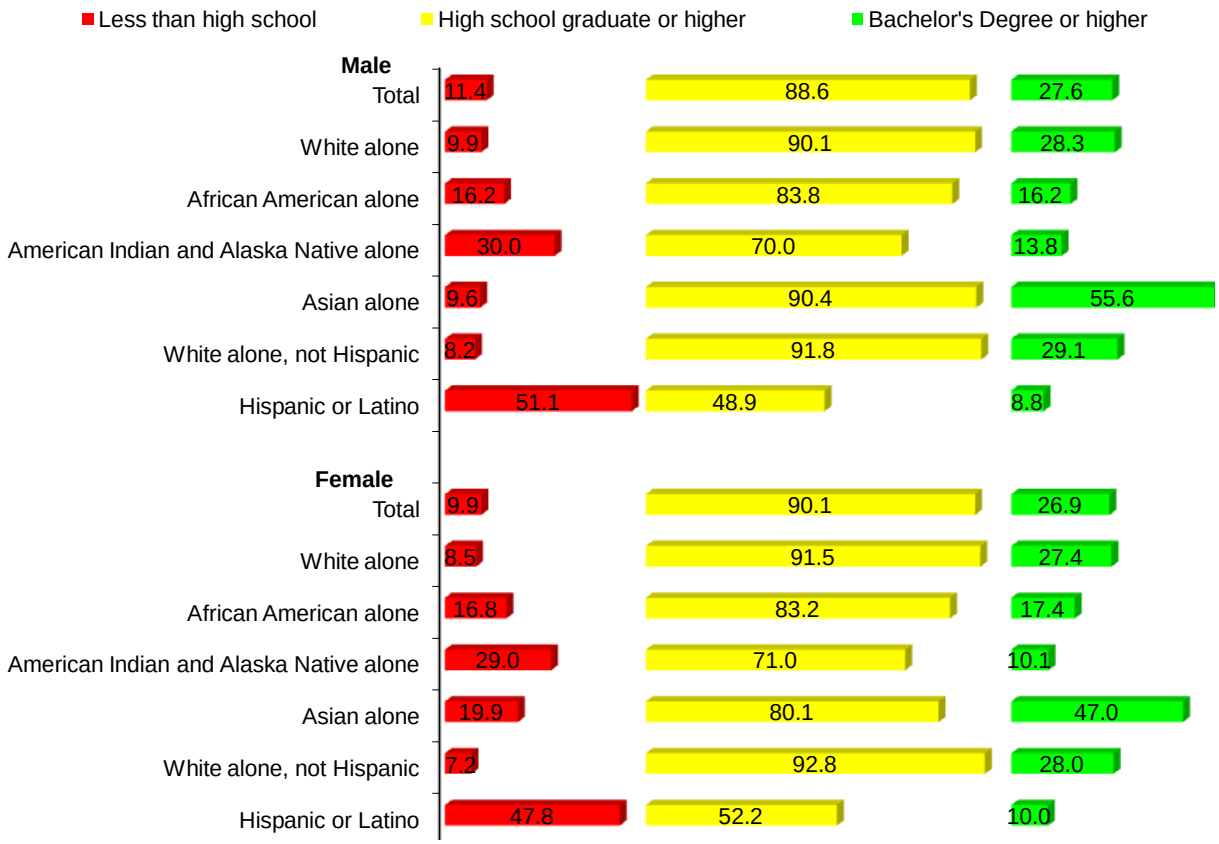
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2007 American Community Survey, Detailed Tables.

Educational Attainment by Gender

Overall, a higher proportion of males aged 25 and older had less than a high school education (about 11%) and bachelor degree or higher education (about 28%) than females (about 10% and 27%). Non-Hispanic Whites had the lowest proportion of a less than high school educated population, 8% for males and 7% for females among all racial and ethnic groups. Asians had the highest proportion of bachelor's degree or higher educated population, 56% for males and 47% for females.

The White alone and American Indian populations had a lower proportion of females than males that were less than high school graduates. Asians had the largest gender disparity in terms of those with less than a high school education, about 10% for males and about 20% for females. Hispanic and African American females, about 10% and 17%, had a higher proportion of bachelor's degrees or higher educated population than males (about 9% and 16%).

Figure 15: Educational Attainment by Gender: 2005-2007
(Percent of Population 25 and Older)



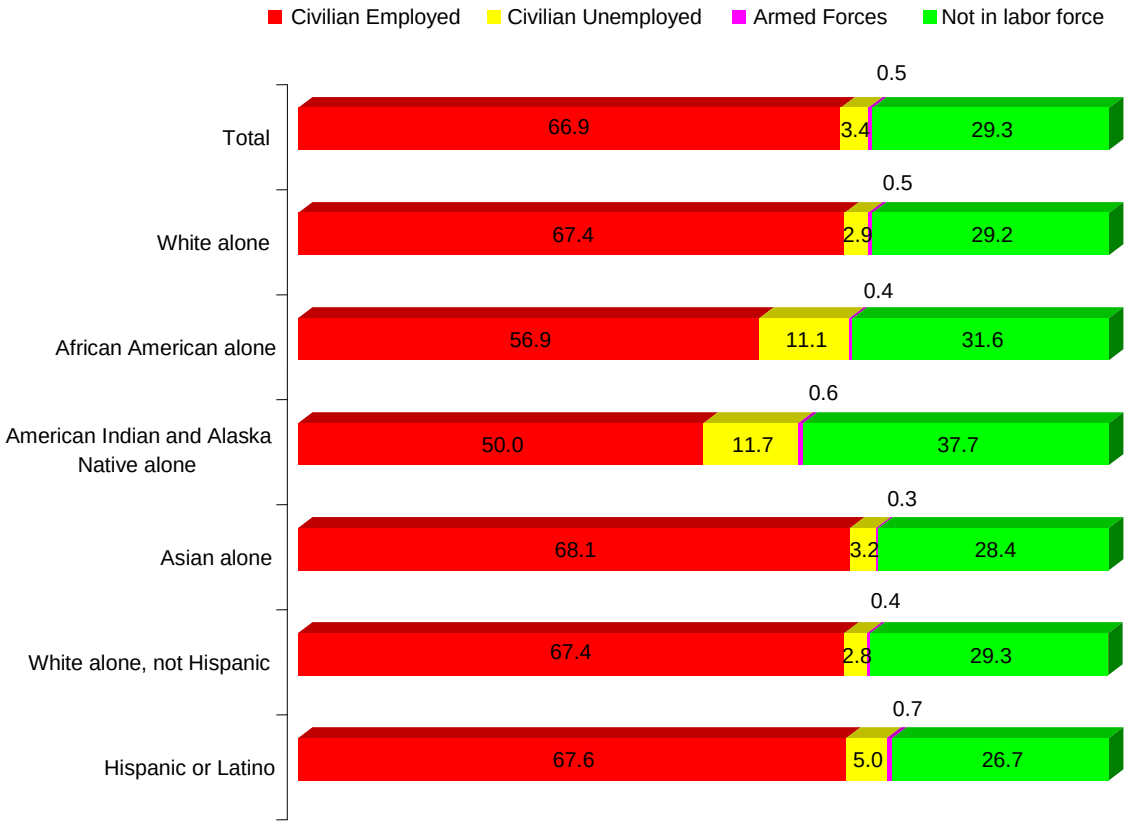
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2007 American Community Survey, Detailed Tables.

Employment Status

Minorities ages 16 and over had a higher proportion of civilian-unemployed than non-Hispanic Whites alone ages 16 and over (2.8%). American Indians had the highest civilian-unemployment of 12% and Asians were the lowest with 3.2%.

American Indians had the lowest proportion of the population in the labor force at 62%, followed by African Americans with 68%. Hispanics aged 16 years and over had the highest percentage of population, 73% in the labor force. In comparison, about 71% of non-Hispanic Whites alone 16 years and over were in the labor force.

Figure 16: Employment Status: 2005-2007
(Percent Distribution of Civilian Employed Population 16 and Older)



Notes: The category of " Employed" includes all civilians 16 years old and over who either (1) were "at work" – those who did any work at all during the reference week as paid employees, worked in their own business or profession, worked on their own farm, or worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers on a family farm or in a family business; or (2) were "with a job but not at work"--those who did not work during the reference week but had jobs or businesses from which they were temporarily absent due to illness, bad weather, industrial dispute, vacation, or other personal reasons. Excluded from the employed are people whose only activity consisted of work around the house or unpaid volunteer work for religious, charitable, and similar organizations; also excluded are all institutionalized people and people on active duty in the United States Armed Forces.
Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2007 American Community Survey, Detailed Tables.

Occupation

Hispanics/Latinos were more likely to work in construction or production jobs than all other minorities. Twenty-one percent of civilian-employed Hispanics aged 16 and older worked in service occupations, 14% were in construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations, and approximately 36% were employed in production, transportation, and material moving occupations.

African Americans and American Indians were more likely to work in service and sales occupations. Twenty-eight percent of the civilian-employed African Americans aged 16 and older worked in service occupations with 28% in sales and office occupations. Twenty-eight percent of civilian-employed American Indians aged 16 and older worked in service occupations and 20% were in sales and office occupations.

Asians 16 years of age and older had the largest proportion of the population who worked in management, professional, and related occupations. Only about 12% of civilian-employed Hispanics aged 16 and older worked in management, professional, and related occupations compared with 36% of civilian-employed non-Hispanic Whites aged 16 and older.

Figure 17: Occupation: 2005-2007
(Percent Distribution of Civilian Employed Population 16 and Older)

Notes: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 American Community Survey, Detail Tables.

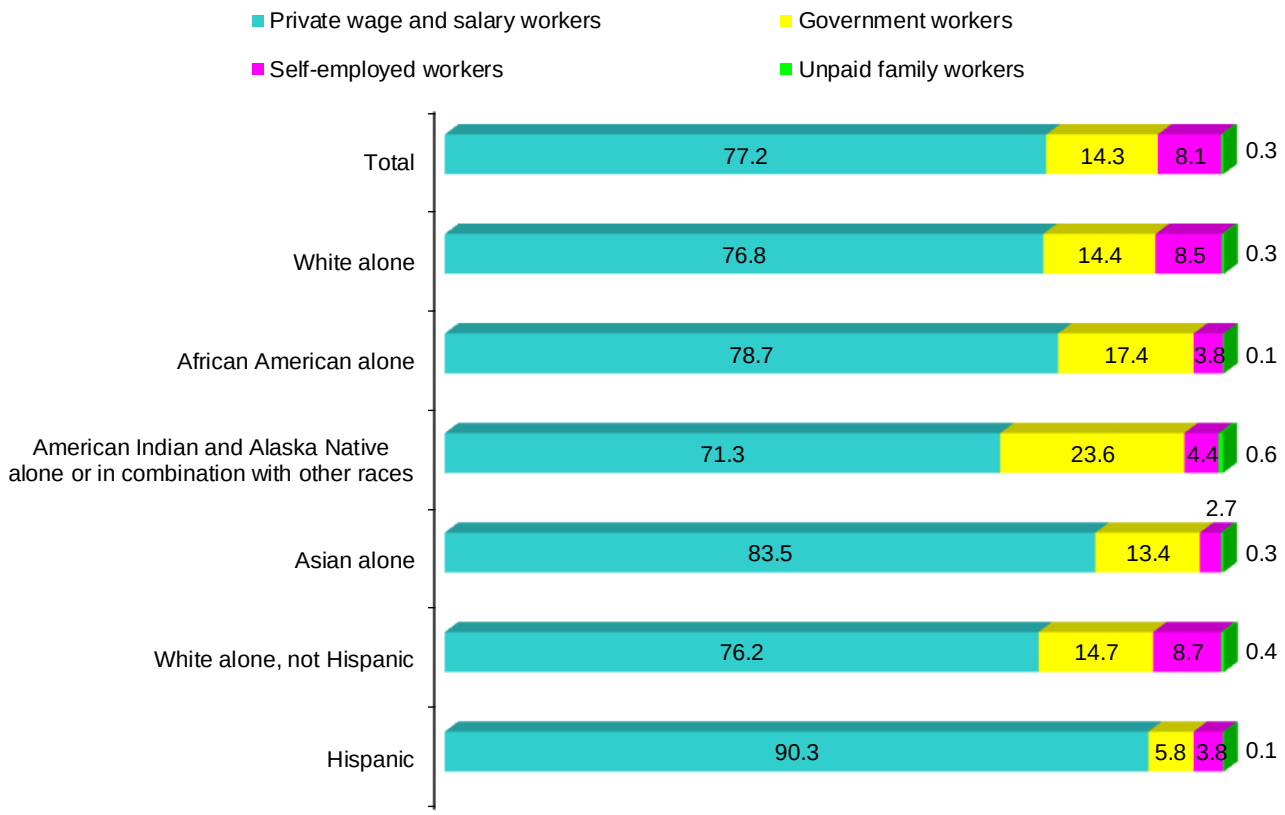
Class of Worker

About 90% of Hispanic workers are private wage and salary workers, which was higher than any other racial or ethnic group including non-Hispanic Whites of 76%. Approximately 84% of Asian workers and about 71% of American Indian workers were private wage and salary workers.

American Indian and African American workers were more likely to be employees of a government agency than any other race or ethnicity. About 24% of American Indian workers and 17% of African American workers worked for a government agency, while only 6% of Hispanic workers were government employees.

Minority workers were less likely to be self-employed when compared to non-Hispanic White workers (9%) or American Indians at 4%. African Americans and Hispanics were self-employed workers.

Figure 18: Class of Worker: 2005-2007
(Percent of Workers 16 and Older)

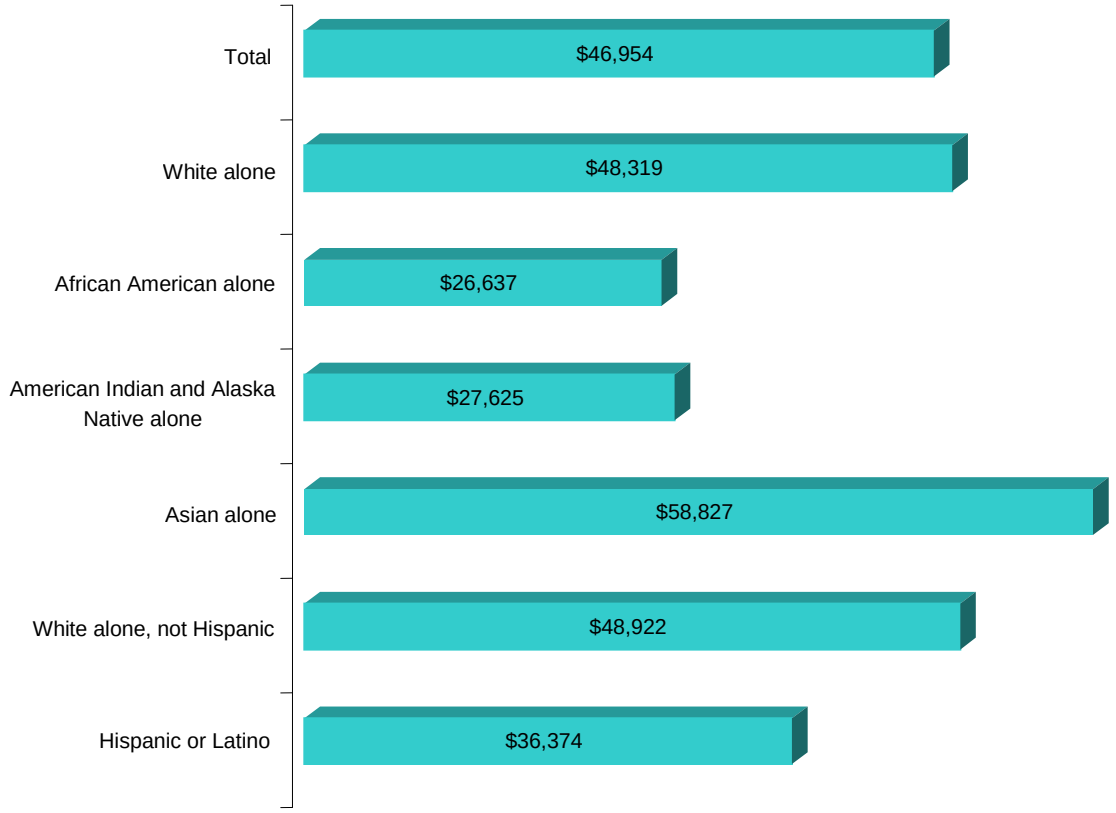


Notes: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2007 American Community Survey, Detail Tables.

Median Household Income

The median income of Asian households in the 12 months prior to being surveyed was $58,827 which is the highest among any racial or ethnic group. This was about $10,000 higher than the median income of non-Hispanic White households (Figure 19). African American households had the lowest median income ($26,637) followed by American Indian's household income ($27,625).

Figure 19: Median Household Income: 2005-2007



Notes: Household income in the past 12 months in 2006 inflation-adjusted dollars.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2007 American Community Survey, Detail Tables.

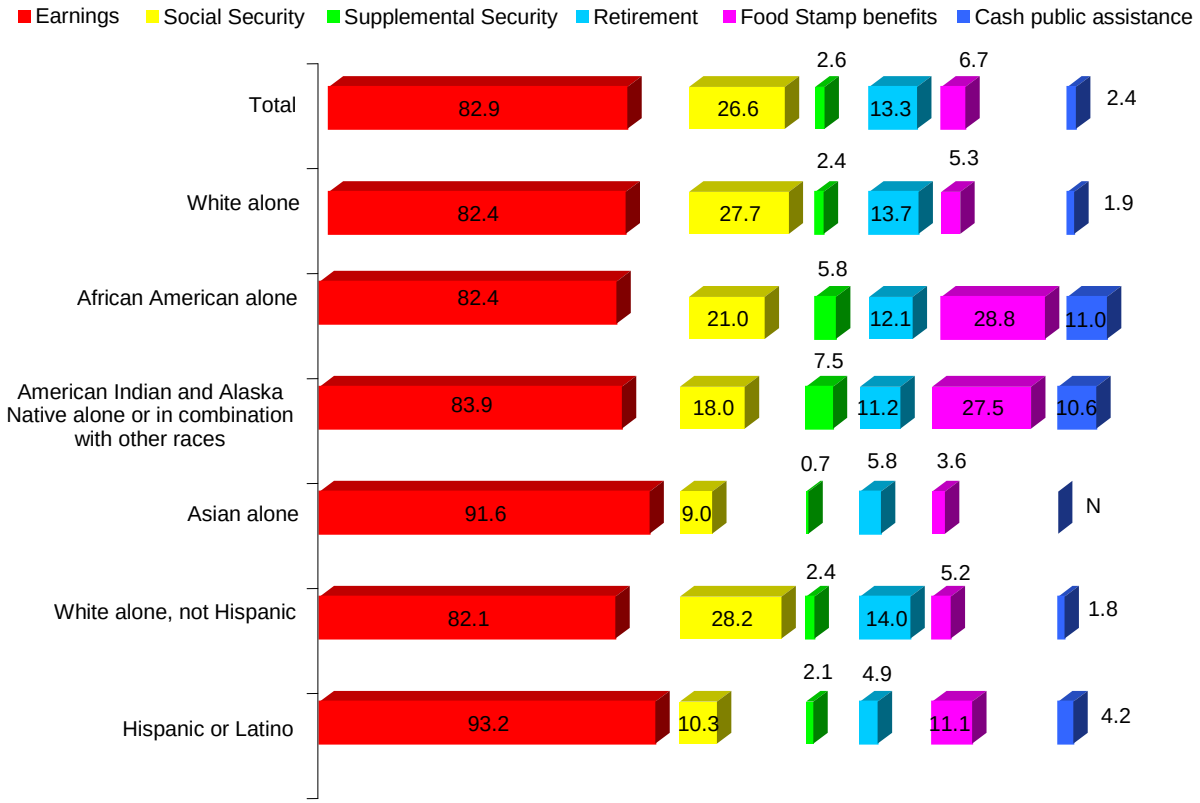
Household Income Types

Hispanic and Asian populations had a higher percentage of households with earnings at 93% and 92% respectively compared to other minority groups and non-Hispanic White households of 82%. Asian households had the lowest percentage of households with non-earnings income, including social security, food stamp benefits, and cash public assistance.

African American and American Indian populations had a higher percentage of their households using food stamp benefits, 29% and 28% respectively. Both groups had cash public assistance of 11% more than any other racial or ethnic group including non-Hispanic Whites at 5% for food stamp benefits and 2% for cash public assistance.

Twenty-eight percent of Non-Hispanic Whites households had social security income, a much higher percentage compared to minority groups. Among minority groups, African Americans had the highest percentage of households with social security income of 21% and Asians having the lowest percentage at 9%.

Figure 20: Household Income Types: 2005-2007
(Percent of Specific Types in the Past 12 Months)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2007 American Community Survey, Detail Tables.

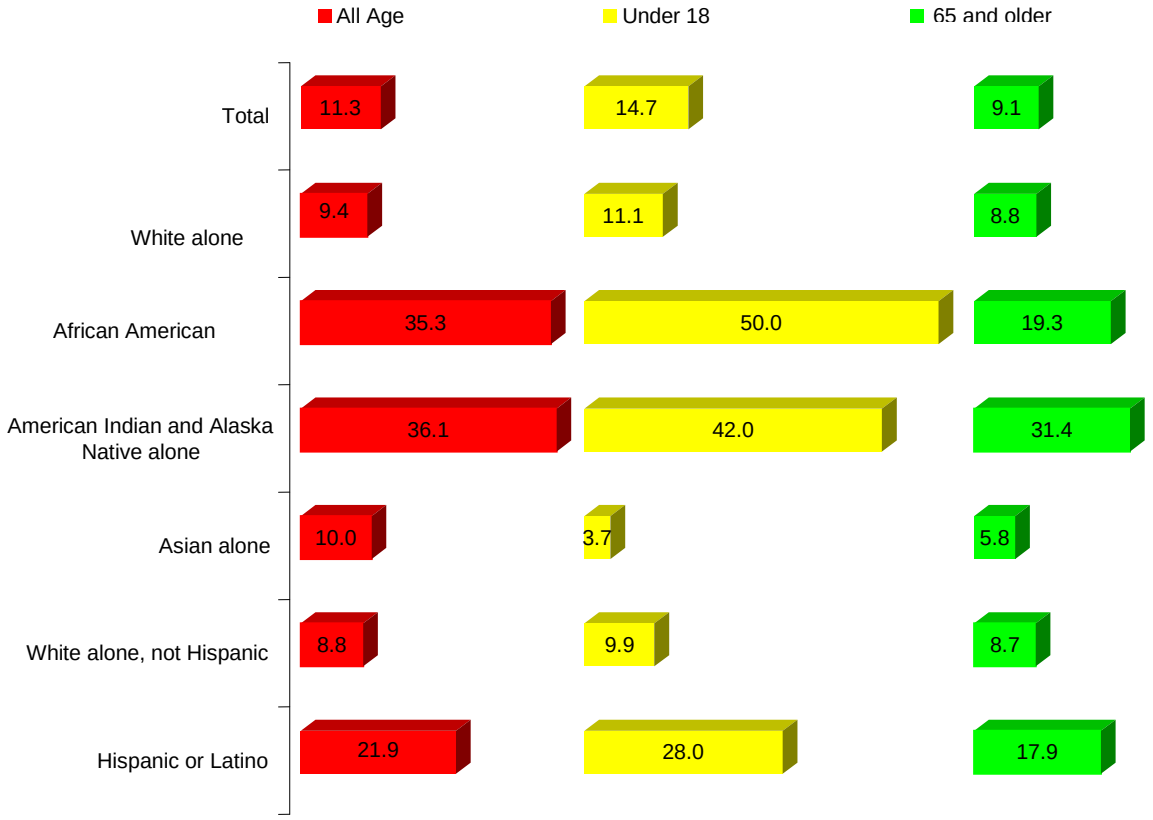
Poverty Rate by Age

The poverty rate was higher for minorities than for non-Hispanic Whites at 9%. Thirty-six percent of American Indians were living below the poverty level in the 12 months prior to being surveyed, followed by African Americans (35%), Hispanics (22%), and Asians (10%).

The poverty rate was generally higher for African American, American Indian, and Hispanic children under age 18. Half of African American children lived in poverty, exceeded by American Indian children at 42%. In comparison, 10% of non-Hispanic White children lived in poverty. Asian children had the lowest percentage of children who lived in poverty at 4%.

Among those 65 and older, minority groups had a similar pattern of poverty as children under age 18 when compared with non-Hispanic Whites alone. American Indians had the highest percentage of those ages 65 and older who lived in poverty at 31%.

Figure 21: Poverty Rate by Age Group: 2005-2007
(Percent of Specific Group in Poverty in the Past 12 Months)



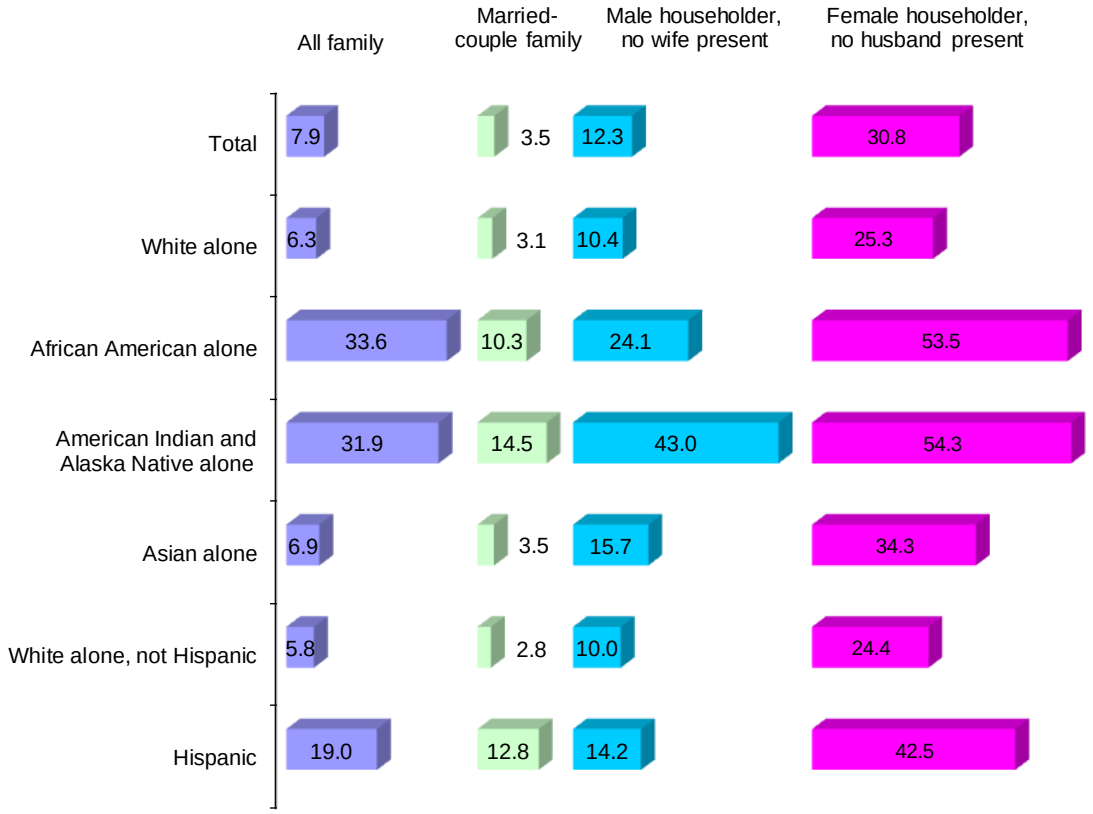
Notes: In accordance with the U.S. Office of Management and Budget's Statistical Policy Directive 14, the Census Bureau uses a set of money income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to determine who is in poverty. If a family's total income is less than the threshold for the family, then that family and every individual in it are considered to be in poverty.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2007 American Community Survey, Detail Tables.

Poverty Rate by Family Type

The poverty rate was higher for minority families than for non-Hispanic White families (6%). Thirty-four percent of African American families were living below the poverty level in the 12 months prior to being surveyed, followed by American Indian families (32%), Hispanic families (19%), and Asian families (7%).

For single-parent families, the poverty rate was higher for African American, American Indian, and Hispanic families. Over half of American Indians, and African Americans (54% each) in female households with no husband present lived in poverty followed by Hispanics at 43% and Asians at 34%. In comparison, approximately 24% of non-Hispanic White, female households with no husband present lived in poverty. Among families with no wife present, minority groups saw a similar pattern among male-ran families with no wife present as female-ran families with no husband present, compared with non-Hispanic Whites. American Indians had the highest percentage of families with no wife present who lived in poverty at 43%.

Figure 22: Poverty Status by Family Type: 2005-2007
(Percent of Specific Group in Poverty in the Past 12 Months)

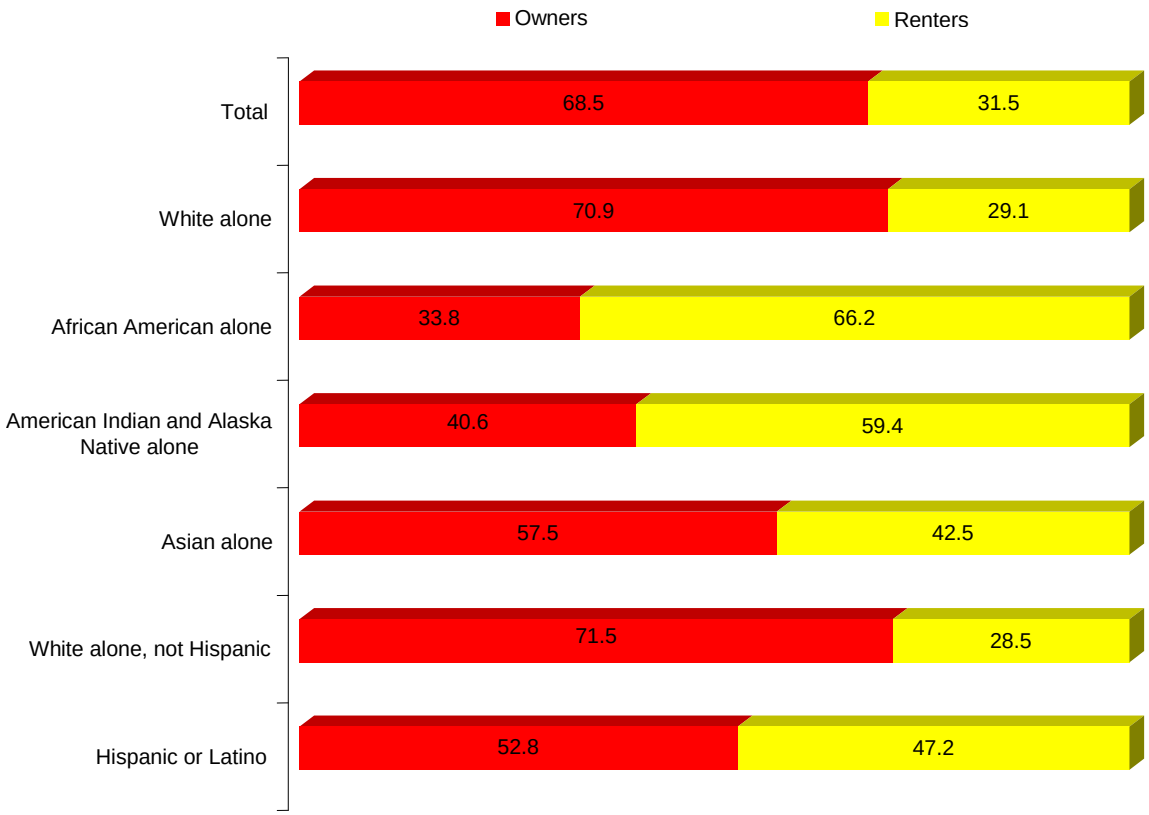


Notes: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2007 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, Detail Tables

Housing Tenure

Nebraska minority households had a smaller proportion of the population who lived in owner-occupied homes than non-Hispanic White households. Asian households were the highest at 58% and African American households were the lowest with 34%. In comparison, about 72% of non-Hispanic White households were owner-occupied homes.

Figure 23: Housing Tenure: 2005-2007
(Percent of Occupied Housing Units)



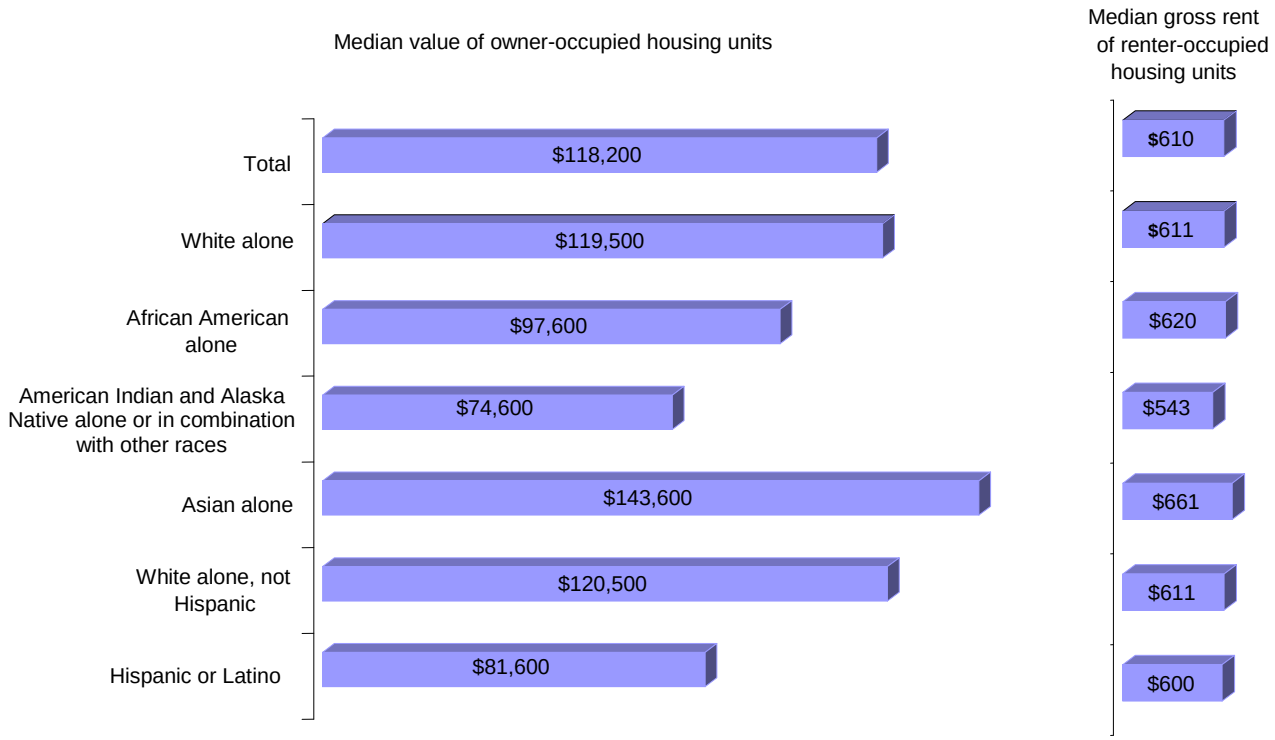
Notes: Housing tenure is shown by the race and Hispanic origin of the householder.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2007 American Community Survey, Detail Tables.

Median House Value and Median Rent

For Asian households, the median value of owner-occupied homes was $143,600 which is the highest among any race or ethnic group. This was about $23,000 higher than the median value of owner-occupied homes of non-Hispanic White households. American Indian households had the lowest median value of owner-occupied homes at $74,600 followed by Hispanic or Latino households $81,600.

The median monthly rent payment by minority households in renter-occupied homes was between $543 (American Indian households) and $661 (Asian households) similar to the median rental payment of $611 for non-Hispanic White households.

Figure 24: Selected Housing Characteristics: 2005-2007



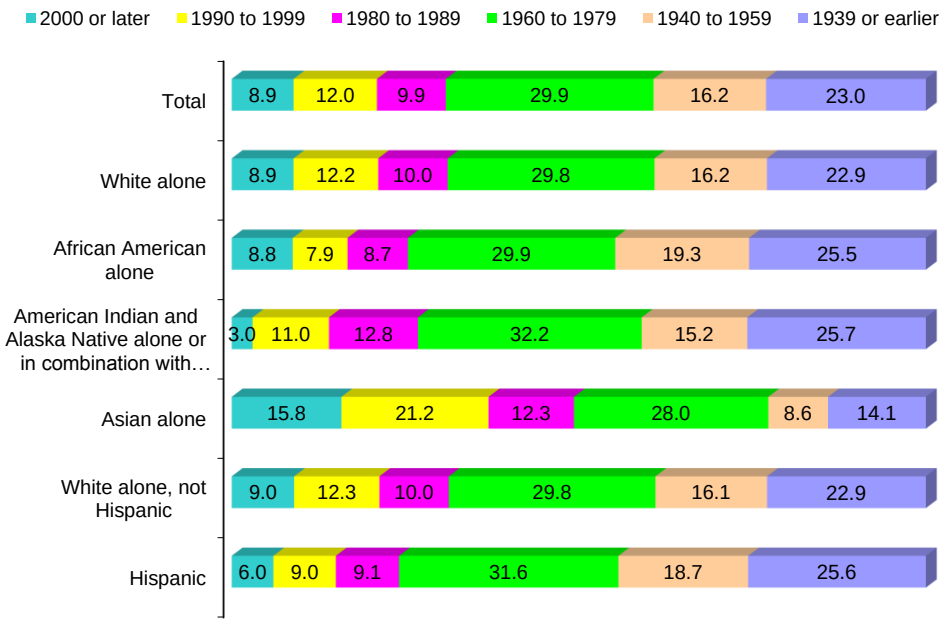
Notes: Housing units are classified by Hispanic origin and race of the householder.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2007 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, Detail Tables.

Year House Built

In general, minorities, except Asian households, owned a higher percentage of old houses compared to non-Hispanic Whites. About 26% of the houses owned by American Indian, Hispanic, and African Americans were built in 1939 or earlier, compared with about 23% of non-Hispanic White households. Asian households owned the lowest percentage of houses built in 1939 or earlier (14%).

Approximately 16% of the houses owned by Asian households were built in 2000 or later, which was higher than any other race or ethnic group including non-Hispanic Whites at 9%; American Indians were the lowest at 3%.

Figure 25: Year House Built: 2005-2007



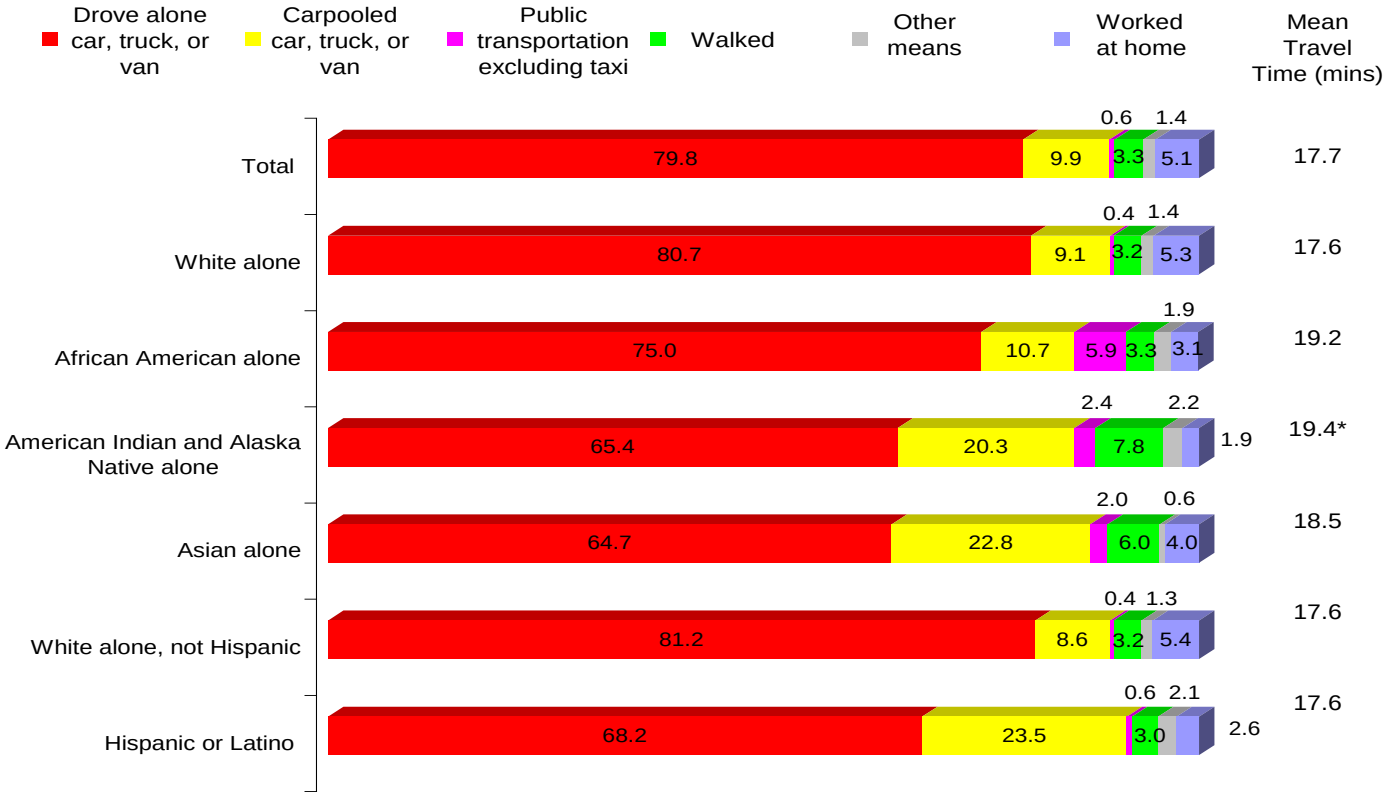
Notes: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2007 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, Detail Tables.

Commuting to Work

Of workers aged 16 and older, minority workers were more likely (11-24%) than non-Hispanic White workers (9%) to carpool to work. American Indian and Asian workers were more likely to walk to work (8% and 6%, respectively). Non-Hispanic Whites alone were more likely to drive alone or work at home than were other minority groups.

The mean travel time to work was longest for American Indians (19.4 minutes), African Americans (19.2 minutes), and Asians (18.5 minutes). The mean travel time to work for Hispanics and non-Hispanic White workers was slightly lower at 17.6 minutes.

Figure 26: Commuting to Work*: 2005-2007
(Percent of Workers 16 and Older)



Notes: * Includes data on where people work, how they get to work, how long it takes to get from their home to their usual workplace, when they leave home to go to their usual workplace, and carpooling.
Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2007 American Community Survey, Detailed Tables.

Glossary of Terms[11]

Group Quarters (GQ): Group quarters are places where people live or stay that are normally owned or managed by an entity or organization providing housing and/or services for the residents. These services may include custodial or medical care as well as other types of assistance and residency is commonly restricted to those receiving these services. People living in group quarters are usually not related to each other. Group quarters include such places as college residence halls, residential treatment centers, skilled nursing facilities, group homes, military barracks, correctional facilities, and workers' dormitories.

Fertility: Data is most frequently presented in terms of the aggregate number of women aged 15 to 50, who had a birth in the past 12 months in the specified category and in terms of the rate per 1,000 women.

Foreign-Born Population: The foreign-born population includes anyone who was not a U.S. citizen or a U.S. national at birth. This includes respondents who indicated they were a U.S. citizen by naturalization or not a U.S. citizen.

Unemployment Rate: The unemployment rate represents the number of unemployed people as a percentage of the civilian labor force. For example: if the civilian labor force equals 100 people and 7 people are unemployed, then the unemployment rate would be 7%.

Labor Force: All people classified in the civilian labor force plus members of the U.S. Armed Forces which include people on active duty in the United States Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard.

Labor Force Participation Rate: The labor force participation rate represents the proportion of the population that is in the labor force. For example: if there are 100 people in the population 16 years and over and 64 of them are in the labor force, then the labor force participation rate for the population 16 years and over would be 64%.

Not in Labor Force: All people 16 years old and over who are not classified as members of the labor force. This category consists mainly of students, housewives, retired workers, seasonal workers that were interviewed in an off season who were not looking for work, institutionalized people, and people doing only incidental unpaid family work of less than 15 hours of work during the reference week.

Household: A household includes all the people who occupy a housing unit. (People not living in households are classified as living in group quarters.) A family household consists of a householder and one or more individuals living together in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. It may also include people unrelated to the householder. The occupants may be a single family, one person living alone, two or more families living together, or any other group of related or unrelated people who share living arrangements.

Average Household Size: A measure obtained by dividing the number of people in households by the number of households. In cases where people in households are cross-classified by race or Hispanic origin, people in the household are classified by the race or Hispanic origin of the householder rather than the race or Hispanic origin of each individual. Average household size is rounded to the nearest hundredth.

[11] http://www.census.gov/acs/www/UseData/Def.htm

Housing Unit : A housing unit may be a house, an apartment, a mobile home, a group of rooms or a single room that is occupied (or, if vacant, intended for occupancy) as separate living quarters. Separate living quarters are those in which the occupants live separately from any other individuals in the building and which have direct access from outside the building or through a common hall. For vacant units, the criteria of separateness and direct access are applied to the intended occupants whenever possible. If that information cannot be obtained, the criteria are applied to the previous occupants.

Poverty: Following the Office of Management and Budget's Directive 14, the Census Bureau uses a set of money income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to detect who is poor. If the total income for a family or unrelated individual falls below the relevant poverty threshold, then the family or unrelated individual is classified as being "below the poverty level".

Disability Status: The Census Bureau defines disability as a long-lasting sensory, physical, mental, or emotional condition or conditions that make it difficult for a person to do functional or participatory activities such as seeing, hearing, walking, climbing stairs, learning, remembering, concentrating, dressing, bathing, going outside the home, or working at a job.