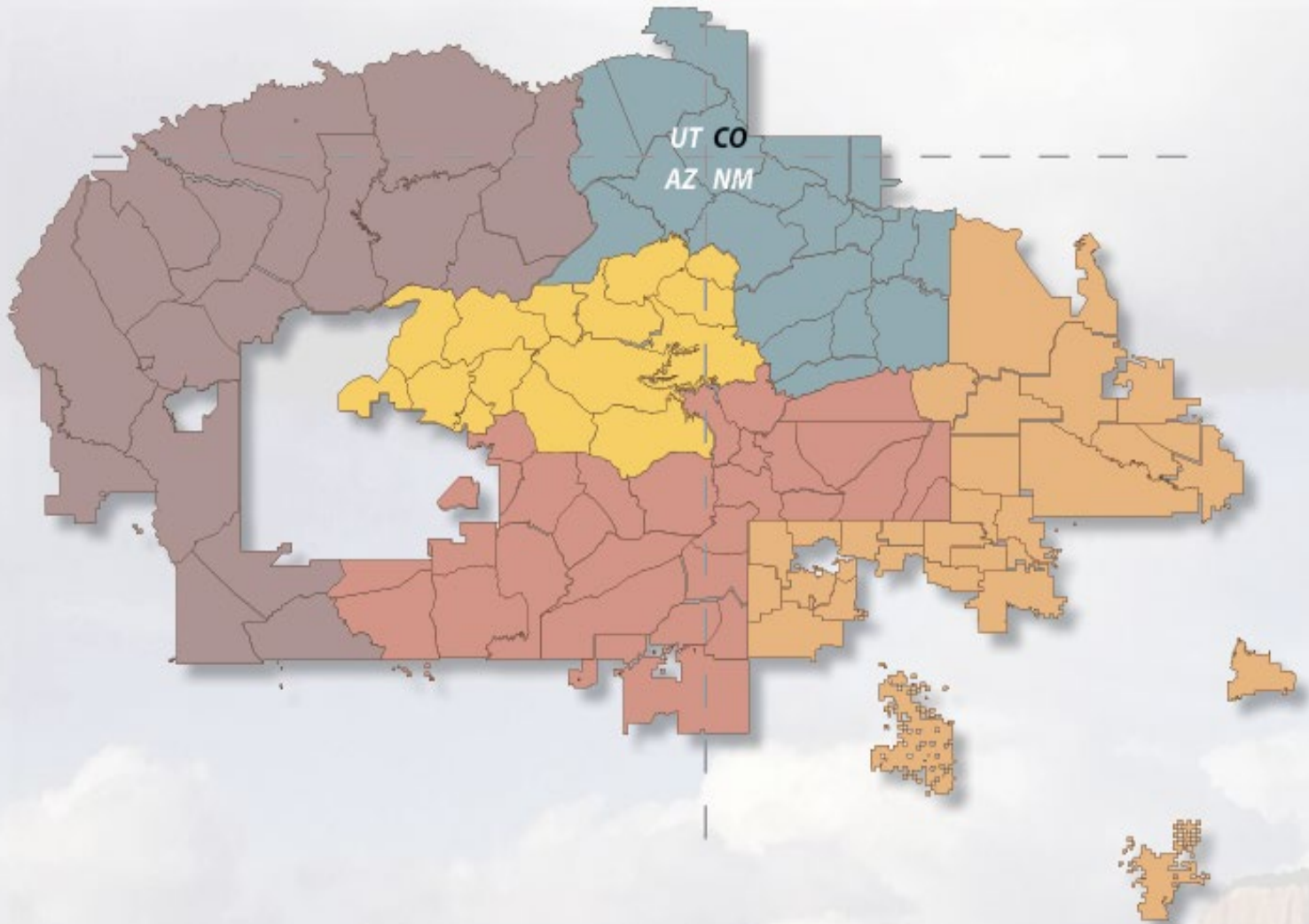




Navajo Nation Population Profile

U.S. Census 2020



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Navajo Epidemiology Center

Window Rock, Arizona

The Navajo Nation

July 2024

Acknowledgement

The Navajo Population Profile 2020 U.S. Census was prepared by the Navajo Department of Health Navajo Epidemiology Center. The first iteration of this report was created through the vision and leadership of JB Kinlicheeny, Epidemiologist for the Navajo Nation. He has since returned to the Spirit World in 2023. We miss him dearly and we would like to dedicate this report to him and his memory.

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Objective

The Navajo Population Profile (Profile) is a tool designed to assist Navajo Department of Health (NDOH) programs, partners, and researchers to effectively plan and strategize health promotion and disease prevention efforts for the Navajo people. The overarching goal is to improve the health status of the Navajo people on the Navajo Nation, in border towns, metropolitan areas, and throughout the United States (U.S.). The Navajo Nation works collaboratively with federal programs (i.e., Indian Health Service/638-Tribal Health Organizations, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Institutes of Health), state jurisdictions, academic institutions, and local programs to proactively address priority health concerns affecting the Navajo people.

To understand the health profile of the Navajo Nation, it is essential to identify the population at risk. Public health professionals can use population data to calculate incidence, prevalence, mortality, and morbidity rates. The goal of the Profile is to define accurately the Navajo population based on the most recent and best available U.S. Census data. There are several different sources that aim to describe the Navajo Nation population, all with some limitations. Some of the problems encountered by many programs prior to the Profile include: the lack of consistent collection and coding of geographic information and the multijurisdictional overlap of programs. Additionally, the U.S. Census data is robust and some partners find the site intimidating or challenging to locate Navajo specific data. The Profile is an attempt to provide a quick reference for internal and external partners and stakeholders.

Public health professionals can use this information for health planning and research; to aid in developing prevention and treatment strategies; and in evaluating and monitoring current public health programs within the NDOH. Due to Navajos being represented throughout the U.S., the Profile can also be used by researchers, planners, and public health leaders to develop public health initiatives for Navajo people living off the Navajo Nation land boundaries.

According to the 2020 U.S. Census, there were a total of 423,412 individuals living in the U.S. who claimed to have Navajo ancestry (this includes those who claim only Navajo tribal identity and those who claim Navajo in combination with additional race/tribal categories). The Navajo Nation includes 27,425 square miles of land that extends into New Mexico, Arizona, and Utah, and borders Colorado, which makes Navajo the largest geographic land base American Indian tribal nation in the U.S. (Figures 1 and 2).

Figure 1: Map of the United States with the Navajo Nation highlighted in yellow.

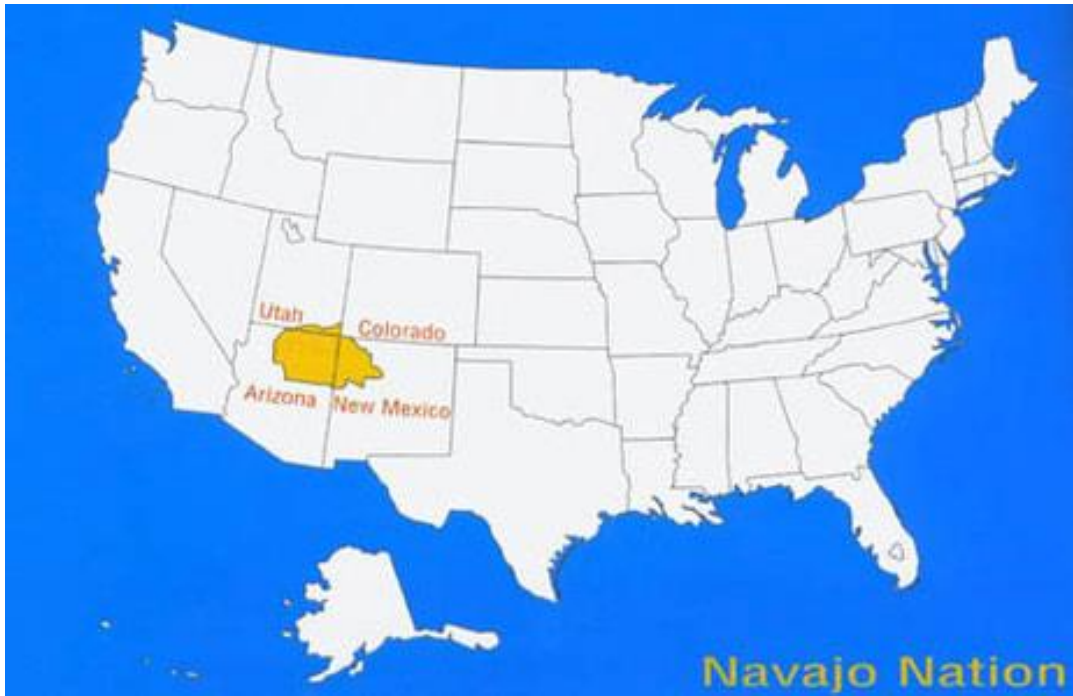
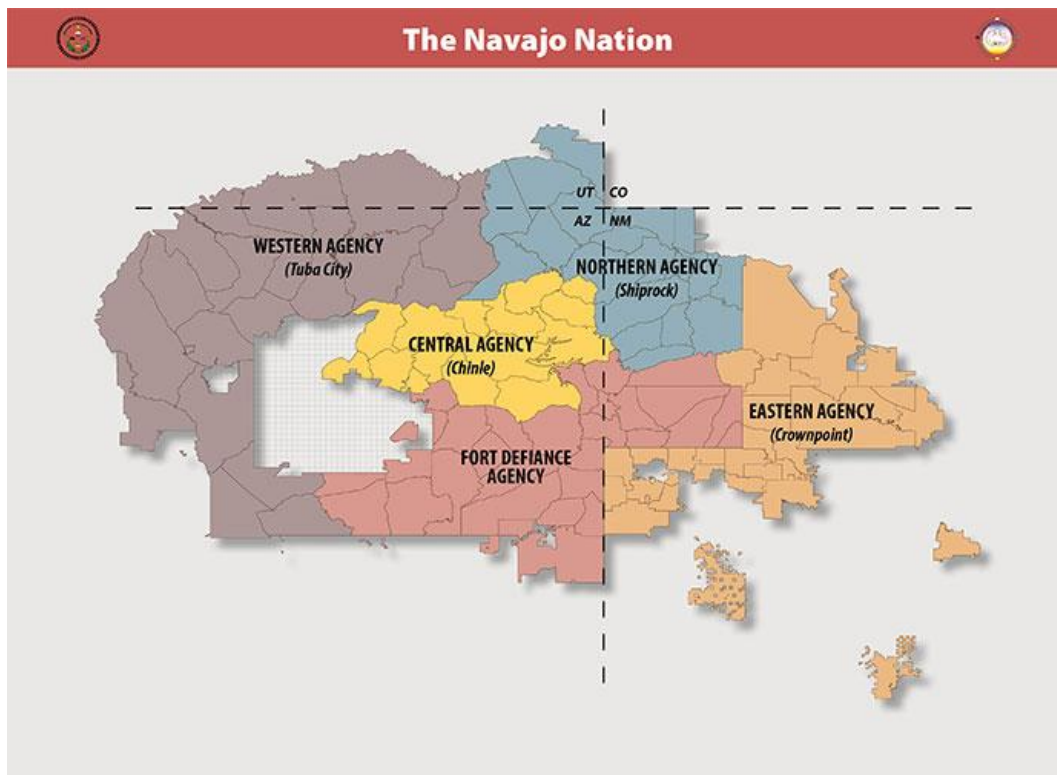


Figure 2: Map of the Navajo Nation, the five geographic and political agencies in color.



The gray checkered area is the Hopi Nation.

Method

Data presented in this Profile were queried through the U.S. Census Bureau website. Every 10 years the U.S. is required by law to collect population numbers. This is referred to as the Decennial Census. The most recent decennial census was conducted in 2020. According to the U.S. Census website the primary purpose of the decennial census is to “Provide(s) an official count of the population, which determines congressional representation...Also provides critical data that lawmakers and many others use to provide daily services, products, and support for communities.” (accessed 6/25/2024) When possible the decennial census is used to report population numbers in the Profile since every household in the U.S. is invited to participate. Unfortunately, detailed tribal information was not always available (i.e., specific age groups and smaller geographic areas such as Chapter communities for the Navajo Nation). The U.S. Census Bureau also conducts a smaller survey called the American Community Survey (ACS). Every year the ACS is distributed to approximately 3.5 million U.S. residents. According to the U.S. Census the ACS “Asks about topics not on the 2020 Census, such as education, employment, internet access, and transportation. It provides current information to communities every year. It also provides local and national leaders with the information they need for programs, economic development, emergency management, and understanding local issues and conditions.” (accessed 6/25/2024) Data from the ACS also includes margins of error because it is a much smaller sampling than the U.S. Census. When the decennial census did not provide tribal information the 5-Year ACS was queried to fill in the gaps. Because this is the second iteration of the Navajo Nation Population Profile, some comparisons across time are possible. However, it may not be appropriate to compare ACS results to Decennial Census results. When results from different time periods are presented in the same figure the data collection instrument will be identified clearly.

The Profile includes the population on the Navajo Nation, the Navajo population in the bordering towns¹ of the Navajo Nation, and in the metropolitan statistical areas (MSA)² with a high Navajo population. Using the 2020 U.S. Census American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) Summary Files data, and the 2021 5-Year American Community Survey (ACS), the Profile provides a documentation of the population in three enumeration groups, listed below.

“Navajo tribal grouping alone” (Navajo alone)

“Navajo tribal grouping alone or in any combination” (Navajo in combination with any other U.S. Census race category³)

“All race population includes all races” (All race)

¹ Border towns included: Flagstaff (AZ), Holbrook (AZ), Page (AZ), Winslow (AZ), Cortez (CO), Durango (CO), Aztec (NM), Bloomfield (NM), Farmington (NM), Gallup (NM), Grants (NM), Blanding (UT)

² MSA’s included: Albuquerque (NM), Chicago (IL), Colorado Springs (CO), Dallas/Fort Worth (TX), Denver (CO), Fresno (CA), Greeley (CO), Houston (TX), Lake Havasu/Kingman (AZ), Las Cruces (NM), Las Vegas (NV), Los Angeles (CA), New York City (NY), Ogden/Clearfield (UT), Oklahoma City (OK), Phoenix (AZ), Portland (OR), Prescott (AZ), Provo/Orem (UT), Pueblo (CO), Reno (NV), Riverside/San Bernadino (CA), Sacramento (CA), Salt Lake City (UT), San Antonio (TX), San Diego (CA), San Francisco/Oakland (CA), San Jose (CA), Santa Fe (NM), Seattle/Tacoma (WA), Sierra Vista (AZ), Tucson (AZ), Tulsa (OK), Urban Honolulu (HI), Washington D.C.

³ White, Black or African American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander

The Navajo Nation is organized into smaller jurisdictions referred to as Agencies and Chapters. The 110 chapters are organized into 5 Agencies. The Eastern agency has the most chapter representation with 31 while the Central agency has the least chapter representation with 14. The Profile also contains population data on the five Navajo Nation Agencies:

- Crownpoint of Eastern Navajo Agency
- Chinle or Central Navajo Agency
- Shiprock or Northern Navajo Agency
- Fort Defiance Agency
- Tuba City or Western Navajo Agency

Each of the five Navajo agencies are geographically and politically divided into chapters; for a total of 110 chapters. The chapters are sub-governmental entities designated some authority within the Navajo Nation and delegated to address local issues pertaining to the land and health status of their respective chapter population. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, each chapter is designated as a Census Designated Place (CDP) with the exception of San Juan Chapter, located in northwestern New Mexico. The San Juan Chapter population numbers are combined with the Nenahnezad Chapter. The chapters in the Profile are organized by the Navajo Nation agency, state, and counties they entail.

Selection Criteria

The selection criteria of border towns and metropolitan areas were developed by the NEC staff epidemiologists. Thresholds were established to include border towns with at least five hundred people who claim to be Navajo alone or in combination. The results are based on the 2020 U.S. Census Summary File for American Indians and Alaska Natives. Datasets for 12 border towns were queried by city and included in the Profile. For MSA's, we included any area that had enough data to return a result, and removed areas that were already included as a border town (e.g. Farmington (NM), Flagstaff (AZ)). For Navajo alone the MSA with the smallest population was Tulsa, OK (399) and the largest was Phoenix, AZ (31,379). For Navajo alone or in combination the smallest population was Sierra Vista, AZ (441) and the largest was again Phoenix (39,142). There are 35 MSA's included in the Profile.

Results

United States

Based on the 2020 U.S. Census population count, Navajos are represented in all parts of the U.S. Arizona (131,359) has the highest number of residents claiming Navajo alone, and Vermont (28) has the least Navajo representation. The median number of Navajo's in each State is 503. There has been a 27% increase in Navajo alone or in combination from 2010 to 2020 with increases in population for every 10-year age group (Figure 1). There has been a change in age distribution from 2010 to 2020, though. A higher percent of the Navajo alone or in combination population falls in the older age groups in 2020 (Figure 2). A breakdown of the Navajo alone or in combination by 10-year age group and gender can be seen in Figures 3-5. There is a difference in the age distribution among Navajo alone or in combination and the U.S. population (Figure 6) with the Navajo population having a greater number of people in younger demographic groups. Because tribal affiliation data and Chapter level data were not always available in the 2020 Decennial Census, the 2021 5-year ACS is used in the Profile for some tables and figures. Figure 7 compares population numbers for these two U.S. census products. There is a great deal of similarity between the two but the ACS reports a larger number of people in the 20-29 age group and the Decennial Census reports a higher percentage of people in the 70-79 age group than the ACS. The ACS reports a 4% smaller population than the Decennial Census.

The Navajo alone population in the U.S. grew from 286,731 in 2010 to 315,086 in 2020 (Figure 8). This is a 9.9% increase. As with the Navajo alone or in combination data, there has been a change in the age distribution of the Navajo alone population (Figure 9). The Navajo alone population appears to be aging. A breakdown of the Navajo alone or in combination by 10-year age group and gender can be seen in Figures 10-12. As with Navajo alone or in combination there are a greater percentage of Navajo alone in younger demographic groups than the U.S. population at large (Figure 13). Figure 14 compares population numbers for the Decennial Census and ACS for Navajo alone. Counts were similar except for the 20-29 age group. For Navajo alone there is a 1.6% higher population reported in the ACS than the Decennial Census.

Population density is a measurement of population per unit area (i.e., per square mile). This term is primarily used to categorize geographic areas as either rural or urban. The average population density for the U.S. is approximately 93.8 persons per square mile. The Navajo Nation has a population density of 6.02 persons per square mile, which categorizes it as a rural area. The most populated Chapters on the Navajo Nation (Tuba City, Shiprock, Chinle) have population densities of 24.8, 55.2, and 18.6 respectively. The majority of the population in each of these chapters are found within 2-3 square miles. Compared to the 50 States only Wyoming (5.9) and Alaska (1.3) have a smaller population density than the Navajo Nation.

The majority of Navajos alone or in combination live on the Navajo Nation (39 percent), followed by the metropolitan areas (32 percent), then border towns (10 percent), Figure 15. The remainder (19 percent) of the Navajos live elsewhere in the U.S. and are not queried and represented in the Profile (Figure 15). Nearly 1 in 3 (31.8%) of Navajo Alone or in Combination on the Navajo Nation are 50 years or older while 14% and 17% of the Navajo Alone or in Combination population are 50+ in Border towns and MSA's respectively (Figure 16).

A higher percentage of people reporting to be Navajo alone live on the Navajo Nation (48%) than those reporting to be Navajo alone or in combination. Fewer Navajo alone live in MSA's than Navajo alone or in combination (Figure 17). A similar pattern in age distribution is seen for Navajo alone as for Navajo alone or in combination (Figure 18). Almost 2 out of 5 Navajo alone people less than 20 years old live in a Navajo Nation border town.

Figure 1 Navajo Alone or in Combination, 2010 vs. 2020 (Decennial Census)

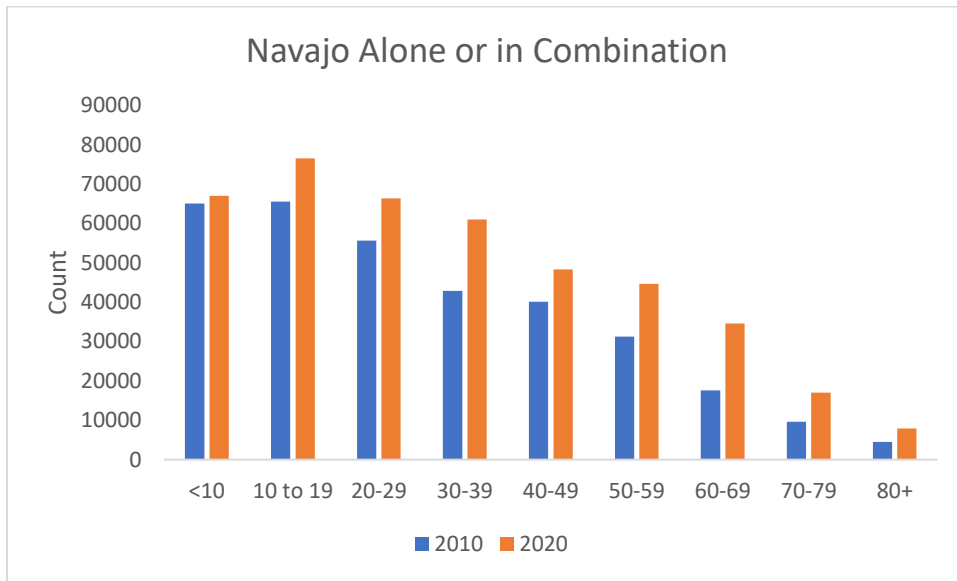


Figure 2 Navajo Alone or in Combination by Percent of Total Population, 2010 vs. 2020 (Decennial Census)

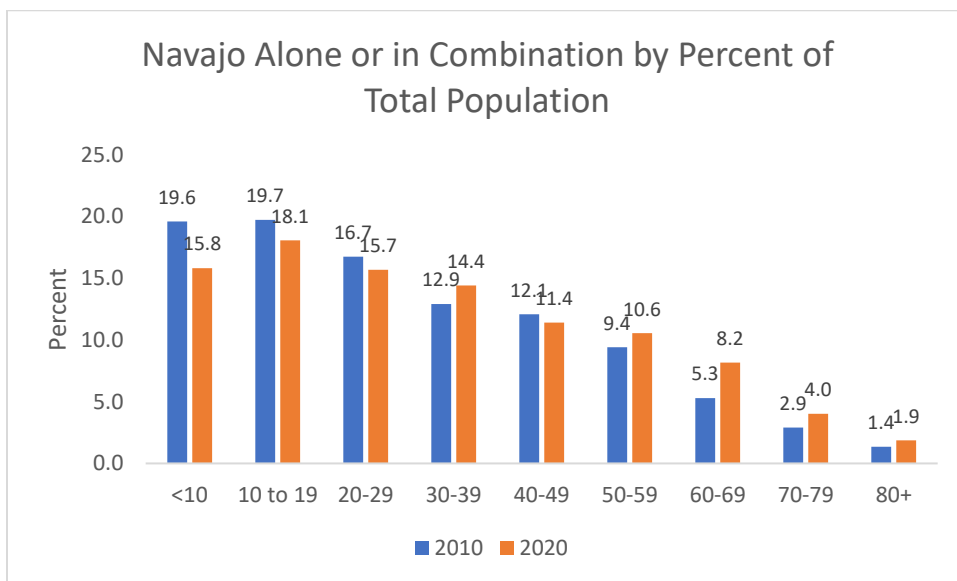


Figure 3 Navajo alone or in combination by 10-year age group, Total Decennial Census

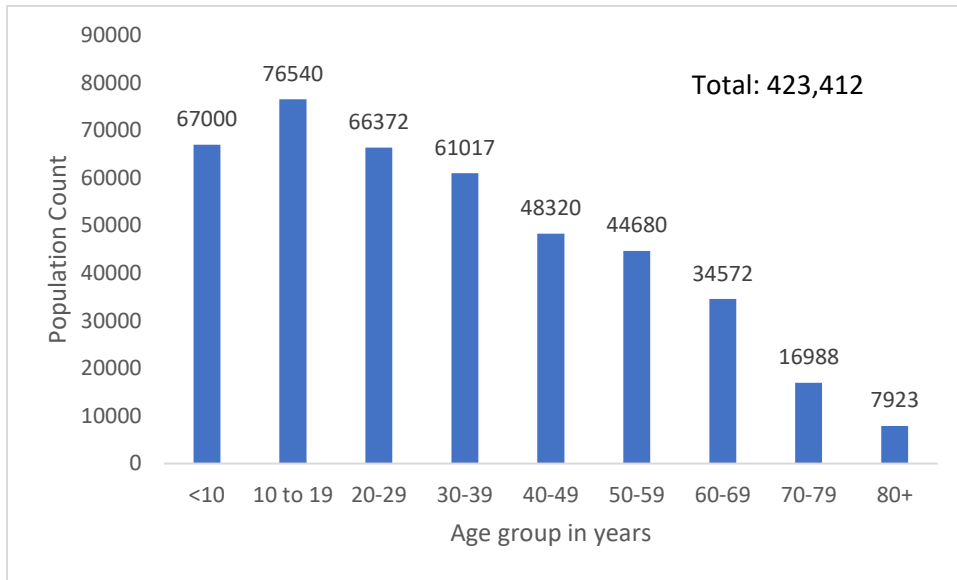


Figure 4 Navajo alone or in combination by 10-year age group, Males Decennial Census

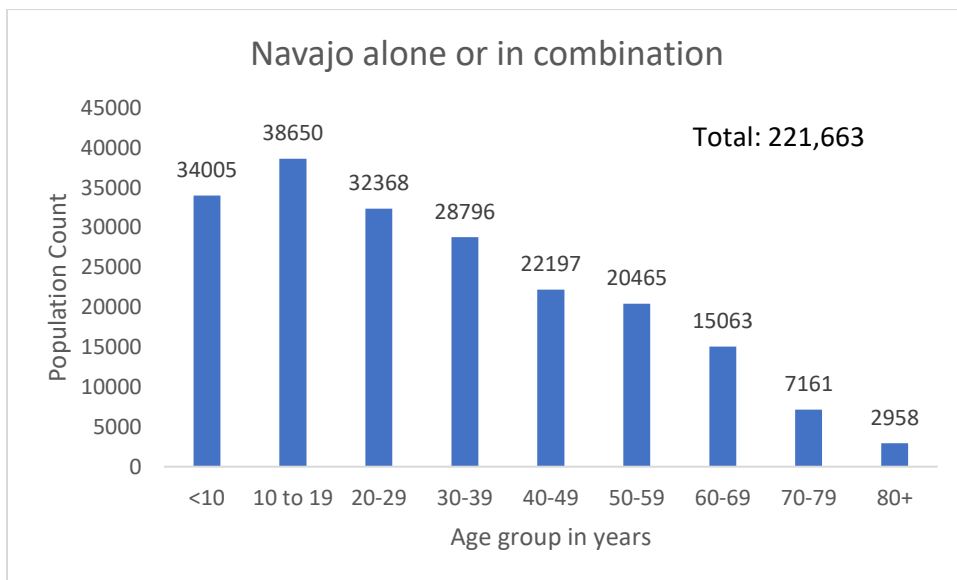


Figure 5 Navajo alone or in combination by 10-year age group, Females Decennial Census

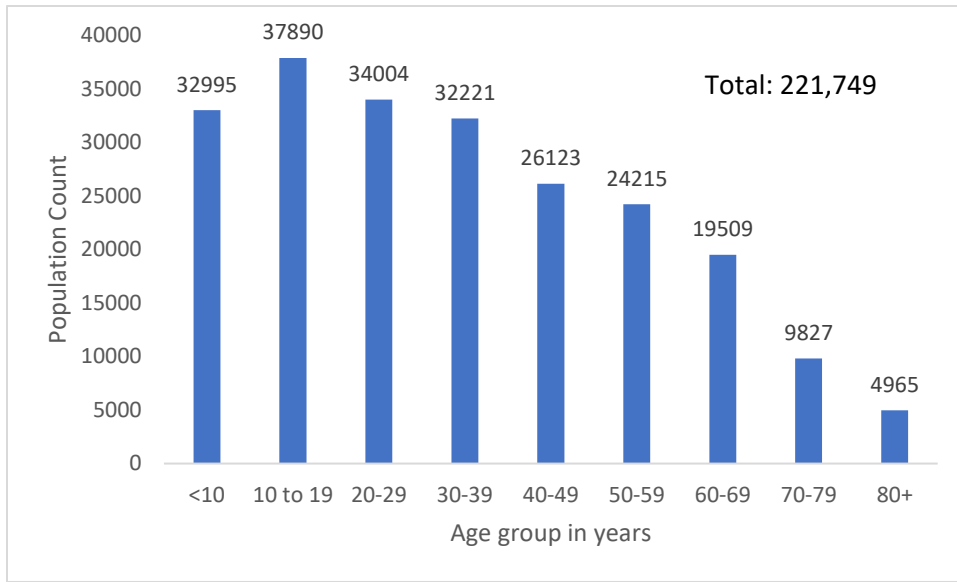


Figure 6 Comparison of Cumulative Percent of the Population by Age Group, Navajo Alone or in Combination vs. U.S. (Decennial Census)

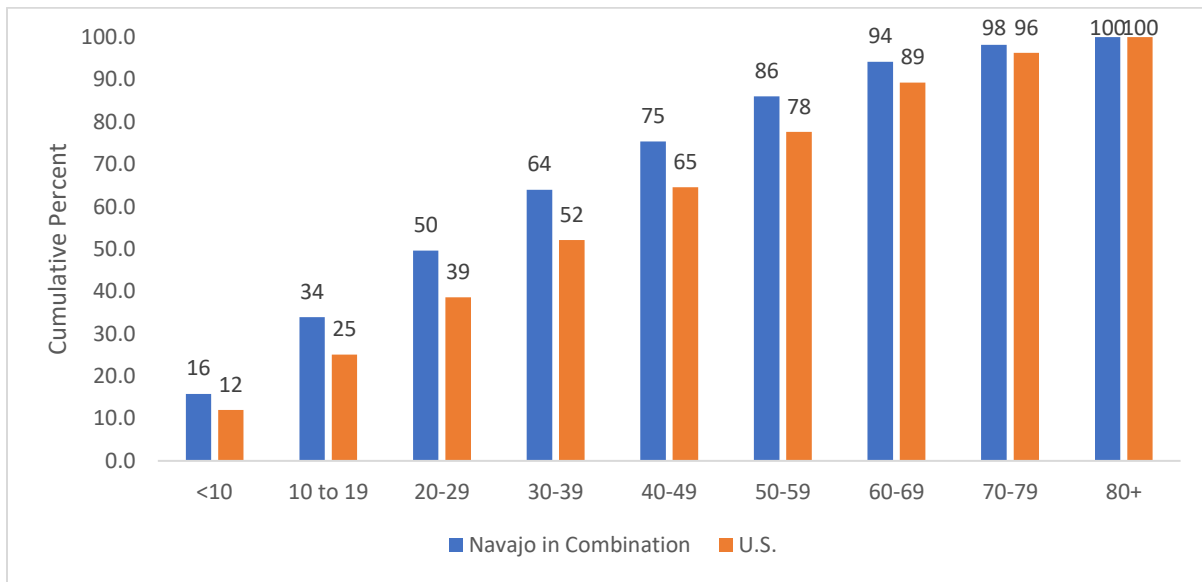


Figure 7 Comparison of 5-Year ACS with Decennial Census,

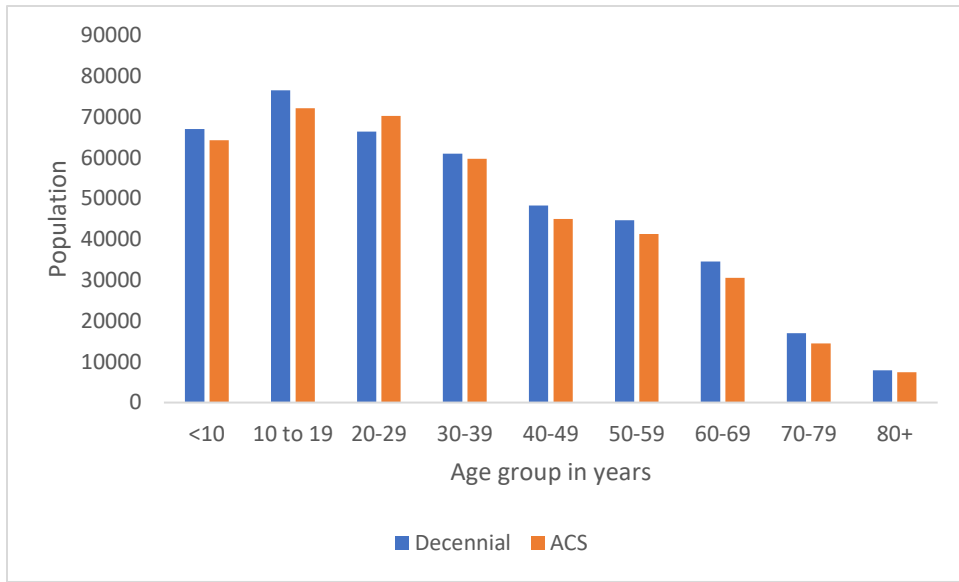


Figure 8 Navajo Alone Population Count, 2010 vs 2020 (Decennial Census)

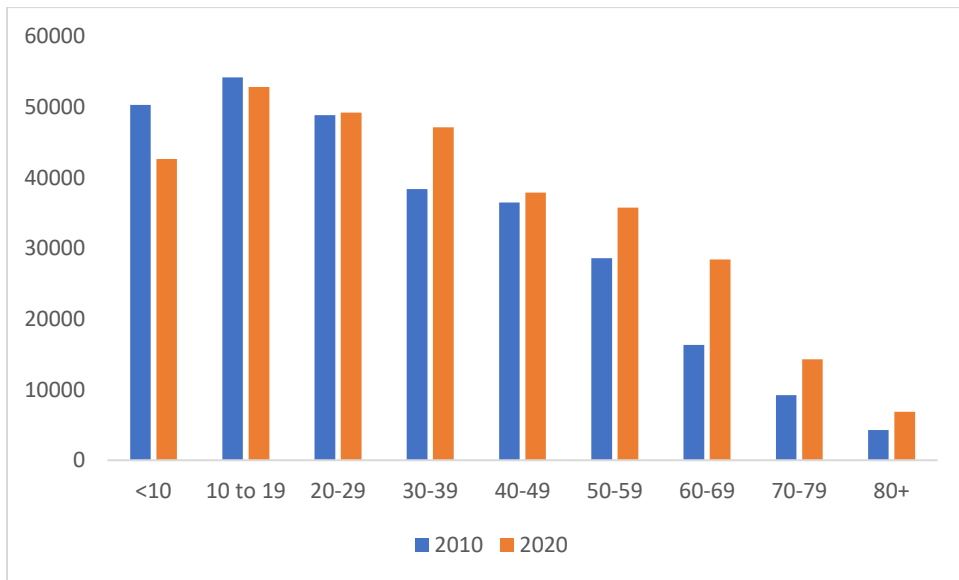


Figure 9 Navajo Alone Percent of Total Population, 2010 vs. 2020 (Decennial Census)

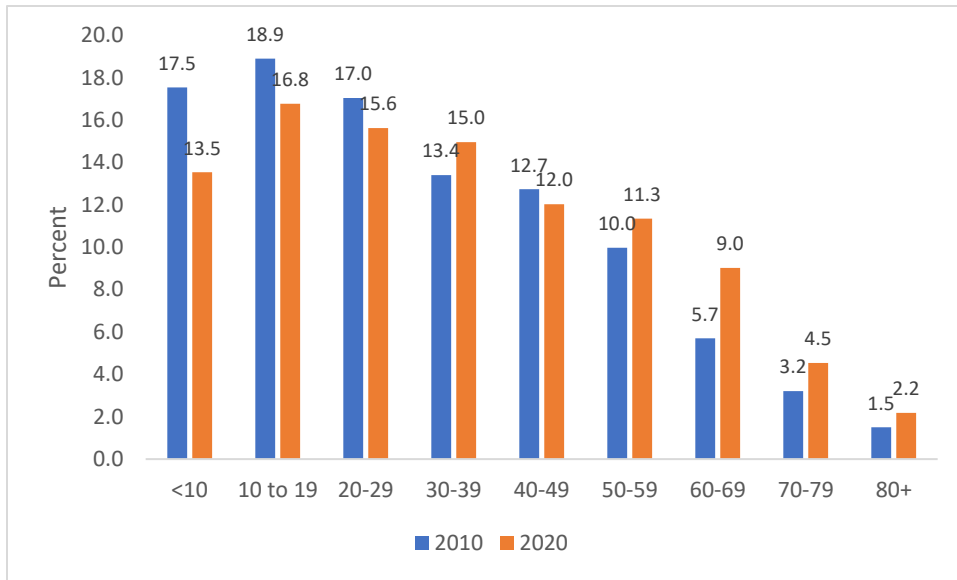


Figure 10 Navajo Alone 2020 (Decennial Census), all by 10-year age groups

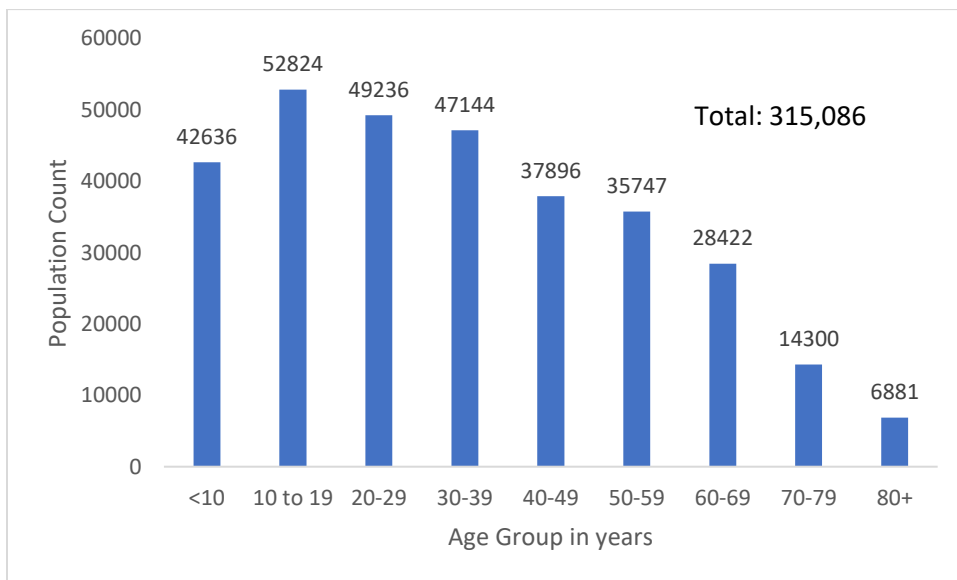


Figure 11 Navajo Alone 2020 (Decennial Census), Males by 10-year age groups

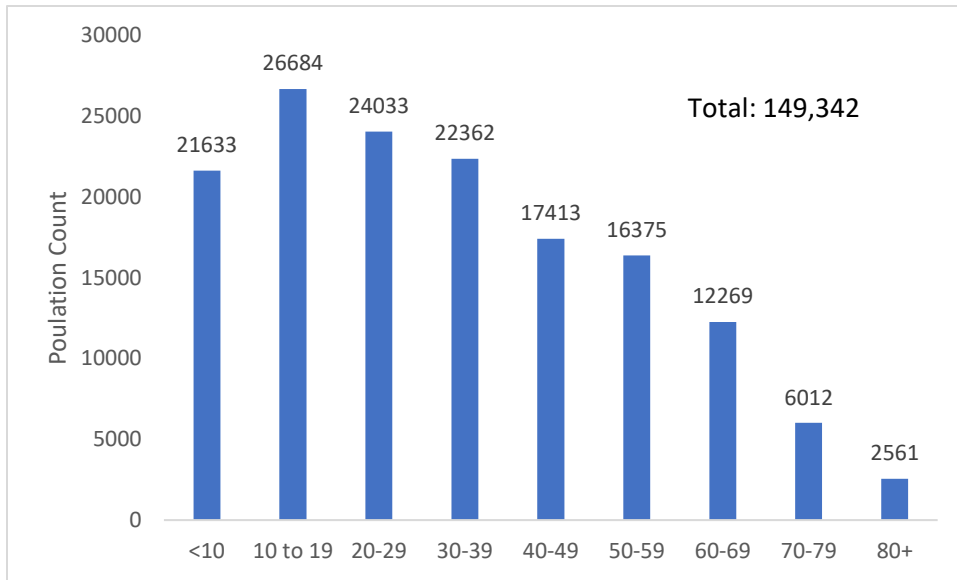


Figure 12 Navajo Alone 2020 (Decennial Census), Females by 10-year age groups

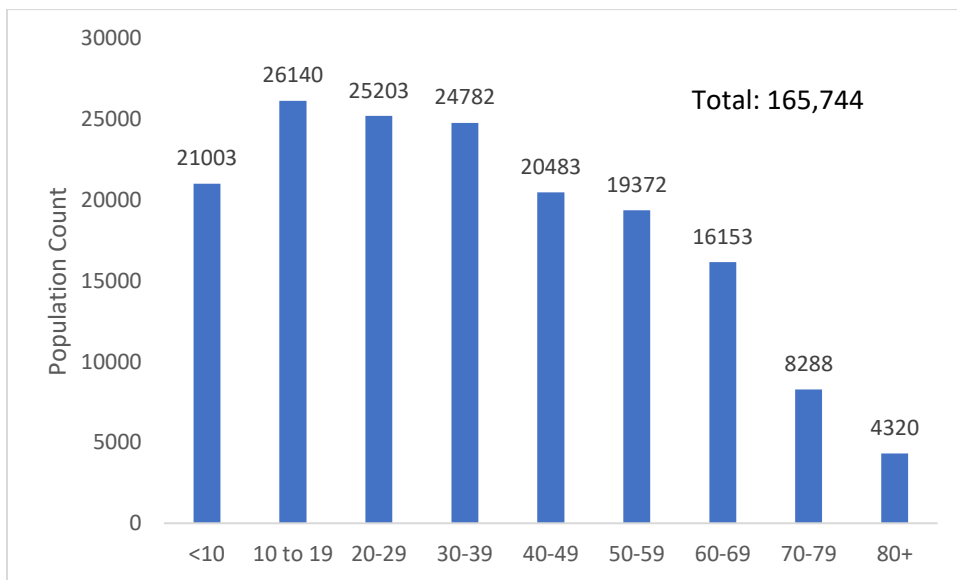


Figure 13 Comparison of Cumulative Percent of the Population by Age Group, Navajo Alone vs. U.S. (Decennial Census)

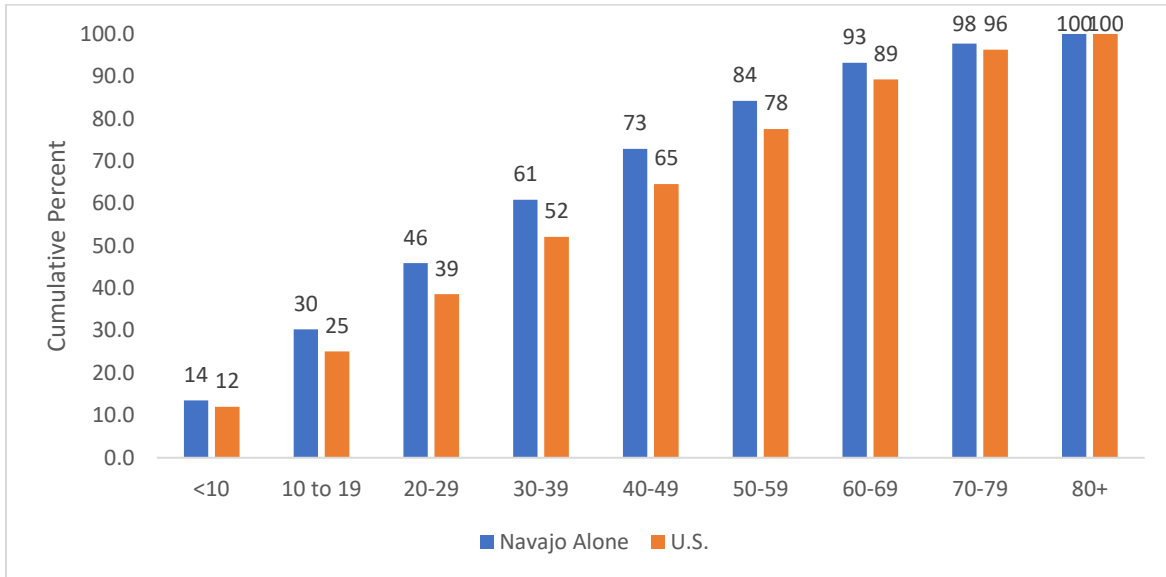


Figure 14 Navajo alone 5-Year ACS 2021 vs. 2020 Decennial Census

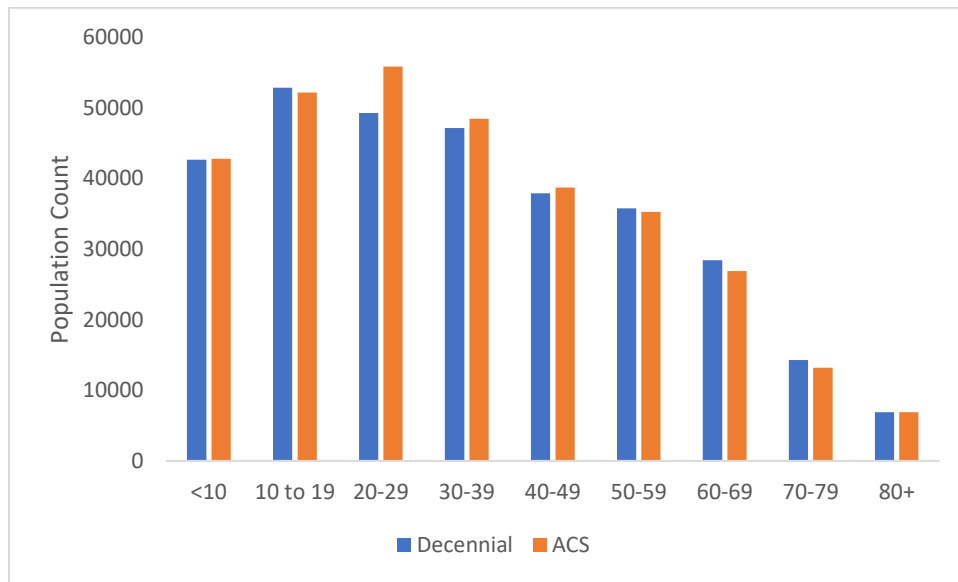


Figure 15 Percent of Total Navajo Alone or in Combination Population by Geographic Category (Sources: 2021 5-Year ACS)

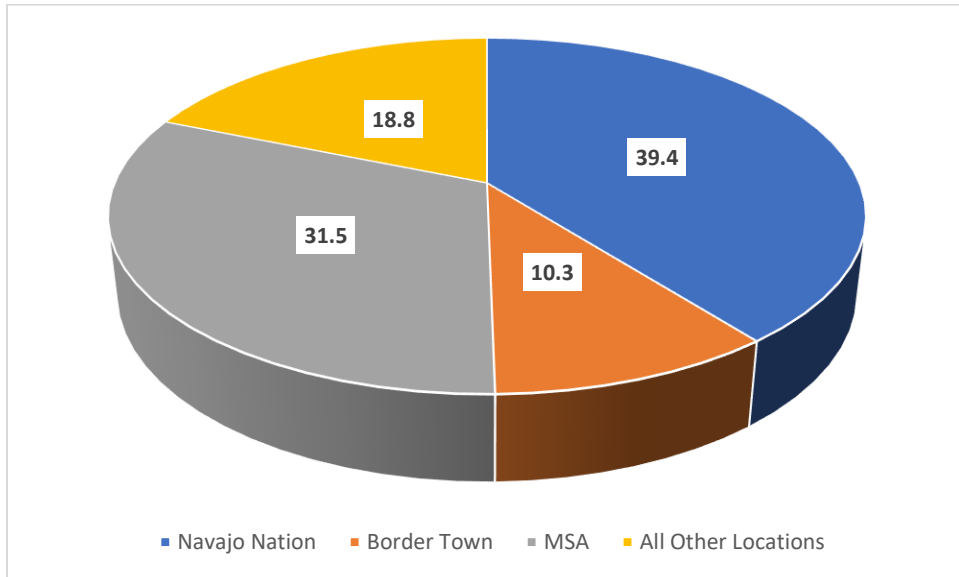


Figure 16 Percent of Total Navajo Alone or in Combination Population by Age group & Geographic Category

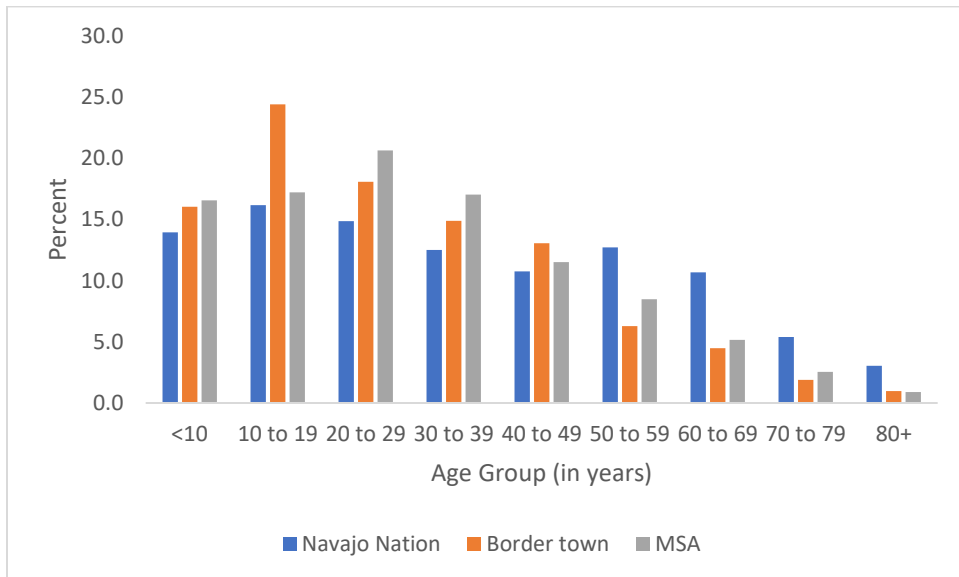


Figure 17 Percent of Total Navajo Alone Population by Geographic Category (Sources: 2021 5-Year ACS)

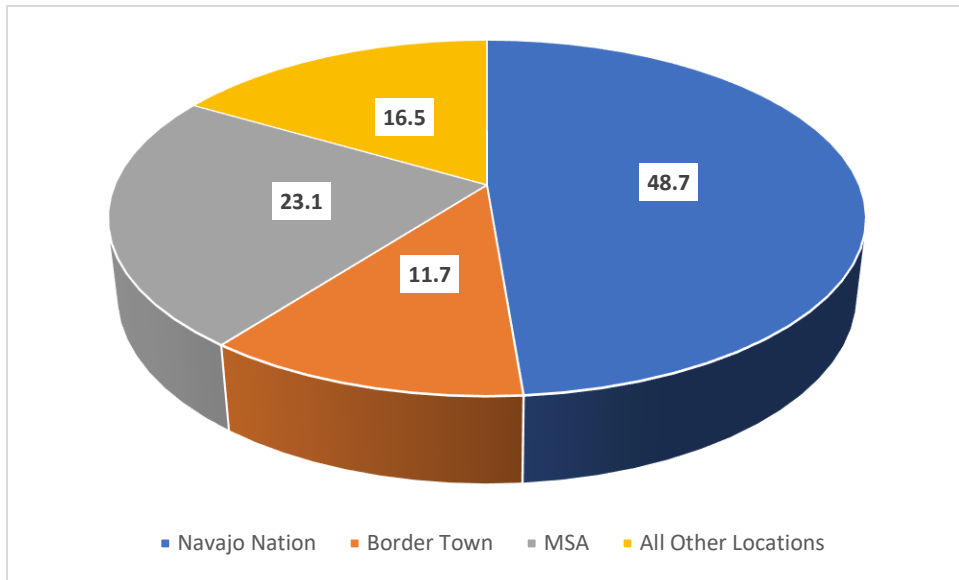
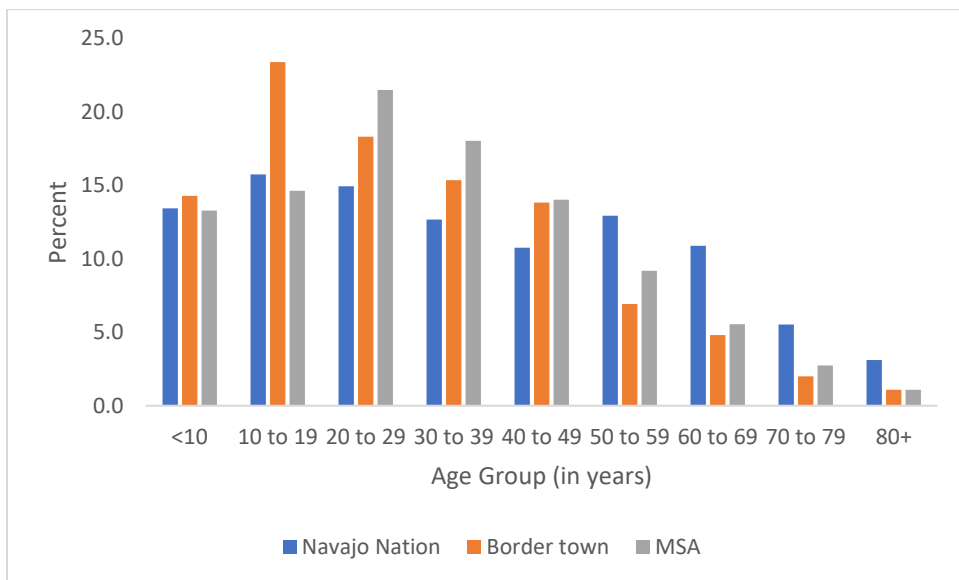


Figure 18 Percent of Total Navajo Alone Population by Age group & Geographic Category



Navajo Nation

From 2010 to 2020 there was a 4.9% decrease in the all race population on the Navajo Nation (Figure 19). This decrease (26%) was most pronounced in the <10 age group. There was a 52% increase in the 60-69 age group. Figures 20-22 display the total 2020 Navajo Nation population by 10-year age group as well as the population by gender. Navajo tribal affiliation data on the Navajo Nation was not available in the 2020 Decennial Census. The 2021 ACS Community Survey does contain that data available but with margins of error since it is a smaller sampling of households. For simplicity those margins of error are not reported in the Profile. The Decennial Census reports 165,158 people live on the Navajo Nation. The 2021 ACS reports that 159,631 people on the Navajo Nation report being Navajo alone or in combination (Figure 23). This represents approximately 97% of the Navajo Nation which is in line with previous reports. Breakdowns of 10-year age group by gender for Navajo alone or in combination can be seen in Figures 24 and 25. Navajo alone or in combination from the 2021 ACS is compared to the 2010 5-Year ACS (Figure 26). These comparisons need to be done with caution because of the margins of error due to the sampling methodology. There does appear to be a 1.4% increase in Navajo alone or in combination on the Navajo Nation since 2010, with similar patterns in change in age groupings as seen in the U.S. Navajo population.

The Navajo alone population on the Navajo Nation can be seen in Figure 27. There are approximately 155,938 Navajo alone individuals living on the Navajo Nation, which is approximately 94.4% of the total Navajo Nation population. Breakdown of 10-year age group by gender for Navajo alone can be seen in Figures 28 and 29. Navajo alone from the 2021 5-year ACS is compared to the 2010 5-Year ACS (Figure 30). There appears to be a 0.1% decrease in the Navajo alone population from 2010 to 2021. Again interpretation needs to be done with caution, but the decrease in population on the Navajo Nation from 2010 to 2020 (Decennial Census) may be explained in part by a decrease in non-Navajo's living on the Navajo Nation.

Figure 19 Navajo Nation Population 2010 and 2020 (Decennial Census table P12)

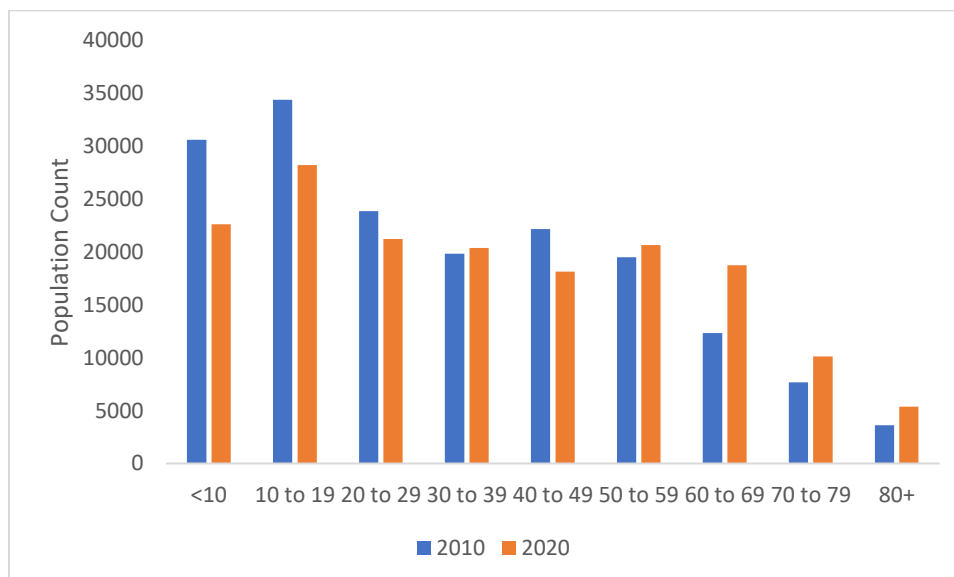


Figure 20 Navajo Nation Population by 10-year age group, Decennial Census File P12 (Only Totals available, nothing by AIAN or Navajo)

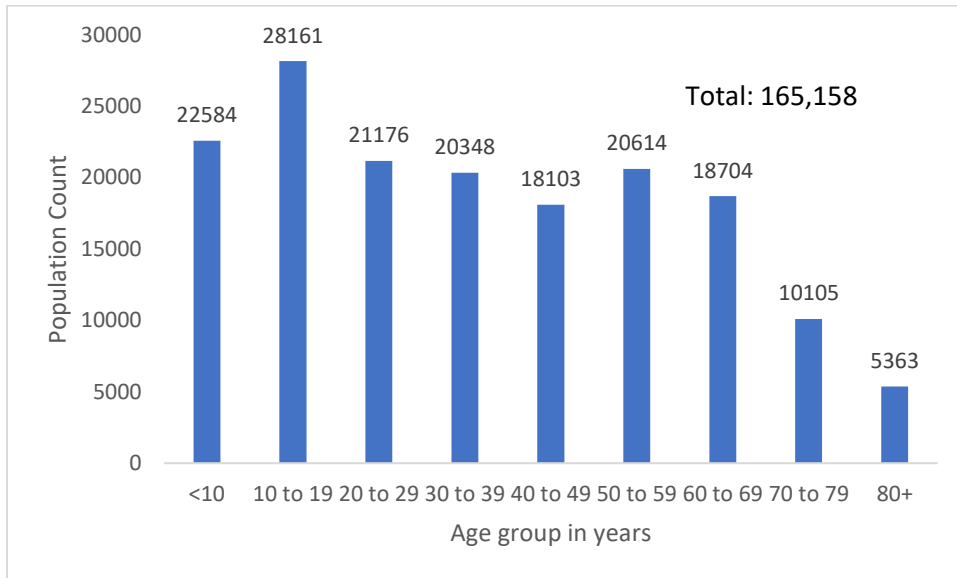


Figure 21 Navajo Nation Male Population by 10-year age group, Decennial Census File P12 (Only Totals available, nothing by AIAN or Navajo)

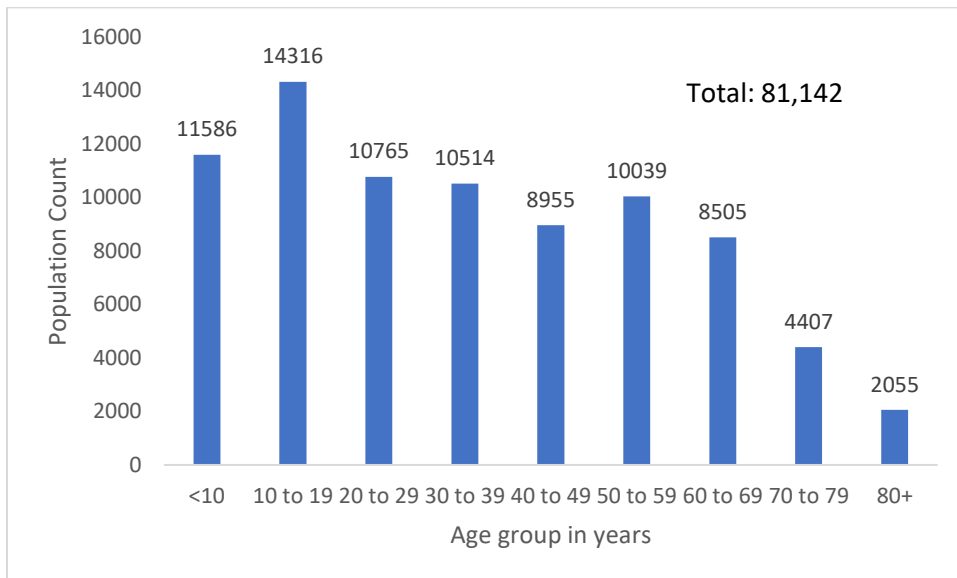


Figure 22 Navajo Nation Female Population by 10-year age group, Decennial Census File P12 (Only Totals available, nothing by AIAN or Navajo)

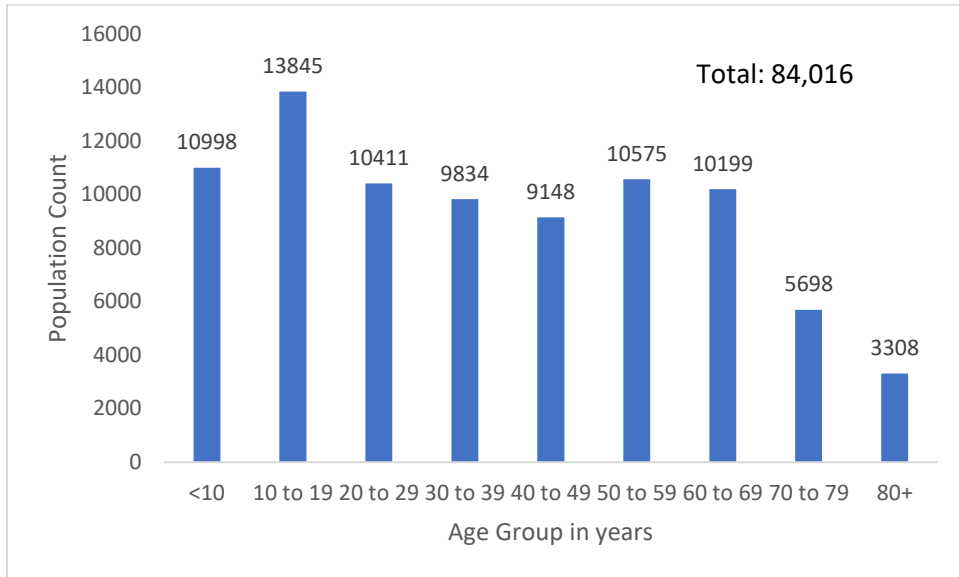


Figure 23 Navajo Nation, Navajo Alone or in Combination (ACS B01001 Table)

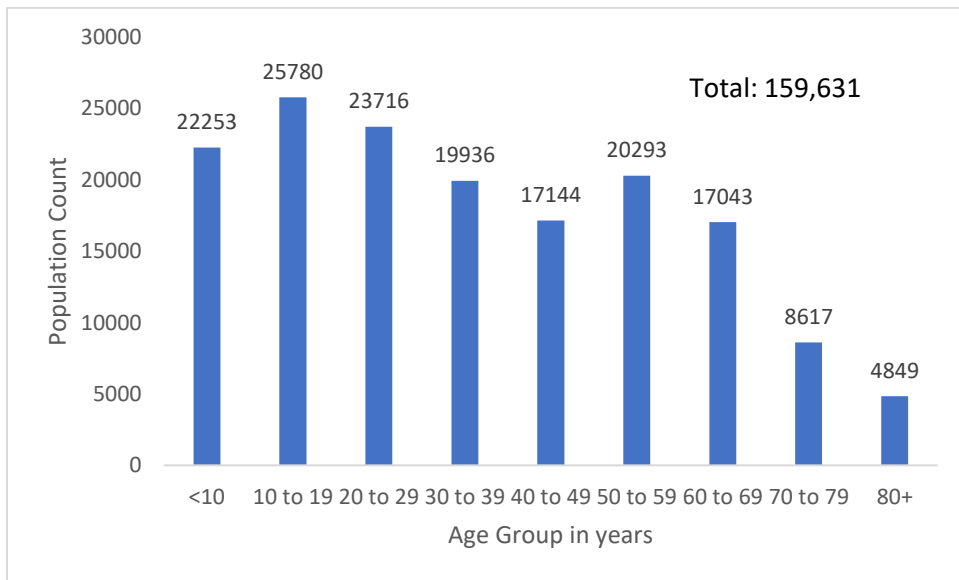


Figure 24 Navajo Nation, Navajo Alone or in Combination, Males (ACS B01001 Table)

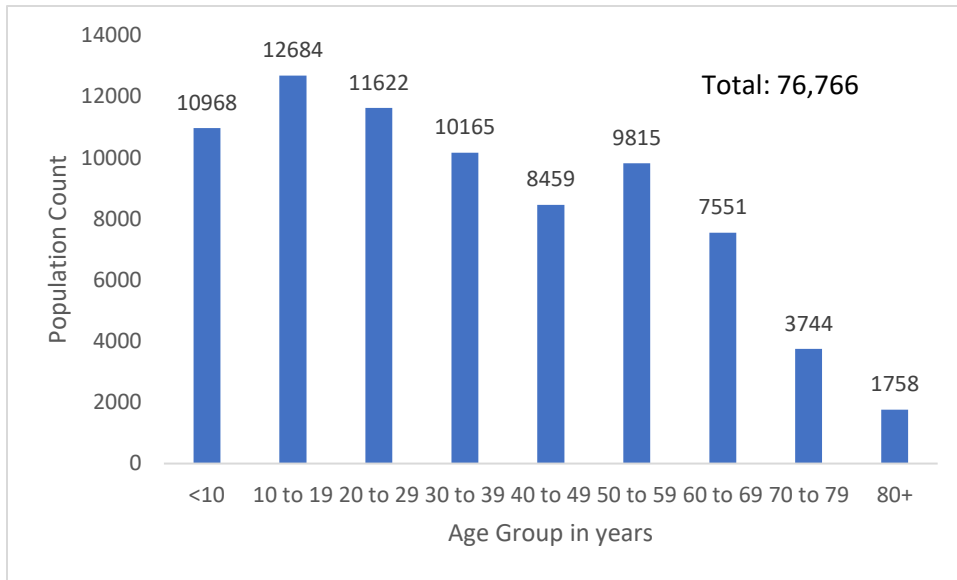


Figure 25 Navajo Nation, Navajo Alone or in Combination, Females (ACS B01001 Table)

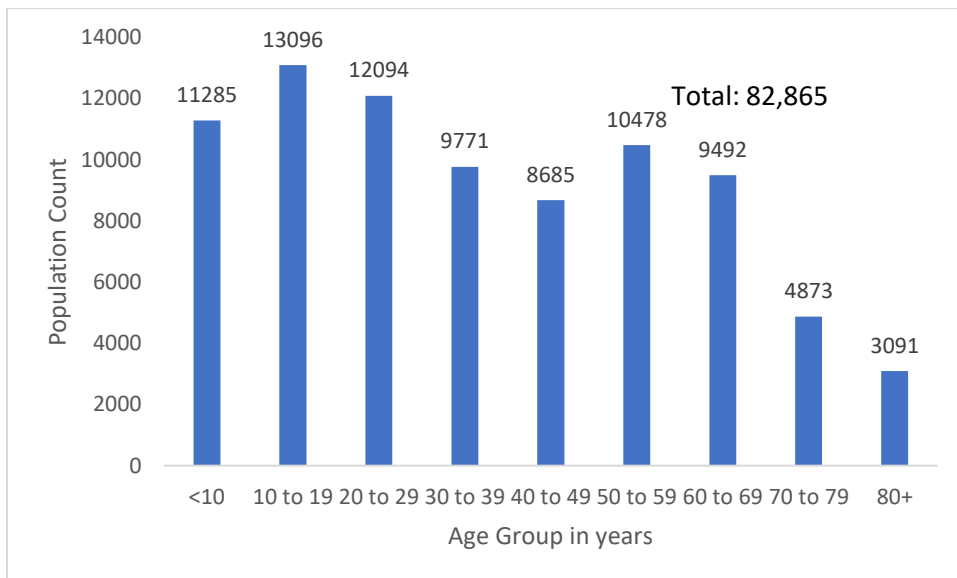


Figure 26 Navajo Nation, Navajo Alone or in Combination 2010 compared with 2021

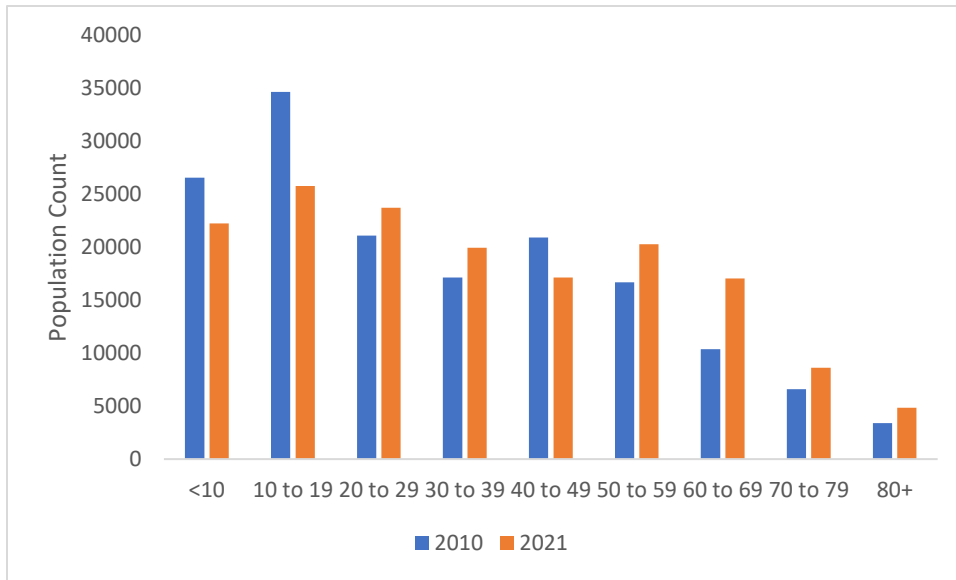


Figure 27 Navajo Nation, Navajo Alone by 10-year age group (ACS B01001 Table)

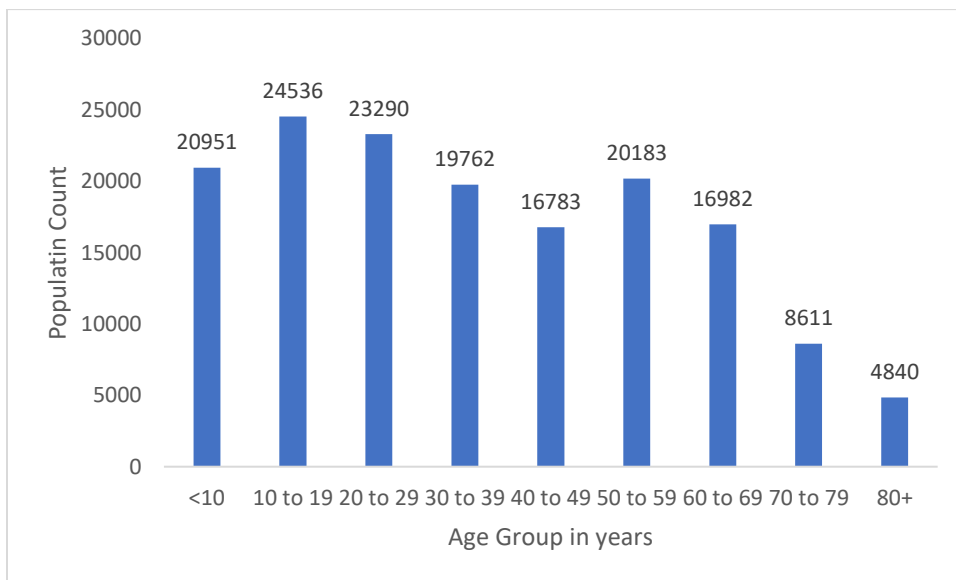


Figure 28 Navajo Nation, Navajo Alone Males

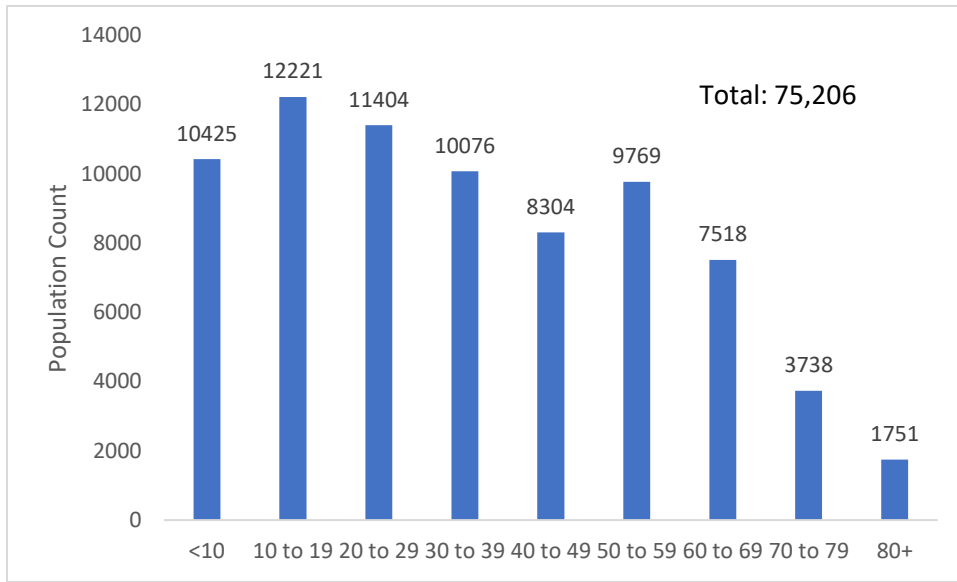


Figure 29 Navajo Nation, Navajo Alone Females

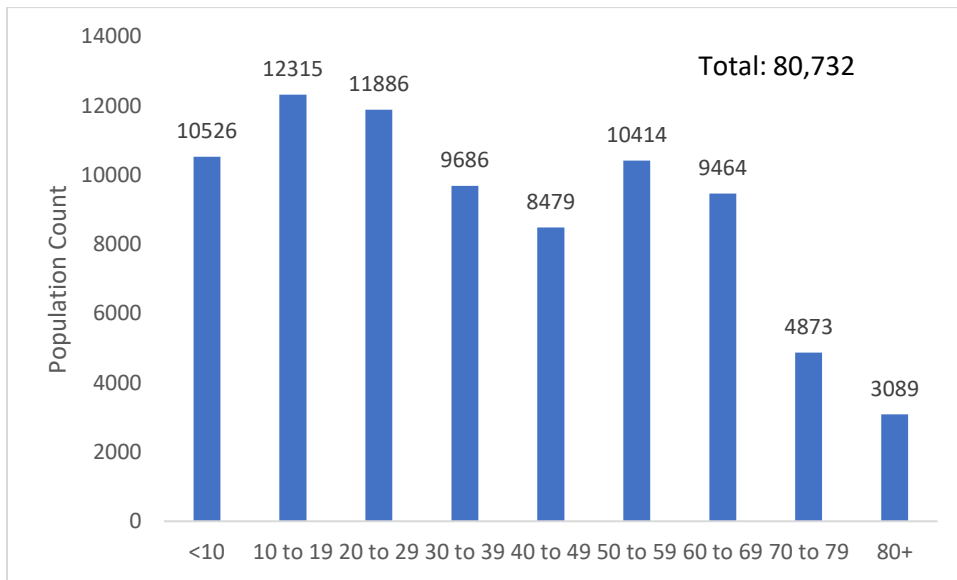
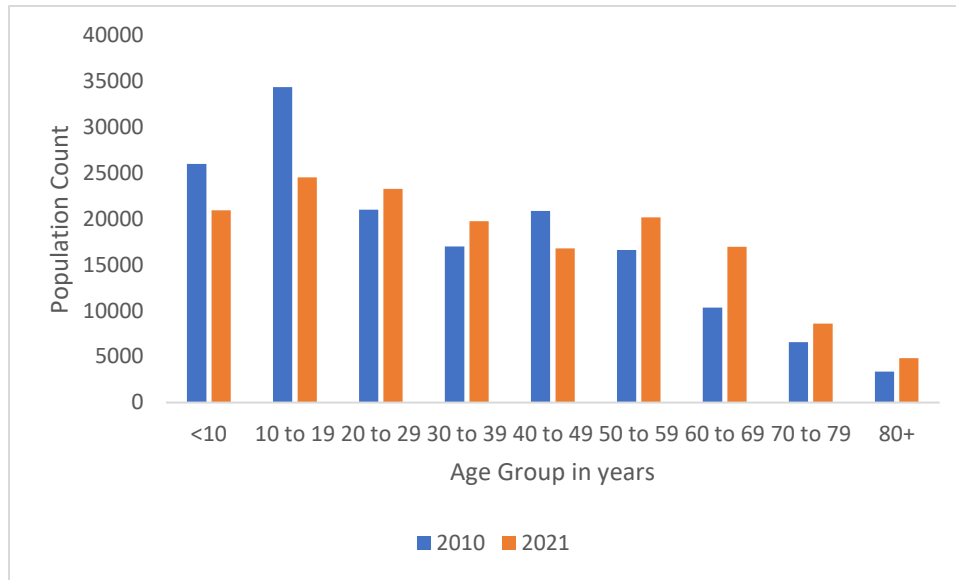


Figure 30 Navajo Nation, Navajo Alone Total Population 2010 compared with 2021 ACS



Agency

The Navajo Nation is divided into 5 Agencies comprised of between 14- and 31-Chapter communities. Results for Agency level population can be seen in Table 1. The DP1 file from the Decennial Census was used to tabulate Agency population numbers. Data by tribal affiliation was not available, however American Indian/Alaska Native population numbers were available and will have to serve as proxy for Navajo population within these agencies. The only Agency experiencing aggregate growth was the Eastern Agency. The Agency with the highest percent of total population that is non-Native is the Chinle (Central) Agency, which is ironic as it is the only Agency completely surrounded by tribal lands. The Northern Agency experienced the greatest decrease in population which might be explained by migration to border town areas within San Juan County in New Mexico.

Table 1 All 5 Agencies by AIAN status with total comparison to 2010

Agency	American Indian/Alaska Native Alone	American Indian/Alaska Native in Combination	Non-Native	2020 Total Population	2010 Population	% Change
<i>Chinle</i>	24,841	355	997	26,193	27,823	-5.9%
<i>Eastern</i>	33,240	560	786	34,586	33,316	3.8%
<i>Ft. Defiance</i>	38,842	693	874	40,409	43,940	-8.0%
<i>Northern</i>	26,451	407	588	27,446	30,945	-11.3%
<i>Western</i>	34,360	619	961	35,940	37,613	-4.4%
<i>Total</i>	157,734	2,634	4,206	164,574	173,637	-5.2%

Chapters

Chapter populations vary widely from the smallest chapter (White Rock) with 89 persons up to largest (Tuba City) with 8,788. The Navajo capital in Window Rock is overlapped by two Chapters, Ft. Defiance and St. Michael's, which have a combined population of 10,501. The median Chapter population is 1,016 and the average is 1,338. Chapter populations are organized by Agency and are displayed in Tables 2-6. Population change within Chapters did vary. Table 7 displays the 3 Chapters from each Agency with the greatest growth (by percent change) and the 3 Chapters with the greatest population loss (by percent change). None of the Northern Agency Chapters experienced population growth since 2010. Table 8 displays the Chapters by Agency with the largest absolute (Count) change from 2010.

Chapters were further organized into the State boundaries in which they are found (Tables 9-11). Some Chapters overlap more than one State. In these circumstances the Chapter is included in the State in which the majority of the Chapter population is found. The Chapters within Arizona experienced a 7.8% decrease in population. The Chapters within New Mexico experienced a 1.6% decrease in population. The Chapters within Utah experienced a 0.7% increase in population. Figure 31 displays Navajo Nation population by State.

Table 2 Chinle (Central) Agency Chapter Populations

<i>Chapter</i>	American Indian/Alaska Native Alone	American Indian/Alaska Native in Combination	Non-Native	2020 Total Population	2010 Population	% Change
<i>Black Mesa</i>	446	0	2	448	428	4.7%
<i>Chinle</i>	7,063	94	410	7,567	8,005	-5.5%
<i>Forest Lake</i>	519	2	2	523	471	11.0%
<i>Hard Rock</i>	979	1	2	982	1,161	-15.4%
<i>Lukachukai</i>	1,819	13	13	1,845	2,154	-14.3%
<i>Many Farms</i>	2,481	22	53	2,556	2,738	-6.6%
<i>Nazlini</i>	1,243	18	1	1,262	1,260	0.2%
<i>Pinon</i>	2,575	66	79	2,720	2,751	-1.1%
<i>Rough Rock</i>	746	6	4	756	947	-20.2
<i>Round Rock</i>	1,240	30	12	1,282	1,566	-18.1
<i>Tachee/Blue Gap</i>	1,126	15	5	1,146	1,178	-2.7%
<i>Tsaile/Wheatfields</i>	2,001	42	407	2,450	2,250	8.9%
<i>Tselani/Cottonwood</i>	1,315	15	3	1,333	1,425	-6.5%
<i>Whippoorwill</i>	1,288	31	4	1,323	1,489	-11.1%
Total	24,841	355	997	26,193	27,823	-5.9%

Table 3 Eastern Agency Chapter Populations

<i>Chapter</i>	American Indian/Alaska Native Alone	American Indian/Alaska Native in Combination	Non-Native	2020 Total Population	2010 Population	% Change
<i>Alamo</i>	2,100	33	60	2,193	2,006	9.3%
<i>Baca/Prewitt</i>	702	24	17	743	789	-5.8%
<i>Becenti</i>	492	4	6	502	403	24.6%
<i>Bread Springs</i>	902	7	31	940	908	3.5%
<i>Tohajiile (Canoncito)</i>	1,565	21	21	1,607	1,591	1.0%
<i>Casamero Lake</i>	506	5	4	515	518	-0.6%
<i>Chichiltah</i>	1,531	35	57	1,623	1,443	12.5%
<i>Churchrock</i>	3,178	78	39	3,295	2,868	14.9%
<i>Counselor</i>	768	5	3	776	870	-10.8%
<i>Crownpoint</i>	2,667	47	226	2,940	2,729	7.7%
<i>Huerfano</i>	2,288	64	29	2,381	2,663	-10.6%
<i>Iyanbito</i>	1,278	5	16	1,299	890	46.0%
<i>Lake Valley</i>	279	4	3	286	306	-6.5%
<i>Littlewater</i>	398	3	5	406	427	-4.9%
<i>Manuelito</i>	244	4	9	257	264	-2.7%
<i>Mariano Lake</i>	824	9	4	837	823	1.7%
<i>Nageezi</i>	930	18	13	961	1,095	-12.2%
<i>Nahodishgish</i>	410	6	2	418	408	2.5%
<i>Ojo Encino</i>	532	17	16	565	688	-17.9%
<i>Pinedale</i>	1,172	17	7	1,196	1,109	7.8%
<i>Pueblo Pintado</i>	320	2	5	327	419	-22.0%
<i>Ramah</i>	1,545	37	31	1,613	1,400	15.2%
<i>Red Rock</i>	2,079	31	28	2,138	1,866	14.6%
<i>Rock Springs</i>	1,108	10	11	1,129	1,086	4.0%
<i>Smith Lake</i>	885	10	2	897	951	-5.7%
<i>Standing Rock</i>	613	2	4	619	641	-3.4%
<i>Thoreau</i>	1,365	20	90	1,475	1,433	2.9%
<i>Torreón</i>	1,422	26	24	1,472	1,612	-8.7%
<i>Tsayatoh</i>	643	8	14	665	658	1.1%
<i>White Horse Lake</i>	409	6	7	422	406	3.9%
<i>White Rock</i>	85	2	2	89	76	17.1%
<i>Total</i>	33,240	560	786	34,586	33,316	3.8%

Table 4 Ft. Defiance Agency by Chapter

<i>Chapter</i>	American Indian/Alaska Native Alone	American Indian/Alaska Native in Combination	Non-Native	2020 Total Population	2010 Population	% Change
<i>Cornfields</i>	678	13	7	698	911	-23.4%
<i>Coyote Canyon</i>	740	5	7	752	685	9.8%
<i>Crystal</i>	606	9	12	627	670	-6.4%
<i>Dilkon</i>	2,061	53	21	2,135	2,110	1.2%
<i>Ft. Defiance</i>	4,916	118	246	5,280	5,856	-9.8%
<i>Ganado</i>	2,087	32	80	2,199	2,504	-12.2%
<i>Greasewood</i>	1,026	19	14	1,059	1,320	-19.8%
<i>Houck</i>	1,236	22	24	1,282	1,436	-10.7%
<i>Indian Wells</i>	778	19	13	810	989	-18.1%
<i>Jeddito</i>	1,183	14	19	1,216	1,180	3.1%
<i>Kinlichee</i>	1,433	17	8	1,458	1,610	-9.4%
<i>Klagetoh</i>	748	4	7	759	909	-16.5%
<i>Low Mountain</i>	619	17	1	637	754	-15.5%
<i>Lupton</i>	735	12	18	765	902	-15.2%
<i>Mexican Springs</i>	1,212	21	9	1,242	1,418	-12.4%
<i>Nahatadziil</i>	1,649	46	62	1,757	1,731	1.5%
<i>Naschitti</i>	1,277	5	19	1,301	1,500	-13.3%
<i>Oak Springs</i>	496	9	4	509	533	-4.9%
<i>Red Lake</i>	2,091	39	51	2,181	2,028	7.5%
<i>Sawmill</i>	840	10	4	854	1,054	-19.0%
<i>St. Michaels</i>	4,995	108	118	5,221	5,643	-7.5%
<i>Steamboat</i>	1,130	30	7	1,167	1,226	-4.8%
<i>Teesto</i>	837	9	5	851	930	-8.5%
<i>Tohatchi</i>	1,367	11	91	1,469	1,450	3.4%
<i>Twin Lakes</i>	2,082	18	19	2,119	2,212	-4.2%
<i>White Cone</i>	1,218	19	5	1,242	1,284	-3.3%
<i>Wide Ruins</i>	802	14	3	819	1,095	-25.2%
<i>Total</i>	38,842	693	874	40,409	43,940	-8.0%

Table 5 Northern Agency by Chapter, (DP1 File)

<i>Chapter</i>	American Indian/Alaska Native Alone	American Indian/Alaska Native in Combination	Non-Native	2020 Total Population	2010 Population	% Change
<i>Aneth</i>	1,832	45	39	1,916	1,989	-3.7%
<i>Beclabito</i>	616	2	9	627	749	-16.3%
<i>Burnham</i>	197	0	3	200	280	-28.6%
<i>Cove</i>	338	7	5	350	430	-18.6%
<i>Fruitland (Upper)</i>	2,591	46	28	2,665	2,751	-3.1%
<i>Gadiiahi</i>	465	8	3	476	550	-13.5%
<i>Hogback</i>	989	14	14	1,017	1,215	-16.3%
<i>Mexican Water</i>	714	8	9	731	933	-21.7%
<i>Nenahnezad/San Juan</i>	1,391	53	17	1,461	1,792	-18.5%
<i>Newcomb</i>	549	8	44	601	629	-4.5%
<i>Red Mesa</i>	1,098	14	14	1,126	1,222	-7.9%
<i>Red Valley</i>	1,158	13	5	1,176	1,417	-17.0%
<i>Rock Point</i>	1,132	14	34	1,180	1,273	-7.3%
<i>Sanostee</i>	1,477	23	10	1,510	1,795	-15.9%
<i>Sheepsprings</i>	687	11	0	698	801	-12.9%
<i>Shiprock</i>	8,180	107	273	8,560	9,126	-6.2%
<i>Sweetwater</i>	1,092	13	54	1,159	1,535	-24.5%
<i>Teec Nos Pos</i>	951	13	13	977	1,301	-24.9%
<i>Two Grey Hills</i>	994	8	14	1,016	1,157	-12.2%
<i>Total</i>	26,451	407	588	27,446	30,945	-11.3%

Table 6 Western Agency by Chapter

<i>Chapter</i>	American Indian/Alaska Native Alone	American Indian/Alaska Native in Combination	Non-Native	2020 Total Population	2010 Population	% Change
<i>Bird Springs</i>	795	16	8	819	795	3.0%
<i>Bodaway/Gap</i>	1,518	23	32	1,573	1,704	-7.7%
<i>Cameron</i>	895	16	20	931	1,122	-17.0%
<i>Chilchinbeto</i>	1,560	11	13	1,584	1,165	36.0%
<i>Coalmine Mesa</i>	666	10	13	689	691	-0.3%
<i>Coppermine</i>	511	12	12	535	590	-9.3%
<i>Dennehotso</i>	1,320	7	13	1,340	1,462	-8.3%
<i>Inscription House</i>	1035	6	21	1,062	1,252	-15.2%
<i>Kaibeto</i>	1,863	21	12	1,896	1,963	-3.4%
<i>Kayenta</i>	5,485	107	150	5,742	6,211	-7.6%
<i>Lechee</i>	1,424	67	26	1,517	1,660	-8.6%
<i>Leupp</i>	1,488	40	19	1,547	1,611	-4.0%
<i>Navajo Mountain</i>	564	16	99	679	542	25.3%
<i>Oljato</i>	2,311	21	58	2,390	2,214	7.9%
<i>Shonto</i>	1,815	31	17	1,863	2,124	-12.3%
<i>Tolani Lake</i>	521	5	8	534	647	-17.5%
<i>Tonalea</i>	2,392	46	13	2,451	2,595	-5.5%
<i>Tuba City</i>	8,197	164	427	8,788	9,265	-5.1%
<i>Total</i>	34,360	619	961	35,940	37,613	-4.4%

Table 7 Largest Chapter population percentage increase and decrease by Agency

Agency	#1 Growth	#2 Growth	#3 Growth	#1 Loss	#2 Loss	#3 Loss
<i>Chinle</i>	Forest Lake (11%)	Tsaile/Wheatfields (9%)	Black Mesa (5%)	Rough Rock (-20%)	Round Rock (-18%)	Hard Rock (-15%)
<i>Eastern</i>	Iyanbito (46%)	Becenti (25%)	Ramah (15%)	Pueblo Pintado (-22%)	Ojo Encino (-18%)	Nageezi (-12%)
<i>Ft. Defiance</i>	Coyote Canyon (10%)	Red Lake (8%)	Tohatchi (3%)	Wide Ruins (-25%)	Cornfields (-24%)	Greasewood Springs (-20%)
<i>Northern</i>	None	None	None	Burnham (-29%)	Teec Nos Pos (-25%)	Sweetwater (-25%)
<i>Western</i>	Chilchinbeto (36%)	Navajo Mountain (25%)	Oljato (8%)	Tolani Lake (-18%)	Cameron (-17%)	Inscription House (-15%)

Table 8 Largest and smallest absolute population change by Agency

Agency	Largest Increase (Count)	Largest Decrease (Count)
<i>Chinle</i>	Tsaile/Wheatfields: 200	Chinle: -438
<i>Eastern</i>	Churchrock: 427	Huerfano: -252
<i>Ft. Defiance</i>	Red Lake: 153	Ft. Defiance: -576
<i>Northern</i>	Newcomb: -28	Shiprock: -566
<i>Western</i>	Chilchinbeto: 419	Tuba City: -477

Table 9 Chapters found exclusively or primarily (by population) in Arizona

Chapter	American Indian/Alaska Native Alone	American Indian/Alaska Native in Combination	Non-Native	2020 Total Population	2010 Population	% Change
<i>Tuba City</i>	8,197	164	427	8,788	9,265	-5.1%
<i>Chinle</i>	7,063	94	410	7,567	8,005	-5.5%
<i>Kayenta</i>	5,485	107	150	5,742	6,211	-7.6%
<i>Ft. Defiance</i>	4,916	118	246	5,280	5,856	-9.8%
<i>St. Michaels</i>	4,995	108	118	5,221	5,643	-7.5%
<i>Pinon</i>	2,575	66	79	2,720	2,751	-1.1%
<i>Many Farms</i>	2,481	22	53	2,556	2,738	-6.6%
<i>Tonalea</i>	2,392	46	13	2,451	2,595	-5.5%
<i>Tsaile/Wheatfields</i>	2,001	42	407	2,450	2,250	8.9%
<i>Ganado</i>	2,087	32	80	2,199	2,504	-12.2%
<i>Dilkon</i>	2,061	53	21	2,135	2,110	1.2%
<i>Kaibeto</i>	1,863	21	12	1,896	1,963	-3.4%
<i>Shonto</i>	1,815	31	17	1,863	2,124	-12.3%
<i>Lukachukai</i>	1,819	13	13	1,845	2,154	-14.3%
<i>Nahatadziil</i>	1,649	46	62	1,757	1,731	1.5%
<i>Chilchinbeto</i>	1,560	11	13	1,584	1,165	36.0%
<i>Bodaway/Gap</i>	1,518	23	32	1,573	1,704	-7.7%

Chapter	American Indian/Alaska Native Alone	American Indian/Alaska Native in Combination	Non-Native	2020 Total Population	2010 Population	% Change
<i>Leupp</i>	1,488	40	19	1,547	1,611	-4.0%
<i>Lechee</i>	1,424	67	26	1,517	1,660	-8.6%
<i>Kinlichee</i>	1,433	17	8	1,458	1,610	-9.4%
<i>Dennehotso</i>	1,320	7	13	1,340	1,462	-8.3%
<i>Tselani/Cottonwood</i>	1,315	15	3	1,333	1,425	-6.5%
<i>Whippoorwill</i>	1,288	31	4	1,323	1,489	-11.1%
<i>Round Rock</i>	1,240	30	12	1,282	1,566	-18.1
<i>Houck</i>	1,236	22	24	1,282	1,436	-10.7
<i>Nazlini</i>	1,243	18	1	1,262	1,260	0.2%
<i>White Cone</i>	1,218	19	5	1,242	1,284	-3.3%
<i>Jeddito</i>	1,183	14	19	1,216	1,180	3.1%
<i>Rock Point</i>	1,132	14	34	1,180	1,273	-7.3%
<i>Red Valley</i>	1,158	13	5	1,176	1,417	-17.0%
<i>Steamboat</i>	1,130	30	7	1,167	1,226	-4.8%
<i>Sweetwater</i>	1,092	13	54	1,159	1,535	-24.5%
<i>Tachee/Blue Gap</i>	1,126	15	5	1,146	1,178	-2.7%
<i>Red Mesa</i>	1,098	14	14	1,126	1,222	-7.9%
<i>Inscription House</i>	1035	6	21	1,062	1,252	-15.2%
<i>Greasewood</i>	1,026	19	14	1,059	1,320	-19.8
<i>Hard Rock</i>	979	1	2	982	1,161	-15.4%
<i>Teec Nos Pos</i>	951	13	13	977	1,301	-24.9%
<i>Cameron</i>	895	16	20	931	1,122	-17.0%
<i>Sawmill</i>	840	10	4	854	1,054	-19.0%
<i>Teesto</i>	837	9	5	851	930	-8.5%
<i>Bird Springs</i>	795	16	8	819	795	3.0%
<i>Wide Ruins</i>	802	14	3	819	1,095	-25.2%
<i>Indian Wells</i>	778	19	13	810	989	-18.1%
<i>Lupton</i>	735	12	18	765	902	-15.2%
<i>Klagetoh</i>	748	4	7	759	909	-16.5%
<i>Rough Rock</i>	746	6	4	756	947	-20.2
<i>Cornfields</i>	678	13	7	698	911	-23.4%
<i>Coalmine Mesa</i>	666	10	13	689	691	-0.3%
<i>Low Mountain</i>	619	17	1	637	754	-15.5%
<i>Coppermine</i>	511	12	12	535	590	-9.3%
<i>Tolani Lake</i>	521	5	8	534	647	-17.5%
<i>Forest Lake</i>	519	2	2	523	471	11.0%
<i>Oak Springs</i>	496	9	4	509	533	-4.9%
<i>Black Mesa</i>	446	0	2	448	428	4.7%
<i>Cove</i>	338	7	5	350	430	-18.6%
<i>Median</i>	1,171	16	13	1,198	1,293	
<i>Average</i>	1,635	29	46	1,710	1,854	
<i>Percent of total</i>	95.6	1.7	2.7			

Table 10 Chapters found exclusively or primarily (by population) in New Mexico

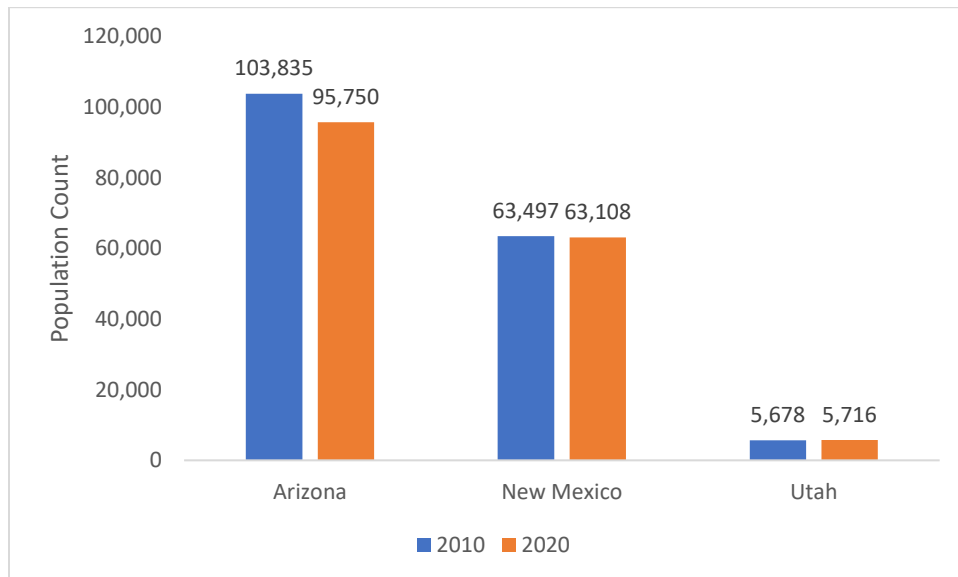
<i>Chapter</i>	American Indian/Alaska Native Alone	American Indian/Alaska Native in Combination	Non-Native	2020 Total Population	2010 Population	% Change
<i>Shiprock</i>	8,180	107	273	8,560	9,126	-6.2%
<i>Churchrock</i>	3,178	78	39	3,295	2,868	14.9%
<i>Crownpoint</i>	2,667	47	226	2,940	2,729	7.7%
<i>Fruitland (Upper)</i>	2,591	46	28	2,665	2,751	-3.1%
<i>Huerfano</i>	2,288	64	29	2,381	2,663	-10.6%
<i>Alamo</i>	2,100	33	60	2,193	2,006	9.3%
<i>Red Lake</i>	2,091	39	51	2,181	2,028	7.5%
<i>Red Rock</i>	2,079	31	28	2,138	1,866	14.6%
<i>Twin Lakes</i>	2,082	18	19	2,119	2,212	-4.2%
<i>Chichiltah</i>	1,531	35	57	1,623	1,443	12.5%
<i>Ramah</i>	1,545	37	31	1,613	1,400	15.2%
<i>Tohajiilee (Canoncito)</i>	1,565	21	21	1,607	1,591	1.0%
<i>Sanostee</i>	1,477	23	10	1,510	1,795	-15.9%
<i>Thoreau</i>	1,365	20	90	1,475	1,433	2.9%
<i>Torreón</i>	1,422	26	24	1,472	1,612	-8.7%
<i>Tohatchi</i>	1,367	11	91	1,469	1,450	3.4%
<i>Nenahnezad/San Juan</i>	1,391	53	17	1,461	1,792	-18.5%
<i>Naschitti</i>	1,277	5	19	1,301	1,500	-13.3%
<i>Iyanbito</i>	1,278	5	16	1,299	890	46.0%
<i>Mexican Springs</i>	1,212	21	9	1,242	1,418	-12.4%
<i>Pinedale</i>	1,172	17	7	1,196	1,109	7.8%
<i>Rock Springs</i>	1,108	10	11	1,129	1,086	4.0%
<i>Hogback</i>	989	14	14	1,017	1,215	-16.3%
<i>Two Grey Hills</i>	994	8	14	1,016	1,157	-12.2%
<i>Nageezi</i>	930	18	13	961	1,095	-12.2%
<i>Bread Springs</i>	902	7	31	940	908	3.5%
<i>Smith Lake</i>	885	10	2	897	951	-5.7%
<i>Mariano Lake</i>	824	9	4	837	823	1.7%
<i>Counselor</i>	768	5	3	776	870	-10.8%
<i>Coyote Canyon</i>	740	5	7	752	685	9.8%
<i>Baca/Prewitt</i>	702	24	17	743	789	-5.8%
<i>Sheepsprings</i>	687	11	0	698	801	-12.9%
<i>Tsayatoh</i>	643	8	14	665	658	1.1%
<i>Crystal</i>	606	9	12	627	670	-6.4%
<i>Beclabito</i>	616	2	9	627	749	-16.3%
<i>Standing Rock</i>	613	2	4	619	641	-3.4%
<i>Newcomb</i>	549	8	44	601	629	-4.5%
<i>Ojo Encino</i>	532	17	16	565	688	-17.9%
<i>Casamero Lake</i>	506	5	4	515	518	-0.6%
<i>Becenti</i>	492	4	6	502	403	24.6%
<i>Gadiiahi</i>	465	8	3	476	550	-13.5%
<i>White Horse Lake</i>	409	6	7	422	406	3.9%
<i>Nahodishgish</i>	410	6	2	418	408	2.5%
<i>Littlewater</i>	398	3	5	406	427	-4.9%
<i>Pueblo Pintado</i>	320	2	5	327	419	-22.0%
<i>Lake Valley</i>	279	4	3	286	306	-6.5%
<i>Manuelito</i>	244	4	9	257	264	-2.7%
<i>Burnham</i>	197	0	3	200	280	-28.6%

Chapter	American Indian/Alaska Native Alone	American Indian/Alaska Native in Combination	Non-Native	2020 Total Population	2010 Population	% Change
<i>White Rock</i>	85	2	2	89	76	17.1%
<i>Median</i>	930	10	14	961	908	
<i>Average</i>	1,240	19	29	1,288	1,296	
<i>Percent of total</i>	96.3	1.5	2.2			

Table 11 Chapters found exclusively or primarily (by population) in Utah

Chapter	American Indian/Alaska Native Alone	American Indian/Alaska Native in Combination	Non-Native	2020 Total Population	2010 Population	% Change
<i>Oljato</i>	2,311	21	58	2,390	2,214	7.9%
<i>Aneth</i>	1,832	45	39	1,916	1,989	-3.7%
<i>Mexican Water</i>	714	8	9	731	933	-21.7%
<i>Navajo Mountain</i>	564	16	99	679	542	25.3%
<i>Median</i>	1,273	19	49	1,324	1,461	
<i>Average</i>	1,355	23	51	1,429	1,420	
<i>Percent of total</i>	94.8	1.6	3.6			

Figure 31 Navajo Nation Population by State



Border towns

Total border town population for Navajo alone and Navajo alone and in combination were available in the 2020 Decennial Census (Table 12), however gender and age data were not available with this tool. Only border towns with at least 500 in the Alone or in combination category were included. Over half (60.6%) of Navajos reside within the exterior boundaries of the Navajo Nation. According to the 2020 U.S. Census 10.3% of Navajos are living in cities or towns on the borders of the Navajo Nation. There was an increase since 2010 in Navajo population for all border towns except for Navajo alone in Durango (Table 13). Age group and gender information for border towns were queried through the 2021 5-Year ACS. Data were not available for Aztec (NM) or Cortez (CO). Figures 31-33 display Navajo alone and in combination for the Total, Male, and Female population, respectively, by Age Group. Figures 34-36 display Navajo alone for the Total, Male, and female population, respectively by Age Group.

Table 12 Navajo Alone or in Combination, 2020 (Table T01001)

Border Town	Navajo Alone	Navajo Alone or in Combination
<i>Flagstaff, AZ</i>	5,835	6,556
<i>Holbrook, AZ</i>	1,264	1,443
<i>Page, AZ</i>	2,727	3,034
<i>Winslow, AZ</i>	2,223	2,495
<i>Cortez, CO</i>	898	1,016
<i>Durango, CO</i>	485	583
<i>Aztec, NM</i>	512	620
<i>Bloomfield, NM</i>	1,609	1,820
<i>Farmington, NM</i>	11,698	12,722
<i>Gallup, NM</i>	9,016	9,825
<i>Grants, NM</i>	1,175	1,247
<i>Blanding, UT</i>	859	943

Table 13 Percent change from 2010 to 2020

Border Town	Navajo Alone	Navajo Alone or in Combination
<i>Flagstaff, AZ</i>	17.2%	19.1%
<i>Holbrook, AZ</i>	27.2%	26.2%
<i>Page, AZ</i>	30.0%	28.8%
<i>Winslow, AZ</i>	38.0%	35.2%
<i>Cortez, CO</i>	39.2%	41.5%
<i>Durango, CO</i>	-5.5%	3.9%
<i>Aztec, NM</i>	6.0%	15.9%
<i>Bloomfield, NM</i>	31.5%	35.2%
<i>Farmington, NM</i>	34.3%	33.6%
<i>Gallup, NM</i>	22.0%	21.0%
<i>Grants, NM</i>	51.4%	44.8%
<i>Blanding, UT</i>	8.3%	9.7%
<i>Total</i>	26.8%	26.8%

Figure 31 Bordertown Populations by 10-year age group, Navajo Alone or in Combination (2021 5-Year ACS)

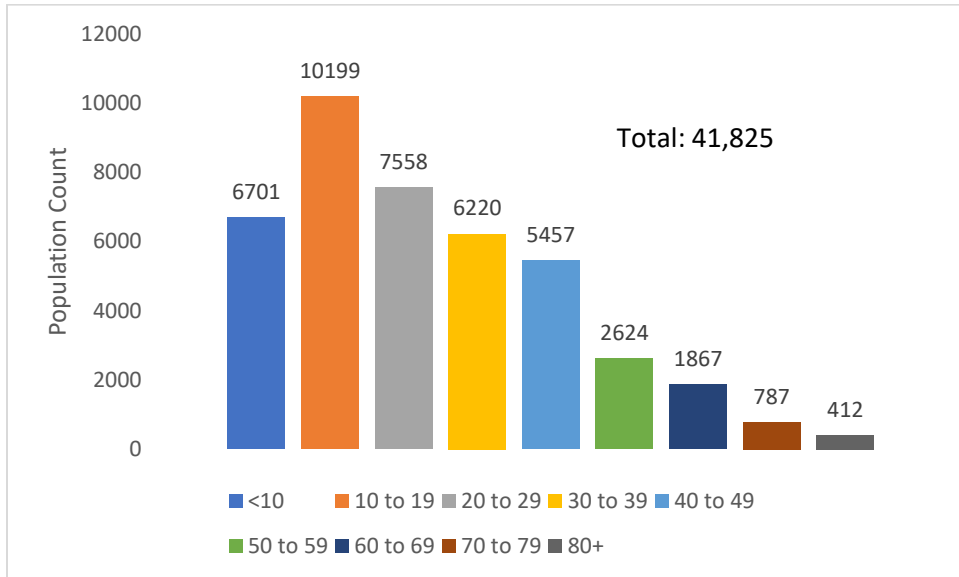


Figure 32 Male Bordertown Populations by 10-year age group, Navajo Alone or in Combination (2021 5-Year ACS)

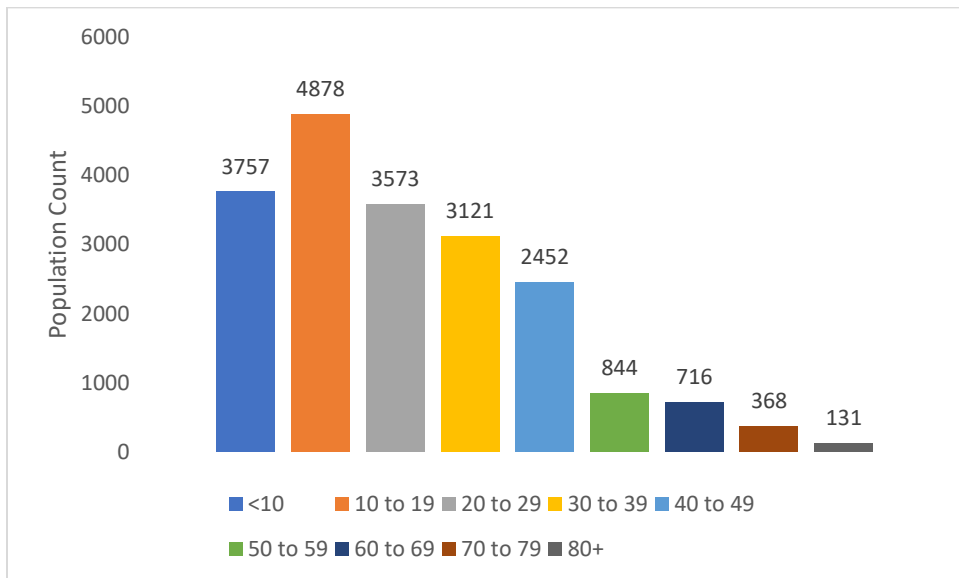


Figure 33 Female Bordertown Populations by 10-year age group, Navajo Alone or in Combination (2021 5-Year ACS)

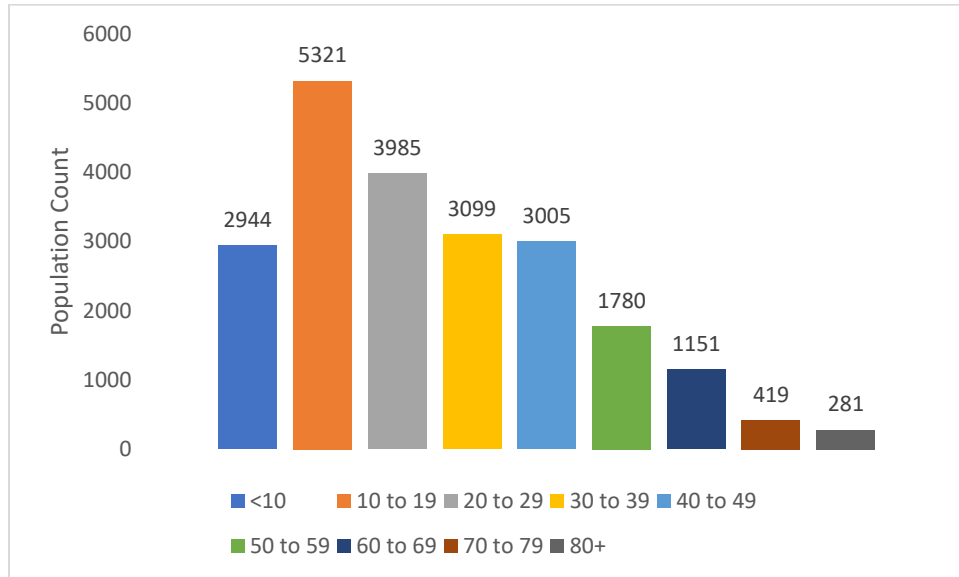


Figure 34 Bordertown Populations by 10-year age group, Navajo Alone (2021 5-Year ACS)

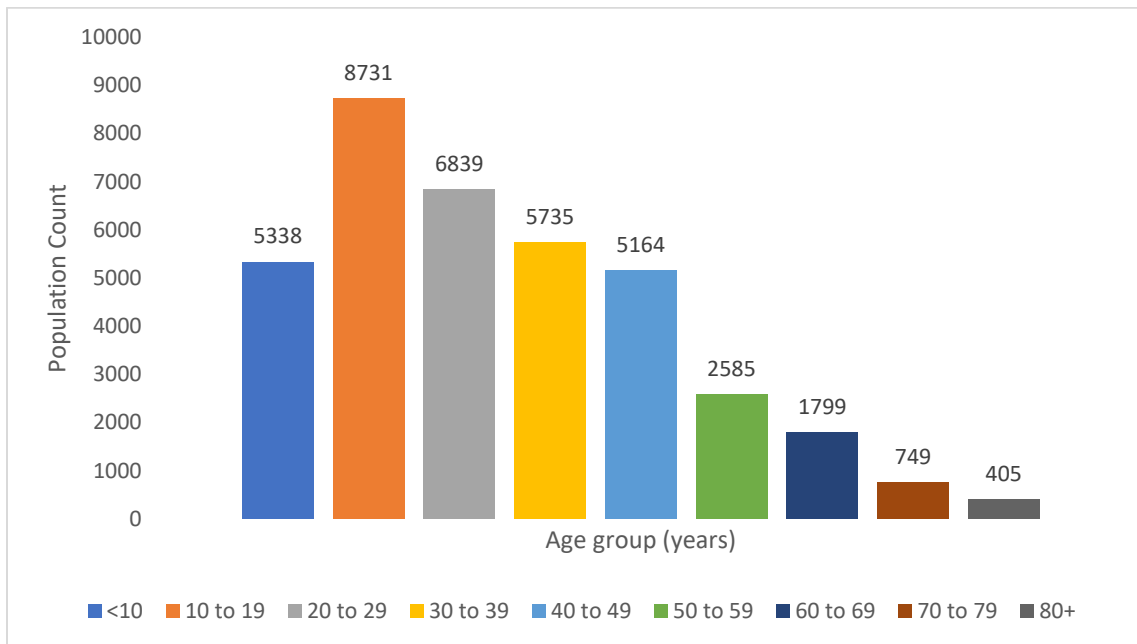


Figure 35 Male Bordertown Populations by 10-year age group, Navajo Alone (2021 5-Year ACS)

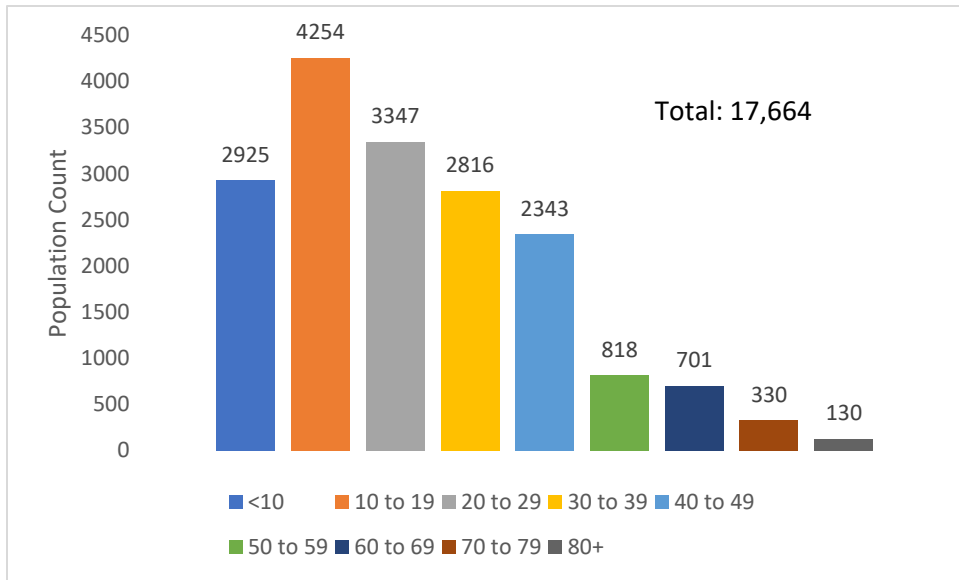
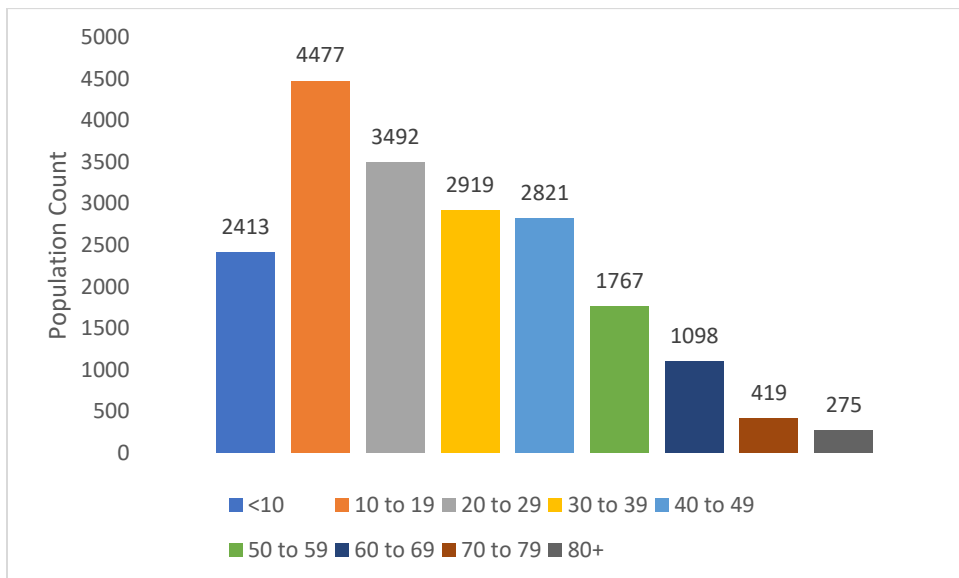


Figure 36 Female Bordertown Populations by 10-year age group, Navajo Alone (2021 5-Year ACS)



MSA's

According to the 2021 5-year ACS there are 152,775 Navajo alone living in MSA's, and 208,877 Navajo alone or in combination in MSA's. Navajo populations living in MSA's are displayed by 10-year age group in figures 37 and 38. Almost one third (31.5%) of Navajos now live in metropolitan areas. The age distribution of Navajo in combination and Navajo alone shows a high population of young Navajos living in the metropolitan areas. Approximately three out of 5 (56%) Navajos living in metropolitan areas are in the 0-29 age range. Thirty-five MSA's had enough Navajo data in the ACS to report for Navajo alone or in combination. Among Navajo alone or in combination in an MSA, 31% lived in either Phoenix (AZ) or Albuquerque (NM) (Figure 39). Fifteen MSA's had sufficient data to report Navajo alone (Figure 40). Among Navajo alone populations 35% lived in either Phoenix or Albuquerque.

Figure 37 Metropolitan Statistical Areas, Navajo Alone or in Combination (ACS 2021)

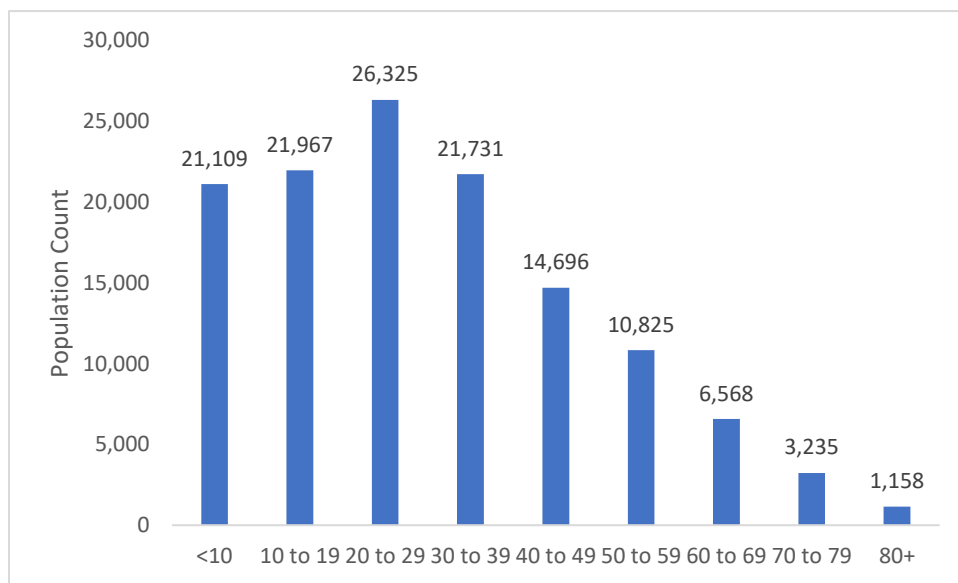


Figure 38 Metropolitan Statistical Areas, Navajo Alone (ACS 2021)

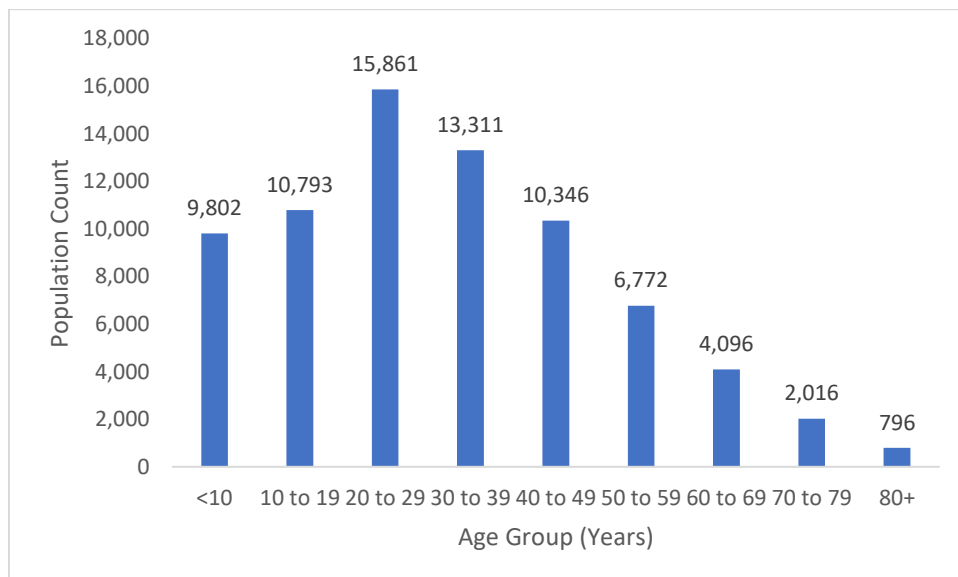


Figure 39 MSA, Navajo Alone or in Combination

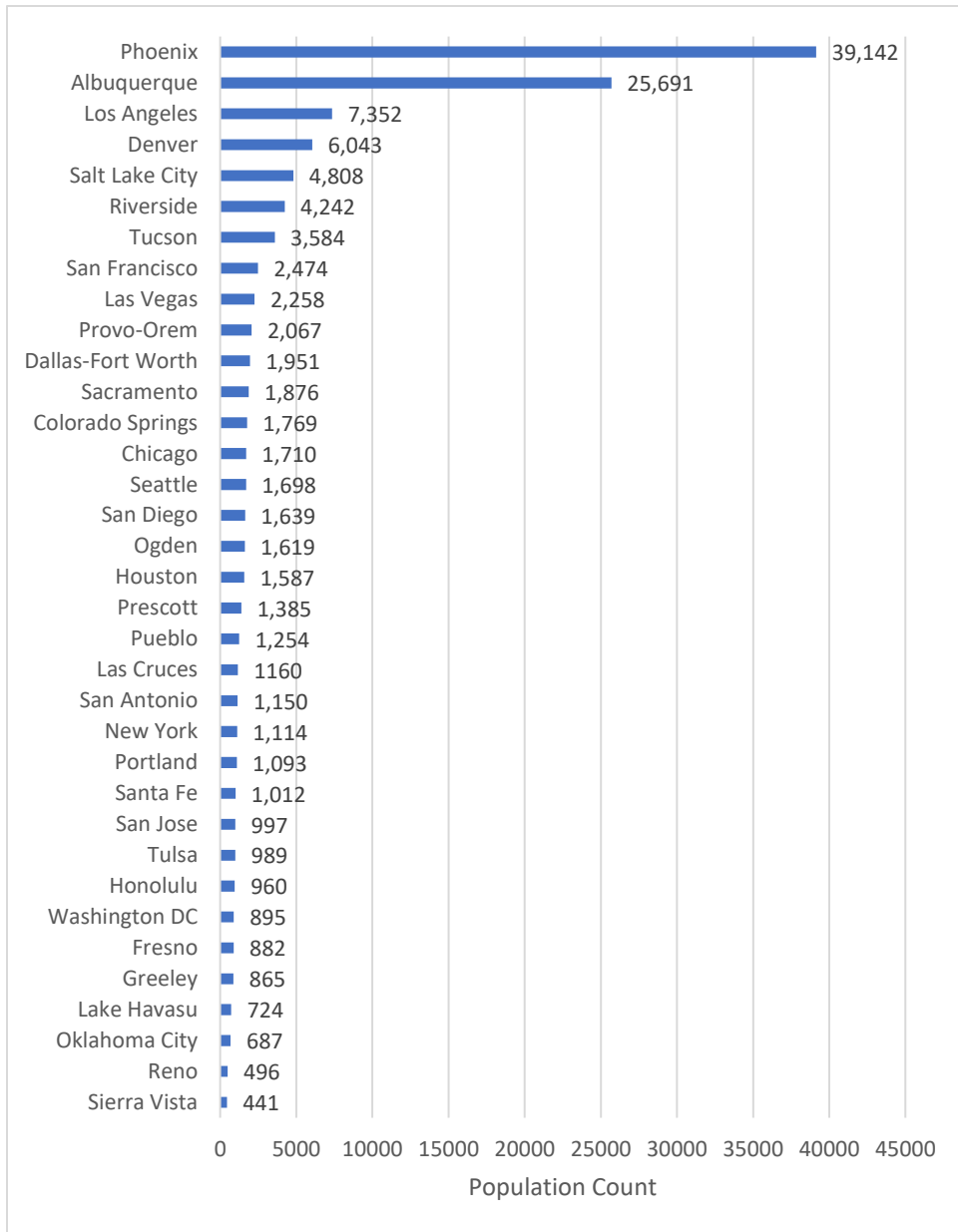
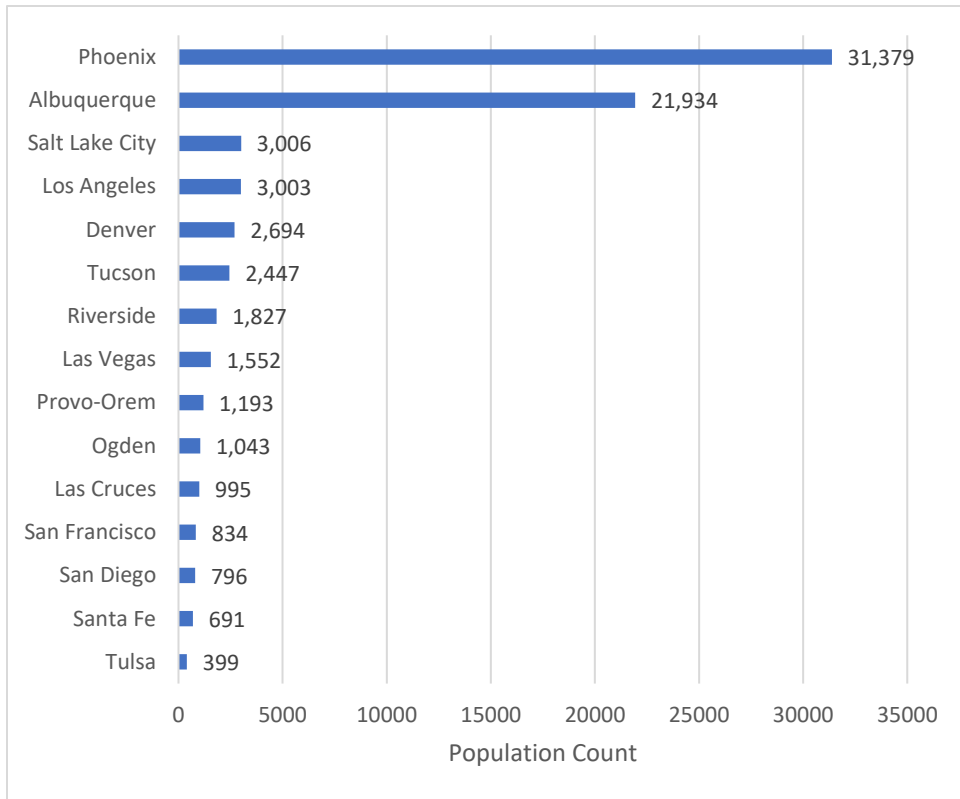


Figure 40 MSA, Navajo Alone

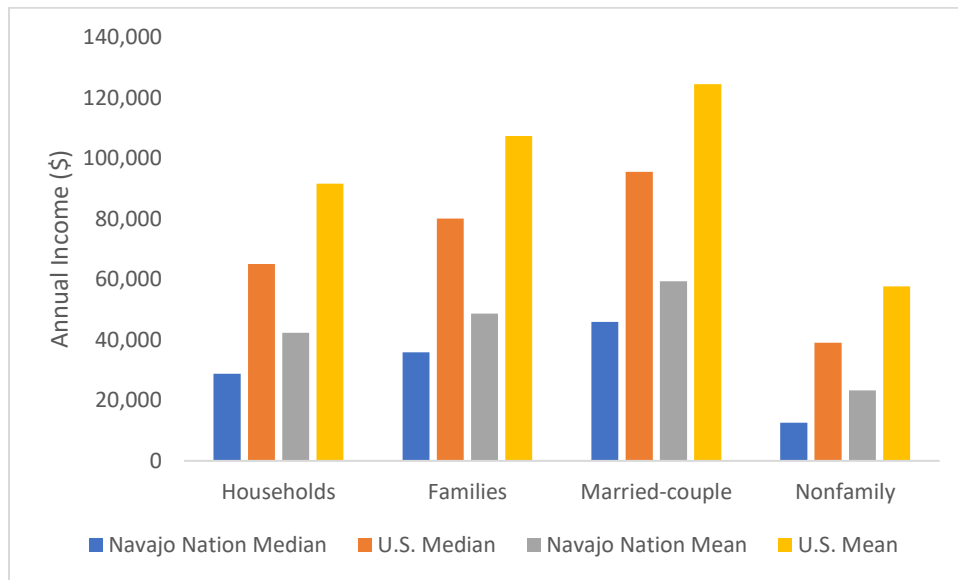


Socio-economic Factors

Income

Both the median and mean income level of Navajo households lag behind the U.S. (per 2020 5-Year ACS Table S1901, Figure 41). After adjusting for inflation both the Navajo Nation and U.S. households experienced an increase in income level from 2010 to 2020. The U.S. mean household income level increased by 29% from 2010 to 2020 while the Navajo Nation mean household income increased by 16% across this same time period. The U.S. median household income level increased by 25% and the Navajo Nation by 10% from 2010 to 2020. The gap between U.S. income level and the Navajo Nation has increased in spite of gains made on the Navajo Nation.

Figure 41 Median and Mean Income Navajo Nation and U.S. Comparison, 2020



Education

Navajo Nation residents ages 18-24 were less likely to have received a bachelor's degree or higher than U.S. residents in the same age group (Figure 42). A similar pattern is seen for those 25+ (Figures 43 and 44). AIAN on the Navajo Nation are also less educated than AIAN in the general U.S. population, however this gap is less pronounced than when comparing to the U.S. population (Figure 45). People who live on the Navajo Nation earn less than their similarly educated U.S. counterparts (Figure 46). Compared with the total Navajo population throughout the U.S. the Navajo Nation lags behind in educational attainment (Figure 47).

Figure 42 Educational Attainment for ages 18-24, Navajo Nation compared with U.S. (ACS 5-Year 2020, Table S1501)

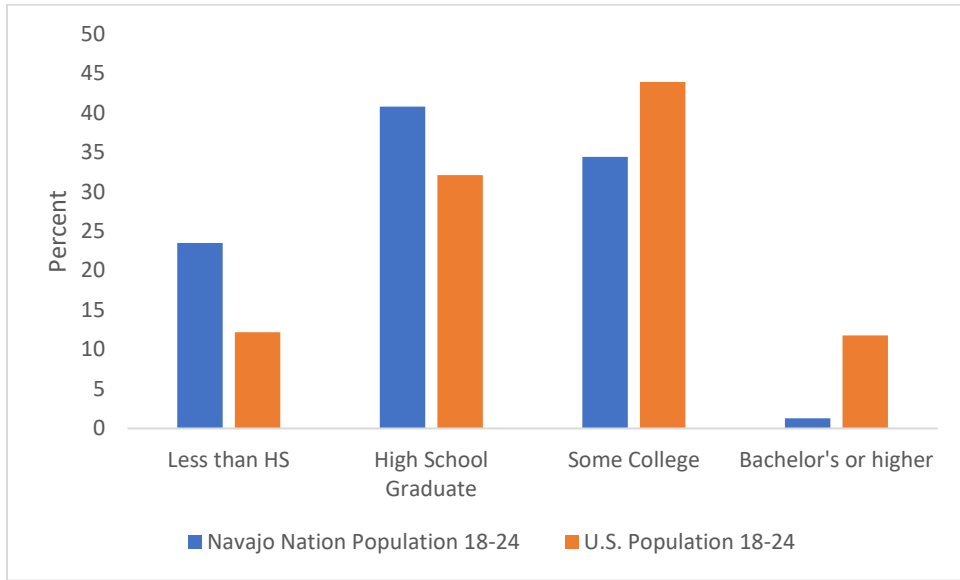


Figure 43 Educational Attainment for ages 25+, Navajo Nation compared with U.S. (ACS 5-Year 2020, Table S1501)

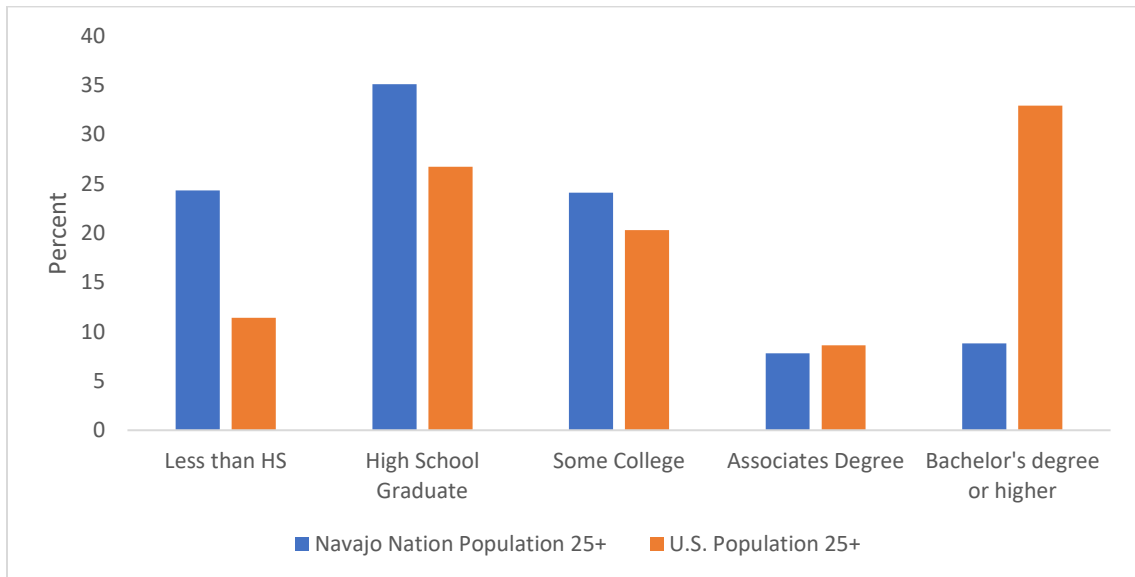


Figure 44 Educational Attainment for ages 65+, Navajo Nation compared with U.S. (ACS 5-Year 2020, Table S1501)

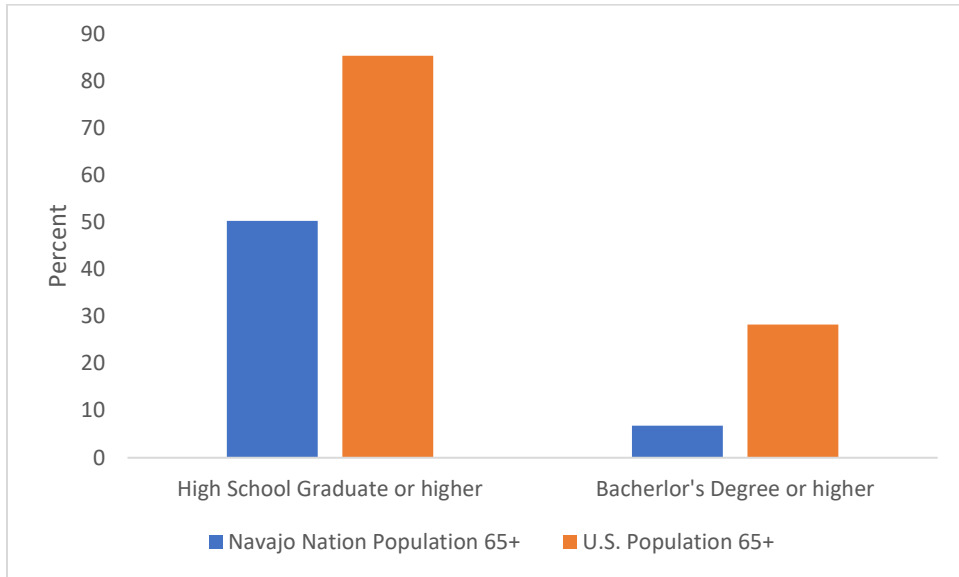


Figure 45 Educational Attainment among American Indian/Alaska Native alone, Navajo Nation compared with U.S.

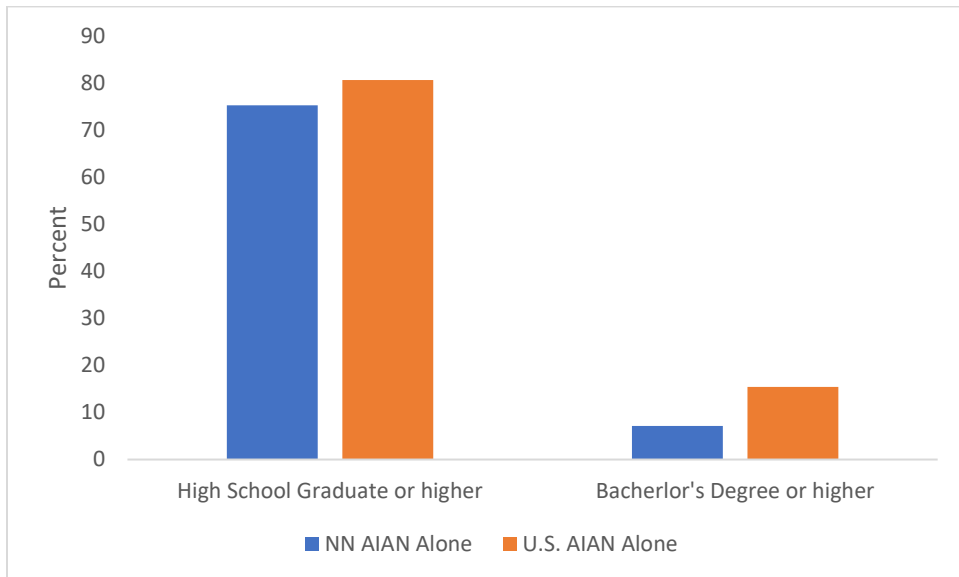


Figure 46 Median Income by Educational Attainment, Navajo Nation compared with U.S.

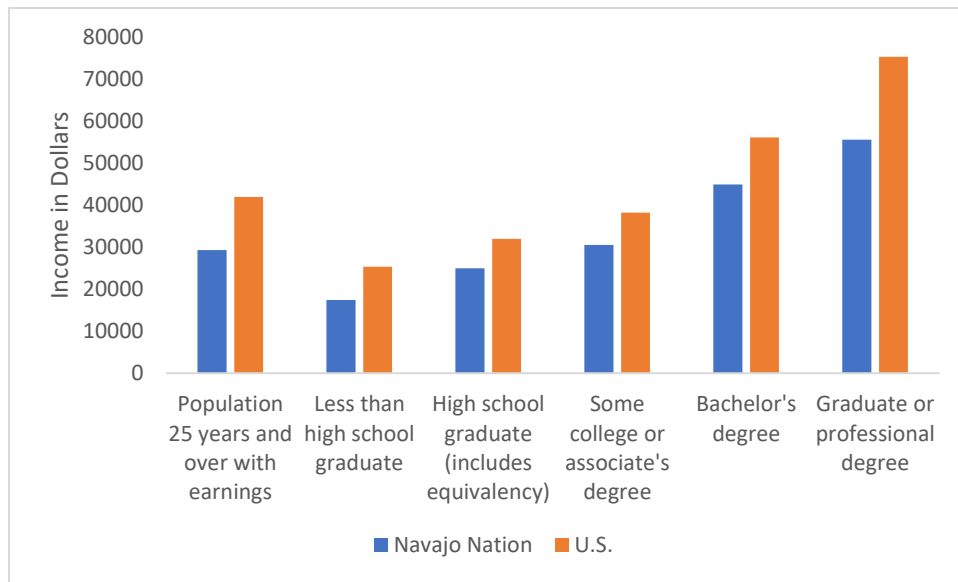
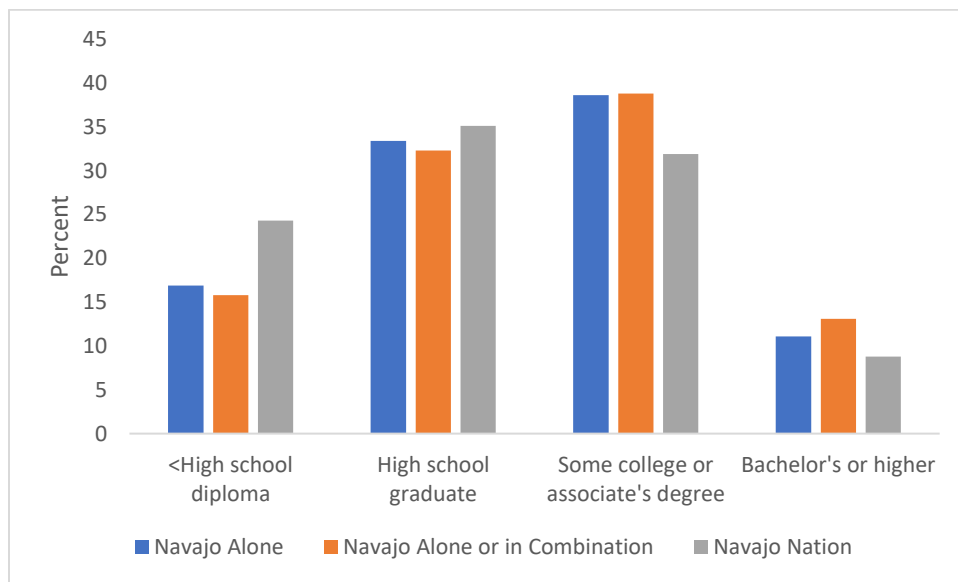


Figure 47 Educational Attainment 25+, Navajo Alone (U.S.), Navajo Alone or in Combination (U.S.), Navajo Nation



Employment

Fewer Navajo Nation residents are employed compared to U.S. counterparts. Less than half of Navajo Nation residents 16 and over are in the labor force (Table 14). The unemployment rate on the Navajo Nation is almost 3 times as high as in the U.S. When looking only at AIAN residents the Navajo Nation as an employment rate 1.7 times higher than the U.S. From ages 25-54 approximately 3 out of 5 Navajo Nation residents are in the labor force while more than 4 out of 5 U.S. residents in the same age category are in the labor force.

The U.S. Census Bureau has 5 broad categories for employment type referred to as “Class of Workers”. Among these categories Navajo Nation workers are almost 3 times as likely to be employed with a federal, state, or local government than U.S. workers. Almost 2 out of 5 workers work for some government organization. There is also a fairly large gap in workers employed by a private company between Navajo Nation and U.S. workers (50% and 68% respectively). There are an additional 5 occupation type categories. Navajo Nation workers are less likely to be in management positions with private companies, are less likely to provide some type of service if they are self-employed, less likely to be in sales if self-employed, and more likely to be involved in production or transportation in government work than U.S. workers (Table 15).

Workers can be organized into 13 unique industry categories. More than 2 out of 5 Navajo Nation residents are employed in education services, and healthcare, and social assistance, which is approximately 1.8 times higher than the rest of the U.S. Navajo Nation workers are also more likely to be employed in agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining, and in public administration. One key area where the Navajo Nation lags behind the U.S. is in manufacturing jobs with U.S. workers being more than 3 times as likely to be involved in this industry than Navajo Nation workers (Table 16).

Table 14 Employment Status 2020 5-Year ACS (Table S2301)

<i>Label</i>	Labor Force Participation Rate		Employment/Population Ratio		Unemployment rate	
	Navajo Nation	U.S.	Navajo Nation	U.S.	Navajo Nation	U.S.
Population 16 years and over	43.5%	63.4%	36.5%	59.6%	16.0%	5.4%
AGE						
<i>16 to 19 years</i>	14.7%	38.3%	8.2%	31.4%	44.1%	16.9%
<i>20 to 24 years</i>	46.2%	74.9%	33.0%	66.3%	28.6%	9.6%
<i>25 to 29 years</i>	57.7%	83.3%	44.9%	77.1%	22.2%	6.2%
<i>30 to 34 years</i>	57.3%	83.2%	45.2%	78.3%	21.1%	5.0%
<i>35 to 44 years</i>	59.4%	82.9%	49.5%	78.9%	16.7%	4.3%
<i>45 to 54 years</i>	59.3%	81.1%	53.4%	77.8%	10.1%	3.9%
<i>55 to 59 years</i>	51.3%	72.9%	48.7%	70.1%	5.1%	3.8%
<i>60 to 64 years</i>	39.3%	57.6%	37.4%	55.6%	4.9%	3.6%
<i>65 to 74 years</i>	16.3%	26.6%	15.8%	25.6%	3.3%	3.6%
<i>75 years and over</i>	2.5%	6.9%	2.4%	6.70%	4.8%	3.6%
<i>American Indian and Alaska Native alone</i>	42.8%	58.0%	35.7%	52.1%	16.5%	9.7%
<i>Male</i>	53.4%	82.5%	42.6%	77.4%	20.3%	5.1%
<i>Female</i>	54.9%	73.4%	48.6%	69.6%	11.4%	4.9%
<i>With own children under 18 years</i>	59.6%	74.3%	52.1%	70.6%	12.5%	4.9%

<i>Label</i>	Navajo Nation	U.S.	Navajo Nation	U.S.	Navajo Nation	U.S.
<i>With own children under 6 years only</i>	48.7%	72.2%	41.2%	67.9%	15.4%	5.6%
<i>With own children under 6 years and 6 to 17 years</i>	54.6%	66.4%	45.8%	62.2%	16.0%	6.1%
<i>With own children 6 to 17 years only</i>	65.9%	78.0%	59.1%	74.5%	10.2%	4.3%
<i>Below poverty level</i>	30.6%	47.8%	18.8%	37.9%	38.6%	20.7%
<i>At or above the poverty level</i>	66.6%	83.2%	59.8%	79.6%	10.2%	3.8%
<i>With any disability</i>	28.2%	43.4%	21.6%	38.2%	23.5%	11.4%

Table 15 Occupation by Class of Workers (S2406 (Civilian employment type))

	Employee of Private Company		Self Employed in own incorporated business		Private Not for Profit Wage & Salary workers		Local, State, & Federal Government Workers		Self Employed in own not incorporated business and unpaid family workers	
	Navajo Nation	U.S.	Navajo Nation	U.S.	Navajo Nation	U.S.	Navajo Nation	U.S.	Navajo Nation	U.S.
<i>Population 16 & Older</i>	50.2%	68.0%	0.7%	3.7%	6.0%	8.3%	39.8%	13.9%	3.3%	6.1%
	<i>Largest difference in Class of workers by occupation in bold italics</i>									
<i>Management, business, science and arts</i>	20.4%	55.8%	0.9%	4.8%	7.9%	13.8%	66.7%	20.1%	4.1%	5.5%
<i>Service Occupations</i>	55.9%	67.0%	0.2%	2.3%	7.3%	6.6%	34.8%	15.5%	1.8%	8.6%
<i>Sales and Office occupations</i>	53.8%	76.7%	0.3%	3.7%	5.9%	5.6%	38.1%	9.7%	1.9%	4.3%
<i>Natural resources, construction and maintenance occupations</i>	74.0%	75.5%	1.1%	4.5%	2.4%	1.9%	17.2%	6.5%	5.4%	11.5%
<i>Production, transportation, and material moving occupations</i>	69.4%	86.5%	1.4%	2.0%	3.3%	2.4%	21.2%	5.1%	4.7%	4.0%

Table 16 Percent of the workforce by Industry (DP03, 2020 5-Year ACS)

Industry	Navajo Nation	U.S.	Ratio
<i>Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining</i>	3.6%	1.7%	2.12
<i>Construction</i>	8.9%	6.7%	1.33
<i>Manufacturing</i>	3.0%	10.0%	0.3
<i>Wholesale trade</i>	0.7%	2.5%	0.28
<i>Retail Trade</i>	8.5%	11.0%	0.78
<i>Transportation and warehousing, and utilities</i>	5.9%	5.5%	1.07
<i>Information</i>	0.5%	2.0%	0.25
<i>Finance and insurance, and real estate and rental and leasing</i>	2.1%	6.6%	0.32
<i>Professional, scientific, and management, and administrative, and waste management services</i>	3.7%	11.7%	0.32
<i>Education services, and healthcare, and social assistance</i>	40.9%	23.3%	1.76
<i>Arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation, and food services</i>	10.8%	9.4%	1.15
<i>Other services except public administration</i>	2.6%	4.8%	0.54
<i>Public administration</i>	8.8%	4.7%	1.87

Housing

According to the 2020 5-Year ACS there are 49,878 occupied housing units, which represents 91.6% of all housing structures. This is very similar to the U.S. percent of occupied housing units (90.3%). Approximately 3 out of 4 (76%) Navajo Nation homes are owner occupied while approximately 3 out of 5 (64%) of U.S. homes are owner occupied. There is a large difference in occupancy density (people per room in the home) between the Navajo Nation and U.S. houses (Figures 48 & 49). Navajo Nation homes are much more densely occupied compared to the U.S., and while there is no meaningful difference for Navajo Nation homes with respect to ownership the U.S. renter occupied homes are more densely packed than U.S. owner occupied homes.

There are also large differences in access to computer technology between the Navajo Nation and the U.S. population (Figure 50). Only a little over half of Navajo Nation homes (55.3%) have access to a computing device over 9 out of 10 (91.9%) U.S. houses do. Navajo Nation homes are less likely to have a desktop/laptop, a smartphone, or a tablet compared to U.S. homes. Almost twice as many Navajo Nation homes have access only to a smartphone compared to U.S. homes. Navajo Nation homes also lag behind U.S. homes in internet access (Figure 51).

There are some differences between the characteristics between homes on the Navajo Nation and the U.S. (Figure 52). Mobile home units are much more common on the Navajo Nation than the U.S. Additionally the way people heat their homes are quite different. Far fewer Navajo Nation homes are heated through Utility gas or Electricity. Far more homes are heated through some other type of fuel, most like wood pellet stoves and log fires.

Figure 48 People per room, Owner Occupied Homes

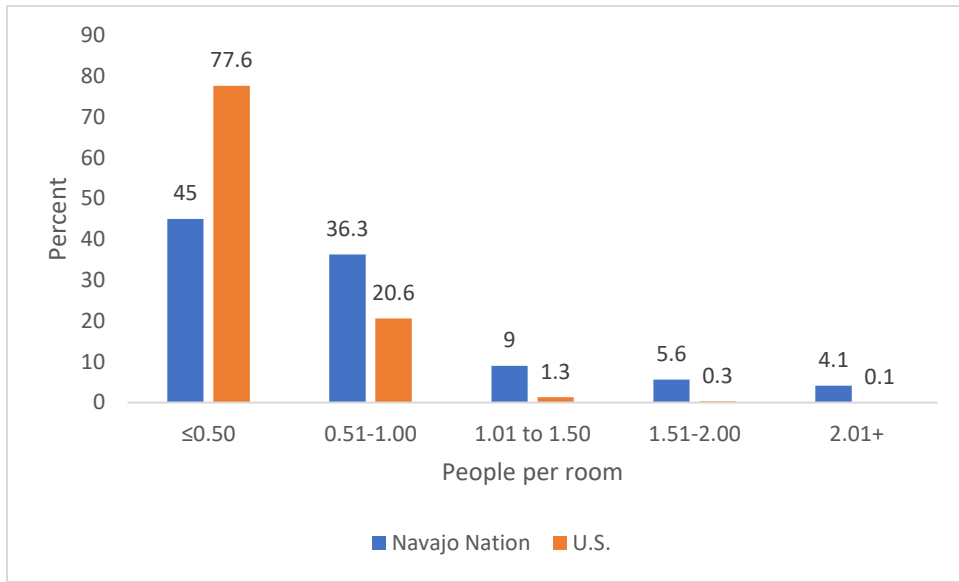


Figure 49 People per room, Renter occupied homes

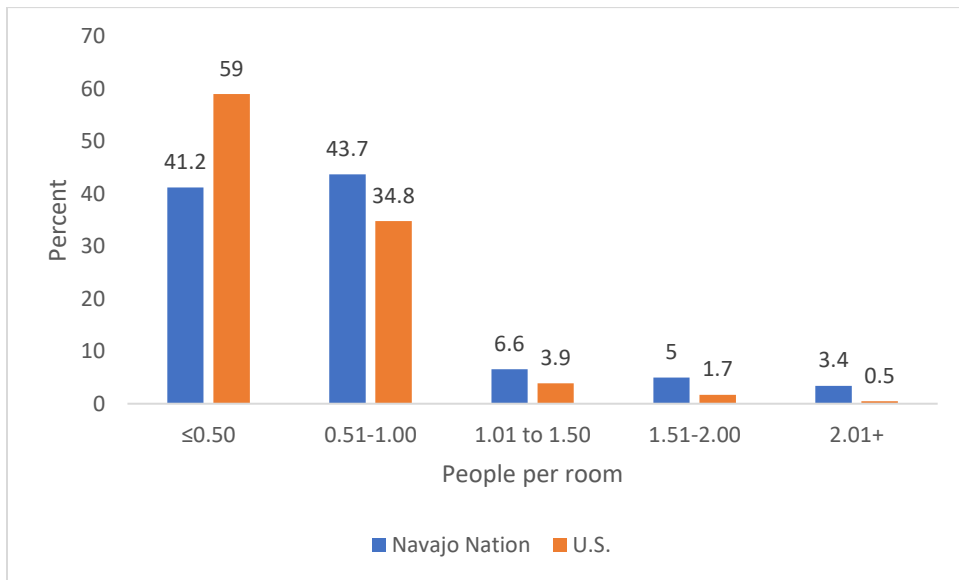


Figure 50 Access to Computer Technology

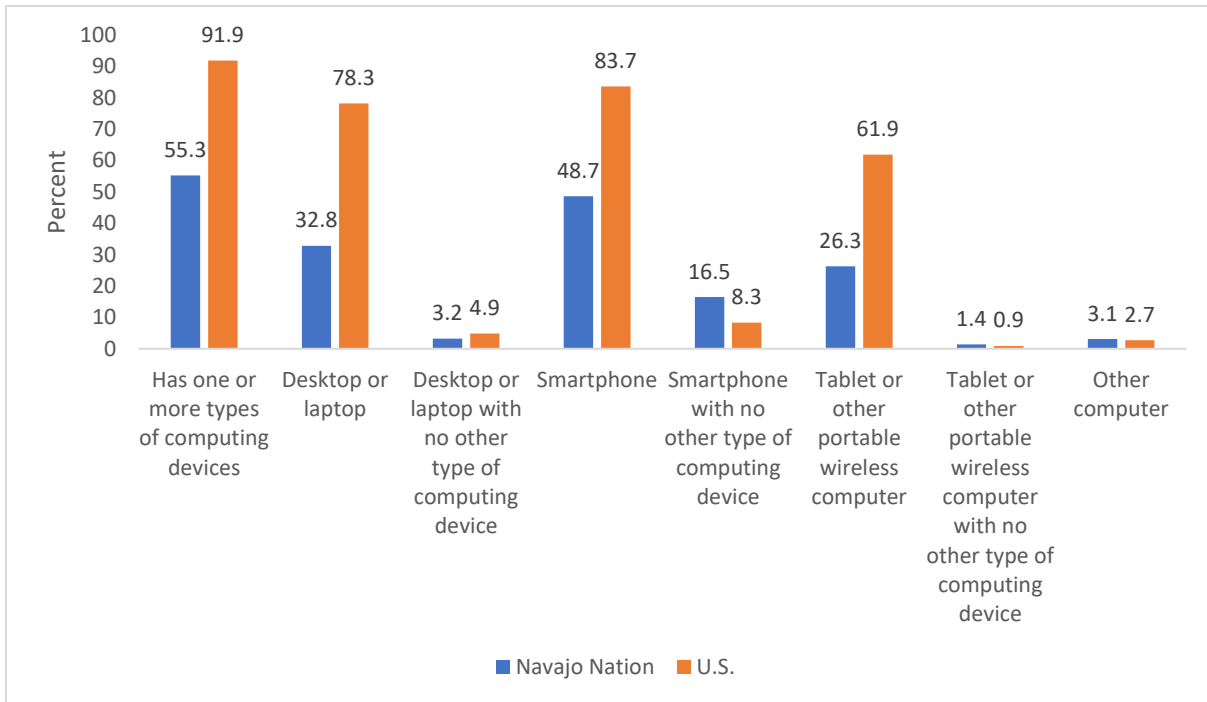


Table 51 Internet Access

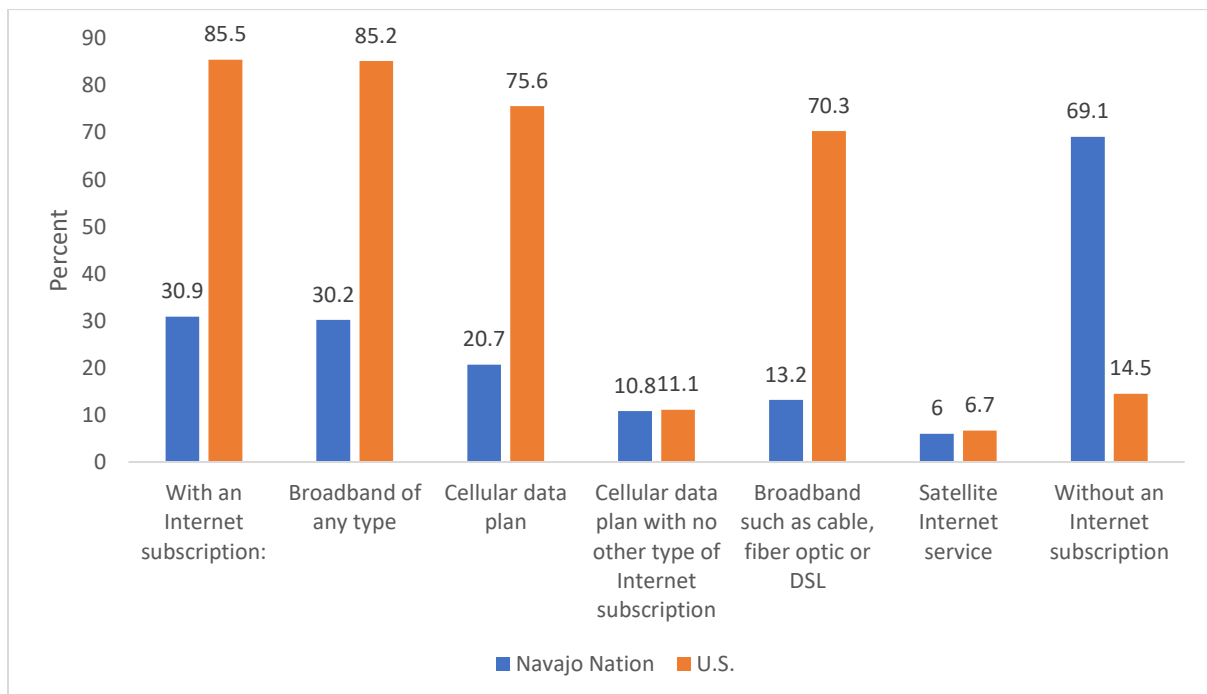
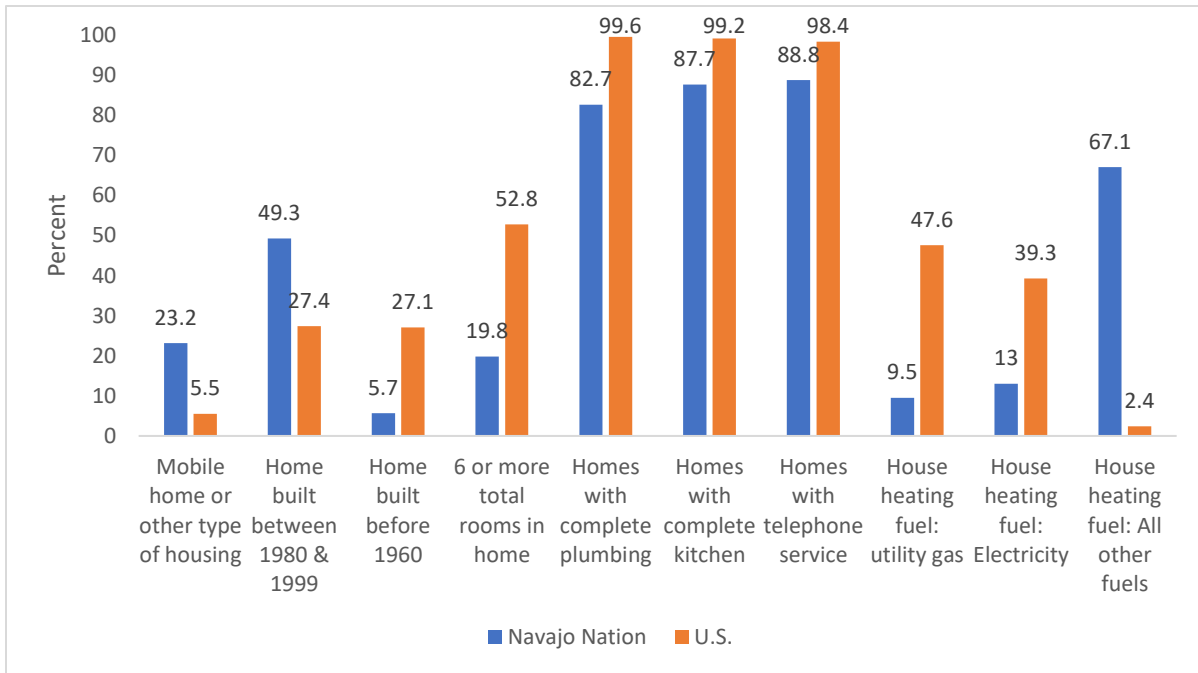


Figure 52 Housing Characteristics, Largest differences between the Navajo Nation & U.S.



Conclusion/Discussion

There is a growing number of Navajo's living off the Navajo Nation land boundaries. There are almost half as many Navajo living on the Navajo Nation as are living in Phoenix and Albuquerque. Collaboration with public health partners, municipalities, and stakeholders will likely need to be strengthened and enhanced to address the needs of the Navajo population. Many Navajos living off the Navajo Nation land boundaries still claim and identify a relationship with their homeland (Navajo land). They are registered voters; maintain cultural and familial ties; and have political rights through the Certificate of Indian Blood (CIB) blood quantum program (census office). Therefore, it is important to include Navajos living outside the land boundaries of the Navajo Nation. Further investigation to understand the dynamics of why Navajos aged 20 through 39 years live off the Navajo Nation would help in program development and resource allocation. Some hypotheses include lack of jobs, opportunities, housing, higher education, and business on the Navajo Nation.

The data in this report indicate there is an aging Navajo Nation population. Although the Navajo population is still younger than the U.S. population, chronic diseases could increase on the Navajo Nation in the next decades because of the aging population. Additionally, there may be a greater need on the Navajo Nation to plan for the daily care of Elders who no longer can meet their basic needs. Per the Navajo Mortality Report 2015-2017 four of the five leading causes of death are due to chronic disease issues (Heart Disease, Cancer, Diabetes, Chronic Liver Disease & Cirrhosis). While rates for heart disease and cancer on the Navajo Nation are similar to or less than the U.S. the Navajo diabetes mortality rate (66.6/100,000) is more than twice as high as the U.S. (31.1/100,000) and chronic liver disease and cirrhosis mortality (64.0/100,000) is more than three times higher than the U.S. rate (17.0/100,000).⁴

The Navajo Nation is a very rural population, which can lead to challenges like access to medical care, access to jobs, and total miles traveled for daily needs leading to increased motor vehicle injury risk. Maintenance of roads becomes even more necessary so Navajo Nation residents can safely and efficiently travel to jobs and services. The leading cause of death on the Navajo Nation is Unintentional Injuries; the age-adjusted mortality rate for unintentional injuries is 162.7 per 100,000 for the Navajo Nation and 67.8 per 100,000 for the U.S. in 2021. Motor vehicle crashes account for approximately 40% of these injury deaths.

Bringing new business and housing might help in strengthening community ties and might mitigate some of the challenges of such a rural population such as so much of a family's income being spent on travel costs (e.g. fuel, vehicle wear and tear). Continuing to enhance infrastructure such as electricity, plumbing, water access, and internet access might incentive Navajo Nation residents, particularly younger populations, to remain on and thrive in the Navajo Nation.

With a Navajo population increase of 27% in the U.S. and a decrease of 4.9% on the Navajo Nation between 2010 and 2020, leaders of the Navajo Nation will need to focus on how to address and provide services for the Navajo population. Nearly all border towns experienced a large influx of Navajo people living in their communities. Non-NDOH programs can use the Profile to create jobs and for economic development, as they are key to bring back Navajos to their homeland. Providing better salaries and a

⁴ Curtin SC, Tejada-Vera B, Bastian BA. Deaths: Leading causes for 2021. National Vital Statistics Reports; vol 73 no 4. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics. 2024. DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.15620/cdc/147882>.

greater number of services for educated Navajos may incentivize them to return to Navajo Nation. One area found within President Buu Nygren's priorities is job creation through manufacturing. The Profile supports this need.

There is routinely a discrepancy, or dearth of tribal data available in National reports. Much of the Profile contains data from the ACS rather than the decennial census. The Navajo Census Office, and the U.S. Census Bureau, and possibly other stakeholders, should start now to strategize how to increase the number of Navajos that participate in the decennial census. This is an essential need for Chapters and Agency's to best understand their population to provide and plan for resource development and allocation.

Recommendations

- 1) Use Navajo in combination population as denominator when comparing to other tribes, races and ethnicities. For example, when using Navajo in combination to determine prevalence and incidence rates for diseases such as diabetes, coronary artery disease, cirrhosis of the liver, alcohol dependence syndrome, HIV, sexually transmitted disease, cancer, etc.
- 2) Use Navajo alone population as denominator when comparing to Navajo in combination population.
- 3) Build relationships to establish a Navajo Population Technical Advisory Committee consisting of tribal, state, federal, academic, and non-profit partners.
- 4) Expand collaboration among Navajo tribal programs, especially with the Navajo Nation Office of Vital Records (Census Office).