SOCIODEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF URBAN AMERICAN INDIANS AND ALASKA NATIVES

## November 29, 2012

Urban Indian Health Institute
A Division of the Seattle Indian Health Board

BROADCAST

The U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) is a national, annual survey that collects demographic, housing, social and economic data. The ACS data below create a snapshot of sociodemographic indicators for urban AI/ANs compared to urban non-Hispanic whites (NHWs) (Table 1 & Figure 1).

Because the ACS includes only a sample of the population, a margin of error is provided to account for differences that might result from variations across samples. For ACS estimates, the U.S. Census Bureau uses 90% confidence levels; when confidence intervals for different groups are non-overlapping, the difference is considered statistically significant.
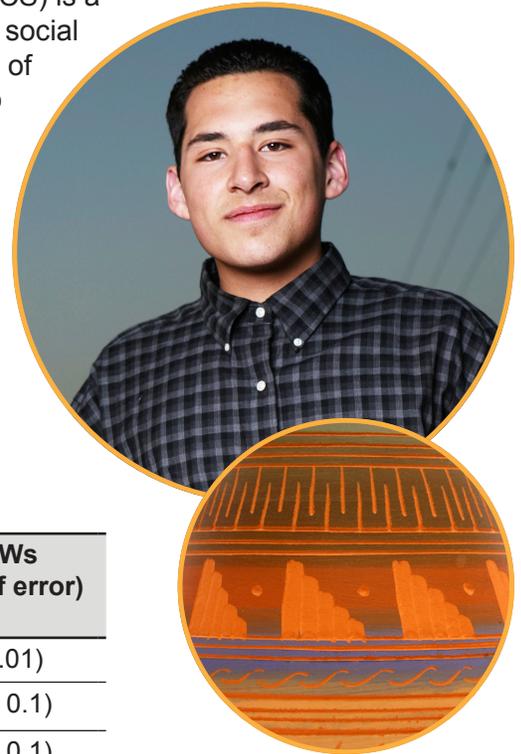
Table 1: ACS Sociodemographic Indicators, 2006-2010*

Indicator	Urban AI/ANs alone or in combination (margin of error)	Urban NHWs (margin of error)
Average family size$^{\Psi}$	3.44 (+/- 0.02)	2.98 (+/- 0.01)
Bachelor's or higher	18.0% (+/- 0.2)	34.5% (+/- 0.1)
Living in same home as one year ago	76.9% (+/- 0.3)	84.6% (+/- 0.1)
Median household income	$39,393 (+/- 370)	$57,312 (+/- 109)

These data suggest that urban AI/ANs tend to have larger families, are less likely to have attained higher education, are more likely to move homes in the course of one year, have lower median household incomes, and are more likely to spend 35% or more of their income on rent than NHWs (Figure 1 & Table 1). Urban Indian Health Organizations can use ACS data to make decisions about how best to serve their communities. More information about using ACS data can be found on the Census website, or by contacting UIHI at info@uihi.org.

Figure 1: Proportion of Renters Who Pay More Than 35% Gross Income in Rent, 2006-2010*

Urban AI/ANs	**Urban Non-Hispanic Whites**
44.8%	38.9%
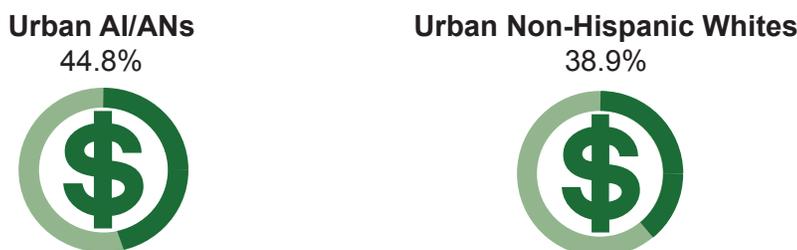
Source: U.S. Census Bureau   * These data are significant at the α = 0.10 level.   Ψ Number of family members