American Indian & Alaska Native Homelands

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Lenapehoking
Land Acknowledgement

The Lenape Center, 2022
Poverty & Infrastructural Inequities

- Poverty
  - 28% of all AIAN live at or below the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). (2019 ACS 5 yr)
  - 31% of AIAN residing on and 24% of AIAN residing off Homeland Territory (HT) live at or below the FPL. (2019 ACS 5 yr)

- Infrastructural inequities.
  - 6% of AIAN residing on and 1% of AIAN residing off HT lack access to basic infrastructure, including piped water, plumbing, and kitchens. (2019 ACS 5 yr)
  - 10% of AIAN residing on HT living at or below the FPL lack access to piped water, plumbing, or kitchens. (2019 ACS 5 yr)
  - 4% of AIAN residing on HT living above the FPL lack access to piped water, plumbing, or kitchens. (2019 ACS 5 yr)

AIAN are systematically undercounted and underrepresented in key reports, including national poverty measures.

Case Study in Context: Homeland Territory

- Identified top 3 Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMA) with highest concentration (majority) of AIAN. These PUMA comprised of 100% HT.
  - Navajo Nation, NM – 89% AIAN
  - Navajo and Apache Nations, AZ – 73% AIAN
  - Subsistence Alaska, AK – 72% AIAN

Research question: What is the significance of place in relation to poverty for AIAN?
Policy Implications

- **Indigenous Rights**
  - Right to self determination. (Crepelle 2021, 2019; UNDRIP 2007)
  - Right to free, prior, and informed consent prior to approval of any project affecting AIAN lands, territories, and resources. (UNDRIP 2007)

- **Addressing Poverty**
  - Permanent expansion of Child Tax Credit. (Arizona Center for Economic Progress 2021)
  - Comprehensive data collection. (Stamatopoulou 2021)
  - Increased employment opportunities.
Thank you!

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