



CENSUS BUREAU STATS SHOW GROWTH IN ETHNICITIES

- Nearly one in five people living in the United States speaks a language at home other than English, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Alaska ranked 16th in the nation with 15 percent of its population speaking a foreign language at home.
- The number of immigrants nationwide reached 37.5 million in 2006 – an all-time high. That’s 12.5 percent of the nation’s population. About 80 percent of all immigrants to the United States come from Asia and Latin America.
- The Census Bureau reported in September that 73.9 percent of the nation’s population was white; 12.4 was African American; 4.4 percent Asian; .8 percent American Indian or Alaska Native; .1 percent Hawaiian or Pacific Islander; and 8.3 percent were either some other race or two or more races. Almost 15 percent of Americans claimed Hispanic heritage. People who claim Hispanic heritage can be of any race.
- In Alaska, 68.7 percent of its 670,000 residents are white; 3.2 percent are African American; and 1.8 percent is some other race.
- Alaska has the highest percentage of American Indian and Alaska Native residents in the country at 13.1 percent.
- Alaska is ranked 10th in the nation for its number of Asian residents - 4.5 percent of the state’s population.
- Alaska is ranked third in the nation for Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander residents. About .6 percent of the state population claimed one of those ethnicities.
- Alaska is second in the nation for its percentage of residents who claimed two or more ethnicities as their demographic category. They represent 8.1 percent of the state’s residents.
- Another 5.6 percent claimed Hispanic or Latino heritage. People who claim Hispanic or Latino heritage can be of any race and are not included in the percentages listed above for race population.