



Fact Sheet

SOCIAL SECURITY

Social Security Is Important to American Indians and Alaska Natives

Social Security is neutral with respect to race or ethnicity – individuals with identical earnings histories are treated the same in terms of benefits. This Fact Sheet is provided by the Social Security Administration to highlight how American Indians and Alaska Natives benefit from the Social Security program and how certain demographic characteristics of American Indians and Alaska Natives compare with the entire population.

- According to the Census Bureau, American Indians and Alaska Natives tend to have lower life expectancies than the majority of the population. In 2019, the median earnings of American Indians and Alaska Natives aged 15–64 who worked full-time for 50 weeks or more, were \$40,000 compared to \$50,000 for all races.
- American Indians and Alaska Natives receiving benefits are helped by Social Security's [cost-of-living protection](#) which guarantees a benefit that is annually adjusted for inflation.
 - In 2019, the average annual Social Security income received by American Indian and Alaska Native men 65 years and older was \$14,393, and for women it was \$12,313.
- Today, American Indians and Alaska Natives make up about 1.3 percent of the U.S. population. This proportion is expected to remain the same in 2030 and to grow to 1.4 percent in 2060.

Our website at www.socialsecurity.gov/aian contains more information of interest to American Indians and Alaska Natives.

This fact sheet is designed to provide general information and may not apply to all individuals within each segment of the American Indian and Alaska Natives populations.

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