

## Do AI/AN students receive instruction about their native cultures?

School administrators were asked whether AI/AN students in their schools received instruction on a variety of topics and issues related to their native cultures. For example, instruction on one such topic, culture and traditions, was provided to 65 percent of all AI/AN fourth-graders and 57 percent of eighth-graders (figure 3-10).

Differences between high and low density schools were seen across the two grades. For example, a higher percentage of AI/AN fourth-graders in high density schools had administrators who reported that their schools provided instruction about native “oral and written language” (70 percent), compared to fourth-graders in low density schools (23 percent).

A comparison of administrators’ responses for students attending public schools and those attending BIE schools is provided in table 3-20. Differences are again seen for both grades. Ninety-four percent of fourth-graders and 91 percent of eighth-graders attending BIE schools had administrators who said their students received instruction about native “oral and written language.” These percentages are higher than those for students attending public schools (39 and 35 percent).

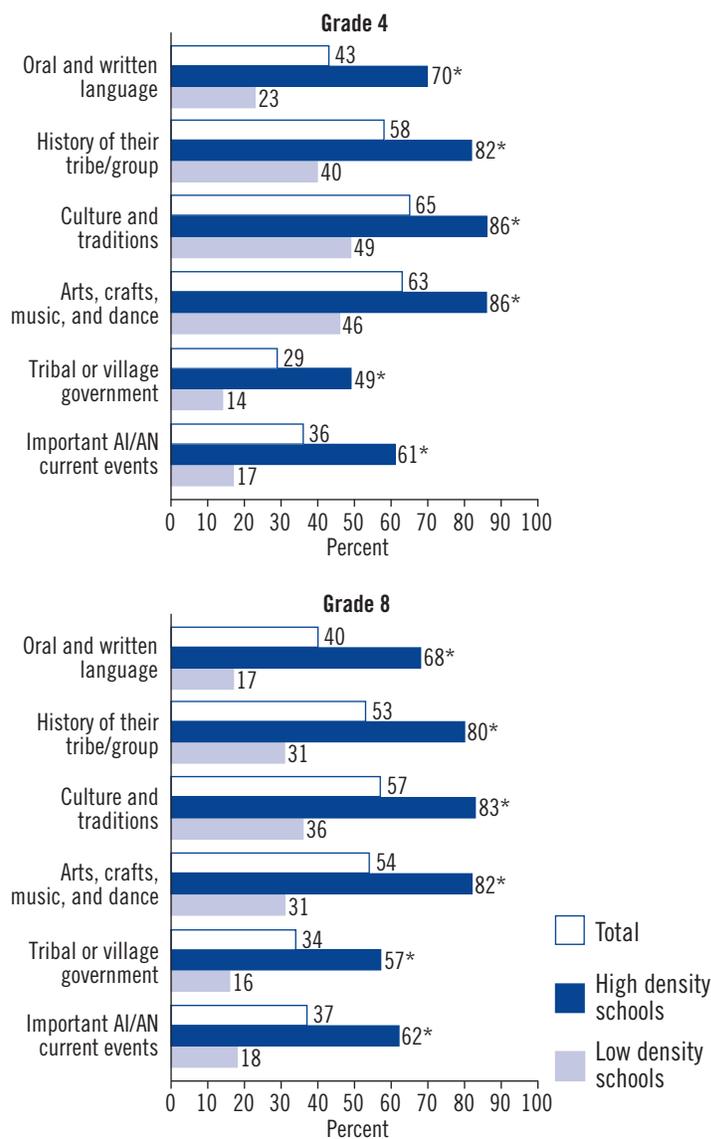
Table 3-20. Percentage of AI/AN students, by grade, type of school, and school administrators who answered “yes” to the response choices for a question about AI/AN cultural instruction in their schools: 2007

Do American Indian or Alaska Native students in your school receive instruction about their native cultures in any of the following areas?	Grade 4		Grade 8	
	Type of school		Type of school	
	Public	BIE	Public	BIE
Oral and written language	39	94*	35	91*
History of their tribe/group	56	90*	51	94*
Culture and traditions	63	97*	53	94*
Arts, crafts, music, and dance	62	96*	49	95*
Tribal or village government	26	72*	32	72*
Important AI/AN current events	33	78*	36	74*

\* Significantly different ( $p < .05$ ) from public schools.  
 NOTE: AI/AN = American Indian/Alaska Native. BIE = Bureau of Indian Education. Results are not shown for Department of Defense and private schools.  
 SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, 2007 National Indian Education Study.

Figure 3-10. Percentage of fourth- and eighth-grade AI/AN students, by school administrators who answered “yes” to the response choices for a question about AI/AN cultural instruction in their schools and school density: 2007

Do American Indian or Alaska Native students in your school receive instruction about their native cultures in any of the following areas?



\* Significantly different ( $p < .05$ ) from low density schools.  
 NOTE: AI/AN = American Indian/Alaska Native. School density indicates the proportion of AI/AN students enrolled. High density schools have 25 percent or more AI/AN students. Low density schools have less than 25 percent.  
 SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, 2007 National Indian Education Study.