

How experienced are the teachers of AI/AN students?

In addition to the type of certification held, teachers were asked to indicate their years of teaching experience. The majority of both AI/AN and non-AI/AN students in fourth and eighth grades were taught by teachers who said they have taught for at least 10 years (55 to 63 percent of AI/AN students and 54 percent of non-AI/AN students).

Some differences were observed between the two groups of students (table 2-9). For example, as compared to non-AI/AN students, a lower percentage of AI/AN eighth-graders were taught mathematics by teachers with 20 or more years of experience.

Table 2-9. Percentage of students, by the number of years their teachers have worked as elementary or secondary teachers, grade, and student group: 2007

Grade and student group	Total years of teaching experience			
	20 or more	10–19	5–9	0–4
Grade 4				
AI/AN students	28	35*	19*	18*
Non-AI/AN students	26	28	25	21
Grade 8 reading/language arts				
AI/AN students	25	35*	21	19
Non-AI/AN students	26	28	24	22
Grade 8 mathematics				
AI/AN students	22*	33*	21*	24
Non-AI/AN students	26	28	24	22

* Significantly different ($p < .05$) from non-AI/AN students.
 NOTE: AI/AN = American Indian/Alaska Native. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.
 SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), 2007 Reading and Mathematics Assessments.



The same information is disaggregated for AI/AN students in high density and low density schools in table 2-10. Here, there were no significant differences between the percentages of students in high density and low density schools taught by teachers with 10 to 19 years or at least 20 years of experience.

Table 2-10. Percentage of AI/AN students, by the number of years their teachers have worked as elementary or secondary teachers, grade, and school density: 2007

Grade and school density	Total years of teaching experience			
	20 or more	10–19	5–9	0–4
Grade 4				
High	30	38	16*	16
Low	27	32	21	20
Grade 8 reading/language arts				
High	23	37	21	19
Low	27	33	21	19
Grade 8 mathematics				
High	20	37	20	23
Low	23	31	21	25

* 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. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.
 SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), 2007 Reading and Mathematics Assessments.

There was some variation between public and BIE school students in the years of experience reported by their teachers, as shown in table 2-11. For example, 40 percent of fourth-grade AI/AN students in BIE schools had teachers with at least 20 years of experience, compared to 28 percent of their peers in public schools.

Table 2-11. Percentage of AI/AN students, by the number of years their teachers have worked as elementary or secondary teachers, grade, and type of school: 2007

Grade and type of school	Total years of teaching experience			
	20 or more	10–19	5–9	0–4
Grade 4				
Public	28	34	20	19
BIE	40*	25*	18	17
Grade 8 reading/language arts				
Public	26	35	20	19
BIE	25	30*	19	26*
Grade 8 mathematics				
Public	22	33	22	24
BIE	33*	32	14*	21

* 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. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.
 SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), 2007 Reading and Mathematics Assessments.