

## How experienced are the principals serving AI/AN students?

As part of the school questionnaire, information was gathered about the number of years that the principals or heads of schools had been in their current positions. Overall, 55 percent of AI/AN fourth-graders and 61 percent of AI/AN eighth-graders had principals with less than 5 years of experience in their current positions (table 2-22). There were no significant differences between the students attending high density and low density schools in the distribution of students by principal's experience.

Table 2-22. **Percentage of AI/AN students, by school density, grade, and the number of years their principals or the head of their schools have held the position: 2007**

Grade and number of years as principal or head of school	Total	School density	
		High	Low
<b>Grade 4</b>			
20 or more	2	2	2
10–19	15	15	15
5–9	29	25	31
0–4	55	58	52
<b>Grade 8</b>			
20 or more	2	1	3
10–19	13	12	14
5–9	24	24	24
0–4	61	63	60

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, 2007 National Indian Education Study.

Principals' years of experience varied for public and BIE schools. For example, 80 percent of fourth-grade AI/AN students attending BIE schools had principals with less than 5 years of experience in their current positions (table 2-23). Fifty-three percent of fourth-grade AI/AN students in public schools were served by principals with comparable years of experience.

Table 2-23. **Percentage of AI/AN students, by type of school, grade, and the number of years their principals or the head of their schools have held the position: 2007**

Grade and number of years as principal or head of school	Type of school	
	Public	BIE
<b>Grade 4</b>		
20 or more	2	1
10–19	15	7*
5–9	30	12*
0–4	53	80*
<b>Grade 8</b>		
20 or more	2	#
10–19	12	16*
5–9	23	19*
0–4	63	65

# Rounds to zero.

\* 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, 2007 National Indian Education Study.

