Indigenous Peoples' Education and Labor Market Issues: A Short Overview

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Roadmap of Talk

Basic Characteristics

Existing Research

Summary

Brief Characteristics from 2016 ACS 5-Year

	Am. Indian on Reservation	Am. Indian Total In US	US Avg.
Population Count	549,408	2,597,817	318,558,162
HS or more	80%	79%	87%
College or more	8%	8%	30%
Median Household Income	$37,020	$38,502	$55,322
Labor Force Participation Rate	54%	58%	64%
Unemployment Rate	18%	8%	7%

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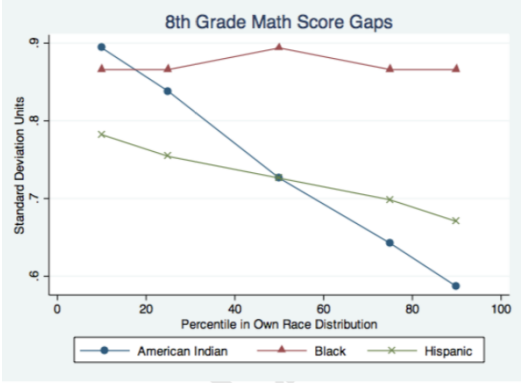
Existing Research

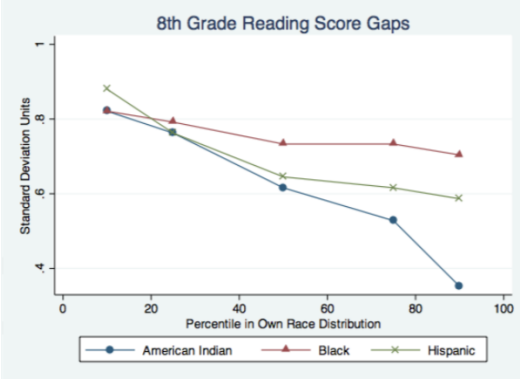
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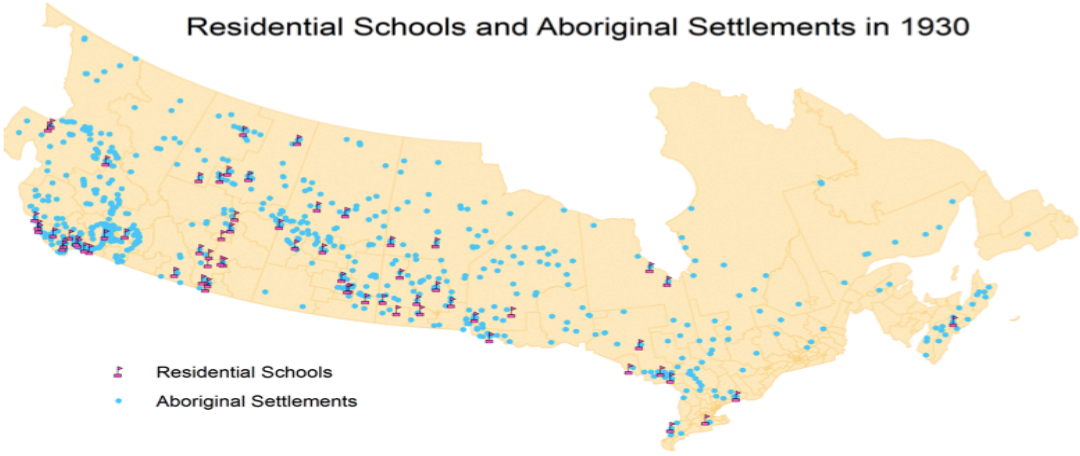
1. Test Score Gaps
2. Boarding Schools
3. Reservation Employment
4. Employment Discrimination
5. Casino operations and Employment
6. Income and Educational Attainment

Test Score Gaps, Fischer and Stoddard (2013)





Education and Assimilation, Feir (2016)



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1. HS Graduation $\uparrow$
2. Government Transfers $\downarrow$
3. Employed $\uparrow$

Education and Assimilation, Feir (2016)

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4. Live in Aboriginal Community ? **No**
5. Participate in Ceremonies ? **No**
6. Speak Native Language ? **No**

Employment on Reservations, Gitter and Reagan (2002)

TABLE 4—RANDOM-EFFECTS PROBIT ESTIMATES OF PROBABILITY OF EMPLOYMENT

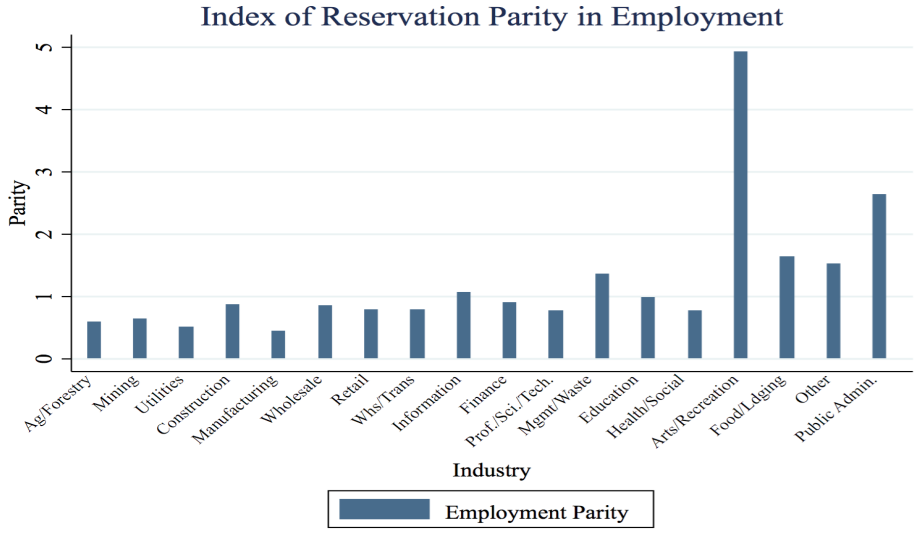
Variable	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Constant	−3.9402	−3.6650	−3.9738	−3.6812
	(0.7041)	(0.7047)	(0.7039)	(0.7046)
Native × reservation	−0.7013	−0.5670		
	(0.2223)	(0.2291)		
	[−0.1489]	[−0.1113]		
Non-Native × reservation	−0.0288	0.0402		
	(0.0685)	(0.0727)		
	[−0.0039]	[0.0052]		
Native × reservation at age 14			−0.5332	−0.3252
			(0.2603)	(0.2702)
			[−0.1028]	[−0.0548]
Non-Native × reservation at age 14			0.1433	0.2233
			(0.0837)	(0.0855)
			[0.0177]	[0.0263]

Employment Discrimination against Indigenous Peoples, Button and Walker (2017)

Table 6 – Discrimination Estimates by Race and Indian Reservation Upbringing, with and without Controls

	No Controls (1)	Regular Controls (2)	Full Controls (3)
Native American	-0.022	0.000	-0.001
	(0.015)	(0.015)	(0.015)
… x Reservation	-0.006	-0.009	-0.008
	(0.022)	(0.020)	(0.020)
… x Reservation x Reservation Job	0.007	-0.003	-0.001
	(0.032)	(0.028)	(0.028)
Alaska Native	0.057	-0.045	-0.052
	(0.051)	(0.060)	(0.060)
Native Hawaiian	0.079***	-0.005	-0.007
	(0.026)	(0.023)	(0.023)
Rural	-0.052*	-0.004	-0.006
	(0.026)	(0.023)	(0.023)
… x Rural Job	0.012	-0.023	-0.022
	(0.038)	(0.031)	(0.031)
Callback Rate for White:		29.76%	

Reservation-Based Businesses and Employment



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Opportunities for important research in labor economics exist:

1. appropriateness of measures of human capital, income or well-being
2. budget constraints and human capital accumulation
3. inputs to education production function
4. different types of hiring discrimination
5. increased demand for human capital on reservations

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