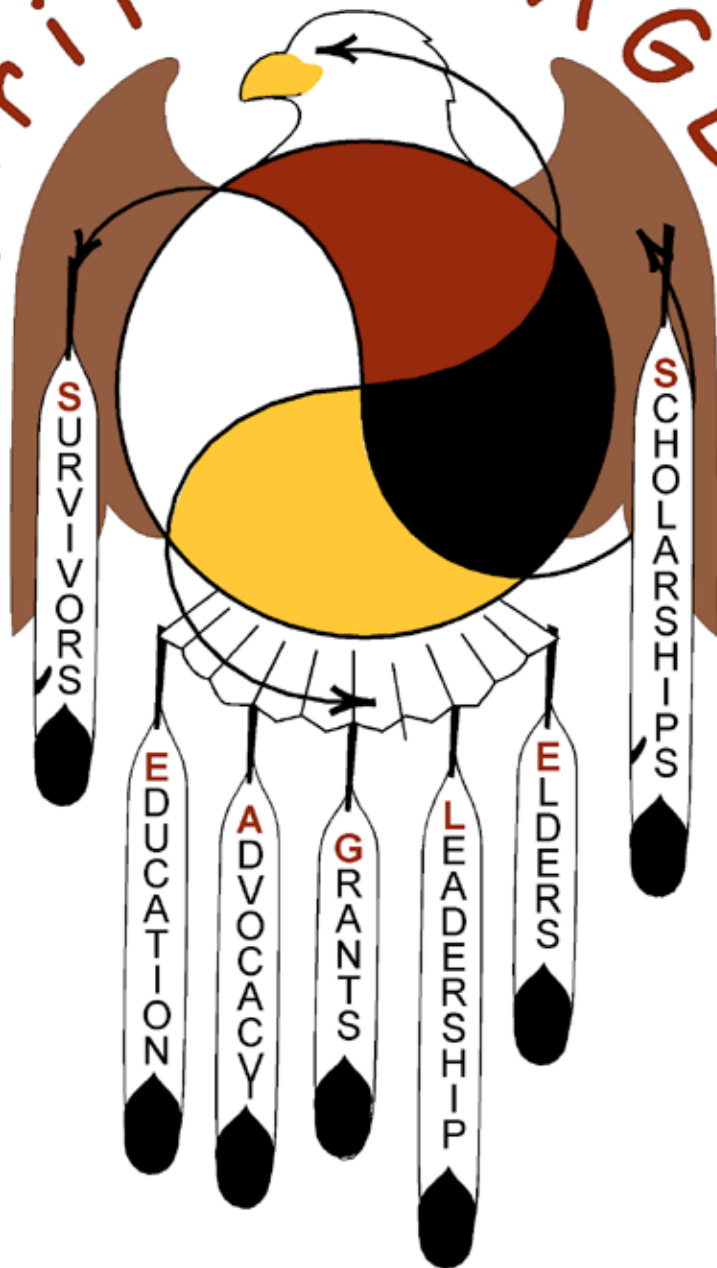


# OBESITY IN AI/AN POPULATIONS

JUDITH SALMON KAUR, M.D.  
MEDICAL ONCOLOGY

# Spirit of EAGLES



# American Indian/Alaska Native Population

- Over 560 federally recognized tribes
- 47 state recognized tribes
- Highest AI/AN populations in CA, OK, AZ, TX, NM
- Total AI/AN population:
  - AI/AN alone (2.5M, 0.9%)
  - Alone or in combination (4.1M, 1.5%)
  - Bridged single race (3.1M, 1.1%)
  - 64% urban, 36% rural/reservation

# US Census 2000 AI/AN Population Characteristics

- Younger
  - Mean age 29 vs 35 yrs
- Lower educational attainment
  - 29% vs 20%, less than high school
  - 11% vs 24%, bachelors degree/higher
- Higher poverty rates
  - 26% vs 12%, living below poverty level
- More homes without telephones
  - 11 - 12% vs 1 - 5%
  - Up to 50% for some tribes

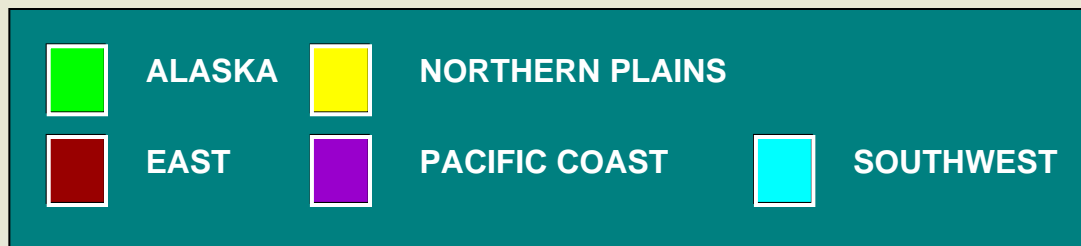
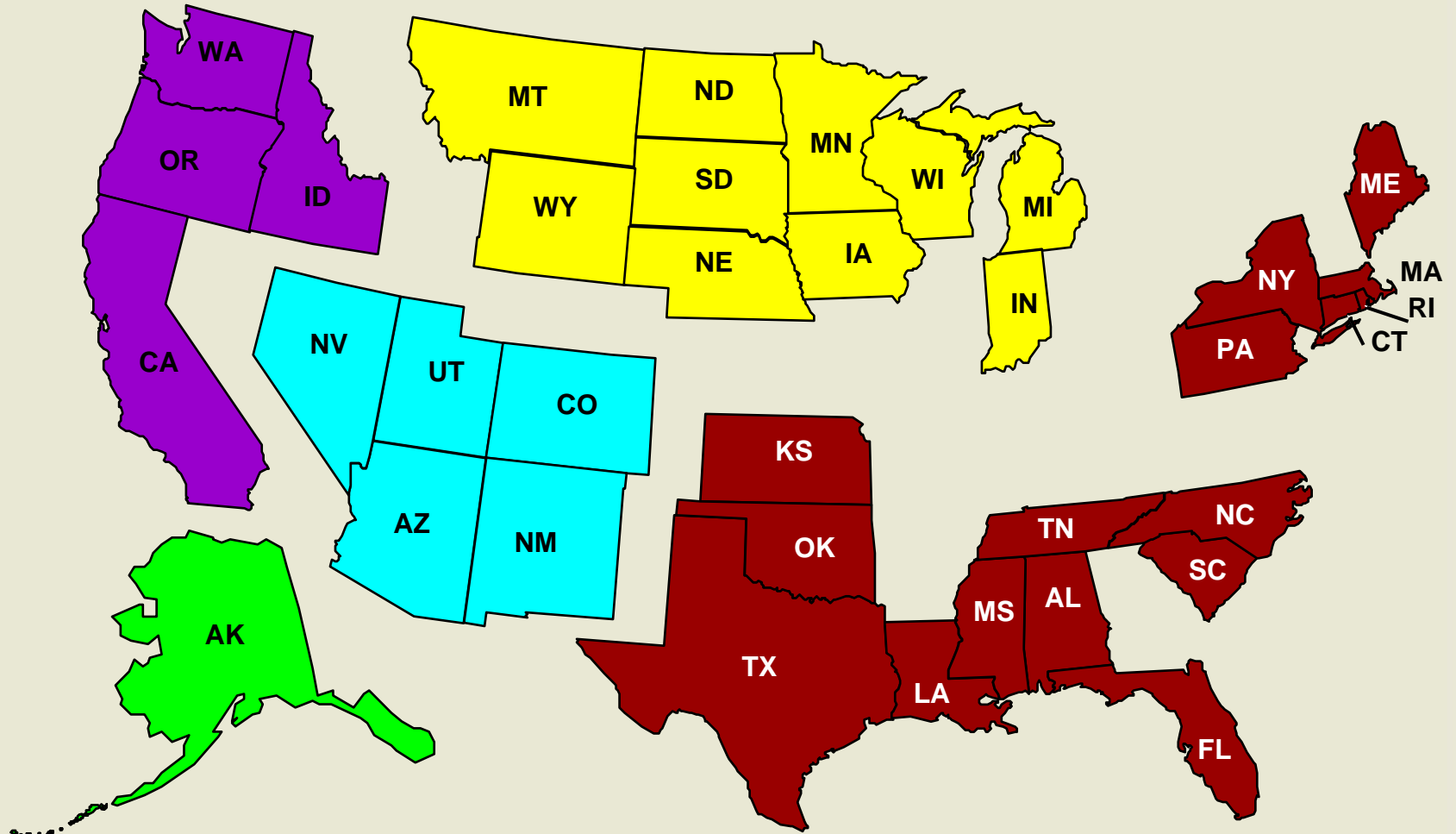


# Diverse people, cultures, languages, and lifestyles

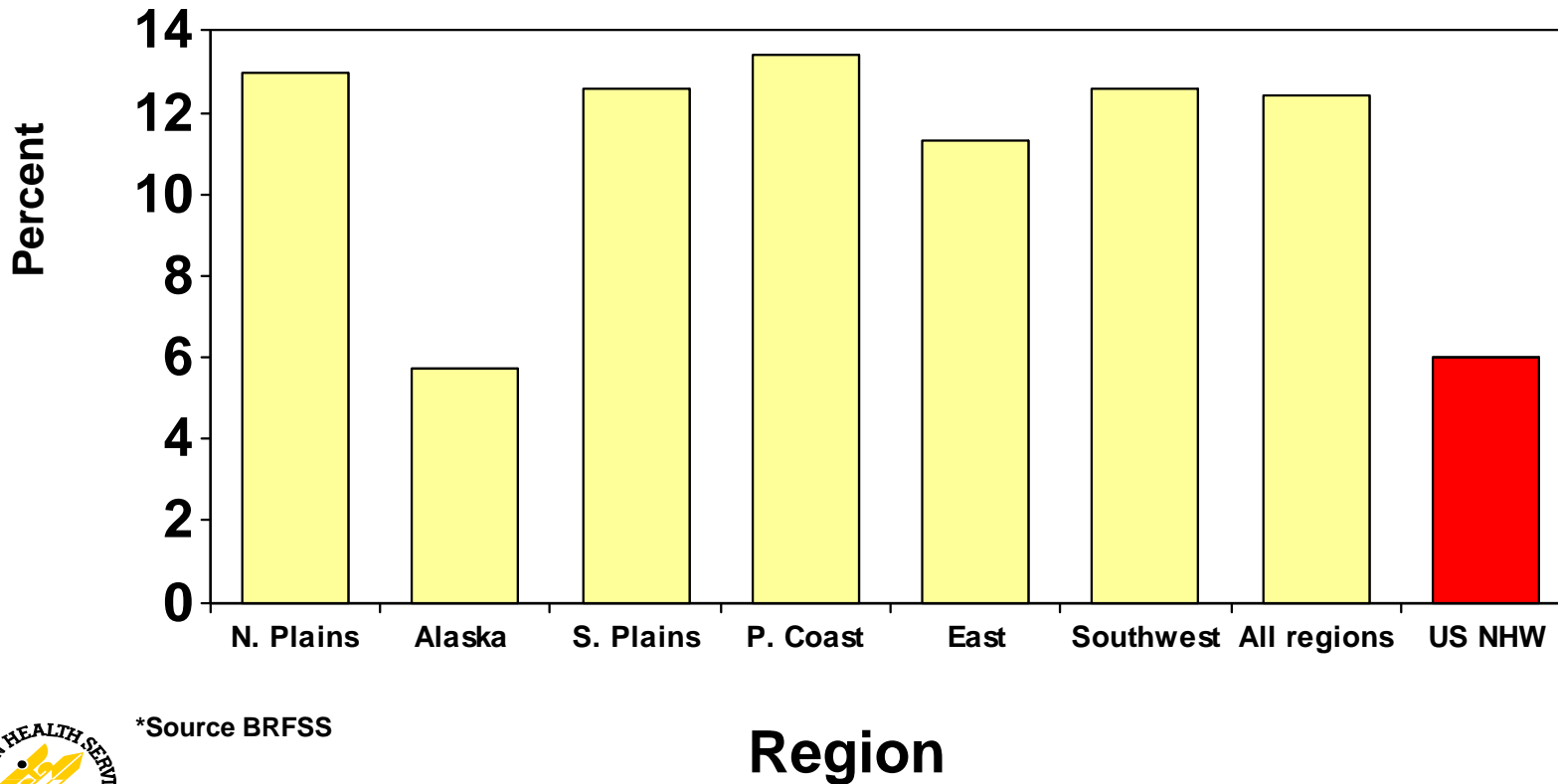


*Photos Courtesy of the Indian Health Service/U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium*

# Five Geographic Regions



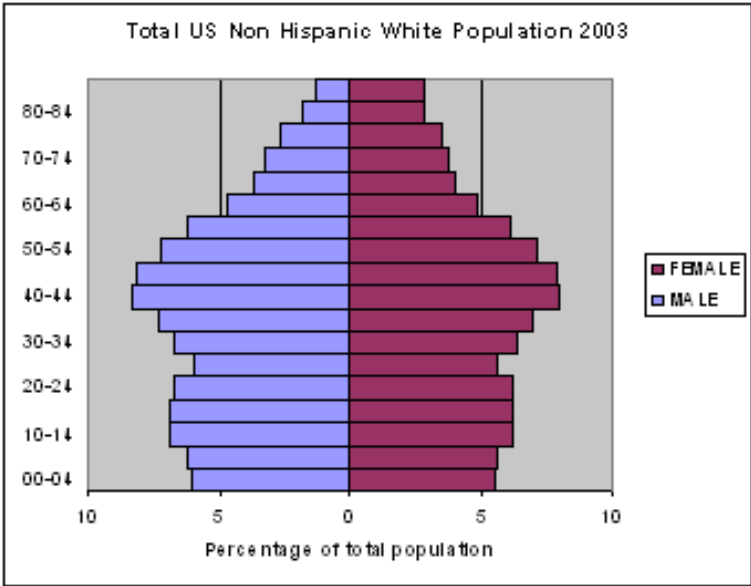
# AI/AN & NHW PREVALENCE OF DIABETES BY REGION, 1999-2006



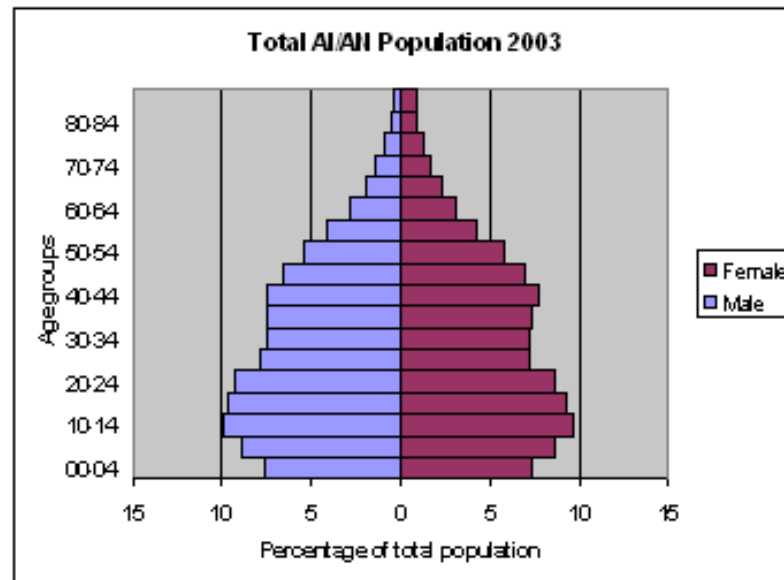
\*Source BRFSS



# DEMOGRAPHICS COUNT!



# HIGH PREVENTION POTENTIAL





**Sometimes this is how we feel**



# ARE WE MOVING FORWARD?



# RESEARCH NEEDS

- BIOLOGICAL
- PSYCHOLOGICAL
- SOCIAL