The traditional lands of the Apache Ndeh (The People) extended from Texas through New Mexico and Arizona into Mexico and California. Bands of Apache hunted, fished, farmed, and traded throughout the region. Over time, the many bands of Apache were forcibly relocated to reservations. In 1891 the Fort Apache Indian Reservation was established, now known as the White Mountain Apache Reservation. Fort Apache originally included the San Carlos Apache Reservation, but was separated by an act of Congress in 1897.

According to the 2010 decennial census, approximately 13,409 individuals live on White Mountain Apache Tribal Land in Arizona.

LOCATION

The White Mountain Apache Reservation is located in east-central Arizona and covers 1.67 million acres. Elevation ranges from 2,600 feet in the Salt River Canyon to 11,400 feet at the peak of Mount Baldy (a sacred peak to the White Mountain Apache Tribe).

The reservation includes more than 400 miles of streams, and is home to the Apache trout, a species that almost fell to extinction.
SOCIAL & HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS*

The White Mountain Apache Tribe is a young community. The under-18 population accounts for 37.8 percent of all tribal members, which is considerably higher than the State of Arizona. The median age for the tribe is 24.1, compared to a median age of 35.9 for the State.

There are approximately 3,301 occupied housing units on the White Mountain Apache Reservation. The majority (61 percent) are owner-occupied.

The White Mountain Apache Tribe is made up of diverse households. Less than half of households are traditional married-couple families (39.6 percent), and households headed by a single female make up one-third (33.4 percent) of all households. The majority (68.9 percent) speak a language other than English.

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

The White Mountain Apache Tribe has a significantly high poverty rate (44 percent compared to 15 percent for the state of Arizona as a whole). The median household income for the Tribe is $26,172.

In terms of occupation, the majority of workers (more than 66 percent) work for the government.

ENTREPRISES

- Hon-Dah Casino includes a hotel and conference center.
- Sunrise Park Resort offers skiing in the winter and nature hikes, horseback tours, and mountain biking in the summer.
- Hawley Lake Cabins are owned and operated by the White Mountain Apache Community Development Corporation (a non-profit corporation).
- Fort Apache Timber Company promotes the economic development of the White Mountain Apache Tribe.

*All statistics on this page are from the 2010 Decennial Census or the 2006-2010 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates.
Articles of the White Mountain Apache Tribe Constitution that may pertain to institutional research protocol:

Article IV - Powers of the Council

Section 1 - In addition to all powers vested in the White Mountain Apache Tribe through its inherent sovereignty or by existing law, the White Mountain Apache Tribal Council shall exercise the following powers, subject to any limitations imposed by this Constitution:

(a) To represent the Tribe and act in all matters that concern the welfare of the Tribe, and to make decisions not inconsistent with or contrary to this Constitution.

(b) To negotiate, make, and perform contracts and agreements of every description, not inconsistent with federal law or this Constitution, with any person, association, or corporation, with any municipality, or any county, or with the State of Arizona or the United States, including agreements with the State of Arizona for rendition of public services.

(f) To protect and preserve the wildlife, plant life, forests, natural resources, and water rights of the Tribe, and to regulate hunting and fishing on the Reservation.

(g) To cultivate Indian arts, crafts, and cultures.

Federal

42 USC § 3515b requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services to adopt appropriate regulations for the use of federal funds to pay for any research program or project, or any program, project, or course which is of an experimental nature, or any other activity involving human participants that presents a danger to the physical, mental, or emotional well-being of a participant or subject.

45 C.F.R. § 46.101 requires that research that is supported by a federal department or agency (defined by 45 C.F.R. § 46.102(e)) must be reviewed and approved by an institutional review board.