

# Alaska Native Population Increases

Alaska's Native population has increased by 12,000 or 23% during the last decade according to the 1970 U. S. Census. The white population grew by 62,000 persons or 36%, spurred by a net immigration of 14,000.

The native population showed a natural increase (new babies) of 20,000 but an outmigration of 8,000. The number of Natives who left the state during the decade is equivalent to 15% of their 1960 population.

The report notes a significant

difference between the two racial groups in elderly population growth. Among the whites this age group increased 22% while the Natives increased 43%. (Perhaps less natives go to Florida to retire).

The total population of the state grew from 226,167 in 1960 to 302,173 in 1970.

The census also showed that, while overall population increased by 33%, housing units increased 35%. The median value of owner occupied housing

rose from \$9,100 to \$22,700 (150%).

The average rent increased from \$110 to \$171 during that time.