

**AMERICAN INDIAN/ALASKA NATIVE FACT SHEET
FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA**

OVERVIEW

According to the 2000 U.S. Census there are 4.1 million American Indian/Alaska Natives (AI/AN) residing in the United States (alone or in combination with another race). While 4 out of 10 Indians live in western states, every state in the nation has a measurable AI/AN population¹. There are currently 563 federally recognized Indian tribes and approximately 245 tribes currently petitioning for federal recognition. Each of these tribes is a distinct sovereign nation that determines its own membership (citizenship) and exercises the powers of government. The Urban Indian Health Institute estimates that 66% of the AI/AN population lives in metropolitan areas (over 2.7 million)². The Indian Health Service contracts with 34 Urban Indian Health Clinics.

The U.S. Constitution (Article 1 Section 8) sets the foundation for the federal government's trust responsibility to Indian nations, which has been reinforced over the years through various treaties, laws, and court rulings. Despite this, AI/AN people continue to be underserved due to a lack of adequate federal funding. The Indian Health Service appropriation meets less than 60% of the need³, and of that Behavioral Health typically represents about 1% of their total budget. The Bureau of Indian Affairs continues to eliminate or cut programs due to decreased funding.

Since Indian people are also citizens of the states in which they reside, local government agencies and entities have the responsibility to serve AI/AN populations that reside in their cities, counties, or states. In states that have federally or state recognized tribes, government-to-government relationships should be fostered in ways that promote the principle of tribal self-determination. In other states, efforts should be made to reach out to Urban Indian organizations or other community-based AI/AN organizations. Cities should seek partnerships and offer contracts to Urban Indian organizations. The National Indian Child Welfare Association is available to provide assistance to cities, counties, and states seeking to develop partnerships with AI/AN communities.

State Map (2000 U.S. Census)



Demographics (2000 U.S. Census)

Total AI/AN Population (alone or in any combination)	119,331
Total AI/AN population under age 19 (alone or in any combination)	52,107
Reservation population on the Annette Island Federal Reserve	1,447
Urban Indian population in the Metropolitan Service Area of Anchorage	27,613

Disclaimer – Census data may have some inaccuracies related to the population on reservations. Contact tribe for the official tribal statistics

Contact Information

There are 225 federally recognized tribal governments in Alaska. Metlakatla Indian Community (Annette Island Federal Reserve) is Alaska's only American Indian reservation. For a complete list of contact information for the federally recognized tribes in Alaska, please visit the website for the National Congress of American Indians at www.ncai.org and click on "tribal directory" and click on "Alaska." Alaska is also home to 13 Native regional corporations that were formed under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971. To learn more about the Native corporations and other information related to Alaska Native organizations, visit <http://www.ankn.uaf.edu/ancsa.html>.

Additional regional contacts for Alaska's American Indian/Alaska Native services

<p>Alaska Federation of Natives 1577 C Street, Suite 300 Anchorage, AK 99501 (907) 274-3611 Fax: (907) 276-7989</p> <p>Website: http://www.nativefederation.org/flash.html</p>	<p>Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium Don Kashevaroff, President/Chairman 4000 Ambassador Drive Anchorage, AK 99508-5928 (907) 729-1900 FAX: (907) 729-1901</p> <p>Website: http://anthc.org</p>
<p>Alaska Native Health Board Trudy Anderson, President CEO 3700 Woodland Drive, Ste 500 Anchorage, AK 99517 (907) 562-6006 Fax: (907) 563-2001</p> <p>E-mail: tanderson@anhb.org Website: http://www.anhb.org/</p>	<p>Bureau of Indian Affairs Juneau Area Office Niles C. Cesar, Area Director P.O. Box 25520 Juneau, AK 99802 (800) 645-8397 or (907) 586-7177 Fax: (907) 586-7252</p>
<p>Alaska Intertribal Council 431 West 7th Avenue Suite 201 Anchorage, AK 99501</p> <p>Website: http://www.aitc.org/</p>	<p>Indian Health Services Alaska Area Office Christopher Mandregan, Jr., Area Director 4141 Ambassador Drive, Suite 300 Anchorage, AK 99508-5928 (907) 729-3686 Fax: (907) 729-3689</p> <p>Website: http://www.ihs.gov/FacilitiesServices/AreaOffices/Alaska/index.asp</p>

For more information, contact the National Indian Child Welfare Association at (503) 222-4044 or visit our website at www.nicwa.org.

ⁱ *The American Indian and Alaska Native Population: 2000 Census Brief. Issued February 2002. U.S. Census Bureau*

ⁱⁱ *Urban Indian Health Issue Brief. By Ralph Forquera for the Henry J. Kaiser Foundation. November 2001*

ⁱⁱⁱ *Level of Need Funded Study by the LNF Work Group Report II, December 1999. Indian Health Service*