



NICWA

National Indian Child Welfare Association
Protecting our children • Preserving our culture

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

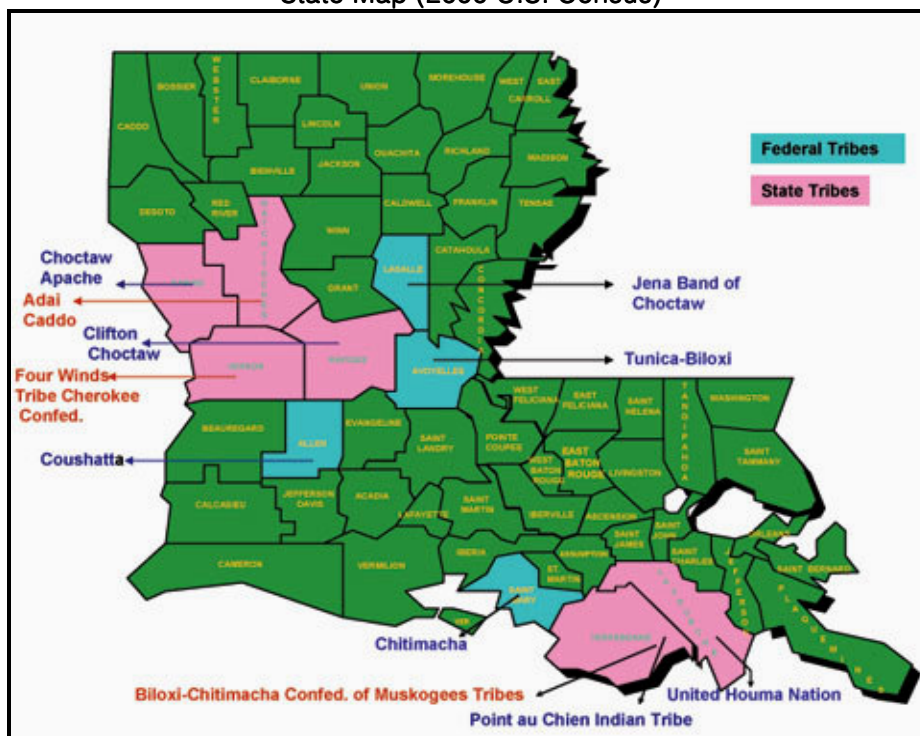
OVERVIEW

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)	47,316
Total AI/AN population under age 19 (alone or in any combination)	16,475
Number of AI/AN (alone or in any combination) on Chitimacha Reservation	289
Number of AI/AN (alone or in any combination) on Coushatta Reservation	20
Number of AI/AN (alone or in any combination) on Jena Band of Choctaw Indian Reservation	792
Number of AI/AN (alone or in any combination) on Tunica-Biloxi Reservation	64
Number of AI/AN (alone or in any combination) in Adais Caddo tribal area (state recognized)	612
Number of AI/AN (alone or in any combination) in Apache-Choctaw tribal area (state recognized)	2,237
Number of AI/AN (alone or in any combination) in Clifton Choctaw tribal area (state recognized)	181
Number of AI/AN (alone or in any combination) in Four Winds Cherokee tribal area (state recognized)	1,687
Number of AI/AN (alone or in any combination) in United Houma Nation tribal area (state recognized)	15,305
Number of AI/AN off reservations or outside of state recognized Indian communities	26,129
Total AI/AN population in the New Orleans metro area	11,866
Total AI/AN population in the Baton Rouge metro area	4,460
Total AI/AN population in the Lafayette metro area	1,931
Total AI/AN population in the Alexandria metro area	1,408

Disclaimer – Census data may have some inaccuracies related to the population on reservations. Contact tribe for the official tribal statistics. No Census population data available for Biloxi Chitimacha Confederation of Muskogee or Point au Chien Tribe.

Contact Information

<p>Bureau of Indian Affairs - Eastern Agency Franklin Keel, Regional Director 545 Marriott Drive, Suite 700 Nashville, TN 37214 Phone: (615) 564-6700 Fax: (615) 564-6701 <i>(Regional office covering programs administered in eastern area)</i></p>	<p>Biloxi Chitimacha Confederation of Muskogee – 2004 PO Box 856 Zachary, LA 70791 www.biloxi-chitimacha.com</p>
<p>Nashville Area Indian Health Service Richie Grinnell, Area Director 711 Stewarts Ferry Pike Nashville, TN 37214-2634 Toll Free Phone: (866) 447-6261 Fax: (615) 467-1501 Website: www.ihs.gov/FacilitiesServices/AreaOffices/Nashville/ <i>(Regional office covering programs administered in eastern area)</i></p>	<p>Point au Chien Tribe 177 Aragon Road Montegut, LA 70377 http://pactribe.tripod.com</p>
<p>Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana PO Box 818 Elton, LA 70532 Phone: (337) 584-2261 http://www.coushattatribela.org/index.html</p>	<p>Four Winds Cherokee Tribe PO Box 118 Merryville, LA 70653 Phone: (337) 825-8641</p>
<p>Chitimach Tribe of Louisiana PO Box 661 Charenton, LA 70523 http://www.chitimacha.com/</p>	<p>United Houma Nation 20986 Hwy 1 Golden Meadow, LA 70357 Phone: (985) 475-6640 Fax: (985) 475-7109 http://www.unitedhoumanation.org/</p>
<p>Jena Band of Choctaw Indians Health Department PO Box 14 Jena, LA 71342 Phone: (318) 992-2717 or 318-992-2720 Fax: (318) 992-2816 E-mail: kftjbc@yahoo.com http://www.jenachoctaw.org/index.cfm</p>	<p>Clifton Choctaw Tribe 1146 Clifton Road Clifton, LA 71447 Phone: (318) 793-4253</p>
<p>Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana Health Department PO Box 331 Marksville, LA 71351 Phone: (318) 253-6100 http://www.tunica.org/</p>	<p>Apache Choctaw Tribe of Louisiana PO Box 1428 Zwolle, LA 71486 Phone: (318) 645-2588 Fax: (318) 645-2568 http://cate.50megs.com/Index.htm</p>
<p>Adai Caddo Tribe 4500 Hwy 485 Robeline, LA 71469 Phone: (318) 472-8680</p>	<p>State of Louisiana, Office of Indian Affairs PO Box 94004 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804 Phone: (225) 219-7556 Fax: (225) 219-7551 http://www.indianaffairs.com/default.htm</p>

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

¹ The American Indian and Alaska Native Population: 2000 Census Brief. Issued February 2002. US Census Bureau

² Urban Indian Health Issue Brief. By Ralph Forquera for the Henry J. Kaiser Foundation, November 2001

³ Level of Need Funded Study by the LNF Work Group Report II, December 1999 Indian Health Service

