



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

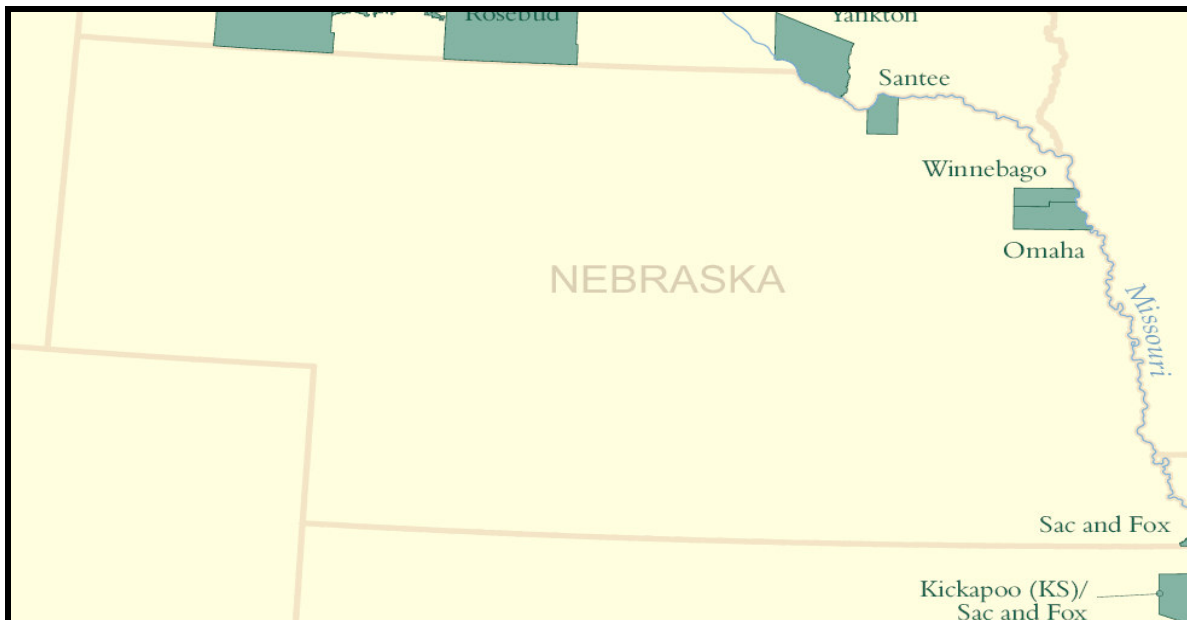
**OVERVIEW**

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 population. 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)<sup>ii</sup> 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 need<sup>iii</sup>, 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.

**Map of AI/AN Groups (2000 U.S. Census)**



## Demographics (2000 Census)

Total AI/AN population (alone or in any combination)	22,784
Total AI/AN population under age 19 (alone or in any combination)	9,962
Number of AI/AN (alone or in any combination) on Santee Sioux reservation	569
Number of AI/AN (alone or in any combination) on Omaha reservation	2,365
Number of AI/AN (alone or in any combination) on Winnebago reservation	2,588
Number of AI/AN (alone or in any combination) in Ponca reservation and federally designated service area – 12 counties in Nebraska * The numbers provided are based on tribal provided population numbers. The U.S. Census did not have accurate numbers. The tribe's service area also includes one county in South Dakota and two in Iowa	1,231
Number of AI/AN off reservations or outside of state recognized Indian communities	16,031
Urban Indian population (Omaha and Lincoln combined – 5 county area)	11,543

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

## Contact Information for tribal communities/Indian Organizations

<b>Omaha Tribal Council</b> Gary Lasley, Chairman P.O. Box 368 Macy, NE 68039 Phone: (402) 837-5391 Fax: (402) 837-5308	<b>Ponca Tribe of Nebraska</b> Fred LeRoy, Chairperson P.O. Box 288 Niobrara, NE 68760 Phone: (402) 857-3391 Fax: (402) 857-3736 <a href="http://www.poncatribene.org/">http://www.poncatribene.org/</a>
<b>Santee Sioux Tribal Council</b> Arthur "Butch" Denney, Chairman Route 2 Niobrara, NE 68760 Phone: (402) 857-3302 Fax: (402) 857-3307 <a href="http://www.santeedakota.org/">http://www.santeedakota.org/</a>	<b>Winnebago Tribal Council</b> John Blackhawk, Chairman P.O. Box 687 Winnebago, NE 68071 Phone: (402) 878-2272 Fax: (402) 878-2963 <a href="http://www.winnebago-tribe.com/">http://www.winnebago-tribe.com/</a>
<b>Nebraska Commission on Indian Affairs</b> Phone: (402) 471.3475 Phone Fax: (402) 471.3392 Fax <a href="mailto:JMKIBOS@NCIA.NE.GOV">JMKIBOS@NCIA.NE.GOV</a> E-Mail <a href="http://www.indianaffairs.state.ne.us/">http://www.indianaffairs.state.ne.us/</a>	<b>Lincoln Indian Center, Inc</b> 1100 Military Road Lincoln, NE 68508 Phone: (402) 438-5231 phone Fax: (402) 438-5236 fax
<b>Nebraska Urban Indian Health Coalition, Inc.</b> 2240 Landon Court Omaha, NE 68102 Phone: (402) 346-0902 Fax: (402) 342-5290 <a href="http://www.nuihc.com">http://www.nuihc.com</a>	<b>Nebraska Urban Indian Medical Center</b> 220 S. 17th Street Lincoln, NE 68508 Phone: (402) 434-7177 Fax: (402) 434-7180 <a href="http://www.nuihc.com">http://www.nuihc.com</a>
<b>Bureau of Indian Affairs – Winnebago Agency</b> (Superintendent – vacant) Rt. 1, Box 18 Winnebago, NE 68071 Phone: (402) 878-2502 Fax: (402) 878-2943	<b>Bureau of Indian Affairs – Great Plains Region</b> William Benjamin, Regional Director 115 Fourth Avenue SE Aberdeen, SD 57401-4384 Phone: 605-226-7343 Fax: 605-226-7446 <i>(Regional office that covers programs administered in Great Plains Region)</i>
<b>Aberdeen Area Indian Health Service</b> Mr. Don Lee, Area Director 115 Fourth Avenue Southeast Aberdeen, South Dakota 57401 Telephone: (605) 226-7581 Fax: (605) 226-7541 Website: <a href="http://www.ihs.gov/FacilitiesServices/AreaOffices/Aberdeen/">http://www.ihs.gov/FacilitiesServices/AreaOffices/Aberdeen/</a> <i>(Regional office that covers programs administered in Aberdeen area)</i>	

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

<sup>i</sup> The American Indian and Alaska Native Population: 2000 Census Brief. Issued February 2002. US Census Bureau

<sup>ii</sup> Urban Indian Health Issue Brief. By Ralph Forquera for the Henry J. Kaiser Foundation. November 2001

<sup>iii</sup> Level of Need Funded Study by the LNF Work Group Report II, December 1999 Indian Health Service  
4/15/2005