



AMERICAN INDIAN/ALASKA NATIVE FACT SHEET FOR THE STATE OF NEW YORK

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 populationⁱ. 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)ⁱⁱ. 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 needⁱⁱⁱ, 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)	176,348
Total AI/AN population under age 19 (alone or in any combination)	58,951
Number of AI/AN on all NY reservations except Oil Spring and Oneida (AI/AN race alone or in combination with one or more races)	15,032
Urban Indian population in New York, Queens, Bronx, Richmond, Kings, and Nassau counties	43,401
Urban Indian population in Syracuse metropolitan service area (MSA)	9,715
Urban Indian population in Albany—Schenechtady—Troy, NY MSA	6,333

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

Contact Information for tribes: There are seven federally recognized tribes in the state of New York and two state-recognized tribes.

Cayuga Nation of Indians Vernon Isaac, Chief P.O. Box 11, Versailles, NY 14168 Phone: (716) 532-4847 Fax: (716) 532-5417	Oneida Indian Nation Ray Halbritter, Representative 223 Genessee Street, Ames Plaza Oneida, NY 13421 Phone: (315)-361-6300 F: 315-361-6333 http://www.oneida-nation.net/
Onondaga Nation Irving Powless, Jr., Chief RR 1, Box 319-B, Nedrow, NY 13120 Phone: (315) 498-9950 http://www.onondagation.org/	St. Regis Mohawk Tribe James W. Ransom, Chief 412 State Route 37, Akwesasne, NY 13655 Phone: (518) 358-2272 Fax: (518)-358-3203 http://fasprint.com/srmt/home.htm
Seneca Nation of Indians Rickey L. Armstrong, Sr. President PO Box 231, Salamanca, NY 14779 Phone: (716) 945-1790 Fax: (716) 945-1565 http://www.sni.org/	Tonawanda Band of Senecas Emerson Webster, Chief 7027 Meadville Road, Basom, NY 14013 Phone: (716) 542-4244 Fax: (716) 542-4244
Tuscarora Nation Leo R. Henry, Chief 2006 Mt. Hope Road, Lewiston, NY 14092 Phone: (716) 622-7061 Fax: (716) 297-7355	Shinnecock Tribe (state-recognized tribe) Randy King, Chairman Shinnecock Indian Reservation PO Box 5006, Southampton, New York, 11969 Phone: (631) 283-6143 Fax: (631) 283-0751 http://www.shinnecocknation.com
Kim M. Thomas, Native American Affairs Specialist NY State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) Native American Services 295 Main Street, Suite 545, Buffalo, New York 14203 Phone: (716) 847-3123 Fax: (716) 847-3812 Email: Kim.Thomas@DFA.STATE.NY.US http://www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/nas/	Nashville Area Indian Health Service <i>(Health services for American Indians and Alaska Natives in the Southern and Eastern United States)</i> Richie Grinnell, Director 711 Stewarts Ferry Pike, Nashville, TN 37214-2634 Phone: (615) 467-1500 Fax: (615) 467-1501 http://www.ihs.gov/FacilitiesServices/AreaOffices/Nashville/
Bureau of Indian Affairs Eastern Agency 711 Stewart Ferry Pike Nashville, TN 37214 Phone: (615) 467-1700 Fax: (615) 467-1701	

For contact information on urban Indian health programs and other Indian organizations, refer to *A Proud Heritage: Native American Services in New York State*, found at the following website:

<http://www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/publications/Pub4629ProudHeritage.pdf>.

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*.