



## AMERICAN INDIAN/ALASKA NATIVE FACT SHEET FOR THE STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

### 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<sup>i</sup>. 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.

State Map (2000 U.S. Census)



## Demographics (2000 U.S. Census)

Total AI/AN population (alone or in any combination)	35,683
Total AI/AN population under age 19 (alone or in any combination)	14,203
Number of AI/AN on-reservation (AI/AN race alone or in combination with one or more races)	21,556
Number of AI/AN off-reservation	14,127
Urban Indian population for Bismarck, North Dakota	3,410
Urban Indian population for Fargo, North Dakota	1,535
Urban Indian population for Grand Forks, North Dakota	1,710
Urban Indian population for Minot, North Dakota	1,293

*Disclaimer: Census data may have some inaccuracies related to the population on reservation. Please contact the tribes directly for current official tribal statistics.*

### Contact Information:

<p><b>Aberdeen Area Office Bureau of Indian Affairs</b> (Serving Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota) 115 4th Avenue, SouthEast Aberdeen, SD 57401 (605) 226-7343 FAX: (605) 226-7446</p>	<p><b>Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa</b> PO Box 900 Belcourt, ND 58316-0900 (701) 477-2600 FAX: (701) 477-6836 Website: <a href="http://www.turtlemountainchippewa.com">www.turtlemountainchippewa.com</a></p>
<p><b>Aberdeen Area Indian Health Service</b> Office of Professional Services 115 4th Avenue South East Aberdeen, SD 57401 (605) 226-7531 FAX: (605) 226-7321 Please visit the <a href="#">Indian Health Service</a> website for more detailed information on agency programs and general agency-wide information.</p>	<p><b>Spirit Lake Nation</b> PO Box 99 Fort Totten, ND 58335 (701) 766-4221 FAX: (701) 766-4261 Website: <a href="http://www.spirittlakenation.com">www.spirittlakenation.com</a></p>
<p><b>Three Affiliated Tribes Fort Berthold Reservation</b> HC 3, Box 2 New Town, ND 58763 (701) 627-4781 Website: <a href="http://www.mhanation.com">www.mhanation.com</a></p>	<p><b>Standing Rock Sioux Tribe</b> PO Box D Fort Yates, ND 58538 (701) 854-7201 FAX: (701) 854-7299 Website: <a href="http://www.standingrock.org">www.standingrock.org</a> <b>Note:</b> The Standing Rock Sioux reservation is located in North Dakota and South Dakota.</p>
<p><b>Trenton Indian Service Area</b> PO Box 210 Trenton, ND 58853-0210 (701) 572-8316</p>	<p><b>State of North Dakota Indian Affairs Commission</b> 600 East Boulevard Avenue 1st Floor - Judicial Wing Bismarck, ND 58505-0300 (701) 328-2428 Website: <a href="http://www.health.state.nd.us/ndiac">www.health.state.nd.us/ndiac</a></p>

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. U.S. 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*