



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

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

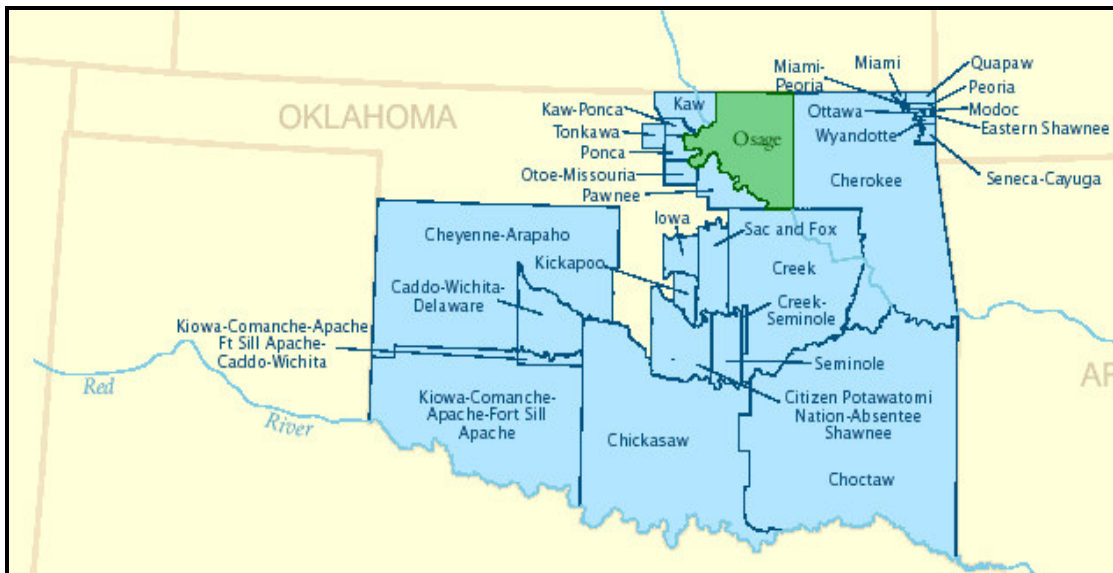
**OVERVIEW**

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>1</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>2</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>3</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)	408,526
Total AI/AN population under age 19 (alone or in any combination)	156,504
Number of AI/AN on reservation (AI/AN race alone or in combination with one or more races)	9,209
Number of AI/AN off reservation	399,317
Urban Indian population for Tulsa	86,118
Urban Indian population for Oklahoma City	71,926
Urban Indian population for Norman	6,660
Urban Indian population for Muskogee City	6,801

## Oklahoma Tribal Statistical Area (OTSA)

Statistical entities identified and delineated by federally recognized American Indian tribes in Oklahoma that formerly had a reservation but do not now have a reservation in that state. The boundary of an OTSA will be that of the former reservation in Oklahoma, except where modified by agreements with neighboring tribes for statistical data presentation purposes. They may cross the boundary of Oklahoma and include territory in a neighboring state but not territory in any reservation. Replaces the Tribal Jurisdiction Statistical Areas (TJSAs) of 1990. Oklahoma has 38 federally recognized tribes. Contact information is available on the Oklahoma Indian Commission website: <http://www.ok.gov/~oiac/>

## Contact Information

<p><b>Oklahoma City Area Indian Health Service</b> (Serves Oklahoma, Texas and Kansas) Five Corporate Plaza 3625 NW 56th Street Oklahoma City, OK 73112 Phone: (405) 951-3768 Fax: (405) 951-3780 <i>Please visit the <a href="#">Indian Health Service</a> website for more detailed information on agency programs and general agency-wide information</i></p>	<p><b>Bureau of Indian Affairs Southern Plains Regional Office:</b> Kansas &amp; West Oklahoma WCD-Office Complex PO Box 368 Anadarko, OK 73005 Phone: (405) 247-6673</p>
<p><b>Bureau of Indian Affairs</b> Muskogee Area Office East Oklahoma Region PO Box 8002 Muskogee, Oklahoma 74402-8002 Phone: (918) 781-4600 Fax: (918) 781-4604</p>	<p><b>Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission</b> 4545 N. Lincoln Boulevard, Suite 282 Oklahoma City, OK 73105 Phone: (405) 521-3828 Fax: (405) 522-4427 E-mail: <a href="mailto:oiac40@oklaosf.state.ok.us">oiac40@oklaosf.state.ok.us</a> Website: <a href="http://www.ok.gov/~oiac/">http://www.ok.gov/~oiac/</a></p>
<p><b>American Indian Institute</b> College of Continuing Education University of Oklahoma 555 Constitution, Suite 237 Norman, OK 73072-7820 Phone: (405) 325-4127 Fax: (405) 325-7757 E-mail: <a href="mailto:aii@ou.edu">aii@ou.edu</a> <i>For more information on Oklahoma tribes please visit: <a href="http://www.oiac.state.ok.us">http://www.oiac.state.ok.us</a></i></p>	<p><b>Central Oklahoma American Indian Health Council</b> Terry Hunter, Director 4913 W Reno OKC Oklahoma City, OK 73127 Phone: (405) 948-4900 Website: <a href="http://www.okcic.com/">http://www.okcic.com/</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. 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*