



# NICWA

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

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

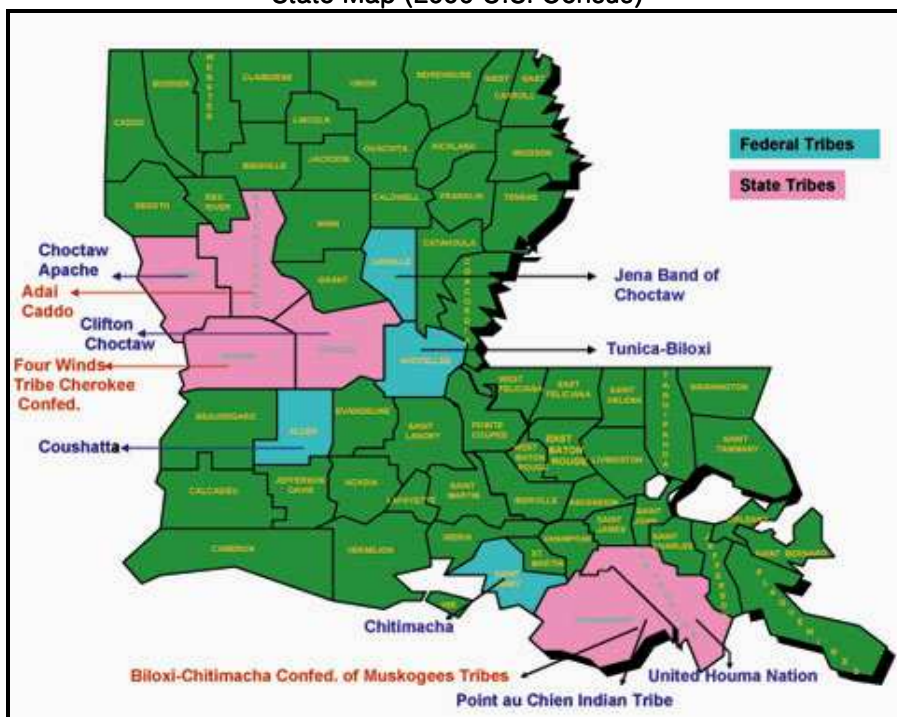
### OVERVIEW

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 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)	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 Chitmachia Confederation of Muskogee or Point au Chien Tribe.

### Contact Information

<p><b>Bureau of Indian Affairs - Eastern Agency</b>  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><b>Biloxi Chitimacha Confederation of Muskogee – 2004</b>  PO Box 46  Bourg, LA 70343  <a href="http://www.biloxi-chitimacha.com">www.biloxi-chitimacha.com</a></p>
<p><b>Nashville Area Indian Health Service</b>  Richie Grinnell, Area Director  711 Stewarts Ferry Pike  Nashville, TN 37214-2634  Phone: (615) 467-1500  Fax: (615) 467-1501  Website: <a href="http://www.ihs.gov/FacilitiesServices/AreaOffices/Nashville/">www.ihs.gov/FacilitiesServices/AreaOffices/Nashville/</a>  <i>(Regional office covering programs administered in eastern area)</i></p>	<p><b>Point au Chien Tribe</b>  PO Box 416  Montegut, LA 70377  <a href="http://pactribe.tripod.com">http://pactribe.tripod.com</a></p>
<p><b>Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana</b>  PO Box 818  Elton, LA 70532  Phone: (337) 584-2261  <a href="http://www.coushattatribela.org/index.html">http://www.coushattatribela.org/index.html</a></p>	<p><b>Four Winds Cherokee Tribe</b>  PO Box 118  Merryville, LA 70653  Phone: (337) 825-8641</p>
<p><b>Chitimach Tribe of Louisiana</b>  PO Box 661  Charenton, LA 70523  <a href="http://www.chitimacha.com/">http://www.chitimacha.com/</a></p>	<p><b>United Houma Nation</b>  20986 Hwy 1  Golden Meadow, LA 70357  Phone: (985) 475-6640  Fax: (985) 475-7109  <a href="http://www.unitedhoumanation.org/">http://www.unitedhoumanation.org/</a></p>
<p><b>Jena Band of Choctaw Indians</b>  Health Department  PO Box 14  Jena, LA 71342  Phone: (318) 992-2717 or 318-992-2720  Fax: (318) 992-8244  E-mail: <a href="mailto:kftjbc@yahoo.com">kftjbc@yahoo.com</a>  <a href="http://www.jenachoctaw.org/index.cfm">http://www.jenachoctaw.org/index.cfm</a></p>	<p><b>Clifton Choctaw Tribe</b>  1146 Clifton Road  Clifton, LA 71447  Phone: (318) 793-4253</p>
<p><b>Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana</b>  Health Department  PO Box 331  Marksville, LA 71351  Phone: (318) 253-9767  <a href="http://www.tunica.org/">http://www.tunica.org/</a></p>	<p><b>Apache Choctaw Tribe of Louisiana</b>  PO Box 1428  Zwolle, LA 71486  Phone: (318) 645-2588  Fax: (318) 645-2568  <a href="http://www.choctaw-apache.org">www.choctaw-apache.org</a></p>
<p><b>Adai Caddo Tribe</b>  4460 Hwy 485  Robeline, LA 71469  Phone: (318) 472-1007  <a href="http://www.adaicaddoindiannation.com">www.adaicaddoindiannation.com</a></p>	<p><b>State of Louisiana, Office of Indian Affairs</b>  PO Box 94004  Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804  Phone: (225) 219-8715  Fax: (225) 219-7551  <a href="http://www.indianaffairs.com/default.htm">http://www.indianaffairs.com/default.htm</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>1</sup> *The American Indian and Alaska Native Population: 2000 Census Brief. Issued February 2002. US Census Bureau*

<sup>2</sup> *Urban Indian Health Issue Brief. By Ralph Forquera for the Henry J. Kaiser Foundation, November 2001*

<sup>3</sup> *Level of Need Funded Study by the LNF Work Group Report II, December 1999 Indian Health Service*