



# NICWA

National Indian Child Welfare Association

*Protecting our children • Preserving our culture*

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

### 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)	191,504
Total AI/AN population under age 19 (alone or in any combination)	78,840
Total AI/AN population in the Albuquerque metro area	48,000

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

### Contact Information

<p><b>Albuquerque Area Indian Health Service</b>                      5300 Homestead Road, NE                      Albuquerque, NM 87110                      Phone: (505) 248-4120                      Fax: (505) 248-4115  <a href="http://www.ihs.gov/FacilitiesServices/AreaOffices/Albuquerque/">http://www.ihs.gov/FacilitiesServices/AreaOffices/Albuquerque/</a>  <i>(Regional office that covers programs administered in Southwest Region)</i></p>	<p><b>Bureau of Indian Affairs                      Southwest Regional Office</b>                      1001 Indian School Road, NW                      Albuquerque, NM 87104                      Phone: (505) 563-3103                      Fax: (505) 563-3101                      (Regional office that covers programs administered in Southwest Region)</p>
<p><b>Albuquerque Service Unit                      Indian Health Service</b>                      801 Vassar Drive, NE                      Albuquerque, N.M. 87106                      (505) 248 4000                      (505) 248 4088 Fax</p>	<p><b>First Nations Community Health                      Source</b>                      5608 Zuni, SE                      Albuquerque, NM 87108                      (505) 262-2481                      (505) 262-0781 Fax</p>
<p><b>All Indian Pueblo Council</b>                      2401 12<sup>th</sup> Street, NW                      Albuquerque, NM 87104                      (505) 881-1992                      (505) 883-7682 Fax</p>	<p><b>New Mexico Indian Affairs                      Department</b>                      New Mexico Indian Affairs Department                      Wendell Chino Building                      1220 South Saint Francis Drive                      2nd Floor                      Santa Fe, NM 87505                      (505) 476-1600                      (505) 476-1601 Fax  <a href="http://www.state.nm.us/oia/index.html">http://www.state.nm.us/oia/index.html</a>  <i>(This site provides a list of all federally recognized tribes and contact information in New Mexico)</i></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*