

The Data Drum

Supporting Sovereignty through Tribal Control over Tribal Data

June 2016



Dr. Nikki Bowman (Mohican/Munsee) presenting her research at the 2015 Tribal Leader/Scholar Forum in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Upcoming Events

Tribal Leader/Scholar Forum

The 11th Annual Tribal Leader/Scholar Forum will be held on Wednesday, June 29th, in Spokane, WA, as a part of [NCAI's Mid Year Conference](http://www.ncai.org/mid-year-conference). The theme for this year's Forum emphasizes, "The Power of Data to Change Climates". Over the course of the day, we will hear compelling examples of how tribal nations are using data to improve outcomes for their citizens. Join us in person in Spokane, Washington, to listen to the presentations. For more information visit our website: <http://www.ncai.org/policy-research-center/initiatives/tribal-leader-scholar-forum>

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Resources and Information

The Census and Tribal Enrollment

The Census National Advisory Committee held a meeting on racial and ethnic populations and is discussing the testing of a tribal enrollment question for Census 2020. NCAI Policy Research Center Program Manager Amber Ebarb and Norm DeWeaver provided an update during the June 9 Tribal Data Call on the 2020 Census and the possible Tribal Enrollment question. Additionally they appeared on Native America Calling to discuss the same topic. Listen to the entire show here: <http://www.nativeamericacalling.com/thursday-june-9-2016-counting-native-americans-confronting-distrust-census/>

Trafficking Data

NCAI's Policy Research Center recently hosted an intern from First Nations University in Saskatchewan. Cindy Burns from the Plains Cree tribe is a fourth year Indigenous Social Work Student who spent a few months researching sex trafficking of Indigenous women and girls. Her research included compiling some of the publicly available data and resources related to trafficking.

- Colonial Exploitation: The Canadian State and the Trafficking of Indigenous Women and Girls in Canada: http://www.uclalawreview.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/Bourgeois-final_8.15.pdf
- Garden of Truth Garden of Truth: The Prostitution and Trafficking of Native Women in Minnesota: http://www.prostitutionresearch.com/pdfs/Garden_of_Truth_Final_Project_WEB.pdf
- Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking of Aboriginal Women and Girls: http://www.nwac.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/2014_NWAC_Human_Trafficking_and_Sexual_Exploitation_Report.pdf
- Elimination and Responses to Violence, Exploitation and Abuse of Indigenous Girls, Adolescents, and Young Women: http://www.un.org/en/ga/president/68/pdf/wcip/IASG%20Thematic%20Paper_%20Violence%20against%20Girls%20and%20Women%20-%20rev1.pdf
- Too Young to Lose Documentary: <http://www.cbc.ca/fifth/episodes/2014-2015/too-young-to-lose>

Department of Education Releases Civil Rights Data Collection Report

The Civil Rights Data Collection (CRDC) is a survey of all public schools and school districts in the United States that measures student access to resources and other factors like school discipline and bullying. The data shows that Native students are disproportionately suspended from schools and are more likely to be chronically absent from school. Read the full report at: <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/2013-14-first-look.pdf>

Data Sovereignty Network

The United States Indigenous Data Sovereignty Network (USIDSN) was founded in April 2016 and follows in the footsteps of peer organizations in New Zealand, Canada, and Australia. The USIDSN helps ensure that data for and about Indigenous nations and peoples in the US (American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians) are utilized to advance Indigenous aspirations for collective and individual well-being. The USIDSN's primary function is to

provide research information and policy advocacy to safeguard the rights and promote the interests of Indigenous nations and peoples in relation to data.

The US Indigenous Data Sovereignty Network unites advocates for Indigenous Data Sovereignty at the tribal, state, national, and international levels. The Native Nations Institute (NNI), a unit of the University of Arizona Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy, hosts the Network. NNI provides administrative and research support, coordination of advisory board activities, web hosting, and listserv maintenance.

Become a Network member:

Network membership is open to all American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian data users, tribal leaders, information and communication technology providers, researchers, policymakers and planners, businesses, service providers, and community advocates. Members need not be Indigenous, so long as they are committed to the aims of Indigenous data sovereignty. Join today! <http://usindigenousdata.arizona.edu/join-network>

Leadership:

The USIDSN is led by an Advisory Council composed of tribal leaders, scholars, policy advocates, technical and legal advisors, and community researchers. Dr. Malia Villegas, the Director of NCAI's PRC is a member of the Advisory Council. The research, policy, and outreach activities of the USIDSN are guided by and accountable to Indigenous data stakeholders via the USIDSN Advisory Council and network members.

The National Equity Atlas Provides Useful Reports

The Atlas contains data on demographic change, racial and economic inclusion, and the potential economic gains from racial equity for the largest 100 cities, largest 150 regions, all 50 states, and the United States as a whole. PolicyLink and the Program for Environmental and Regional Equity (PERE) built the Atlas to equip community leaders and policymakers with the facts and analyses needed to: 1) Understand how your community's demographics are changing; 2) Assess how well your community's diverse populations can participate in its economic vitality, contribute to its readiness for the future, and connect to its assets and resources (and also see how it compares to other places); 3) Build a compelling narrative and shared understanding about why—and how much—equity matters to your community's future; and 4) Inform the development of policies, plans, strategies, business models, and investments to advance equitable growth. Access the Atlas here: <http://nationalequityatlas.org/>.

United States Renal Data System: 2015 Annual Data Report

The 2015 Annual Data Report is available in two sections, Volume 1: Chronic Kidney Disease in the United States and Volume 2: End-Stage Renal Disease in the United States. View the full report here: <https://www.usrds.org/adr.aspx>

First Things First: Children's Oral Health Report 2016

A new report says that the most common disease faced by young children is early childhood caries and can cause lasting harm to a child's overall health. More so, 76% American Indian and Alaska Native children experience tooth decay compared to 56% of Hispanic and 34% of white children. However due to small sample sizes of Native populations caution should be taken when interpreting the results at state and regional levels: Read the entire report here: http://azftf.gov/WhoWeAre/Board/Documents/FTF_Oral_Health_Report_2016.pdf

EvalPartner's Eval Agenda 2020

EvalIndigenous, one of the emerging networks within EvalPartners, is in its early stage of development. It is intended to become a multi-stakeholder partnership which, through the recognizing of the different world views and valuing the strengths of Indigenous evaluation practices, will advance the contribution of Indigenous evaluation to global evaluation practice. Originally conceived by the EvalPartners Management Group as EvalCulture in February 2015, the intent was to bring together individuals and organizations to identify and share best practices and lessons learned when working with marginalized peoples, oppressed populations and Indigenous communities. Learn more here:

<http://www.evalpartners.org/evalpartners>

NCAI's National Science Foundation Project Update and NSF Tribal Data Partners Update

NCAI is stewarding a project funded by the NSF to meeting three specific objectives: to describe the current status of tribal data capacity nationally; to support a small number of tribes in improving their tribal data capacity and sharing insights from that work; and developing meaningful service area geographies and trainings that would be beneficial to tribes. We are planning to launch a survey of tribal data practices this year and to convene tribal data partners at [NCAI's Mid Year Conference](#) in Spokane, WA. For more information on this project visit our website: <http://www.ncai.org/policy-research-center/initiatives/data-quality>

Tribal Data Partners - Thoughts from March 9th Call

NCAI held its third Quarterly Tribal Data Call on March 9, 2016. The Collaborative Research Center for American Indian Health presented a research data management toolkit developed by the Collaborative Research Center for American Indian Health (CRCAIH). View all the trainings here: <http://crcaih.org/training-and-resources.html#resources>

If you have questions about NCAI's Tribal Data Calls or this edition of the Data Drum please reach out to Malia Villegas at mvillegas@ncai.org.



Census 2020: Concerns about Tribal Enrollment Question

The Census is a powerful information source that significantly influences US policy. It is the foundation of American democracy, determining the **allocation of Congressional seats** and **redistricting** of voting geographies. Nearly **\$1 billion** in annual federal resources are allocated to Indian Country based on Census data. It also serves as a foundation for governmental policymaking, as well as public policy research and program evaluation. NCAI encourages tribal nations to consider providing comments on whether the 2020 Census should include a separate question on tribal enrollment. The issue is also the subject of a pending NCAI Resolution (see below).

Census 2020 Planning: In 2010, American Indians and Alaska Natives living on reservations were undercounted by 4.9 percent according to the Census Bureau (see https://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/2010_census/cb12-95.html). While the next Census is almost four years from now, the Census Bureau is making decisions now and over the next two years that could affect the official federal count of the American Indian and Alaska Native population. The Census Bureau has held numerous tribal consultation sessions on improving the count in Indian Country (http://www.census.gov/aian/census_2020/).

Census Testing of a Tribal Enrollment Question: The US Census Bureau has decided to test a question on tribal enrollment for possible use in the 2020 Census to determine a format so that the question is well-understood. Cognitive interviews are scheduled for Fairbanks, AK, Rapid City, SD, Detroit, MI, Phoenix, AZ, Kansas City, KS, and Window Rock, AZ. The proposed tribal enrollment question would be a separate question on whether a person is enrolled or not, which is different from previous decennial census questionnaires that ask each person who identifies their race as American Indian or Alaska Native to write in the name of her or his "enrolled or principal tribe." These are the three versions of the tribal enrollment question that will be tested:

Revised Enrollment Questions for Cognitive Testing

A	B	C
<p>1. On April 1, 2016, was Person 1 enrolled in any American Indian tribe or Alaska Native tribe, village, or corporation?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No, not enrolled</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, enrolled → Print enrolled tribe(s), village(s), or corporation(s) below. ↓</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>	<p>1. On April 1, 2016, was Person 1 enrolled in any American Indian tribe or any Alaska Native council, association, or community?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No, not enrolled</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, enrolled → Print enrolled tribe(s), council(s), association(s), or community(ies) below. ↓</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div> <p>2. On April 1, 2016, was Person 1 a shareholder of any Alaska Native regional or village corporation?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No, not a shareholder</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, a shareholder → Print Alaska Native regional or village corporation(s) below. ↓</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>	<p>1. On April 1, 2016 was Person 1 enrolled in any American Indian tribe or Alaska Native tribe or village?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No, not enrolled → Skip to question 3</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, enrolled</p> <p>2. What is the name of the American Indian tribe or Alaska Native tribe or village Person 1 was enrolled in on April 1, 2016? Print enrolled tribe(s) or village(s) below. ↓</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div> <p>3. On April 1, 2016, was Person 1 a shareholder of an Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) Corporation?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No, not a shareholder</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, a shareholder → Print Alaska Native Corporation(s) below. ↓</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>
<p style="text-align: center;">  U.S. Department of Commerce Economics and Statistics Administration U.S. CENSUS BUREAU census.gov 19 </p>		

Source: <https://www2.census.gov/cac/nac/meetings/2016-05/2016-terry.pdf> 2020 Census Cognitive Interview Research on the Enrollment Question for American Indians and Alaska Natives, Response to Feedback from National Advisory Committee Members and Tribe Stakeholders, Rodney L. Terry, Center for Survey Measurement, US Census Bureau NAC Spring Meeting May 26, 2016.

Concerns about including a Tribal Enrollment question on Census 2020: NCAI's tribal data partners have identified **some potential issues** related to the inclusion of this question.

- The tribal enrollment questions being tested rely on a person's self-identification and do not require proof of tribal enrollment, which could lead to the collection and reporting of tribal enrollment statistics that are in conflict with tribal enrollment records.
- The determination of who is an enrolled tribal member, a tribal citizen of that tribe, is an attribute of the sovereignty possessed solely by that tribal nation and is not a matter of self-identification.
- The considerable variations in enrollment policies from tribe to tribe will seriously diminish the ability of non-tribal governments, organizations and the general public to appropriately interpret any data on tribal enrollment issued by the Census Bureau.
- It is unclear how the data collected by the Census Bureau on tribal enrollment will be used, and specifically whether it will affect the distribution of federal funding through the Native American Housing Block Grant and other funding formulas that use Census data as a part of determining need.

Eleven focus group sessions have been held with Native people. The issue has also been discussed during the tribal consultations. Opinion on the question's inclusion in the 2020 Census has been mixed. The **National Advisory Committee on Racial, Ethnic, and Other Populations** has voted to not support the testing of the tribal enrollment question until tribal leaders and stakeholders weigh in more on the topic.

NCAI Resolution: A resolution has been submitted for consideration at the NCAI Mid-Year Session, SPO-16-043, titled "**Opposing the Use of a Question on Tribal Enrollment in the 2020 Census or in the American Community Survey.**" If you as a tribal leader have input on the inclusion of this question on the 2020 Census or would like more information, the resolution will be considered during the Litigation and Governance Committee and the Jurisdiction and Tribal Government Subcommittees. To submit more detailed comments on the issue to the Census Bureau, contact Dee A. Alexander, Intergovernmental Tribal Affairs Specialist, at dee.a.alexander@census.gov.

Work of NCAI: To address the longstanding data gaps that inhibit tribal policy-making, NCAI formed the Policy Research Center (PRC). The leadership of NCAI recognized that healthy Native communities can only be built on a foundation of reliable and accurate data. Our mission to – *Provide tribal leaders with the best available knowledge to make strategically proactive policy decisions in a framework of Native wisdom that positively impact the future of Native peoples* – requires that data is available to support tribal leaders in making and advocating for policy that best meets the needs of their communities – at the federal, tribal, and state level. In addition to protecting our sovereign rights under treaties and agreements with the United States, NCAI works to make sure the treaty and trust obligations are met by the US government, which includes accurate data on Native people for fair distribution of resources. The NCAI Policy Research Center was designated a Census Information Center in 2006. As such, we assist in disseminating Census information and data products to use for research, planning, and decision-making purposes. As an official source of demographic, economic, and social statistics, NCAI is available to provide training and technical assistance to interested data users. Contact Amber Ebarb at NCAI at aebarb@ncai.org for more information.