



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

RESEARCH UPDATE



**NCAI Mid Year Conference
June 2021**

*The mission of the NCAI Policy Research Center is to provide tribal leaders with the best available knowledge to make strategically proactive policy decisions in a framework of Native wisdom that positively impacts the future of Native peoples. This Research Update includes information on NCAI Policy Research Center projects, recent research results, new policy research resources, and more.
An electronic copy of this update is available on our website: <http://www.ncai.org/prc>.*

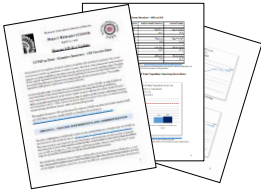
NCAI Policy Research Center *Projects and Resources*

Join the NCAI Policy Research Center at the 16th Annual Tribal Leader/Scholar Forum on Wednesday, June 23, 2021 during the virtual 2021 NCAI Mid Year Conference.



The Tribal Leader/Scholar Forum provides an opportunity for researchers, practitioners, community members, and others to present data and research findings to tribal leaders, policymakers, and tribal members. This year's theme is *Governance, Trust, and Culture in Research* and the agenda includes General Assembly presentations with discussion, breakout sessions, and a pre-conference data institute. For more information and the agenda, visit: <https://www.ncai.org/policy-research-center/initiatives/tribal-leader-scholar-forum>.

Updates on our work

- **COVID-19 Situation Summaries:** The NCAI Policy Research Center produces a weekly summary report of publicly available data and trends on COVID-19 in Indian Country now on Tuesdays since the Indian Health Service (IHS) decided to only report COVID-19 data once a week on its website. The document includes summaries of IHS and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) COVID-19 data for AI/ANs. The weekly data report is available at: <http://bit.ly/2P8Xnu6>. 
- **Differential Privacy/Disclosure Avoidance and the 2020 U.S. Decennial Census:** The U.S. Census Bureau is planning to protect the confidentiality of individual data in the 2020 Census with new statistical methods that include Differential Privacy in their Disclosure Avoidance System. However, the latest demonstration products produced by the U.S. Census Bureau show negative impacts to data for tribal lands or geographies, with some tribal lands and geographies losing population counts. The NCAI Policy Research Center has tracked this issue closely for two years and developed a variety of resources for Tribal Nations including letters to the U.S. Census Bureau over the past two years that are available on our Research Recommendations page here: <https://bit.ly/2N1CND>. View our latest letter to the U.S. Census Bureau in response to its recent tribal consultation: <https://bit.ly/3fxZLdE>. The U.S. Census Bureau recently made a final decision, and the resulting impact on data for Tribal Nations will be known in August/September 2021 when the P.L. 94-171 Redistricting File is released. Further tribal consultation will be needed on the next data product, the Demographic and Housing Characteristics File.

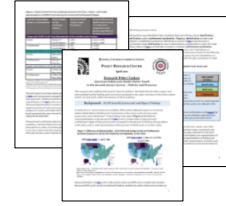
The NCAI Policy Research Center released two new research policy updates on the Disclosure Avoidance System and the impacts of Differential Privacy on AI/AN data. The first update provides background information: <https://bit.ly/3uNULFS>. The second update provides an analysis of potential impacts to tribal nations: <https://bit.ly/3uPbQzr>. View our interactive ArcGIS maps with the demonstration product data: <https://arcg.is/1Oyyuf>.

- **Advancing Diabetes Translation Research:** The NCAI Policy Research Center partners with the Center for Diabetes Translation Research (CDTR) at Washington University in St. Louis to support researchers working on type 2 diabetes research to translate evidence-based interventions in diverse communities. If you are faculty and work on research about diabetes and its risk factors, CDTR can provide you with resources and technical assistance to help you with your work. For more information on CDTR, its network, and how researchers can become a CDTR member to access resources, view: <https://cdtr.wustl.edu/>. To view funding opportunities, visit: <https://cdtr.wustl.edu/resources/funding-opportunities/>.



Center for
Diabetes
Translation
Research

- **American Indian and Alaska Native Youth in the Juvenile Justice System – Policies and Practices:** The NCAI Policy Research Center published a landscape analysis on state policies and practices related to American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) youth in the justice system. The analysis looked at policies and practices in states with over-, equal-, and under-representation of AI/AN youth in the arrest and confinement stages. To read the report, visit: <https://bit.ly/3q9A1be>.



- **NCAI Policy Research Center Census Information Center:** Did you know that the NCAI Policy Research Center is a Census Information Center? As a Census Information Center, the NCAI Policy Research Center provides tribal leaders with easy to understand data analyses, technical assistance, information briefs, and access to Census information and data products that can be used for research, planning, and decision-making purposes.

For more information on the NCAI Policy Research Center’s Census Information Center work, visit: <http://www.ncai.org/policy-research-center/initiatives/projects/cic>.

- **Policy Recommendations: Health Equity Cannot Be Achieved Without Complete and Transparent Data Collection and the Disaggregation of Data:** Data systems often do not adequately capture or enable reporting of diverse racial and ethnic populations in a state, and populations may not be appropriately identified. Reviewing subgroup data or disaggregated data allows states to better understand health needs and inequalities to all communities. The NCAI Policy Research Center partnered with four civil rights organizations to provide a series of policy recommendations addressing the need for data disaggregation at the state level. To read the report, visit: <https://bit.ly/3nxTHnF>.



- **Holding Space: A Guide for Partners in Tribal Research Training:** The NCAI Policy Research Center partnered with the University of Nevada-Reno to create a training to strengthen tribal academic research partnerships. The training includes guided modules and an interactive Tribal Research Futures Game. The training will be held during the 2021 NCAI Mid Year Pre-Conference Data Institute on Friday, June 18, 2021. At this time, registration is closed, and a waiting list has been established. To learn about future trainings, join our listserv by emailing research@ncai.org.



- **Missed any of our Webinar Series?** The NCAI Policy Research Center hosts webinars throughout the year that focus on cutting-edge research findings and topics related to AI/AN research and policy priorities. To view recordings of our latest webinars, visit: <http://www.ncai.org/policy-research-center/events/webinars>. To receive future announcements for our webinars and other resources, email us at research@ncai.org.

FEATURED RESEARCH

A synopsis of the latest research findings to propel your policy advocacy

- **Assessment of COVID-19 Hospitalizations by Race/Ethnicity in 12 States.** This report covers data from 12 states to look at the COVID-19 hospitalizations by race/ethnicity. The authors then compared each states' hospitalization rates by race/ethnicity to the proportions of the each state's population as a whole to identify any over-representation by race/ethnicity. In the eight states that provided American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) data, the data showed an over-representation of AI/AN hospitalizations compared to the total percent of AI/AN in each state.

View here: <https://doi.org/10.1001/jamainternmed.2020.3857>.

Karaca-Mandic P, Georgiou A, Sen S. Assessment of COVID-19 Hospitalizations by Race/Ethnicity in 12 States. JAMA Intern Med. 2021;181(1):131–134. doi:10.1001/jamainternmed.2020.3857

- **Our Relationship to Water and Experience of Water Insecurity among Apsáalooke (Crow Indian) People, Montana.** This paper focuses on Apsáalooke (Crow Indian) experience with water insecurity. Researchers interviewed 30 adult tribal members to understand their experience with water insecurity. The interviews included questions focused on water access, the cost to get water, and changes in domestic and traditional water uses. View here: <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph18020582>.

Martin, Christine, et al. "Our Relationship to Water and Experience of Water Insecurity among Apsáalooke (Crow Indian) People, Montana." International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health 18.2 (2021): 582.

- **Coronavirus (COVID-19): A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis to Evaluate the Significance of Demographics and Comorbidities.** This paper reviews published literature on COVID-19 comorbidities. Research on diabetes found that those with pre-diabetic conditions and diabetes are at an increased risk of severe outcome from COVID-19. Research also found that COVID-19 may trigger diabetes in healthy people resulting in a bidirectional relationship between the two diseases.

View here: <https://doi.org/10.21203/rs.3.rs-144684/v1>.

Bhattacharyya, Arinjita, et al. "Coronavirus (COVID-19): A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis to Evaluate the Significance of Demographics and Comorbidities." Research Square (2021). doi:10.21203/rs.3.rs-144684/v1

- **Maternal Mortality Among American Indian/Alaska Native Women: A Scoping Review.** This paper reviews the literature on AI/AN maternal mortality and found that the leading causes of pregnancy-related maternal mortality are hemorrhage, cardiomyopathies, and hypertensive disorders of pregnancy.

Heck JL, Jones EJ, Bohn D, et. al. Maternal Mortality Among American Indian/Alaska Native Women: A Scope Review. *Journal of Women's Health* 2021;30(2):220-229. <https://doi.org/10.1089/jwh.2020.8890>

- **Native American Labor Market Dashboard.** This data tool by the Center for Indian Country Development at the Federal Reserve illustrates current labor market conditions for American Indians and Alaska Natives. View here: <https://www.minneapolisfed.org/article/2021/native-american-labor-market-dashboard-fills-important-data-gap-for-indian-country>

Lozar C, Nunn R, Palmer V (2021). *Native American Labor Market Dashboard*. Center for Indian Country Development, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis. June 3, 2021.

- **COVID-19 Data on Vaccine Hesitancy.** Results of two online surveys were released this year that provide information on reasons why American Indians and Alaska Natives may have hesitancy towards receiving the COVID-19 vaccines.

Urban Indian Health Institute (2021). *Strengthening Vaccine Efforts in Indian Country – Results from a National COVID-19 Vaccination Survey*. January 28, 2021. View here: <https://www.uihi.org/projects/strengthening-vaccine-efforts-in-indian-country/>

COVID Collaborative & Langer Research Associates (2021). *Coronavirus Vaccine Hesitancy among American Indian and Alaska Native People*. May 2021. View here: https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5f85f5a156091e113f96e4d3/t/60a405cb188d6e641fc7fbc5/1621362125001/AIAN+Deck_v10.pdf

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Ways to connect with researchers across Indian Country and beyond

- **Office of Human Research Protections (OHRP) Virtual Workshop – Supporting Ethical Research Involving American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) Populations** will be held Thursday, August 26, 2021 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. EDT. To access the webcast, view the agenda at: <https://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/sites/default/files/agenda-OHRP-Workshop-Aug-26-2021.pdf>
- **Save the Date: The National Indian Health Board (NIHB) 2021 National Tribal Health Conference** will be held virtually from October 4 – 8, 2021. Information will become available at <https://www.nihb.org/>.
- **SAVE THE DATE! The 2021 NCAI Annual Conference & Marketplace** will be held October 9-15, 2021 in Sacramento, CA. For more information, visit: <https://bit.ly/3xpa8XY>.
- **Save the Date! The American Public Health Association (APHA) 2021 Annual Meeting & Expo** will be held on October 24-27, 2021 in Denver and online. Visit: <https://www.apha.org/Events-and-Meetings/Annual>

- Public Responsibility in Medicine and Research (PRIM&R) will be hosting its **Advancing Ethical Research (AER) Conference on November 17 – 19, 2021**. The conference focuses on human subjects protections, research ethics, and oversight. Professionals from public and private institutions, the federal government, industry, and academia attend to learn, deconstruct, discuss, debate, and network. Tribal research review/IRB staff often attend. For more information, visit: <https://www.primr.org/programs/aer/2021-sber-aer>.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

New announcements to fund research and data collection efforts

- **Empowering Scholars Initiative: Student Relief Scholarships.** This scholarship program is designed to assist full-time Native undergraduate, graduate, or professional students who are facing a financial need by providing them with a one-time relief scholarship. This scholarship is **open and ongoing**. For additional information, visit: <http://bit.ly/39xLqCX>.
- **Native American Research Centers for Health (NARCH).** The objective of the NARCH initiative is to support biomedical research and career enhancement opportunities to meet health needs prioritized by American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) communities. This year's deadline is **June 24, 2021**. Visit: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-20-125.html>.
- **Community Innovation Grants.** The Bush Foundation is offering Community Innovation Grants that support community identified issues and solutions. There is no deadline for applications. For details, visit: <http://bit.ly/3ocTnzj>.
- **Understanding and Addressing the Impact of Structural Racism and Discrimination on Minority Health and Health Disparities (R01 Clinical Trial Optional).** As a part of its new UNITE effort, the National Institutes of Health announced funding opportunities and the next deadline is August 24, 2021. View RFA-MD-21-004: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/rfa-md-21-004.html>



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