



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

RESEARCH UPDATE



**NCAI Executive Council Winter Session
February 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 impact 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*

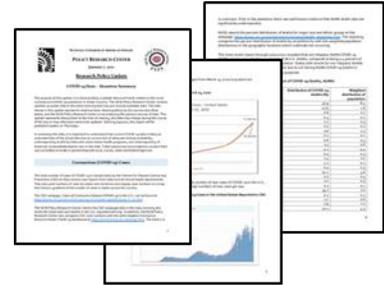
SAVE THE DATE! The **16th Annual Tribal Leader/Scholar Forum** will be held during the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) 2021 Mid Year Conference & Marketplace on June 20-24, 2021 as a virtual event.



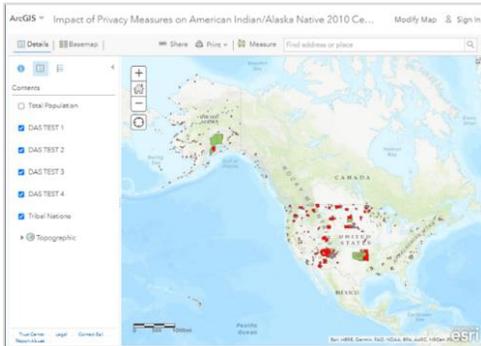
The Tribal Leader/Scholar Forum provides an opportunity for researchers, practitioners, community members, and others to present data and research findings to tribal leaders, policymakers, and tribal members. This year's theme is *Governance, Trust, and Culture in Research*. Once submissions from the recent Call for Presentation Proposals are reviewed, we will post an agenda and registration information on our Tribal Leader/Scholar Forum webpage here: <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 weekly summary updates of publicly available data and trends on COVID-19 in Indian Country. These documents are updated each week on Thursday and include summaries of Indian Health Service and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention COVID-19 data. These documents are 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. Accurate and high quality 2020 Census data is essential for federal funding formulas, tribal governance, redistricting, and research, and any losses in counts will impact tribal nations over the next decade until the next Decennial Census.



The NCAI Policy Research Center recently released a webinar with the latest updates and interactive GIS maps to help show the potential negative impacts on tribal nations. The U.S. Census Bureau held a [tribal consultation webinar](http://bit.ly/2ncC4PE) on February 18, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. EST and requested input from tribal nations as soon as possible on their critical uses of Census data. To learn more about the data impacts to tribal nations and how to make your concerns heard, visit: <http://bit.ly/2ncC4PE>. Scroll down to the "2021" section for the latest resources.

- **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/>.



- **Review of Available Data and Literature on Services for American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) Victims of Crime:** The NCAI Policy Research Center published the first



report in a three part series on victim services for AI/AN victims of crime. The report provides a review of available data and literature on services for AI/AN victims of crime, provides a visual timeline of the crime victimization process, and highlights gaps in information available for the analysis of crimes, victims, and victim services. The second and third reports are currently in the review process. To read the first report in the series, visit: <https://bit.ly/3soxZEE>.

- **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. During the 2020 Census, the NCAI Policy Research Center produced weekly updated self-response rate reports for tribal lands that you can view on our publications page at: <http://bit.ly/2P8Xnu6>. As the 2020 Census data products become available, the NCAI Policy Research Center will provide more information on how to access them.



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>.

- **2020 Native Vote Reports:** The NCAI Policy Research Center posted Native Vote Reports for each NCAI Region that provided an overview of the percent of AI/AN voting age population in each state, close national and state elections where the Native vote could impact the race depending on turnout, and information on Native candidates. The final pre-election reports and a final post-election analysis are available at: <http://bit.ly/2P8Xnu6>.



- **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

- **COVID-19 Mortality Among American Indian and Alaska Native Persons — 14 States, January–June 2020.** This report covers data from 14 participating states to look at the COVID-19 mortality rates for the AI/AN population compared to the non-Hispanic White population. The data found that AI/AN COVID-19 mortality was 1.8 times higher than their counterpart. The disparity was highest among the populations between 20-49 years old.

Arrazola J, Masiello MM, Joshi S, et al. COVID-19 Mortality Among American Indian and Alaska Native Persons — 14 States, January–June 2020. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2020;69:1853–1856. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm6949a3>.

- **COVID-19 Among American Indian and Alaska Native Persons — 23 States, January 31–July 3, 2020.** This report covers data from 23 participating states and reviews the COVID-19 case rates for the AI/AN population compared to the non-Hispanic White population. The data revealed that COVID-19 cases among AI/ANs were 3.5 times greater than non-Hispanic white persons. However, missing data precluded additional analyses.

Hatcher SM, Agnew-Brune C, Anderson M, et al. COVID-19 M Among American Indian and Alaska Native Persons — 23 States, January 31 – July 3, 2020. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2020;69:1166-1169. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm6934e1>

- **American Indian and Alaska Native People: Social Vulnerability and COVID-19.** This paper examines the need for COVID-19 precautions, AI/AN COVID-19 statistics, and the Social Vulnerability Index (SVI). The paper utilizes publically available data from the 12 Indian Health Service areas for positive cases, percentage of positive tests, and percentage of positive COVID-19 tests out of the Census 2020 projected populations.

Hathaway, ED. American Indian and Alaska Native People: Social Vulnerability and COVID-19. The Journal of Rural Health 2021; 37:256-259. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jrh.12505>

- **Results from a National COVID-19 Vaccination Survey: Strengthening Vaccine Efforts in Indian Country.** This report summarizes the results of an online survey of AI/ANs conducted by the Urban Indian Health Institute that found 75 percent of respondents were willing to receive a COVID-19 vaccine. The report make recommendations for vaccine campaigns to improve acceptance and uptake among AI/AN communities.

Urban Indian Health Institute (2021): Results from a National COVID-19 Vaccination Survey: Strengthening Vaccine Efforts in Indian Country. Seattle WA: Urban Indian Health Institute. <https://www.uhi.org/projects/strengthening-vaccine-efforts-in-indian-country/>

- **Childhood trauma as a predictor of changes in sleep quality in American Indian adults during the COVID-19 pandemic.** This study looks into whether childhood trauma in American Indian adults predicts changes in sleep quality following the start of the COVID-

19 pandemic and if pandemic stress contributes to changes in sleep. The results found an indirect effect between childhood adversity and changes in quality of sleep through COVID-19 stress.

John-Henderson, NA. Childhood trauma as a predictor of changes in sleep quality in American Indian adults during the COVID-19 pandemic. Sleep Health 2020; 6(6): 718-722. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.sleh.2020.09.001>

- **The Holding Space: A Guide for Partners in Tribal Research.** The Holding Space guide is an evidence based training toolkit to help strengthen tribal-academic partnerships, honor tribal sovereignty, counter histories of opportunistic research, and recognize all ways of knowing. This article describes the development and evaluation of the toolkit and the results of the evaluation.

Lucero, Julie E., et al. The Holding Space: A Guide for Partners in Tribal Research. Prog Community Health Partnersh, 2020 (14(1):101-107. <https://doi.org/10.1353/cpr.2020.0012>

- **Holding Space for All of Us.** The authors applied the Holding Space: A Guide for Partners in Tribal Research core concepts of governance, trust, and culture to the *All of Us Research Program*. The report calls on the *All of Us Research Program* and all research studies funded by the federal government to honor governance, trust, and culture in research partnerships with tribal nations.

Lucero, Julie E., Roubideaux Y. Holding Space for All of Us. AMA Journal of Ethics 22.10 (2020): 882-887. <https://doi.org/10.1001/amajethics.2020.882>

- **All of Us Research Program Tribal Consultation Report.** In 2019, the *All of Us Research Program* met with tribal leaders through a series of tribal consultations. A draft report with the findings from tribal consultation was sent in August 2020 to tribal leaders for feedback on the report. The National Institutes of Health is currently reviewing tribal leader input.

All of Us Research Program. All of Us Research Program Tribal Consultation Report Draft. Draft for Tribal Leader Input. Bethesda MD: National Institutes of Health, August 2020.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Ways to connect with researchers across Indian Country and beyond

- **National Native Health Research Training Initiative (NNHRT)** is hosting a monthly webinar series that is held on the second Wednesday of every month from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. EST. The next webinar will take place on **Wednesday, March 10, 2021**. For more information or to view past webinars, visit: <http://www.nnhrti.org/>.
- **American Public Health Association Annual Meeting & Expo** (APHA) will be held October 23 – 27, 2021 in Denver, CO. The APHA Annual meeting gathers health professionals and researchers together to discuss research in the health and public health sectors. The call for

abstracts is currently open and the submission deadline is **March 21, 2021**. Visit: <http://bit.ly/3qISv6X>.

- **SAVE THE DATE!** The **2021 NCAI Mid Year Conference & Marketplace** will be held **June 20-24, 2021** as a virtual event. The conference will include the 16th Annual Tribal Leader/Scholar Forum. For more information, visit: <http://bit.ly/38GAcDS>.
- Public Responsibility in Medicine and Research (PRIM&R) will be hosting its **Advancing Ethical Research (AER) Conference** on **November 19 – 21, 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

- **Research to Improve Native American Health (R01 and R21).** The National Institutes of Health is offering grants for research designed to improve Native American health. This research can include secondary analysis of existing data, pilot and feasibility studies, and/or assessing measures being developed or implemented in AI/AN communities. Deadline is **May 17, 2021**. Visit: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-20-214.html>.
- **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. The proposal can take place at any stage or stages in the problem solving process, including identifying/researching the need, building a shared understanding of the issue, and/or testing and implementing solutions. There is no deadline for applications. For details, visit: <http://bit.ly/3ocTnzj>.



If you would like to be added to our listserv, email research@ncai.org.

Visit our updated website at <http://www.ncai.org/prc>.



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