

OVERVIEW OF URBAN INDIAN ORGANIZATIONS

History of Urban Indian Organizations

Urban Indian Organizations (UIOs) were created by urban American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) people, with the support of Tribal leaders, starting in the 1950s in response to severe problems with health, education, employment, and housing caused by the federal government's forced relocation policies. UIOs were formally incorporated into the Indian health care system in 1976 with the passage of the *Indian Health Care Improvement Act* (IHCIA).



What role do Urban Indian Organizations play in the Indian Health System?

Under the IHCIA, the Indian Health Service contracts or grants with UIOs to help fulfill the federal government's trust responsibility to provide health care to all AI/AN people, no matter where they live. UIOs are required by IHCIA to have a AI/AN-controlled Board of Directors and provide for the maximum participation of AI/AN groups and individuals, ensuring that UIOs are health care providers run by AI/AN people, for AI/AN people.

QUICK FACTS

3.4
MILLION

On the 2020 Census, 3.4M AI/AN people lived in areas served by UIOs.¹

1%

Annual appropriations funding for the urban Indian health line item is approximately 1% of IHS Budget, was always <1% prior to 2020.

70%

Approximately 70% of the total AI/AN population lives in urban and suburban areas.¹

41

There are 41 UIOs operating in 38 urban areas across the United States.

4

There are four different types of UIO facilities: full ambulatory, limited ambulatory, outreach & referral, and outpatient & residential alcohol & substance abuse treatment.

500

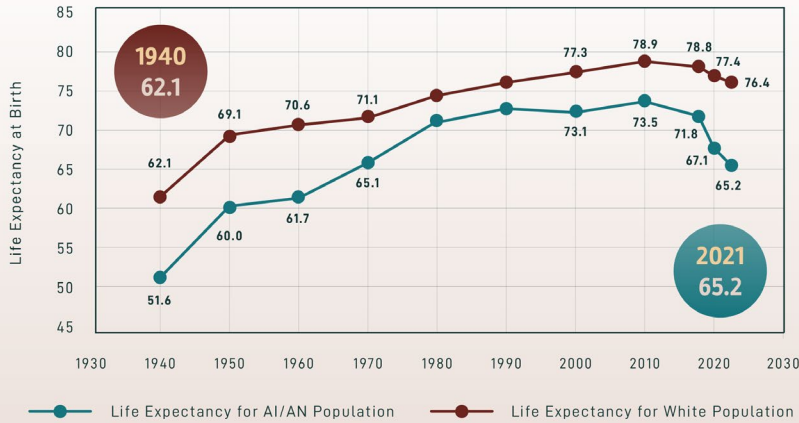
Collectively, the 41 UIOs serve patients from over 500 Tribes.

1. Decennial Census P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data. US Census Bureau, last revised 10-8-2021, <https://www.census.gov/data/datasets/2020/dec/2020-census-redistricting-summary-file-dataset.html>

WHY ARE URBAN INDIAN ORGANIZATIONS IMPORTANT?

American Indian and Alaska Native Health Disparities

Widening Gaps in Life Expectancy Between American Indian and Alaska Native Populations and the White Population in the United States



AI/AN Life Expectancy was Lower in 2022 than the Life Expectancy for the General Population in 1950.

AI/AN People in the United States Experience Disproportionately High Rates of:

- ▶ Infant and Maternal Mortality
- ▶ Cancer
- ▶ Alcohol and Substance abuse
- ▶ Suicide and Depression
- ▶ Diabetes

According to the CDC, AI/AN people in urban areas were just as likely to be in fair or poor health as their peers in rural areas and AI/AN people were far more likely to be in fair or poor health than all U.S. adults, regardless of where they live.

Types of Services Provided by Urban Indian Organizations

UIOs provide essential health care services (based on facility type), including primary care, behavioral health, and social and community services, to patients from over 500 Tribes in 38 urban areas across the United States. For many, UIOs are more than just health care providers, they provide support services that address social determinants of health like housing, nutrition, and domestic violence and serve as cultural hubs for AI/ANs living in urban areas.



CENSUS ESTIMATES AND SERVICE AREAS

Here is a list of current UIOs within their service areas, the names of the counties covered, and the number of people who identified as AI/AN in these areas on the American Community Survey (either alone or in combination).

Urban Indian Organization Service Areas by State with Population Estimates for American Indian and Alaska Natives

SERVICE AREA	AI/AN POPULATION	URBAN INDIAN ORGANIZATIONS IN SERVICE AREA
Arizona		
<i>Phoenix</i>	165,627	Native Health Native American Health Connections
<i>Tuscon</i>	63,639	Tuscon Indian Center
<i>Flagstaff</i>	41,541	Native Americans for Community Action
California		
<i>Los Angeles</i>	261,887	United American Indian Involvement, Inc
<i>Oakland/San Francisco</i>	84,641	Native American Health Center Friendship House- Association of American Indians in San Francisco
<i>San Diego</i>	65,339	San Diego American Indian Health Center
<i>Sacramento</i>	59,089	Sacramento Native American Health Center
<i>Manteca</i>	53,386	Native Directions
<i>San Jose</i>	32,962	Indian Health Center of Santa Clara Valley
<i>Fresno</i>	27,254	Fresno American Indian Health Project
<i>Bakersfield</i>	19,502	Bakersfield American Indian Health Project
<i>Santa Barbara</i>	11,665	American Indian Health and Services Corporation
Colorado		
<i>Denver</i>	67,420	Denver Indian Health and Family Services
Illinois		
<i>Chicago</i>	104,409	American Indian Health Service of Chicago
Kansas		
<i>Wichita</i>	17,110	Hunter Health Clinic
Maryland		
<i>Baltimore</i>	31,862	Native American LifeLines (Baltimore)
Massachusetts		
<i>Boston</i>	38,287	Native American LifeLines (Boston)

SERVICE AREA	AI/AN POPULATION	URBAN INDIAN ORGANIZATIONS IN SERVICE AREA
Michigan		
<i>Detroit</i>	48,733	American Indian Health and Family Services of SE Michigan
Minnesota		
<i>Minneapolis/St. Paul</i>	56,901	Indian Health Board of Minneapolis Juel Fairbanks Chemical Dependency Services
Missouri		
<i>Kansas City</i>	34,832	Kansas City Indian Center
Montana		
<i>Billings</i>	10,366	Billings Urban Indian Health and Wellness Center
<i>Great Falls</i>	5,642	Indian Family Health Clinic of Great Falls
<i>Missoula</i>	4,913	All Nations Health Center
<i>Helena</i>	3,035	Helena Indian Alliance
<i>Butte</i>	1,488	Butte Native Wellness Center
Nebraska		
<i>Omaha</i>	13,886	Nebraska Urban Indian Health Coalition
Nevada		
<i>Reno</i>	14,098	Nevada Urban Indians
New Mexico		
<i>Albuquerque</i>	74,889	First Nations
New York		
<i>New York City</i>	209,924	New York Indian Council
Oklahoma		
<i>Tulsa</i>	143,992	Indian Health Care Resource Center of Tulsa
<i>Oklahoma City</i>	114,176	Oklahoma City Indian Clinic
Oregon		
<i>Portland</i>	60,842	NARA of the Northwest
South Dakota		
<i>Sioux Falls</i>	8,368	South Dakota Urban Indian Health
Texas		
<i>Dallas</i>	113,351	Texas Native Health

Utah

Salt Lake City

23,838

Urban Indian Health Center of Salt Lake

Washington

Seattle

103,007

Seattle Indian Health Board

Spokane

20,635

NATIVE Project

Wisconsin

Milwaukee

19,375

American Indian Council on Alcoholism
Gerald L. Ignace Indian Health Center

All Urban Indian Organization Service Locations

