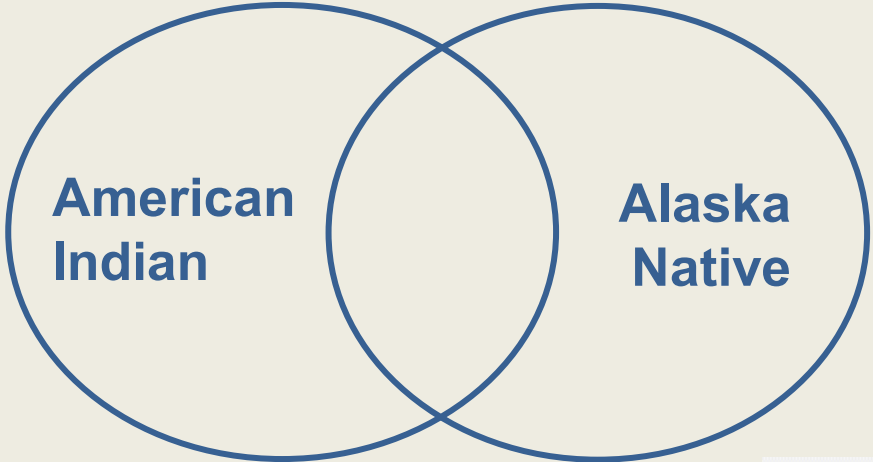


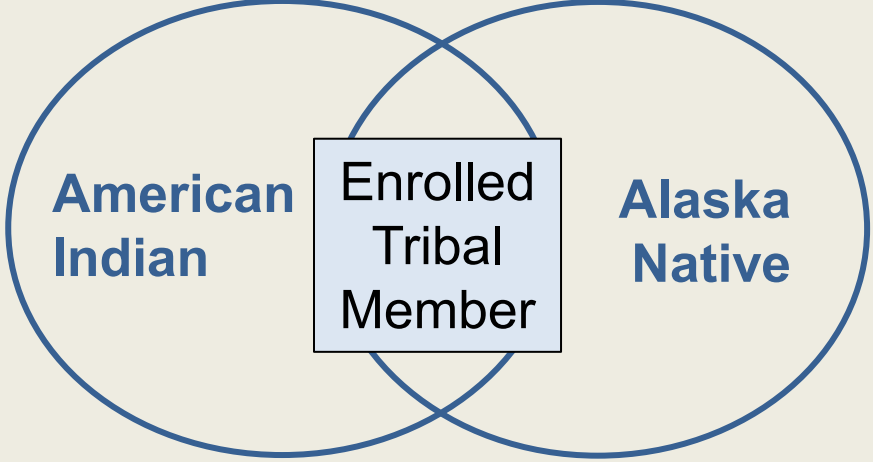
Measuring Health Equity with a Tribal Lens: Learning on Strengths, Sovereignty, and Indigenous Identity

Donald Warne, MD, MPH (*Oglala Lakota*)
Co-Director, Center for Indigenous Health
Provost Fellow, Indigenous Health Policy
Johns Hopkins University

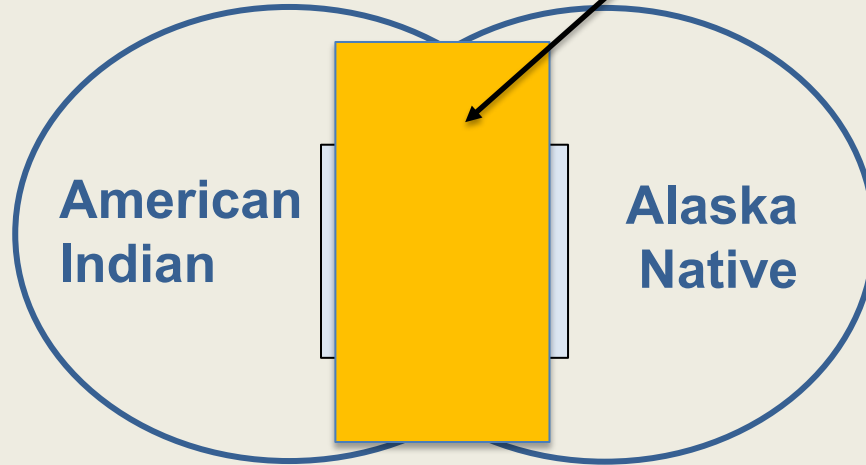


**CENTER FOR
INDIGENOUS HEALTH**



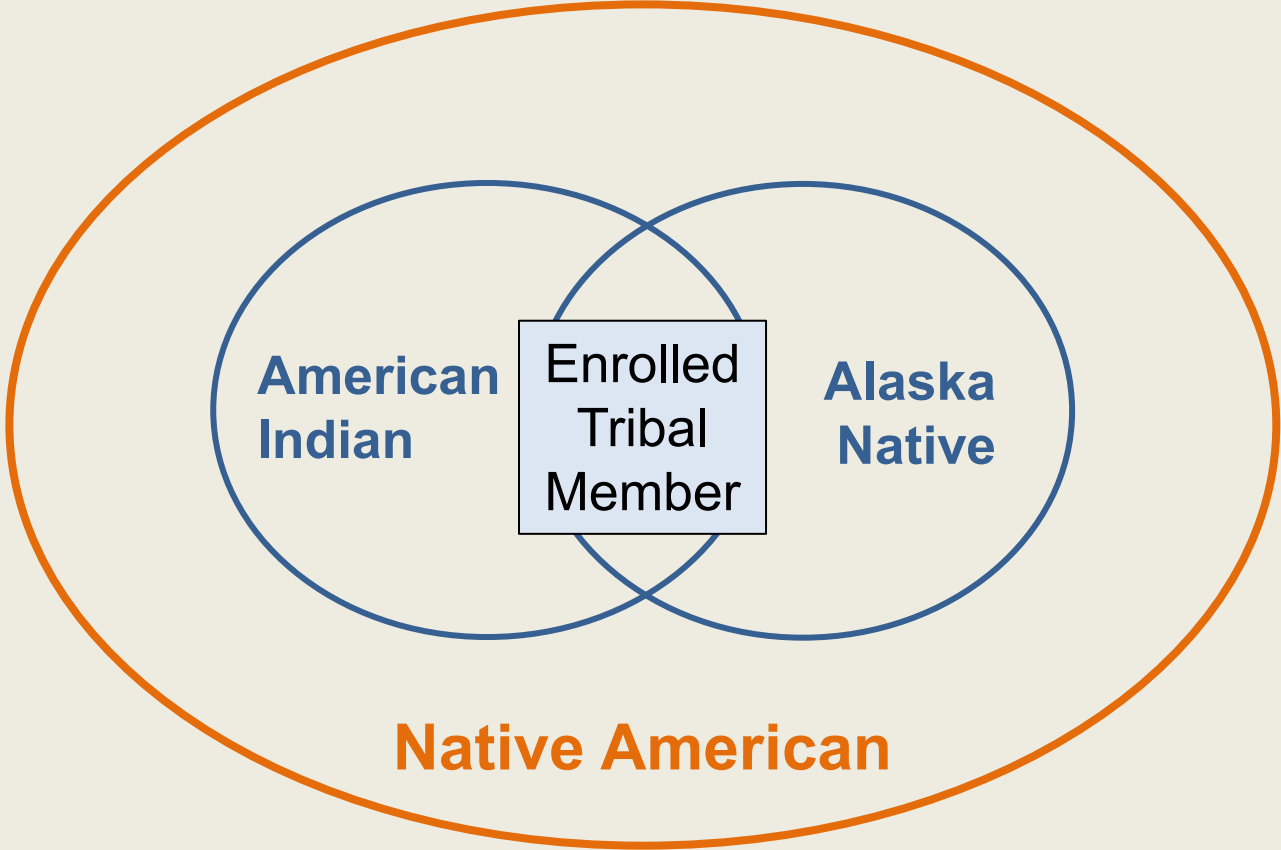


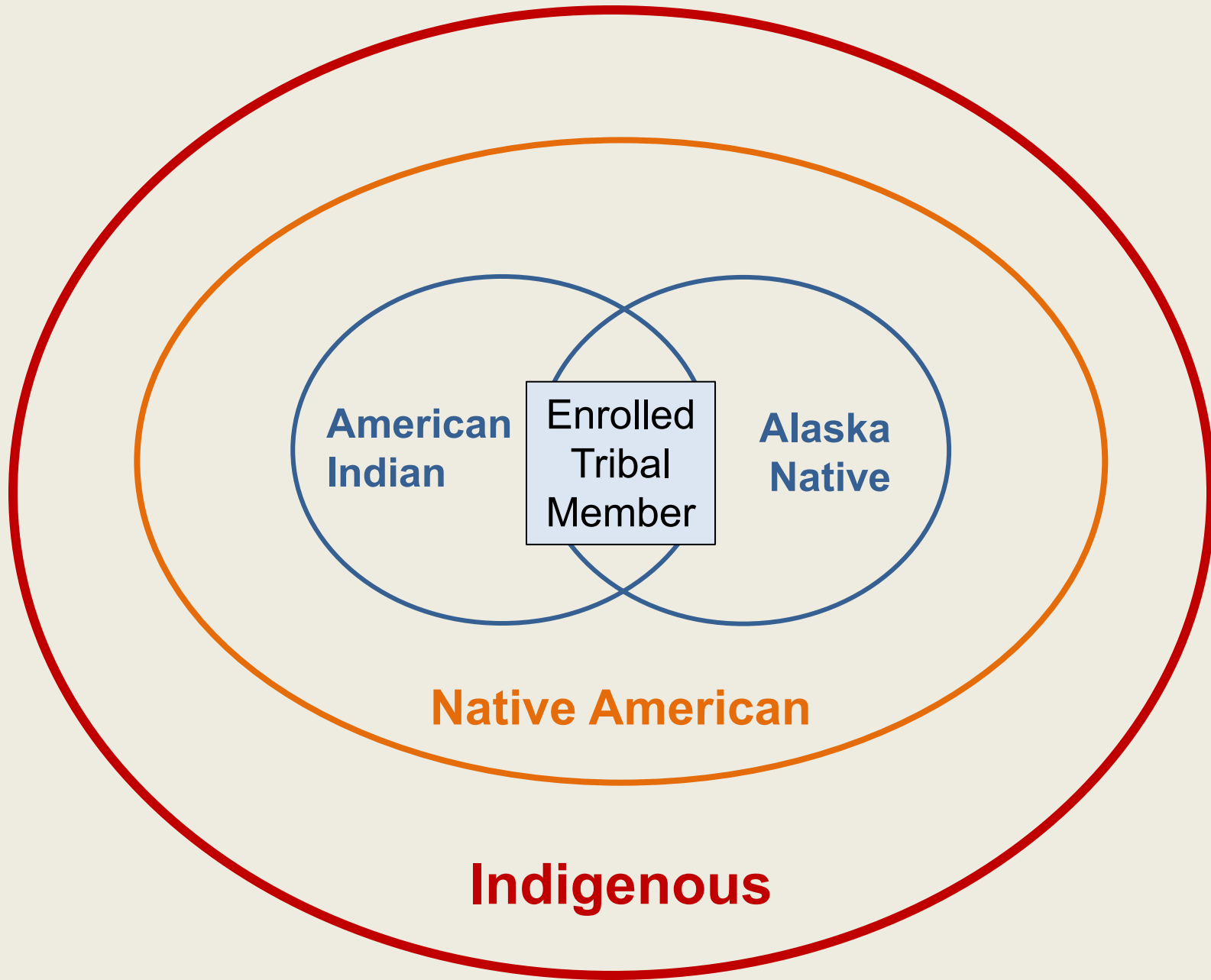
Indian Health
Service “user
population”



American
Indian

Alaska
Native





**American
Indian**

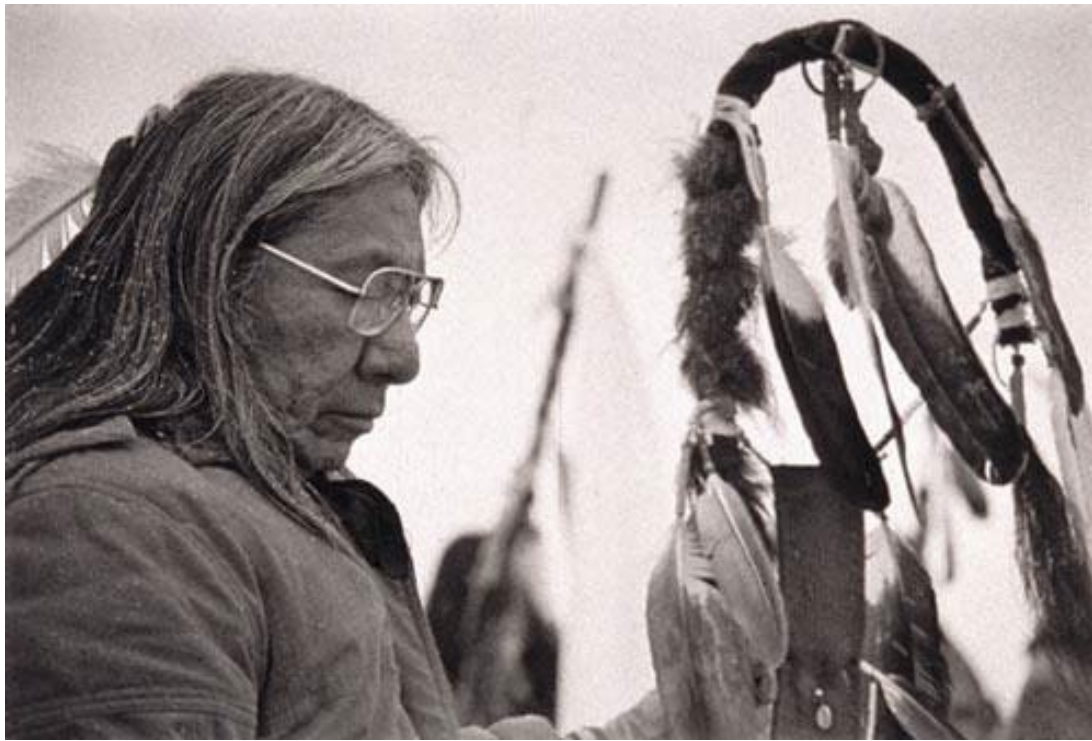
**Enrolled
Tribal
Member**

**Alaska
Native**

Native American

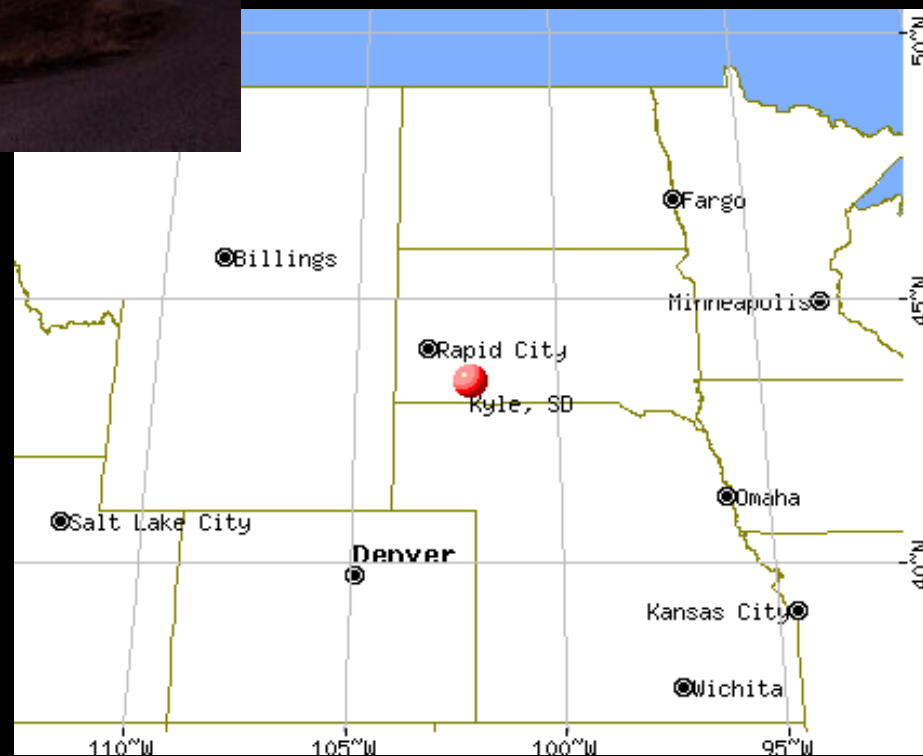
Indigenous

Traditional View of Public Health





Pine Ridge Reservation Kyle, S.D.





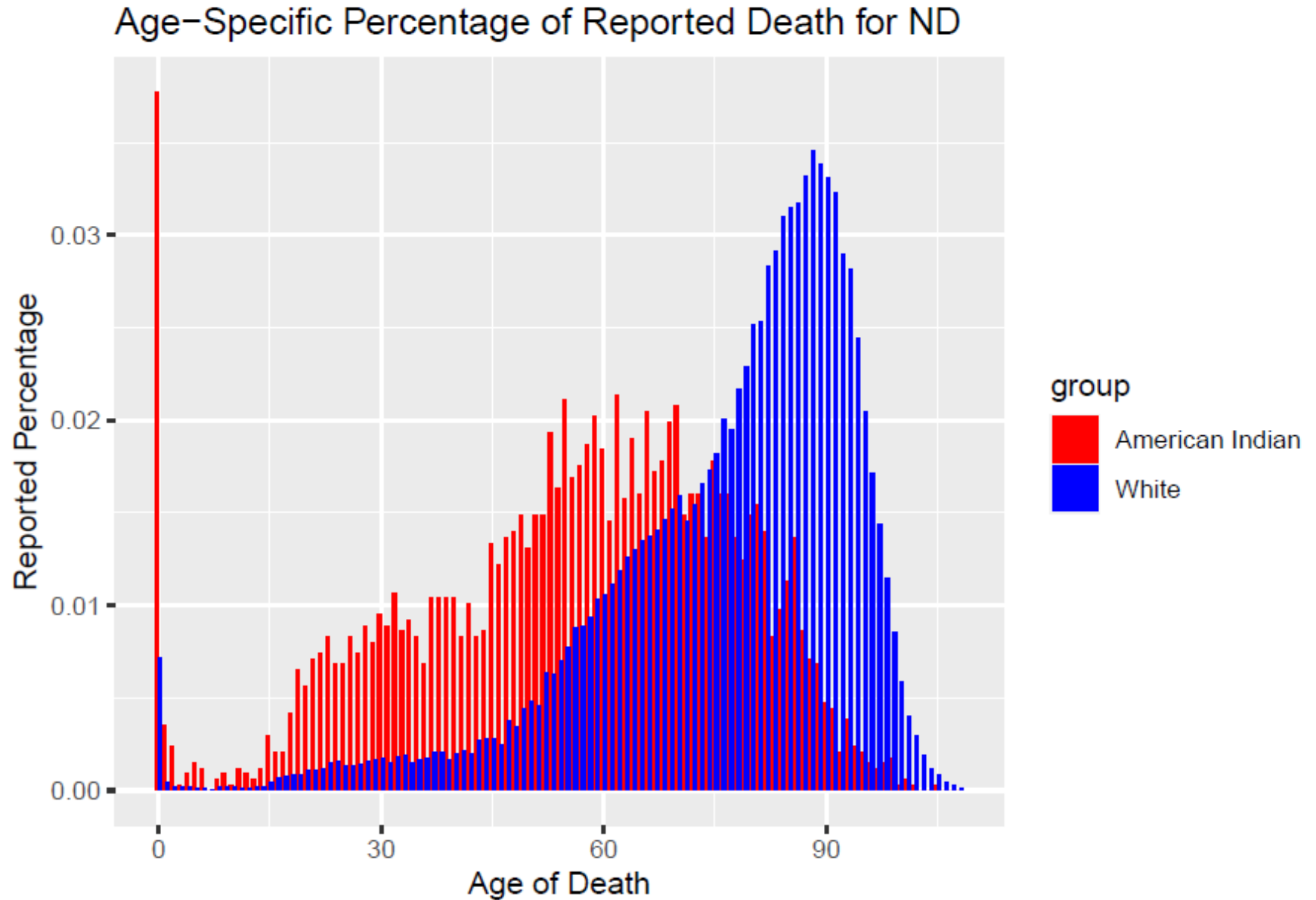






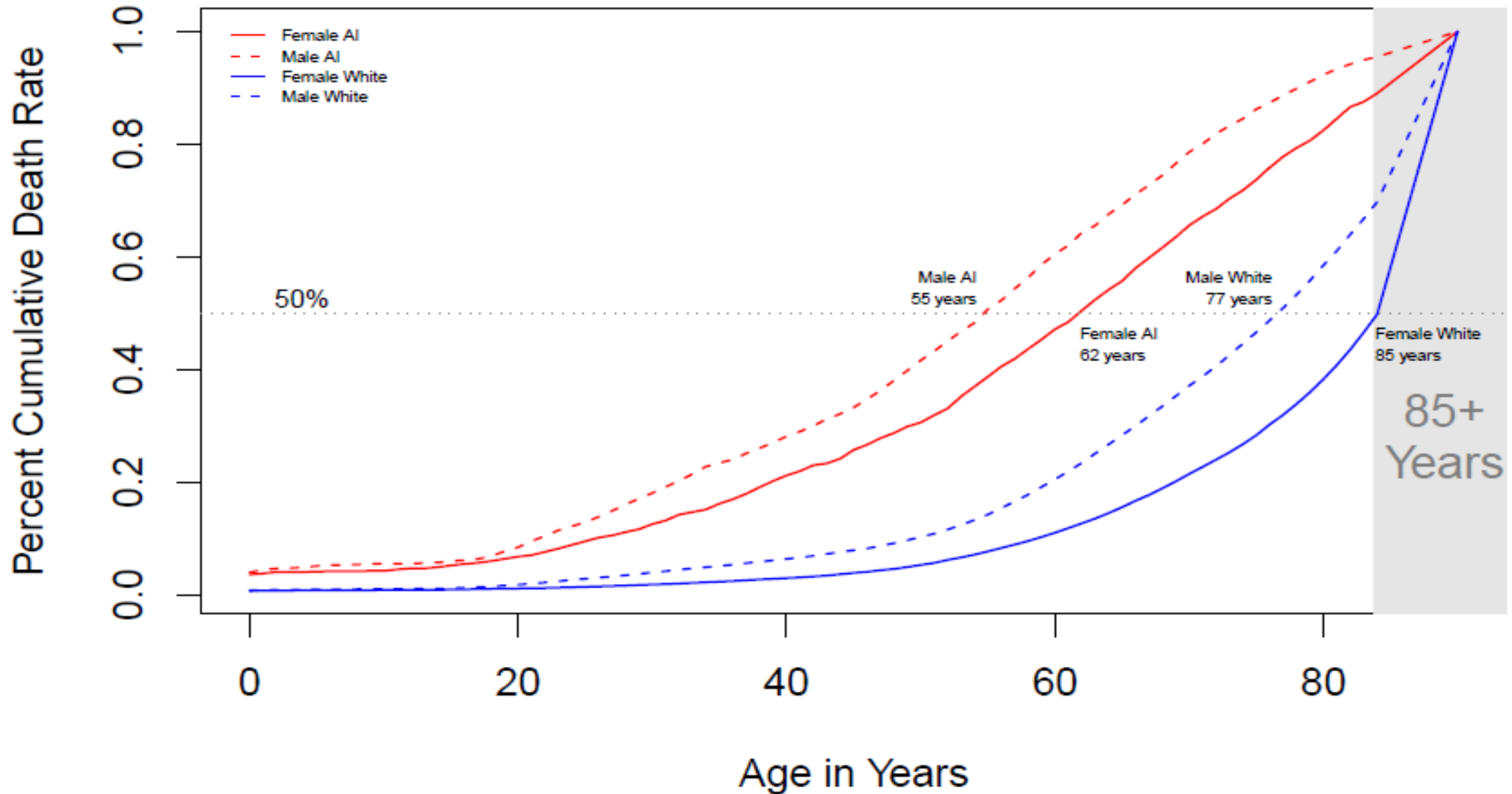
Age at Death in North Dakota

2009-2019



Age at Death in North Dakota

2009-2019



NEWS & UPDATES

White House Commits to Elevating Indigenous Knowledge in Federal Policy Decisions

NOVEMBER 15, 2021 • PRESS RELEASES

*White House Office of Science & Technology Policy and Council on
Environmental Quality release first-of-its kind memorandum to initiate new
federal guidance on Indigenous Traditional Ecological Knowledge*

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/ceq/news-updates/2021/11/15/white-house-commits-to-elevating-indigenous-knowledge-in-federal-policy-decisions/>

USDA announces a new focus on Indigenous food and agriculture

Dan Gunderson Moorhead, Minn. November 16, 2021 12:45 p.m.



Bear Island corn comes from an island on the Red Lake Reservation in northern Minnesota. ■ Dan Gunderson | MPR News 2011

Respect for Indigenous Knowledge

- Indigenous STEM



Respect for Indigenous Knowledge

- Indigenous STEM



Respect for Indigenous Knowledge

- Indigenous STEM

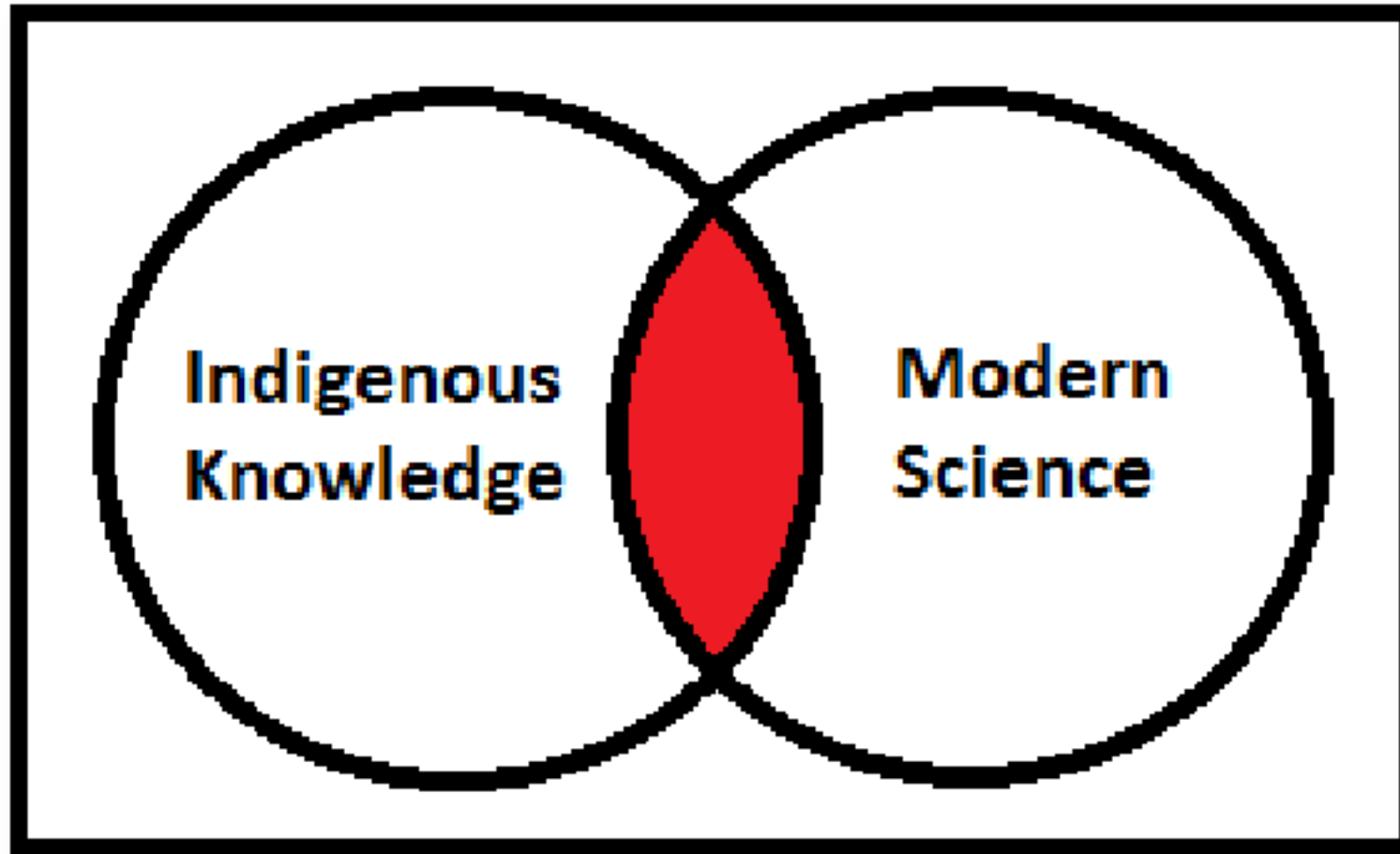


Respect for Indigenous Knowledge

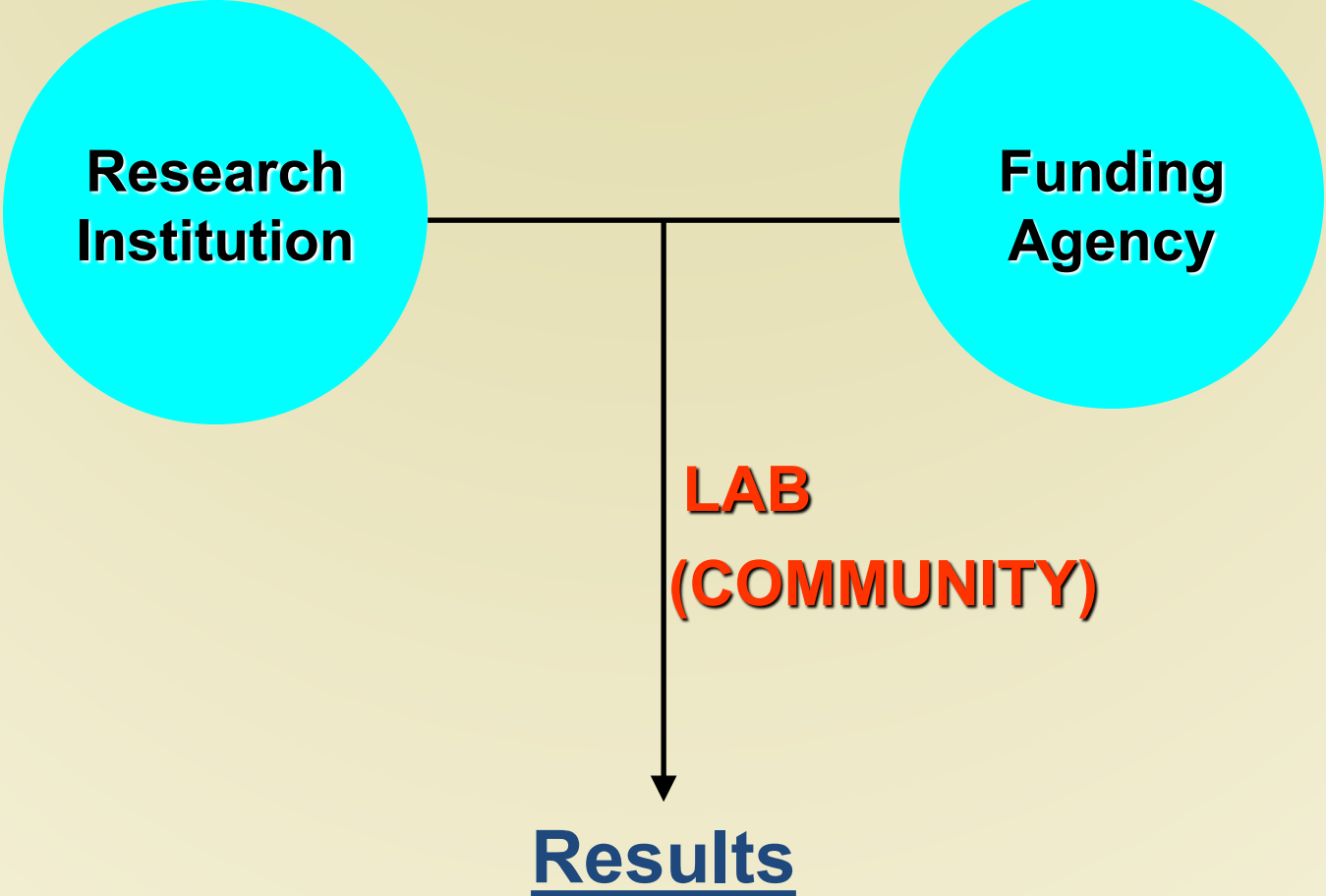
- Indigenous STEM



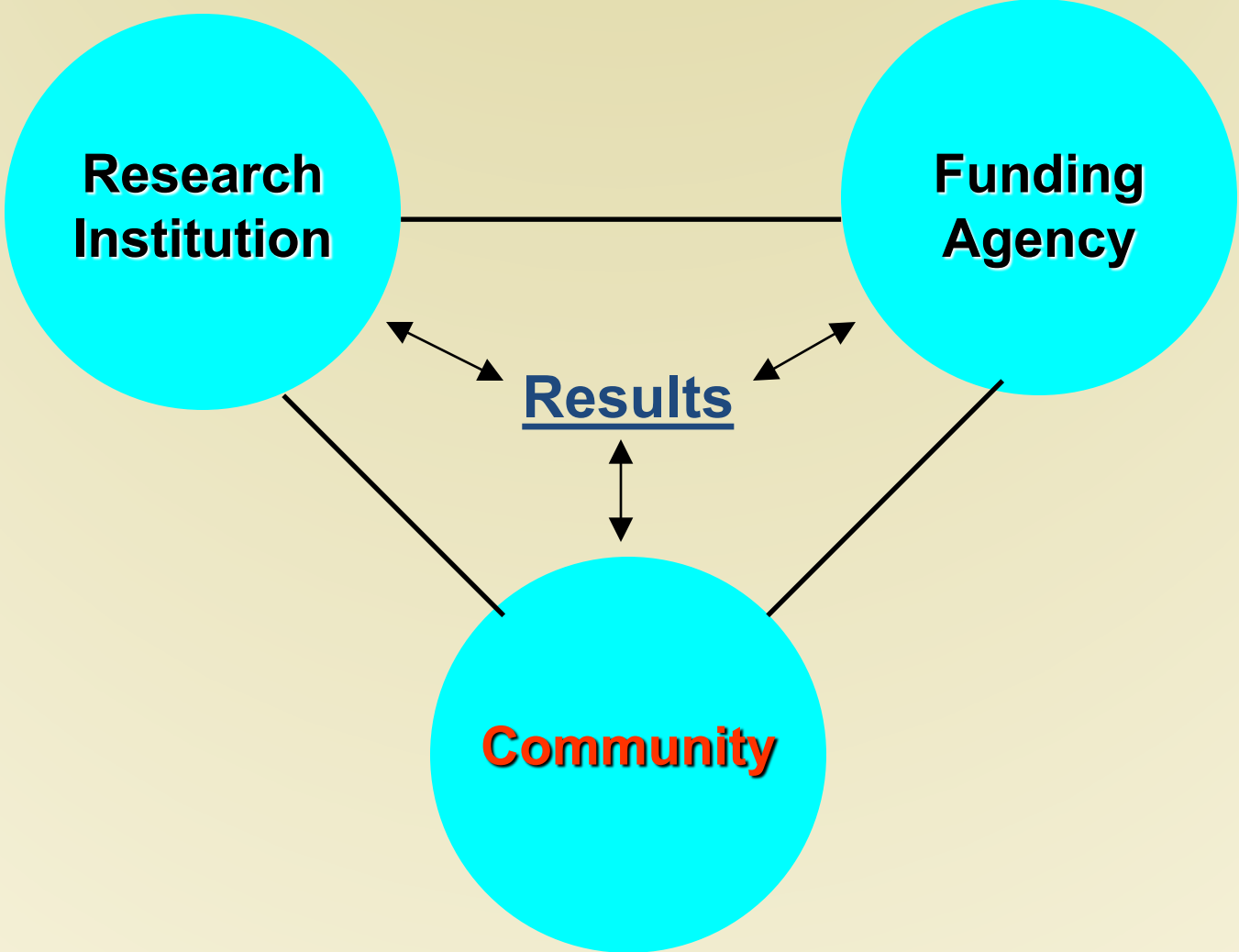
Research in Balance



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PARADIGM



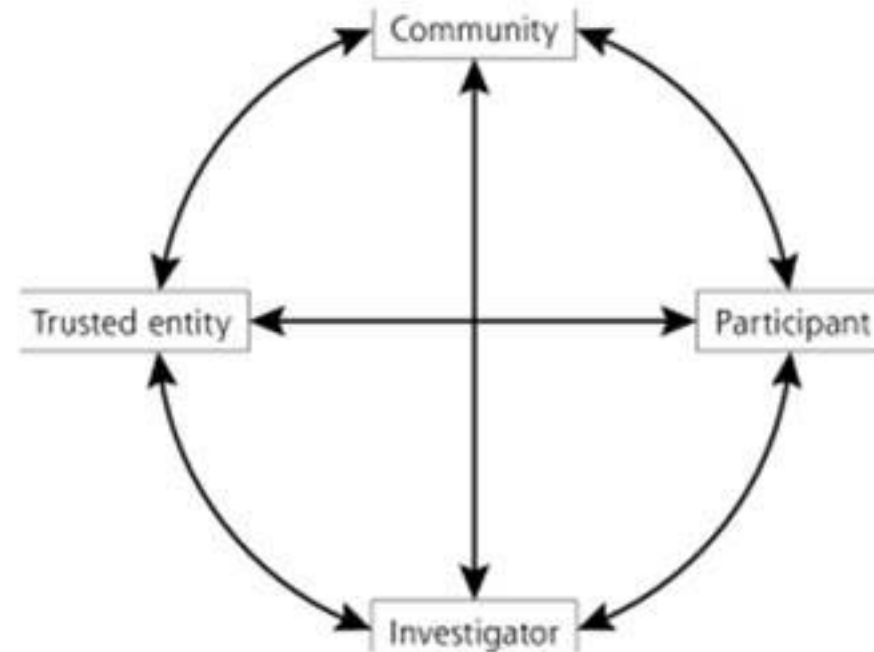
COMMUNITY PARTICIPATORY RESEARCH PARADIGM



Circle of Trust



CENTER FOR
INDIGENOUS HEALTH



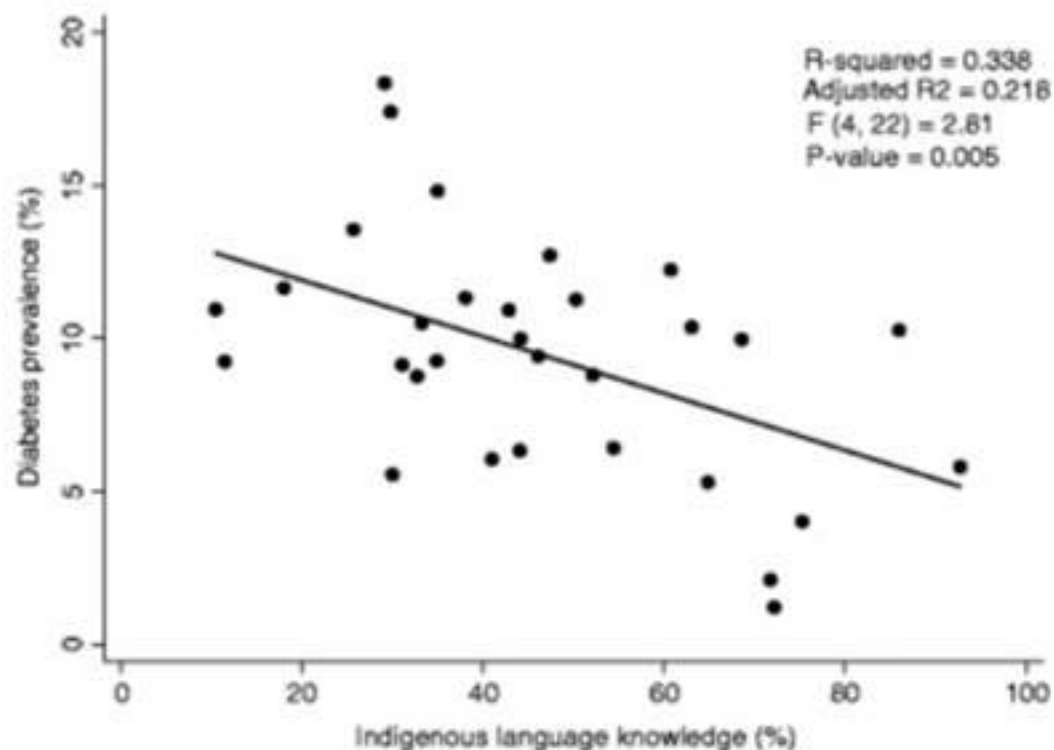
Mainous A, Kelliher A, Warne D. Recruiting Indigenous Patients Into Clinical Trials: A Circle of Trust. *Ann Fam Med*. 2023 Jan-Feb;21(1):54-56. doi: 10.1370/afm.2901. PMID: 36690478; PMCID: PMC9870649.

Culture Protects



CENTER FOR
INDIGENOUS HEALTH

Figure 2



Crude diabetes prevalence by Aboriginal language knowledge for the year 2005. P-value reflects multiple linear regression test result (adjusted for socio-economic factors).

- Oster, Richard T., Angela Grier, Rick Lightning, Maria J. Mayan, and Ellen L. Toth. "Cultural Continuity, Traditional Indigenous Language, and Diabetes in Alberta First Nations: A Mixed Methods Study." *International Journal for Equity in Health* 13, no. 1 (October 19, 2014): 92. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12939-014-0092-4>.

Strengths, Sovereignty & Indigenous Identity

- **Community-Driven Research Priorities**
- **Language, Culture, and Ceremony**
- **Indigenous Research Workforce**
- **Indigenous School of Healing Arts & Sciences**



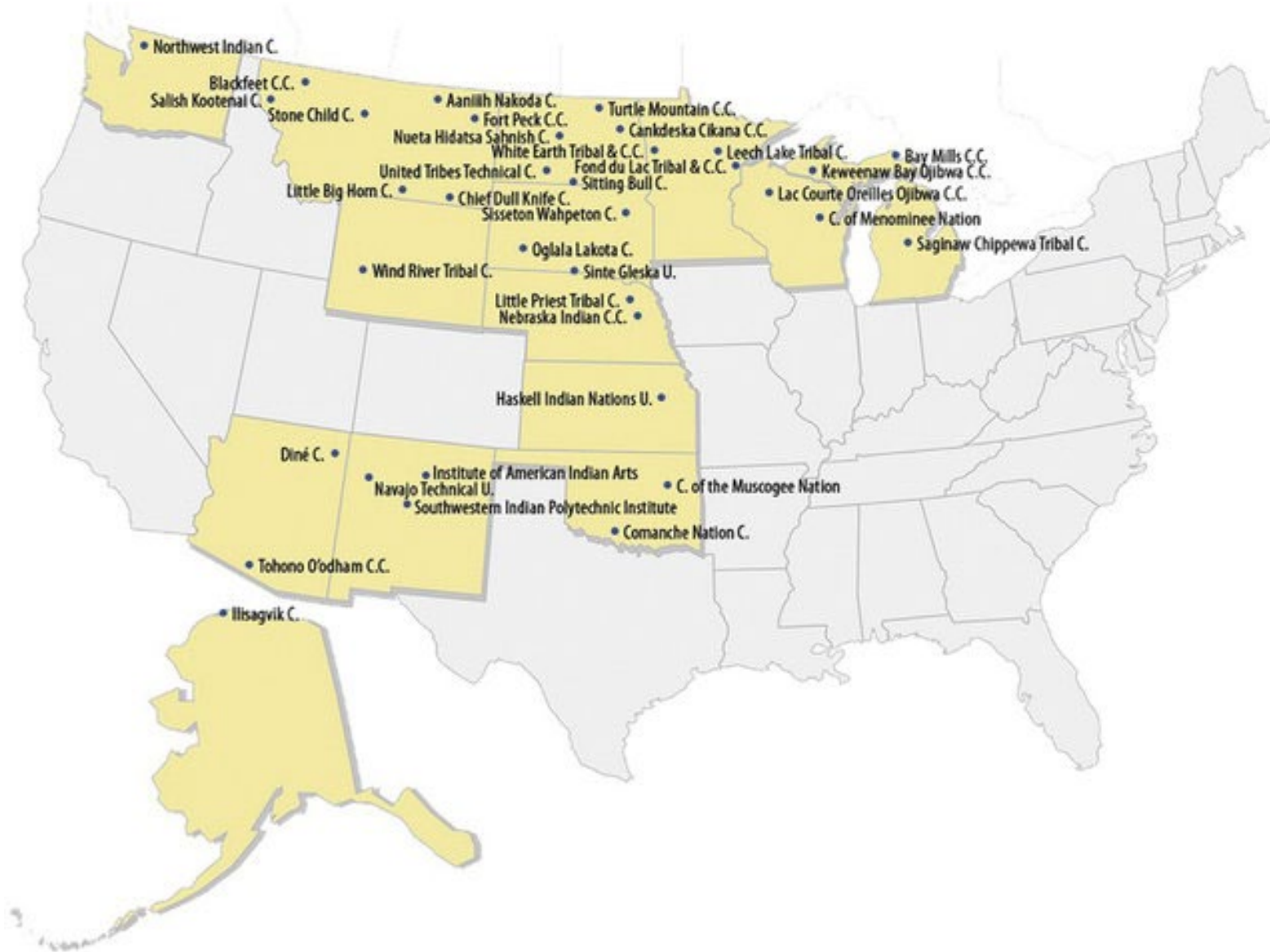
Where are 105 HBCUs?



Where are the HBCU Medical Schools?



Where are the TCUs?



Where are the TCU Medical Schools?

Dream Big...



ISHA INDIGENOUS SCHOOL OF HEALING ARTS



Indigenous School of Healing Arts & Sciences

Multiple health sciences are in need:

- Medicine—UME, GME, Fellowships...
- Naturopathic Medicine
- Nursing
- PT/OT/ST
- Public Health
- Allied Sciences
- All health professions...



- **Department of Traditional Medicine**

Indigenous School of Healing Arts & Sciences

Decolonize and Indigenize Curricula

- Competency-based rather than time-bound
- Respect for traditional values and family systems
- Community-driven and informed curricula
- Land-based healing principles
- Promote Wellness—not just treat disease
- Do NOT traumatize health professions students
- Integrate traditional medicine & modern science across curricula
- Department of Traditional Medicine
- Indigenous research methodologies
- NEED Indigenous faculty and leadership
- Indigenous Medicine is a clinical science



Indigenous School of Healing Arts & Sciences

Locations?

- Large enough city with access to medical specialties
- No current medical school
- Significant number of Indigenous patients

- Rapid City, SD?
- Flagstaff, AZ?
- Santa Fe, NM?
- Anchorage, AK? (ANSHA)
- International?







Indigenous School of Healing Arts & Sciences

Next Steps

- Strategic Plan and Business Plan
- Governance Structure
 - National
 - Multiple campuses
 - International?
- Support existing programs
- Financial Support





dwarne1@jh.edu

Getting to Yes

Data Sharing Between States and Tribes

Tuesday | September 26

Krystal Schramm

“Miskwa Mishiki Kwe”

**Director of American Indian
& Alaska Native Engagement**



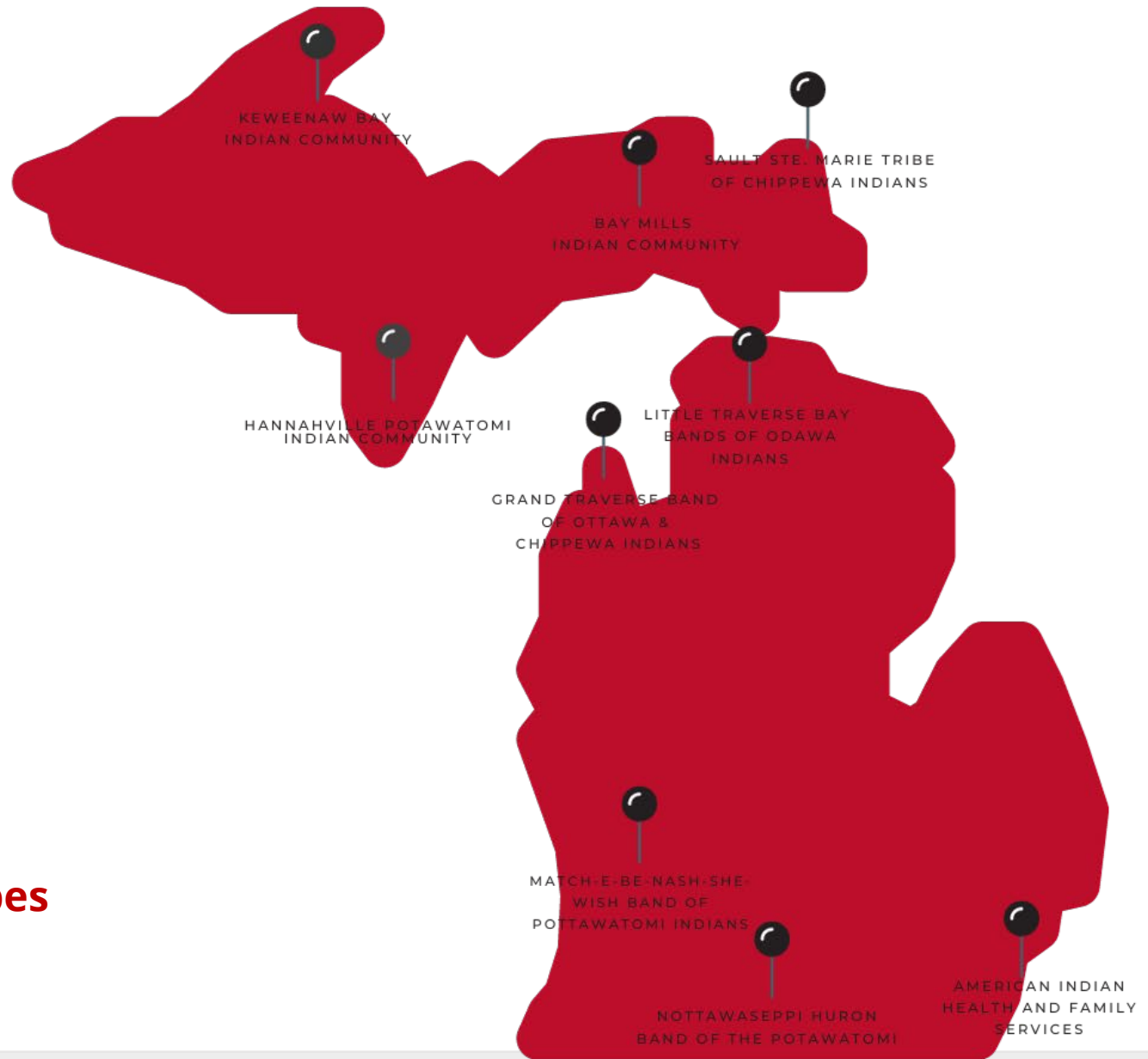


About me:

- **Descendant of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.**
- **A Native Sovereign Nation based in Manistee, Michigan, LRBOI is the political successor to nine of the nineteen historic bands of the Grand River Ottawa people.**
- **My husband Dave and our children belong to the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and are descendants of Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.**

Michigan

- **Rich Multiethnic Diversity**
 - **Population: 10,077,331**
 - **5.7% Hispanic**
 - **0.7% American Indian**
 - **14.1% Black or African American**
 - **78.8% Non-Hispanic White**
 - **2.9% Native American**
- **Tribal Populations**
 - **12 federally recognized tribes**
 - **MiHIN is connected to 9**



**As Michigan's
state-designated
HIE, we aggregate
data from over:**



159
HOSPITALS

310+
SKILLED NURSING
FACILITIES

5K+
PRACTICES

1.7K+
PHARMACIES

Data sovereignty, privacy & security

The Tribes and Our Data: Who Owns It & How We Keep it Safe

HIEs, health equity and public health

How HIEs Can Empower Patient Data Access and Boost
Health Equity for Tribal Populations



ADTs and Referrals in Michigan

The Michigan Health Information Network in Action

THANK YOU

LET'S CONNECT



mihin.org



[@MiHIN](https://twitter.com/MiHIN)



[linkedin.com/company/mihin](https://www.linkedin.com/company/mihin)



krystal.schramm@mihin.org



COLLABORATING WITH STATE PARTNERS TO PROMOTE TRIBAL HEALTH DATA EQUITY

Pharah D. Morgan, MS, MPH
Lead Epidemiologist

BACKGROUND

- ▶ Health and American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) populations:
 - ▶ Negative Health Outcomes
 - ▶ Life expectancy¹: **5.5 years less** (73.0 years vs. 78.5 years, respectively)
 - ▶ Provisional AI/AN life expectancy²: 67.1 years (2020) → **65.2 years** (2021)

Health Equity³:

“the attainment of the **highest level of health for all people**...requires **valuing everyone equally** with focused and **ongoing societal efforts** to **address avoidable inequalities**, historical and contemporary injustices, and the **elimination of health and health care disparities.**”

TRIBAL EPIDEMIOLOGY CENTERS

- ❑ Established via Indian Health Care Improvement Act (IHCIA) – to elevate the health status of Tribal and urban Indian communities
- ❑ Four TECs were started in 1996, now 12 TECs nationwide
- ❑ TECs function independently, but also as part of a national group
- ❑ Core Funding: Cooperative Agreement with Indian Health Service Division of Epidemiology and Disease Prevention

<https://tribalepicenters.org/>

TRIBAL PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITIES

- ❑ 2010 Affordable Care Act **permanently reauthorized** the IHClA - <https://www.cdc.gov/phlp/docs/tec-issuebrief.pdf>
- ❑ TECs given “**Public Health Authority**” status
- ❑ Health and Human Services (HHS) **directed to give TECs access** to HHS data systems and protected health information
- ❑ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention must provide TECs technical assistance
- ❑ Each IHS Area must have TEC access

TEC SEVEN ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

1. **Collect Data** (data agreements, publicly available sources)
2. **Evaluate Data and Programs** (data analysis, assessments, evaluation, indigenous evaluation methods)
3. **Identify Health Priorities** with Tribes
4. **Make Recommendations** for Health Service Needs (using public health methods)
5. **Make Recommendations** for Improving Health Care Delivery Systems
6. Provide **Epidemiologic Technical Assistance** to Tribes and Tribal organizations
7. Provide **Disease Surveillance** to Tribes

URBAN INDIAN HEALTH INSTITUTE

NORTHWEST

CALIFORNIA

INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL OF ARIZONA, INC.

ALASKA

ROCKY MOUNTAIN

NORTHERN PLAINS

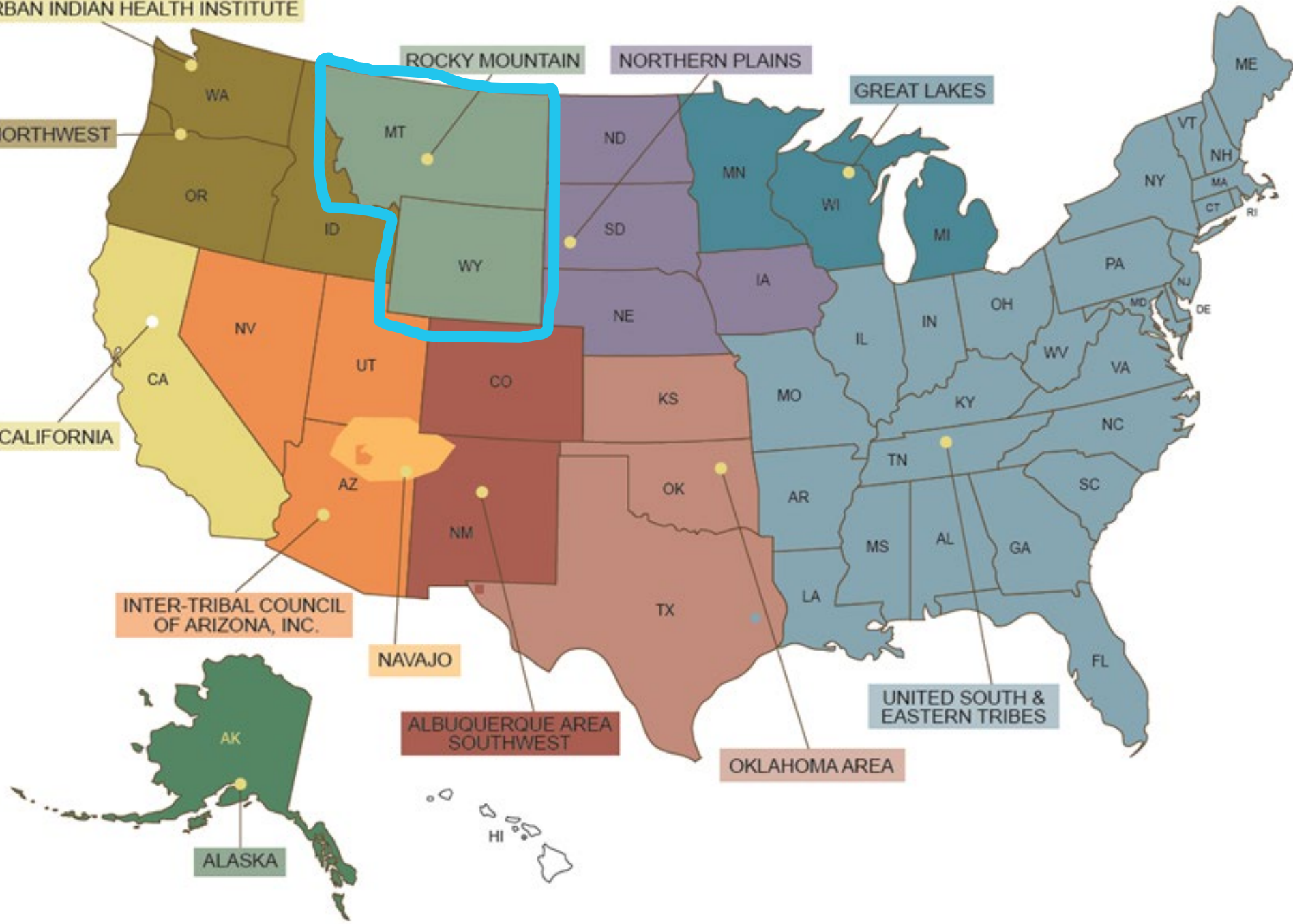
GREAT LAKES

NAVAJO

ALBUQUERQUE AREA
SOUTHWEST

OKLAHOMA AREA

UNITED SOUTH &
EASTERN TRIBES



ROCKY MOUNTAIN TRIBAL EPI CENTER (RMTEC)

Mission

To empower the American Indians of Montana and Wyoming in the development of services, systems, and epidemiologic capacities to address their public health concerns.

Vision

Tribal Public Health solutions that honor the Indigenous health knowledge and traditions of the Tribes.



Rocky Mountain
Tribal Leaders Council



- ▶ Since 2005, RMTEC serves more than 73,000 American Indians in States of Montana and Wyoming.
- ▶ Following Billings Area defined Indian Health Service (BAO-IHS) region, RMTEC serves nine Tribes/Service units on seven reservations in Montana and Wyoming.

www.rmtlc.org/tribal-epidemiology-centers

TRIBAL DATA CHALLENGES

Delayed
real-time data

demographics
variables

**lack of
awareness**
TEC's Public
Health Authority

restricted/limited
access to
datasets

RMTEC & TRIBAL DATA



Evaluate



List



Strengthen Partnerships

- Virtual meetings w/Dept Heads (quarterly, monthly)
- Tribal Health Directors



DMT

OUTCOMES: MORE DATA

More data sources

- MT DPHHS: 3
- WY DOH: 4
- Improved data for BH/MH surveillance

Improved data collection

- recommendations for State's for increased tribal participation
- tribal affiliation

Data Partners

- Tribal Health Directors engagement

Priorities

- Identified other data priorities
- Collaborate with reporting (removing redundant reporting)
- New reports

TRIBAL HEALTH DATA EQUITY



- ▶ American Indians/Alaska Natives have long experienced health inequity.

~~health inequity~~ → **health equity**

- ▶ Better data to address Tribal Social Determinants of Health.
- ▶ Acknowledging the challenges to data. These are drivers of health inequity.

REFERENCES:

1. Indian Health Services, “Disparities Factsheet” (October 2019) Obtained August 8, 2023. <https://www.ihs.gov/newsroom/factsheets/disparities/>
2. Arias, E. et al (2022). “Provisional Life Expectancy Estimates for 2021”. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System. Obtained: August 8, 2023. <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/vsrr/vsrr023.pdf>
3. Healthy People 2030, Health Equity in Healthy People 2030. <https://health.gov/healthypeople/priority-areas/health-equity-healthy-people-2030> Obtained: September 19, 2023



**THANK
YOU**

**Rocky Mountain Tribal Leaders Council,
Tribal Epidemiology Center**

2929 Third Avenue North, Suite 300
Billings, MT 59101
rmtec@rmtlc.org
406.252.2550 (phone)
406.254.6355 (fax)

Pharah D. Morgan
Lead Epidemiologist
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TEC Director
helen.tesfai@rmtlc.org

Special thank you to Dyani Bingham for her contributions.



Medicaid Data Sharing with Tribes

Medicaid Unwinding

September 26, 2023

Jessica Imotichey

*the
Chickasaw
Nation*

Tribal Health Program Involvement

- [CMS SHO #22-001](#) says that states are “strongly encouraged to engage with other key stakeholders (e.g., providers, beneficiary advocacy groups) and with the Indian Health Service, Tribes and Tribal organizations, and urban Indian organizations (ITUs) located in your state **on an ongoing basis.**”
- Furthermore, [CMS SHO #23-002](#) says that states are strongly encouraged to “engage with the Indian Health Service (IHS), Tribes and Tribal organizations, and urban Indian organizations (collectively, ITU) to help with updated contact information for Tribal Medicaid beneficiaries, including sharing enrollment and renewal data with ITUs.”



Potential Impacts of Unwinding

- According to the most recent data collected by the Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF), an independent organization monitoring Medicaid unwinding, at least **1.3 million** have already lost their coverage.
- Estimates from KFF say that up to 24 million people could lose their Medicaid coverage in the coming year.
- Furthermore, in some States, such as Idaho and Kansas, officials are disenrolling more than 70 percent of individuals who are up for renewal.

Sources: “Medicaid Enrollment and Unwinding Tracker,” Kaiser Family Foundation, June 20, 2023.

“10 Things to Know About the Unwinding of the Medicaid Continuous Enrollment Provision,” Kaiser Family Foundation, June 9, 2023.



Potential Impacts of Unwinding

- In June, KFF found that 71 percent of disenrollments have been procedural. This means that individuals lost their coverage because they did not properly complete the renewal process, not because they have been deemed ineligible for Medicaid.
- This can happen for a variety of reasons, such as when the State does not have updated contact information, when an individual makes an error on their renewal form, or when the renewal is not completed during the specified timeframe, among other reasons.
- A KFF review of state policy in January found that many States—including Arizona, Connecticut, Louisiana, Maine, Minnesota, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Oregon—did not require multiple contacts before termination of coverage. This makes procedural disenrollments where the individual is otherwise eligible for Medicaid more likely.

Sources: “Medicaid Enrollment and Unwinding Tracker,” Kaiser Family Foundation, June 20, 2023.

“State Policy Choices Are Likely to Affect the Extent of Medicaid Enrollment Declines During the Unwinding Period,” Kaiser Family Foundation, May 9, 2023.



Updating Contact Information

- As the renewal process is ongoing, it is important to ensure that all Medicaid enrollees have contact information up to date in the state Medicaid database.
- Per CMS, states are authorized to grant tribes access to their Medicaid eligibility portals. States may also share their contacts and address information with tribes to help locate individuals subject to enrollment redeterminations.
- Tribes can work with the Medicaid beneficiaries they serve to make sure they respond to any inquiries from the state.



TTAG Unwinding Workgroup

Medicaid Data Sharing with ITUs

Initially only two States shared data

- Arizona
- Oklahoma

New States sharing data

- Colorado
- Idaho
- Montana
- Nevada
- Oregon
- Minnesota



OHCA Unwinding Fast Facts

COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Monthly Unwinding Fast Facts July 2023



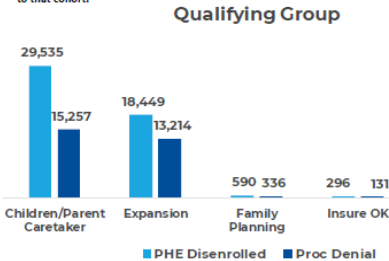
In March 2020, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services temporarily waived certain Medicaid requirements and conditions allowing people to continue their health coverage during the public health emergency. Now states are required to resume eligibility reviews and disenroll those members no longer eligible. OHCA estimates it will be required to disenroll approximately 270,000 ineligible members over a 9-month process starting April 30, 2023.

PHE Members Disenrolled	48,910		Female	Male
Procedural Denial Disenrolled	28,958	59.2%	27,153	21,757
PHE Disenrollment Appeals	22	0.04%	Procedural Denial Disenrolled	15,842
				13,116

A procedural denial is a denial that occurs when there is no confirmation of ineligibility. They include but are not limited to failing to turn in requested documentation or not completing the renewal process.

The Procedural Denial count is a subset of the total monthly PHE Members Disenrolled count.

Beginning in June, OHCA was able to implement a strategy to delay procedural denial disenrollments for 30 days to allow for additional targeted outreach to that cohort.



Federal Poverty Level	PHE Members Disenrolled		Proc Denial Disenrolled	
	Child <19	Adult 19+	Child <19	Adult 19+
0-138%	2,469	4,497	1,007	2,367
139-200%	1,297	8,010	392	5,142
201-227%	2,827	3,379	1,546	2,256
228% & Over	15,157	11,284	8,564	7,684

2,367 children under 201% FPL and 2,120 adults under 139% FPL were disenrolled for non-procedural reasons.

OHCA is conducting additional outreach to families identified in the blue shade on this chart to remind them to renew or re-enroll due to children who may still be eligible. Oklahoma has real-time application processing through MyOonerCare.org and eligible members can resume benefits the same day.

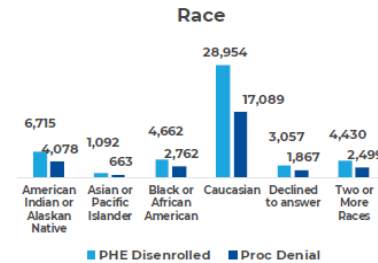
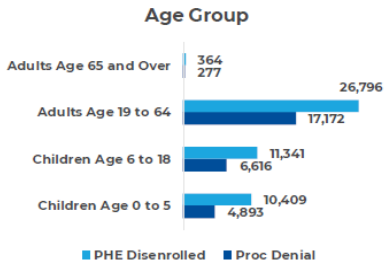
OTHER includes Aged/Blind/Disabled and Dual Enrollees (Medicare/Medicaid).

Third Party Liability (Major Medical)

PHE Members Disenrolled	17,192	35.2%
Procedural Denial Disenrolled	11,166	38.6%

Member also has insurance coverage through another insurer.

Ethnicity	PHE Members Disenrolled	Proc Denial Disenrolled
Hispanic	7,441	3,976
Non-Hispanic	41,469	24,982



Race is self-reported by members at the time of enrollment. The multiple race members have selected two or more races. Hispanic or Latino is an ethnicity, not a race. Hispanic and Latinos can be of any race. The data is valid as of the report date and is subject to change.

8/30/2023



Reasons for Loss of Coverage

- Child Support – Non-cooperation with OCSS
- Excess earnings
- Failed or refused to provide verification documents
- Failed to provide citizenship verification
- Application data was incomplete
- Unable to determine household members
- Member needs to apply at OKDHS – Relates to Aged Blind Disabled
- Member reporting both employment and unemployment
- Not categorically related
- Pregnancy verification expiration
- Social Security number not met
- End of eligibility time (renewal)



Data File Categories

- Case Number
- Client ID
- First Name
- Last Name
- County
- Category
- Age
- Race
- Gender
- Claims within last 2 years
- CDIB Indicator
- Provider ID & Service Location
- Provider Name
- Reason for loss of coverage
- Unwinding Date



Transition to ACA Marketplace Plans

- Even with good communication, many AI/AN Medicaid enrollees may lose access to coverage because they no longer meet income requirements
- These individuals may have continued access to coverage by enrolling in an ACA Marketplace Plan
- AI/ANs have access to zero and limited cost sharing plans on the exchanges
- States should provide AI/AN Medicaid enrollees who are no longer eligible for Medicaid coverage information about the AI/AN zero and limited cost sharing plans on the exchanges



Requesting Consultation with CMS

- Tribes can ask for government-to-government consultation with CMS to cover
 - Concerns about eligibility redeterminations and information sharing
 - Concerns about reaching beneficiaries up for renewal
 - Concerns about coverage losses



CMS Resources on Unwinding

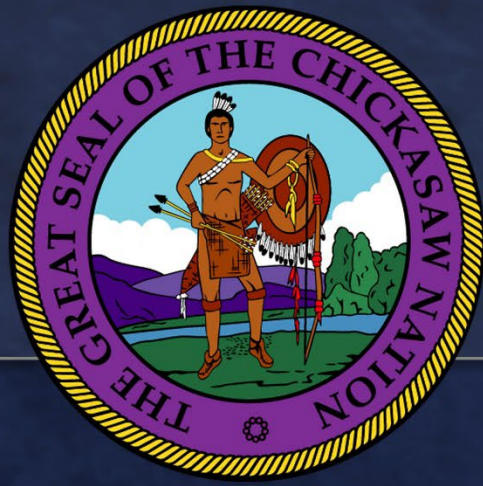
- [General Information: AIAN-Unwinding | CMS](#)
- [Timeline by State: ant-2023-time-init-unwin-reltd-ren-02242023.pdf \(medicaid.gov\)](#)
- Medicaid Unwinding Toolkit: [Medicaid and CHIP Renewals Outreach and Educational Resources | Medicaid](#)
 - *NIHB & NCUIH AIAN Toolkits



CMS TTAG Unwinding Workgroup

- Established in March 2022
- Co-Chairs
 - Yvonne Myers, Tribal Chair
 - YMyers@potawatomi.org
 - Beverly Lofton, CMS Chair
 - Beverly.Lofton@cms.hhs.gov





TTAG Unwinding Workgroup

Meets monthly on 4th Tuesday
2:00pm EST

Email Yvonne Meyers if you would like to be added to the workgroup.

*the
Chickasaw
Nation*



LEARNING FROM COVID:
COMMUNICATING DATA
TO THE PUBLIC WITH
VISUALIZATIONS AND
SOCIAL MEDIA

National Indian
Health Board



Darby Galligher, MPH
National Indian Health Board
Miami Tribe of Oklahoma
Communications Coordinator

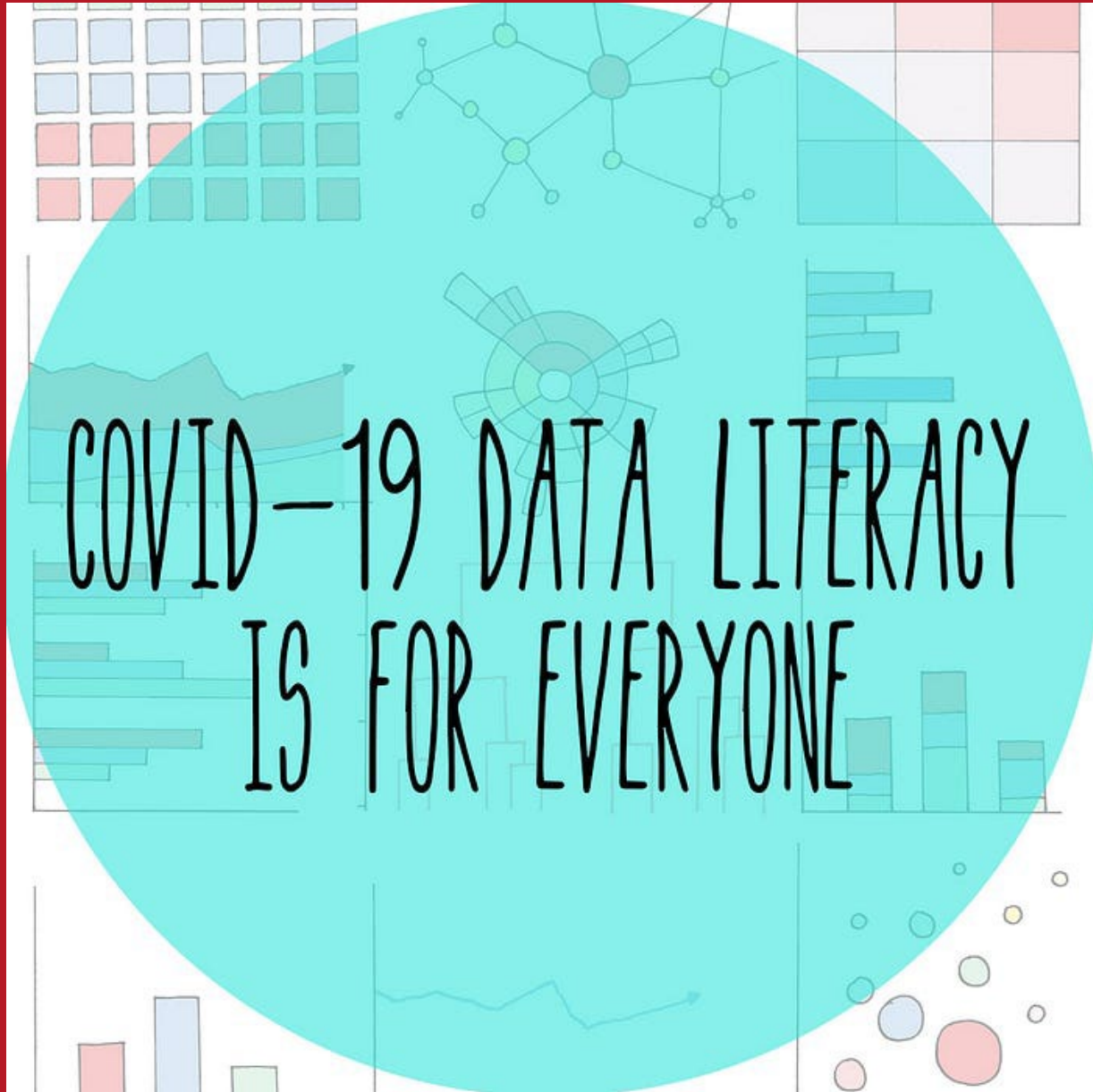
Jeannie Le, MPH
National Indian Health Board
Data Visualization Analyst

National Indian
Health Board






LEARNING FROM COVID: DATA VISUALIZATION PRACTICES



National Indian
Health Board



- 
1. DENOMINATORS MATTER
 2. PROVIDE CONTEXT
 3. STANDARDIZE AXES
 4. CAREFULLY CONSIDER COLORS, SHAPES, AND SYMBOLS
 5. BE TRANSPARENT ABOUT UNCERTAINTY

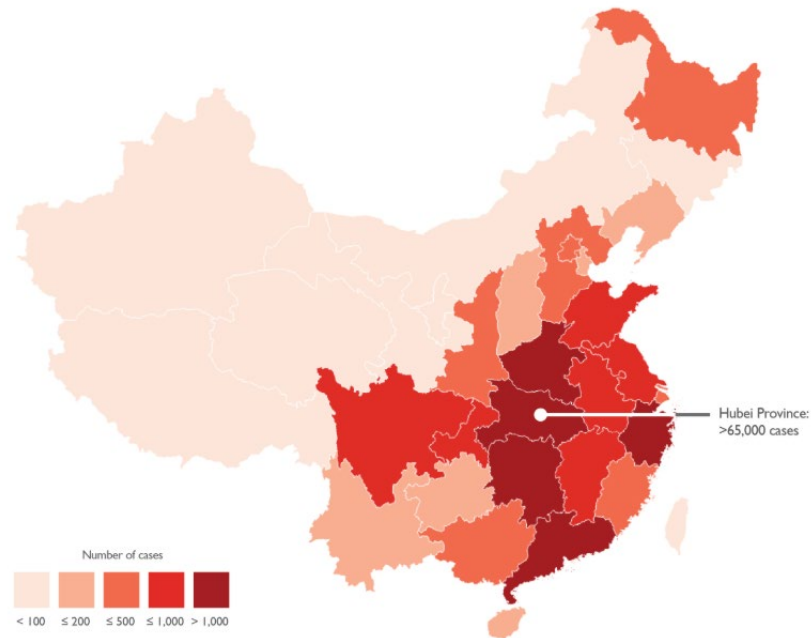


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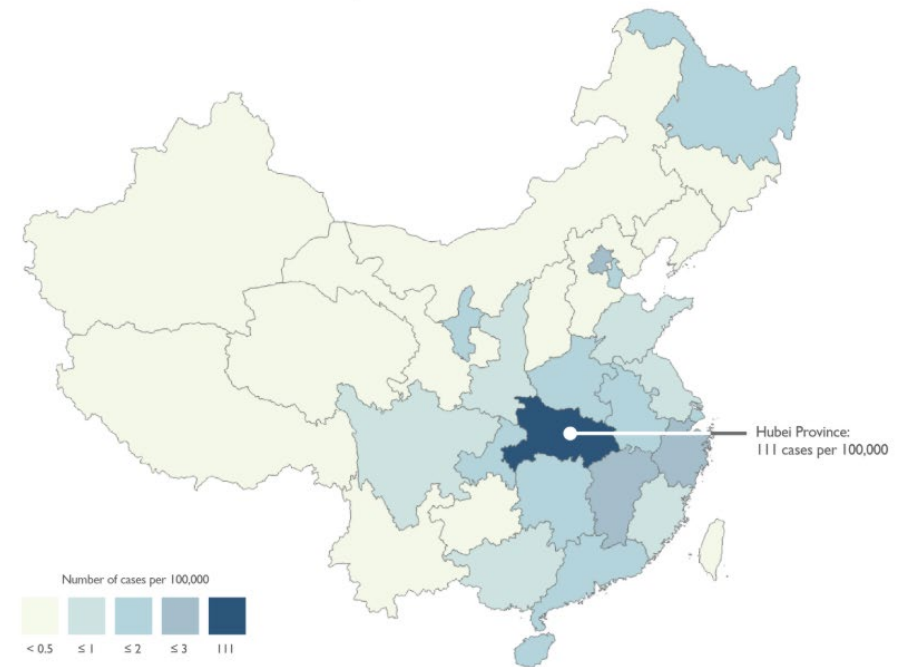


DENOMINATORS MATTER

Coronavirus in China: 24th February 2020



Coronavirus in China: 24th February 2020



Left: a map of Chinese provinces shaded according to case totals. Right: a redesigned version using cases per 100,000. (Kenneth Field, Esri).

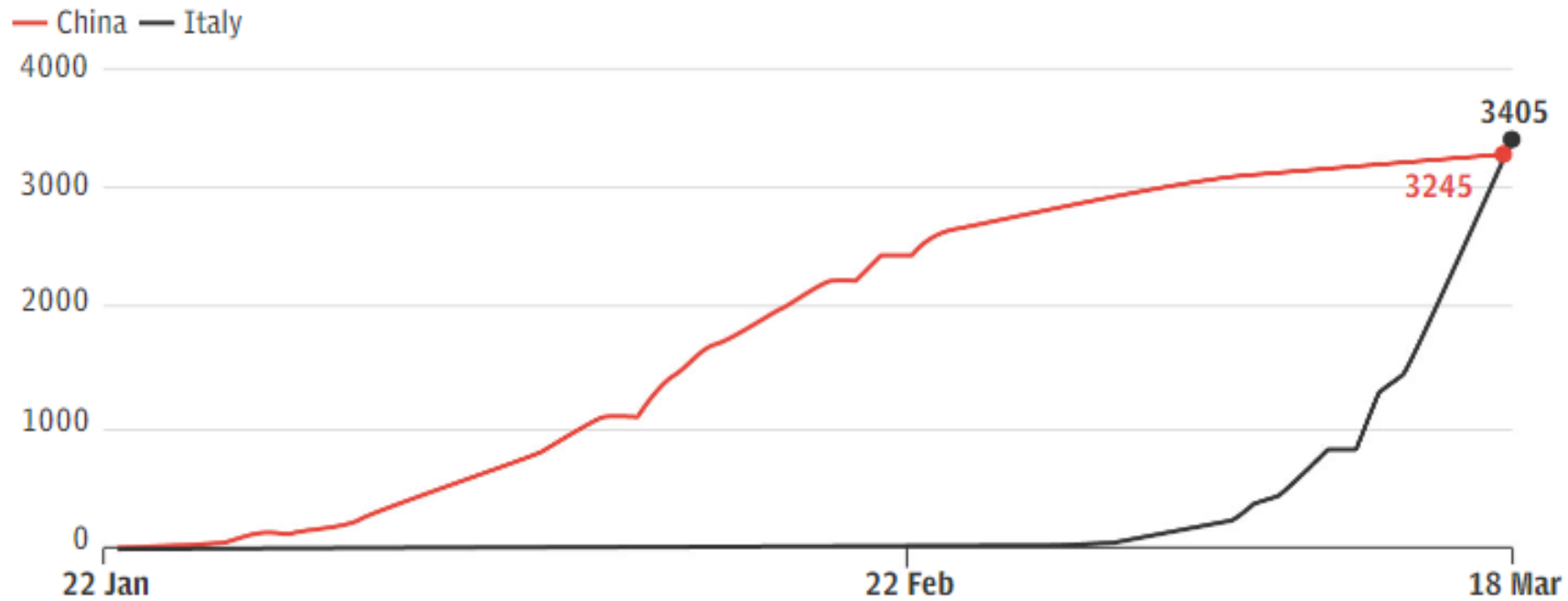
National Indian
Health Board



- 
1. DENOMINATORS MATTER
 - 2. PROVIDE CONTEXT**
 3. STANDARDIZE AXES
 4. CAREFULLY CONSIDER COLORS, SHAPES, AND SYMBOLS
 5. BE TRANSPARENT ABOUT UNCERTAINTY



PROVIDE CONTEXT



A line graph showing COVID deaths surpassing those in China, published in an article in the Telegraph.

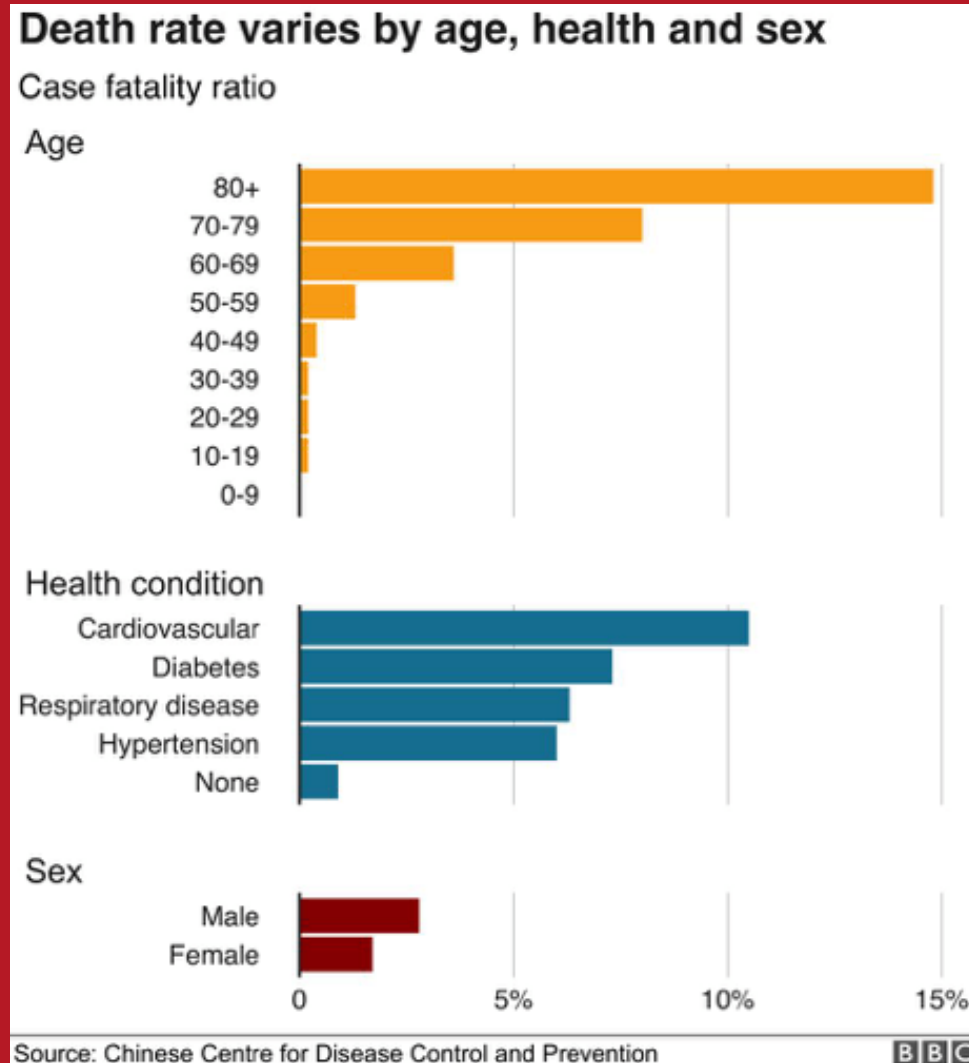
National Indian
Health Board




- 
1. DENOMINATORS MATTER
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 - 3. STANDARDIZE AXES**
 4. CAREFULLY CONSIDER COLORS, SHAPES, AND SYMBOLS
 5. BE TRANSPARENT ABOUT UNCERTAINTY



STANDARDIZE AXES



A visualization from the BBC showing death rates due to COVID by age, health condition, and gender.

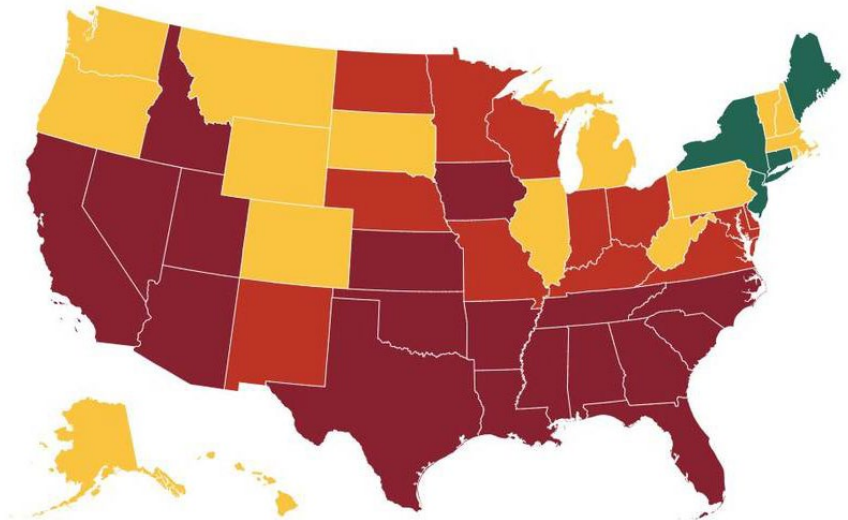
- 
1. DENOMINATORS MATTER
 2. PROVIDE CONTEXT
 3. STANDARDIZE AXES
 - 4. CAREFULLY CONSIDER COLORS, SHAPES, AND SYMBOLS**
 5. BE TRANSPARENT ABOUT UNCERTAINTY



CAREFULLY CONSIDER COLORS, SHAPES, AND SYMBOLS

Tracking Our COVID-19 Response

Each state's progress towards a new normal



A map tracking state's COVID-19 response shows that Kansas has "uncontrolled spread" of the disease while Missouri is "trending poorly." covidexitstrategy.org

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- 
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BE TRANSPARENT ABOUT UNCERTAINTY

"If your counterargument is 'we don't have that data' then maybe you shouldn't publish anything until you can provide the full perspective?"

(Andy Kirk, Data Visualization Trainer)

"COVID-19 is not a death sentence, and our visualizations need to reflect that. Including 'recovered cases' is an essential piece of context in visualizing case numbers."

(Amanda Makulec, Senior Data Visualization Lead, Excella)

"Data visualization carries the aura of objectivity and authority. If designers wield that authority irresponsibly – for example, by depicting case counts with clean, certain-looking lines when we know that there is deep uncertainty in how case counts in different places were collected – it may deplete public trust, lead to rejecting public health guidance like social distancing, or even incite panic."

(Catherine D'Ignazio, Director, MIT Data + Feminism Lab)

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COMMUNICATING DATA: PRACTICAL
LESSONS FROM COVID

DATA VIZ AND SOCIAL MEDIA AREN'T AS DIFFERENT AS YOU MAY THINK

1. DENOMINATORS MATTER
2. PROVIDE CONTEXT
3. STANDARDIZE AXES
4. CAREFULLY CONSIDER
COLORS, SHAPES, AND SYMBOLS
5. BE TRANSPARENT ABOUT
UNCERTAINTY



THERE ARE DEFINITELY SOME DIFFERENCES, THOUGH...

- Avoid scientific jargon and assumptions of high health literacy
- The messenger is just as important as the message
- Lay out risks/potential consequences in the right tone
- When focused on COVID or other transmissible diseases, focus on the spread, risks of contracting the disease, and why people should follow guidelines



HERE'S WHAT WE LEARNED

- Collaboration between leaders and communicators is key
- Pull in citizens and community members
- Communicate early and often
- Be empathetic
- Keep looking forward
- Fill the void
- Use a positive tone
- Validate people's concerns and answer their questions
- Reflect on moments missed
- Help your audience see their effect on others



HERE'S WHAT WORKED

- Collaboration between leaders and communicators is key
- Pull in citizens and community members
- Communicate early and often
- Be empathetic
- Keep looking forward
- Fill the void
- Use a positive tone
- Validate people's concerns and answer their questions
- Reflect on moments missed
- Help your audience see their effect on others



THE RIGHT INGREDIENTS

Act of Love



2022 National
NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

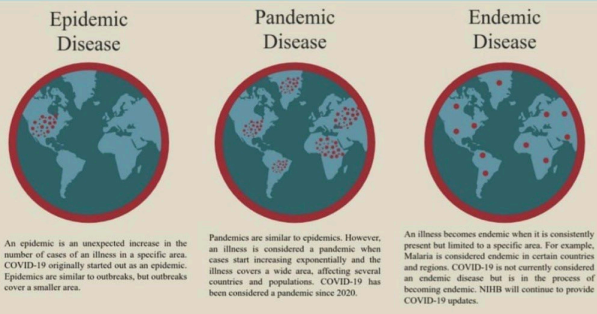
MAKE IT COUNT!

#DYK less than one-third of kids ages 5-11 have completed their primary vaccination series?

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Are you unsure about the differences between epidemic, pandemic, and endemic diseases? Check out this new visual aid that details the differences!

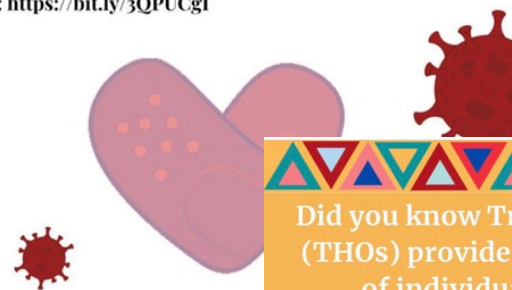
To learn more about COVID-19 vocabulary, view the Terminology Factsheet on the NIHB COVID-19 resources website by visit <https://www.nihb.org/covid-19>



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The BA.5 variant accounts for more than 85% of COVID-19 cases in the U.S. Slow the spread of COVID-19 by showing your Acts of Love! Get your COVID-19 vaccine or booster, wear a face mask in crowded areas, keep your distance from others (at least six feet), and wash your hands often!

If you are interested in learning more about the BA.5 variant, join NIHB on August 24 for the first webinar in our Vaccine Week series! Register at: <https://bit.ly/3QPUCgI>



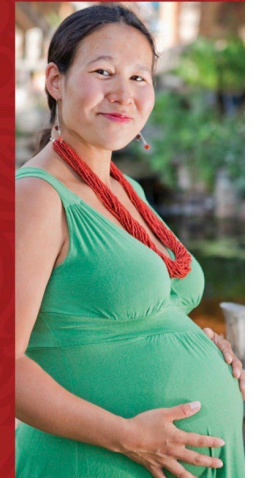
Did you know Tribal health organizations (THOs) provide services to a wide variety of individuals including 58% of eligible non-Native people?

Public Health in Indian Country Capacity Scan

PHICCS II

#DidYouKnow

Pregnant women are at higher risk for severe covid infections.



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ACT OF LOVE

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HERE'S WHAT DIDN'T...

- Collaboration between leaders and communicators is key
- Pull in citizens and community members
- Communicate early and often
- Be empathetic
- Keep looking forward
- Fill the void
- Use a positive tone
- Validate people's concerns and answer their questions
- Reflect on moments missed
- Help your audience see their effect on others

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WHAT NOT TO SHARE

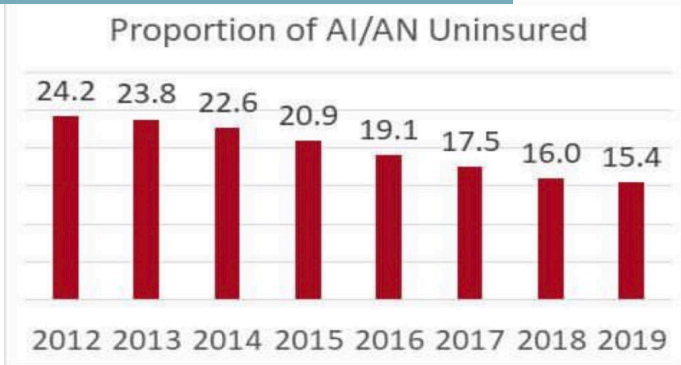
Stay Safe this Spring!



Have you gotten your flu shot yet?

Recent CDC data has shown that this year's flu shot has been very effective. Protect yourself and your community by getting your flu shot today!

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SDPI

SDPI supports 302 Tribal, Urban, and IHS programs at the local level. SDPI is a federal program that is implemented locally and adapted to the community it serves. This has been identified as the main factor behind SDPI's incredible success!

For generations, AI/AN food systems have nourished their communities and cultures. Forced removal of Tribes required many to completely change their diets to adapt to their new environments. Today, nearly all Tribal reservations are referred to as "food deserts" - where they lack fresh fruit, vegetables, and other healthy foods.

Thanks to SDPI, diabetes prevalence decreased in AI/AN adults from 15.4% to 14.6% in 4 years. This is the only racial or ethnic group that has seen a decrease in diabetes and is counter to the trends of the general population. Diabetes mortality has also decreased by 37% since 1999.

SPECIAL DIABETES PROGRAM FOR INDIANS

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The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently announced new COVID-19 guidance. To prevent severe illness or death:

- Understand your risk of infection
- Protect yourself and your community by getting your COVID-19 vaccine or booster, and using therapeutics and nonpharmaceutical interventions (such as washing your hands and covering your nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing)
- Get tested and wear a face mask after being exposed to COVID-19
- Get tested if symptomatic
- Isolate for at least five (5) days if infected

The FDA Authorizes Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccines for Children Down to 6 Months of Age

Earlier this week, FDA's independent Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee was consulted and voted in support of the authorizations.

Both Moderna and Pfizer submitted plans to continue to monitor the safety of the vaccines as they are used under EUA; these plans have been updated to include the newly authorized populations, and longer-term safety follow-up is ongoing for participants enrolled in the clinical trials for both vaccines.

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SO, WHAT'S CHANGED?

- Thoughts and feelings about social media
- How we use social media
- Time spent online
- People were HUNGRY
 - For human interaction, for a distraction, etc



THINGS THAT *SHOULD* WORK



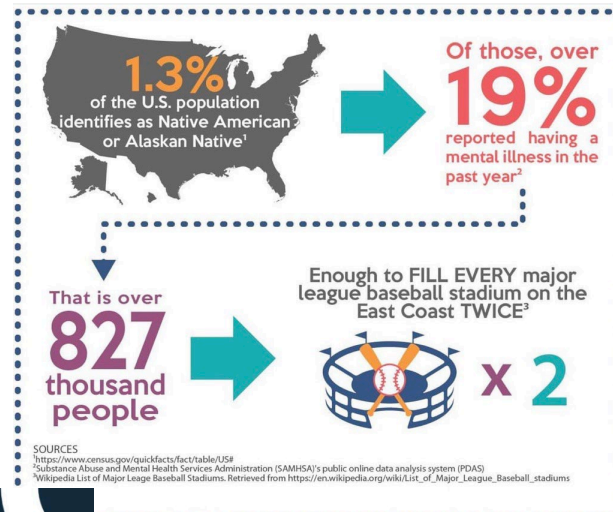
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Maternal Health in Tribal Communities

- From 2017 – 2019, the pregnancy-related maternal mortality ratio was more than twice as high for AI/AN women, compared to non-Hispanic white women.
- From 2017 – 2019, research found that over 80% of pregnancy-related deaths in the U.S. were preventable, and highlighted that AI/AN people were, and still are, experiencing disproportionately high rates of maternal mortality.
- Postpartum Medicaid expansion is the first step to achieving maternal health equity, especially in Tribal communities. Postpartum people in states that do not have extended pregnancy coverage to 12 months are at a higher risk of coverage disruption.
- In the U.S., AI/AN people are most likely to have Certified Nurse Midwife-attended births, working towards the goal of reclaiming traditional birth practices in their communities. A 2022 report highlighted that AI/AN people have inherently protective practices embedded in their cultures that contribute to their ongoing resilience.

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/2726385/>
<https://www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/maternal-mortality/pregnancy-surveillance-system.htm>
 Real Medicine: Traditional Indigenous Ways of Birthing and Healing, by Dr. Barbara Gordinier, The University of Arizona Press, Page 46.
<https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/2022/05/indian-health-commissioners-annual-report-2022-ai-an-mothers-infants.pdf>

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SOURCES
<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/US#>
¹Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)'s public online data analysis system (POAS)
²Wikipedia List of Major League Baseball Stadiums. Retrieved from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Major_League_Baseball_stadiums

Key Takeaways for Tribal Health from the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023

- Secures the future of IHS Advance Appropriations
- Possibility of IHS funding increases in FY 2024 and 2025
- Nearly all IHS COVID response and recovery funding is protected
- No new Medicaid work requirements, a proposed change that would have taken billions from the Indian health care system
- If Congress doesn't enact a full year budget by January 1 of the next two years, then funding could be reduced by 1% until a deal is reached

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Special Diabetes Program for Indians (SDPI)

Changing the Course of Diabetes

Tremendous improvements in diabetes outcomes are happening for American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) people. Read the [Special Diabetes Program for Indians 2020 Report to Congress](#) to learn more.

\$147 million/year*
472,656 AI/AN Served | 1,256 Employed

*The amount for FY2022 and FY2023 after mandatory sequestration

The majority of SDPI grantees are tribal programs¹

There are 302 SDPI program sites in 35 states

Diabetes services at SDPI sites **all increased** since 1997²

Health outcomes for AI/AN people with diabetes have been improved or maintained³

- 1996 to 2022: Average blood sugar down 11%
- 1998 to 2022: Average LDL cholesterol down 25%
- >20 years: Blood pressure has been well controlled
- 2015 to 2022: Tobacco use down 28%

The SDPI has generated awareness and knowledge, two critical contributors to diabetes related successes in Indian Country. We need continued momentum to help with this devastating disease.

— Connie Barker, Tribal Legislator, Chickasaw Nation
 Tribal Co-Chair/Oklahoma City Area Representative, Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee

¹Source: Evaluation of the SDPI
²Source: IHS Diabetes Care and Outcomes Audit

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WHAT'S NEXT?

- Our attention spans are toast
- Be authentic
- Have some fun
- Be a little silly

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QUESTIONS?

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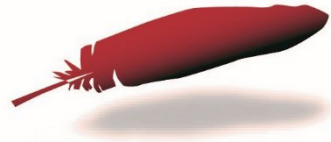
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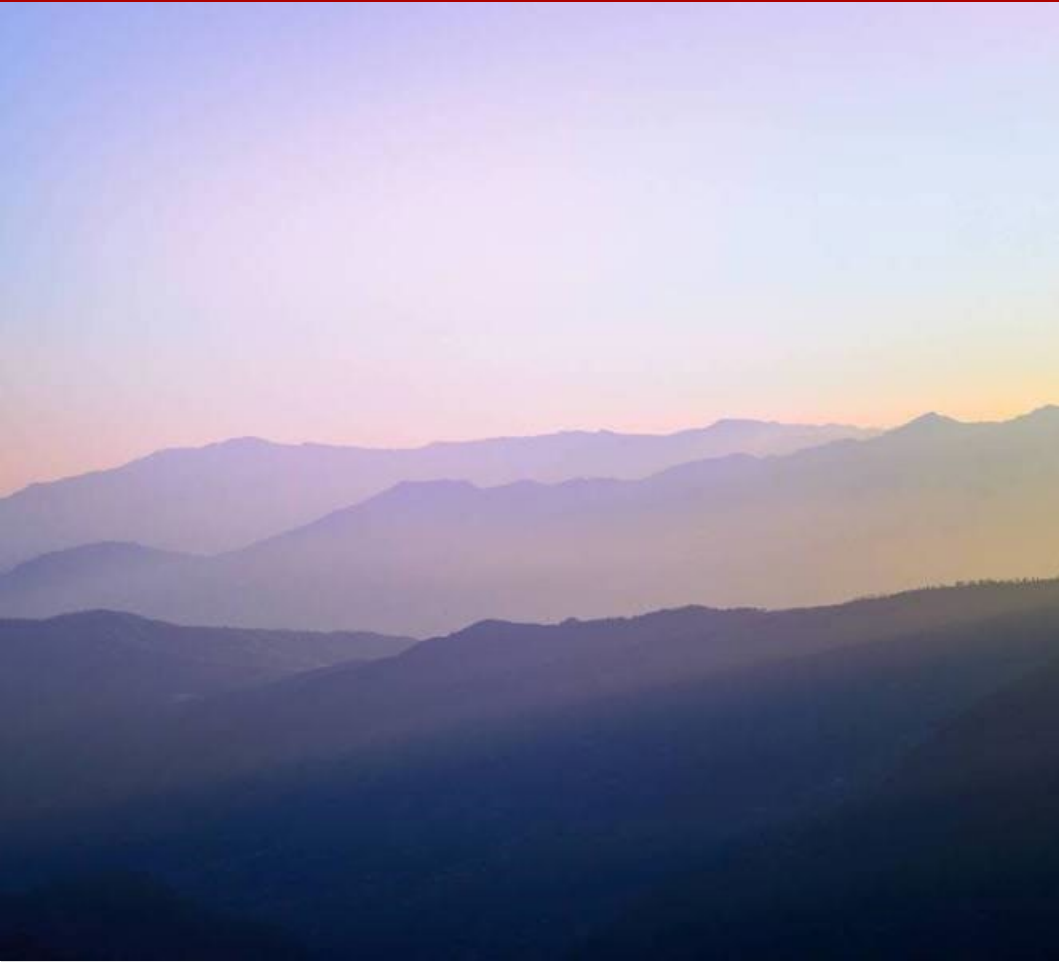


National Indian Health Board Tribal Health Equity Data Symposium

Tribal Environmental Health Summits

**Aliza Bolling, Public Health Associate Advisor
Brett Weber, Environmental Health Programs Director**

Overview of Tribal Environmental Health Summits



NIHB partnered with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (TSDR) to host a series of free regional summits on the topic of environmental health in Indian Country.

Each summit featured Tribal leaders, environmental health practitioners, subject matter experts, and federal partners engaging on topics relevant to each region.

The summits connected people from different professional backgrounds and Tribes, communities, federal agencies, Tribal organizations and state and local entities to address various environmental health and environmental justice issues affecting Indian Country.

Overall Summary

- Overall Summit Registration and Attendance Statistics:

	#		#
Total Registered (pre)	192	Total Attended (post)	216
In-Person	131	In-Person	126
Virtual	61	Virtual	90
Tribal Affiliated		Tribal Affiliated	
In-Person	41	In-Person	52
Virtual	3	Virtual	10
Federal		Federal	
In-Person	37	In-Person	33
Virtual	40	Virtual	53
State		State	
In-Person	38	In-Person	31
Virtual	13	Virtual	14
Local/Non-profit/Community		Local/Non-profit/Community	
In-Person	15	In-Person	10
Virtual	5	Virtual	13

Brownfields

Land reuse sites are sites that are slated for redevelopment but may have chemical contamination. Nearly one-half million (450,000) potentially dangerous land reuse sites (sometimes referred to as brownfields) exist across the United States, including tribal lands.



Climate

The increasing magnitude and frequency of extreme weather events continue to threaten the livelihoods and economies of indigenous peoples and native communities leaving them particularly vulnerable to the associated health effects. Building adaptive capacity and resilience to address these impacts are more important today than ever.

- CDC's Climate Ready Tribes Initiative

Water

Access to safe water and adequate sanitation and hygiene facilities are basic needs for health and well-being. Many communities, including American Indian or Alaska Native communities, will continue to lack access to these basic services unless progress increases. These interventions include building capacity to identify hazards through inspection of drinking water and wastewater systems, responding to and preventing outbreaks, and filling crucial functions during emergencies such as testing water supplies



Mining

Historic and ongoing mining scars the land and negatively affect water quality, air quality, and soil quality throughout the southwest.

In turn, communities adjacent, downstream, or downwind to may be chronically exposed to contaminants and byproducts of mining processes through water, air, and soil/mine waste.

For tribal communities, mining may also directly affect exposure through the consumption of local traditional foods.

In addition, tribal communities may experience mental and emotional health effects from environmental changes caused by mining to sacred lands and artifacts.



Summary of the evaluation for each summit

- What did you like **most** about the event?
 - Information shared, engaging host, variety of sessions, meeting with individuals of IHS, CDC, and partners to gain more information.
- What did you like **least** about the event?
 - Desire to have summits be more interactive
- How satisfied were you with the “**Tribal Discussion**” session?
 - Most were extremely satisfied with the Tribal Discussion, a few outliers were neutral
- How satisfied were you with the **presenters**?
 - Most were extremely satisfied and a couple were somewhat satisfied.

Summary of the evaluation for each summit

- Is there an environmental health topic that you wish had been covered?/ Is there anything else you would like to share with us (ideas, topics, etc.)?
 - Outreach, Coal mining in region 9, Local indigenous knowledge in environmental health, disparities and barriers that exist in native communities/lands, Disease as it relates to climate changes, recycling program implementation, supporting homeless people during dangerous heat, Extreme Weather Events and preparedness in Tribal areas, Environmental Health Protection Topics such as Solid Waste Management. Public Health Emergency Preparedness Topics. Climate change, Environmental health in the context of applied tribal cultural perspective, air pollution.

Next Steps

- Conduct environmental justice analyses and needs assessments.
- Provide technical assistance and support to Tribes and Tribal organizations in identifying, preparing to apply, applying for, and managing federal/state grants and programs.
- Facilitate meaningful engagement with Tribal environmental health programs, Tribal leaders, and other stakeholders and decision-makers.
- Build capacity to strengthen Tribal Epidemiology Centers (TECs) with current projects on environmental health or environmental justice issues.
- Foster community leadership in developing solutions to the issues addressed during Summits.
- Engage Native graduate students in technical assistance opportunities.

Lead Testing



Nick (Badlands)
collecting soil

State of ND
testing outdoor
paint using XRF



NIHB staff with
Nick (Badlands)
and Jack (IHS)



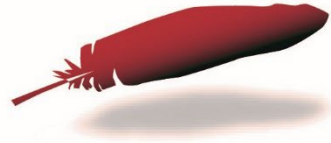
GIS Help Desk

- Partner with the National Tribal Geographic Information Support Center (NTGISC) to provide broad geospatial (GIS) technical assistance to tribal environmental health professionals.
 - Training materials
 - Online and in-person webinars/training
 - Online self-paced learning modules
 - One-on-one mentorship



ANY
QUESTIONS?





Thank you!

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