

# American Indian and Alaska Native Head Start Family and Child Experiences Survey (AIAN FACES): 2021-22 Data Collection

Nationally, about 31,301 American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) children and their families are served by Head Start. More than one-half of these children and families are served by 146 AIAN Head Start programs in Region XI.

Historically there was little information about children attending Region XI programs; however, in 2015 we undertook the first AIAN FACES study that provided a national picture of children, families, and programs in Region XI. Native voices were at the forefront of this study in the AIAN FACES 2015 Workgroup, comprising Region XI Head Start directors, researchers, and federal officials. AIAN FACES 2019 was the second national study of children and families served by Head Start programs in American Indian and Alaska Native communities. AIAN FACES helps us learn more about children and families in Region XI Head Start programs and the services Head Start provides to them. It allows the Office of Head Start to better serve the needs of children and families attending programs in Native communities. This fall, we are returning to the programs that participated in 2019 for a new round of data collection.

The AIAN FACES 2021-22 data collection will examine child, family, and staff well-being in light of the COVID-19 pandemic in the fall of 2021 and spring of 2022. Head Start program leaders, federal staff, and researchers recognize the need for information about how children, families, teachers, and programs are doing to inform and support children, families, and programs following the COVID-19 pandemic in Region XI.

More findings from AIAN FACES 2015 and AIAN FACES 2019 (including findings from Spring 2020 which included a special module about center and program responses to COVID-19) can be found on the study's website listed at the end of this flyer.



Some images shared with permission from the National Center on Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning.



## Here we share some AIAN FACES 2021-22 data collection highlights:

<b>Study Sponsor</b>	Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Office of Head Start (OHS) and Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation (OPRE).
<b>Study Goals</b>	To provide information about Region XI Head Start child, family, and teacher well-being starting 18-months into the COVID-19 pandemic, in order to help the Office of Head Start understand child, family, and staff well-being and identify needs to tailor services and supports as a result of changes during the pandemic.
<b>Study Timeline</b>	Parents and teachers are asked to participate in fall 2021 and spring 2022. Center and program directors are asked to participate in spring 2022.
<b>Study Participants</b>	Region XI Head Start serves approximately 85 percent AIAN children and 15 percent non-AIAN children. AIAN FACES is representative of all Region XI Head Start children and families. Teachers are randomly selected from each Head Start center to participate. Children in those teachers' caseloads are then randomly picked and their parents are invited to be in the study. Approvals from the appropriate tribal authorities will be obtained for each selected program. Taking part in the study is voluntary for all programs and individuals randomly selected to participate.
<b>Information Gathered</b>	Fall and spring parent surveys about family, community life, and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Fall teacher surveys include questions about teachers' well-being during the pandemic and at the start of the school year. Spring surveys of teachers, center directors, and program directors about program experiences and well-being. In fall and spring, teachers report on their teaching and children's social-emotional development and development needs.
<b>Data Collection Methods</b>	There is not any in-person data collection. The study is carried out in ways sensitive to and respectful of the diverse nature of Native cultures, including a cross cultural understanding and cultural humility training for all data collection staff. Study participants complete surveys online, using pencil and paper, or on the phone.
<b>Study Products</b>	<p><b>Reports and presentations:</b> Members of the AIAN FACES Workgroup provide input on the development of products from this study. Products will include a technical report with an extensive set of data tables, shorter briefs, and webinars. The confidentiality of all participating individuals and communities is strictly maintained; no individuals or communities will ever be identified in the reporting of study findings. Products from AIAN FACES will be posted to the study website, where information from AIAN FACES 2015 and 2019 is already available: <a href="http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/opre/research/project/american-indian-and-alaska-native-head-start-family-and-child-experiences-survey-faces">http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/opre/research/project/american-indian-and-alaska-native-head-start-family-and-child-experiences-survey-faces</a>.</p> <p><b>Restricted-use dataset:</b> A restricted-use dataset will be available for additional analyses by qualified researchers in order to further provide critically needed information about Region XI Head Start programs and the children and families they serve. Data from AIAN FACES 2015 are already available, and information about that data set and how to apply for access is available at <i>The Child &amp; Family Data Archive</i> (<a href="https://www.childandfamilydataarchive.org/cfda/archives/cfda/studies/36804">https://www.childandfamilydataarchive.org/cfda/archives/cfda/studies/36804</a>). Questions about the restricted-use data may also be sent to: <a href="mailto:AIAN_OPRE_Data@acf.hhs.gov">AIAN_OPRE_Data@acf.hhs.gov</a>.</p>



If you have questions about AIAN FACES, please contact Dr. Lizabeth Malone, Project Director, at [lmalone@mathematica-mpr.com](mailto:lmalone@mathematica-mpr.com), Dr. Sara Bernstein, Deputy Project Director, at [sbernstein@mathematica-mpr.com](mailto:sbernstein@mathematica-mpr.com), Dr. Meryl Barofsky, Federal Project Officer, at [meryl.barofsky@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:meryl.barofsky@acf.hhs.gov), or Dr. Laura Hoard, at [laura.hoard@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:laura.hoard@acf.hhs.gov).

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