

MPAAA: Tribal Affiliation Data Collection

May 7, 2025



MDE's Indigenous Education Initiative

The Michigan Department of Education, through the Indigenous Education Initiative, works with tribal nations throughout the state to develop and maintain an authentic and meaningful consultative relationship.

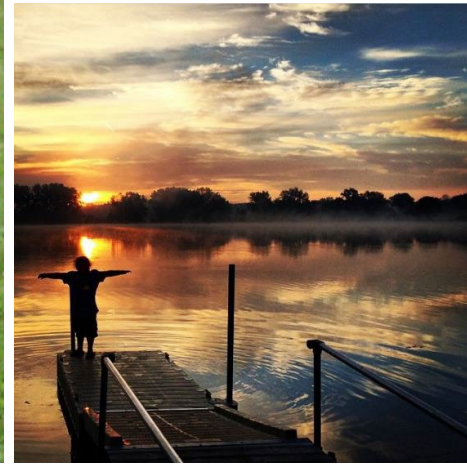
The focus of the initiative is to build a cohesive and sustainable approach for collaboration between the tribes, the state, and local entities to address educational issues and shared priorities on behalf of Indigenous learners and communities in Michigan.



***Moving from Niinwi "we" (but not you)
and Giinwa "you all" (but not us)***

**To Giinwi
"You and me/us (together)"**





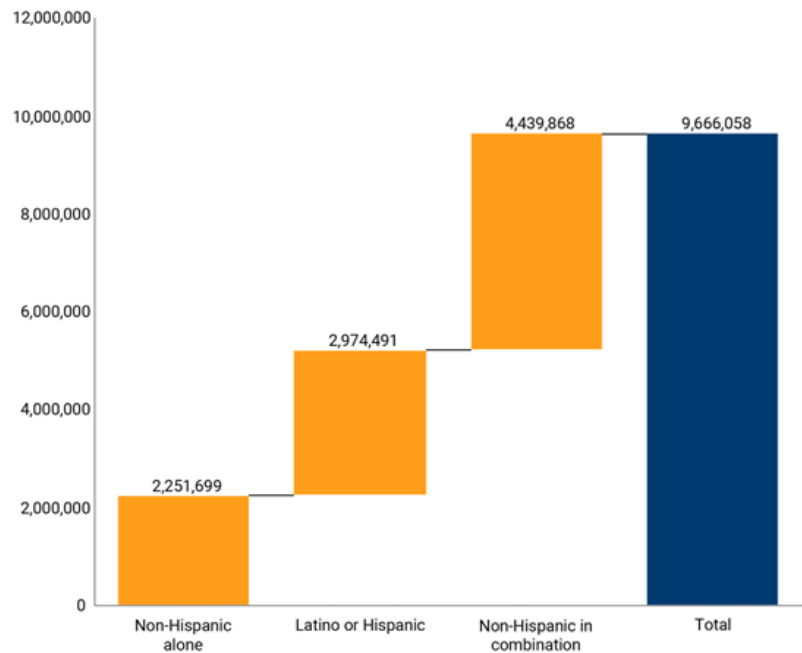
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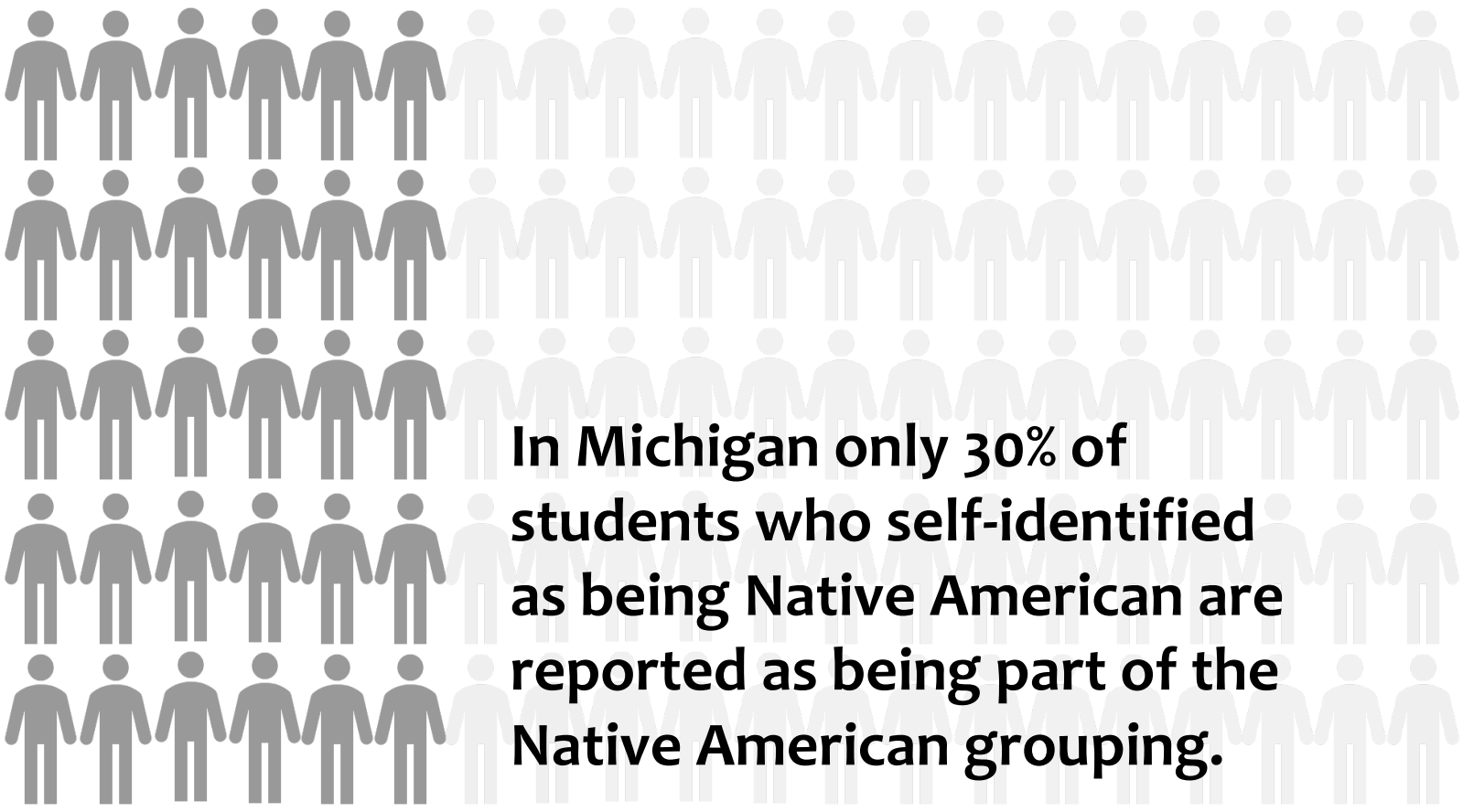


Why Tribal Affiliation?

American Indian and Alaska Native population by race and ethnicity

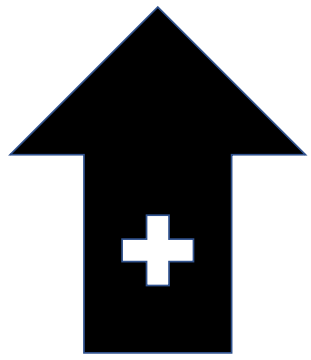
2020 Decennial Census



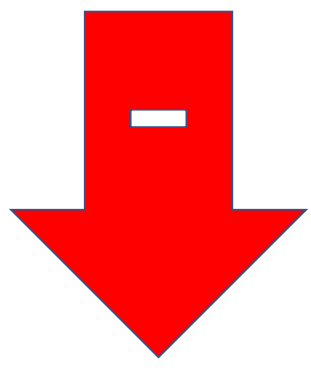


In Michigan only 30% of students who self-identified as being Native American are reported as being part of the Native American grouping.

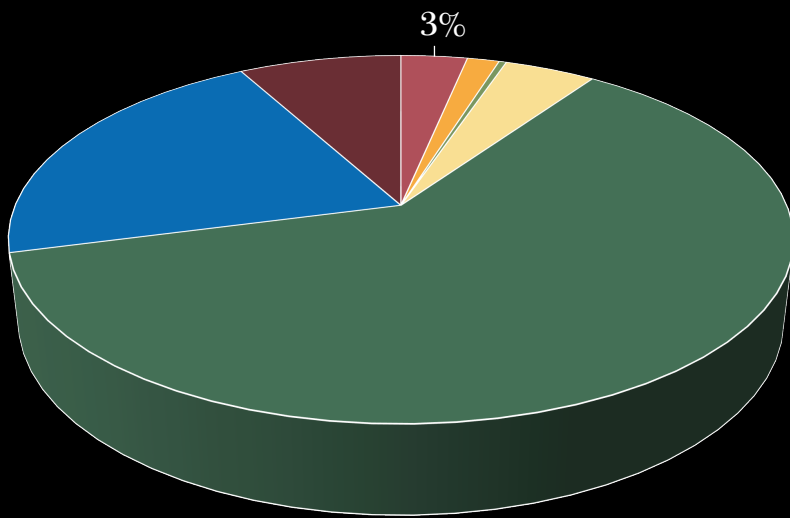
Reported state data shows there are **9,279 fewer** Indigenous learners in Michigan Public Schools today than there were 23 years ago. It equals a **drop** of over 52% compared to 2001.



The total count of AI/AN students reveals there are **9,977 more** Indigenous learners in Michigan Public Schools today than there were 23 years ago. That's an **increase** of over 56% over the number reported in 2001.



LEAs Required to Consult with Tribes - 795



- Other LEAs
- Impact Aid - 13
- Affected LEAs - 16
- Title VI LEAs - 52
- Title I SW - 555
- Title IV SSAE - 729
- AI/AN Student - 795

SCAN ME



“...tribes in the area served by the LEA...”

“...tribes located in the community...”

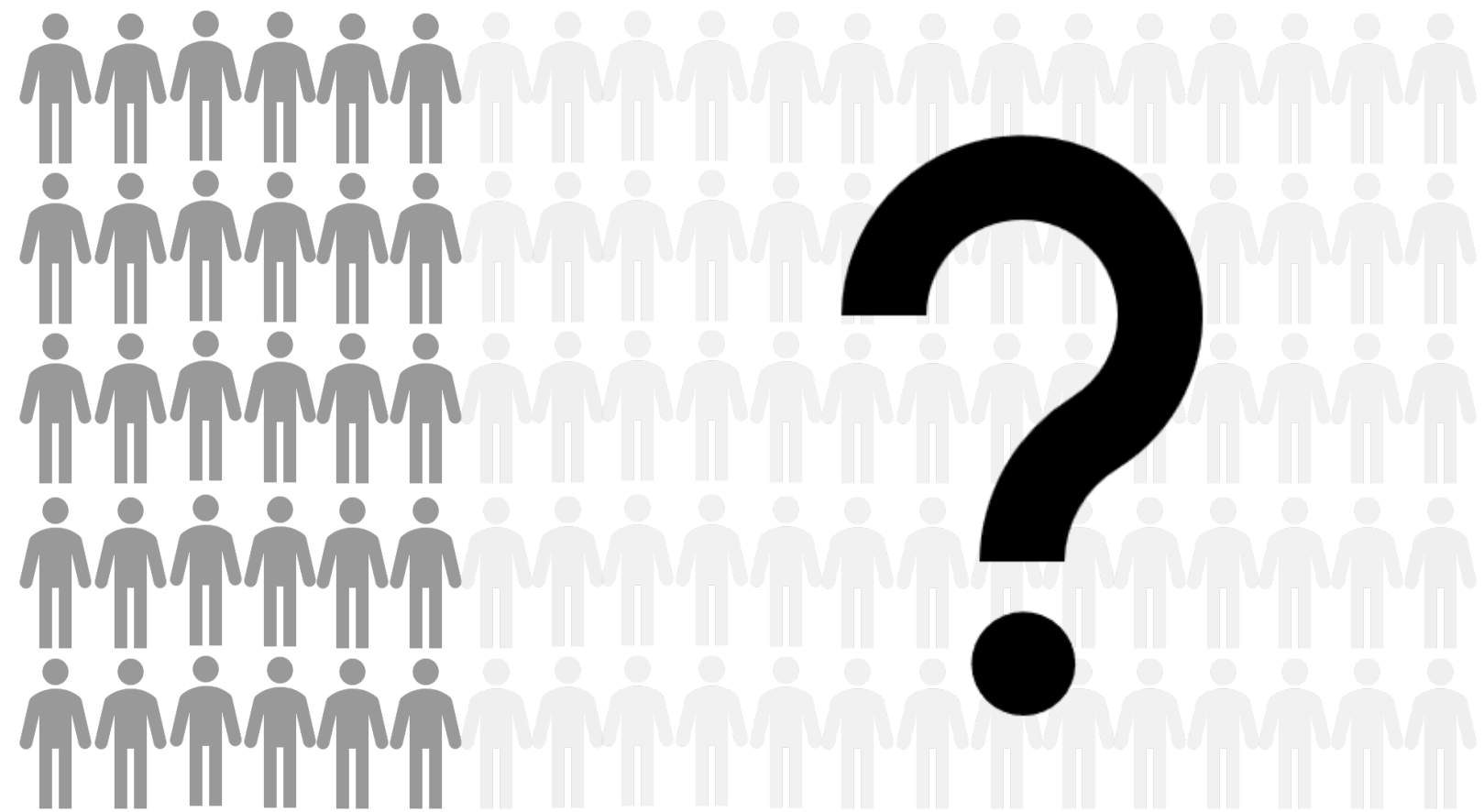
“...tribes present in the community...”

“...tribes located in the region served by the LEA.”

With whom do we consult?

Local and Non-local Tribes





What We Know

- We know we have an undercount.
- We can't report how learners affiliated with individual tribes are being served by public schools.
- Data is a snapshot in time; the information will vary over time and in different reports.
- Data are inherently flawed, but we can work to make it better.



The Opportunity We Have

School Aid Act: Section 19(7) (Part 1)

A district or intermediate district shall collect and submit to the center tribal affiliation data for all students and staff and the identification of student participation in federal programs funded under 20 USC 7401 to 7546 and participation in federal programs funded under the Johnson-O'Malley Supplemental Indian Education Program Modernization Act, Public Law 115-404.

School Aid Act: Section 94a(4)(h)(ii)

(4) The center shall ensure that the P-20 longitudinal data system required under subsection (1)(b) meets all of the following:

(h) For data elements related to preschool through grade 12 and postsecondary, meets all of the following:

(iii) Contains student-level enrollment, demographic, and program participation information, including data associated with students who have been identified as having an affiliation to 1 or more federally recognized Indian tribes and student participation in federal programs funded under 20 USC 7401 to 7546 and participation in federal programs funded under the Johnson-O'Malley Supplemental Indian Education Program Modernization Act, Public Law 115-404.

School Aid Act: Section 152a(1) (Part 2)

From this allocation, \$3,000,000.00 is allocated for costs associated with collecting data necessary to provide **reporting to tribal governments** on the status of students affiliated with their particular tribe and data necessary to determine student participation in federal programs funded under 20 USC 7401 to 7546 and participation in federal programs funded under the Johnson-O'Malley Supplemental Indian Education Program Modernization Act, Public Law 115-404.

Phased Approach

Phase I: Collection of program participation data beginning Fall 2024

Phase II: Collection of student tribal affiliation data beginning Fall 2025

Phase III: Collection of staff tribal affiliation data beginning Fall 2026

Student Data Collection

For the purposes of this data collection, tribal affiliation shall refer to an individual with ties to one or more Indigenous Nations through citizenship, membership, enrollment, or descendency.

Question A:

Is the student tribally affiliated?

Responding to this question is optional, with blank as the default value. The option set would be “yes” or “no”.

Question B:

If yes, what is the student's primary tribal affiliation?

Responding to this question is optional, with blank as the default value. The option set includes the twelve federally recognized tribes that share geography with the state of Michigan plus an additional option of "Not listed."

Respondents select a single option from the option set. Those who did not select "yes" on question one are not permitted to respond to this question, or response values should be ignored.

Question B Option Set

- Bay Mills Indian Community
- Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians
- Hannahville Indian Community
- Keweenaw Bay Indian Community
- Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Michigan
- Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
- Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians
- Match-e-be-nash-she-wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians of Michigan
- Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi
- Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians
- Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan
- Sault Ste Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians
- Not Listed



Guidance and Resources

- [Program Participation FAQ](#)
- [Tribal Affiliation FAQ](#)
- [Model Parent Letter and Questionnaire](#)
- [2025 -26 MSDS Manual](#)

Contact Us



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mi.gov/mde-indigenized