The Future Counts Now: Native American Outreach for the 2020 Census in New Mexico

A 1% Undercount of Native Americans in NM Will Have Significant Financial Implications Statewide

Every New Mexican NOT counted in the Census will result in approximately \$2,972 in LOST federal funding EVERY YEAR for the NEXT 10 YEARS. In Tribal communities, this could mean **HUGE** financial **losses in federal funding** for key programs like: Medicaid, Indian Housing Block Grants, Urban Indian Health Services, SNAP, Head Start, etc.

Impact of a 1% Undercount in New Mexico Tribal Communities

For New Mexico's **19 PUEBLOS**, a total 1% undercount equals **721 people** resulting in an **Annual Financial Impact of OVER \$2.14 MILLION** and **NEARLY**

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In Partnership with the NM Indian Affairs Department

Sources: Latino Decisions New Mexico Census Outreach Survey (July, 2019), <u>NCAI Every Vote Counts: Fast Facts, New Mexico Census Outreach Survey,</u> The George Washington University Institute of Public Policy **\$21.5 MILLION OVER THE NEXT TEN YEARS.** A loss of almost \$11,300 per Pueblo per YEAR.

A 1% undercount for the Navajo Nation of 668 people would result in an Annual Financial Impact over \$1.98 million and have a 10 Year Impact UPWARDS of \$19.85 million.

For Jicarilla and Mescalero, a mere undercount of 69 people would have an Annual Financial Impact close to \$206K equaling OVER \$2 Million across 10 years.

Deep Lack of Trust in Federal Government Could Lead to Undercount

According to the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), *the lack of trust* from Native Americans in **ANYTHING** related to the **FEDERAL GOVERNMENT** is **one of the biggest barriers for participation** in the 2020 Census.

Local Statewide Survey Provides Insight to Bolster Outreach & Participation

The percentage of Native Americans who say that they "definitely will" provide household information to the 2020 Census is **10% LOWER** than the **75% NM statewide** average. When *informed about the importance* of the Census, Native American participation jumps to 91%.



67% of those surveyed *believed* that the Census *is not important, not interested, or are too busy* to fill out. This was a similar finding by NCAI.

Only 65% know that the **2020 Census can be filled out online.** With fewer federal resources for in-person outreach, this **could have serious implications for tribes.**

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Providing Information about the 2020 Census is Key

When informed about the importance of the Census, survey results found that:



83% of Native Americans believe that "Participating in the Census **is an important way to stand up for our families and communities** in NM."

83% also believes that it is **important for EVERYONE in NM** to participate in the Census to ensure we get our **fair share of representation** across all levels of government.

82% agree that participating in the 2020 Census is important for OUR
CHILDREN and EDUCATION. In the 2010 Census, NM LOST an estimated
\$32 Million due to the undercount of children between the ages of 0-4.
Proper counting ensures more funding for New Mexico schools.



The future counts now. Speak for those before us and those to come. Participate in the 2020 Census.