



Decolonizing Data to Address Missing and Murdered Indigenous Womxn, Girls, 2-Spirited



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hot topics in practice))

www.nwcenterforpublichealthpractice.org







Northwest Center
FOR PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICE

Question for the Viewers

How would you describe your knowledge of the crisis of missing and murdered indigenous womxn?

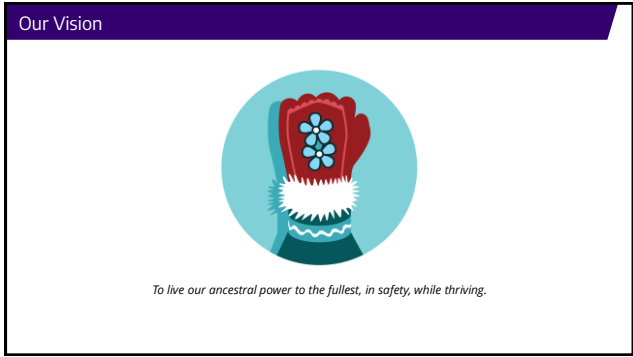
- A. High level
- B. Moderate level
- C. Low level
- D. Other (please type in chat)

NOTE: If you answered "Yes," please share details in the chat box.

 <p style="font-size: x-small;">UvaNa Charlene Apok, Inupiaqisga Aqik</p>	 <p style="font-size: x-small;">ChinikmiuguruNa, suli NatcharvikmiuguruNa</p>	 <p style="font-size: x-small;">AakaGa Sandra 'Baby Lu' Apok</p>
 <p style="font-size: x-small;">Igniga Evan Lukkuan</p>	 <p style="font-size: x-small;">Uqautilunga Inupiatut</p>	 <p style="font-size: x-small;">Kingikmut...PiyumnaqtuNa</p>







Our Purpose

To strategically utilize our stories

found in qualitative and quantitative data to benefit the wellbeing of our Indigenous people through efforts that educate and advocate for systemic change.

To serve our indigenous communities

by working for and with them towards justice and healing through systemic change and advocacy regarding missing and murdered Indigenous persons;

To protect and care for our stories

through stewarding qualitative and quantitative data with respect.

To honor our ancestors' past and future

with guidance from Indigenous values and teachings; applied through respectful, self-determined, and sovereign research and reporting.

MMIWG2S Alaska Working Group

The MMIWG2S Alaska Working Group is a collective led by six Indigenous-led statewide organizations:



Overview of the Problem



Three Alaska Native women appointed to Anchorage Public Safety Commission, 2020 (L-R: Kevette Hester, Emily Klenzow, Lailian Aqok-Barton, and Charlene Aqok.)

MMIWG2S is a complex issue, yet is also very simple. MMIWG2S is rooted in colonization and acts of genocide. We seek justice on every front.

The Problem as a System

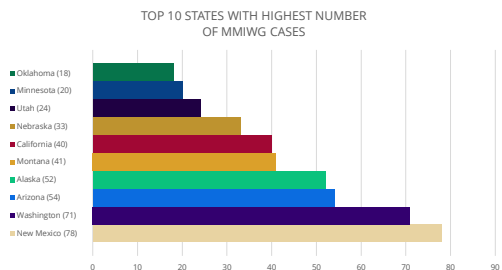
No Protections	Missing Data	Missing in the Media
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Murder is the <i>third leading cause of death</i> among AI/AN women. Rates of violence on reservations can be up to <i>10 times higher than the national average</i>. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2016, there were 5,712 reports of missing AI/AN women and girls; the US Department of Justice logged only <i>116 cases</i>. Misclassifying race, mislabeling deaths as a suicide rather than homicide, and mislabeling the origin location of the crime is common. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More than 95% of the cases in the study by UIHI were <i>never covered by national or international media</i>. Out of 934 articles, which covered 129 cases out of 506 in the study, <i>one quarter of the total number of cases</i> were covered by local, regional, or national media.

Our Stories, Our Sisters, Our Strength



We address MMIWG2S from a healing centered place, with and for our community

Alaska, 2018 UIHI Report



Reclaiming Data

Due to lack of accountability, reclaiming data involves mixed methods of data collection:



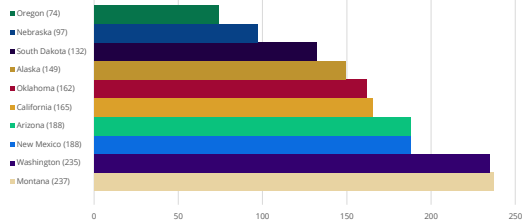
- Freedom of Information Act Requests (FOIA)
- Social Media: Seeking Alaska's Missing (SAM)
- National and Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs)



Example of a Public Information Request from the [Department of Public Safety website](#)

What Do Cases Look Like Across States?

SOVEREIGN BODIES INSTITUTE (SBI)
DOCUMENTED MMIWG2S STATE CASES AS OF JULY 2020



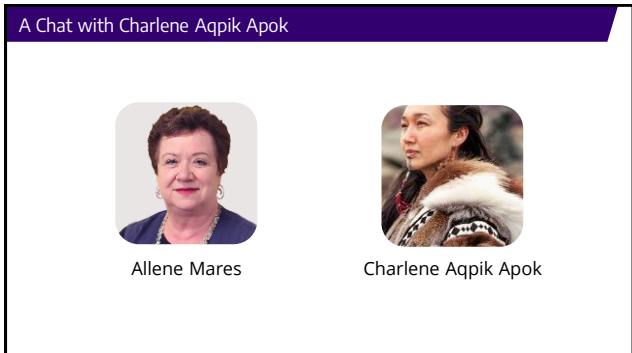
We Are Calling To You — 2021




Data for Indigenous Justice published *We Are Calling To You*, the first Alaska-specific MMIWG report, in February 2021








QUESTIONS?



To ask a question, please click the  icon in the Zoom toolbar to open your Q&A Pod.

Resources

We Are Calling to You
Alaska-specific MMIWG25 Report
<https://dataforindigenousjustice.com/we-are-calling-to-you/>

MMIWG25 Alaska Working Group
Group Facebook page
<https://facebook.com/MMIWG25Alaska>
Recording: Policy Forum, Feb. 15 2022
<https://www.facebook.com/MMIWG25Alaska/videos/656325962237619>

Indigenous Data Governance: Strategies from United States Native Nations
Research paper by Stephanie Russo Carroll, Desi Rodriguez-Lonebear, and Andrew Martinez
<https://datascience.codata.org/articles/10.5334/dg-2019-031/>

To'Ke'e Skuy' Soo Ney-Wo-Chek: I Will See You Again in a Good Way
A Year 1 Project Report on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and Two Spirit People of Northern California
<https://niwrc.org/resources/report/to-ke-skuy-soo-ney-wo-check-i-will-see-you-again-good-way-year-1-project-report>

MMIW State Legislative Tracker
Provided by the National Indigenous Women's Resource Center
<https://www.niwrc.org/mmiw-state-legislative-tracker>
