

COMMUNITY UPDATE

Division of Community Development Newsletter

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Did You Know..

PRAIRIE DOG 'GAL PALS' ARE FOR LIFE

Prairie dogs live in what are called "coteries." Coterie are close-knit groups of prairie dogs that live within the same burrow. This is where prairie dogs raise their young. Coterie typically have one or two breeding males and many breeding females, as well as any new pups. Males will wander between the neighborhood's different coteries, but the female prairie dogs stay with each other for life—total BFF style.



<https://thedyrt.com/magazine/lifestyle/prairie-dog-facts/>

Events:

October: Ghaaji', which means Separation of Seasons

October 31: Halloween

November: Níłch'its'ósi, which means Slender Winds

November 3: Election Day

November 11: Veteran's Day

November 26: Thanksgiving

November 27: NN Family Day

Light snow, chilly morning temperatures descend on parts of Arizona



LIGHT SNOW FELL IN PARTS OF NORTHERN ARIZONA EARLY MONDAY MORNING. OCTOBER 26, 2020. AZ DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION

Light snow and chilly temperatures descended on some parts of Arizona early Monday morning, according to meteorologists.

Radar showed bands of rain and snow showers expected to affect southern Navajo and Apache counties Monday morning, according to a tweet from the National Weather Service in Flagstaff. Snow has been reported at Winslow, Holbrook and St. Johns.

The Weather Service warned travelers of slick roads as temps were in the low 30s. As of 9 a.m., the temperature was 25 degrees in Flagstaff.

The high temperature Monday in Flagstaff is forecast to be in the mid-30s, dropping into the teens at night.

Arizona Department of Transportation tweeted a warning to drivers shortly before 4 a.m. to watch for snow sticking to the roadway on Interstate 17, south of Flagstaff around mileposts 330-333.

Snow was also seen on State Route 377 north of Heber-Overgaard.

On Sunday night, the Weather Service reported storm cells moving across parts of northern Arizona as of 7:20 p.m. Snow showers and rain were expected to keep moving southeast into Monday.

<https://www.azcentral.com/story/news/local/arizona-weather/2020/10/26/colder-temperatures-light-snow-descend-parts-arizona/6040195002/>

DCD Implements CARES Funded Projects on the Navajo Nation

Through resolutions CJN-47-20, CJY-67-20, and most recently, CS-73-20, the Division of Community Development was assigned responsibility for ensuring that several CARES projects were carried out and that the funds were spent according to the CARES Act rules. In all, DCD is responsible for nearly \$173 million in CARES funding. That is about one-fourth of all the \$714 million CARES funds made available to the Navajo Nation by the federal government.

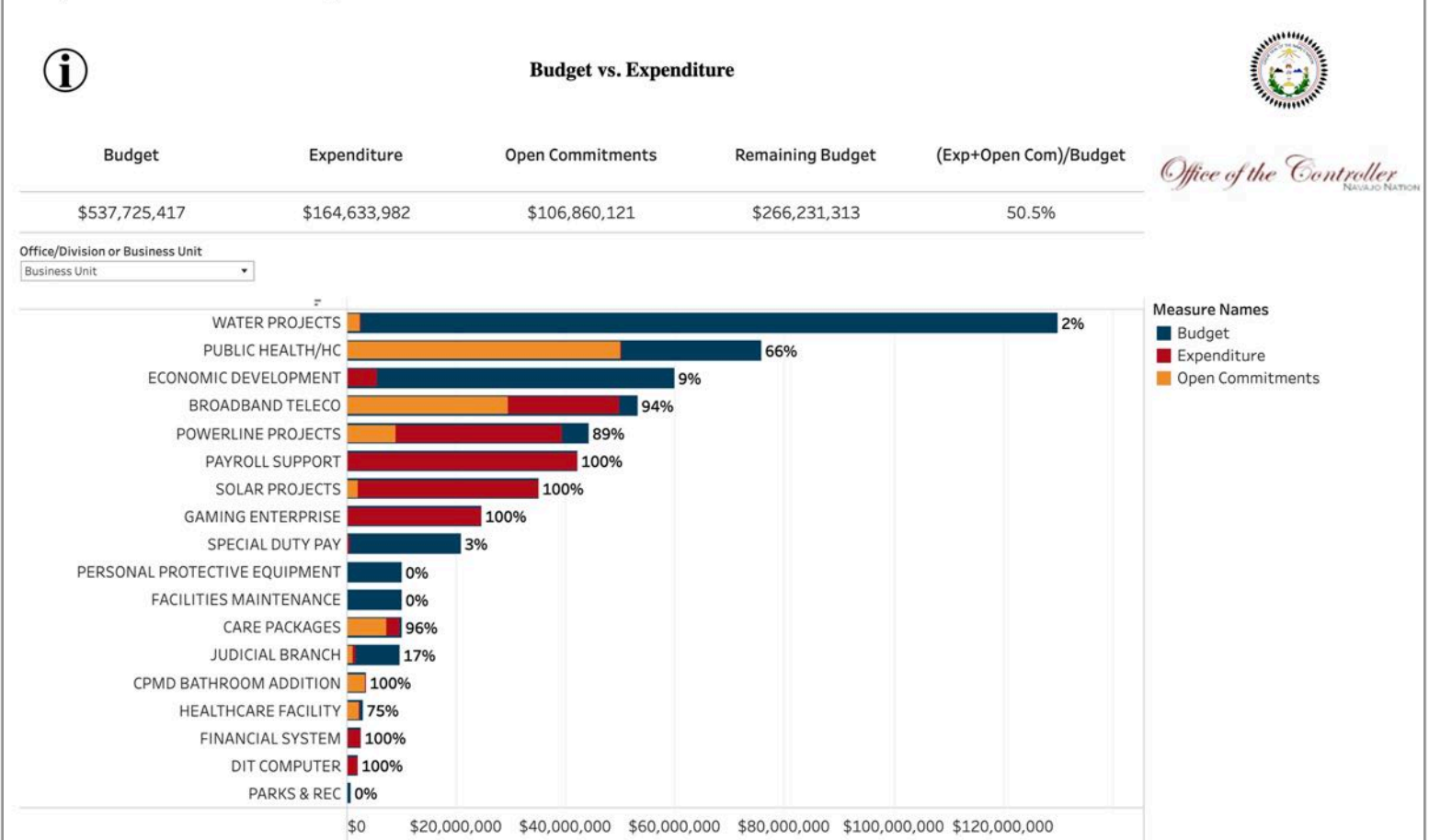
The following table lists the various projects that make up the \$173 million in funding assigned to DCD.

FUN FACT: Navajo Nation Council resolution numbers follow a logical sequence. The first letter or letters stands for the body that passed the resolution. "C" is for Navajo Nation Council, "NABI" is for Naabik'iyati Committee, etc. The next set of letters stands for the month that the resolution was passed. For example, "JN" stands for June, "JY" stands for July, and "S" stands for September. Then there is a dash followed by a number which is a serial number for all the resolutions that have been passed by that body that year. The final two-digit number separated by another dash represents the year of the resolution.

DCD CARES ACT APPROPRIATIONS	
Legislation CJN-47-20	
BATHROOM ADDITIONS	Appropriation Amount
Bathroom Additions	\$3,500,000.00
Legislation CJY-67-20	
POWERLINE	Appropriation Amount
NTUA-Powerline	\$13,897,562.00
NTUA-Capacity	\$24,747,269.00
Jemez MTN Electrical Co-op	\$163,723.00
Continental Divide Electrical Co-op	\$1,062,278.00
Ramah/Pine Hill	\$3,500,000.00
Sand Springs South - CDEC	\$850,000.00
SOLAR PROJECTS	
NTUA-Solar	Appropriation Amount
	\$35,192,000.00
Legislation CS-73-20	
CHAPTER DISTRIBUTION	Appropriation Amount
Chapter Distribution	\$90,000,000.00
TOTAL	\$172,912,832.00

The following chart provided by the Navajo Nation Office of the Controller shows the current spending levels for each of the major CARES projects funded. The recent \$90 million appropriation for Chapter Distribution is not currently reflected in the chart yet.

Navajo Nation CARES Act Expenditures



As the chart shows, DCD has nearly completed the implementation of the bathroom additions, power line and solar projects with the majority of funds expended.

The ASC staff and chapter staff are currently receiving training on the software that will be used and are working hard with the Office of the Controller to work out the details of the various processes. ASC wants to make sure everything is in place and ready to go when the portal goes live. The Chapter Distribution funds will be used according to each chapter's community assessment identifying the needs in each chapter.

Further information will be forthcoming once the process has been finalized and the online portal is ready for use.



CONSTRUCTION WORKERS BUILDING A BATHROOM ADDITION

October 2020

Chichiltah receives a New Motor Grader

Chichiltah, NM - October, 21, 2020 - Roselyn John

Working together is KEY for a successful project to come to fruition. Chichiltah Chapter, with the State of New Mexico and Navajo Nation, was able to purchase a 12M CAT Motor Grader for \$266,767.34 of which, \$200,000 was funded by the State of New Mexico. The chapter budget matched \$66,767.34. The equipment was delivered on Wednesday, October 21, 2020, calling for a celebration!

Chichiltah Chapter has 7 different kinds of land status within the chapter boundaries and the largest piece of land based south of Gallup is adjunct to the Pueblo of Zuni and the Arizona State line.



The process began with our Chapter ICIP. We have been submitting annually to the State of New Mexico and the Navajo Nation Legislators. We appreciate Ms. Denise Copeland, CPMD Principal Archaeologist who has been very instrumental in providing technical assistance to our Chapter, working long hours to ensure all the logistics are included in the ICIP. We appreciate the Division of Community Development - CPMD for our Project Manager, Elmer Johnson, who worked with our Chapter and the vendor for a successful outcome.



The community membership is incredibly grateful to our Council Delegate, Navajo Nation Speaker Seth Damon, New Mexico Senator George Munoz, and New Mexico Representative Eliseo Alcon, who have all supported our request from day one. Our community roads will now be maintained. With the winter weather around the corner, we will be able to blade and clear the roads in a timely manner. Our community has 430 miles of unmaintained roads and a network of roads serving houses and housing clusters which are not regularly maintained.

Although most offices were closed due the pandemic, our team continued to work to make this project a success.

Thank you to each of you who contributed to this effort. We have met one of our critical needs: to provide safe roads for our service providers and the general public.



Ahéhee'

October 2020

Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project makes progress to supply clean water to Navajo communities

Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President • October 21, 2020



PHOTO: Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez joined Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner Brenda Burman, Gallup Mayor Louis Bonaguidi, Navajo Tribal Utility Authority officials, and contractors inspect the new Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project's Cutter Lateral Water Treatment Plant, located in Dzil Na Oodilii, N.M., on Oct. 19, 2020.

DZIL NA OODILII, N.M. – Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez joined Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner Brenda Burman, City of Gallup Mayor Louis Bonaguidi, Navajo Tribal Utility Authority officials, and contractors on Monday, as they conducted a site inspection of the new Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project's Cutter Lateral Water Treatment Plant, located in Dzil Na Oodilii, N.M., which is within the Nageezi Chapter boundaries.

October 2020

The new water treatment plant will facilitate the delivery of clean water to rural Navajo communities and the Jicarilla Apache Nation. along the Cutter Lateral, which is one of two major water pipelines being developed as a result of the San Juan River Water Rights Settlement between the Navajo Nation and the State of New Mexico. The other major pipeline, the San Juan Lateral, is also under construction along U.S. Hwy. 491.

“We owe a lot of gratitude to our past Navajo leaders who helped negotiate and finalize the San Juan River Water Rights Settlement, which provided the funds and water allocations to construct these two major water pipelines and water treatment sites to help build our communities in the state of New Mexico. They had a vision and the foresight to help bring much-needed water infrastructure for many communities in the eastern portion of our Nation. We also thank the 24th Navajo Nation Council for their support as we move forward. Many families will soon have access to clean water thanks to the work being done with our federal partners under the leadership of Commissioner Burman,” said President Nez, who also supported the project as a former member of the Navajo Nation Council and as the former Vice President of the Navajo Nation.

During the visit, President Nez was joined by Office of the President and Vice President executive staff assistant Leonard Tsosie, who played an instrumental role in finalizing the San Juan River Water Rights Settlement as a former member of the New Mexico State Senate. President Nez also stated that the Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project could serve as a model for water projects in other areas of the Navajo Nation, including the Western Navajo Agency. The Office of the President and Vice President and the 24th Navajo Nation Council continue to advocate for the Navajo Utah Water Rights Settlement Act, which is awaiting consideration by Congress.

“The COVID-19 pandemic has magnified the need for clean running water for all Navajo people living on the Navajo Nation. In the most powerful country in the world, the first people of this land should not be living without running water and electricity. We have to continue moving forward through partnerships with state and federal partners to build more infrastructure to meet the needs of our Navajo people,” President Nez added.

The new water treatment plant will remove contaminants and other materials from water that will be pumped from the Navajo Reservoir and eventually diverted to over 40 communities in the eastern part of the Navajo Nation and Jicarilla Apache Nation in New Mexico.

Now that the construction of the Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project’s Cutter Lateral Water Treatment Plant is completed, the Bureau of Reclamation and Navajo Tribal Utility Authority will monitor the operation of the plant for a six-month period. NTUA will eventually assume full operations of the water treatment plant following the six-week testing and monitoring period.

READ AT: <https://bit.ly/3me9OF0>

Supreme Court Allows Trump Administration To End Census Counting On Oct. 15



PROTESTERS HOLDING SIGNS ABOUT THE 2020 CENSUS GATHER OUTSIDE THE SUPREME COURT IN WASHINGTON, D.C., IN 2019. AURORA SAMPERIO/NURPHOTO VIA GETTY IMAGES

October 13, 2020 5:06 PM ET

HANSI LO WANG

The Trump administration can end counting for the 2020 census early after the Supreme Court approved a request to suspend a lower court order that extended the count's schedule.

The high court's order on Tuesday, following an emergency request the Justice Department made last week, helps clear the way for President Trump to try to alter the count while in office by excluding unauthorized immigrants from the numbers used to reallocate congressional seats and Electoral College votes for the next 10 years.

Justice Sonia Sotomayor was the lone dissenter from the unsigned court order.

Hours after the ruling was released, the U.S. Census Bureau announced it will keep accepting responses online at [My2020Census.gov](https://www.census.gov/my2020census.gov) through Oct. 15 until 11:59 p.m. Hawaii time. The bureau has also set Oct. 15 as the postmark deadline for paper forms as well as the end date for collecting phone responses and door knocking at unresponsive households.

In a statement, Kristen Clarke of the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, one of the attorneys who helped bring the lawsuit to extend the census schedule, noted that the order "will result in irreversible damage" despite the challengers' efforts to "secure more time on the clock to achieve a fair and accurate count."

Stephen Roe Lewis, governor of the Gila River Indian Community — one of the lawsuit's plaintiffs — called the ruling "a bitter pill for us to swallow here on the Reservation" in Arizona.

October 2020

"With no explanation or rationale, a majority simply decided that our people do not deserve to be counted, thus continuing a long history of leaving Indian peoples at the margins of the U.S. society at large and economy," Lewis said in a statement.

Sadik Huseny, a plaintiffs' attorney with the law firm Latham & Watkins, said in a statement that the challengers "remain focused on ensuring that the Bureau's data collections, and whatever data processing timelines the Bureau may implement, are consistent with the Constitution and the [Administrative Procedure Act]'s standards for reasoned decision making."

The court's ruling is the latest turn in a roller coaster of a legal fight over the timeline for the count. Last-minute changes by the Census Bureau and its skirting of an earlier court order for the count have left local communities and the bureau's workers across the U.S. unsure of how much longer they can take part in a national head count already upended by the coronavirus pandemic.

Lower courts previously ordered the administration to keep counting through Oct. 31, reverting to an extended schedule that Trump officials had first proposed in April in response to delays caused by the pandemic and then abruptly decided to abandon in July.

More time, judges have ruled, would give the bureau a better chance of getting an accurate and complete count of the country's residents, which is used to determine how political representation and federal funding are distributed among the states over the next decade.

Justice Department attorneys say the Census Bureau is under pressure to meet a legal deadline of Dec. 31 for reporting to the president the first set of census results — the latest state population counts that determine each state's share of the 435 seats in the House of Representatives. The numbers, in turn, also determine how many Electoral College votes each state has to determine who becomes the U.S. president in 2024 and 2028.

Since May, however, career officials at the bureau have warned that the agency can no longer meet the Dec. 31 reporting deadline because of the pandemic. Judges in lower courts have also noted that the national counts from the years 1810 through 1840 were delivered late and Congress later stepped in to approve deadline extensions.

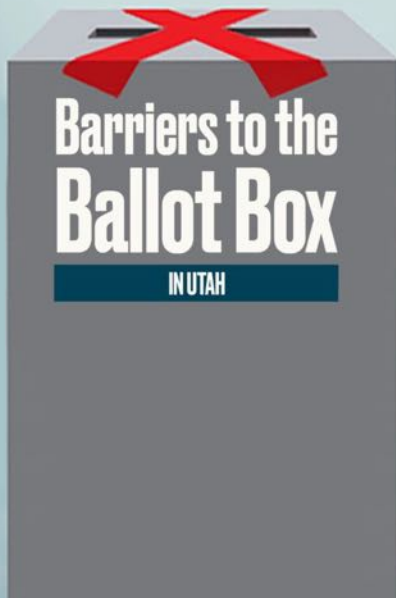
In her dissenting opinion, Sotomayor wrote that "meeting the deadline at the expense of the accuracy of the census is not a cost worth paying, especially when the Government has failed to show why it could not bear the lesser cost of expending more resources to meet the deadline or continuing its prior efforts to seek an extension from Congress."

Still, if the commerce secretary, who oversees the bureau, were to present the new state counts to the White House by Dec. 31, that would ensure that even if Trump did not win reelection, he could attempt to carry out the unprecedented change he wants to make to who is counted when determining the reallocation of House seats.

Despite the Constitution's requirement to include the "whole number of persons in each state" and the president's limited authority over the census, Trump wants to try to exclude unauthorized immigrants from those numbers.

That effort has sparked another legal fight that is also before the Supreme Court. On Friday, the court is set to discuss whether to hear oral arguments for that case in December.

READ MORE AT: <https://www.npr.org/2020/10/13/921428056/supreme-court-allows-trump-administration-to-end-census-early>



VOLUNTEERS IN UTAH HELP NAVAJO RESIDENTS WITH ADDRESSES SO THEY CAN VOTE

Recent changes have
broadened access to the polls.

Sarah Kleiner

Reporter

Indigenous Utah residents who live on the Navajo Nation reservation in the southeastern part of the state have gained tools in recent years that will help them vote in the upcoming general election.

And through legislation and court battles, access to ballot boxes across the state has also broadened.

Voters can register on Election Day, no photo ID is required to cast a ballot and Utah is one of few states that mails every registered voter a ballot.

One consequence of the push toward mail-in voting has been the disappearance of some of the state's in-person polling places, said Nikila Venugopal, voting rights manager for the American Civil Liberties Union of Utah. While mail-in voting is important, she said, it's still essential to have polling places for rural residents and people who need help with translation.

In addition to retaining polling centers, the ACLU of Utah has been pushing counties to prepay for the postage on ballots, because most residents aren't aware that they can mail a ballot without postage and it will still be counted, Venugopal said.

"We would really like to see counties provide prepaid postage to make sure nobody ever feels like they need to pay to vote in any sort of way," Venugopal said.

And one-off problems still exist. For example, the Salt Lake City Tribune wrote about a rogue elections clerk in rural Utah who made residents provide documents that aren't required by law when they attempt to register to vote.

Here's a look at some of the barriers to voting in Utah:

LACK OF ADDRESSES

Back when the nonprofit Rural Utah Project started registering voters in 2018, organizers noticed that up to 30 percent of the people who lived on the part of Navajo Nation that stretched into southeastern Utah were registered in the wrong precinct, if they were registered at all.

Other Navajo residents who were running for office were facing questions about their candidacies.

The problems stemmed from a lack of a traditional physical address.

The Rural Utah Project began using Google Plus Codes to help assign physical locations to houses on the reservation. Google Plus Codes are short codes for places that don't have their own street address.

"You're dealing with a part of the country that is the size of West Virginia and has about 7,000 residents sprawled over an immense landscape," said Madeline McGill, communications director for Rural Utah Project. "Our goal is to get addresses for everyone."

So far, the organization has helped 5,000 residents get addresses using Google Plus Codes, which are accepted on voter registration cards.

"We believe that politics has been done a certain way in southern Utah for a long time, and we believe rural populations are not a monolith," McGill said. "There's an incredible diversity in small towns and on indigenous lands, so we want to give under-represented voices a seat at the table in terms of how rural politics are run."

FELONY DISENFRANCHISEMENT

In Utah, residents who are convicted of felonies cannot vote until they are released from prison.

Venugopal said the state is "ahead of the curve" in one respect, though. Unlike many states, Utah allows parolees to vote.

"The biggest barrier we've identified is the lack of information," Venugopal said. "Everybody just assumes that you can never vote again (if you are convicted of a felony), which isn't true and is a real shame."

READ MORE AT: <https://publicintegrity.org/politics/elections/us-polling-places/utah-help-navajo-residents-so-they-can-vote/>

Hardship Assistance Program application opens to elders and special needs individuals, online application will open to all enrolled members on Nov. 2nd

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – On Monday, the Navajo Nation Office of the Controller opened the application for the Hardship Assistance Program for enrolled members of the Navajo Nation who are 65-years or older and to special needs individuals. In a press release issued on Monday, the Office of the Controller stated that their office is aware of the shortage of hard copy applications provided to the Nation’s 110 chapters, and are working quickly to provide additional hard copies.

On Oct. 9, Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer approved the hardship assistance expenditure plan to provide \$49 million in CARES Act funds for emergency financial assistance for enrolled members of the Navajo Nation through an application and approval process administered by the Office of the Controller. Enrolled Navajo Nation members who were at least 18-years-old or older as of March 1, 2020 may receive up to \$1,500 based on eligibility criteria determined by the Office of the Controller, and up to \$500 per person for individuals who were under the age of 18-years-old as of March 1, 2020.

The application form and process were subject to review and approval by two of the Standing Committees under the 24th Navajo Nation Council. The Health, Education, and Human Services Committee approved an amendment to prioritize elders and those with special needs during the first week of the application process. The application is not based on first come, first served.

The online application for hardship assistance will become available to all enrolled members of the Navajo Nation on Monday, Nov. 2, 2020, according to the Office of the Controller, which was tasked with overseeing and administering the hardship applications in accordance with legislation approved by the Council.

“We have provided Navajo Nation Chapters a work-around to print applications until more are made available tomorrow. Additional hardcopy applications are on their way—200,000 applications will be made available to chapters. This application process is not first come first served. No matter when you apply, your application will be given equal treatment. Thank you for your understanding and patience during this time,” said Controller Pearline Kirk.



CARES Fund Hardship Assistance Program

The Navajo Nation CARES Fund Hardship Assistance Program (Hardship Assistance Program) was established under Resolution No. CJY-67-20 and Resolution No. CS-74-20 and developed to support enrolled members of the Navajo Nation who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. In order to receive funding, individuals must show a financial impact resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic by completing and submitting the Hardship Assistance Program Application.

WHEN

Early application period opens on October 26 for paper applications for elderly and special needs only; all applications (online and paper) available **November 2, 2020**.



HOW

Apply online at navajo-nsn.gov or nnooc.org for safest and most convenient processing.



WHERE

Visit your local Chapter House for more information, access to the online application, or to complete a paper application.



WHO

Applicants may apply for themselves and/or on behalf of others, such as family members.



REQUIREMENTS

All enrolled members of the Navajo Nation who have experienced a financial hardship resulting from circumstances caused by the COVID-19 pandemic are encouraged to apply.



DEADLINE

Applications are due on **November 30, 2020**.



All applications will be processed as soon as possible, and our team members may reach out with follow up questions. Final approval of your application and determination of all payouts will be communicated after the application period closes.

Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer encourage all Navajo Nation citizens to take the time to learn about the application process on the Office of the Controller's website, which also includes a Frequently Asked Questions and Answers page:

http://www.nnooc.org/Documents/CARES%20Act/201020_OOC_FAQ_NN%20Hardship_Assistance_Program.pdf

"The Office of the President and Vice President, working in collaboration with the Controller's Office, will be assisting with application outreach efforts once more application forms are available, to help ensure that our Navajo elders and special needs citizens are provided the opportunity to ask questions and apply for the hardship assistance. This is the first time that the Navajo Nation has had funds for this specific purpose. With any initiative of this magnitude, there will be minor issues that arise and we have to continue working together to resolve the issues and move forward. We ask everyone to be respectful of the Office of

THE NAVAJO NATION

JONATHAN NEZ | PRESIDENT MYRON LIZER | VICE PRESIDENT



CARES Fund Hardship Assistance Program Frequently Asked Questions

Overview and Application Process updated October 19, 2020

- 1. Who is eligible for this program?**
This program is open to all enrolled members of the Navajo Nation who have experienced a financial hardship resulting from circumstances caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. A financial hardship is the inability to pay for essential needs for yourself or your family (ex. food, rent, utilities, medicine, child care, etc.) that can be attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic and would include a loss or reduction of income or increased expenses. Funding awarded under this program must be spent on essential needs such as the ones previously mentioned.
- 2. Do I have to submit an application to get funding from this program?**
Yes, you must submit an application by the application deadline, which is currently set for November 30, 2020. Paper applications will be available for the elderly and disabled the week of October 26 and the online portal and paper application will be open for the general public the week of November 2.
- 3. How much money am I eligible for?**
The Navajo Nation Council has established a maximum payment of up to \$1,500 per qualifying adult (18 years and older as of March 1, 2020) and \$500 per qualifying minor (under the age of 18 as of March 1, 2020), based on demonstrated need. The actual payment you will receive, if eligible, will be based on the total number of applicants, the amount of assistance requested, and budget allocated to the program by the Navajo Nation Council. **Submission of an application does not guarantee that a qualifying adult will receive \$1,500 nor that a qualifying minor will receive \$500.**
- 4. How is the application structured?**
There is one application per household. You will need to know full name, Navajo Nation census numbers, dates of birth, and the last four (4) digits of social security numbers.
- 5. How do I apply?**
You may (1) apply online through the portal **OR** (2) apply by filling out a paper application at local community center or Chapter house. Please only apply once as any duplicate applications may result in delays in processing.

Additional information on the application process will be provided in the near future, along with other important program information.
- 6. When and how will I get my money?**
One check per qualifying person will be sent to the mailing address provided on your application or there is a will-call option. The date of check distribution is still being finalized by OOC and communication will be forthcoming.



CARES Fund Hardship Assistance Program

The Navajo Nation Office of the Controller realizes there is public confusion about the Hardship Assistance Program regarding the timing of the application process.

The early application period opens Monday, October 26, 2020 **for elderly and special needs individuals only**, to ensure they have a safe option to apply in person with a paper application in the event they cannot apply online.

The purpose of the early application period is to promote social distancing and prevent crowding for elderly applicants and those with special needs.

As such, there will be a **limited number** of paper applications available starting Monday, October 26 at select Chapter locations. **This is not a first-come, first-served program.** Applying early does **NOT** guarantee you a better chance of payment.

For the safety and convenience of yourself and others, it is recommended that anyone with internet access wait to apply online when the portal goes live on Monday, November 2. The application period will remain open to everyone (including elderly and special needs) through November 30, 2020.

We appreciate your patience and cooperation.

the Controller as they work hard to help our Navajo people," said President Nez.

The Office of the President and Vice President also reminds all Navajo Nation residents and officials to follow CDC guidelines when visiting chapters and interacting with chapter officials, to reduce any potential risks associated with COVID-19. Wear a mask in public at all times, practice social distancing, wash your hands often or use hand sanitizer frequently, and avoid gatherings of five or more people.

Navajo Nation Chapters that have questions relative to the Hardship Assistance Program, email nncareshelp@nnooc.org and do not contact the Navajo Division of Community Development. For more information about the Hardship Assistance Program or the Chapter Distribution Program, visit www.nnooc.org/CARESHelp.html.

READ MORE AT: <http://nnooc.org/Documents/CARES%20Act/>

Bulletin Board

Navajo Nation Council mourns former Navajo Nation President Thomas Atcity

October 14, 2020

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – Former Navajo Nation President and Vice President Thomas Atcity passed away from natural causes on Sunday, Oct. 11, at the age of 86. He served seven terms as a New Mexico State Representative in addition to serving as the president and vice president of Navajo Community College (Diné College). From 1995-1999, Atcity served as the Vice President of the Navajo Nation, which included serving as the third President from February 1998 until June 1998.



"On behalf of the Navajo Nation Council, I offer my most sincere condolences to the family and relatives of Honorable Thomas Atcity. When a great Navajo leader journeys on, we recognize their efforts and contributions to the development of the Great Navajo Nation. Thomas Atcity served honorably and duty to the Navajo People. We follow in his footsteps to build a stronger and more secure Navajo Nation so that our future generations can be confident in their pursuit

of the betterment of all Navajo people. His dedication is remembered and honored by many people, and we recognize him today as Navajo leaders," said Speaker Seth Damon.

Members of the 24th Navajo Nation Council also announced the news of Atcity's passing before the Health, Education, & Human Services Committee and Resources & Development Committee regular meetings on Wednesday.

Council Delegate Daniel E. Tso remembered Atcity for his involvement in executing the purchase of the now-Navajo Preparatory School in Farmington, New Mexico. Atcity also served as the headmaster of the former Navajo Academy and continued to be involved in Navajo education throughout his life.

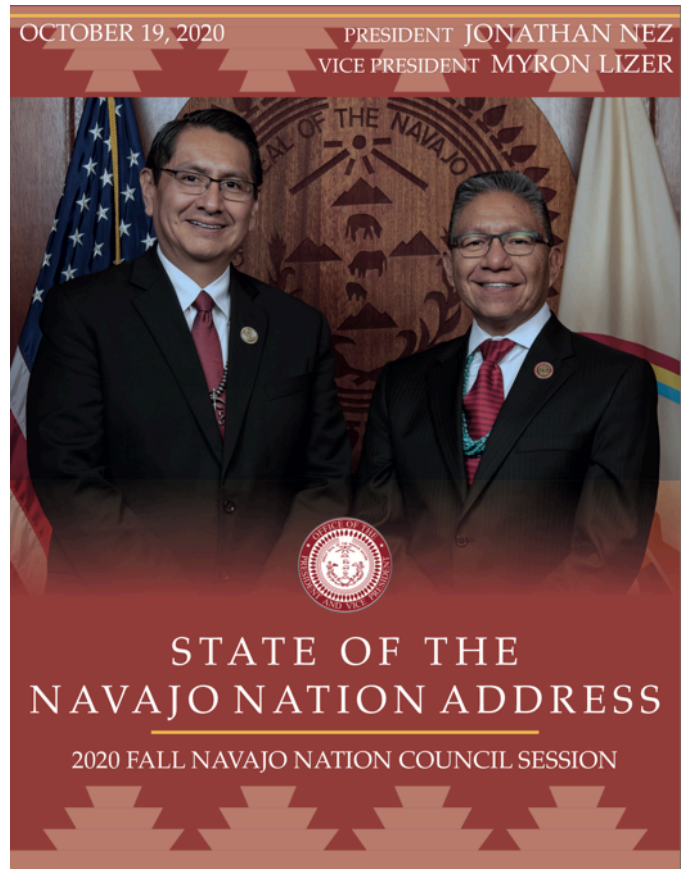
A viewing has been planned for Wednesday followed by burial services at which thirteen family members are permitted. Atcity is survived by his wife, Vicky, three children, four grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. The flags in front of the Navajo Nation Council Chamber in Window Rock, Arizona will be raised at half-staff for the next four days. The Council respectfully asks government buildings across the Navajo Nation similarly observe the passing of Atcity.

Atcity resided in Shiprock, New Mexico and was also a member of the United States Marine Corps.

Read more at: <https://bit.ly/31zE85g>

STATE OF THE NAVAJO NATION ADDRESS 10.19.20

President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer presented the State of the Navajo Nation Address to the 24th Navajo Nation Council, during the opening day of the Fall Council Session.



The Council accepted the State of the Navajo Nation Address by a vote of 22-1. You may view the report online by clicking the following link: <https://www.opvp.navajon sn.gov/Portals/0/Files/STATE%20OF%20THE%20NAVAJO%20NATION/SO NNA%20October%202020.pdf?ver=WHzUUApEqJQ9SrKgEgwBzA%3d%3d×tamp=1603123589795>

Bulletin Board

HONORING U.S. NAVY FIRST CLASS SENIOR OFFICER CALVERA LYNN EDWARDS.

10.21.20



Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez had the honor of recognizing and thanking Calvera Lynn Edwards, a member of the Navajo Nation, who will be retiring this month after serving 20 years with the United States Navy. He briefly met with the family on Wednesday, as they recognized Edwards for her tremendous accomplishments.

“We have many of our Navajo men and women serving in the Armed Forces here in the United States and in areas around the world. The Navajo Nation honors and thanks First Class Senior Officer Edwards and her family for their sacrifice for our country. We will continue to pray for all of our military men and women serving our nation,” said President Nez.

Edwards is originally from Nazlini, Arizona. Her parents are Josephine and Calvin A. Yazzie. She enlisted with the Navy on May 10, 2000 and reached the rank of First Class Senior Officer. She stated, “In the 20 years that I was enlisted, one of the things that kept me going was my grandfather Joseph Dedman Sr. saying to me in Navajo that you’ll fall down in life at times, but eventually a family member will come along and pick you back up and encourage you to keep going.”

Council Delegate Kee Allen Begay, Jr., who represents her hometown of Nazlini as a member of the 24th Navajo Nation Council, also expressed his gratitude stating, “As an elected official for the community of Nazlini Chapter, I wholeheartedly express my appreciation to First Class Senior Officer Calvera Edward for her exceptional military service in for 20 years! She has gained years of military training and experience that will further her career and the Navajo Nation welcomes her expertise to help the Navajo Veterans program. I thank the the parents and relatives in the community of Nazlini, Sheriff Dedman, and the local officials for their support. I welcome Calvera Edward back to the Navajo Nation and appreciate her Military Service! Thank you and be safe.”

Read at: <https://www.facebook.com/NezLizer2018/posts/2631849297080597>

More hardcopy applications for Hardship Assistance Program on their way

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. — Hardcopy applications for the CARES Act Hardship Assistance Program was opened today, Oct. 26, to Navajo Nation members 65-years and older and to individuals with special needs. The Navajo Nation Office of the Controller is aware of the shortage of hardcopy applications and are working quickly to provide additional applications to all 110 Navajo Nation Chapters.

Despite numerous attempts to ensure there would be enough applications available today, the Office of the Controller was only able to get 3,000 copies from the printer over the weekend and the printer is working to print the remainder of the order quickly. The application is printed on special paper much like a tri-fold ballot that requires time to procure. Applications are prenumbered to prevent fraud and will be scanned as they are received.

“We have provided Navajo Nation Chapters a work-around to print applications until more are made available tomorrow,” said Pearline Kirk, Controller of the Navajo Nation. “Additional hardcopy applications are on their way—200,000 applications will be made available to chapters.”

Hardcopy applications are for Navajo elderly 65-years and older and for individuals with special needs that cannot fill out the application online which will be available Nov. 2. It is recommended that everyone who is able to apply online do so opposed to the hardcopy application. The website link for the online application will be available beginning Nov. 2.

“This application process is not first come first served,” said Kirk. “No matter when you apply, your application will be given equal treatment. Thank you for your understanding and patience during this time.”

The Office of the Controller urges family members, chapters and senior citizens center staff to help the elders apply for the Hardship Assistance Program.

Navajo Nation Chapters that have questions relative to the Hardship Assistance Program, email nncareshelp@nnooc.org and do not contact the Navajo Division of Community Development. For more information about the Hardship Assistance Program or the Chapter Distribution Program, visit www.nnooc.org/CARESHelp.html or email NNCaresHelp@nnooc.org.

READ MORE AT: [https://www.navajo-nsn.gov/News%20Releases/NNCouncil/2020/Oct/201026 NNOOC More Applications being printed FINAL.pdf](https://www.navajo-nsn.gov/News%20Releases/NNCouncil/2020/Oct/201026%20NNOOC%20More%20Applications%20being%20printed%20FINAL.pdf)

Navajo Nation Census Information Center News

Halloween: Oct. 31, 2020

OCTOBER 07, 2020

RELEASE NUMBER CB20-FF.09

Dating back 2,000 years to the Celtic festival of Samhain, Halloween is an ancient tradition associated with images of witches, ghosts and vampires. Today, Halloween has evolved into a celebration characterized by child-friendly activities like trick-or-treating, carving pumpkins into jack-o'-lanterns, and dressing in costumes.

The following facts are made possible by the invaluable responses to U.S. Census Bureau surveys. We appreciate the public's cooperation as we continuously measure America's people, places and economy.

Trick or Treat!

41.0 million

The estimated number of potential trick-or-treaters in 2019 – children ages 5 to 14.

Source: 2019 Population Estimates

57.4 million

The number of housing units with steps trick-or-treaters had to climb steps to fill their bags with goodies in 2019.

Source: 2019 American Housing Survey

126.8 million

The number of potential stops for trick-or-treaters to occupied housing units for the second quarter of 2020.

Source: Housing Vacancies and Homeownership [<1.0 MB]

16.4%

The percentage of U.S. households who think their neighborhood has a lot of petty crime.

Source: 2019 American Housing Survey

Hauntingly Delicious Economic Statistics

258

The number of U.S. establishments that produced chocolate products from cocoa beans in 2018.

Source: 2018 County Business Patterns

892

The number of formal wear and costume rental establishments in the United States in 2018.

Source: 2018 County Business Patterns

3,421

The number of U.S. confectionery and nut stores that sold candy and other confectionery products in 2018.

Source: 2018 County Business Patterns

Spooky Places

Tombstone, Ariz. (estimated population 1,375)

Source: 2018 American Community Survey

Sleepy Hollow, N.Y. (estimated population 10,138)

Source: 2018 American Community Survey

Kill Devil Hills, N.C. (estimated population 7,035)

Source: 2018 American Community Survey

Yellville, Ark. (estimated population 1,162)

Source: 2018 American Community Survey

Transylvania County, N.C. (estimated population 33,513)

Source: 2018 American Community Survey

Slaughter Beach, Del. (estimated population 231)

Source: 2018 American Community Survey

Casper, Wyo. (estimated population 58,756)

Source: 2018 American Community Survey

Scarville, Iowa (estimated population 78)

Source: 2018 American Community Survey

READ MORE AT: <https://www.census.gov/newsroom/stories/hunting-fishing-day.html>

Did You Know?

Native American Facts

American Indian/Alaskan Native (AI/AN)

refers to persons belonging to the **Indigenous tribes** of the continental United States (American Indians) and the Indigenous tribes and villages of Alaska (Alaska Natives).

567

Sovereign Tribal Nations

567 sovereign tribal nations (variously called tribes, nations, bands, pueblos, communities, and Native villages) have a formal nation-to-nation relationship with the US government.

These **567 tribal nations** are located across 35 states and within the geographic borders of the United States; however, each tribal nation exercises its own sovereignty. Each of the 567 tribal governments is legally defined as a *federally recognized tribal nation*.

334

American Indian Reservations

There were **334 federal- and state-recognized American Indian reservations** in 2010.

Native peoples and governments have inherent rights and a political relationship with the US government that does not derive from race or ethnicity. Tribal members are citizens of three sovereigns: their tribe, the United States, and the state in which they reside. They are also individuals in an international context with the rights afforded to any other individual.

63

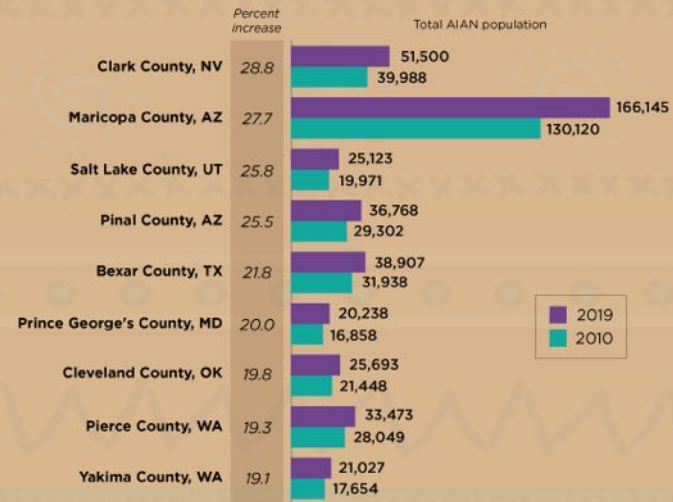
State-Recognized Tribes

There are **63 state-recognized tribes in 11 states**—Alabama, Connecticut, Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, North Carolina, South Carolina, Vermont and Virginia.

State-recognized tribes are recognized by their respective **state governments**.

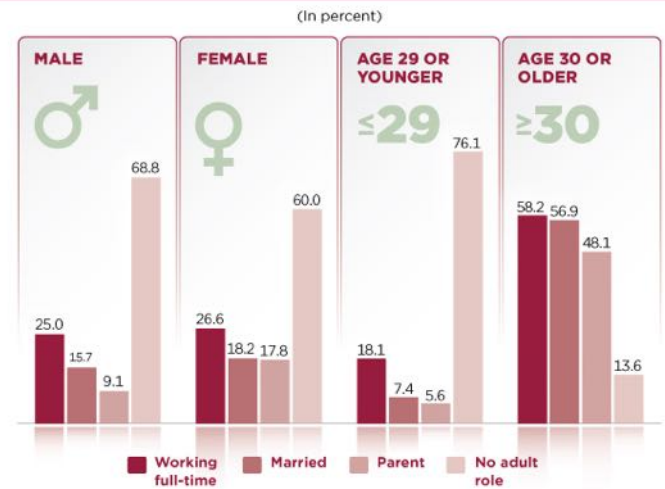
State recognition acknowledges the historical and cultural contributions of various tribes.

Fastest-Growing American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) Populations By Percent Increase in Counties: 2010 to 2019



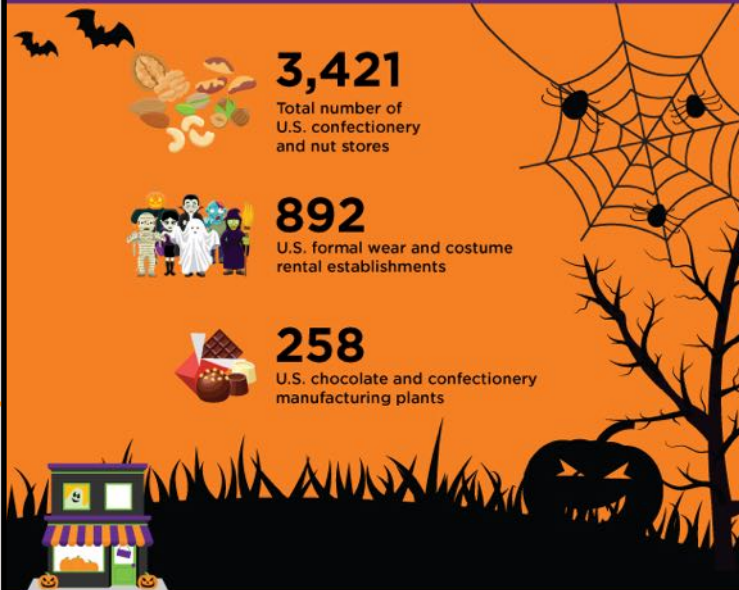
Note: Includes only counties with an AIAN alone-or-in combination population of 20,000 or more on July 1, 2019.

Characteristics of College Students



Note: Data in this figure represent an equally weighted average of the numbers in each category from 2016, 2017 and 2018. Categories of parenthood, marriage and full-time work overlap. "Parent" refers to having own children living in the household. "No adult role" means not working full-time, not married and not a parent.

Sweet Economic Tricks and Treats: 2018





Navajo Nation Dikos Ntsaaígíí-19 (COVID-19)



Last Updated: October 24, 2020

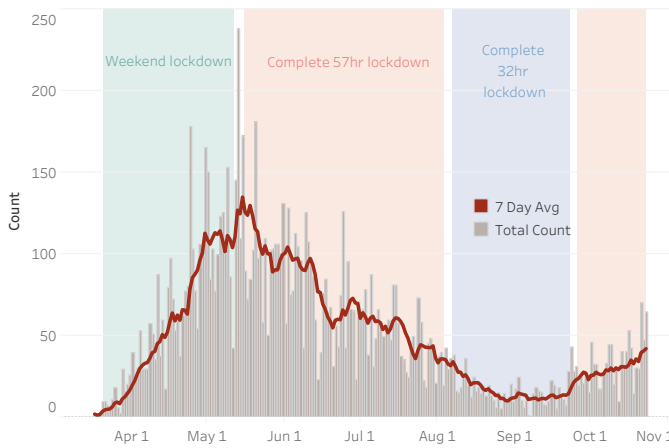
Navajo Nation Residents

Total Confirmed Cases ¹	Total Recovered	Total Confirmed Deaths
11,217	7,466	574
New Cases from Last Update: 64		New Death(s) Reported: 0
Total Tests Completed ²	Total Positive Tests ³	Total Negative Tests
121,274	13,804	103,549

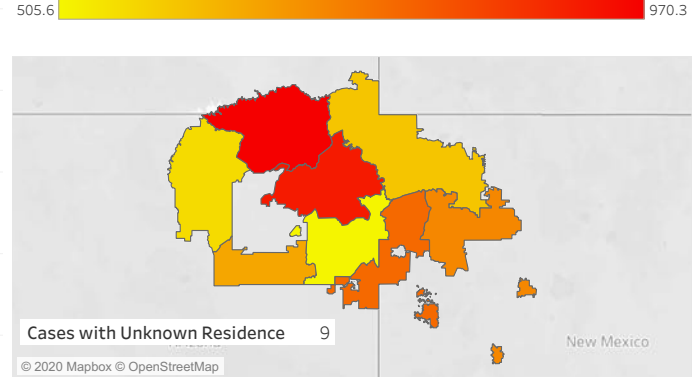
Service Area Confirmed Cases

Bordertown	Chinle	Crownpoint	Ft. Defiance	Gallup	Kayenta	Shiprock	Tuba City	Winslow
3,255	2,519	1,076	1,179	1,738	1,380	1,731	1,056	529

Daily Confirmed Cases on Navajo Nation in All

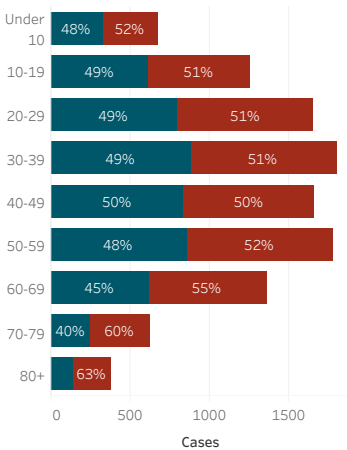


Navajo Nation Service Area Rates per 10,000 population

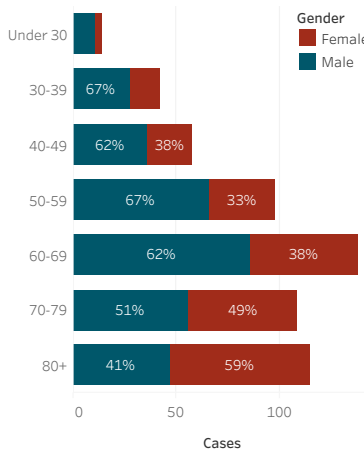


*Click on service area to display more information. Click outside service area to display Navajo Nation information. Ramah is included with Gallup service area and Alamo, Tohajiilee are included with Crownpoint service area.

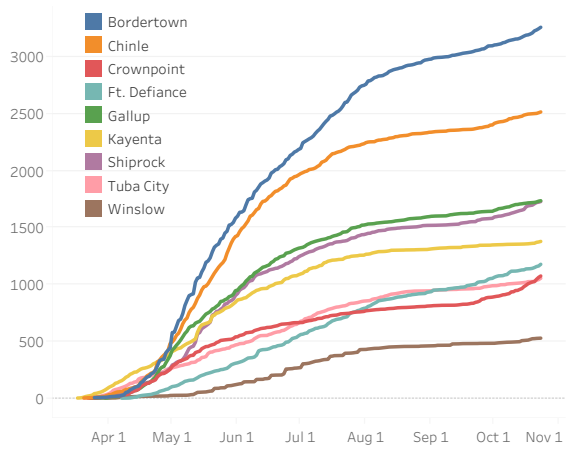
COVID-19 by Age Groups



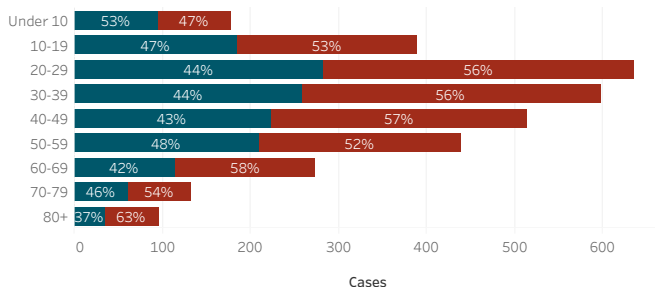
COVID-19 Deaths by Age Groups



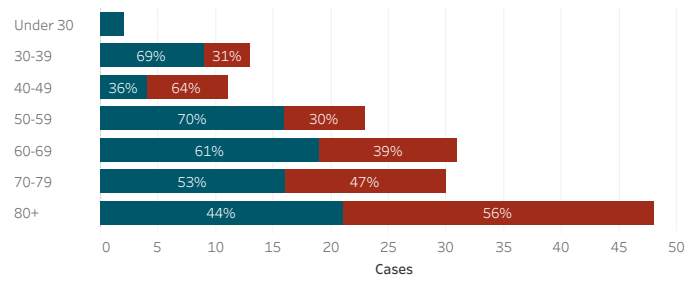
Total Count of Cases since March



Bordertown COVID-19 by Age Groups



Bordertown COVID-19 Deaths by Ages Groups



Steps to Take When Trick or Treating



Make Trick-Or-Treating Safer



- Avoid direct contact with trick-or-treaters.
- Give out treats outdoors, if possible.
- Set up a station with individually bagged treats for kids to take.
- Wash hands before handling treats.
- Wear a mask.



[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

Traditional Halloween activities are fun, but some can increase the risk of getting or spreading COVID-19 or influenza. Plan alternate ways to participate in Halloween.

Wear A Mask



- Make your cloth mask part of your costume.
- A costume mask is **NOT** a substitute for a cloth mask.
- Do **NOT** wear a costume mask over a cloth mask. It can make breathing more difficult.
- Masks should **NOT** be worn by children under the age of 2 or anyone who has trouble breathing.



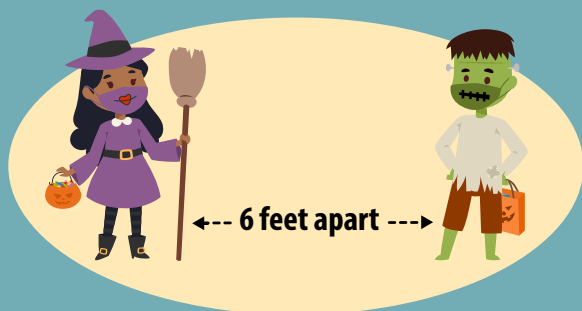
Wash Your Hands



- Bring hand sanitizer with you and use it after touching objects or other people.
- Use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Parents: supervise young children using hand sanitizer.
- Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds when you get home and before you eat any treats.



Keep Your Distance



- Stay at least 6 feet away from others who do not live with you
- Indoors and outdoors, you are more likely to get or spread COVID-19 when you are in close contact with others for a long time.

HALLOWEEN MASKS DON'T PROTECT AGAINST COVID-19



A Halloween mask won't protect you and others from COVID-19. Wear a face covering that covers your nose and mouth and fits snugly on your cheeks.



HALLOWEEN

during the COVID-19 Pandemic

The more people you interact with during the Halloween season (fall festivals, door-to-door trick-or-treating, in-person costume contests, large dinner parties, haunted houses, carnivals), you are at a higher risk of becoming infected and spreading COVID-19.

The Navajo Health Command Operations Center advises Navajo residents to avoid in-person large gatherings and activities to protect yourself, your family, and your community.

Here's how you can celebrate Halloween with the family you live with:

- **Virtual Contest** - Participate in community virtual Halloween contests
- **Game night** - board games, craft night, or pumpkin carving
- **Zoom Parties** - Host a Zoom party with friends and family complete with games, scary stories, or costume contest
- **Scary Movie Night** - Watch fear-filled favorite Halloween movies
- **Spooky Pics** - Share costume, décor, and Halloween food pictures on social media
- **In-home Trick-or-Treating** - Get creative! Allow kids to go from one candy station to another throughout the house or yard
- **Spooky Cookoff** - Explore Halloween themed treats and foods to make with your family
- **Dinner Theater** - Wear your costume, and become the costume during dinner
- **Scavenger Hunt House** - Create different theme rooms throughout the house or yard and send kids on a scavenger hunt for candy and treats
- **Halloween Karaoke** - Have a spooky Karaoke night with awards
- **Halloween Piñata** - Have a piñata as the grand finale for your Halloween party

Here's how you can stay safe:

- Avoid gatherings with more than 5 people
- Avoid food sharing with people you do not live with
- Celebrate Halloween virtually or with family you live with
- Wear a mask and stay at least six feet apart - a Halloween mask does not take the place of a face mask
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use a hand sanitizer with 60% or more alcohol
- Clean and disinfect high-touched surfaces and objects
- Discourage handshaking and hugs
- Clean and disinfect all candy and treats



**IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW NEEDS
HELP DEALING WITH STRESS OR THE
EMOTIONAL EFFECTS OF COVID-19
HERE ARE SOME RESOURCES:**

Navajo residents can also call
Navajo Regional Behavioral Health Center at
(505) 368-1438 or
(505) 368-1467, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.,
Monday-Friday (MDT)



After 5 p.m., Monday - Friday (MDT)

Chinle Region:

(928) 551-0713

Dilkon and Tuba City Region:

(928) 551-0624

Farmington, Kirtland, and Shiprock Region:

(928) 551-0508

Shiprock and Red Mesa Region:

(928) 551-0394

DIKOS NTSAAÍGÍÍ-19
CORONAVIRUS



  
@navajodephealth
#DineDabidziil

Navajo Health Command Operations Center
(928) 871-7014
coronavirus.info@nndoh.org
www.ndoh.navajo-nsn.gov/COVID-19

HAPPY HALLOWEEN!



The DCD Newsletter, "Community Info", is produced monthly by the Division of Community Development and is a resource for division staff and chapters.

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