

# COMMUNITY UPDATE

## Division of Community Development Newsletter

February 2021

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### Did You Know...

In Navajo, if you want to say "I love you", you say, "ayóó aníínishní". One might also say "ayóó ánoóshní". "Ayóó" means "very" or "a lot". "Áníínishní" means "regard" or "adore". As in many languages, there is no exact Navajo word for "love".

<https://bit.ly/3aWSS30>.

### Events:

**March: Wóózhch'ííd - "First cry of eaglets"**

March 14: Daylight Saving Time Starts

March 17: St. Patrick's Day

March 20: Spring Equinox

March 31: Cesar Chavez Day

## Navajo Nation Heavy Equipment Investment



Through legislation CJA-01-21, The Navajo Nation Council allocated \$23,954,719.77 from the Sihasin Fund to the Division of Community Development to implement the Sihasin Fund Chapter Heavy Equipment Expenditure Plan. President Jonathan Nez signed CJA-01-21 on January 30, 2021.

The Division of Community Development started gathering the documentation needed to implement the funding on February 1, 2021 with the establishment of the Heavy Equipment Team. The Team consisting of CPMD, ASC, and DCD Executive is coordinating with entities outside the division to expedite these purchases for the Navajo Chapters. The team consists of:

- Elmer Johnson, CPMD Project Manager and team lead,
- Delilah Bill, ASC Cares Temp OA,
- Lorenzo Morgan, ASC Cares Temp OS, and
- Sandra Anderson, ASC Cares Temp OS.
- Calvin Tsosie, Kayenta SPPS, and Robert Jumbo, Chinle ASC ASO, are assisting with Operations and Maintenance Agreements.
- Lydell Davis, Senior Accountant. and Leslie Sandoval, Senior Office Specialist, with DCD Administration and the DCD Tech Team are also assisting the staff with financial technical support, Heavy Equipment website, and tracking information.

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The process for these equipment purchases entails cooperation and coordination with other departments including Navajo Nation Fleet Management, Motor Vehicle Review Board, Office of the Controller and Office of Management and Budget.

Due to the sheer volume of purchases, the Heavy Equipment Team is working hard daily and diligently with the chapters to obtain all the necessary documents to fulfill the equipment needs for the chapters. The legislation covers 255 projects with a total of 291 pieces of heavy equipment

including motor graders, backhoes, skid steer loaders, forklifts, tractors, various trucks and vehicles, ATV's, various trailers and necessary attachments for the equipment/vehicles.

Each of the equipment purchases need to go through 37 processes grouped into six steps that cover each segment of the project.

**Step 1** is the Chapter Documents

**Step 2** is the Financial Account Setup

### Step 3 is the Vendor Information

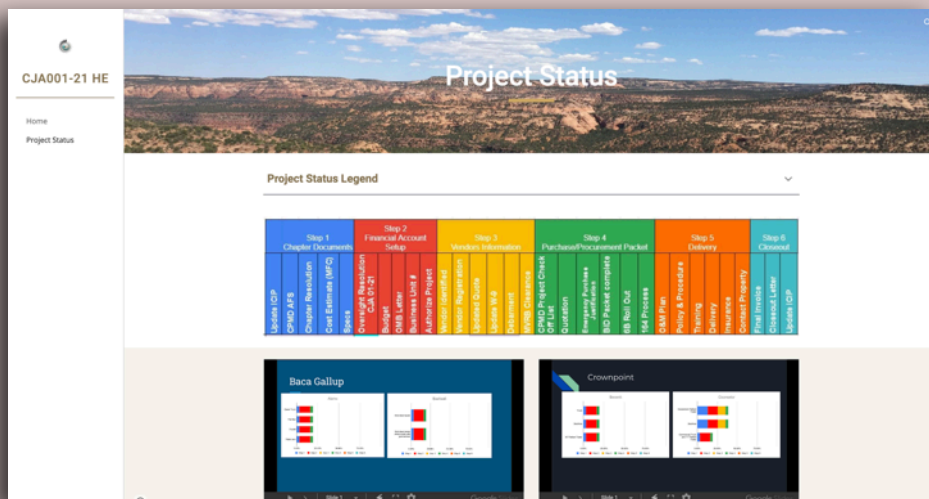
**Step 4** is the Purchase /Procurement Packet

## Step 5 is the Delivery

## Step 6 is the Closeout



This project is currently at the top of the list of priorities for DCD. It's important for everyone working on these projects to be aware of the timelines and the tight coordination needed to successfully complete a project of this magnitude.



The tracking of these projects are on the [NNDCD.org](https://nndcd.org) website but can be accessed by clicking on the following link:

[https://sites.google.com/  
navajochapters.org/  
cja001-21heavyequipment/home?  
authuser=0](https://sites.google.com/navajochapters.org/cja001-21heavyequipment/home?authuser=0)



# Partners step up to assist DCD/ASC with Chapter Supply Distributions



Several partners came to the assistance of the Navajo Nation to support the 110 Chapters with the CARES Act supplies ordered by chapters in November 2020. The Division of Community Development and Administrative Services Center have been coordinating the mass distribution of over 9,000 pallets of COVID-19 Emergency bulk supplies with the Office of the Controller and the Baker Tilly consultants. The Chapter Supply Distribution emergency response supplies are based out of a large temporary tent that is set up at the Navajo Nation Fairgrounds in Window Rock, AZ.

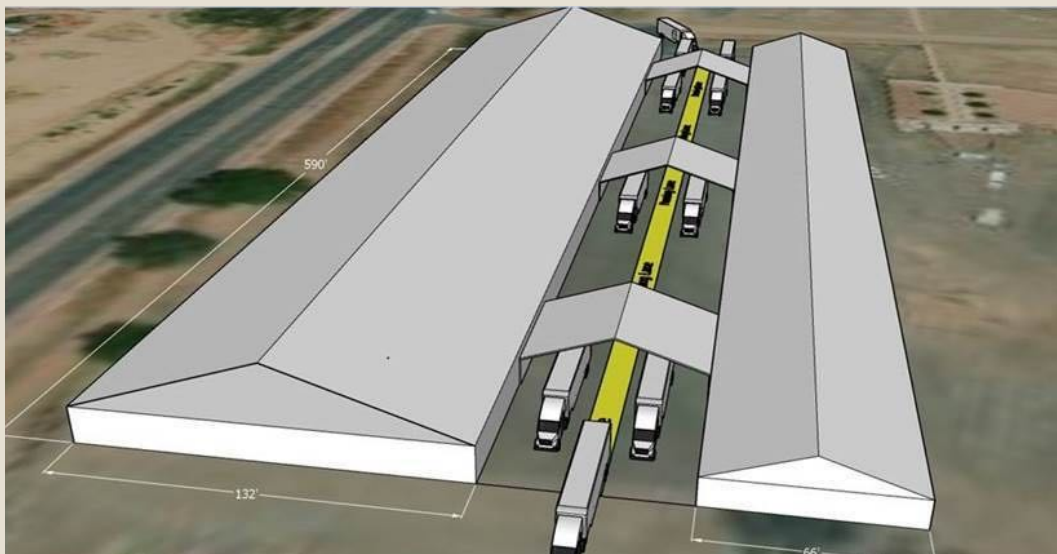
Essential workers at the tent warehouse sort and package pallets with emergency supplies based on orders submitted by chapters. Large trucks line up each morning to pick up at least 20 pallets per load and deliver supply pallets to chapters across the Navajo Nation. Dr. Pearl Yellowman, DCD Division Director, and Sonlatsa Jim-Martin, ASC Department Manager would like to extend a special appreciation to the following collaborative partners:

- Baker Tilly, DSSI, and PM2
- Navajo Parks & Recreation & Division of Natural Resources
- Bureau of Indian Affairs - Navajo Region
- State of Utah - Division of Emergency Management
- Navajo Engineering & Construction Authority
- NDOT
- Navajo Food Distribution
- Health Command Operations Center - NDOH
- DCD Departments (CHID, CPMD, NNAA)
- ASC Regional Staff



**Thank you to these dedicated partners and their teams for assisting with the Chapter Supply Distributions which started in late December 2020 and continues into the month of March 2021.**

**Your support and commitment to all 110 Navajo Chapters is greatly appreciated.**



**FAIRGROUNDS TEMPORARY STORAGE FACILITIES**



# Assessing the Navajo Nation's COVID-19 Risk

The Navajo Nation saw a higher than average number of cases early in the COVID-19 pandemic in April and May 2020. During that time, it was recording some of the highest numbers in the United States per capita, rivaling other more populated areas like New York City. However, the Navajo Nation began an aggressive campaign to reduce the rate of infection by instituting shelter in place orders, mandatory lockdowns, and a public awareness campaign to stay home, practice new behaviors such as social distancing, personal hygiene including washing hands frequently, and wearing masks.

Shortly after the pandemic was declared in 2020, the Navajo Nation formed the Health Care Operations Center (HCOC) and developed a risk assessment tool, also called the gating criteria or gating measures, based on what the national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) had. It uses the best practices developed by the CDC and the special conditions on the Navajo Nation to determine what data to measure and assess. The tool has changed during the course of the epidemic and has been continually evolving to better meet the needs of the Navajo Nation. In the fall of 2020, the HCOC used that tool to consider how best to transition out of the state of emergency back to normal activities and create a re-opening plan.

## Gating Measures and Indicators

|   | Phase 0   | Phase 1  | Phase 2   | Phase 3  |
|---|---|--|---|--|
| <b>I. Cases</b>   |   |  |   |  |
| Downward trajectory   |   | Downward trajectory  | Downward trajectory and no evidence of sustained rebound      | Downward trajectory and no evidence of sustained rebound |
| Average daily number of new cases per 100000 population over the last 14 days | ≥25 cases per 100K                              | 10-24 cases per 100K                                       | 1-9 cases per 100K  | <1 cases per 100K  |
| <b>II. Testing</b>  | >10%  | *Percentage of positive tests equal to or less than 7-10%. | *Percentage of positive tests equal to or less than 4-6%      | *Percentage of positive tests equal to or less than ≤3%  |
| <b>III. Hospital Capacity</b>   | Inpatient or ICU beds ≥80%                      | Inpatient and ICU beds <80%                                | Inpatient and ICU beds <75%                                   | Inpatient and ICU beds <70%                              |
| <b>IV. Public Health Capacity</b>   | 5 contact tracers/daily new case**              | 5 contact tracers/daily new case**                         | 5 contact tracers/daily new case**                            | 30 contact tracers/100,000 population**                  |
| <b>Disease Spread</b>   | Extensive Community Spread<br>Disease Risk High | Substantial Community Spread<br>Disease Risk High          | Minimal to Moderate Community Spread<br>Disease Risk Moderate | Zero to Minimal Community Spread<br>Disease Risk Low     |
| <b>Recommended Control Effort to Reduce Spread</b>                            | Shelter in place                                | Aggressive   | Moderate  | Baseline   |

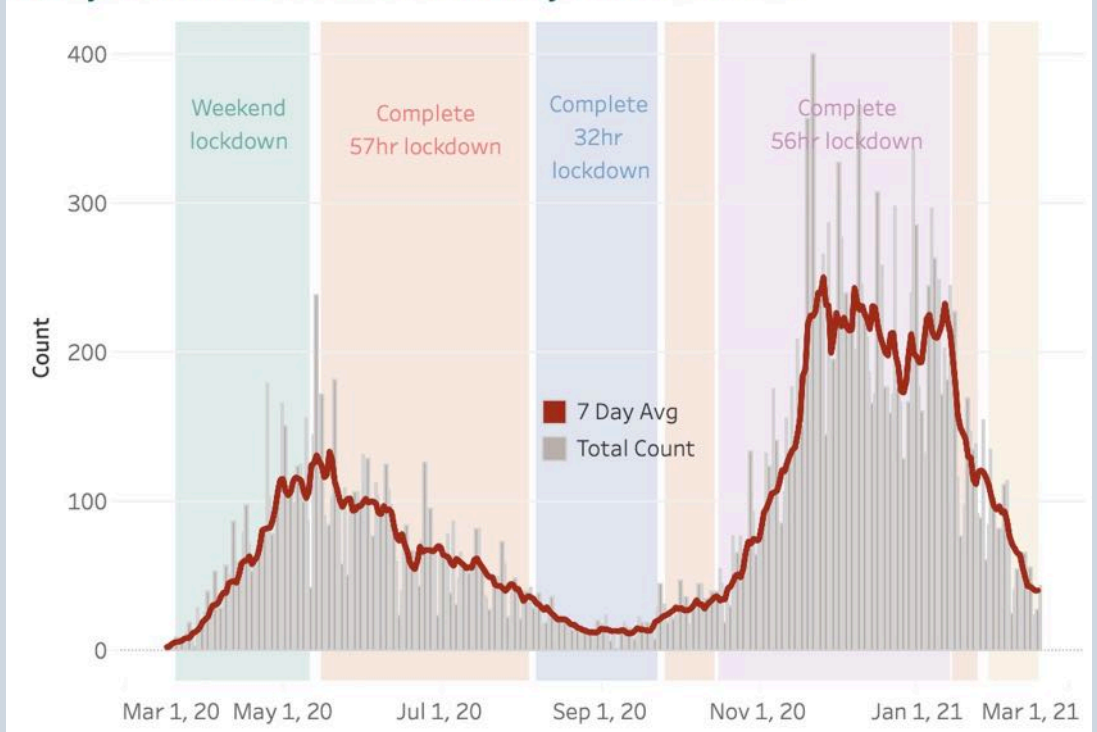
The tool uses the COVID data to determine when to loosen restrictions or when to take additional measures to reduce infections. The criteria that drive these decisions are called gating measures and indicators and rely on several pieces of data.

## CASES

The downward trajectory is determined by the number of daily cases based on a 14 day average and whether there is a sustained downward trend in the number of new cases.

The average daily number of new cases over 14 days is also measured and depending on the number, an appropriate response level is recommended in the colored phase categories in the gating measures chart.

Daily Confirmed Cases on Navajo Nation in All



## TESTING

This determines what percent of the total testing results are positive and whether it decreased over a 14 day period.

## HOSPITAL CAPACITY

This determines how much capacity the hospitals have to treat cases using the number of available intensive care unit beds and total patient beds available. The number of available beds must be consistently under the threshold values to move to a higher phase level.

## PUBLIC HEALTH CAPACITY

This determines the capacity of the Navajo Nation to track public spread of the disease using the number of contact tracers compared to the population. The Public Health Capacity data also includes the number of vaccinations that have been administered.

When all these data points are considered and compared to the threshold levels of the indicators, the recommended effort to reduce or control the spread of the disease is determined. This is described by one of the color-coded phases in the "Gating Measures and Indicators" chart, numbered from 0 to 3 with 0 being the highest alertness level and 3 being normal activity levels before the COVID pandemic.

The Navajo Nation immediately went into Phase 0 (Red) until early fall 2020 when numbers fell drastically for all indicators. The Navajo Nation shifted to Phase 1 (Orange) and stayed there til November when numbers started spiking during the second wave and the alertness level was moved back to Phase 0.

The Navajo Nation Department of Health provided detailed information for this article. For more information, visit the NNDOH COVID-19 website at <https://www.ndoh.navajo-nsn.gov/COVID-19>.



# Broadband advancements still struggle



**By Peter Aleshire Special to the Independent Feb 5, 2021**

Bits and pieces.

Dead end lines.

Dead end studies.

Squandered opportunities.

That's been the story of the long struggle to provide fast, reliable, flexible broadband connections across the vast sprawl of Navajo County. The pandemic underscored the crisis, with businesses and schools shuttered without the internet connections needed to still function.

The pandemic underscored the dawning realization that rural areas without broadband could find themselves locked out of the 21st Century economy – without the infrastructure needed for businesses, doctors, schools and libraries to connect. County economic development officials say the county could capitalize on the flight of many people from urban areas – but only if it offers fast, reliable internet.

So after years of jawboning, the Navajo County Board of Supervisors on Monday signed a \$73,000, six-month contract with a company that has promised to draw up engineering plans for a county-wide, redundant, high-speed broad band.

The move comes just as the state and federal government have authorized billions in additional money to bolster the nation's broadband network – especially in underserved rural areas. Navajo County hopes that detailed plans will help it elbow its way to the front of the line for those desperately sought state and federal grants.

Magellan Advisors has developed detailed engineering plans to create broadband networks all over the country and currently has a contract to develop a plan for the Navajo Nation, which makes up the Northern half of the county.

Supervisors Jason Whiting said the county must act. "We've had studies done before and I know a lot of our partners got a little burned out with just those studies being done and nothing happening."

"What differentiates the work we're doing," said Jory Wolf, Magellan's vice president for digital innovation, "is we're providing a plan that's shovel ready that could be submitted with a grant application. It is stepwise. It won't come in the form of one grant. It will have the engineering needed for multiple grants."

Newly elected Supervisor Fern Benally, participating in the zoom meeting by phone for lack of an internet connection on the Navajo Reservation, said, "I just want to make sure that the remote parts of Navajo County are included in this strategic plan. As you guys see, I'm on the phone because I can't do a zoom call. That's an issue for a lot of our students in Navajo County – they are falling behind because they're unable to zoom in on their teachers for a good education."

Board Chairman Daryl Seymore said, "the Navajo Nation is a big partner, that's definitely something that's considered in this proposal."

The contract comes at a key moment, as the state and federal government set aside more money to fund broadband infrastructure in the wake of the pandemic.

The just-passed second federal COVID relief package included \$7 billion to upgrade broadband throughout the nation, especially in rural areas. Other federal programs have increased funding for efforts to improve broad band on reservations, with the Navajo Nation among the most hard-hit by the pandemic.

The state has also boosted funding for broadband, including a proposal in Gov. Doug Ducey's 2021-22 budget to include some \$10 million for rural broad band as well as \$50 million to help the Arizona Department of Transportation add broadband cables alongside key state and interstate highway routes. That could include a high-capacity line from Phoenix to Payson. That line could then connect with a just completed line from Heber to Payson. The governor's 21-22 budget would pay for 500 miles of new conduit for fiber optic cable including long stretches of I-17, I-40 and I-19.

Last year, the state provided about \$3 million in funding for rural broadband improvements, which helped pay for a connection between Payson and the White Mountains.

Most of Navajo County currently sits at the end of a broadband cul de sac – with a single line connected through Globe to the White Mountains. A break anywhere along that long, vulnerable line can produce an outage that can knock out not only broadband but the cell phone service that often relies in part on a broadband connection. Sparklight has recently completed the connection to Payson, but until the lines create a complete loop involving the Valley and lines along Interstate 40 that also connect to trunk lines through Camp Verde, Navajo and Apache counties will remain prey to outages.

The federal government has also been funding E-rate grants to provide schools and libraries with reliable, high-speed internet. The state has been handing out the federal e-rate grants, including \$124 million in 2018-19, another \$150 million in 2019-20 and nearly \$200 million in 2020-21. .

Navajo and Gila counties have so far received the lion's share of the state match for E-rate funding this year, some \$61 million, according to the state.

Nonetheless, only 23% of Arizona school districts meet the national affordability benchmarks for broadband access. Many rural districts forced to shift to distance learning found student didn't have internet connections at home that enabled them to keep up.

Navajo County hopes that Magellan can in the next six months come up with a detailed engineering plan to boost the speed and reliability of broadband throughout the county. Moreover, the plan will pinpoint the gaps in the network that leave many communities unconnected. The plan will also identify all the possible partners to make sure as many residents and businesses as possible get connected, without an expensive duplication of effort.

Assistant County Manager Bryon Layton said "We know we struggle to get high-speed internet. We struggle with reliability. Businesses of every size depend on broadband. We know reliable, high-speed internet is essential for growth and development. We don't need another study – we need a plan to get us where we want to go."

He noted that county staff talked to other counties and broadband providers, who recommended Magellan. The county awarded the professional contract without competitive bidding, which is allowed under state law for professional services but not construction.

Wolf said Magellan has 425 clients nationwide, including several tribal communities. The company has designed and overseen the construction of 50 community networks and overseen \$1 billion in construction projects providing broadband to a million homes.

Wolf said the project will start by looking at available grants.

"We want to understand the grant opportunities at Navajo County and its municipalities are eligible for very early in the process," said Melanie Downing, also with Magellan.

The study will include a "market analysis and gap analysis" to determine what areas remain unserved or underserved. "We want to make sure that we are addressing that digital divide," she said.

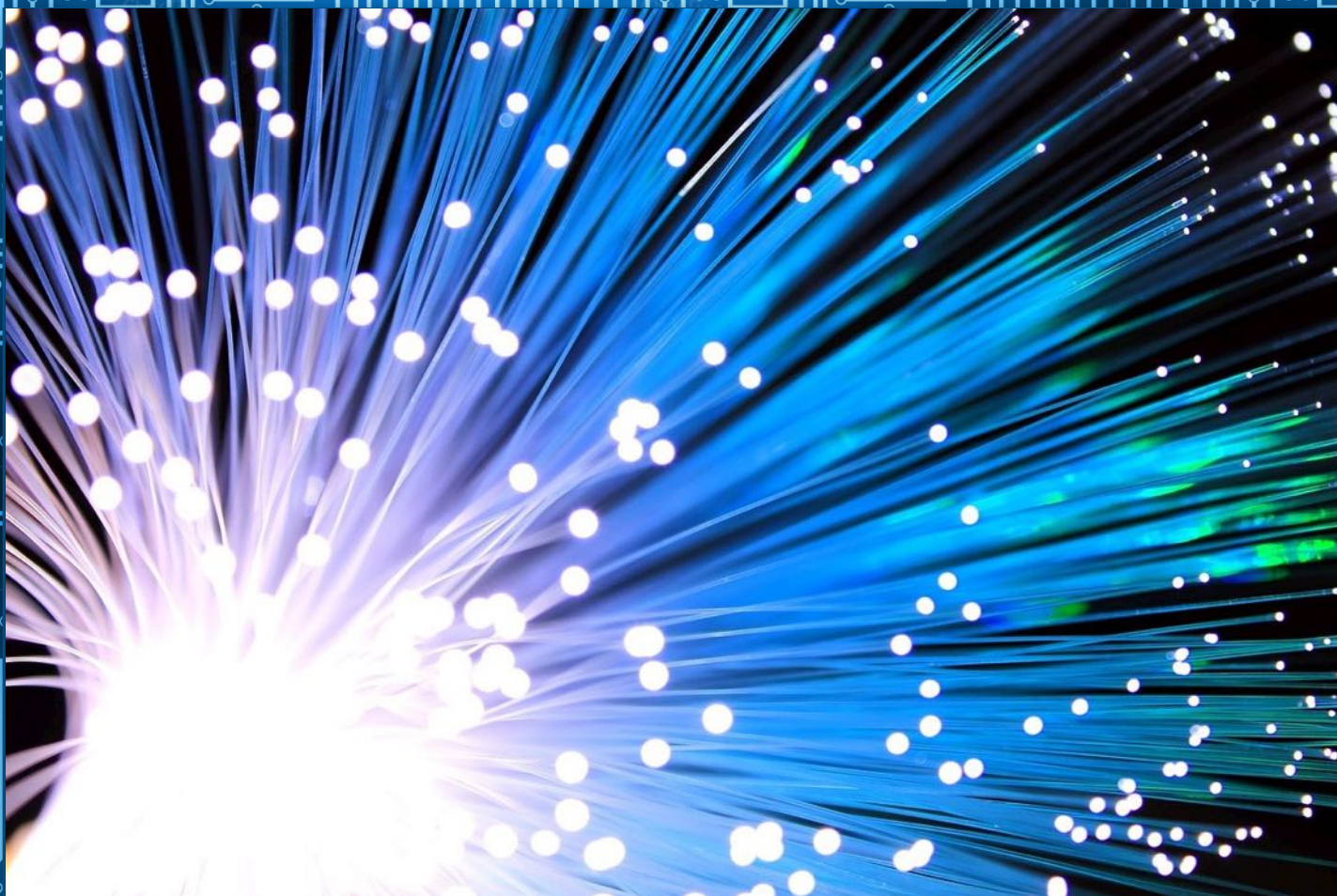
Keith Watkins, with the Arizona Commerce Authority, praised Navajo County for getting a head start on a comprehensive plan. "We are all victims of study fatigue – we're tired of talking about these things – we need to get down to the granular planning level of how it's going to work. I applaud the county for taking this step and engaging with this caliber a group to get this going. We are fully supportive of Navajo County taking this step.

"There has never been a better time to move forward," agreed Seymore, before the county supervisors voted unanimously to award the no-bid contract.

READ MORE AT: [https://www.wmicentral.com/news/arizona\\_news/broadband-advancements-still-struggle/article\\_430f443b-811e-513c-b35c-c6e918aa5f67.html](https://www.wmicentral.com/news/arizona_news/broadband-advancements-still-struggle/article_430f443b-811e-513c-b35c-c6e918aa5f67.html)



# **Navajo Nation awarded \$53 million through E-Rate Program to increase internet capacity for chapter houses and Head Start facilities**



WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer are pleased to announce that the Navajo Nation secured \$53 million in funding through the Federal Communications Commission's E-Rate Program, to install over 600 miles of fiber optic lines that will expand internet capacity for 90 chapter houses and 53 Head Start facilities on the Navajo Nation.

"We are elated by today's announcement. This is a historic achievement that took years of coordination and planning as our administration works toward expanding and increasing internet capability and capacity within our communities. Through the coordination and persistence of many partners, we resolved longstanding issues that stemmed from previous administrations that stood in the way of progress. Now, that our administration has resolved those issues, many of our chapter houses and Head Start facilities will receive fiber optic lines that will provide enhanced internet service for officials and local residents who visit the chapter houses. Students and others will soon be able to use the internet service for school work and other tasks. We are very thankful to everyone who worked together to advance this monumental task," said President Nez.

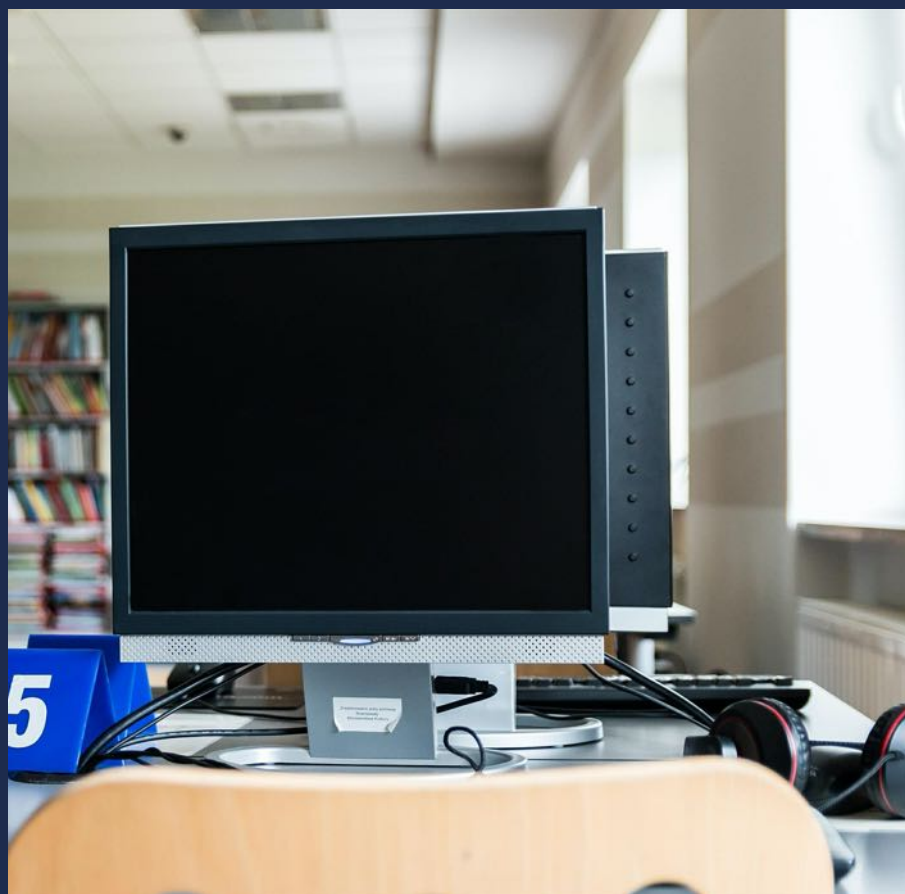
When the Nez-Lizer Administration took office in 2019, President Nez and Vice President Lizer developed a four-year strategy known as the "Nahata" plan, which is a document that tasked Telecommunications Regulatory Commission Office Executive Director Christopher Becenti with resolving past issues to ensure compliance with FCC policies to move the E-Rate initiative forward.

In June 2020, President Nez and Vice President Lizer also issued letters to New Mexico and Arizona officials providing supporting information for the Navajo Nation's application for E-Rate resources and funding.



“Through the coordination of the Navajo Nation Department of Information Technology, Telecommunications Regulatory Commission, Department of Diné Education, Telecommunications Utilities, Division of Community Development and support from the 24th Navajo Nation Council and New Mexico Department of Education and the state of Arizona, the Navajo Nation received notice on Thursday from Universal Service Administrative Co., which administers the E-Rate Program for the FCC, that the Navajo Nation was awarded \$53 million.

Much of the physical work applying for the E-Rate funding was provided by the Nation’s E-Rate consultant, Infinity Communications & Consulting Inc. This was truly a collaborative effort,” said Telecommunications Regulatory Commission Office Executive Director Christopher Becenti.



The Nez-Lizer Administration continues to coordinate with the FCC and state officials to secure additional funds through the E-Rate Program to increase internet capabilities for schools and libraries on the Navajo Nation. A second application for funding will be submitted in the next month to connect the remaining chapter houses and Head Start facilities that were not awarded in last year’s application.

“With today’s announcement, the Navajo Nation will increase its overall internet capacity that will benefit our communities and create new opportunities for our Navajo people. Internet service is a great tool for entrepreneurs, students, first responders, and many others. With so many businesses being created and expanded through online services and sales, this will serve as another tool for our Navajo people to empower themselves. My hope is that our Navajo businesses and entrepreneurs take advantage of the increased internet capacity through their creativity and ingenuity. Thank you to everyone who supported this effort for the past few years,” said Vice President Lizer.

New Mexico Public Education Secretary Ryan Stewart also congratulated his colleagues and the Navajo Nation and spoke about the positive impacts that the funding will have for students.

“This is a thrilling development that will help get Navajo children the connectivity they need for the modern education they deserve. These are our kids – New Mexico kids -- and we have an obligation to meet their educational needs whether they go to public schools, tribal schools or Bureau of Indian Education schools,” said Public Education Secretary Ryan Stewart. “This announcement is only possible because of so much hard work by people in the Public Education Department, the Department of Information Technology and the Navajo Nation, and I want to congratulate them all.”

On Friday, Feb. 12, President Nez will participate in a roundtable discussion regarding the FCC’s Emergency Broadband Benefit Program, which will include FCC Acting Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel and FCC Commissioners. Through the program, eligible households may receive a discount off the cost of broadband service and the cost of certain connected devices during an emergency period relating to the COVID-19 pandemic.

READ MORE AT: [https://www.opvp.navajo-nsn.gov/Portals/0/Files/PRESS%20RELEASES/2021/Feb/FOR%20IMMEDIATE%20RELEASE%20-%20Navajo%20Nation%20awarded%20\\$53%20million%20through%20E-Rate%20Program%20to%20increase%20internet%20capacity%20for%20chapter%20houses%20and%20](https://www.opvp.navajo-nsn.gov/Portals/0/Files/PRESS%20RELEASES/2021/Feb/FOR%20IMMEDIATE%20RELEASE%20-%20Navajo%20Nation%20awarded%20$53%20million%20through%20E-Rate%20Program%20to%20increase%20internet%20capacity%20for%20chapter%20houses%20and%20)





# Native Americans 'Left Out in the Cold' Under Trump Press Biden for Action

After showing political clout in the 2020 election, tribal communities are hoping for more attention and money to address their long-running problems with poverty, health care and other issues.

**Jonathan Nez, the president of Navajo Nation, is hoping for federal support to improve access to water and electricity for Native Americans, among other infrastructure improvements.**

SHARON CHISCHILLY FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — When President Biden introduced Representative Deb Haaland of New Mexico as his pick for interior secretary, making her the first Native American to be selected for a cabinet position, he acknowledged the country's long history of failing the land's first citizens.

"The federal government has long broken promises to Native American tribes who have been on this land since time immemorial," he said. "With her appointment, Congresswoman Haaland will help me strengthen the nation-to-nation relationship."

But with Mr. Biden's election and Ms. Haaland's nomination, tribal communities are looking for more than vague pledges.

Angry over their treatment during the Trump administration, which oversaw a deeply flawed response to the pandemic on tribal lands and pursued other policies at odds with Native American priorities, they are now hopeful that Mr. Biden, who benefited from their enthusiastic support in battleground states like Arizona last year, will back a far-reaching agenda to address the poverty that has long ravaged their communities.

They are pushing to ensure that any infrastructure plan the Biden administration pursues includes substantial money to improve access to water and electricity and to improve roads and bridges. They want more funding for their woeful health care service. They want changes to federal land use policy to minimize environmental damage from energy projects. And they want a renewed commitment to improving their schools.

In more than a dozen interviews with tribal leaders, health officials and lawyers across the country, many expressed cautious optimism that the Biden administration would follow through on efforts to address 150 years of systematic failures and breaches of treaty agreements.

"The Trump administration left us out in the cold when it came to the pandemic — all the federal aid that came as a result of the stimulus act, and other acts, throughout this year were meant to try to help entities deal with the pandemic, but we were left out in the cold," said Tim Davis, the chairman of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation of Montana.

"There is so much we are going to have to do, and we are hoping we will get that opportunity with the new administration," he added.

One main reason for their optimism is the nomination of Ms. Haaland, a member of the Laguna Pueblo tribe.

If confirmed, she would oversee about 500 million acres of public land and federal policies affecting the 574 federally recognized tribal governments. She would run an agency responsible for shaping policy on Native American education, tribal law enforcement and the use of the country's natural resources.

During the campaign, Mr. Biden released a policy agenda outlining his plans for Native Americans and tribal communities. It included proposals to immediately reinstate the annual White House Tribal Nations Conference, nominate judges who understand federal Indian law and fully fund the Indian Health Service.

That agenda partly reflected the importance of the Native American vote to Democrats. A New York Times analysis of precinct data found that the Biden-Harris ticket received more than 80 percent of Navajo Nation and Hopi reservation votes in Arizona, which Democrats narrowly won.

Mr. Biden received about 13,500 more votes from the reservations than Hillary Clinton did in 2016. He won Arizona by about 11,000 votes, or three-tenths of a percentage point. Donald J. Trump won the state by 3.5 percentage points in 2016.





Representative Deb Haaland of New Mexico was nominated to lead the Interior Department. She is the first Native American to be chosen for a cabinet position. AMR ALFIKY/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Jonathan Nez, the president of the Navajo Nation, one of the hardest-hit areas by the pandemic in the country, was among the Native American voters who helped Mr. Biden win Arizona. The tribe, which is in parts of Arizona, New Mexico and Utah, has suffered more than 1,000 coronavirus-related deaths and over 28,000 positive cases among the reservation's more than 170,000 residents.

Mr. Nez campaigned for Mr. Biden, including taking part in a series of television ads that ran through Election Day. He said the new administration was already having a positive effect.

In early February, Mr. Biden signed a major disaster declaration for the Navajo Nation to provide more federal funding to support vaccine distribution, medical staffing and resources. With the help of the additional resources, Mr. Nez said the tribe had been able to administer 98 percent of the vaccine doses it was given.

Mr. Nez said he would now like to see the administration focus on aging infrastructure.

"Our roads, our bridges, our water lines, our electricity lines: Here on the Navajo Nation, 30 to 40 percent of our people don't have running water, 30 to 40 percent of our people don't have electricity," he said. "So if there's going to be a major emphasis on infrastructure, we want Navajo Nation to get running water and electricity."

Esther Lucero is the chief executive of the Seattle Indian Health Board, a community health center that serves more than 6,000 urban American Indians and Alaska Natives. She said she hoped to see significant investment in the current public health system for Native Americans.

The Indian Health Service, based in Rockville, Md., consists of 26 hospitals, 56 health centers and 32 health stations. The hospitals range in size from four beds to 133. The agency is broken into a dozen service regions across the country, each one serving tribes living in that area.

For decades, the Indian Health Service has been underfunded, understaffed and routinely criticized for providing inadequate care to the 2.2 million members of the nation's tribal communities. Its performance during the pandemic came under especially intense criticism.

"We have to put together an aggressive budget formula to get the Indian Health Service fully funded," Ms. Lucero said. Providing additional funding to the 12 tribal epidemiology health centers, for example, was key to maintaining and tracking health care data about their citizens, she said.

The intersection of federal land use and environmental and energy policy is also at the heart of the tribal agenda for the new administration. Mr. Biden is facing calls to shut down the Dakota Access pipeline after a court ruled that the Trump administration broke the law when allowing for its construction. That would mean victory for the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, which touches North and South Dakota. The pipeline crosses just north of the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation.

The pipeline, which carries oil from North Dakota to Illinois, has drawn significant opposition from environmentalists and tribes over the years, spurring widespread protests.

It was completed in 2017 after it was revived by Mr. Trump, who reversed an Obama administration decision to deny it a permit.

The push comes after Mr. Biden revoked a permit for the Keystone XL pipeline, which would have transported oil from Canada to the Gulf Coast.

"As the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, we have been engaged with our congressional delegation to put forth a number of priorities," said Ira Taken Alive, the tribe's vice chairman. "As much of the world knows, for the past four and half years, we have prioritized passionately opposing the Dakota Access Pipeline."

Rodney M. Bordeaux, the president of the Rosebud Sioux, said that the federal government's responsibility for improving the overall quality of life for tribal residents started by honoring the trust and treaty responsibilities across all areas of government.

"We are always on the bottom of everything, but it's a trust responsibility and a treaty responsibility — and they have to step up," said Mr. Bordeaux, whose tribal nation is in southwestern South Dakota.

In 2016, President Barack Obama created the Bears Ears National Monument in southern Utah. "The land is profoundly sacred to many Native American tribes, including the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, Navajo Nation, Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah Ouray, Hopi Nation and Zuni Tribe," Mr. Obama said at the time.

Nearly a year later, Mr. Trump drastically shrank the monument, a sprawling region of red rock canyons. Oil was the central factor in driving the decision, setting off a legal battle over the land.

Matt Campbell, a lawyer for the Native American Rights Fund, has represented a number of tribes across the country on legal issues, including the rollback of the federal land protection of Bears Ears.



Sunrise over Bears Ears National Monument near Blanding, Utah. Federal land use is among the topics of most importance to tribal communities. ALEX GOODLETT FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

"Bears Ears National Monument is something we are advocating the administration on," he said. "The Obama administration had created the monument. It is the first ever monument that was created at the request of tribal nations, and President Trump revoked that monument."

Bill Sterud, the chairman of the Puyallup tribe in Washington State, said he voted for Mr. Biden because he thought a new administration could change the tone in Washington.

Mr. Sterud said he viewed the nomination of Ms. Haaland as a breakthrough for Native Americans. But he said he still planned to closely monitor the new administration's performance on delivering promises of change. Upholding tribal nations' treaty rights, addressing climate change and improving the education system are top priorities the administration should address, he said.

"Education is one of those things that's the most important for our young people," he said. "We have our own school that has 800 students, and making sure that school continues to be and gets better and becomes a top-flight school is important."

READ MORE AT: <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/02/18/us/politics/native-americans-biden.html>



February 2021

## Nez-Lizer recognize Navajo NASA engineer Aaron Yazzie's vital role in Mars 2020 Perseverance rover landing



WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer congratulate and recognize NASA mechanical engineer Aaron Yazzie, a member of the Navajo Nation, for his role in designing NASA's Mars 2020 Perseverance rover, which was launched on July 30, 2020 and traveled over 126 million miles before successfully landing on the planet Mars on Thursday.

NASA describes the Mars 2020 Perseverance Mission as the most sophisticated rover NASA has ever sent to the red planet, to collect carefully selected and documented rock and sediment samples for future return to earth, search for signs of ancient microbial life, characterize the planet's geology and climate, and pave the way for human exploration beyond the

Moon. The mission also includes a helicopter named Ingenuity, the first aircraft to attempt powered, controlled flight on another planet.

"We are very proud of one of our very own, Aaron Yazzie, who is playing a vital role in NASA's Mars 2020 Perseverance Mission. Thursday's successful landing gained worldwide attention and it's wonderful to know that a member of the Navajo Nation is part of this historic mission. Aaron is an inspiration for all of our Navajo people, especially our young people who are pursuing their education working hard to fulfill their lifetime goals. We congratulate him, his family, and all of his colleagues for their great work. As the mission continues, we offer our prayers for continued success," said President Nez.

Yazzie is Áshjiji and born for Tódich'ii'nii. He was born in Tuba City, Ariz. and graduated from Holbrook High School before earning a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering from Stanford University. He currently works at the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, CA, designing mechanical systems for NASA's robotic space research missions. For the Mars 2020 Perseverance Mission, he helped to design the drill bits that are drilling into the surface of Mars to collect rock and sediment samples.

"Today I am overwhelmed! Overwhelmed with pride for my team. Overwhelmed with the response from people everywhere [especially] my home community. Overwhelmed with gratitude, for the coworkers, friends, and family that make days like today possible. We landed on Mars!" stated Yazzie on social media on Thursday.

Before the Mars 2020 Perseverance Mission, Yazzie worked on projects that studied Jupiter, Earth, and other missions to Mars including the Mars Science Laboratory Rover Mission, the Mars InSight Lander Mission, and the Mars 2020 Rover Mission. He is also a member of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society, who devotes time to higher education and STEM outreach activities for students, including Native Americans.

"The Mars 2020 Perseverance Mission is an exciting opportunity for everyone and my hope is that having a Navajo person, Aaron Yazzie, involved in the mission will create even more interest and inspire more young Navajo students to pursue higher education and careers in the STEM fields. Words cannot express how proud we are of Mr. Yazzie. He is clearing the path for young Navajo professionals. Congratulations to him and his team at NASA," stated Vice President Lizer.

Read at: <https://www.facebook.com/NezLizer2018/photos/a.1845200979078770/2724050641193795>



# Bulletin Board

## Diné woman appointed to vacant seat in Arizona Legislature

Aliyah Chavez, Indian Country Today

Jasmine Blackwater-Nygren, Diné, will serve as a state representative for Arizona's district seven, filling a pivotal vacant seat in the state's Legislature.

The Apache County Board of Supervisors selected her for the position at a special meeting Tuesday to fill the vacancy left by former state Rep. Arlando Teller, Diné, who resigned last month to accept a position in the Biden administration.

The new legislator will be sworn in on Thursday morning at the Arizona State Capitol in Phoenix.

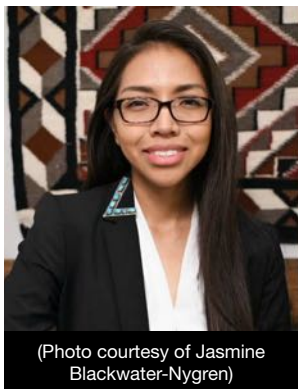
Blackwater-Nygren, 25, received her law degree from Arizona State University and passed the Arizona bar exam last year. She is also a graduate of Stanford University.

"I thank the Apache County Board of Supervisors for entrusting me with this duty," Blackwater-Nygren said. "I'm really excited to work with everybody in this district. I'm ready to get to work and will do my best to represent all people of Arizona's Legislative District 7."

Blackwater-Nygren will serve in the position until 2022, and will serve alongside fellow Democratic state Rep. Myron Tsosie. This district hosts two representatives.

Arizona's 7th district spans a large portion of the state and includes the Navajo Nation, Hopi and the White Mountain Apache Tribes.

Read more at: <https://indiancountrytoday.com/news/diné-woman-appointed-to-vacant-seat-in-arizona-legislature>



(Photo courtesy of Jasmine Blackwater-Nygren)

## NTUA, Navajo Nation officials welcome completion of new cell tower in Beclabito

Noel Lynn Smith, Farmington Daily Times

FARMINGTON — Officials from the Navajo Nation and the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority recognized the completion of a new cell tower in Beclabito, part of an effort to strengthen broadband and cellular services in rural communities.

The 180-foot tower, one of three recently built on Navajo lands with federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act funds, is located along U.S. Highway 64 near the New Mexico and Arizona state line.

"Beclabito is fortunate to have a tower constructed in the community as it will enhance the quality of life for its members," chapter President Melissa Kelly said.

In her comments during the Feb. 18 event marking the completion of construction on the self-supporting tower, Kelly acknowledged the previous chapter administration, comprised of then President Raymond Charley, Vice President Hazel Sherman and Secretary-Treasurer Larry Jack, and community members who backed the project.

Throughout the event, officials focused on the tower's role in improving internet service for students, residents, businesses and first responders.

"In this day and age of COVID-19, we know it's very important that we get internet capability, access to our Navajo folks as many of our students are still at home, logging in to get their homework, to get their instructions on a daily basis," tribal President Jonathan Nez said.

Delegate Amber Kanazbah Crotty represents the chapter on the Navajo Nation Council. Kelly stood next to Crotty while she cut the ribbon during the event.

"Broadband is now considered a basic human right in our communities," Crotty said adding it will improve access for education, economic development and emergency response.

NTUA spokeswoman Deenise Becenti said the project cost approximately \$953,000 and it is one of four towers built with funding the tribal enterprise received from the tribal government through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act.

Read more at: <https://www.daily-times.com/story/news/local/navajo-nation/2021/02/21/ntua-navajo-nation-officials-welcome-new-cell-tower-beclabito/4513627001/>

## President Biden signs Major Disaster Declaration for the Navajo Nation to assist with COVID-19 response efforts

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer were informed by Federal Emergency Management Agency Acting Administrator Robert J. Fenton on Tuesday, that U.S. President Joe Biden signed a long-awaited Major Disaster Declaration for the Navajo Nation, which will provide more federal resources and prompts the release of federal funds for the reimbursement of emergency funds expended to address the COVID-19 pandemic on the Navajo Nation.

"With the signing of the Major Disaster Declaration by President Biden and the support of FEMA Acting Administrator Robert Fenton, the Navajo Nation will now work with FEMA to deliver more federal resources to help our communities combat COVID-19. Our administration has advocated for the declaration for quite some time, so we are very appreciative of the quick response from the Biden-Harris Administration. On Sunday, we met with White House officials to request more COVID-19 vaccines and other resources and we reaffirmed our request for the declaration also. The Navajo Nation has also stepped up with millions of dollars of our own funding, health care workers, and resources to fight COVID-19. This is a great step forward and now we have to step up our efforts and coordinate with FEMA," said President Nez.

The Navajo Nation declared a Public Health State of Emergency on March 11, 2020, just days prior to its first confirmed case of COVID-19. The state of emergency remains in effect. On Dec. 3, 2020, President Nez and Vice President Lizer also issued a letter and a formal request to the White House for the Major Disaster Declaration.

"We are very pleased with today's announcement. We have many of our Navajo people who are struggling not only with resources, but with the toll that the pandemic has taken on their mental and spiritual health. FEMA has been very supportive along with Navajo Area IHS. Our people are blessed to have so many of our own people who are stepping up in any ways to help one another as well," said Vice President Lizer.

Under the newly declared Major Disaster Declaration, FEMA-4582-DR, FEMA will continue to support the Navajo Nation's Response/Recovery to COVID-19. Under Public Assistance Category B– Emergency Protective Measures, FEMA is committed to ensuring the Navajo Nations request for Direct Federal Assistance (DFA) continues to be supported. These include, but not limited to:

- Federal Medical Staffing Missions
- Potential Federal Medical Vaccine Support
- Requests for resources, supplies and equipment in response to COVID-19 on Navajo Nation
- Requests from the Navajo Nation that provide services, personnel and adequate resources that bring relief to the Navajo Nation's overall response to COVID-19

"We have been honored to work with the Navajo Nation in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic for nearly a year. Navajo leaders have worked diligently to safeguard elders and other tribal members while working closely with partners to strengthen testing, deliver PPE and life-sustaining supplies, ensure medical treatment and now support vaccination efforts. The President's major disaster declaration acknowledges the Navajo Nation's ongoing needs, efforts and the strong nation-nation relationship we share. President Biden has taken actions in the past weeks to expand federal support to states, territories, local governments and tribal nations. Today's major disaster declaration for the Navajo Nation affirms federal support to Navajo leaders and tribal members and the nation-nation partnership we value with the Navajo Nation," said Robert J. Fenton, FEMA Acting Administrator.

The Navajo Nation will also coordinate with FEMA to work out the details of the cost sharing and other resources for COVID-19 relief efforts.

Read more at: <https://www.navajo-nsn.gov/News%20Releases/OPVP/202021/FEB/President%20Biden%20signs%20Major%20Disaster%20Declaration%20for%20the%20Navajo%20Nation%20to%20assist%20with%20COVID-19>

# Bulletin Board

## 80 percent of Navajo Nation COVID-19 hardship assistance checks issued, mailed



Noel Lynn Smith, Farmington Daily Times

FARMINGTON — The Navajo Nation Office of the Controller is reporting that 80% of approved payments have been mailed from the tribe's hardship assistance program.

In a Feb. 18 update, the office states that 293,000 enrolled tribal members have been approved at this time for the tribe's CARES Fund Hardship Assistance Program, which was developed to help enrolled members financially impacted by the coronavirus pandemic.

Approximately 20,000 checks were printed and mailed this week. Overall, there have been 231,281 checks issued as of the update.

The office started issuing payments to approved applicants on Jan. 18.

The update also explained that a change has been made to the way the program's support center is handling telephone calls from applicants.

Due to high call volume, the support center is now having applicants leave their telephone number so a representative can return their call.

"All support is being provided on a callback basis at this time," the support center's message states after calling 833-282-7248.

The message continues, then explains that it can take up to seven days for a representative to return an applicant's call before requesting the caller to leave their contact information.

The controller's office explained that more than 100 representatives have been answering calls each day.

"From Feb. 8 to Feb. 12, they received 144,346 telephone calls from Navajo Nation members checking on the status of their applications or calling into to the help fix application errors," according to the update.

This activity has "maxed the capacity" of the support center and representatives cannot keep up with the demand.

The controller's office also reminds applicants not to call the office directly or any other tribal government offices about the program or about applications.

"Applicants are also discouraged from showing up in-person at the Office of the Controller in Window Rock, the office cannot risk overcrowding. ... These offices are handling normal Navajo Nation business operations and cannot answer questions relative to the hardship assistance program," the release states.

READ MORE AT: <https://www.daily-times.com/story/news/local/navajo-nation/2021/02/19/navajo-nation-hardship-program-payments-reaches-80-percent/4509016001/>

## Navajo Nation hits vaccination goal early



ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — In an effort to get more people to mass-vaccination clinics, Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez lifted the Nation's weekend lockdown restrictions.

The Nation set out to distribute 100,000 vaccines by the end of February, and was able to reach that goal this weekend. Now, the new goal is to vaccinate 120,000 people with the first dose of the vaccine by March 1.

Navajo health officials are now administering the vaccine to any adult who want the shot.

"Overall, we were looking at our numbers just a couple of days ago, of all the elders 65 and over. Right now we're at 84 percent of the elders have gotten their vaccine," said one health care worker.

Only around 40 percent of adults aged 16 to 65 have received the vaccine so far—a number they want to be higher.

"We are eager to get our whole community vaccinated and we are excited so many people have come out and got it," the health care worker said.

READ MORE AT: <https://www.kob.com/new-mexico-news/navajo-nation-hits-vaccination-goal-early/6019118/>

## Cyberattack strikes hospital that serves Navajo Nation

SANTA FE, N.M. — A pandemic-besieged hospital on the edge of the Navajo Nation says it has been the focus of a cyberattack.

The nonprofit operator of Rehoboth McKinley Christian Hospital in Gallup on Thursday issued a brief statement acknowledging "unauthorized activity" on its computer network.

Hospital spokeswoman Ina Burmeister says hospital operators have hired private investigators and taken other undisclosed measures to prevent further unauthorized activity.

The scope and consequences of the intrusion were unclear.

Former hospital employee Cassandra Martinez says she sought emergency services at the hospital on Feb. 7 and that hospital personnel were unable to access her online records.

A wave of digital assaults has been taking U.S. health care providers hostage as they contend with the COVID-19 pandemic.

September 2020, a ransomware attack paralyzed a chain of more than 250 U.S. hospitals and clinics, with related outages that delayed emergency room care.

Burmeister declined to comment on possible responses by law enforcement.

"We will fully comply with our legal obligations, including contacting any impacted individuals, as appropriate," the hospital said in a statement.

Rehoboth McKinley Christian Hospital and an adjacent hospital run by Indian Health Service have been wrestling with stubbornly high coronavirus infection rates in a city that serves as a trading post for remote areas Navajo Nation.

In McKinley County, which encompasses Gallup, there has been roughly one infection confirmed for every four residents since the outset of the pandemic. The virus death rate is above six per 1,000 residents.

READ MORE AT: <https://www.abqjournal.com/2361313/cyberattack-strikes-hospital-that-serves-navajo-nation.html>



February 2021

## PERSONNEL NEWS -- DCD OPEN POSITIONS

| POSITION TITLE                        | LOCATION            | PAY RATE  | CLOSING DATE |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|--------------|
| <b>Capital Projects Management</b>    |                     |           |              |
| Registered Architect                  | Window Rock, AZ     | 56,584.80 | 03/10/2021   |
| <b>Administrative Service Centers</b> |                     |           |              |
| Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)   | Red Lake, AZ        | 26,726.40 | OUF          |
| Community Services Coordinator (S)    | Rock Springs, NM    | 37,709.28 | OUF          |
| Community Services Coordinator (S)    | Indian Wells, AZ    | 37,709.28 | 03/15/2021   |
| Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)   | Black Mesa, AZ      | 26,726.40 | OUF          |
| Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)   | Forest Lake, AZ     | 26,726.40 | OUF          |
| Community Services Coordinator (S)    | Hardrock, AZ        | 37,709.28 | OUF          |
| Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)   | Rock Point, AZ      | 26,726.40 | 02/26/2021   |
| Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)   | Alamo, NM           | 26,726.40 | OUF          |
| Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)   | Becenti, NM         | 26,726.40 | OUF          |
| Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)   | Kaibeto, AZ         | 26,726.40 | OUF          |
| Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)   | Coalmine Mesa, AZ   | 26,726.40 | OUF          |
| Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)   | Navajo Mountain, AZ | 26,726.40 | OUF          |

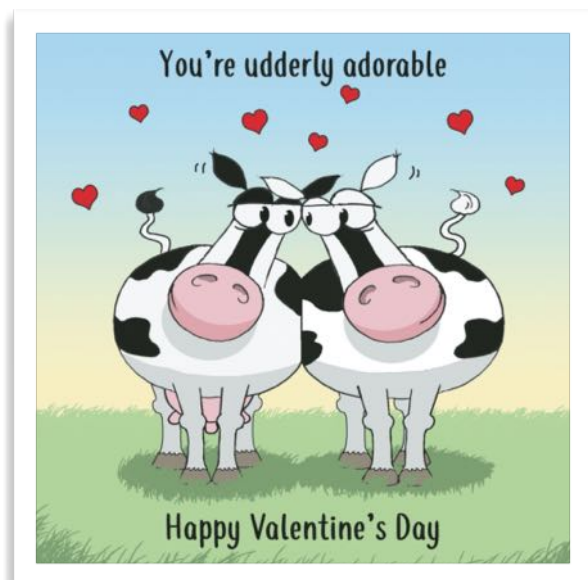
(OUF) Open Until Filled

(S) Sensitive Position (subject to background check)

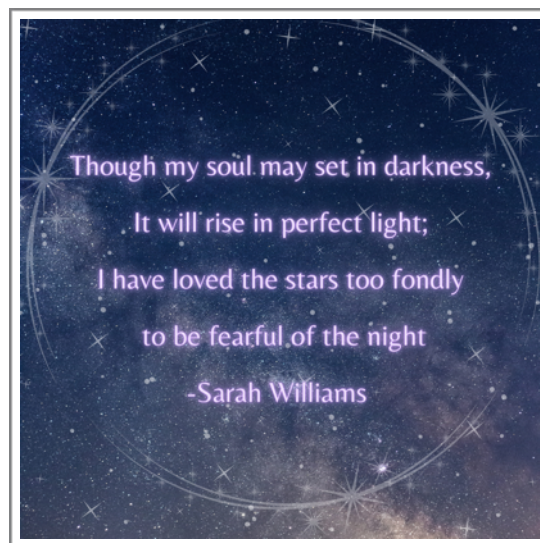
Closing Dates may change due temporary reduction in non-essential Navajo Nation government services

For the most up-to-date personnel info, please visit DPM's website at  
<http://www.dpm.navajo-nsn.gov/jobs.html>

### Comic of the Month



### Inspirational Quote of the Month



# Navajo Nation Census Information Center News

## 6-Month Delay In Census Redistricting Data Could Throw Elections Into Chaos

Hansi Lo Wang

The 2020 census data needed for the redrawing of voting districts around the country are extremely delayed and now expected by Sept. 30.

A senior Democratic aide who was briefed by the Census Bureau on Friday, but not authorized to speak ahead of the bureau's planned public announcement, first confirmed the schedule change to NPR earlier on Friday.

Then, in a statement, the bureau said the timing shift allows it to "deliver complete and accurate redistricting data in a more timely fashion overall for the states," which are expected to receive the information at the same time rather than on a rolling basis as after past head counts.

Dogged by the coronavirus pandemic and the Trump administration's interference with the census schedule, the latest expected release date – six months past the March 31 legal deadline – could throw upcoming elections into chaos in states facing tight redistricting deadlines for Congress, as well as state and local offices.

Before the latest delay, first reported by The New York Times, was confirmed, the bureau had been signaling since April 2020 that states would likely receive redistricting data by the end of this July. But last month, the bureau tried to reset expectations to after July 30. The statistical agency, a bureau official explained, needed more time to run quality checks on duplicate and incomplete census responses.

Since counting ended in October, the bureau has been trying to sort through irregularities in records from college dormitories and other group living quarters, plus a higher than usual number of responses gathered without preassigned "Census ID" codes that help with matching addresses.

The bureau has also pushed back the release of new state population counts that determine each state's new share of 435 seats in the House of Representatives and the Electoral College. Those numbers are now expected sometime within the range of April 16-30.

Democratic Sen. Brian Schatz of Hawaii, along with Sens. Lisa Murkowski and Dan Sullivan, both Republicans from Alaska, announced Friday they plan to introduce a new Senate bill that formally extends the legal reporting deadlines for census results.

"The Census Bureau should take all the time it needs to report its data and make sure every person is counted as mandated by the Constitution," Schatz said in a statement. "Our bill would extend these statutory deadlines and ensure that we get a fair, accurate count."



A census supporter holds up a sign during a 2020 rally in New York City.  
Gabriele Holtermann-Gorden/Sipa USA via Reuters

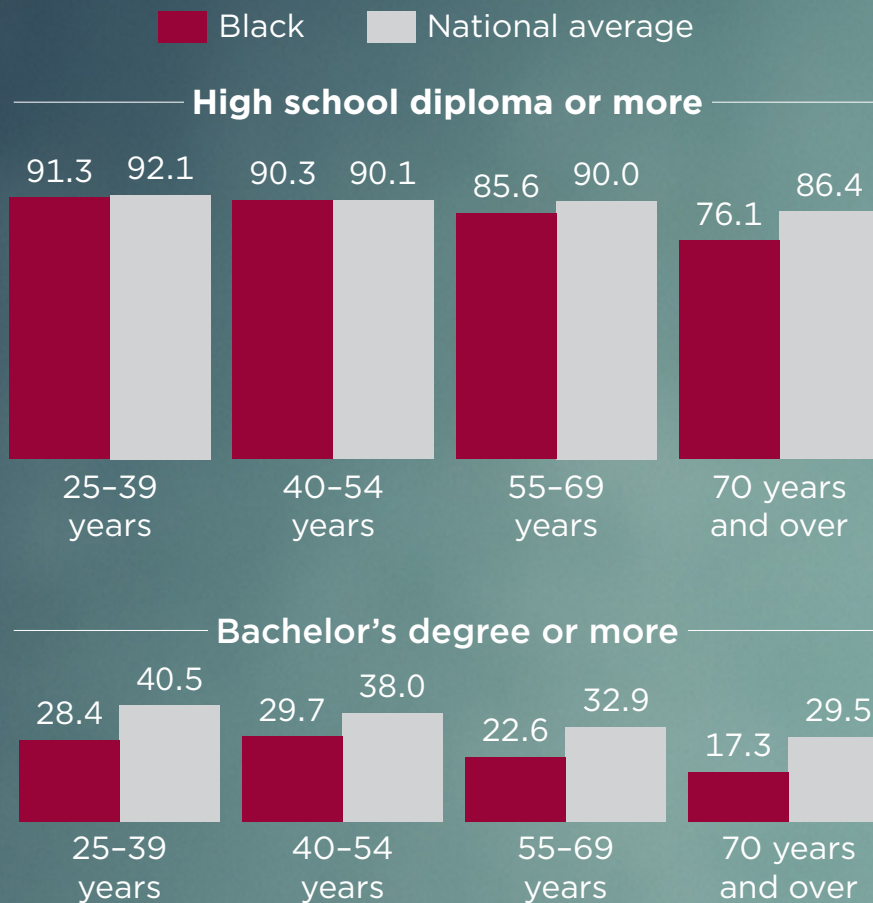
READ MORE AT: <https://www.npr.org/2021/02/12/965823150/6-month-delay-in-census-redistricting-data-could-throw-elections-into-chaos>



HONORING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

# High School Education Gap Narrows Among the Young

Educational Attainment of the Black and Total Populations by Age: 2019  
(In percent)



See full story at <<https://go.usa.gov/xAXjB>>.

Note: For more information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <<https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar19.pdf>>.



# Navajo Nation Dikos Ntsaaígíí-19 (COVID-19)

Last Updated: February 25, 2021



## Navajo Nation Residents

Total Confirmed Cases<sup>1</sup>

29,655

New Cases from Last Update: 45

Total Recovered

16,054

Total Confirmed Deaths

1,161

New Death(s) Reported: 9

Total Tests Completed<sup>2</sup>

243,703

Total Positive Tests<sup>3</sup>

37,782

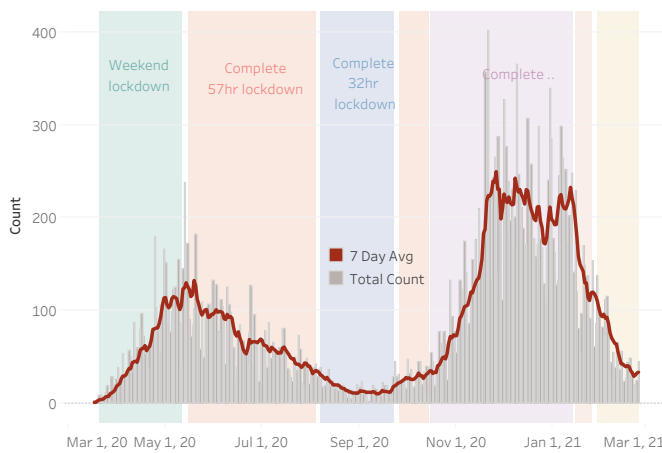
Total Negative Tests

195,351

## Service Area Confirmed Cases

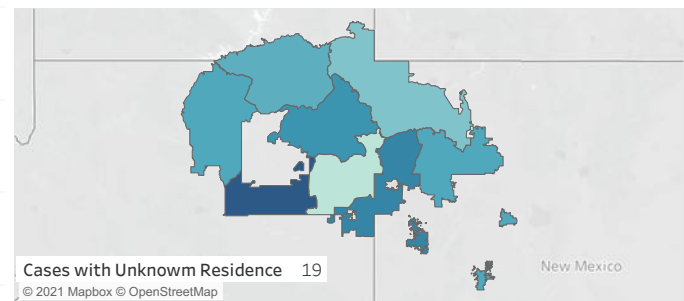
| Bordertown | Chinle | Crownpoint | Fort Defiance | Gallup | Kayenta | Shiprock | Tuba City | Winslow |
|------------|--------|------------|---------------|--------|---------|----------|-----------|---------|
| 8,144      | 5,460  | 2,850      | 3,530         | 4,690  | 2,630   | 5,002    | 3,591     | 1,883   |

## Daily Confirmed Cases on Navajo Nation in All



## Navajo Nation Service Area Rates per 10,000 population

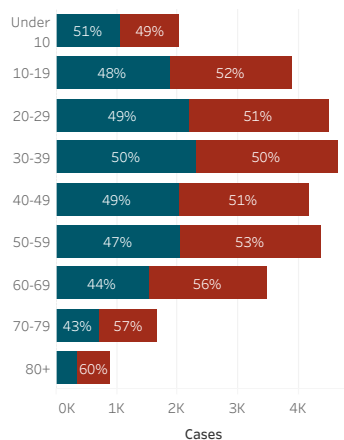
1,513.9 2,334.8



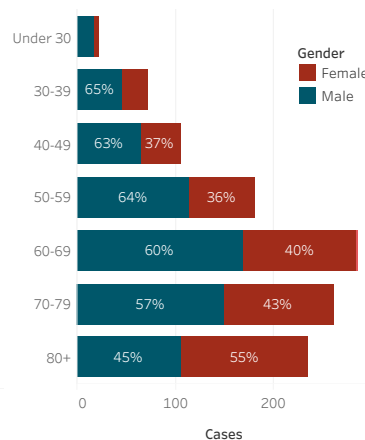
\*\*Map reflects estimates on the total number of cases by population area since March 2020, NOT the number of cases in the past 7 or 14 days as presented in Gating Criteria. This map does not reflect current risk levels.

\*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.

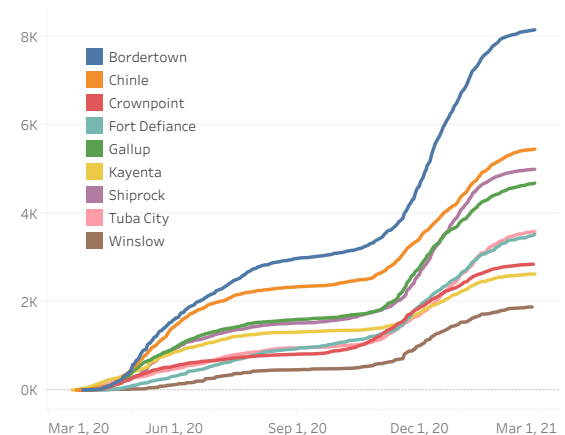
## COVID-19 by Age Groups



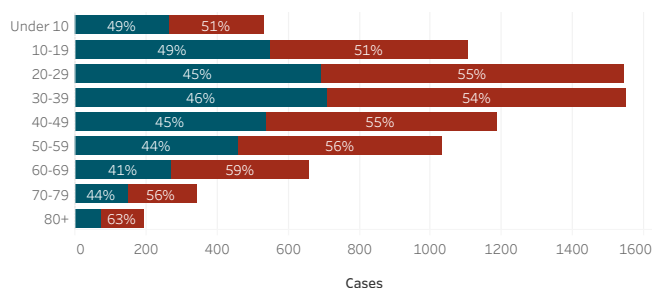
## COVID-19 Deaths by Age Groups



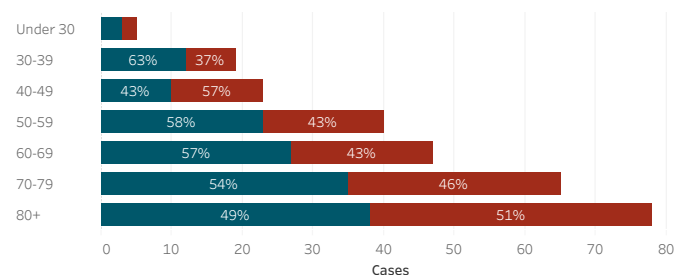
## Total Count of Cases since March



## Bordertown COVID-19 by Age Groups



## Bordertown COVID-19 Deaths by Ages Groups







**Social distancing is beautiful.**

**Get close to what matters, and  
save lives. #DistanceToGetClose**

**#WellnessWarriors**  
**#DistanceToGetClose**  
**[caih.jhu.edu](http://caih.jhu.edu)**





# AVOID HAVING VISITORS AT HOME TO #STOPTHESPREAD

Visitors are strongly discouraged from visiting individuals who are at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19. Help protect adults 65 and older and individuals with severe chronic medical conditions, such as heart or lung disease, and diabetes. If you have to visit someone, make sure it's an emergency and visit outside within 6 feet distance apart.



## Here are some tips to avoid having visitors at home:

- Make and post a sign on your door or at the entrance of your homestead that you are not allowing visitors
- Let visitors know you prefer a phone call instead
- Notify visitors that they can leave mail or supplies, such as care packages, outside by the door
- Let visitors know they should wear a mask at all times when delivering items

## Family members or others should not visit anyone when:

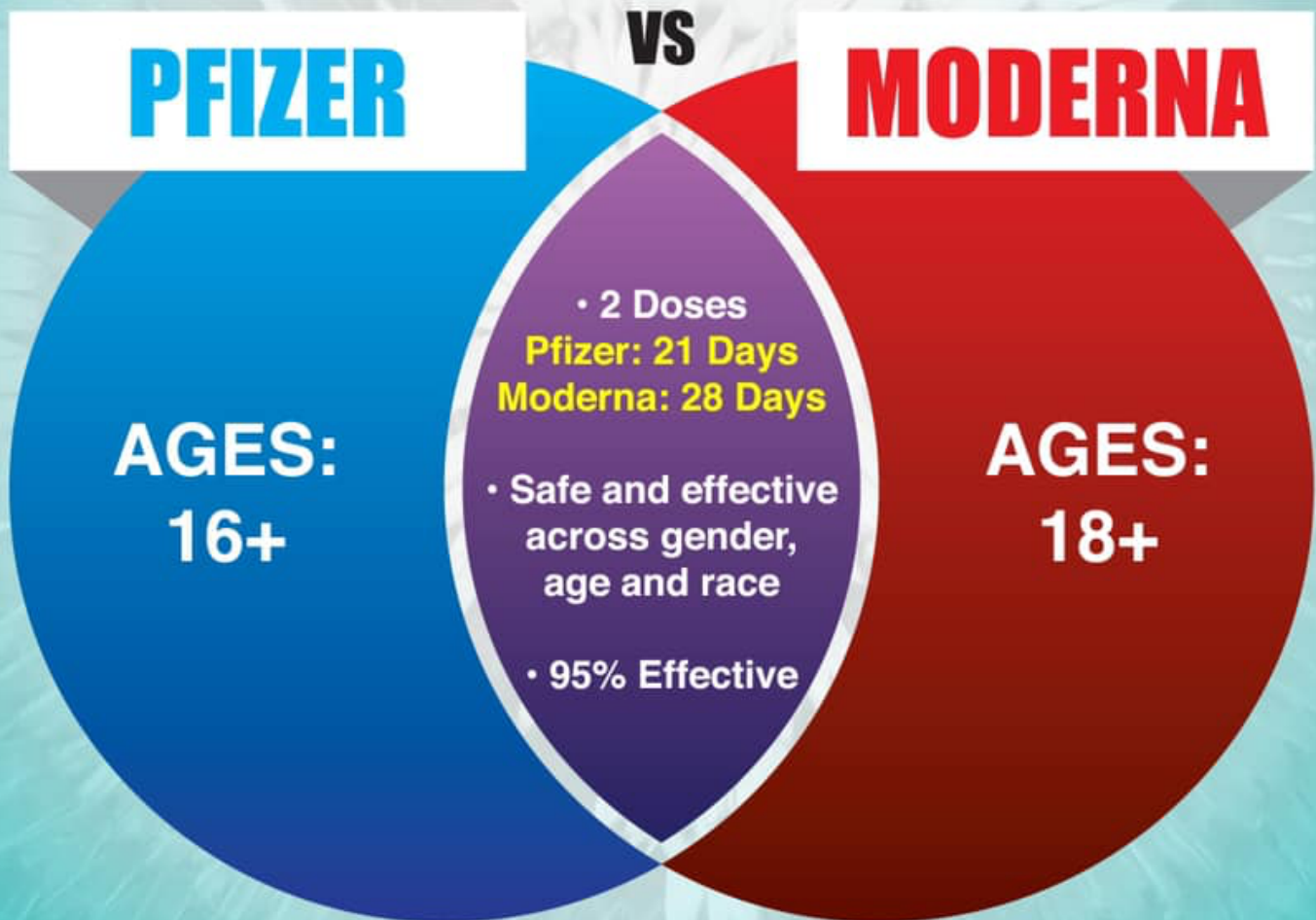
- They are showing symptoms of COVID-19
- They have traveled in hot-spot areas
- They have had close contact with a positive COVID-19 person



# COVID-19 VACCINE

## SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES

The Navajo Nation will only use COVID-19 vaccines approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration under the Emergency Use Authorization, these include the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines.



**DIKOS NTSAAÍGÍÍ-19**  
CORONAVIRUS

NAVAJO HEALTH COMMAND OPERATIONS CENTER  
(P) 928.871.7014  
(E) [coronavirus.info@navajo-nsn.gov](mailto:coronavirus.info@navajo-nsn.gov)  
[www.ndoh.navajo-nsn.gov/COVID-19](http://www.ndoh.navajo-nsn.gov/COVID-19)

    
[@navajodephealth](https://www.facebook.com/navajodephealth)  
[#DineDabizii](https://twitter.com/navajodephealth)



Protect Yourself and Others in the  
**WORKPLACE**

If you are returning to work, continue to stay alert and protect yourself by practicing everyday preventative actions.



Stay home when you are sick



Monitor your health



Wear a cloth face covering



Practice social distance in shared spaces



Wash your hands with soap & water often



Cover your coughs and sneezes



Avoid sharing objects and equipment



Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects



Keep a hand sanitizer on hand with at least 60% alcohol



Avoid having visitors at the workplace

Division of Community Development • P.O. Box 1904, Window Rock, AZ 86515  
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[www.nndcd.org](http://www.nndcd.org)