

# Undercounted by U.S. Census, tribes conducting their own

(Editor's note: the following article is reprinted with permission of the Associated Press.)

By Andrew Kramer  
Associated Press writer

Jason Hintsala lived crowded into a cousin's house with his girlfriend and nine relatives when U.S. Census takers passed through the Warm Springs Indian reservation in 2000.

He later moved with his family to his parent's trailer, overlooking grass fields and juniper trees on the reservation east of Portland.

"We have no choice but to bounce from house to house," he said, because the waiting list for tribal housing is so long he despairs of getting his own home any time soon.

Indian reservations presented a multitude of problems to census counters, not least the large households and frequent moves, tribal officials and demographers said. The consequence: errors in census results, especially among Native Americans.

For the first time after a census, however, tribal leaders don't have to accept the official numbers when applying for grants, a major source of federal funding for tribes.

More than 100 tribes around the country are holding their own census, controlled by tribal officials, to challenge the 2000 U.S.

Census results, hoping for more money for everything from health care to housing.

The recounts also offer a window into the delicate politics of counting American Indians, whose numbers vary by hundreds of thousands of people depending on what percentage of native heritage defines somebody as Indian.

So far, 78 tribes have completed their recounts and 39 have won challenges to the official numbers, said Donna White, a spokeswoman for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Another 50 tribes or so are considering or working on a census, according to Rick Anderson, a demographer with Tribal Data Resources, a Redding, Calif. company that advises tribes on their recounts.

"Tribes were finally given the right to challenge the census," Anderson said. "Before, they were victims of the census."

Each additional person counted brings in several hundred dollars a year in federal grant money, according to George Hough, a demographer with Portland State University. The exact amount depends on whether a person gets federal health benefits or other entitlements.

"We're being shorted on funding," said Hintsala, 27, an

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Jason Hintsala

unemployed father of two recently laid off from a job milling logs from the reservation's pine forests on the eastern slopes of the Cascade Range.

"The numbers they have are totally inaccurate. We're doing our own census to get the money we're owed," Hintsala said.

The Warm Springs recount began in October, with 17 new census-takers fanning out and ringing doorbells, new census forms in hand. It is expected to last six weeks.

It's never been easy to take a census in Indian Country, demographers say, partly because of the many ways to define who is an American Indian based on blood lines and Indian heritage. Tribes typically want one-quarter Indian blood for membership, but some allow as little as one thirty-second. The U.S. Census relies on self-reporting.

Nationwide, 2.1 million people reported to census takers that they consider themselves pure American Indian or Alaska

Native, far more than the 1.7 million who are officially enrolled in the tribes and living on the reservation.

Partly to blame was a longstanding mistrust of government officials such as outside census-takers, said Census officials who worked with the tribes.

"There's a long history of lack of trust with the federal government," said Nancy Linn Holder, who served as a liaison for Northwest tribes during the 2000 Census. The U.S. Census Bureau encouraged tribes to hire their own census-takers, but not all did, she said.

In the past, she said, not just grant denials but also unflattering federal reports on topics like suicide rates and substance abuse resulted from inaccurate information from the Census Bureau.

At Warm Springs, the 2000 Census counted 3,334 people, of whom 3,010 indicated they are American Indians.

According to tribal registries, 3,522 members live on the reservation, suggesting the census missed 504 Warm Springs tribal members. That's an error rate of 14 percent for Warm Springs Indians.

"Some people didn't bother to answer the door," Hintsala said. "A lot of people didn't understand this is really important to us."

# Census game results

The KWSO Census Game is running on the radio station weekdays through the month of November. Listen for the census question between 7 and 7:30 a.m.

The game includes daily prizes, such as prepaid phone cards, gift certificates and many other items, including a Pendleton backpack. Here are the results of some recent questions on the KWSO Census Game:

**Nov. 4 question:** What is the unemployment rate (percentage) according to the 2000 U.S. Census?

Answer: 12.8 percent. Winner: Orlando Stevens, who received a \$5 gift certificate for Jo's Coffee Corral.

**Nov. 5 question:** There were 884 total housing units reported in the 2000 U.S. Census, for the Warm Springs Reservation and off-reservation trust land. How many "vacant housing units" were reported in the 2000 US Census?

Answer: 67 (or 7.6 percent) Winners: Cecil Tulle Jr., Antoine Scott (youngest winner), Suzie Charley. Daily winner received a sweatshirt donated by Kah-Nee-Ta Resort and Casino.

**Nov. 6 question:** According to the U.S. Census, the U.S. population as a whole grew by 13 percent between 1990-2000. What was the increase in those who reported their race as only "American Indian" be-

tween 1990-2000? Answer: 26 percent (note: for those who reported their race as American Indian in combination with another race, the growth rate was 110 percent between 1990-2000.)

Winners: Cyrille Mitchell, Sherri Miller. Daily winner received 120-minute prepaid phone card donated by Sprint, Hood River.

**Nov. 7 question:** According to the 2000 U.S. Census, 5 percent of all households, 12 percent of Hispanics and 23 percent of all American Indians reported being phoneless. What percentage of those living in Warm Springs reported having no phone in the 2000 U.S. Census?

Answer: 9.9 percent (80 heads of households). Winners: Corrina Brunoe, Colleen Johnson, Pinky Beymer. Daily winner received gift cards from the Museum at Warm Springs, and a pair of earrings.

**Nov. 8 question:** The median age reported for all Oregonians in the 2000 U.S. Census was 36.3. What was the median age of Warm Springs residents, reported in the 2000 U.S. Census?

Answer: 23.9. Winners: Sherri Miller, Clay Thompson, Lori Mitchell.

Daily winner received \$10 gift certificate for DMJ Automotive.



# Tribes need assistance in locating some members for census

For the Tribal Census the Confederated Tribes are asking for assistance in contacting the following members (name followed by possible place of residence):

- Virginia C. Arthur, Yakima.
- Taylor R. Arthur, Sheridan, Portland.
- David K. Belguard Jr., Portland.
- Dyamelle S. Castilleja, Harrah, Wash.
- Rain Circle, town not known.
- Tamera A. Coffee, Tallahassee, Fla.

- Gilbert Coronado, Walla Walla.
- Pauline L. Culpus, Madras.
- Samantha M. David, Goldendale, Wash.
- Faye I. Drew, Portsmouth, Virg.
- Willard Fent, Portland.
- James Florendo, Eugene.
- Rafael Giron-Patt, Salem.
- Lorelei Govenor, Madras.
- Kirby Heath Jr., Brownstown, Wash.
- Patricia S. Hintsala, Wapato, Wash.
- Robyn R. Ike of Albuquerque.

- Whitney Lynn Jackson, Independence, Missouri.
- Inman Jackson, Independence.
- Henry L. Jackson Jr. II of Bellingham, Wash.
- Joshua D. Kalama, Sandy.
- Keegan J. Kalama, Sandy.
- Spencer Keo of Pasco, Wash.
- Larissa S. McConville, Portland.
- Aaron T. Miller, Bend.
- David J. Munson, Everett, Wash.
- Brittany N. Munson, Everett.
- Elisa A. Orozco, Madras.
- Lia F. Orozco, Madras.

- Amaya Y. Patt, Salem.
- Angelina Perez, Madras.
- Tavia L. Polk, Yakima.
- Tyreck J. Ramsey, Portland.
- Triva M. Sampson, Louisville, Kentucky.
- Donoyan S. Santos, Daly City, Calif.
- Shasta M. Smith, Mesa, Ariz.
- Russell J. Spino, The Dalles.
- Shagg Troy N. Spino, Lyle, Wash.
- Sylvia D. Spino, Lyle.
- William Strong, Tacoma.
- Henry M. Stwyer, Ontario, Ore.
- Roger Suppah, Portland.

- Joelden R. Surface, Lincoln City.
- Fabian Sutterlee Jr., Ashland.
- Karina L. Tapia, Salem.
- Mary L. Tohet, Woodburn.
- Mark C. Tom, Salem.
- Glen D. Umtuch, Wapato.
- Lilly P. VanPelt, Beaverton.
- Marjorie VanPelt, residence not known.
- Jake C. Waheneka possibly of Sheridan.
- Beulah S. Walker, Lyle.
- James J. Walsey, Toppenish.
- Joel R. Wheeler, Tucson.
- Joel S. Zacarias, Madras.
- Geneva A. Zaragoza,

Vancouver, Wash. Please send contact information to tribal Vital Statistics. Phone number (541) 553-3252. Address: Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, P.O. Box C, attn: Vital Statistics, Warm Springs, OR 97761. Or e-mail: mspino@wstribes.org. For the above individuals, Tribal Census mailers were returned back to the tribes, undelivered. The Confederated Tribes greatly appreciate in any assistance in contacting these individuals.

# Tribal employment opportunities

(The following job openings are being advertised by the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.)

**Victims of Crime Services prosecutor,** full time. Successfully prosecute criminal and limited civil offenses against persons and property, with emphasis on crimes against women, children, elders and crimes relating to domestic violence/conflict including same sex relationships, on behalf of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. Keep current on laws, rules, regulations and procedures in tribal, federal and state justice systems. Maintain confidential-

ity and positive team work skills. Experience in legal field, associate or bachelor degree in Social Science. Salary range negotiable. Call Dereke Tasymp, 553-3300.

**Bus driver/teacher, full-time.** Transport children and families to and from program activities and for field trips. Helps teachers with classroom and field trip activities. Participates in vehicle maintenance, establishing routes, and record keeping. Assists in providing safety training for parents, bus monitors and other staff. Must be in good health, have a cur-

rent CDL, be listed on the Child Care Criminal History Registry, comply with the drug-free workplace policies. Salary \$1,311 to \$1,599/month. Call Nancy Sampson, 553-3241. Open till filled.

**Housing Executive Director.** Bachelors degree in business administration; three years experience in housing business; two years supervisory experience; knowledge of tribal, HUD, HIP, SCHRP policies, rules and regulations. Salary range \$31,148 to \$49,213/year. Call Jack Quinn, 553-3250.

**Long-term care adminis-**

**trative assistant,** human services, full time. This is an administrator-trainee position directed eventually to take on the directorship duties of High Lookee. Call William Gayle Rodgers, 553-3491.

**Public health educator.** Masters degree in health education department preferred with 2 years experience. Call Jim Quaid, 553-3205.

**Public safety, police. Supervisor, investigation division.** College degree in criminal justice or related field. Ten years of supervisory experience. Call Don Courtney, 553-3272.

# Grant writer needed

The Warm Springs Community Development Corporation is a nonprofit, community-based organization working for our community.

We are seeking an experienced grant writer to prepare grants for federal, state and private foundations.

To ensure the long-term stability of the organization, the successful applicant must also have experience as a development officer, securing financial and other resources

through special events and donor programs.

Minimum qualifications include the following:

Three years of documented grant writing experience, ability to develop and direct a comprehensive fund development program, strong oral and written communication skills and a bachelors degree or two additional years of grant writing experience.

To request an information packet call 553-4922.

# Tribal language classes offered

The Culture and Heritage Department this month is starting tribal language classes.

Classes are open to all who are interested.

The following is a list of the classes that are being offered to the community:

Kiksh language classes, Mondays and Thursdays from 3:30

to 5 p.m. The Monday class is at the Language Trailer, and the Thursday class is at the Community Center.

Ichiski language classes are Tuesdays and Thursdays at the following times and places:

From 2 to 3 p.m. at Natural Resources.  
From 3:30 to 5 p.m. at the

Language Trailer.

From 6 to 8 p.m. at the Simnasho Longhouse.

Numu classes are from 3:30 to 5 p.m. on Wednesday at the Language Trailer.

Also, afternoon cultural projects are scheduled on Fridays from 1:30 to 3 p.m. at the Education Building.

# Museum closed on Mondays and Tuesdays

The Museum at Warm Springs will be operating under its winter schedule through February.

During the winter schedule, the museum will be open to the public Wednesday through Sunday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The museum will be closed to the public on Mondays and Tuesdays during the winter schedule.

The closure will allow for maintenance and cleaning of the permanent and changing exhibit galleries, and other public areas.

Exhibits containing cultural artifacts and related objects will also be changed during the winter months. The winter schedule will allow for inventory and inspection of the cultural artifacts and objects on display, and

the cleaning and conservation of the objects and exhibit space.

This special time to care for the artifacts and the building is directly tied to the museum's mission statement. It will also result in more enjoyment by guests of the exhibits and facilities. So for the winter, visitors are welcome Wednesday through Sunday.

# In the Tribal Court of the Warm Springs Reservation

**Michelle Thompson, petitioner, vs. Andrew Smith, respondent. Case No. DO123-03. To Andrew Smith:** You are hereby notified that a petition for SUPPORT has been filed with the Warm Springs Tribal Court. By this notice you are hereby summoned to appear in this matter at a hearing scheduled for **11 a.m. on November 25, 2003,** at the Warm Springs Tribal Court. All of the facts in this case will be heard at this hearing, including evidence you wish to present.

You must appear to present your argument or the other side will automatically win. The petitioner, Michelle Thompson, may then be given all that is asked for in the petition for support. The petitioner will be present at the hearing.

If you desire to personally argue your side of the case, you may have a legal aide, spokesperson or attorney appear on your behalf at your expense. If you have questions, seek legal advice. Signed Oct. 24, Judge Wilma Ann Smith, Warm Springs Tribal Court.

**Warm Springs Utilities, petitioner, vs. Robert Sam, respondent. Case No. CV74-03. To Robert Sam:** You are hereby notified that a petition for Order of Enforcement has been filed with the Warm Springs Tribal Court. By this notice you are hereby summoned to appear in this matter at a hearing scheduled for **11 a.m. on December 9, 2003,** at the Warm Springs Tribal Court. All of the facts in this case will be heard at this hearing, including evidence you wish to present. You must appear to present your argument or the other side will automatically win. The petitioner, Warm Springs Utilities, may then be given all that is asked for in the petition for Order of Enforcement. The petitioner will be present at the hearing. If you desire to personally argue your side of the case, you may have a legal aide, spokesperson or attorney appear on your behalf at your expense. If you have questions, seek legal advice. Signed Nov. 3, Judge Walter Langnese, Warm Springs Tribal Court.

**LaDonna Danzuka-PoorBear, petitioner, vs. Mark PoorBear, respondent. Case No. DO140-03. To LaDonna Danzuka-PoorBear and Mark PoorBear:** You are hereby notified that a petition for Dissolution of Marriage has been filed with the Warm Springs Tribal Court. By this notice you are hereby summoned to appear in this matter at a hearing scheduled for **10 a.m. on December 5, 2003,** at the Warm Springs Tribal Court. All of the facts in this case will be heard at this hearing, including evidence you wish to present. You must appear to present your argument or the other side will automatically win. The petitioner, LaDonna Danzuka-PoorBear, may then be given all that is asked for in the petition for Dissolution of Marriage. The petitioner will be present at the hearing. If you desire to personally argue your side of the case, you may have a legal aide, spokesperson or attorney appear on your behalf at your expense. Signed by Judge Lola Sohappy, Tribal Court.