



# BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

## Mission

The mission of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is to enhance the quality of life, promote economic opportunity, and carry out Federal responsibilities to protect and improve the trust assets of American Indians, Indian Tribes, and Alaska Natives.

## Budget Overview

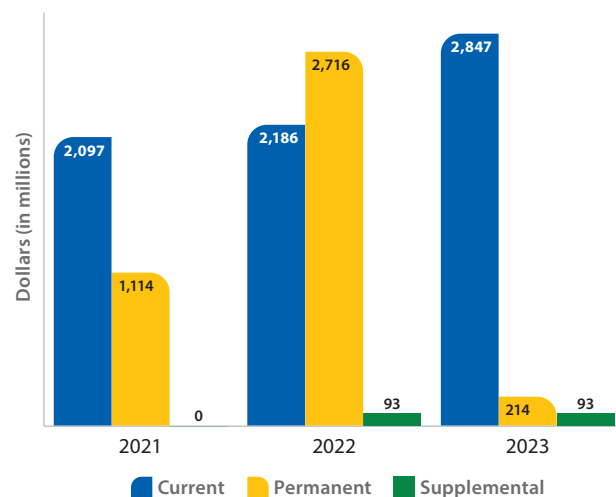
The 2023 budget for BIA is \$2.8 billion in current appropriations. BIA estimates the budget will support staffing of 4,123 full-time equivalents (FTEs) in 2023. The funding total includes \$409.0 million for Contract Support Costs and \$55.4 million for Payments for Tribal Leases, which are requested as current mandatory funding. The President's Budget supports an all-of-government approach to addressing Federal responsibilities and Tribal needs in Indian Country. Coordination of this work across Federal agencies is supported by the White House Council on Native American Affairs in coordination with Indian Affairs' bureaus. BIA plays a vital role in carrying out the Federal trust responsibility and in serving Tribes.

## Operation of Indian Programs

The 2023 budget includes \$2.1 billion for the Operation of Indian Programs account. Programs in this account support the stewardship of natural resources and energy resources, deliver community services, support law enforcement, help restore Tribal homelands, aid Tribal governance, and create economic opportunity.

The BIA Tribal Government activity promotes Tribal self-determination and provides assistance to Tribes and Alaska Native entities to strengthen and sustain Tribal government systems and

## BIA Funding



support Tribal self-governance through the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (ISDEAA) (Public Law 93-638), contracting, and a self-governance compacting process. The 2023 budget provides \$394.0 million for programs supporting Tribal government activities. Within that total, the budget includes \$200.4 million for compact activities for self-governance Tribes. These funds enable Tribes to plan, conduct, consolidate, and administer programs, services, functions, and activities for Tribal citizens, according to priorities established by their Tribal governments. The budget also includes \$82.5 million to support Consolidated Tribal Government programs that also promote Indian self-determination, giving approximately 275 Tribes the flexibility to combine and manage contracted programs and grants that are similar or compatible to simplify contracting. The Small Tribes Supplement program, funded at \$23.0



- **The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) was established in 1824 under the War Department and transferred to the Department of the Interior in 1849.**
- **BIA provides services to American Indians and Alaska Natives from the 574 federally recognized Tribes in the 48 contiguous States and Alaska.**
- **The bureau administers and manages 56 million surface acres and 59 million acres of subsurface mineral estates held in trust by the United States for individual Indians and Tribes.**
- **More than 80 percent of Indian Affairs employees are American Indian or Alaska Native.**

million, helps eligible Tribes expand and sustain their Tribal governance. This level of funding is estimated to allow existing Tribes in this category to reach a funding threshold of \$300,000.

BIA is responsible for more than 29,000 miles of paved-, gravel-, and earth-surface roads and more than 1,000 bridges. The 2023 budget includes \$48.2 million for Road Maintenance to support pavement and gravel maintenance, remedial work on improved earthen roads, bridge maintenance, and snow and ice control.

To further sustainable stewardship work, the budget includes \$406.6 million for critical trust natural resources activities. Of that amount, \$61.0 million is included for the Tribal Climate Resilience program. In 2023, the Tribal Climate Adaptation Grant program is funded at \$33.0 million to better assess and meet Tribal climate adaptation needs. The Tribal Climate Resilience program also includes \$21.0 million for a new Climate Relocation Grant program and \$7.0 million to establish a Tribal Civilian Climate Corps (CCC). The Tribal CCC is an important jobs initiative to tackle climate change on the ground, ensure a living wage, and provide skills and a pathway to employment. Funds will also support Tribes in developing science, tools, training, planning, and implementation of actions to build resilience into resource management, infrastructure, and community development activities. The budget supports the America the Beautiful initiative by honoring Tribal sovereignty and supporting the trust natural resources priorities of Tribal nations.

The budget also includes \$33.5 million to support the Forestry Projects program and \$67.2 million for Energy and Minerals activities, which include a focused investment in the deployment of clean energy in Tribal communities. Indian Affairs views renewable energy as one of many tools available to American Indians and Alaska Natives to create sustainable economies on Indian land; many Indian reservations are well positioned to access or provide a stable source of competitively priced, low-carbon clean energy. These efforts also support the Justice40 initiative, ensuring that at least 40 percent of the overall benefits from certain Federal investments are delivered to disadvantaged communities.

The BIA budget includes several investments related to both climate resilience and environmental justice, such as \$42.1 million for the Environmental Quality Projects program, which includes funding to remediate the former Tuba City Dump Superfund site, which continues to threaten the drinking water of the Navajo Nation and the Hopi Tribe. The budget also includes \$14.6 million in the Construction account to address water safety and sanitation requirements. This new funding will provide dedicated resources for BIA-owned drinking water and wastewater infrastructure, and it will address significant water quality problems, including Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-identified systems of concern.

Fiduciary Trust management activities are essential to BIA's mission. The Trust Real Estate Services activity implements strategies to advance Indian trust ownership and improve Indian trust-related

information. The 2023 budget proposes \$173.0 million for real estate services programs. The budget supports the processing of Indian trust-related documents, such as land title and records and geospatial data, to support land and water resources use, energy development, and protection and restoration of ecosystems and important lands.

As part of the President's efforts to strengthen Tribal communities, the budget includes \$202.2 million in Human Services funding to support Indian families. This amount includes \$80.1 million for Social Services. The funding will support expanded implementation of the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act. The Act seeks to bolster child protection and ensure better coordination between child welfare and domestic violence programs in Indian Country. The budget includes \$31.7 million to expand the Tiwahe initiative through several Human Services programs.

BIA is uniquely positioned to assist in the effort to recover the histories of Federal Indian boarding schools. The 2023 budget includes \$7.0 million for the Secretary's Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative (BSI) and its comprehensive review of Federal boarding school policies. This funding will complete the historical research and documentation and begin the work to identify and protect the remains of those identified. Through the BSI, the Department seeks to work with Tribal Nations to begin the long healing process through transparency and accountability.

BIA's Office of Justice Services funds law enforcement, corrections, and court services to support safe Tribal communities. The 2023 budget includes \$562.1 million for Public Safety and Justice (PS&J) operations. Operational funding supports the expanding Tribal needs in policing, detention, and Tribal

courts resulting from the *McGirt v. Oklahoma* Supreme Court decision and builds Tribal law enforcement, corrections, and courts operations and construction capacity nationwide. The 2023 budget includes \$16.5 million to address the crisis of Missing and Murdered Indigenous People. The Missing and Murdered Unit engages in cross-departmental and interagency collaboration to identify gaps in information sharing and data collection to more effectively investigate these cases. The budget also includes \$10.0 million to support a Departmentwide initiative to equip all Interior-funded law enforcement officers with body-worn cameras. As part of a proposed expansion to the Tiwahe initiative, the budget includes \$8.0 million for the Office of Tribal Justice Support to provide technical assistance to Tribes looking to develop and operate Healing to Wellness courts. These courts serve as alternatives to incarceration and provide a culturally appropriate forum to assist clients in addressing underlying behavioral health and substance abuse issues.

The 2023 budget funds the Community and Economic Development activity at \$72.3 million to advance economic opportunities in Indian Country. Job Placement and Training is funded at \$23.8 million and includes \$10.0 million for



Blackfoot Tribal game wardens and Grizzly Management staff in Montana cart a tranquilized grizzly from a culvert trap for health sampling and physiology condition assessment before being released back into resident habitat and range. The BIA Tribal Management and Development Program provides fish and wildlife management funds for the Tribe's conservation efforts.

*BIA Photo.*

job training programs focusing on clean energy development. The Economic Development program is funded at \$39.4 million and includes an investment of \$24.0 million in Native language revitalization and \$5.0 million to establish an economic development component of the Tiwahe Initiative, which will provide funding directly to Tribal governments to design and operate comprehensive and integrated economic and community development programs.

### Tribal Priority Allocations

Tribal Priority Allocations give Tribes the opportunity to further Indian self-determination by establishing their own priorities and reallocating Federal funds among programs in this budget category. The 2023 budget proposes Tribal Priority Allocation funding of \$902.8 million.

### Contract Support Costs and Payments for Tribal Leases

The President’s Budget reflects the Administration’s support for the principles of Tribal self-determination and strengthening Tribal communities across Indian Country by proposing to reclassify Contract Support Costs and ISDEAA Section 105(l) leases as current mandatory spending in 2023. This reclassification will provide Tribes with certainty in meeting these ongoing needs through dedicated funding sources.

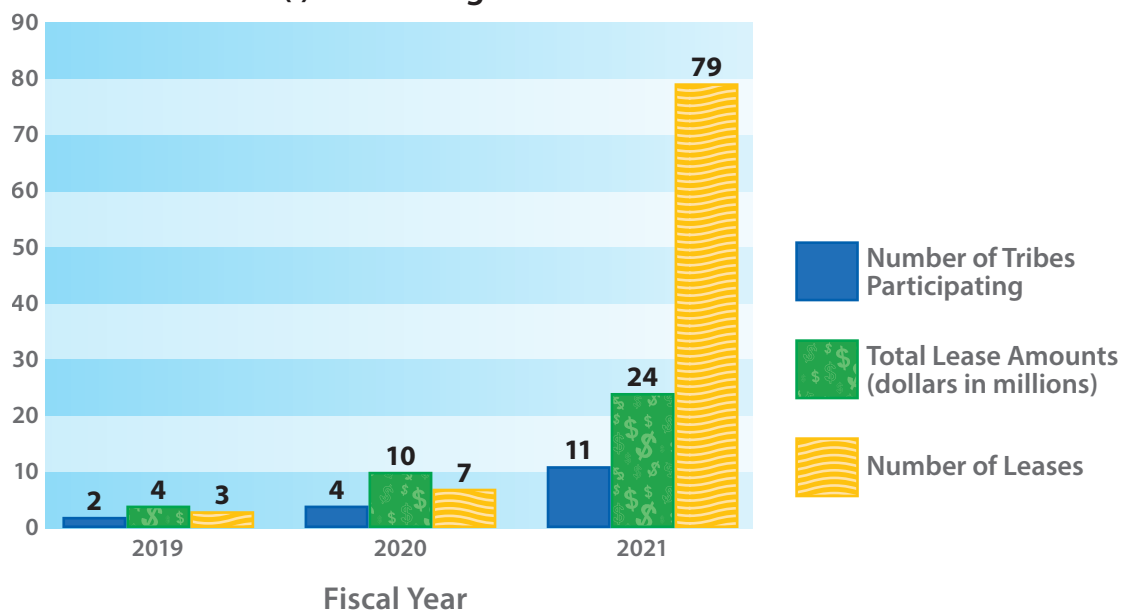
### Indian Land Consolidation

The 2023 budget includes \$80.0 million in a new account to reestablish a modified Indian Land Consolidation Program (ILCP) that focuses support on Tribes’ plans for and adaptation to climate change. This funding recognizes the ongoing need to continue to address fractionation on Indian lands as the Land Buy-Back Program for Tribal Nations (LBBP), established as part of the Cobell Settlement, ends. The new program will incorporate lessons learned from the LBBP and the previous ILCP in BIA. ILCP funding will be used to purchase fractional interests from willing individual Indian landowners and convey those interests to the Tribe with jurisdiction.

### Construction

The 2023 budget includes \$205.7 million for Construction activities. The funding supports replacement and deferred maintenance projects to address needs at PS&J facilities. The irrigation rehabilitation program addresses critical deferred maintenance and construction needs at BIA-owned-and-operated irrigation facilities, including 17 Indian irrigation projects. The Safety of Dams program is responsible for 141 high- or significant-hazard dams on 41 Indian reservations. The Construction program also addresses needs at regional and agency offices serving Tribal programs and operations in Indian Country.

105(l) Lease Program





Drug Take Back Day, BIA Mescalero Agency, New Mexico.

BIA Photo.

The budget requests \$14.6 million to address water quality issues at BIA-owned water infrastructure, including systems of concern identified by EPA. The 2023 request includes \$10.3 million as part of the Department of the Interior Field Communications Modernization (DIFCOM) initiative to deploy remote broadband connectivity and provide employees in the field with voice, video, and data capabilities for all missions. The BIA budget also includes \$8.5 million to support the Administration's governmentwide goal to accelerate the use of zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs) to enable a clean transportation future. Funds will be used to acquire ZEVs, install solar panels and related charging infrastructure, and perform planning and integration to support the initiative across Indian Affairs.

### Land and Water Claims Settlements

Tribal land and water rights settlements ensure that Tribes have access to land and water to meet domestic, economic, and cultural needs. The 2023 budget proposes \$825,000 for the Settlements account. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) (Public Law 117-58) established the Indian Water Rights Settlement Completion Fund, which provides funding to resolve outstanding BIA financial commitments to enacted water settlements. The 2023 funding request covers continuing needs of active land settlements and miscellaneous payments to Indians. To support the funding stability for water settlements enacted after the BIL, the Administration is interested in working with Congress on an approach to provide a mandatory funding source for future settlements.

### Indian Guaranteed Loan Program

The 2023 budget request for this program is \$13.9 million, which will guarantee or insure \$150.2 million in loan principal to support Indian economic development across Indian Country. The program’s purpose is to reduce inherent risk to lenders investing in eligible Indian business loans. The program also provides technical assistance to applicants and supports Indian businesses starting up, expanding operations, revitalizing operations in a changing industry, or rebounding

from business downturns. By strengthening the economic base of Tribal communities, the Tribal governments near those businesses progress toward greater independence and self-determination. Neighboring non-Indian communities also benefit from the increased economic success of Tribal governments.

### Fixed Costs

Fixed costs of \$21.2 million are fully funded.

## SUMMARY OF BUREAU APPROPRIATIONS <sup>1/</sup>

(dollar amounts in thousands)

### Comparison of 2023 Request with 2022 CR

	2022 CR		2023 Request		Change	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
<b>Current</b>						
Operation of Indian Programs .....	2,843	1,659,516	3,005	2,125,020	+162	+465,504
Contract Support Costs .....	0	346,517	0	409,029	0	+62,512
Payments for Tribal Leases .....	0	36,593	0	55,432	0	+18,839
Construction .....	41	179,020	41	255,482	0	+76,462
Indian Land and Water Claim Settlements and Miscellaneous Payments to Indians .....	0	45,644	0	825	0	-44,819
Indian Guaranteed Loan Program Account .....	0	11,797	0	13,884	0	+2,087
Indian Land Consolidation .....	0	0	21	80,000	+21	+80,000
Subtotal, Current .....	2,884	2,279,087	3,067	2,939,672	+183	+660,585
<b>Permanent</b>						
Indian Guaranteed Loan Program Account .....	0	3,795	0	0	0	-3,795
White Earth Settlement Fund .....	0	1,750	0	1,750	0	0
Miscellaneous Permanent Appropriations .....	268	113,229	267	115,191	-1	+1,962
Operation and Maintenance of Quarters .....	40	6,238	40	6,173	0	-65
Gifts and Donations, Bureau of Indian Affairs .....	7	1,000	7	1,000	0	0
Selis-Qlispe Ksanka Settlement Trust Fund .....	0	90,000	0	90,000	0	0
Indian Water Rights Settlement Completion Fund .....	0	2,500,000	0	0	0	-2,500,000
Subtotal, Permanent .....	315	2,716,012	314	214,114	-1	-2,501,898
<b>Allocation and Reimbursable</b>						
Allocation .....	595	0	703	0	+108	0
Reimbursable .....	38	0	39	0	+1	0
Subtotal, Allocation and Reimbursable .....	633	0	742	0	+109	0
<b>TOTAL, BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS .....</b>	<b>3,832</b>	<b>4,995,099</b>	<b>4,123</b>	<b>3,153,786</b>	<b>+291</b>	<b>-1,841,313</b>

<sup>1/</sup> Current funding amounts include supplemental appropriations and transfers. For further details see Highlights of Budget Changes tables for each account.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF BUDGET CHANGES

By Appropriation Activity/Subactivity

### APPROPRIATION: Operation of Indian Programs

	2021 Actual	2022 CR	2023 Request	Change
<b>Tribal Government</b>				
Aid to Tribal Government .....	27,241	27,241	27,037	-204
Consolidated Tribal Government Program (TPA) .....	82,096	82,096	82,467	+371
Self-Governance Compacts (TPA) .....	179,379	179,379	200,398	+21,019
New Tribes (TPA) .....	1,624	1,624	480	-1,144
Small Tribes Supplement (TPA) .....	5,000	5,000	23,002	+18,002
Road Maintenance (TPA) .....	36,796	36,796	48,190	+11,394
Tribal Government Program Oversight .....	8,895	8,895	12,414	+3,519
Subtotal, Tribal Government .....	341,031	341,031	393,988	+52,957
<b>Human Services</b>				
Social Services (TPA) .....	51,195	51,195	80,134	+28,939
Welfare Assistance (TPA) .....	78,000	78,000	77,994	-6
Indian Child Welfare Act (TPA) .....	16,907	16,907	26,328	+9,421
Housing Improvement Program (TPA) .....	11,708	11,708	14,219	+2,511
Human Services Tribal Design (TPA) .....	290	290	218	-72
Human Services Program Oversight .....	3,126	3,126	3,272	+146
Subtotal, Human Services .....	161,226	161,226	202,165	+40,939
<b>Trust—Natural Resources Management</b>				
Natural Resources (TPA) .....	8,107	8,107	23,203	+15,096
Irrigation Operations and Maintenance .....	14,087	14,087	20,769	+6,682
Rights Protection Implementation .....	42,811	42,811	44,700	+1,889
Tribal Management/ Development Program .....	13,387	13,387	17,694	+4,307
Endangered Species .....	4,208	4,208	6,243	+2,035
Tribal Climate Resilience .....	16,956	16,956	60,991	+44,035
Integrated Resource Info Program .....	2,983	2,983	9,077	+6,094
Agriculture and Range .....	36,520	36,520	43,938	+7,418
Forestry .....	54,636	54,636	63,517	+8,881
Water Resources .....	13,194	13,194	18,426	+5,232
Fish, Wildlife and Parks .....	17,440	17,440	21,699	+4,259
Energy & Minerals .....	26,706	26,706	67,207	+40,501
Resource Management Program Oversight .....	7,807	7,807	9,169	+1,362
Subtotal, Trust—Natural Resources Management .....	258,842	258,842	406,633	+147,791
<b>Trust—Real Estate Services</b>				
Trust Services (TPA) .....	9,229	9,229	9,718	+489
Navajo-Hopi Settlement Program .....	1,222	1,222	1,303	+81
Probate (TPA) .....	13,034	13,034	14,140	+1,106
Land Title and Records Offices .....	15,189	15,189	16,425	+1,236
Real Estate Services .....	38,516	38,516	41,133	+2,617
Land Records Improvement .....	6,966	6,966	7,074	+108
Environmental Quality .....	23,185	23,185	47,081	+23,896
Alaskan Native Programs .....	1,496	1,496	1,521	+25
Rights Protection .....	17,250	17,250	17,531	+281
Trust—Real Estate Services Oversight .....	14,576	14,576	17,101	+2,525
Subtotal, Trust—Real Estate Services .....	140,663	140,663	173,027	+32,364

**APPROPRIATION: Operation of Indian Programs** *(continued)*

	2021 Actual	2022 CR	2023 Request	Change
Public Safety and Justice				
Law Enforcement.....	408,133	408,133	507,718	+99,585
Tribal Courts (TPA).....	38,980	38,980	52,679	+13,699
Fire Protection (TPA).....	1,609	1,609	1,665	+56
Subtotal, Public Safety and Justice .....	448,722	448,722	562,062	+113,340
Community and Economic Development				
Job Placement and Training (TPA).....	13,515	13,515	23,759	+10,244
Economic Development (TPA).....	3,266	3,266	39,355	+36,089
Community Development Oversight.....	7,691	7,691	9,234	+1,543
Subtotal, Community and Economic Development.....	24,472	24,472	72,348	+47,876
Executive Direction and Administrative Services .....	241,576	241,576	271,813	+30,237
TOTAL APPROPRIATION (w/o supplemental and transfers).....	1,616,532	1,616,532	2,082,036	+465,504
Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (P.L. 117-58).....	0	+43,200	+43,200	0
Transfer to OIG (P.L. 117-58).....	0	-216	-216	0
Other Transfers.....	+51,583	0	0	0
TOTAL APPROPRIATION (w/ supplemental and transfers).....	1,668,115	1,659,516	2,125,020	+465,504

**APPROPRIATION: Contract Support Costs**

	2021 Actual	2022 CR	2023 Request	Change
Contract Support (TPA) .....	227,872	341,517	404,029	+62,512
Indian Self-Determination Fund (TPA) .....	5,000	5,000	5,000	0
TOTAL APPROPRIATION .....	232,872	346,517	409,029	+62,512

**APPROPRIATION: Payments for Tribal Leases**

	2021 Actual	2022 CR	2023 Request	Change
TOTAL APPROPRIATION .....	9,899	36,593	55,432	+18,839



**APPROPRIATION: Construction**

	2021 Actual	2022 CR	2023 Request	Change
Public Safety and Justice Construction .....	42,811	42,811	70,311	+27,500
Resource Management Construction .....	71,408	71,408	85,554	+14,146
Other Program Construction .....	14,599	14,599	49,867	+35,268
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION (w/o supplementals and transfer) .....</b>	<b>128,818</b>	<b>128,818</b>	<b>205,732</b>	<b>+76,914</b>
Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (P.L. 117-58) .....	0	+50,000	+50,000	0
Disaster Relief Act (P.L. 117-43) .....	0	+452	0	-452
Transfer to OIG (P.L. 117-58) .....	0	-250	-250	0
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION (w/ supplementals and transfer) .....</b>	<b>128,818</b>	<b>179,020</b>	<b>255,482</b>	<b>+76,462</b>

**APPROPRIATION: Indian Land and Water Claim Settlements and Miscellaneous Payments to Indians**

	2021 Actual	2022 CR	2023 Request	Change
Land Settlements				
White Earth Land Settlement .....	625	0	625	+625
Water Settlements				
Blackfeet Settlement .....	46,019	0	0	0
Miscellaneous Payments				
Truckee River Operating Agreement .....	0	0	200	+200
Unallocated .....	0	45,644	0	-45,644
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION .....</b>	<b>46,644</b>	<b>45,644</b>	<b>825</b>	<b>-44,819</b>

**APPROPRIATION: Indian Guaranteed Loan Program Account**

	2021 Actual	2022 CR	2023 Request	Change
Subsidies .....	10,204	10,204	11,204	+1,000
Program Management .....	1,593	1,593	2,680	+1,087
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION .....</b>	<b>11,797</b>	<b>11,797</b>	<b>13,884</b>	<b>+2,087</b>

**APPROPRIATION: Indian Land Consolidation**

	2021 Actual	2022 CR	2023 Request	Change
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION .....</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>80,000</b>	<b>+80,000</b>

