

American Indian Adult Tobacco Survey

Background and Tool Development

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Course Objectives

At the end of this course the participant will:

1. Understand the significance of the development of the AI ATS and;
2. Synthesize and articulate the benefits of implementing an AI ATS

Key Points

1. Significance of the AI ATS
2. Role of Tribes and Tribal Organizations in the Development of the Survey Tool
3. Process to Develop the Survey Tool and Implementation Methodology
4. Benefits of Implementing the AI ATS

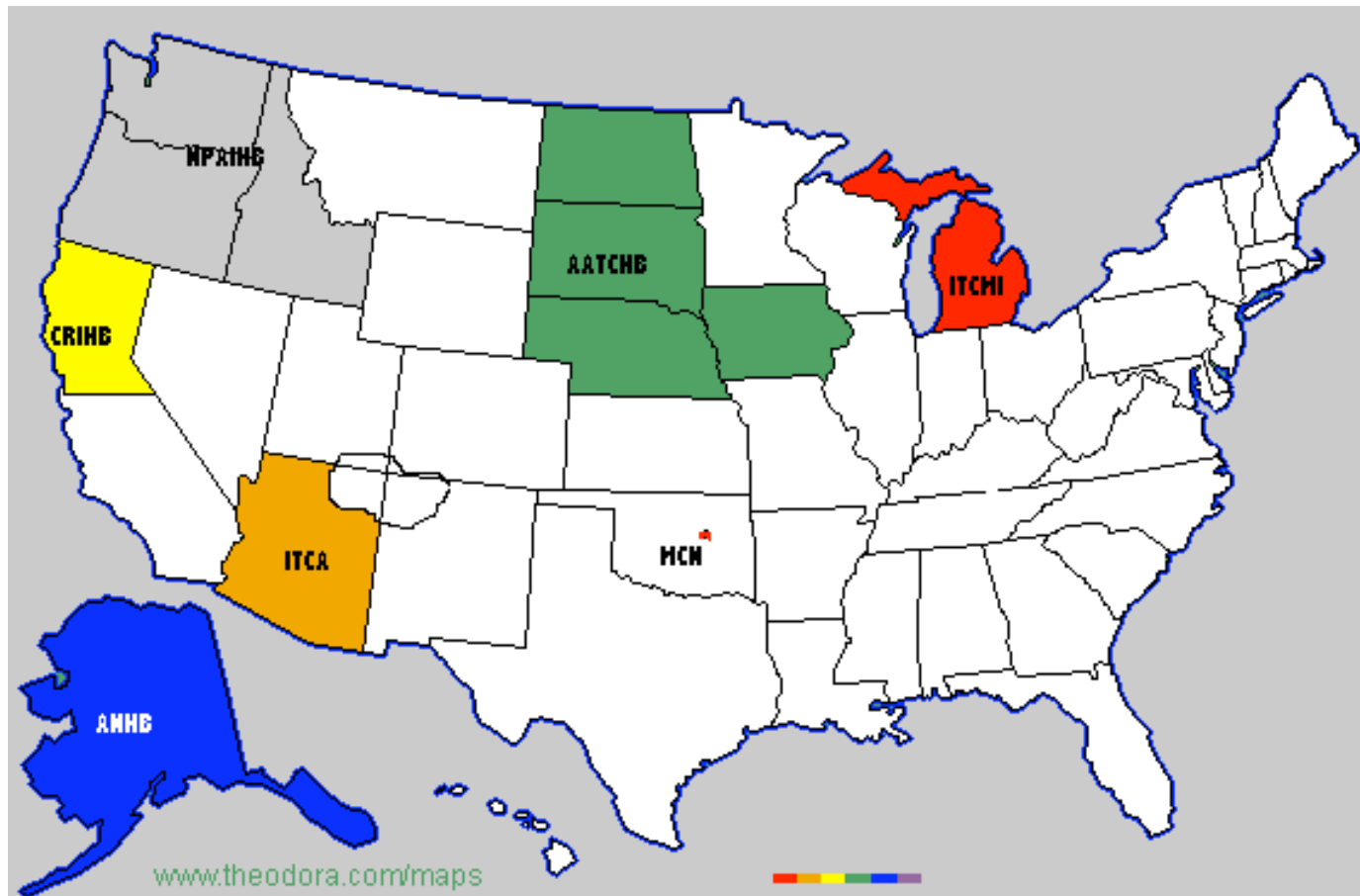


Participating Tribal Organizations

1. Aberdeen Area Tribal Chairmen's Health Board (AATCHB).
2. Alaska Native Health Board (ANHB).
3. California Rural Indian Health Board (CRIHB).
4. Muscogee Creek Nation (MCN).
5. Intertribal Council of Michigan (ITCMI).
6. Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board (NPAIHB)..



Participating Tribal Organizations



1. Why is the AI ATS Significant?

1. Was developed by Tribal Support Center Staff, Tribal Leaders and Organizations, Tribal Community Members, and CDC Staff
2. Collects Tribe Specific and Community Specific Data
3. Uses data collection methods more appropriate and accepted by Tribal Communities
4. The data is intended for Tribes to use to develop interventions for their people



Cont. Why is the AI ATS Significant?

- The data are owned exclusively by each Tribe
- The development and protection process combine to set a precedent for research in Native American communities



Example: Adult Tobacco Survey

- Tool utilized to assess tobacco related issues
 - Current smoking status
 - Cigarette consumption
 - Quit attempts
 - Method of quitting
- Phone survey
- Conducted nationwide usually by the State



ATS Implementation Issues for Tribal Communities

1. Sample sizes not large enough to represent Tribal Communities
2. Questions do not differentiate between tobacco use and abuse
3. Methods not conducive for implementation in Tribal Communities



American Indian ATS

The survey and methodology combine accepted scientific practice with culturally appropriate strategies

- Differentiates between commercial tobacco abuse and ceremonial use of tobacco
- Interviews are face to face
- Tribe owns the data
- Representative data is generated for the community



American Indian ATS

Core components of the survey:

1. Prevalence rates of commercial cigarette use
2. Use of other tobacco products
3. Quit efforts
4. Methods used to quit
5. Workplace policies
6. Secondhand smoke exposure
7. Opinions about harm cause by smoking



Role of Tribes and Tribal Organizations in the Tool Development

1. Participated and facilitated talking circles, focus groups, and cognitive interviews
2. Provided input on survey methodology
3. Provided guidance on creating the Data Sharing Agreements
4. Assisted with Fielding the first AI ATS



American Indian/Alaska Native Adult Tobacco Survey Development

1. Focus Groups/Talking Circles
2. Cognitive Interviews
3. Tribal Support Center Review



Focus Groups/Talking Circles

Objective – gather information related to impressions of the Adult Tobacco Survey and information related to how the questions needed to be altered



American Indian/Alaska Native Adult Tobacco Survey Development

Cognitive Interviews - the objective is to provide an in-depth exploration of particular concepts, processes and/or patterns of interpretation.



Cognitive Interviews

1. What is your tribal affiliation?

- CHANGED TO:

2. Are you enrolled in a tribe?

- If so, which one?
- Are there any other tribes that you feel part of, but are not enrolled in?



American Indian/Alaska Native Adult Tobacco Survey Development

Tribal Support Center Review –

1. Have you smoked at least 100 cigarettes in your entire life
 - CHANGED TO:
2. Not including ceremonial or sacred smoking, have you smoked at least 100 cigarettes, about five_packs, in your entire life?



Benefits of implementing the AI/ATS

1. Generate more resources for Participating Tribes
2. Important to tribal program planning and evaluation
3. Provide a picture of prevention and health promotion priorities
4. Foundation for grant writing
5. Increased Tribal Capacity to use the information



The information on the following slides can be found in:

Objerly J, Macedo J.

“The R work in Indian Country:
Culturally appropriate commercial
tobacco-use research strategies.”

Health Promotion & Practice. 2004

Oct; 5(4):355–61.



Past/Current Research Wrongs

1. Excluding Tribes from active involvement in research
2. Assumptions about cultural appropriateness
3. Lack of protection for tribal anonymity or confidentiality
4. Research that benefits the researcher/university/government but does not benefit or even harms the Tribe



Key Problems

1. Inappropriate use of cultural information
2. Commercial/exploitive use of information
3. Unauthorized infringement of ownership rights for songs, stories and other information
4. Potential conflicts or harm resulting from the research



Respectful and Inclusive Research Strategies

1. Cultural Competence of the Research Team
2. Planning for research WITH tribal communities
3. Conducting research in Indian Country



Cultural Competence of the Research Team

1. Researchers need to:

- Investigate Tribal resources and infrastructure
- Investigate cultural norms
- Become familiar with the history of research activities within the community
- Include members of the community as principal or coinvestigators



Planning for research WITH tribal communities

1. Understanding each parties' role
2. Respect for Native knowledge systems
3. Respect and address multiple perspectives on past research
4. Create a Data Sharing Agreement (DSA)
5. Tribes and tribal members should receive compensation
6. All parties involved in a dissemination plan
7. Tribal ownership of data results and reports
8. Prevention of negative tribal representation



Conducting research in Indian Country

1. Remembering that study questions and methods can affect the community
2. Pre-testing the research instrument
 - Is the instrument readable
 - Is the instrument translatable

