



2026 NINAETC - Tribal Workgroup Federal Partner Report

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

OFFICE OF INDIAN SERVICES

DIVISION OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT



JACQUELINE BISILLE
SENIOR ADVISOR



Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Bureau of Indian Affairs: Employment, Training, and Economic Development

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) supports jobs, training, and economic development in Indian Country to promote Tribal self-determination and stronger communities.

Job Placement and Training (JPT)

The JPT program provides vocational training, career counseling, job referrals, and placement support for Tribal citizens, connecting them with accredited programs, apprenticeships, and limited relocation assistance.

Community and Economic Development

Community efforts, guided by the Office of Indian Economic Development, provide business incubators, tourism, and Native language revitalization grants, creating jobs and strengthening local economies.

Division of Workforce Development (DWD)

JPT Initiatives

DWD delivers education, skills training, and workforce preparation through accredited programs, vocational training, and apprenticeships, helping Tribal citizens enter high-demand fields and advance their careers.

P.L. 102-477 Initiatives

This Act allows Tribes to combine multiple federal employment and human-service programs into one plan, streamlining funding and administration for culturally grounded service systems.

Federal and Tribal Engagement

DWD will institute quarterly meetings with all twelve Affected Agencies, including planning the Public Law 102-477 Annual Federal Partner and Tribal meeting in August 2026 in Washington D.C., supporting continued collaboration and progress.



K.DENISE BAYLON
CHIEF

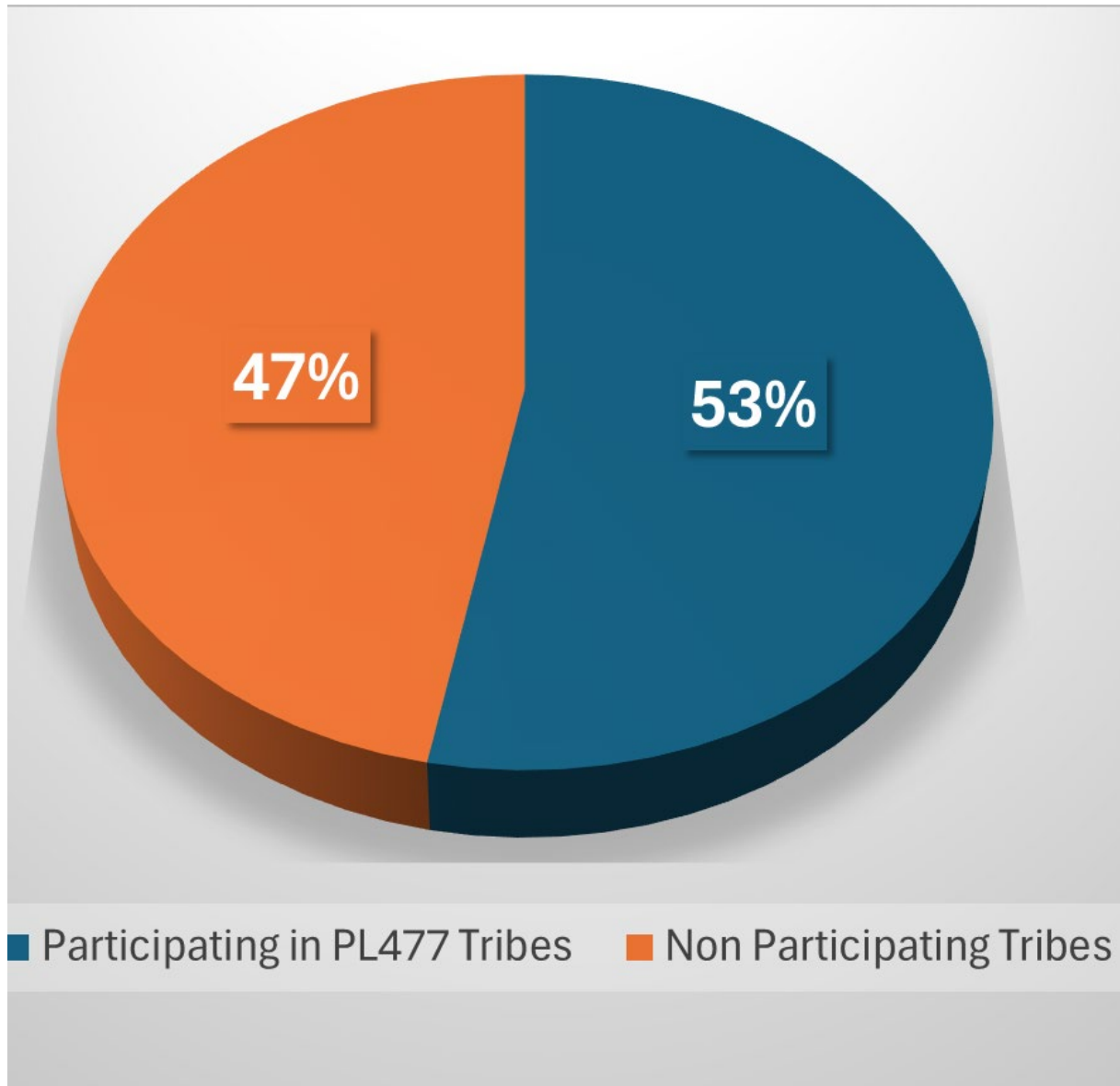


**Office of Indian Services -
Division of Workforce Development**

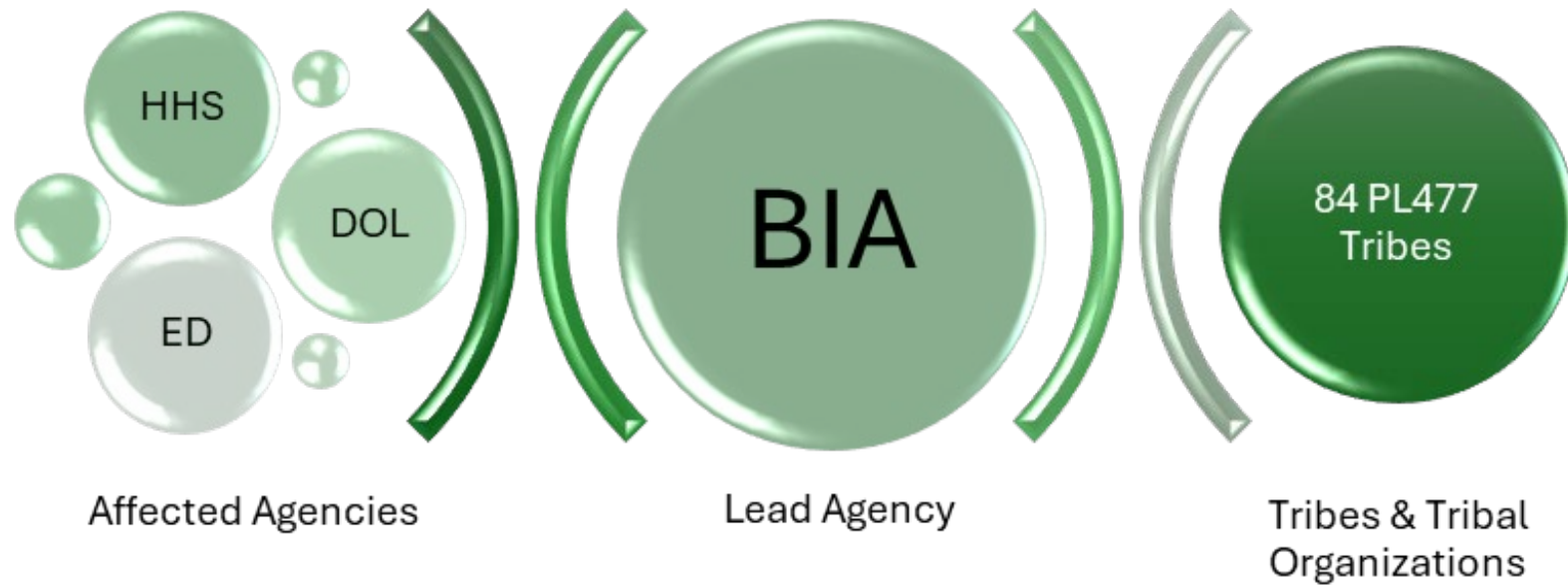
- Tribes and Tribal Organizations PL477 Participation
- Federal Partner Fund Transfer Status
- PL477 Plan Approval Status
- Federal Agency Participation
- PL477 Integration / Administrative Status
- PL477 Activity Updates
- Annual Reports Status
- A-TAP Tracking System
- JPT Grant Opportunity

Tribes Participating in PL477

575 Federally
Recognized Tribes

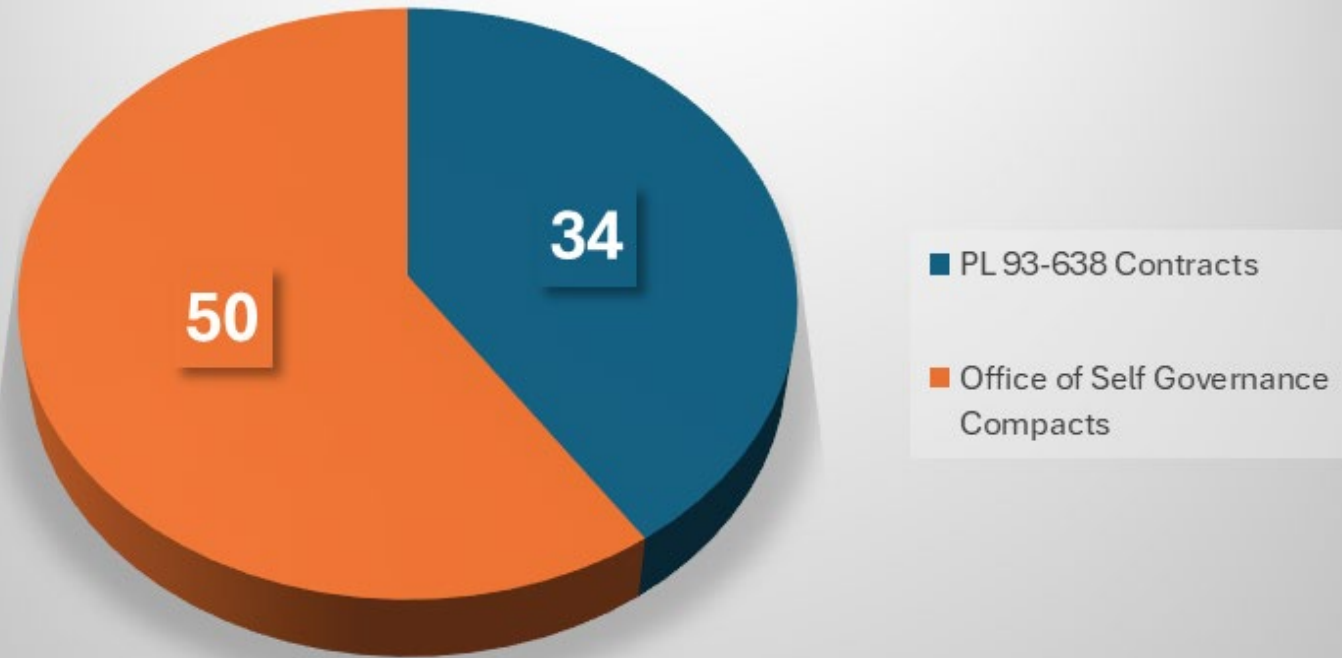


Fund Transfers



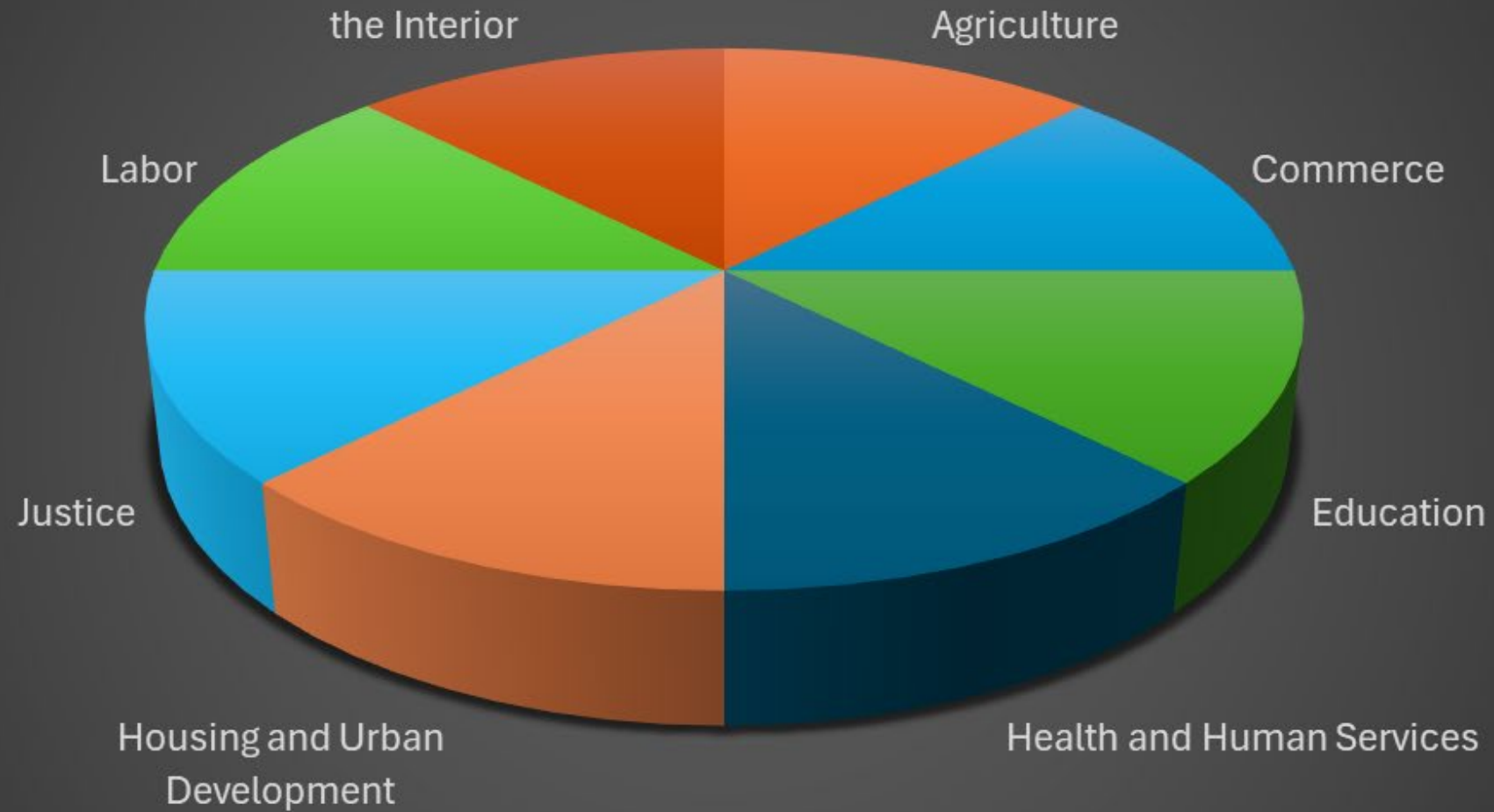
\$288 Million Fund Transfers

84 PL477 Plans Approved



P.L. 93-638 Contracts v. Compacts

Participating Federal Agencies



■ Agriculture

■ Commerce

■ Education

■ Energy

■ Health and Human Services

■ Homeland Security

■ Housing and Urban Development

■ Justice

■ Labor

■ the Interior

■ Transportation

■ Veterans Affairs

68 Individual Federal programs
are approved for integration



684 Lines of Accounting (LOA)
created

Integration of
Federal
Programs

PL477 Activity Updates

PL477 Plan Directory
developed and
published

[PL477 Administration](#)

OMB 1076-135
Annual Reports are
shared with Affected
Agencies

PL477 Administration
Tracking and Access
Platform (A-TAP) is in
the testing phase

Annual Report Updates

- BIA has established an Annual Report sharing system.
- All eight federal partners with integrated 477 programs now have two departmental representatives assigned and granted SharePoint Annual Report access.
- BIA continues diligently working with tribes on delayed reporting.
- BIA will continue populating the SharePoint annual report site as delayed reports are received.

Status of 477 Annual Report Submissions

| 477 Annual Reports | # 477 Annual Reports Due | # Tribes who have reported | Percentage complete |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| FY 23 | 74 | 54 | 72.97% |
| FY 24 | 78 | 50 | 64.10% |
| FY 25 | 84 | 54 | 64.29% |

| Number of Tribes in Each Reporting Year as of 2026 | |
|---|----|
| Fiscal Year (Oct 1-Sept 30) Report by Dec 29 | 59 |
| Calendar Year (Jan 1 – Dec 31) Report by Mar 29 | 19 |
| School Year (Jul 1 to Jun 30) Report by Sep 28 | 5 |
| Other (Apr 1 – Mar 31) Report by Jun 28 | 1 |

NEW Internal BIA 477 Tracking System

The PL 477 Administration Tracking and Access Platform (A-TAP) offers:

- Support for program objectives and workflow, enhancing staff efficiency and ensuring adherence to PL477 deadlines, including the mandatory 90-day review period.
- Uniformity among specialists, administrative personnel, and the Division Chief, streamlining secretarial approval of tribal PL477 plans and providing automated notifications for eligibility and authorization steps.
- Dashboard reports enable real-time monitoring of workflow progress, detailed, step-by-step updates, and performance tracking in accordance with PL477 requirements.
- A thorough records and case management system assists users throughout the statutory review phases for plans, amendments, waivers, and the execution and implementation of plans.

JPT – NEW Grant Opportunity!

BUILDING THE NEXT TRIBAL WORKFORCE

Job Placement and Training – Native American Technology and Manufacturing Grant Pilot Program *IGNITE: Indigenous Growth in New & Innovative Trade Employment*

- The IGNITE pilot grant program supports implementation-ready workforce programs designed to place Tribal participants directly into high-demand careers with measurable employment outcomes.
- Priority workforce pathways include Ironworkers apprenticeships, construction and infrastructure trades, utilities, energy workforce development, and Tribal infrastructure support.
- Future workforce opportunities may include advanced manufacturing, AI technologies, digital fabrication, drones and geospatial systems, and STEM workforce pathways.



JPT – New GRANT OPPORTUNITY!

FROM TRAINING TO CAREERS

IGNITE focuses on workforce programs that can launch immediately and prepare participants for direct entry into employment and apprenticeship opportunities.

- Summer funding announcement 2026 with anticipated awards in the fall 2026.
- Funding will be awarded through 638 contracts and Office of Self Governance contracts.
- The funding announcement will be shared through the Office of Indian Services website, NOT through grants.gov
- Only one application per tribe will be accepted.
- Only implementation-ready job placement and training/workforce programs with immediate employment outcomes will be considered for funding.
- DWD has established a new e-mail to support application submission and Q & A at JPTignite@bia.gov



Re-engagement Activities

Annual report sharing with Federal Partners

Establishing Annual Meeting and Quarterly Meeting Between Tribes and Federal Agencies

- On May 21, 2026, BIA met with Federal Partners
- On August 27, 2026, tentatively schedule for PL477 Annual Fed Partner / Tribal meeting from 1pm to 4pm EST in Washington, DC

RETIREMENTS

Michael Lucero, Financial Specialist

Annette King, DWD Program Assistant

Kenneth LeMieux, DWD Specialist/AOTR

Rae Belle Whitcomb, DWD Specialist/AOTR

DWD Team - Retirements



DWD Team Cont'd

K. Denise Baylon, Chief

| NEW STAFF | CURRENT STAFF |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Tahnee Barnes, Financial Specialist | Anthony Riley, Branch Chief PL477 Initiative |
| Leon Ghahate, DWD Specialist/AOTR | Carrie McMillan, DWD Specialist/AOTR |
| Terry Tartsah, DWD Assistant | Vince Romero, DWD Specialist/AOTR |
| Rebekah Horsechief, DWD Specialist | Latisha Dewahe, DWD Specialist |
| Samantha Leonard, DWD Specialist | Ida Doyle, DWD Specialist/AOTR |

OFFICE OF INDIAN SERVICES



Thank You