

Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative report

In June 2021, Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland announced the Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative, a comprehensive effort to recognize the troubled legacy of federal Indian boarding school policies with the goal of addressing their intergenerational impact and to shed light on the traumas of the past.

From the breakup of families and Tribal governments, to the loss of languages, cultural practices, and relatives, the federal Indian boarding school system has left lasting scars for Indigenous peoples. There is not a single American Indian, Alaska Native, or Native Hawaiian in America whose life hasn't been affected by these schools. We haven't begun to explain the scope of this policy era. Until now.

Today, we are releasing Volume 1 of the Indian Affairs Investigative Report. You can find the report at <https://www.bia.gov/service/federal-indian-boarding-school-initiative>. Additionally, I want to share with you a [letter](#) from Secretary Haaland describing the report and next steps.

This report lays the groundwork for the continued work of the Interior Department to address the intergenerational trauma created by policies supporting the historical federal Indian boarding school system.

This report was developed after consulting with Indian Tribes, Alaska Native Villages, Alaska Native Corporations, and the Native Hawaiian Community to incorporate your concerns in the investigation. Through a formal partnership, the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition was instrumental in sharing information and records that contributed to this report.

I want to acknowledge the efforts of members of our team here at the Department who undertook this important task. It has been an exhausting and emotional effort for them, under some tight deadlines, challenging constraints, and a painful subject. I'm deeply grateful for the work of everyone who contributed to this report.

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Bryan Newland

Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs
U.S. Department of the Interior