

California Native Vote Project

Preparation for the 2020 Census

Tuesday, September 18th, 2018



California Indians

- There are currently 109 federally recognized tribes, and 78 entities filing for recognition
- California's first Governor, Peter Hardenman Burnett, promotes the killing of Native peoples in the state
- As many 16,000 California Indians were killed (not including the Mission system, before California was established)
- Today, there are many fractured communities and some are struggling to gain federal recognition
- Despite these affronts, California's Native peoples are resilient, and have persevered against all odds.

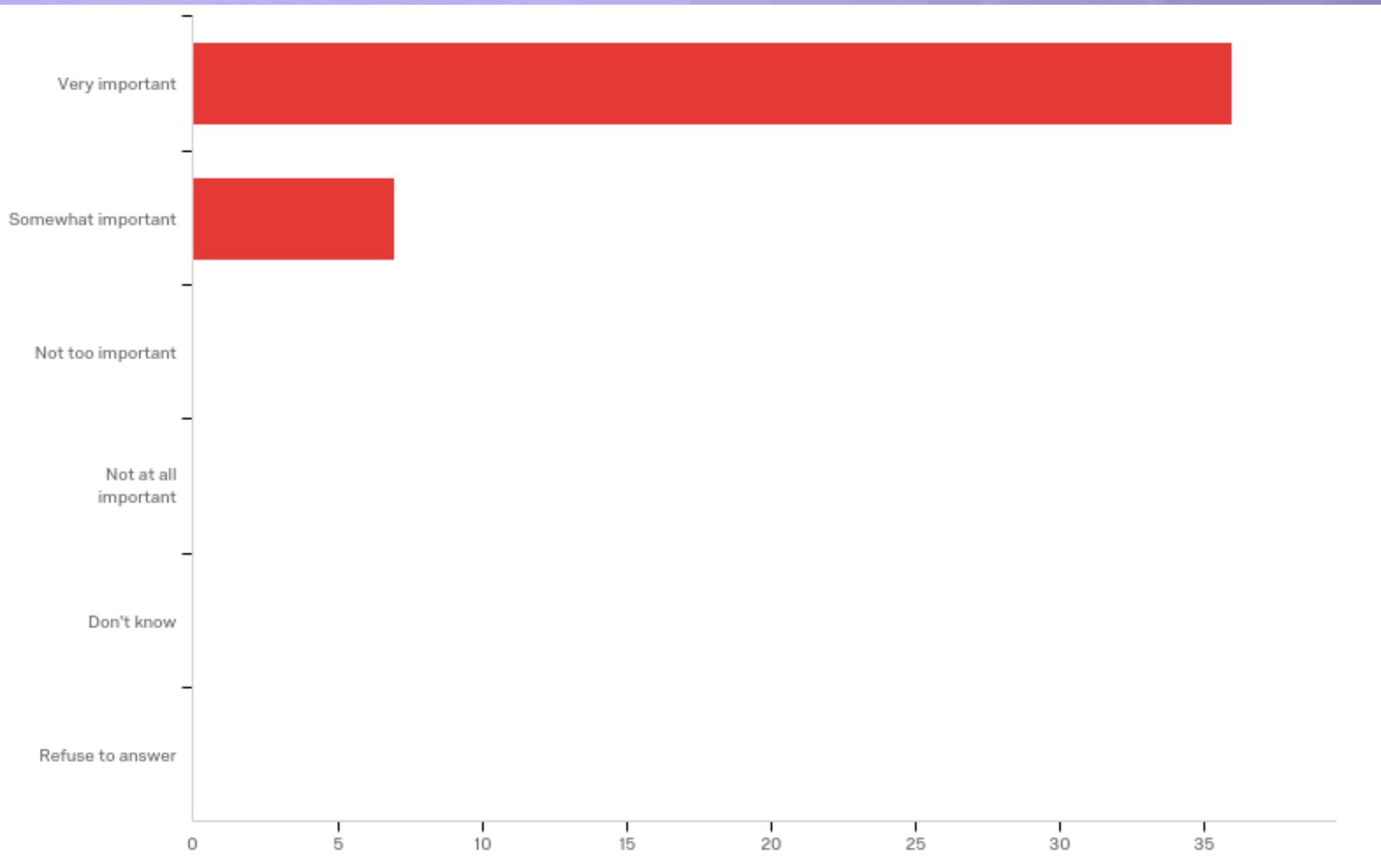
Native Americans/Alaska Natives in California today

- 950,000 Natives living in California, the most in any state
- LA County has the largest county population of Native peoples in the Nation
- Forced relocation policies from Reservations/Rancherias to urban areas during the Termination and Relocation eras
- Urban challenges: Hard to find, no Native “enclaves”
- Rural challenges: Access to broadband, cellular service, use of P.O. boxes

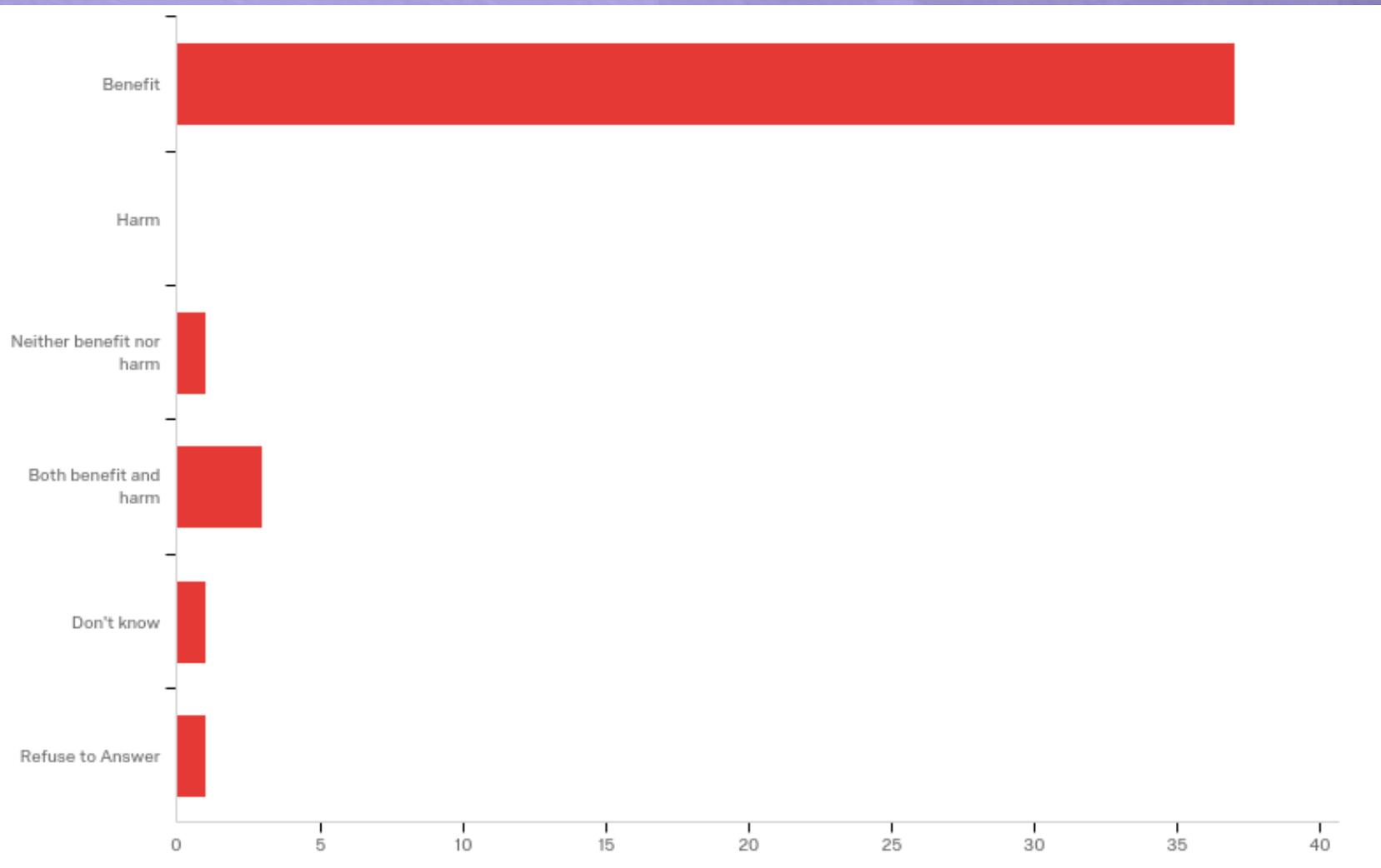
CNVP Census Survey (preliminary results, n=43)

- Goal numbers:
 - 250 completed surveys in Los Angeles County
 - 250 in San Bernardino/Riverside Counties
- Topics/themes:
 - Familiarity with Census
 - Preferred methods of communication to complete Census forms and language
 - Accessibility to Internet
 - Citizenship question
 - “Trusted messengers”

Q1 - 1.2. Thinking about the Census overall, how important do you feel it is for you to participate in the Census? Would you say it is...?



Q2 - 1.3. How do you believe that filling out your census form will impact your community? Do you believe that filling out your Census form will benefit your community, harm your community, or neither benefit nor harm your community?



Trusted Messengers

- How much do you trust the following to provide you with accurate info about the 2020 Census?
- We're looking at "trust them completely" and "trust them a lot"
 - Census Bureau: 32.6% and 23.3%
 - State of California: 34.9% and 23.3%
 - Local County: 27.9% and 23.3%
 - Local City: 27.9% and 20.9%
 - Native American Community Orgs: 67.4% and 18.6%

Standout findings

- Pin/Online Census completion/submission was the top choice among participants, followed by mail/physical form
- Mixed feelings regarding privacy, close to 50/50
- Most participants felt “very comfortable” answering the proposed citizenship question
- **Key question:** Will opinions be different in rural areas?

Next Steps

- Reach goal number of completed surveys, analyze full results
- Share results with local community allies, US Census Bureau, and Native organizations
- Use findings to create region-specific messaging for Native communities
- Create a comprehensive strategy and outreach plan based on findings
- Host quarterly webinars with Native organizations, Tribes, allies to discuss Census 2020 efforts
- Continue to exchange with allies through increased coalitions and partnerships