

National Congress of American Indians.

Access: <http://www.ncai.org/>.

The National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) is the largest intertribal, nonpartisan American Indian and Alaska Native organization in the United States. It was founded in 1944 by American Indian tribal leaders from federally recognized tribes as an intentionally politically moderate organization in order to work toward preserving and protecting tribal sovereignty, in response to U.S. government pressure for tribal dissolution. The sovereign political status of tribal governments and the unique cultural and emotional identities of their members continue to be the major drivers behind NCAI. Initiatives include advocating nationally and internationally for strengthening tribal governance, lobbying for the right to self-determination, and providing educational campaigns about Native rights and tribal sovereignty. The NCAI Policy Research Center opened in 2003 and focuses on policy issues that directly affect Native communities across the country, such as public safety, affordable housing, health care, and tribal economic development opportunities, using tribally driven data and analysis. The NCAI Youth Commission introduces young people to government and leadership issues.

The website covers a broad scope of information about policy issues, initiatives, the history of NCAI, individual tribes (including a directory of more than 600 listings), resources published by NCAI and the Research Institute, news, programs and events for Native youth, conferences and events, and membership. Students and researchers looking for a place to start in their understanding of American Indian and Alaska Native tribal governance and relationship to the U.S. federal government, will appreciate the visually appealing and broad

ranging publication “Tribal Nations and the United States: An Introduction.” Researchers who want to dig deeper into a specific topic will find the core policy issues useful, including “Community & Culture,” “Economic Development & Commerce,” “Education, Health, & Human Services,” “Land & Natural Resources,” and “Tribal Governance.” For example, browsing under “Land & Natural Resources,” one can navigate to Climate Change to read a detailed yet concise summary of the disproportionate impact on Native communities, as well as links to NCAI publications, resolutions, testimony and speeches, and press releases on the subject. The annual reports contain an extremely rich array of policy issues and initiatives that NCAI focuses on in a given year.

Researchers and students learning about American Indian and Alaska Native tribal governance and policy issues cannot skip this resource.—*Hilary Robbeloth, University of Puget Sound, brobbeloth@pugetsound.edu*

National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities.

Access: <https://www.nimhd.nih.gov/>.

Each year millions of Americans experience disparities in their health and health care. The National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD), part of the National Institutes of Health, has been working to reduce health disparities and improve the health of minorities and underserved populations since 1990. NIMHD raises national awareness by way of public education, training, outreach programs, and ground-breaking research.

Cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, and cancer are the primary focus of NIMHD researchers but other areas of study are supported: “from genetic, molecular, and biologic science to clinical, behavioral, and translational research, as well as research on health systems, workforce development, and environmental justice.” It would be nice to see NIMHD-funded research displayed more prominently, but no such list was found during this review.

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Of the resources available on the NIMHD site, the HDPulse data portal will have the broadest appeal to researchers. HDPulse, located under the resources tab of the main navigation bar, offers a wealth of information and data on health disparities and minority health. One can select a state from a dropdown menu or a national map to view a “quick profile report” of a state compared to national rates. Researchers can also explore and download data by topic through interactive maps, tables, and trend graphs.

Data in HDPulse, which originate from various government institutes and centers, are clearly presented and easily accessible. Data of each state are grouped into five broad categories: mortality rates, cancer incidents, functional health (mental and physical), socio-demographic, and screening and risk factors (e.g., smoking, diet and exercise, and health behaviors). Widget code is available to integrate a HDPulse search box within websites and LibGuides. The Intervention Portal, highlighted on the main HDPulse page, is an exciting new resource that NIMHD is currently developing. This will pool together intervention resources that have successfully reduced health disparities.

Much of the site is dedicated to information about NIMHD, various collaborative and extra- and intramural programs, funding opportunities, news and events, all of which will be useful to early-stage researchers. The “Resources” tab also includes additional health reports, data resources, articles, and related sources. The NIMHD site will be of interest to all those researching health disparities among minorities and underserved populations.—*John Reppinger, Willamette University, jrepplin@willamette.edu*

Retraction Watch. Access: <https://www.retractionwatch.com>.

Retraction Watch shines a light on shoddy research and scientific misconduct in academic publishing. This website focuses on articles that have been withdrawn from scholarly journals after their initial publication, and it publicizes these retracted articles—and often the stories behind them—to the wider academic community.

Retraction Watch was created in 2010 by science writer Adam Marcus and Ivan Oransky, a medical doctor with a background in journalism. They created the Center for Scientific Integrity, a nonprofit organization, to house the project. It has an independent board of directors made up of scholars and physicians, and it has attracted grants from well-known philanthropic foundations.

This website has many unique features. There is a leaderboard ranking authors with the most retracted articles, a list of the most highly cited retracted papers, and a list of retracted COVID-19 papers. Frequent blog posts discuss current controversies surrounding retractions, such as incidents of data falsification, plagiarism, fictional authorship, fake peer reviews, and other unethical practices as well as publisher errors and honest mistakes by researchers that trigger a retraction.

The database of retracted papers is the most unique and useful feature of the website. It claims to contain more than 20,000 separate retractions compiled from various academic journals. Users can uncover information about specific articles or authors by searching a wide variety of bibliographic fields. Results include not only bibliographic information, but also a specific reason or set of reasons for the retraction, and often a DOI for the actual article and a DOI of the notice of the retraction.

Most of the content on the site is drawn from medicine and health sciences. Branching out into other disciplines would make for a more comprehensive resource, though this may be too ambitious right now for this small independent nonprofit organization. Also, having more time-stamped pages throughout the site would showcase the currency of information.

Students could use the Retraction Watch database to avoid including withdrawn articles in literature reviews for high-stakes papers or theses. The blog posts could be used as examples to prompt lively discussion in instruction sessions for classes introducing undergraduates to scholarly communication and in upper-level research methods classes. Highly recommended.—*Reiley Noe, Hanover College, noe@hanover.edu* 🦋