Red Lake Nation Population Projections

Corrected Methodology Report

Authors: Nicole MartinRogers (White Earth Nation descendant), M.P.P., Ph.D., Carolyn Liebler, Ph.D., and Sarah Garcia, Ph.D.

Wilder Research

Information. Insight. Impact.

Contents

Figures

Background

In 2022, Red Lake Nation contracted with Wilder Research to conduct a study and produce population projections for the tribe. The purpose of this study is to help Red Lake Nation and its tribal citizens better understand population trends, and specifically understand the tribe's population trajectory under the current tribal enrollment criteria and alternative scenarios. Population projections through the year 2122 were completed under six different scenarios for tribal enrollment criteria. This report describes the study methods and detailed results of the population projections completed by Wilder Research, as well as corrections made in 2024. We addressed the following **research questions**:

- What size will the population of Red Lake Nation be now and through the next 100 years if the current tribal enrollment eligibility criteria are maintained (1/4 blood quantum of Red Lake Nation blood, **Scenario 1**)?

- What would the size of the Red Lake Nation population be from now through the next 100 years if the tribal enrollment eligibility criteria were changed to allow other Chippewa/Ojibwe blood from non-Red Lake federally recognized tribes and Canadian First Nations to count toward the requirement of 1/4 blood quantum (**Scenario 2**)?

- What would the size of the Red Lake Nation population be from now through the next 100 years if the tribal enrollment eligibility criteria were changed to allow blood from any federally recognized American Indian tribe or Canadian First Nation to count toward the requirement of 1/4 blood quantum (**Scenario 3**)?

- What would the size of the Red Lake Nation population be from now through the next 100 years if the tribal enrollment eligibility criteria were changed to allow 1/8 blood quantum from Red Lake (**Scenario 4**)?

- What would the size of the Red Lake Nation population be from now through the next 100 years if the tribal enrollment eligibility criteria were changed to allow membership for any lineal descendant from the original 1958 Red Lake base roll (**Scenario 5**)? We also considered what would happen if Red Lake Nation used a phased approach to changing from 1/4 blood quantum to lineal descent, either by reducing the enrollment criteria by 1/16 every three years until you get to lineal descent or by phasing in tribal descendants as members by age group (**Scenario 6**).

Blood quantum distribution

We started by examining the blood quantum distribution of current tribal citizens. In 2022, the most common blood quantum was 1/2 (31% of tribal citizens), followed by 4/4 and 1/4 (both 24%). The distribution is shown in Figure 1.

1. Blood quantum distribution from 2022 enrollment file

Blood quantum	Frequency	%
4/4	3,914	24%
More than 1/2 to less than 4/4	2,628	16%
1/2	5,108	31%
More than 1/4 to less than 1/2	763	5%
1/4	3,913	24%
Total	**16,326**	**100%**

In 2019, Red Lake Nation changed the blood quantum of every tribal citizen who is on the 1958 base roll to 4/4. Therefore, the majority of older tribal citizens are recorded as having 4/4 blood quantum in the current enrollment file, and the blood quantum percentage decreases and has more variation among younger tribal citizens (Figures 2 and 3).

2. Blood quantum frequencies by age from the Red Lake Nation 2022 current enrollment file
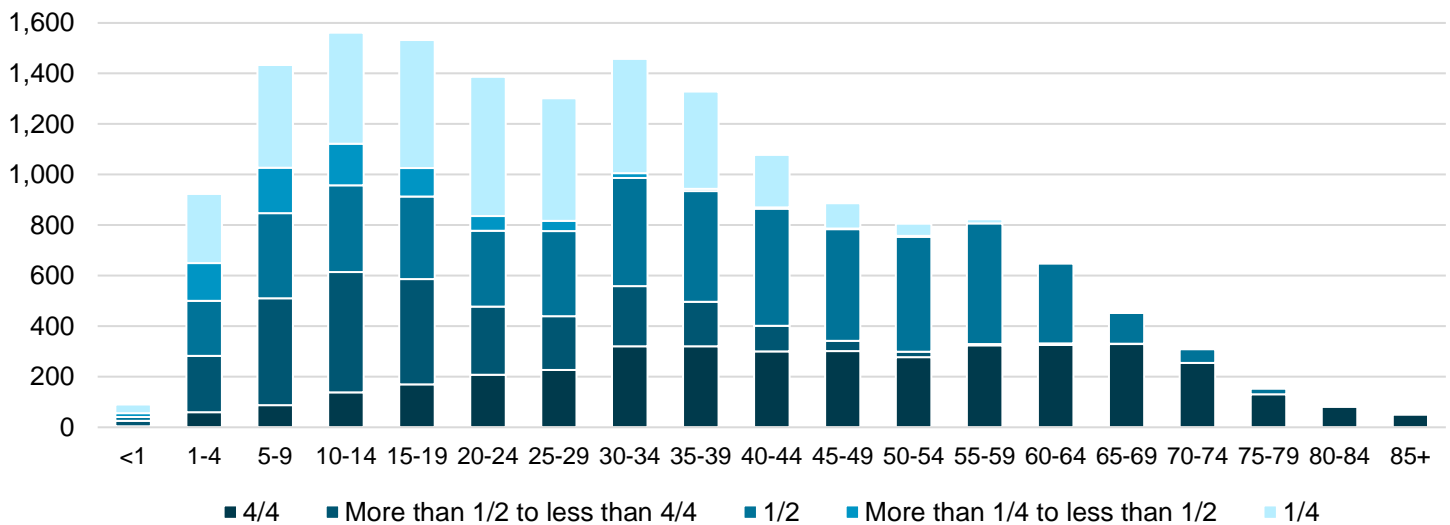
Source. Enrollment File from Red Lake Nation, 2022.

3. Blood quantum percentages by age from the 2022 enrollment file

Legend: ■ 4/4   ■ More than 1/2 to less than 4/4   ■ 1/2   ■ More than 1/4 to less than 1/2   ■ 1/4
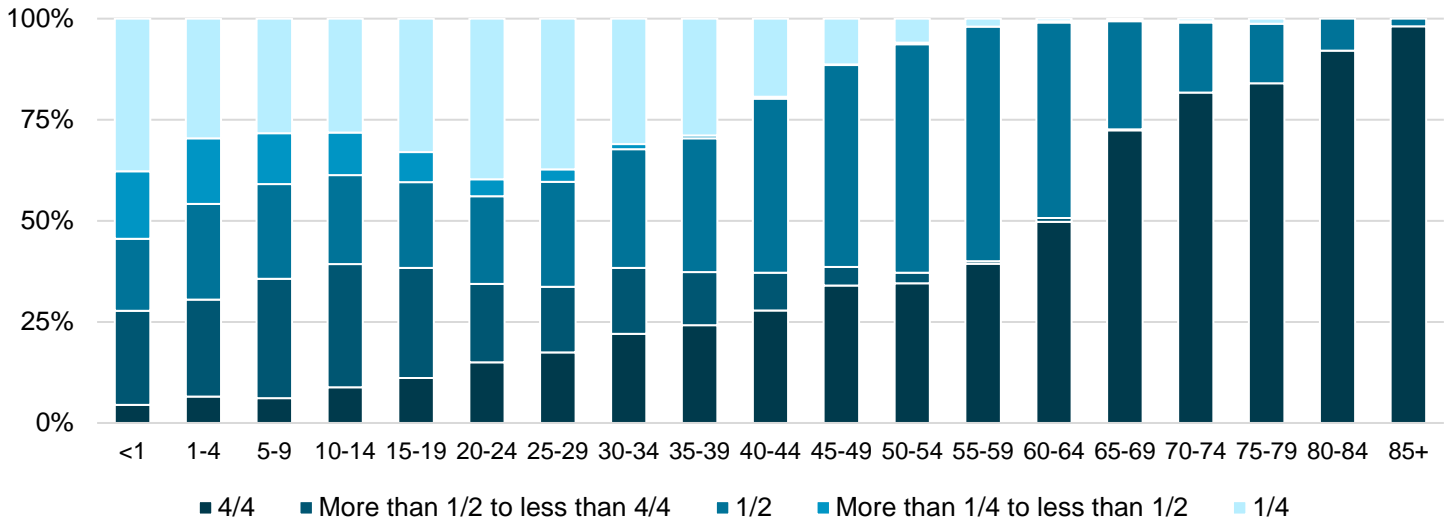
Source. Enrollment File from Red Lake Nation, 2022.

Study methodology

Red Lake Nation tribal citizen survey

Wilder Research conducted a Red Lake Nation tribal citizen survey to understand the extent to which Red Lake Nation members and their children have non-Red Lake American Indian and/or Canadian First Nations blood.

Survey instrument design

Wilder Research developed the survey instrument in partnership with Red Lake Nation to address the key research questions. The survey asked tribal citizens about their and their biological children's blood quantum for Red Lake, other Chippewa/Ojibwe tribes, and any other federally recognized American Indian tribes and/or Canadian First Nations. See the Appendix for the survey instrument.

Sample

A sample of 3,000 Red Lake Nation tribal citizens age 18+ was randomly selected by Wilder Research from the tribe's 2022 enrollment file of members to participate in the survey. Random selection was used to ensure that the survey respondents are statistically representative of the overall adult population of Red Lake Nation.

Data collection

Survey data collection was completed between March and June 2022. All of the sampled Red Lake Nation tribal citizens were sent an invitation letter telling them about the survey and asking them to complete the survey and send it back to Wilder in the postage-paid return envelope. The tribal citizens who did not complete the survey were sent a reminder postcard after about two weeks. After an additional two weeks, all sampled tribal citizens who still had not completed the survey were sent a final invitation letter along with a paper copy of the survey and a postage-paid return envelope. Overall, 377 Red Lake Nation tribal citizens completed the survey.

Data cleaning

Wilder Research checked all surveys for completion and accuracy. Survey data were entered into data analysis software for further analysis and verification. Quality control checks were completed on all variables. In some cases, Red Lake Nation's enrollment records were used to verify official blood quantum and other information.

See the Appendix for a summary of the write-in responses given by Red Lake Nation tribal citizens who were surveyed.

Population projection methods

Projections were made for Red Lake Nation for the period of 2022 through 2122 using the cohort component method. Generally, the cohort component method of projection populations uses the following calculation:

Future population = current population – deaths + births + net migration

Migration was not included in the projections for Red Lake Nation because the population is based on tribal enrollment as opposed to geographic location. Enrollment criteria also need to be taken into account, so the cohort component equation used here is:

Future population = current population – deaths + eligible births
(determined based on enrollment criteria)

The "future population" was estimated for each five-year increment from 2022 to 2122.

The cohort component method of projections is commonly used for populations that are larger than Red Lake Nation, but it was deemed the most useful method for this study because it allows us to take into account various enrollment criteria. The strategy for taking enrollment criteria into account is described in the "Fertility rate adjustment for tribal enrollment eligibility" section below. Most other population projection strategies (such as linear and exponential models) use past population sizes and growth to calculate future projected growth. These methods do not have a way for researchers to determine the impact of various possible changes to the enrollment criteria.

Current population

The starting population was the 2022 Red Lake Nation enrollment file.

Deaths -- Mortality component

Not all people survive any five-year period. To calculate survival ratios, Wilder Research used a life table developed by the National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).[1] People who self-identify as American Indian/Alaska Native are not always classified as American Indian/Alaska Native on their death certificates. This life table was developed by the National Center for Health Statistics to account for this

---

[1]   Arias, E., Xu, J., Curtin, S., Bastian, B., & Tejada-Vera, B. (2021, November 9). Mortality profile of the non-Hispanic American Indian or Alaska Native Population, 2019. *National Vital Statistics Reports, 70*(12). https://stacks.cdc.gov/view/cdc/110370.

known pattern of racial misclassification and covers American Indian/Alaska Native people throughout the U.S.[2]

With their latest national population projections (made in 2017), the Census Bureau provided information[3] about the expected pattern of change in death rates between 2020 and 2060, and our projections were set up to follow this same pattern from 2022 to 2061. Starting in 2062, they were held constant. Figure 4 shows the probability of survival by age group, based on the life tables used in the projections.

4. Survival ratios used in Red Lake Nation population projections

Age group	2022		2062 and later	
	Female	Male	Female	Male
0-4	0.9903	0.9889	0.9908	0.9896
5-9	0.9988	0.9989	0.9989	0.9990
10-14	0.9991	0.9976	0.9992	0.9977
15-19	0.9951	0.9924	0.9953	0.9930
20-24	0.9930	0.9876	0.9934	0.9888
25-29	0.9909	0.9821	0.9914	0.9836
30-34	0.9845	0.9742	0.9852	0.9760
35-39	0.9803	0.9695	0.9814	0.9716
40-44	0.9759	0.9645	0.9774	0.9670
45-49	0.9667	0.9496	0.9690	0.9530
50-54	0.9559	0.9313	0.9594	0.9364
55-59	0.9477	0.9153	0.9526	0.9229
60-64	0.9310	0.8942	0.9376	0.9048
65-69	0.9131	0.8631	0.9215	0.8758
70-74	0.8811	0.8306	0.8915	0.8457
75-79	0.8240	0.7819	0.8362	0.7996
80-84	0.7454	0.6768	0.7588	0.6945
85 +	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

[2] The previous version of this report used mortality and survival data from Minnesota, adjusted for mortality misclassification using adjustment factors from 2016. The two strategies give similar results in the short term, but the new strategy gives slightly higher population estimates in the long term.

[3] United States Census Bureau. (2017). *2017 National Population Projections Tables, Table 13. Growth rates and birth, death, and international migration rates* [Data set]. https://www.census.gov/data/tables/2017/demo/popproj/2017-summary-tables.html

Eligible births -- Fertility component

Births to enrolled tribal members can come from couples where only the mother is enrolled, only the father is enrolled, or both parents are enrolled. We include babies from all three of these types of couples in two steps. First, we calculate the estimated number of births from all enrolled women; this covers births from couples where only the mother is enrolled and births from couples where both parents are enrolled. Second, we estimate the number of enrolled men who are in relationships with non-enrolled women and estimate the number of births from these relationships.

Wilder Research estimated the fertility rate for Red Lake Nation tribal members using the fertility of American Indian and Alaska Native[4] women in Minnesota between 2015 and 2019. We found the number of births to American Indian and Alaska Native (bridged race) mothers in Minnesota, by age of the mother,[5] and divided by the total number of women in each five-year age group (ages 15-44). Figure 5 shows the resulting fertility rates (per 1,000 American Indian or Alaska Native women, by age) which were used for the projections.

In their 2017 projections, the Census Bureau also provided information about the expected pattern of change in American Indian and Alaska Native fertility between 2020 and 2060, and we set our projections to follow this same (very slight) trend from 2022 to 2062.[6] Starting in 2062, the age-specific fertility rates were held constant.

Births were proportionally allocated to 51.6 percent male and 48.4 percent female, which is the natural sex ratio at birth, according to the United Nations.[7]

5. Age-specific fertility rates (per 1,000 women) used for Red Lake Nation population projections

Age group	2022	2062 and later
15-19	41	41
20-24	110	109
25-29	118	117
30-34	90	90
35-39	47	46
40-44	9	9

---

[4] Birth certificates often use single race but population data includes an option to report multiple races. To keep the numerator and denominator consistent with each other, we used "bridged" race data.

[5] Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Natality, 2007-2022* [Data set]. Generated March 6, 2023, using CDC WONDER. http://wonder.cdc.gov/natality-current.htm. Data were provided by the 57 vital statistics jurisdictions through the Vital Statistics Cooperative Program.

[6] United States Census Bureau. (2017). *2017 National Population Projections Tables, Table 13. Growth rates and birth, death, and international migration rates* [Data set]. https://www.census.gov/data/tables/2017/demo/popproj/2017-summary-tables.html

[7] United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2022). *World Population Prospects 2022: Online Edition. Sex ratio at birth (male births per female births, 2022, world)* [Data set]. https://data.un.org/Data.aspx?d=PopDiv&f=variableID%3A52

In order to also include potential future Red Lake Nation citizens who have an enrolled father but not an enrolled mother, we did a series of calculations.[8] The goal was to estimate the number of enrolled Red Lake Nation men whose (long-term or short-term) partner is not American Indian/Alaska Native, and then included the biological children of these couples in the calculations. First, we used U.S. Census Bureau data[9] to calculate the percentage of American Indian/Alaska Native men in Minnesota (by age group) who were (a) unmarried or in a same sex marriage,[10] (b) married to an American Indian/Alaska Native woman, and (c) married to a non-Native woman; this distribution is shown in Figure 6. Next, we multiplied the number of enrolled Red Lake Nation men in each age group by (c) to estimate the number of enrolled men who are married to a non-Native woman. Overall, only 3.7% of American Indian/Alaska Native men age 15-44 in Minnesota were married to an American Indian/Alaska Native woman, while 14.0% were married to a non-Native woman and 82.3% were not married or were in a same-sex marriage.

6. Marriage patterns of American Indian/Alaska Native men in Minnesota

| Men's age | No wife | Married | | Total |
		American Indian/Alaska Native wife	Non-American Indian/Alaska Native wife	
15-19	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100%
20-24	97.7%	1.4%	0.9%	100%
25-29	81.9%	5.6%	12.5%	100%
30-34	73.5%	3.9%	22.6%	100%
35-39	70.7%	2.1%	27.3%	100%
40-44	55.3%	12.6%	32.1%	100%
Total	82.3%	3.7%	14.0%	100%

---

8   In the original version of this report, a mistake was made in this part of the analysis: the equations incorrectly assumed that *all* men age 15 to 44 were partnered. In this corrected analysis, only some men are considered partnered (and only partnered men are considered potential fathers of future tribal members).

9   U.S. Census Bureau. (2015-2019). *2015-2019 American Community Survey* [Data set]. Generated using IPUMS USA. University of Minnesota. www.ipums.org
Person weights were used. A person was counted as American Indian/Alaska Native if they reported that race on the ACS, regardless of other races reported.

10   We include only married couples to increase the chances that both parents are biologically related to the child. In same-sex marriages, both parents cannot be biologically related to the child, so we exclude them from this fertility rate calculation.

Of course, many fathers are not married to their baby's mother, but we want to include them in the analysis. To estimate the size of this group of men, we used U.S. Census Bureau data[11] to identify all babies age 0 or 1 who lived with at least one American Indian/Alaska Native parent. Then we focused on babies with an American Indian/Alaska Native father and a non-Native mother[12] and calculated the percentage of babies whose parents were married (by father's age group). This result (shown in Figure 7) gave us an inflation factor to use to estimate the additional number of fathers who were unmarried.

7. Percentage of married and unmarried American Indian/Alaska Native men living with babies age 0-1 and partnered with non-Native women

Men's age	Married	Unmarried	Total
15-19	24.7%	75.3%	100%
20-24	53.4%	46.6%	100%
25-29	68.9%	31.1%	100%
30-34	82.3%	17.7%	100%
35-39	84.8%	15.2%	100%
40-44	84.5%	15.5%	100%
Total	76.9%	23.1%	100%

For example, if there were 100 enrolled Red Lake Nation men age 25-29 then we would estimate that there are

> 100 enrolled men * 12.5% are married to a non-Native women * 1/31.1% who are in an unmarried partnership with a non-Native woman = an estimated 40.2 enrolled men age 25-29 who are in a relationship that could have a child who has an enrolled father and a non-Native mother.

This estimate of the number of enrolled men in unmarried partnerships may be low because it does not account for men who *never* share a home with their baby. At the same time, the estimate may be a little high because some men may be living with their partner and a baby that is not biologically related. Unfortunately, there is no way to estimate the number of these men with available data. Despite these qualifications, we are confident that the method we have used is accounting for almost all babies, and that it is the best that can be done with available data.

---

[11] U.S. Census Bureau. (2015-2019). 2015-2019 American Community Survey [Data set]. Generated using IPUMS USA. University of Minnesota. www.ipums.org
National rates were used for this part of the analysis because state-level calculations did not have a large enough sample size.

[12] The status of "mother" and "father" is not always reported directly by the people filling out the form. Instead, each person in the home is reported in terms of their relationship to the first person listed on the form (Person 1). For example, if a Native man is Person 1, the baby would be listed as "child," and the non-Native woman would be listed as "unmarried partner." If neither parent is listed as Person 1 – for example, a grandparent is Person 1 – the couple's relationship was assigned by IPUMS-USA based on their relative ages, relationships to Person 1, and other factors. See https://usa.ipums.org/usa/chapter5/chapter5.shtml for more information.

After making this calculation of the total number of Red Lake Nation enrolled men who are in relationships with women who are not enrolled in Red Lake Nation, the fertility rate for each age group was applied to estimate the actual number of births from these enrolled fathers.[13] Note that this is in addition to births from enrolled mothers.

Fertility rate adjustment for tribal enrollment eligibility

In Scenarios 1-4, the population projection must also take into account tribal enrollment eligibility (blood quantum). We used information from the survey about children's blood quantum, as well as information from the enrollment file about all Red Lake Nation citizens' blood quantums (shown in Figures 2 and 3) to estimate the percentage of future children who would be eligible under each scenario, considering the blood quantums of people who we expect will become parents.

Figures 8-11 show, for each 5-year period and each mother's (or father's) age group, the percentage of children age 0-4 who would be eligible for enrollment under Scenarios 1-4. For example, 71% of the young children of a 35 to 39-year-old Red Lake Nation parent were eligible to be enrolled in the 2022-2026 period (Scenario 1, Figure 8). Just 15 years later in the 2037-2042 period, when a new set of parents will be 35 to 39 years old (these parents were 20 to 24 years old in 2022), only 63% of their young children would be eligible for enrollment under Scenario 1.

8. **Percentage of young children of current members who would have eligible blood quantum under Scenario 1 (Red Lake blood quantum at least 1/4 blood quantum), by parent age group and year**

---
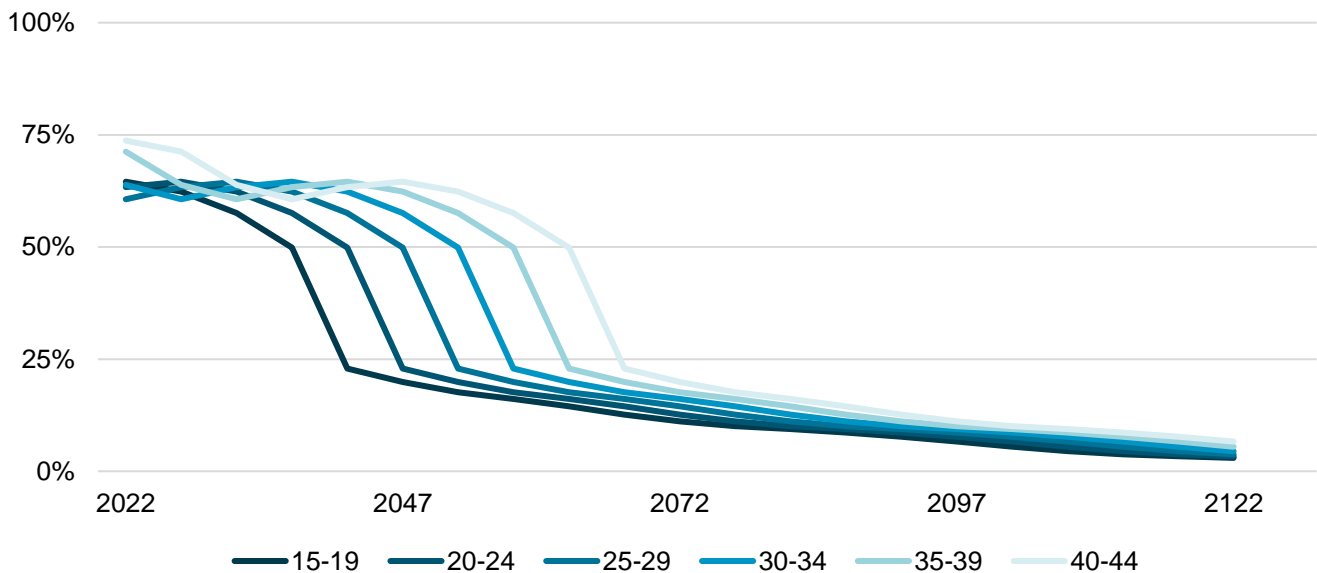
13 There are no official fertility rates for interracial couples and so the fertility rate of couples with an American Indian/Alaska Native man and a non-Native woman is unknown. However, the fertility rate for American Indian/Alaska Native women includes women in relationships with men of any race group. We use the American Indian/Alaska Native women's fertility rate to estimate the fertility of American Indian/Alaska Native men in interracial couples.

9. **Percentage of young children with eligible blood quantum under Scenario 2 (Red Lake plus other Chippewa at least 1/4 blood quantum), by parent age group and year**
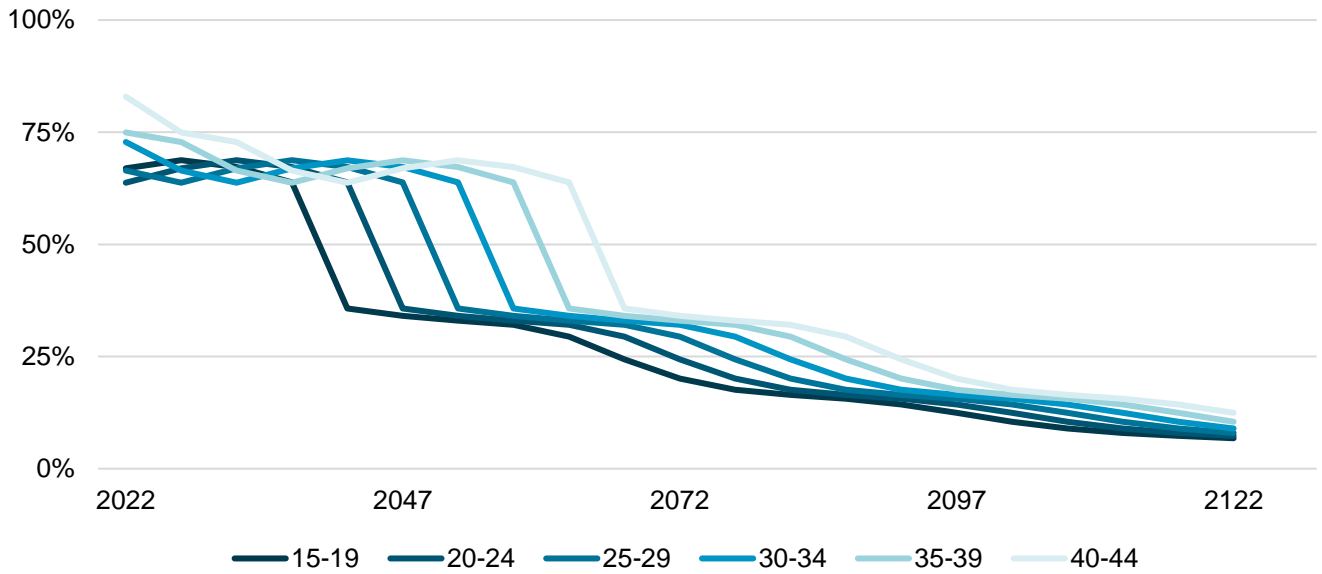

10. **Percentage of young children with eligible blood quantum under Scenario 3 (Red Lake plus other federally-recognized American Indian, Alaska Native, or Canadian First Nations at least 1/4 blood quantum), by parent age group and year**
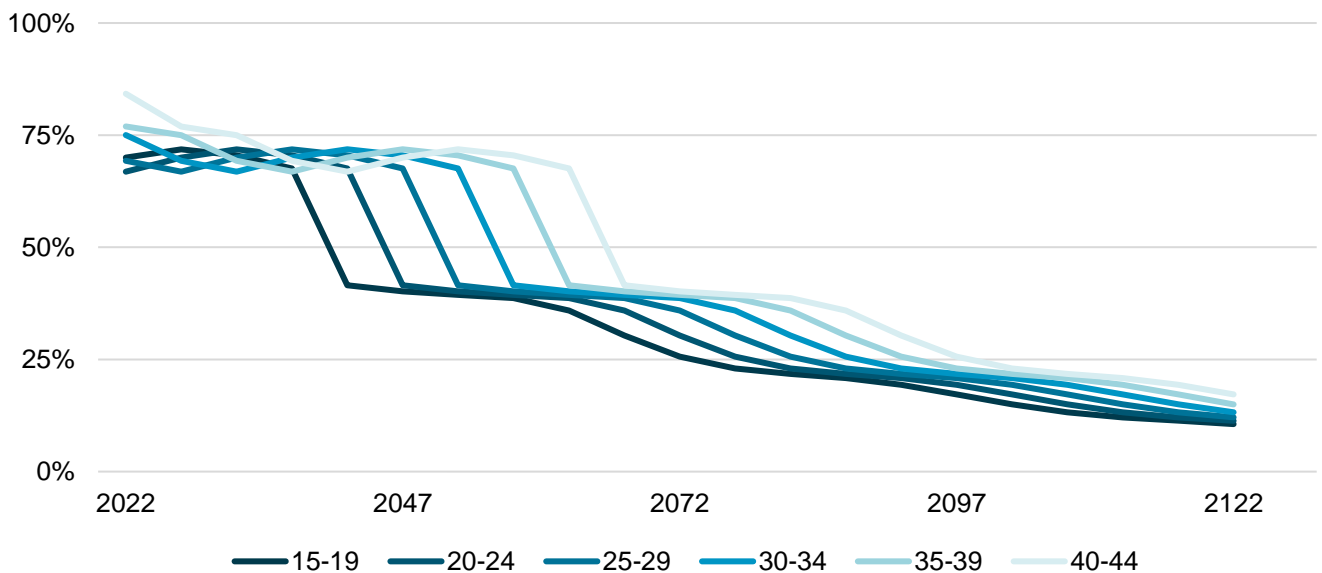
11. Percentage of young children with eligible blood quantum under Scenario 4 (Red Lake at least 1/8 blood quantum), by parent age group and year
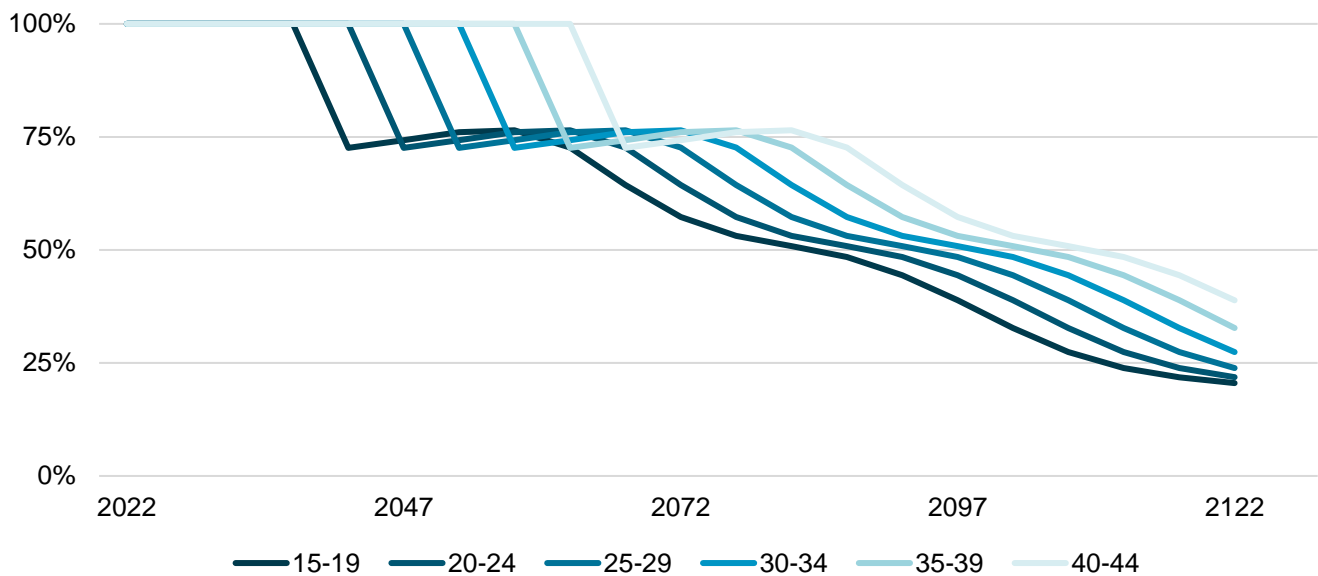
Lineal descent projections (Scenarios 5 and 6)

Scenario 5 is one in which all descendants of Red Lake Nation members on the 1958 tribal base roll would be eligible for enrollment, and Scenario 6 involves a phased approach to moving to including all lineal descendants. This enrollment criterion is called "lineal descent," which is an alternative to blood quantum in which any individual born to a tribal member would be eligible for enrollment.

The projections for Scenarios 5 and 6 used different methods because they start with a different year (1958 instead of 2022) and do not require us to apply an adjustment to the fertility rate for blood quantum -- all children of tribal members would be eligible to be enrolled under this criterion. We completed the following steps to project the population of Red Lake Nation under the scenario of lineal descent:

1. We identified the number and ages of children of respondents to the survey.

2. We used this information to estimate the number of living children (of all ages) of all enrolled members who are not currently enrolled (an estimated 5,588 people).

3. For the projections from 2022 through 2122, we used the same fertility and survival information as in Scenarios 1-4 to project the population, but we included all expected children (regardless of blood quantum).

We completed two Scenario 5 projections: One with only currently enrolled people and their future descendants, and the other which also includes the currently living children of enrolled members (as well as their future descendants).

For Scenario 6, we did not compute projections. However, we know that the population of Red Lake Nation would be phased gradually from 1/4 blood quantum to lineal descent, either by phasing in people with lower blood quantums by $1/16^{th}$ every three years or by enrolling tribal descendants by age groups every three years. This approach would help the tribe to manage demands on the enrollment office and other tribal departments.

Results of the population projections

The main findings from the population projections are shown in the Corrected Red Lake Nation Population Projections Summary Report (May 2024). The following data tables were used to create the charts in the summary report.

Results: Scenario 1

Keep the tribal enrollment criteria the same – 1/4 Red Lake Nation blood quantum.

Figure 12 shows the results of the population projections under this scenario.

12. Detailed population projections for Red Lake Nation under Scenario 1

Year	Currently enrolled in Red Lake Nation and their descendants who will be eligible for enrollment under Scenario 1	People alive in 2022 who could be enrolled under Scenario 1, and their descendants
2022	16,347	18,598
2027	16,766	19,036
2032	17,116	19,394
2037	17,368	19,632
2042	17,435	19,657
2047	17,245	19,394
2052	16,740	18,787
2057	15,978	17,882
2062	15,086	16,809
2067	14,080	15,611
2072	12,963	14,306
2077	11,749	12,893
2082	10,505	11,463
2087	9,311	10,083
2092	8,111	8,705
2097	6,923	7,375
2102	5,804	6,120
2107	4,817	5,033
2112	4,012	4,162
2117	3,272	3,381
2122	2,581	2,656

Results: Scenario 2

Change the tribal enrollment criteria by making enrollment eligibility 1/4 blood quantum including Red Lake Nation and other Chippewa/Ojibwe federally recognized American Indian or Canadian First Nations tribes.

Figure 13 shows the results of the population projections under this scenario assuming the base population is the current Red Lake Nation population (i.e., no one who is currently alive today would become enrolled even if the enrollment criteria were to be changed).

13. Detailed population projections for Red Lake Nation under Scenario 2

Year	Currently enrolled in Red Lake Nation and their descendants who will be eligible for enrollment under Scenario 2	People alive in 2022 who could be enrolled under Scenario 2, and their descendants
2022	16,347	19,167
2027	16,836	19,698
2032	17,242	20,131
2037	17,560	20,454
2042	17,722	20,593
2047	17,654	20,467
2052	17,291	20,001
2057	16,680	19,232
2062	15,947	18,288
2067	15,104	17,213
2072	14,143	15,998
2077	13,063	14,651
2082	11,919	13,283
2087	10,788	11,891
2092	9,622	10,506
2097	8,445	9,150
2102	7,319	7,846
2107	6,308	6,715
2112	5,458	5,769
2117	4,638	4,883
2122	3,859	4,045

Results: Scenario 3

Change the tribal enrollment criteria by making enrollment eligibility 1/4 blood quantum including Red Lake Nation and any other federally recognized American Indian or Canadian First Nations tribes.

14. Detailed population projections for Red Lake Nation under Scenario 3

Year	Currently enrolled in Red Lake Nation and their descendants who will be eligible for enrollment under Scenario 3	People alive in 2022 who could be enrolled under Scenario 3, and their descendants
2022	16,347	20,698
2027	16,876	21,300
2032	17,327	21,822
2037	17,692	22,247
2042	17,902	22,487
2047	17,884	22,449
2052	17,576	22,044
2057	17,032	21,292
2062	16,375	20,359
2067	15,611	19,293
2072	14,728	18,054
2077	13,716	16,692
2082	12,627	15,258
2087	11,538	13,796
2092	10,402	12,294
2097	9,245	10,785
2102	8,130	9,323
2107	7,118	8,053
2112	6,256	6,975
2117	5,402	5,998
2122	4,582	5,057

Results: Scenario 4

Change the tribal enrollment criteria by making enrollment eligibility 1/8 blood quantum including Red Lake Nation blood quantum only.

15. Detailed population projections for Red Lake Nation under Scenario 4

Year	Currently enrolled in Red lake Nation and their descendants who will be eligible for enrollment under Scenario 4	People alive in 2022 who could be enrolled under Scenario 4, and their descendants
2022	16,347	21,935
2027	17,312	23,099
2032	18,224	24,201
2037	19,057	25,203
2042	19,717	25,989
2047	20,142	26,469
2052	20,326	26,620
2057	20,358	26,529
2062	20,354	26,336
2067	20,286	26,034
2072	20,083	25,562
2077	19,693	24,859
2082	19,149	23,950
2087	18,527	22,927
2092	17,788	21,718
2097	16,956	20,393
2102	16,080	18,956
2107	15,198	17,600
2112	14,333	16,357
2117	13,253	15,055
2122	12,126	13,709

Results: Scenario 5

Change the tribal enrollment criteria by making enrollment eligibility based on lineal descent from a member of the 1958 Red Lake Nation base roll.

16. Detailed population projections for Red Lake Nation under Scenario 5

Year	People currently enrolled in Red Lake Nation and all descendants	Currently non-enrolled descendants of base rolls, and all their descendants
1958	3,684	3,684
1962	4,475	4,825
1967	5,465	6,251
1972	6,454	7,676
1977	7,443	9,102
1982	8,433	10,528
1987	9,422	11,954
1992	10,411	13,380
1997	11,401	14,806
2002	12,390	16,232
2007	13,379	17,658
2012	14,368	19,083
2017	15,358	20,509
2022	16,347	21,935
2027	17,312	23,290
2032	18,224	24,672
2037	19,057	26,084
2042	19,717	27,393
2047	20,183	28,475
2052	20,517	29,297
2057	20,816	29,939
2062	21,158	30,548
2067	21,469	31,123
2072	21,669	31,605
2077	21,745	31,939
2082	21,777	32,161
2087	21,864	32,370
2092	21,946	32,496
2097	22,014	32,588
2102	22,088	32,619
2107	22,201	32,753
2112	22,388	33,002
2117	22,422	33,148
2122	22,464	33,244

Appendix

A. Survey instrument

Red Lake Nation Member Survey

Red Lake Nation is looking at the enrollment criteria for tribal members. We contracted with Wilder Research to help us with this survey and a study of our tribe's population and how it may change over time. The results of this survey will be used to help our tribe consider possible changes to enrollment criteria and how this could affect total tribal population size. This survey is for informational purposes only; no tribal enrollment changes will be made based on your responses to this survey.

Please complete this survey and send it back by April 30, 2022 in the postage paid return envelope. Your responses are confidential; no one but the study team at Wilder Research will see your answers. If you have any questions, please contact Liza Spears from Red Lake Tribal Office at 218-679-1417.

Your first name: _____   Your last name: _____

Your date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy): _____   Your tribal enrollment number: _____

Today's date (mm/dd/yyyy): _____   Your gender: ☐1 Male   ☐2 Female

The first questions are about you.

1a. Red Lake Nation has record of you as an enrolled member. Do you know what blood quantum (fraction of Red Lake blood) the tribe has on record for you?

☐1 Yes →
☐2 No (go to 2a)

> 1b. What is your exact blood quantum on record with Red Lake Nation? Enter your response as a fraction (for example: 1/1, 1/2, 1/4, 23/64, 53/128). _____

2a. Outside of Red Lake Nation, do you have any other Chippewa/Ojibwe blood (such as Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, Turtle Mountain, Red Cliff, Bad River, etc.)?

☐1 Yes →
☐2 No (go to 3a)

> 2b. What other Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe(s)? _____
>
> 2c. What is your blood quantum for this tribe/these tribe(s)? _____

3a. Outside of Chippewa/Ojibwe blood, do you have any blood from other federally recognized tribes (such as Dakota, Cherokee, Cheyenne, etc.) or Canadian First Nations?

☐1 Yes →
☐2 No (go to 4)

> 3b. What other federally recognized tribes or Canadian First Nations? _____
>
> 3c. What is your blood quantum for this tribe/these tribe(s)? _____

4. Please provide your feedback about Red Lake Nation's current enrollment eligibility criteria, which is 1/4 (one-quarter) blood quantum, and any other comments about tribal enrollment and enrollment criteria.

_____

_____

_____

_____

INSTRUCTIONS

Next, we have some questions about your biological children. This information will help Red Lake Nation understand what effect changing tribal enrollment criteria could have on the tribe's total population size.

Please provide information for each of your biological children. If you do not have any biological children, you are done with the survey.

*IMPORTANT NOTE: Please DO NOT send any separate documentation at this time. We are only asking these questions for informational purposes; no enrollment status will be changed as the result of this survey.

CHILD #1

Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

Gender: ☐¹ Male   ☐² Female

A. Is this child an enrolled member of Red Lake Nation?	☐¹ Yes (GO TO B)	☐² No (GO TO C)
B. (If enrolled in Red Lake) What is this child's tribal enrollment number?		_____
C. What is this child's Red Lake blood quantum?		_____
D. Does this child have any blood from any non-Red Lake Chippewa/Ojibwe tribes?	☐¹ Yes (GO TO E)	☐² No (GO TO F)
E. What is this child's blood quantum for this other Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?		_____
F. Does this child have any blood from any non-Chippewa/Ojibwe federally recognized tribes or Canadian First Nations?	☐¹ Yes (GO TO G)	☐² No (GO TO next child)
G. What is this child's blood quantum for this other non-Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?		_____

CHILD #2

Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

Gender: ☐¹ Male   ☐² Female

A. Is this child an enrolled member of Red Lake Nation?	☐¹ Yes (GO TO B)	☐² No (GO TO C)
B. (If enrolled in Red Lake) What is this child's tribal enrollment number?	_____	
C. What is this child's Red Lake blood quantum?	_____	
D. Does this child have any blood from any non-Red Lake Chippewa/Ojibwe tribes?	☐¹ Yes (GO TO E)	☐² No (GO TO F)
E. What is this child's blood quantum for this other Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?	_____	
F. Does this child have any blood from any non-Chippewa/Ojibwe federally recognized tribes or Canadian First Nations?	☐¹ Yes (GO TO G)	☐² No (GO TO next child)
G. What is this child's blood quantum for this other non-Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?	_____	

CHILD #3

Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

Gender: ☐¹ Male   ☐² Female

A. Is this child an enrolled member of Red Lake Nation?	☐¹ Yes (GO TO B)	☐² No (GO TO C)
B. (If enrolled in Red Lake) What is this child's tribal enrollment number?	_____	
C. What is this child's Red Lake blood quantum?	_____	
D. Does this child have any blood from any non-Red Lake Chippewa/Ojibwe tribes?	☐¹ Yes (GO TO E)	☐² No (GO TO F)
E. What is this child's blood quantum for this other Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?	_____	
F. Does this child have any blood from any non-Chippewa/Ojibwe federally recognized tribes or Canadian First Nations?	☐¹ Yes (GO TO G)	☐² No (GO TO next child)
G. What is this child's blood quantum for this other non-Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?	_____	

CHILD #4

Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

Gender: ☐¹ Male   ☐² Female

A. Is this child an enrolled member of Red Lake Nation?	☐¹ Yes (GO TO B)	☐² No (GO TO C)
B. (If enrolled in Red Lake) What is this child's tribal enrollment number?		_____
C. What is this child's Red Lake blood quantum?		_____
D. Does this child have any blood from any non-Red Lake Chippewa/Ojibwe tribes?	☐¹ Yes (GO TO E)	☐² No (GO TO F)
E. What is this child's blood quantum for this other Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?		_____
F. Does this child have any blood from any non-Chippewa/Ojibwe federally recognized tribes or Canadian First Nations?	☐¹ Yes (GO TO G)	☐² No (GO TO next child)
G. What is this child's blood quantum for this other non-Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?		_____

CHILD #5

Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

Gender: ☐¹ Male   ☐² Female

A. Is this child an enrolled member of Red Lake Nation?	☐¹ Yes (GO TO B)	☐² No (GO TO C)
B. (If enrolled in Red Lake) What is this child's tribal enrollment number?		_____
C. What is this child's Red Lake blood quantum?		_____
D. Does this child have any blood from any non-Red Lake Chippewa/Ojibwe tribes?	☐¹ Yes (GO TO E)	☐² No (GO TO F)
E. What is this child's blood quantum for this other Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?		_____
F. Does this child have any blood from any non-Chippewa/Ojibwe federally recognized tribes or Canadian First Nations?	☐¹ Yes (GO TO G)	☐² No (GO TO next child)
G. What is this child's blood quantum for this other non-Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?		_____

CHILD #6

Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

Gender: ☐¹ Male   ☐² Female

A. Is this child an enrolled member of Red Lake Nation?	☐¹ Yes (GO TO B)	☐² No (GO TO C)
B. (If enrolled in Red Lake) What is this child's tribal enrollment number?	_____	
C. What is this child's Red Lake blood quantum?	_____	
D. Does this child have any blood from any non-Red Lake Chippewa/Ojibwe tribes?	☐¹ Yes (GO TO E)	☐² No (GO TO F)
E. What is this child's blood quantum for this other Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?	_____	
F. Does this child have any blood from any non-Chippewa/Ojibwe federally recognized tribes or Canadian First Nations?	☐¹ Yes (GO TO G)	☐² No (GO TO next child)
G. What is this child's blood quantum for this other non-Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?	_____	

CHILD #7

Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

Gender: ☐¹ Male   ☐² Female

A. Is this child an enrolled member of Red Lake Nation?	☐¹ Yes (GO TO B)	☐² No (GO TO C)
B. (If enrolled in Red Lake) What is this child's tribal enrollment number?	_____	
C. What is this child's Red Lake blood quantum?	_____	
D. Does this child have any blood from any non-Red Lake Chippewa/Ojibwe tribes?	☐¹ Yes (GO TO E)	☐² No (GO TO F)
E. What is this child's blood quantum for this other Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?	_____	
F. Does this child have any blood from any non-Chippewa/Ojibwe federally recognized tribes or Canadian First Nations?	☐¹ Yes (GO TO G)	☐² No (GO TO next child)
G. What is this child's blood quantum for this other non-Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?	_____	

CHILD #8

Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

Gender:　□¹ Male　　□² Female

A. Is this child an enrolled member of Red Lake Nation?	□¹ Yes (GO TO B)	□² No (GO TO C)
B. (If enrolled in Red Lake) What is this child's tribal enrollment number?		_____
C. What is this child's Red Lake blood quantum?		_____
D. Does this child have any blood from any non-Red Lake Chippewa/Ojibwe tribes?	□¹ Yes (GO TO E)	□² No (GO TO F)
E. What is this child's blood quantum for this other Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?		_____
F. Does this child have any blood from any non-Chippewa/Ojibwe federally recognized tribes or Canadian First Nations?	□¹ Yes (GO TO G)	□² No (GO TO next child)
G. What is this child's blood quantum for this other non-Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?		_____

CHILD #9

Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

Gender:　□¹ Male　　□² Female

A. Is this child an enrolled member of Red Lake Nation?	□¹ Yes (GO TO B)	□² No (GO TO C)
B. (If enrolled in Red Lake) What is this child's tribal enrollment number?		_____
C. What is this child's Red Lake blood quantum?		_____
D. Does this child have any blood from any non-Red Lake Chippewa/Ojibwe tribes?	□¹ Yes (GO TO E)	□² No (GO TO F)
E. What is this child's blood quantum for this other Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?		_____
F. Does this child have any blood from any non-Chippewa/Ojibwe federally recognized tribes or Canadian First Nations?	□¹ Yes (GO TO G)	□² No (GO TO next child)
G. What is this child's blood quantum for this other non-Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?		_____

CHILD #10

Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

Gender: ☐¹ Male   ☐² Female

A. Is this child an enrolled member of Red Lake Nation?	☐¹ Yes (GO TO B)	☐² No (GO TO C)
B. (If enrolled in Red Lake) What is this child's tribal enrollment number?	_____	
C. What is this child's Red Lake blood quantum?	_____	
D. Does this child have any blood from any non-Red Lake Chippewa/Ojibwe tribes?	☐¹ Yes (GO TO E)	☐² No (GO TO F)
E. What is this child's blood quantum for this other Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?	_____	
F. Does this child have any blood from any non-Chippewa/Ojibwe federally recognized tribes or Canadian First Nations?	☐¹ Yes (GO TO G)	☐² No (GO TO next child)
G. What is this child's blood quantum for this other non-Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?	_____	

CHILD #11

Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

Gender: ☐¹ Male   ☐² Female

A. Is this child an enrolled member of Red Lake Nation?	☐¹ Yes (GO TO B)	☐² No (GO TO C)
B. (If enrolled in Red Lake) What is this child's tribal enrollment number?	_____	
C. What is this child's Red Lake blood quantum?	_____	
D. Does this child have any blood from any non-Red Lake Chippewa/Ojibwe tribes?	☐¹ Yes (GO TO E)	☐² No (GO TO F)
E. What is this child's blood quantum for this other Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?	_____	
F. Does this child have any blood from any non-Chippewa/Ojibwe federally recognized tribes or Canadian First Nations?	☐¹ Yes (GO TO G)	☐² No
G. What is this child's blood quantum for this other non-Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?	_____	

***** If you have additional biological children please attach their information on separate pages *****

Miigwech (thank you)!

B. Selected tribal member comments

Q4: Please provide your feedback about Red Lake Nation's current enrollment eligibility criteria, which is 1/4 (one-quarter) blood quantum, and any other comments about tribal enrollment and enrollment criteria.

General satisfaction with current enrollment eligibility criteria

I think it's great what my Tribe did, having 1/4 blood quantum to be enrolled. This helped my grandson to be enrolled!

I was happy when this was changed so my son could be enrolled. This was something my mom wanted to happen years ago.

I am grateful that they did open enrollment, because now I have more options for education.

I am pleased that I am a full blood now!! Because of the change I was able to get my daughter and my grandsons enrolled. Thank you so very much for this gift!

Myself and my children wouldn't be enrolled members if the rules hadn't changed making my mother a full 4/4 blood quantum. I thank the Tribe for making the change – many in my family became enrolled members and very proud!!

I am thankful to be on the tribal rolls at 1/4 blood quantum and look forward to one day, hopefully, having my kids enrolled, too.

While I've always related to my Ojibwe lineage, it wasn't until the eligibility criteria changed a couple of years ago that I was able to enroll. I am grateful to now be seen in my indigeneity, and am proud to be seen as a tribal member.

Suggestions/considerations for changes to determine eligibility for tribal membership

To keep up with other tribes, Red Lake needs to adjust their tribal criteria. Red Lake suffers when it comes to enrollment scholarships as other tribes, notably the Cherokee, have increased their memberships based on adapting their enrollment criteria; so we see Cherokee (for example) getting federal scholarships with actually very little tribal blood quantum over tribes such as Red Lake, who have maintained strict levels of blood quantum for enrollment.

My children would be eligible for enrollment if other Chippewa Bands would be considered. They are over 1/4 with all Bands.

I am very grateful and happy to be an enrolled tribal member. Please consider extending the blood quantum level to include people who are 1/8 so that my future children will also qualify to be enrolled tribal members, too. Thank you!

I feel that any amount of Native American blood should be accepted into the Tribe.

I feel that Red Lake should go back to being 1/8 or more to be enrolled. I do not like the new tribal enrollment of being full blood if parents or self were born before 1959.

At the bare minimum 1/4. It's fair as of right now. It makes my 2 children just enough to enroll. In another 25-50 years, consider making it possible for their children to enroll to keep the blood line strong.

Incorporate other tribal blood. Recognizing all tribal blood to be fair and inclusive. Even if we started with recognizing other Ojibwe blood. That would be a good start.

It would be great to see the minimum blood quantum changed to a lesser amount.

I think the Tribe should include all MCT tribes when enrolling. We should stand together, not apart.

I think Red Lake should use the combined blood quantum of all of one's native tribes as a true enrollment quantum. It would increase the tribe's enrollment of natives, instead of the last change, which increases the enrollment of white people, who otherwise never would have been enrolled.

For the future, I would advocate for lowering the enrollment criteria to 1/8 or descendancy. Miiqwech.

Concerns about children/descendants' eligibility for tribal membership under current criteria

I am proud of my heritage and at this time I do not have any children, but when/if that time would come, it makes me sad that they possibly would not be considered tribal members, because of low quantum – I would like that to change.

I would like to see it changed. My daughter is unable to get enrolled in my tribe because of the blood quantum needed. And I know she is not alone in this. I am proud of being from Red Lake and wouldn't want my daughter enrolled anywhere else.

I wish we would have changed the year to all born before 1991 would become full bloods. I think it would go a long way to keeping our children to be able to be enrolled.

Lower it so my kids can be enrolled. I grew up with Native ways and will pass on my knowledge regardless, but I've faced many "are your enrolled" questions, and if I couldn't have said "yes,' I would have felt different. I don't want my kids to go through that someday.

Opposed to use of blood quantum to determine eligibility for tribal membership

Abolish blood quantum eligibility criteria. Replace with lineal descendant/family bloodline. Blood quantum cannot be scientifically proven, analyzed or medically determined.

I think it is that we are the only ethnicity that is referred to by blood quantum. It's very prejudiced, and all nations should take a stand against it. We are not animals.

I don't think blood quantum should decide if you can be a member or not. As long as your parents or parent are members, the kids should be members.

Marriage and adoption should be sufficient criteria for enrollment of new members as they meet our traditional values. Also, blood quantum should be done away with, as heredity is more in line with Ojibwe culture. No member should belong to more than one tribe; they should choose which upon age of adulthood.

I do not care for the blood quantum, because it was imposed on us by the federal government as a means of termination. We all belonged to clans from the time of creation, which is what I prefer.

I believe if any one of your parents have Red Lake blood then the child should be considered from Red Lake if parents choose to enroll them there. No matter what quantity they are.

Move to descendency for future generations. I have 3 boys; they are a 1/4, but then their children are in danger of not being able to be enrolled, so they are just going to stay enrolled in a Tribe from the Pacific Northwest, where it is descendency.

The use of blood quantum as a requirement for enrollment is highly problematic. … Being enrolled plays a large part in Natives' ability in self-identifying as "Indian" or even "Native." There are indigenous nations in Canada that have committees of elders dedicated to determining enrollment status of Natives. It is a community decision, not one based on "blood" – a largely non-indigenous conceptual way of classifying a people. Please, be better Red Lake.

I believe the enrollment eligibility criteria should be open to all Red Lake Nation descendants as blood quantum divides our people and makes our numbers smaller. This would help reduce a lot of discrimination to our descendants in the future.

Blood quantum is continuing genocide of our people. I think Red Lake should go to descendancy enrollment – i.e., if you have a parent who is an enrolled member, then you are eligible for enrollment.

Native Americans are the only race to use blood quantum to determine eligibility/give validation to its members. No matter your blood quantum, you should be considered "enough." I would love if my son could become a member, as I am a very proud member.

I find it reprehensible that Red Lake plays into the genocidal adage of the U.S. government's agenda to <u>end us</u> as a people through this ridiculous notion of blood quantum. It should be about citizenship, <u>not </u>blood quantum. Nobody is "half" American; they either have citizenship or they don't.

General other comments

The enrollment process was easy and the staff are friendly and helpful.

Personally, I am honored to be enrolled, and hope to one day see my children enrolled. Our family has made it known, from a young age, to be able to know our family tree and any traditions known to our elders. Our tribe's children are our tribe's future.