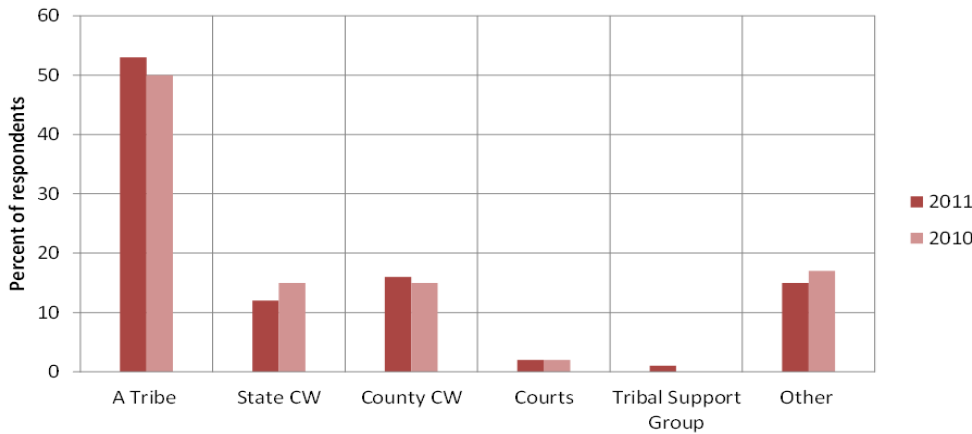




Who Responded:

We surveyed over 1000 people connected with Indian Child Welfare, the response rate was 5% higher than last year

1. Who Do You Work For:



Points of Interest:

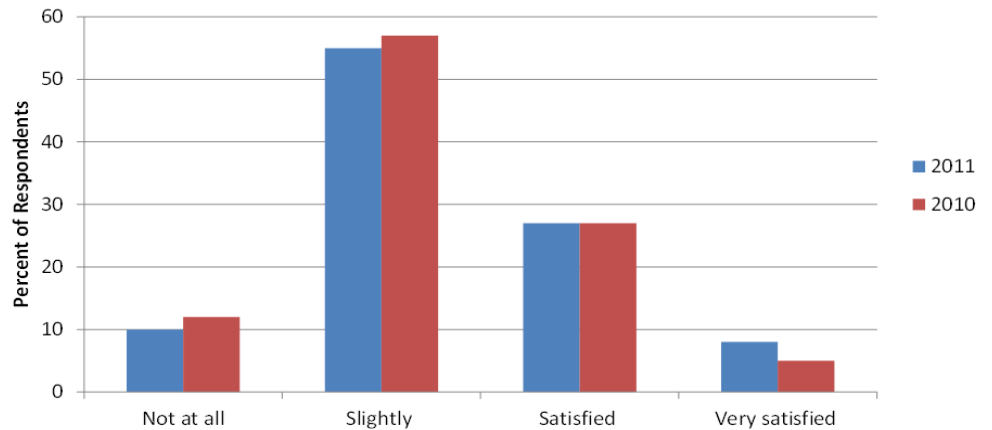
- The organizations affected the most, day to day, by ICWA, the Tribes and County Child Welfare, increased their response rate, all other parties were a bit down.
- Response rate improved by 5%
- Other groups responding included the Bureau of Indian Affairs, other Federal Government Depts, County Counsel, Universities, and Non Profit Groups

Communication between Tribes and Counties:

Points of Interest:

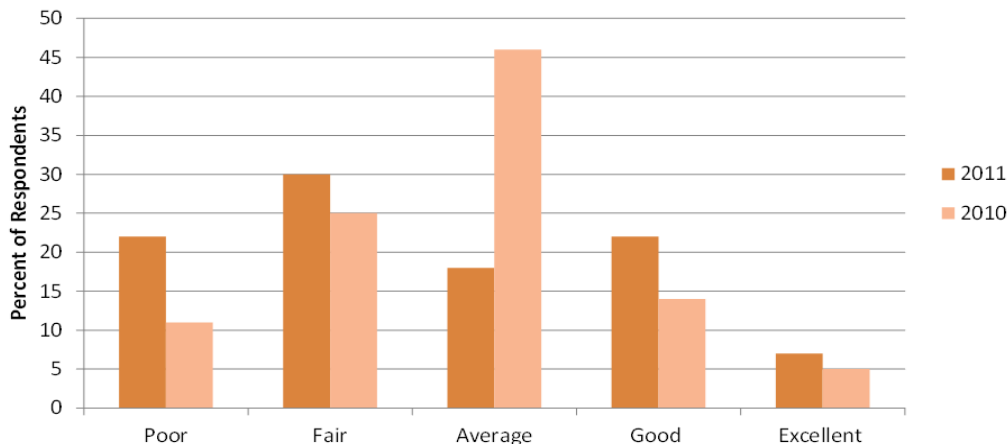
- There does seem to be a slight improvement in the relationships between Tribes and Counties with a reduction in not at all satisfied and an increase in very satisfied but both of these extremes are heavily outweighed by the "slightly satisfied" group

2. Are you satisfied with current communication between Tribes and County Child Welfare Departments in your State?



Is your State doing a good job supporting ICWA:

3. Is your State doing a good job of supporting Tribes and Counties in the effective implementation of ICWA



Points of Interest:

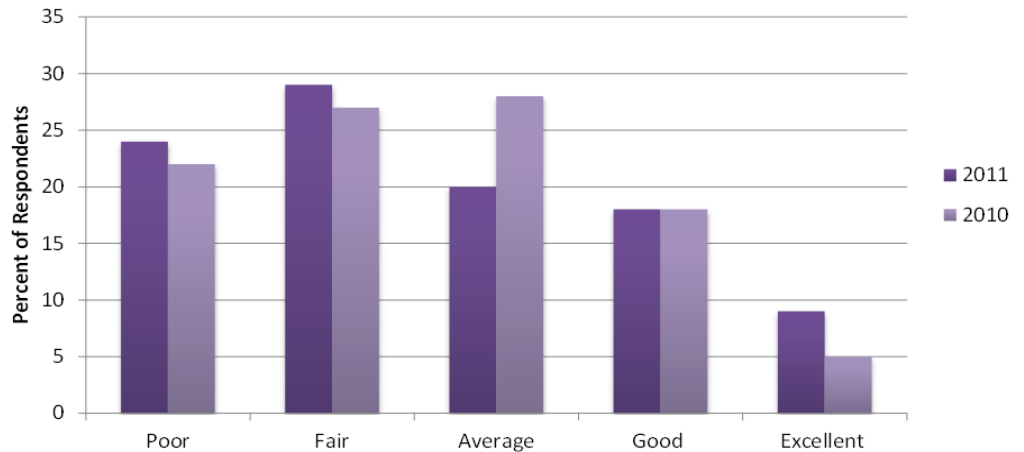
- There has obviously been a lot of polarization since last year, and in general a shift backwards in performance
- Over 60% of State and County workers thought States were doing a better than average job
- 20% of respondents from Tribes thought States were doing a better than average job.

Bureau of Indian Affairs Effectiveness:

Points of Interest:

- There has also been some polarization about the performance of the BIA, again with a slight trend towards the BIA being seen as performing poorly.
- Both positive and negative views are spread evenly around our respondents, with no group (Tribes, StateCW, CountyCW etc) heavily skewed to one extreme or the other

4. Is the Bureau of Indian Affairs doing a good job of supporting Tribes, States and Counties in the effective implementation of ICWA



Are Tribes doing their part:

5. Are Tribes doing a good job of supporting States and Counties in the effective implementation of ICWA



Points of Interest:

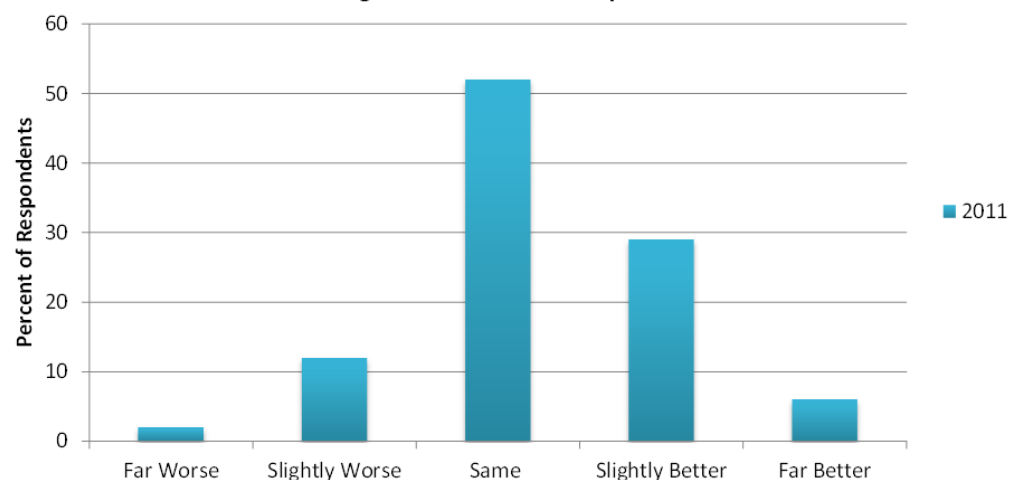
- The increase in “poor” scores was proportional to each responding group, i.e. some Tribes recognize that they have issues, and were open to report that.
- The substantial improvement in “good” scores is supported by Tribe and non-tribe responses equally. It seems all groups see an improvement in many Tribes’ ICWA case handling

Is ICWA compliance getting better or worse:

Points of Interest:

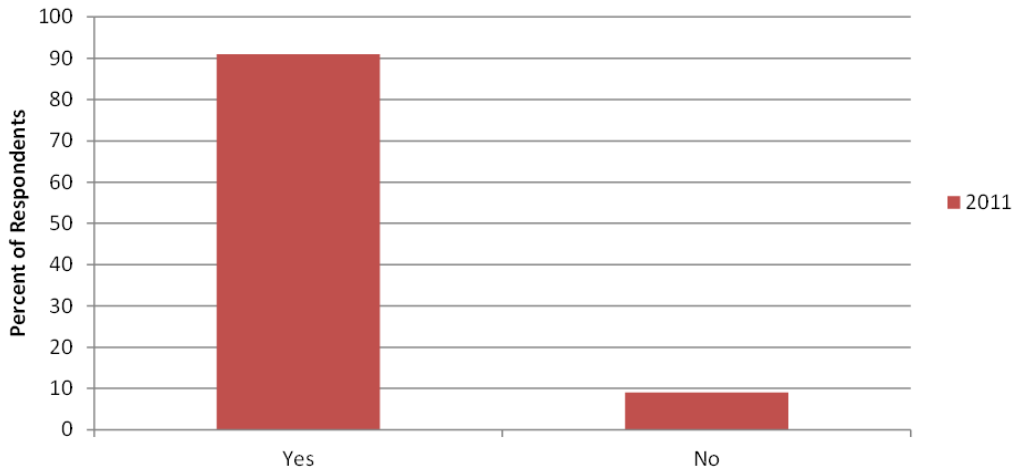
- On balance, despite economic and State and County financial woes, there is a perception of improved compliance over the last year.
- Every “far worse” and every “far better” score came from a Tribe. This suggests a lot of variability in the relationships between Tribes, States and Counties, but radical improvements are possible.

6. Based on economic or any other factors, has ICWA Compliance improved or got worse over the last year



Should States and Counties use Ayazuta:

7. Would you support your State and Counties using Ayazuta's ICWA tribal contacts information



Points of Interest:

- The vast majority of respondents understand that up to date contact information is crucial to effective ICWA case handling
- Tribes understand the communication issues and want Child Welfare departments to have up to date contact information. That is in the best interests of the Indian child.

A sample of comments:

8. We at Ayazuta.com believe that we can radically improve ICWA compliance by making it easier for Social Workers and Tribes to engage each other, by having accurate contact information, and by automating some of the clerical steps in the Notice process. We believe that this will allow Social Workers and Tribes to spend more time focusing on the best outcome for the Indian Child. What are your thoughts:

- Sounds like a great idea.
- It would help some. The largest thing that needs to happen is undoing institutional racism.
- I would love be able to focus on the child but I would also like more training on ICWA
- Great idea, need to build relationships.
- I Believe that Ayazuta is a great help to me
- I think anything we can do to improve communication between tribes and state workers will help the children we serve under ICWA! I also believe that state and federal agency can do more to serve the Native population and engage tribal communities though better understanding of their limited resources, as we all struggle with funding it is important to be proactive rather than reactive.
- I agree, for us the forms are tedious only because what I'm asked to do is just research and that is time consuming.
- Although I've never really had to use A.com, I think this is a perfect way to net work on behalf of our children.
- I feel that anything that helps to improve engaging Social Workers and Tribes to have accurate contact information and easier at the same time to implement policy and practice will be a benefit and I would recommend this to my Tribe.
- Some states post the attorney's name first and not the Dept of Social Services Social Worker Contact and you have to hunt for the SW contact for the case. Makes it time consuming when one could be already on the phone if the child is from your tribe.
- I will check out Ayazuta.com. If it is going to improve the program, then it's worth our time to look into it.
- accurate information is always good
- There is clearly a need for the Tribe and County to work together. The impression I have gotten about ICWA is that the Tribe does not have to follow any of the ICWA guidelines, the BIA rules, or work towards the best interest of the children. The Counties are required to do so. It makes getting on the same page difficult.
- I agree. It can be done...finding a cost effective way to keep states on track, with existing worker time limitations to generate notices to tribes and shrinking budgets are always barriers. We need to allocate more funding for this type of services for states. Thanks.
- Anything that helps compliance has my support. Thanks for your efforts.
- More information and a better understanding as well as the staffing and time to explore what Ayazuta has to offer would be helpful.
- Absolutely, I believe having immediate access to Notifications would greatly improve our ability to respond to all ICWA inquiries in a timely manner.
- We should all be working together for the sake of our native children.

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