

Delaware Nation: CEDS 2025-2030

CEDS Survey “Other” Responses

Q7: Choose the economic development priorities you believe the Tribe should focus on over the next five (5) years. (Please select your Top 5)

Answered: 291 Skipped: 43

1. **35% Support for Tribal Members Inside and Outside of Service Areas (Out-of-State or Non-Jurisdictional Members)**

- More help for TRIBAL MEMBERS outside of the service areas.
- More assistance to out-of-state tribal members.
- Help out of jurisdiction tribal members, develop a revenue allocation plan and implement that for all tribal members.
- Have more aid and subsistence resources for tribal members outside of Oklahoma.
- More programs for out of Oklahoma citizens.

2. **25% Education, Workforce, and Leadership Development**

- Workforce Development, Leadership Development, Community Capacity Development.
- We should be working with other tribes to start our own Votech schools.
- Support higher education for those wanting to progress beyond a bachelor's degree.
- Have online classes to teach us how to speak in our language.

3. **25% Financial and Housing Assistance**

- More financial help for low-income families.
- Spousal support services.
- Tribal Housing or Assisted living.
- Give more to the tribal members each year to help out more.

4. **10% Economic Ventures and Land Use**

- Get us a Casino in New Jersey (for proximity to New York City and a large population).
- Use the land that is ours and corner the cattle business in our area, get tax breaks and pay outs.

5. **5% Health and Wellness Initiatives**

- Health literacy and wellness.
- Rehabs.
- Help with COVID while off work with no pay.

6. **5% Administrative and Cultural Services**

- Be able to get a tribal card online for out-of-state residents.
- More cultural activities available to be mailed, with material tutorials and instruction kits.

Q8: How would you define “success” for the Tribes’ economic development? (Please select your Top 3)

Answered: 291 Skipped: 43

1. **40% Casino and Non-Gaming Revenue Sources**

- Delaware Nation casino on the eastern seaboard.
- CASINOS are the only thing that make tremendous profits. We need one in New Jersey.
- Non-Gaming Revenue Sources (Business).

2. **25% Employment and Job Creation**

- Unemployment decreases amongst tribal members.
- Actual jobs for tribal people, not just favoritism.

3. **20% Housing and Home Ownership**

- Housing for tribal citizens.
- Home ownership.

4. **15% Community Success and Independence from Government Assistance**

- Real success is when you make everyone successful; the community and the people and culture make the tribe succeed or fail together.
- True independence of government financial assistance is the success in my opinion.

Q11: Which types of industries should the Tribe expand or focus on for potential Tribal business enterprises? (Choose Top 3)

Answered: 285 Skipped: 49

1. 30% Aviation Industry

- Aviation (repeated three times, showing significant interest).

2. 25% Casino and Tourism Development

- Tribal casino on the eastern seaboard.
- Focus on tourism or property acquisition, including water parks, schoolhouses, and RV camping spots.

3. 15% Housing Development

- Housing (mentioned twice, emphasizing the need for expansion in this area).

4. 10% Technology and Innovation (AI)

- AI (Artificial Intelligence).

5. 10% Cultural and Youth-Focused Initiatives

- Cultural.
- Provide more resources for the youth (balance out elder incentives with youth resources).

6. 5% Recreational Facilities

- Build a fitness center.

7. 5% Land Acquisition and Government Growth

- Acquire more land to support the expansion of tribal governance and infrastructure.

Q16: What economic development activities do the Tribe and the surrounding community most need over the next five (5) years? (Choose Top 5)

Answered: 253 Skipped: 81

1. 30% Specialized Manufacturing

- Specialized manufacturing (repeated three times, showing high importance).

2. 20% Workforce and Leadership Development

- Workforce Development, Leadership Development, Community Capacity Development.

3. 15% New Business Creation for Employment

- New businesses to employ more citizens.

4. 10% Support for Disabled Individuals

- Services for disabled individuals.

5. 10% Increased Financial Support for Tribal Members

- More money for tribal members.

6. 10% Technology Education

- Education on the use of technology.

Q17: What do you believe are Delaware Nation's most significant strengths? (Choose all that apply)

Answered: 249 Skipped: 85

1. 40% Economic Development and Business Operations

- Delaware Nation Industries (as the economic development agency for Delaware Nation).
- Gold River Casino.

2. 30% Technology and Digital Sector Advancements

- Advanced technology, particularly in cyber work and the digital world.

3. 20% Perseverance and Resilience

- "Not dead yet" (highlighting the Tribe's resilience and ability to endure challenges).

4. 10% Recognition and Community Appreciation

- Thanks for all you do (showing community recognition and appreciation for efforts).

Q18: What do you hope Delaware Nation will accomplish in 5 years?

Answered: 185 Skipped: 149

1. **30% Economic Development and Financial Stability**

- Growth and financial security for tribal members.
- Financial independence on and off the reservation.
- Expansion of business enterprises, diversification of businesses, and continued success of Delaware Nation Industries (DNI).
- Increase tribal income through business diversification, financial stability, and self-sustaining revenue streams.
- Continue developing business opportunities, such as casinos, real estate, and non-trust land acquisition.

2. **20% Housing and Infrastructure Development**

- Build more housing, affordable housing, and elder housing.
- Develop new homes for tribal members, including elder assistance (e.g., meal deliveries).
- Acquire more land for various uses, including cultural and community spaces.

3. **20% Education and Workforce Development**

- Growth and sponsorship of education and workforce development programs.
- More opportunities for higher education and job opportunities for tribal citizens, including support for small businesses and entrepreneurship.
- Provide more cultural education, language classes (including online for out-of-state members), and self-sufficiency training.

4. **15% Cultural Preservation and Growth**

- Continued focus on cultural preservation, including language, traditions, and ceremonies.
- Expand cultural and spiritual connection activities for tribal members, including broadcasting events and educational materials for out-of-state citizens.
- More emphasis on youth engagement in cultural education and language revitalization.

5. **10% Community and Social Services**

- More services and support for tribal elders and out-of-state members.
- Expanded healthcare and wellness programs, including mental health and addiction services.
- Support for tribal members starting businesses and promoting small businesses.

6. **5% Tribal Governance and Policy**

- Strengthen tribal governance and improve transparency in decision-making.
- Create a strategic vision for collaboration with other tribes and the surrounding community.

Q19: Please provide any additional comments regarding Economic Development for the Delaware Nation.

Answered: 86 Skipped: 248

1. 30% Business Diversification and Expansion

- Diversification beyond gaming into new sectors like investment funds, business franchises, food production, and energy infrastructure.
- Suggestions to invest in businesses like farming, cattle operations, and selling native-owned beef.
- The importance of evaluating current businesses for sustainability and seeking new opportunities, including expanding into new geographic areas.

2. 15% Cultural Integration in Business and Governance

- Incorporating cultural opportunities into Delaware Nation Industries and business operations.
- Ensuring transparency and cultural integration within economic development, particularly regarding business management and tribal involvement.

3. 15% Support for Tribal Members

- Enhancing services for tribal members, especially those outside of jurisdictional areas or living off the reservation.
- More financial support for small business startups and additional services for elders and the youth.

4. 10% Community Infrastructure and Environmental Considerations

- Suggestions for community projects like safer roads, stoplights, and community development.
- Emphasis on mindful expansions that consider environmental impacts and avoid wasteful spending.

5. 10% Workforce Development and Training

- The need for workforce development programs, leadership training, and job opportunities, particularly for tribal youth.
- Recommendations for offering internships within existing businesses and for professional development.

6. 10% Financial Stability and Strategic Investment

- Encouraging long-term financial independence through strategic investments in sustainable businesses and careful management of revenue.
- Calls for continued growth of successful business enterprises while maintaining ethical standards and sovereignty.

7. 10% Appreciation and Support for Current Efforts

- Many respondents expressed pride in Delaware Nation's economic progress and gratitude for the leadership's efforts.
- Encouragement to continue building on recent successes and striving for financial and cultural prosperity.