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The baseline anthropometric indicators on Native American adolescents were obtained. This study represents a cross-sectional, epidemiological population (N=183) of institutionally-based, urban resident Native Americans adolescents (ages 14-18) from a wide variety of tribal groupings.

Using data from The Center for Disease Control and The National Health and Nutrition Examination Surveys (NHANES III), comparisons were made to baseline anthropometric measures of height, weight, waist, hip, tricep, and calf skin-folds for both genders.

While the majority of male and female adolescents fell well within national parameters of normal growth and weight for age, obesity is a concern for both genders of these relatively healthy Native American adolescents. The assessment of health risk by body-mass indices, appropriateness in use for intervention and correlation with anthropometric measures may prove of significant interest, especially for clinical monitoring of ongoing health concerns for Native American adolescents.

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