

N.A.T.I.V.E. Spotlights



Deb Haaland

Debra Anne Haaland is an American politician who served as the 54th U.S. Secretary of the Interior from 2021 to 2025. She previously served as the U.S. representative for New Mexico's 1st congressional district from 2019 to 2021 and as chair of the New Mexico Democratic Party from 2015 to 2017. She is one of the first two Native American women elected to the U.S. Congress. Haaland is an enrolled member of the Laguna Pueblo tribe, who have lived on the land that is now the state of New Mexico since the 13th century. As a young single mother, Haaland started a salsa company to support her family, relying on food stamps and the help of friends. She later earned her Juris Doctor in Indian Law from the University of New Mexico School of Law in 2006. She has led an inspiring career in public service since, paving the way for Indigenous women in politics today.

Stay ready & stay connected!

AFGE N.A.T.I.V.E. meets every second Tuesday of the month at 7 pm ET to share individual experiences, develop programming, and encourage Indigenous representation throughout AFGE.

Join AFGE N.A.T.I.V.E. and become a part of the Indigenous Workers' Labor Movement.

Women and Fair Practices Department

80 F St. NW

Washington, DC 20001

Tel: 202.638.6417

<https://www.afge.org/WFP>

Questions? Email us at
WFPTraining@afge.org



Join AFGE's Indigenous & Native Alaskan Constituency Group!





Did you know...

In 2023, 1.5% of the federal workforce identified as American Indian or Alaska Native (about 30,604).

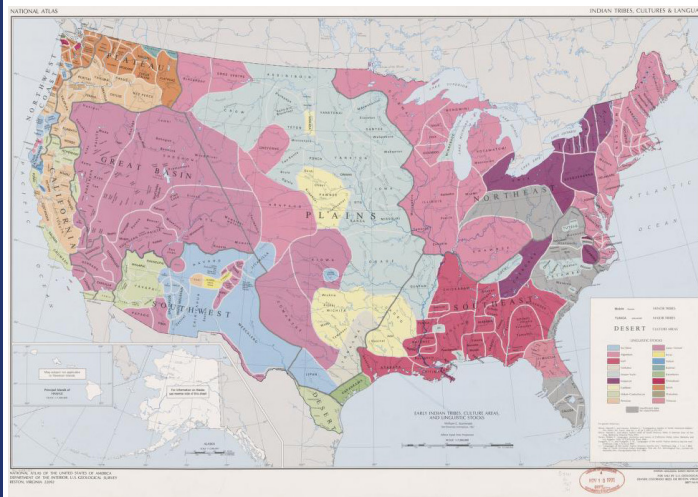
Around 6.6 million people in the U.S., or 2% of the total population, identify as Native American or Alaska Native. A majority of this population resides in the Western and Midwestern states, with the highest percentages residing in Alaska, Oklahoma, New Mexico, South Dakota, and Montana.

Facts and figures:

Native American and Alaska Natives have made significant contributions in the fields of:

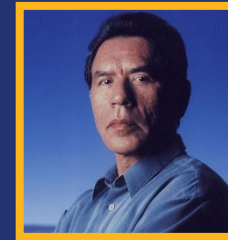
- Literature • Math • Astronomy • Architecture
- And more!

Check out which tribes are native to YOUR region of the U.S.:



N.A.T.I.V.E. Spotlights

Wes Studi



Wesley Studi was born in 1947, in Nofire Hollow, OK, to Maggie, a housekeeper, and Andy Studi, a ranch hand. Studi exclusively spoke his native Cherokee language until beginning

school at the age of five. He served in the U.S. Army, spending eighteen months with the Ninth Division in the Delta area of South Vietnam. An American Indian activist in the 1970s, he joined the National Indian Youth Council, attended the Trail of Broken Treaties demonstration in 1972, and was arrested at the Wounded Knee demonstration in 1973. His initial experience in front of an audience was teaching his first language, Cherokee, at Rogers State College in Claremore. He began acting at The American Indian Theatre Company in Tulsa in the mid-80s.

Now a revered actor, Studi is also an accomplished stone carver, musician, and author of two children's books. In 2019, he received the Governors' Award from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. It is the first Academy Award ever given to an American Indian. Studi's achievements make him an icon to young Indigenous activists and professionals today.

What is AFGE N.A.T.I.V.E.?

What does AFGE N.A.T.I.V.E. stand for?
Native Americans Together for Indigenous
Voices Everywhere

What is the purpose of AFGE N.A.T.I.V.E.?

- Build inclusive work environments on behalf of Indigenous/Native American communities
- Spread awareness of Indigenous contributions to the federal workforce
- Build allyship with communities of diverse backgrounds
- Fight for equal representation for Indigenous/Native American communities in the workplace

