

NATIVE AMERICAN'S IN UTAH

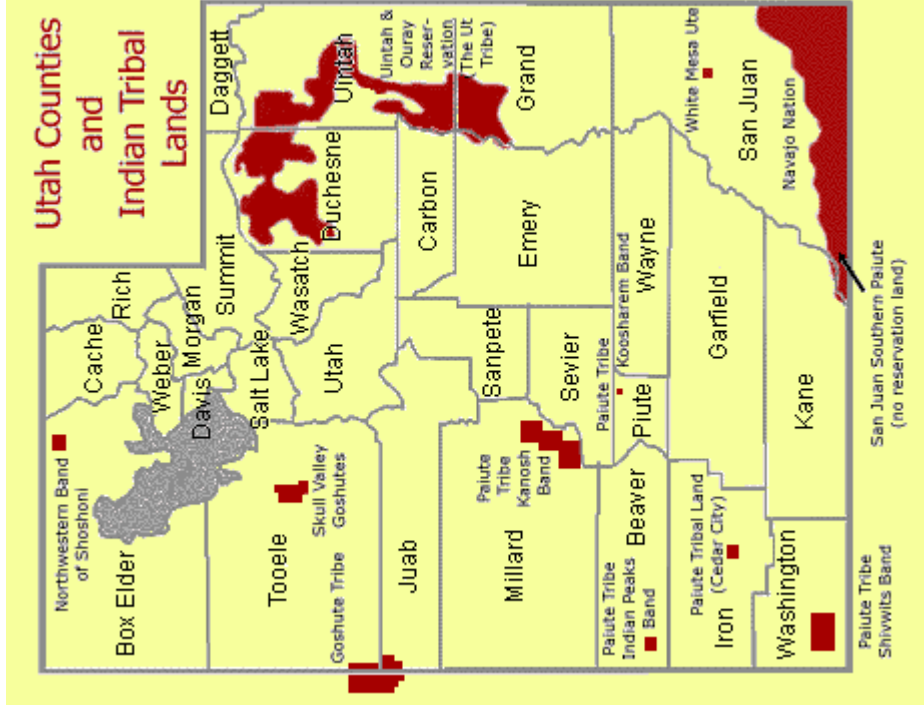
A PROUD HERITAGE

TRIBES AND TRIBAL LANDS

FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBES

- Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Reservation (Nevada and Utah)
- Navajo Nation (Arizona, New Mexico and Utah)
- Northwestern Band of Shoshoni Nation of Utah (Washakie)
- Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah (Cedar City Band of Paiutes, Kanosh Band of Paiutes, Koosharem Band of Paiutes, Indian Peaks Band of Paiutes, and Shivwits Band of Paiutes)
- Skull Valley Band of Goshute Indians of Utah
- Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation
- Ute Mountain Ute Tribe (Colorado, New Mexico and Utah)

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NAVAJO DANCER

Navajo (Dine’)

Food: Planted corn, beans, and squash. Hunted rabbits, prairie dogs, deer, and antelope.

Shelter: Hogans

Clothing: Animal skins and wool.

Way of Life: Close family group organized around the mother or grandmother. Weaved, farmed, silversmithed, and raised sheep and goats.

The Ute, Paiute, Gosiute, and Shoshone speak different but related languages from a family known as the Numic Language Family. The Navajo speak a language that is in the Athapaskan Language Family.

Herding sheep and goats was, and still is, the mainstay of many Navajo families. Southern Utah, northern Arizona, and northern New Mexico is the land of the Navajo, who are the largest Native American tribe in the United States.

Some people believe the Navajo migrated south into their current homeland sometime after 1300 C.E. (Common Era) where they lived as hunters and gatherers. At some point, the Navajo acquired sheep from the Spanish and they learned to weave from the Hopi. The Hogan is the traditional Navajo house.



Goshute (Gosiute)

Food: Dug for roots, gathered berries, seeds from grasses and pine trees. Used a bunch of different plants. Caught birds, crickets, mice, rabbits, insects, and lizards.

Shelter: Wicki-ups in the summer, caves and rock shelters in the winter.

Clothing: Wore little clothing and had rabbit-skin blankets.

Way of Life: Small family groups. Spent most of their time gathering food.

The **Goshute** people exemplify the historic Great Basin desert way of life perhaps better than any other group because of the nature of their territory. They have both benefited and suffered from their desert isolation. There are two Bands of the Goshute Nation, the Skull Valley Band of Goshute (tribal membership of 127) and the Confederated Tribes of the Goshute (tribal membership of 409). The Skull Valley Band has steadily clung to its 1863 treaty relationship with the federal government and refused any form of Federal aid.



MODERN DAY NATIVE AMERICANS IN UTAH

Whether they live in downtown [Salt Lake City](#) or on a reservation, members of at least [35 American Indian tribes](#) are represented in Utah, according to [2000 Census](#) results released Wednesday, from the lone Houma to the 14,634 Navajos.

Navajos are the most prevalent tribe in the state.

Behind Navajos are [Utes](#), with 2,940 residents, followed by those American Indians who checked the "other" tribes category or did not specify to which tribe they belonged.

The tribes with the most numbers have tribal lands inside the state. In addition to the Navajos and Utes, other tribe members with significant numbers include Cherokees, with 736; [Paiutes](#), with 668; Sioux with 655; [Shoshones](#), with 619; and members of various Latin American tribes, with 599.

The [Goshutes](#) are not listed as a tribe on current census reports, but the population of the Goshute Reservation was 90.

The number of American Indians and Alaska Natives grew from 24,283 in 1990 to 29,684 in 2000, but their chunk of the total state population went down slightly from 1.4 percent to 1.3 percent.



FORKED STICK HOGAN, NAVAJO NATIVES



UTE DELEGATION, WASHINGTON D.C.

1880

Ute

Food: Gathered plants and seeds, fished. Hunted deer, buffalo and antelope.

Shelter: Teepee made from buffalo hides and tall poles; could carry like a tent.

Clothing: Wore long dresses, skirts, trousers, and moccasins made from buffalo hides.

Way of Life: Groups of 200 divided into smaller family groups. Women made clothes from animal skins. Men spent most of their time hunting.



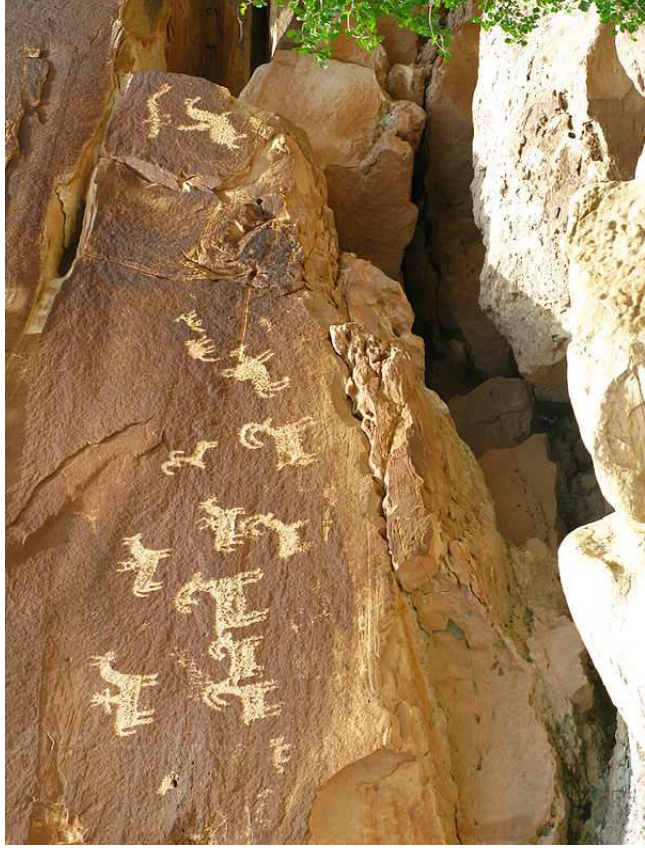
Horse Rider Ute Tribal Rock Art at Arches National Park

The Ute, Goisute, Southern Paiute and Shoshone lived similar lifestyles by hunting, fishing, and gathering wild plant foods. The pinyon nut was especially important to all of them.

These groups now live on reservations in Utah, Colorado, Nevada and Idaho, although prior to white settlement, they ranged all across the Great Basin and Intermountain West.

The state of Utah is named after the Ute tribe. The Ute once held claim to much of Utah and all of western Colorado. They ranged well onto the Great Plains of eastern Colorado into Nebraska and south into New Mexico. In historic times, there were at least 11 different bands of the Ute tribe. Each band claimed their own territory but membership in a band was fluid.

The Ute lived by hunting, fishing, gathering and trading with other Native American groups in the area. Housing consisted of brush structures and cone-shaped tipis made from animal skins. During the late 1800s, the Ute lost most of their lands and were restricted to reservations in southern Colorado and northeastern Utah.



PAIUTE



Food: Gathered seeds, plants, and roots. Farmed corn, squash, beans, sunflowers, wheat, and melons. Fished, hunted small animals.

Shelter: Wicki-up in the winter and nothing in the summer.

Clothing: Wore little clothing.

Way of Life: Family groups of 15-30. Woven baskets used for storage, carrying water, hats, trays, and bowls.

The Paiute are divided into two groups: the Northern Paiute and the Southern Paiute. The Northern Paiute lived in what is now Oregon, California and Nevada. The Southern Paiute lived in southern Utah, southern Nevada, and northern Arizona.

Hunting and gathering with some fishing was the main source of food. A Southern Paiute house might be made of brush and poles stacked in a cone-shape. These are known as wickiups. Basketry was made by the Southern Paiute, as was pottery. There are Paiute reservations in southern Utah and in Nevada.

Shoshoni (Shoshone)

- **Food:** Gathered roots, seeds, and pinyon nuts. Fished, hunted small animals. Raised corn, squash, and beans.

Shelter: Pit houses, Wicki-ups.

Clothing: Animal skins for clothes and blankets.

Way of Life: Small family bands. Made baskets and some pottery.

- The western deserts of Utah were the home of the Gosiute. They are related to the western Shoshone groups and, through intermarriage, to the Ute. The Gosiute lived in the Great Basin as hunters and gatherers. They built cone-shaped wickiups and similar structures. Two reservations in western Utah are now the home of the Gosiute.

Idaho, eastern Oregon and northern Utah was the home of the Northern Shoshoni. The Eastern Shoshoni lived across western Wyoming, northeastern Utah, and northwestern Colorado. Shoshoni livelihood revolved around hunting, gathering and fishing. Bison hunting was especially important.

