

A group of six American Indian and Alaska Native women standing in a field, wearing traditional black dresses with intricate patterns and jewelry. They are positioned behind a white rectangular frame containing text.

# American Indian and Alaska Native Women's Health: Indigenous Social Determinants

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<https://www.indigenousgoddessgang.com/thru-indigenous-lens/cara-romero>

# OVERVIEW

- Reform the child foster care system
- Protect and expand the Indian Child Welfare Act
- Ensure tribal sovereignty continues to be strengthened
- Support Tribal language revitalization and cultural resilience



**Indigenous Social Determinants of Health** are those that are unique to tribal and urban Indian populations.

- AIAN Cultures
- AIAN Languages
- Connection to Land
- Certain social determinants should be thought of in the context of AIAN environments

Drawing Change. (November 18, 2013). *Gathering Wisdom – Visuals on Social Determinants*. Retrieved August 10, 2022, from <https://drawingchange.com/gathering-wisdom-visuals-for-a-healthy-future/>





Floyd H. McCall, Getty Images

## DEMOGRAPHIC SHIFTS

- Many social determinants have improved in American Indian and Alaska Native communities since the 1960s
  - Economic Status
  - Education
  - Health Care Access and Quality
  - Community
  - Culture

Healthy People 2030. (n.d.) Social Determinants of Health. Retrieved August 11, 2022, from <https://health.gov/healthypeople/priority-areas/social-determinants-health>

## ECONOMIC STATUS

- Income
- Employment
- Food Security
- Water Security
- Housing

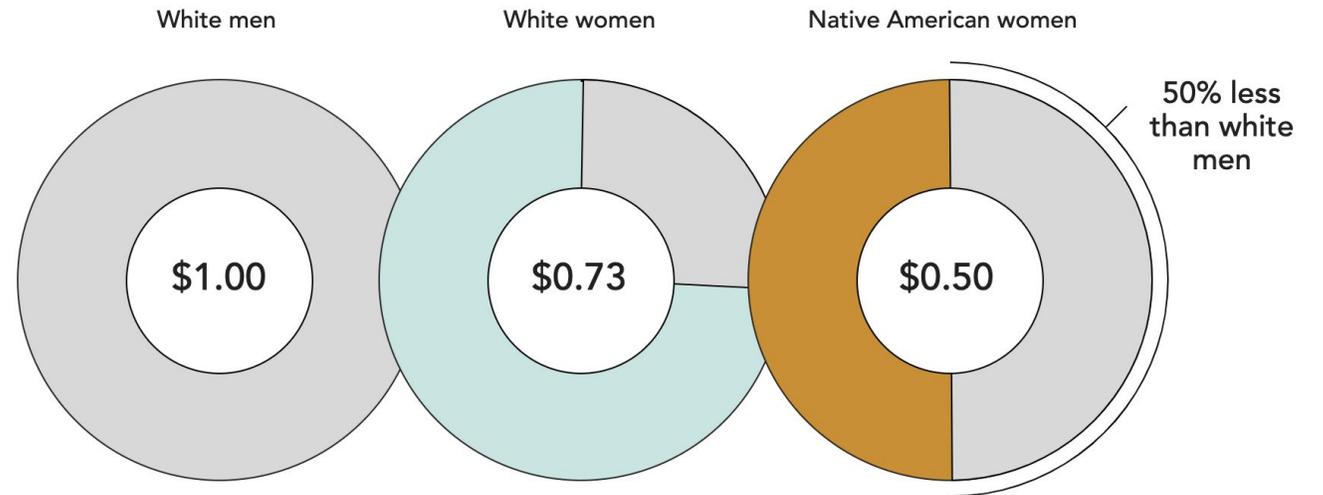
Healthy People 2030. (n.d.) Social Determinants of Health. Retrieved August 11, 2022, from <https://health.gov/healthypeople/priority-areas/social-determinants-health>



Floyd H. McCall, Getty Images

AMERICAN  
INDIAN  
WOMEN ARE  
PAID 50% LESS  
THAN WHITE  
MEN

The pay gap by gender and race

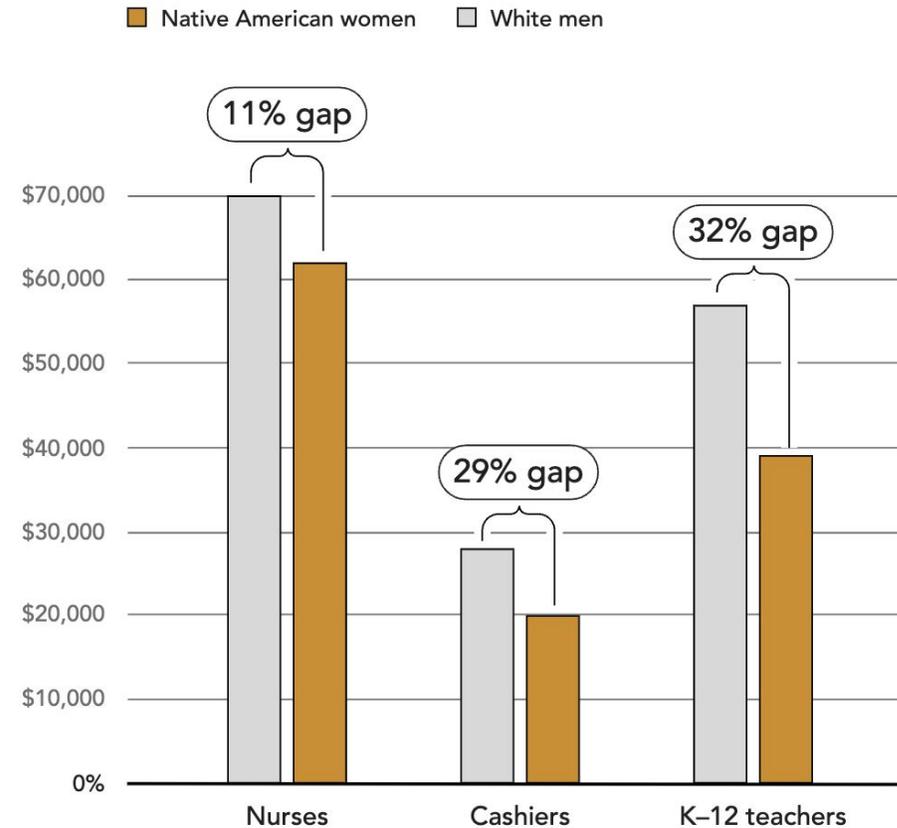


*Native American women face a pay gap—and that's part of a much bigger problem.* (n.d.) Lean In. Retrieved August 10, 2022, from <https://leanin.org/data-about-the-gender-pay-gap-for-native-american-women#>!

# THE PAY GAP PERSISTS WITHIN OCCUPATIONS

*Native American women face a pay gap—and that's part of a much bigger problem.* (n.d.) Lean In.  
Retrieved August 10, 2022, from  
<https://leanin.org/data-about-the-gender-pay-gap-for-native-american-women/>

### The pay gap by occupation<sup>9</sup>



# HEALTH CARE ACCESS AND QUALITY

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Preventative Care Visits

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Health Screenings

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Immunizations

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Medication Access

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Specialty Care

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Insurance

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Prenatal and Family Planning

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Sexually Transmitted Infections

Healthy People 2030. (n.d.) Social Determinants of Health. Retrieved August 11, 2022, from <https://health.gov/healthypeople/priority-areas/social-determinants-health>



# SOCIAL CONTEXTS

Contact with criminal justice system

Contact with foster care system

Cultural connectedness

Social supports

Health communication

Health Literacy

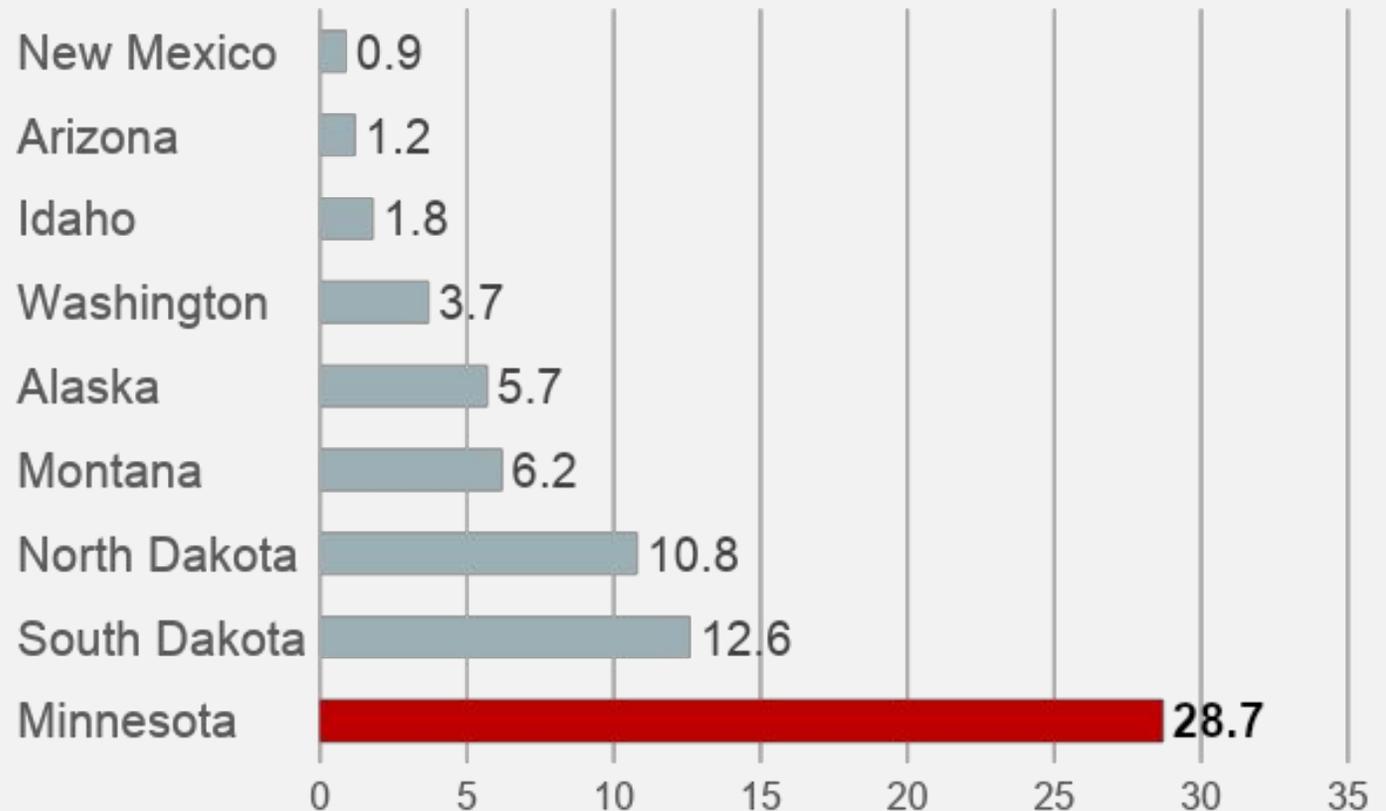
Supports for diverse community groups  
(e.g., veterans, LGBTQTS+, those with  
disabilities, etc.)

Healthy People 2030. (n.d.) Social Determinants of Health. Retrieved  
August 11, 2022, from  
<https://health.gov/healthypeople/priority-areas/social-determinants-health>



## AMERICAN INDIANS AND ALASKA NATIVES ARE DISPROPORTIONATELY REPRESENTED IN STATE FOSTER CARE SYSTEMS

American Indian children in Minnesota were 28.7 times more likely to be in the state foster care system than White children.

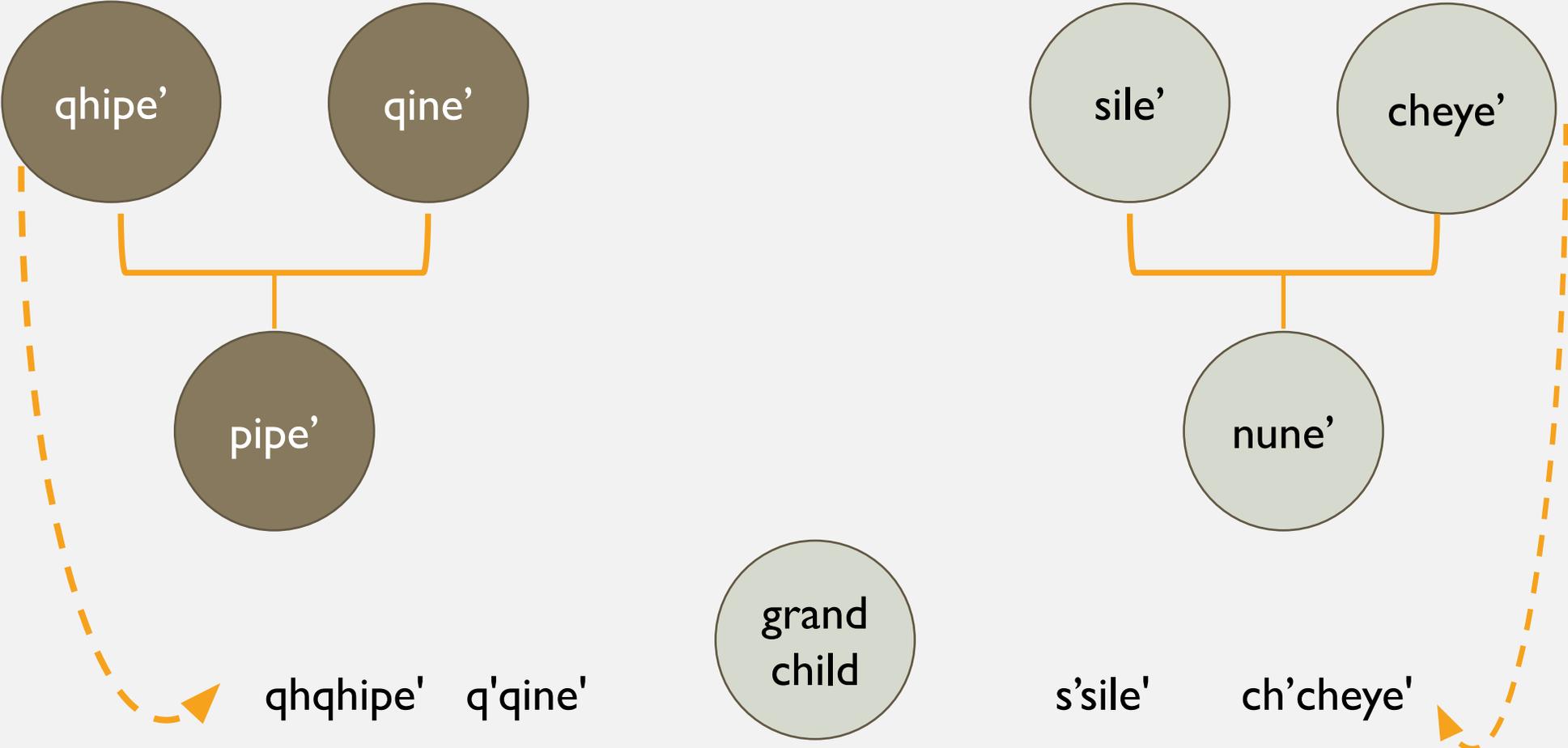


A photograph of a woman and a young child. The woman, on the left, has dark hair styled in a bun and is wearing a black jacket and a pearl earring. She is looking towards the right. The child, on the right, is wearing a bright yellow jacket over a white patterned shirt and has their hair in two small buns. The child is pointing their right index finger towards the right. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with greenery and a building.

MEMBERS [OF CULTURAL GROUPS] USE THEIR CULTURAL FRAMEWORK “TO “SEE” THE WORLD AND ATTRIBUTE MEANING TO THEIR DAILY LIVES.”

Kagawa-Singer, M., Dressler, W.W., George, S. M., & Elwood, W. N. (2014). *The Cultural Framework for Health: An Integrative Approach for Research and Program Design and Evaluation*.

# LANGUAGE – COEUR D'ALENE



# KEY TAKEAWAYS

Strengthen Family and  
Community  
Connectedness



Ensure Access to High  
Quality Data



Restore Indigenous  
Knowledge and  
Traditional Practices

- Reform the child foster care system
- Protect and expand the Indian Child Welfare Act
- Ensure tribal sovereignty continues to be strengthened
- Support Tribal language revitalization and cultural resilience

# MAACAGÍRAAC



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