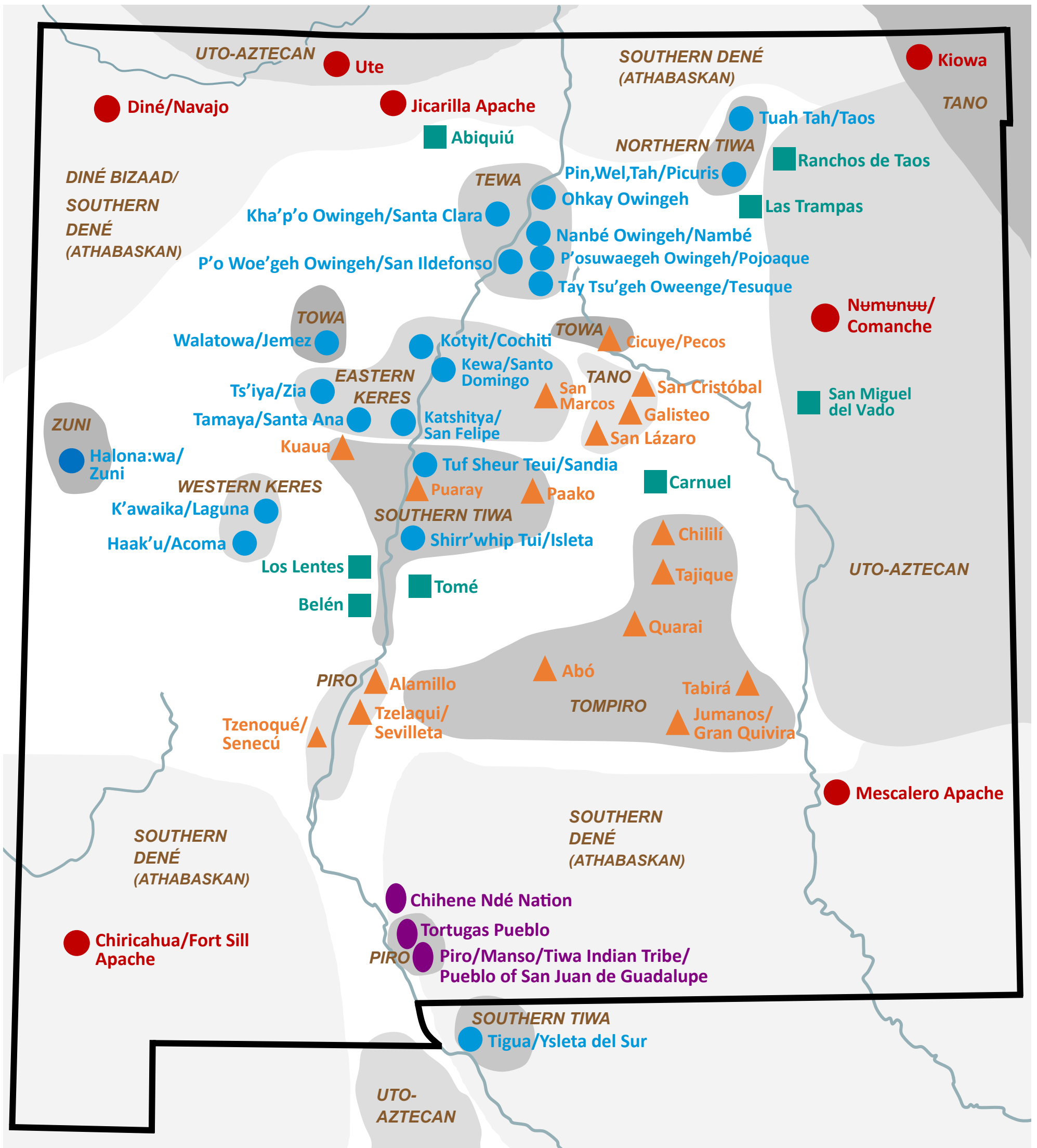


New Mexico Pueblos and Tribes



- Federally Recognized Pueblos
- Federally Recognized Tribes
- Non Federally Recognized Tribes, Seeking Federal Recognition
- Genizaro Communities
- ▲ Historic Pueblos

LANGUAGE GROUPS

NMHM
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Educational Resources

113 Lincoln Avenue
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505-476-5200
NewMexicoHistoryMuseum.org

This map was last updated on 7/1/2024. If you have suggestions please contact the New Mexico History Museum Education Department at NMHM.Education@dca.nm.gov

New Mexico Pueblos and Tribes

Past and Present

Federal recognition is an affirmation of the sovereignty of Native nations, which means that the nation has its own government and can make its own laws. There are 23 federally recognized tribes in New Mexico. Tribes such as the Comanche, Kiowa, and Ute are also federally recognized tribes; however, their tribal governments are not located in New Mexico. They are included on this map because their relationships with both tribal and Hispano communities were vital in New Mexico's history and economy. Many genízaro communities are made up of the descendants of these tribes. Before the Spanish arrival there were more than 100 tribes in the region.

The 19 Native Pueblos in New Mexico are on their traditional homelands. They were not removed or relocated as other tribes in the United States have been. They were given title to their land by the Spanish or Mexican colonial governments. After the end of the U.S. War with Mexico and the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo in 1848, several court cases regarding land ownership and Native rights in New Mexico went before federal courts to determine if Pueblos should be treated as other Native tribes were treated. Initially excluded from the treatment afforded to other Native peoples, their status changed after 1913. Consequently, federal recognition of Pueblo tribes often came retroactively, depending on when each Pueblo had received its land grant from Spain or Mexico.

Between 1540 and 1706, the Native population of New Mexico dropped by about 93 percent. That is devastating. Imagine losing 93 percent of your loved ones or 93% of your town or your city! However, look at the Native population in 2022. It's higher than it was in 1540. Although Native peoples are still a small percentage of the population in New Mexico, the numbers show their resilience, and the culture of our state reflects the deep influence Native communities have had and continue to have throughout New Mexico.

Many Pueblos no longer exist as they once did. Yet, this does not mean the members of these Pueblos are gone. As a means of protection and survival, many Pueblo peoples migrated into other Pueblos. Their descendants are now part of these thriving communities and continue to reflect the deep influence Native communities had and continue to have throughout New Mexico.

Native Population of New Mexico by Period

1540 – Population > 100,000

(before the encounter with the Spanish)

1706 – Population 6,440

(post-Pueblo Revolt of 1680)

2022 – Population 236,695

(present day)