

WISCONSIN FIRST NATIONS

American Indian Studies in Wisconsin



BAD RIVER BAND OF LAKE SUPERIOR CHIPPEWA

- population within state: 6,945
- population on tribal lands: 932
- reservation size: 124,655 acres
- seat of government: Odanah

In 2003, they bought back almost 24,000 acres of their original reservation. The tribe did so to preserve the land and protect it from being developed.



MENOMINEE INDIAN TRIBE OF WISCONSIN

- population within state: 8,720
- population on tribal lands: 3,401
- reservation size: 235,524 acres
- seat of government: Keshena

The forest is very important to the Menominee. They work hard to preserve it. The Menominee Forest can be seen from space.



BROTHERTOWN NATION

- population within state: 1,200
- population on tribal lands: not applicable
- reservation size: landless
- seat of government: Fond du Lac

The Eeyamquittoawauconnuck is the only First Nation of Wisconsin without federal or state recognition. The seven feathers on their flag represent the six tribes from seven communities who banded together to become the Brothertown.



ONEIDA NATION

- population within state: 12,101
- population on tribal lands: 4,473
- reservation size: 65,400 acres
- seat of government: Oneida

The Oneida Tribal School was built in the shape of a turtle representing Sky Woman and the Oneida creation story. In the story, Sky Woman placed dirt on a turtle's back and things began to grow, creating Earth.



FOREST COUNTY POTAWATOMI

- population within state: 1,400
- population on tribal lands: 584
- trust lands size: 12,000 acres
- seat of government: Stone Lake

This tribe calls themselves "Keepers of the Fire." The Potawatomi care for the environment; they were the first American Indian nation to use wind power to create all of their nation's electricity.



RED CLIFF BAND OF LAKE SUPERIOR CHIPPEWA

- population within state: 5,312
- population on tribal lands: 2,513
- reservation size: 14,541 acres
- seat of government: Red Cliff

In 2012, the band created Frog Bay Tribal National Park, the first tribal national park in the U.S. This park is a 90-acre forest along the Lake Superior shoreline.



HO-CHUNK NATION

- population within state: 6,563
- population on tribal lands: 1,411
- trust lands size: 8,863 acres
- seat of government: Black River Falls

This nation calls itself Hochungra, which means "People of the Big Voice." To help protect their language, the nation created a special program in 2006 to teach others how to speak Ho-Chunk.



SOKAOGON CHIPPEWA COMMUNITY (MOLE LAKE BAND)

- population within state: 1,026
- population on tribal lands: 452
- reservation size: 5,356 acres
- seat of government: Mole Lake

The nation was known as the "Lost Band" when the maps showing where their reservation would be were lost in the mid-1800s. Land was finally purchased for the tribe's reservation in 1934.



LAC COURTE OREILLES BAND OF LAKE SUPERIOR CHIPPEWA

- population within state: 7,275
- population on tribal lands: 2,247
- reservation size: 76,465 acres
- seat of government: Hayward

The band lived in a settlement called Pahquahong. The French called the settlement Lac Courte Oreilles, or "Lake of Short Ears," as their ears were not stretched like other Ojibwe who wore heavy earrings.



ST. CROIX CHIPPEWA INDIANS OF WISCONSIN

- population within state: 825
- population on tribal lands: 591
- reservation size: 4,689 acres
- seat of government: Webster

The band moved south from Madeline Island and discovered that the St. Croix River area offered many valuable resources like wild rice. During the 1700s, they started making this area their home.



LAC DU FLAMBEAU BAND OF LAKE SUPERIOR CHIPPEWA

- population within state: 3,415
- population on tribal lands: 1,761
- reservation size: 86,600 acres
- seat of government: Lac du Flambeau

This Ojibwe nation is known for spearing fish at night by the light of birchbark torches. French fur traders who watched this ritual called the village Lac du Flambeau, or "Lake of the Torches."



STOCKBRIDGE-MUNSEE COMMUNITY BAND OF MOHICAN INDIANS

- population within state: 1,126
- population on tribal lands: 438
- reservation size: 24,773 acres
- seat of government: Bowler

The "Many Trails" graphic in the seal's center signifies the tribe's many moves west to Wisconsin that left numerous trails to retrace for the band's history. It symbolizes endurance, strength, and hope.

Sources: Wisconsin State Tribal Relations Initiative. Tribes of Wisconsin Reference Book. Retrieved April 2018, from wtribes.wi.gov and Loew, Patty. (2015). Native People of Wisconsin. Madison, Wis.: Wisconsin Historical Society Press.

CURRENT RESERVATIONS AND TRIBAL LANDS



LEGEND

- Tribal Lands and Communities
- Tribal Seat of Government
- State Capital
- City Name
- COUNTY

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Miles

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