

Missing and Murdered Indigenous People in Wyoming

Summary of Key Findings

HOMICIDE



Indigenous People Make Up



BUT ARE ONLY



Indigenous Homicide



Female Indigenous Homicide



MISSING

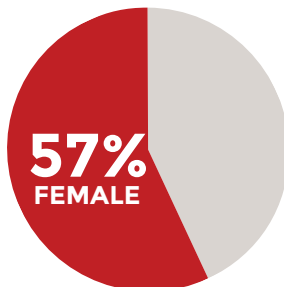
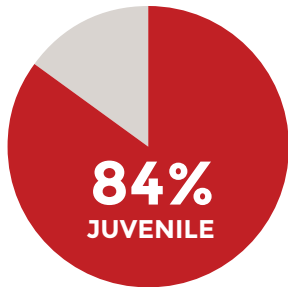
Between 2011 and September 2020

710

Indigenous persons were reported missing

AND
1,254

Missing persons records for Indigenous people were on file

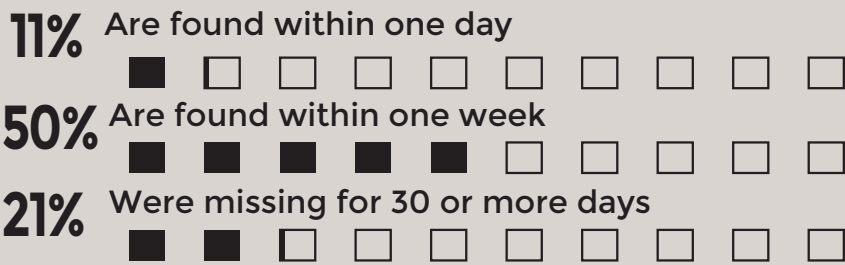


Between 2011 and September 2020

Indigenous people were listed as missing in

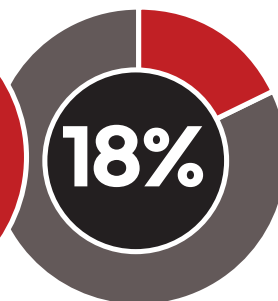
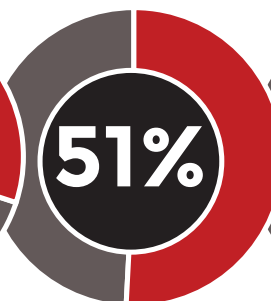
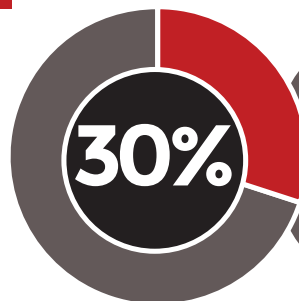


Currently, 10 Indigenous people are listed as missing



MEDIA COVERAGE

Only **30%** of Indigenous homicide victims had newspaper media coverage, as compared to **51%** of White homicide victims.



Indigenous

White

Indigenous Female

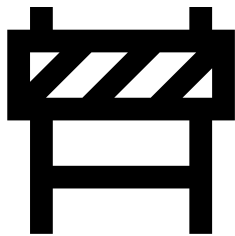
Female Indigenous victims had the least, with only **18%** coverage

MEDIA PORTRAYAL



The newspaper articles for Indigenous homicide victims were more likely to contain violent language, portray the victim in a negative light, and provide less information as compared to articles about White homicide victims.

COMMUNITY BARRIERS



Lack of trust in law enforcement and the judicial system, no single point of contact during an investigation, and lack of information during the investigation and after the final outcome were seen as barriers in the community related to the reporting and response to MMIP.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1 Develop consistent protocols and data systems for MMIPs to inform both law enforcement and families. Pay particular attention to documenting tribal affiliation in official records, coroner reports, and vital records.

2 Create an Indigenous advocacy position/response team to help families navigate the reporting and investigation process. The advocate can serve as a communication point-person, helping to reduce the emotional burden for families of repeating incident details to multiple agencies.

3 Raise community awareness about the prevalence of MMIP, contributing risk and protective factors, and available resources. Distribute a list of community resources and efforts.