

# **American Indian Behavioral Health in Arizona—Policy and Cultural Considerations**

Cultural Competency & Health Disparities

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*Oglala Lakota*

# **American Indian Behavioral Health**

## **Overview**

- **US Health Policy**
- **AI Health Disparities**
- **AI Resource Disparities**
- **AI BH Policy Issues in Arizona**
- **Cultural Considerations**

# AMERICAN INDIAN HEALTH POLICY

## Health Policy Defined:

- Do people have a legal right to healthcare in the US?
- Over \$1.5 trillion spent annually on healthcare in the US
- Over 45 million uninsured people in the US

# AMERICAN INDIAN HEALTH POLICY

## Health Policy Defined:

- *Health Policies* determine *who* gets health services, *what* those services are and *how* those services are delivered
- Health Law is the basis for Health Policy Development
- *AIHP* represents a complex interaction among governments, agencies and industry

# AI Health Disparities

## Life Expectancy in Years:

	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>Total</u>
U.S.	73.2	79.6	76.5
AI/AN	<b>66.1</b>	<b>74.4</b>	<b>70.6</b>
<i>Disparity:</i>	7.1	5.2	5.9

## Average Age of Death in AZ:

72.2 General Population

**54.7** AI Population

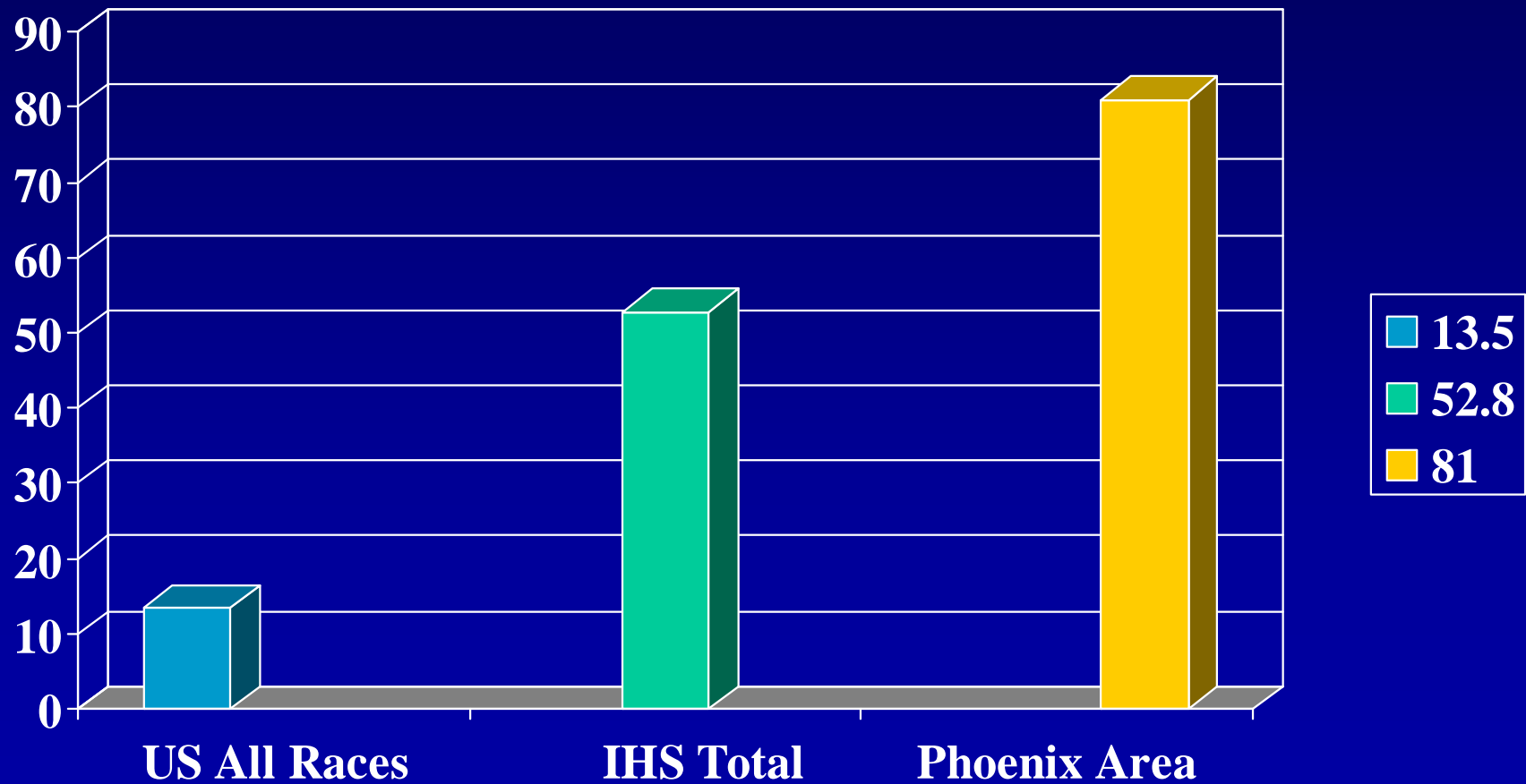
# AI Health Disparities

Death rates from *preventable diseases* among AIs are significantly higher than among non-Indians:

- Diabetes 291% greater
- Alcoholism 638% greater
- Accidents 215% greater
- Suicide 91% greater

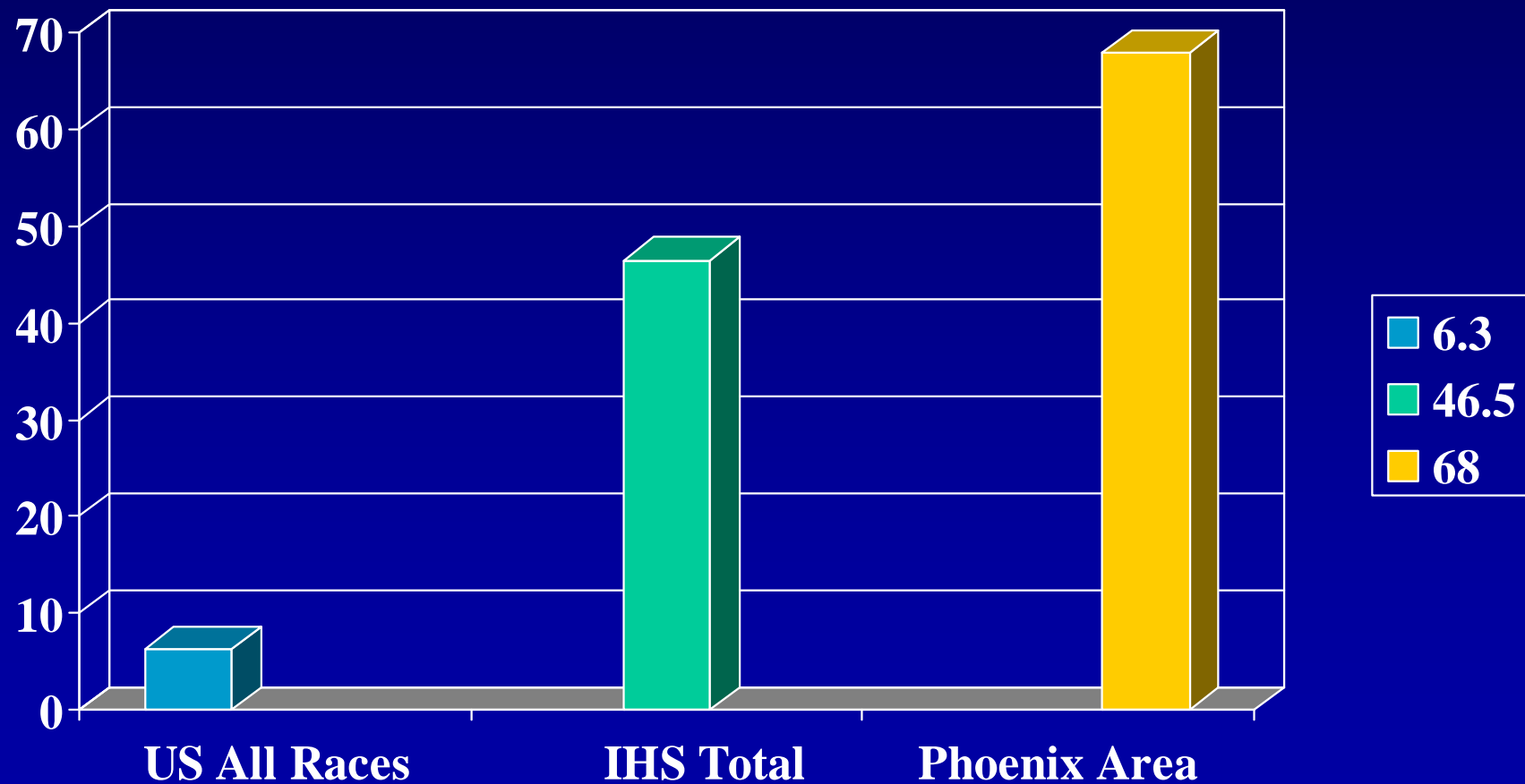
# Diabetes Death Rates

(Rate/Per 100,000 Population)

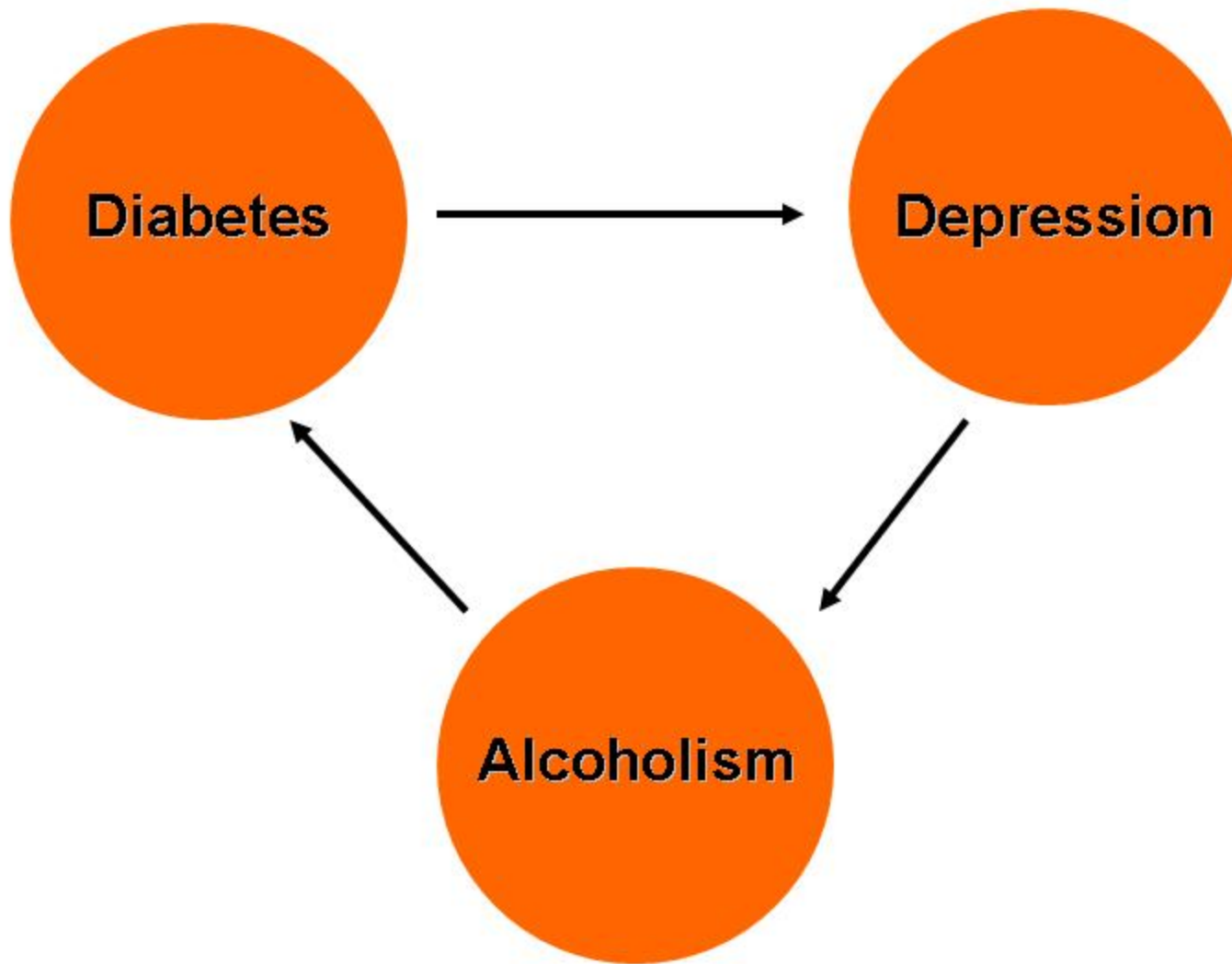


# Alcohol Related Death Rates

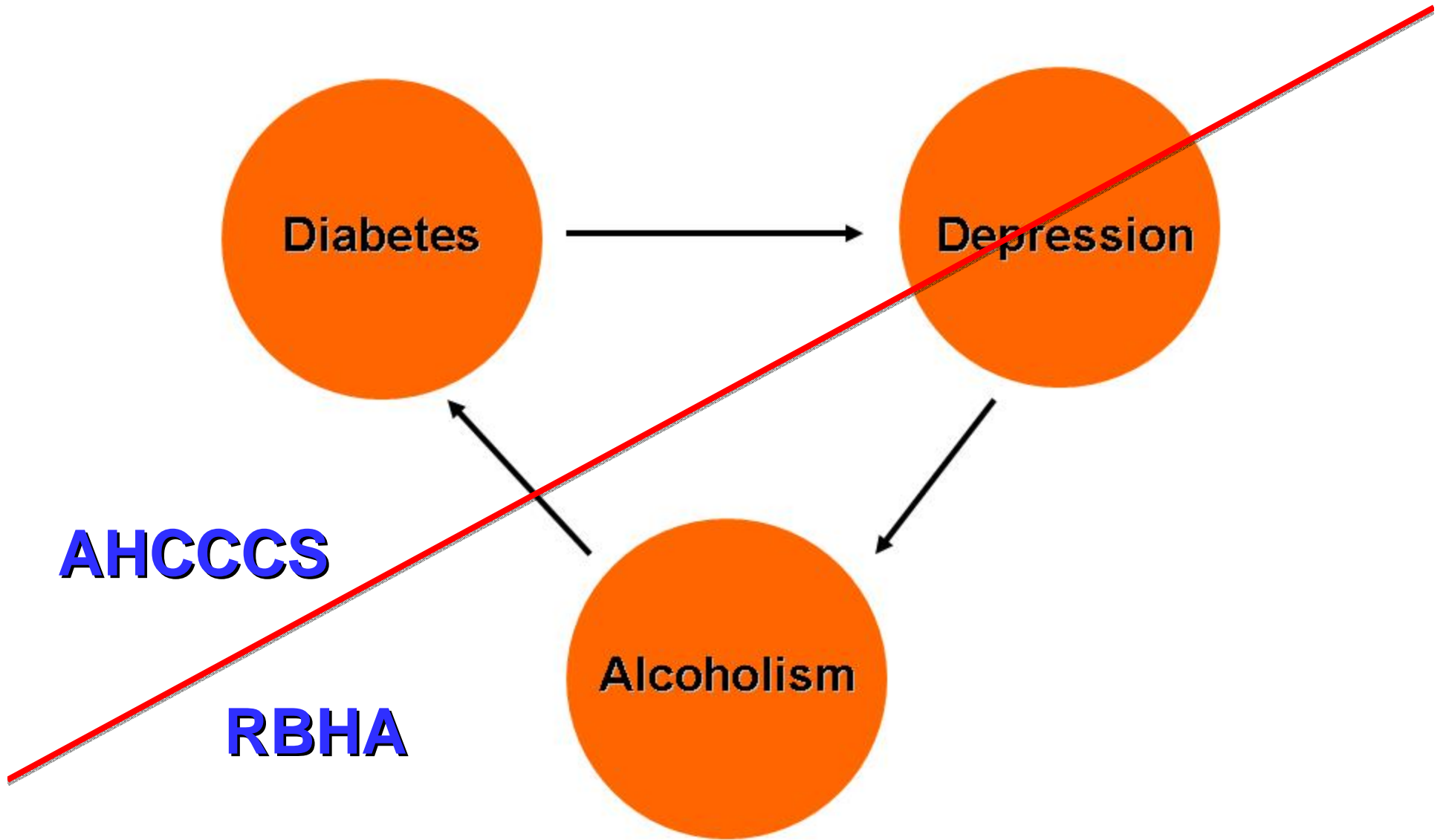
(Rate/Per 100,000 Population)



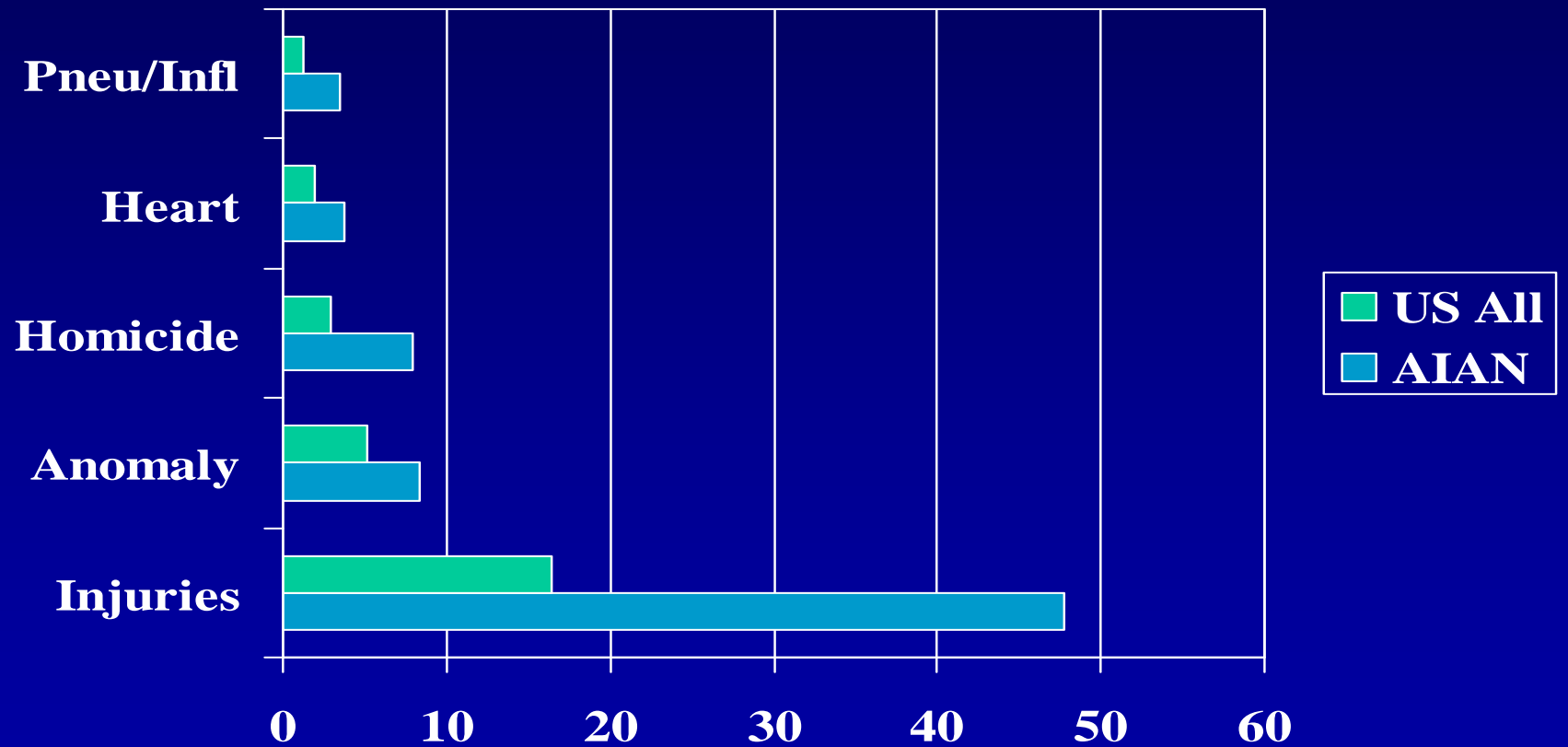
# Diabetes-Depression-Alcoholism Triad



# Diabetes-Depression-Alcoholism Triad

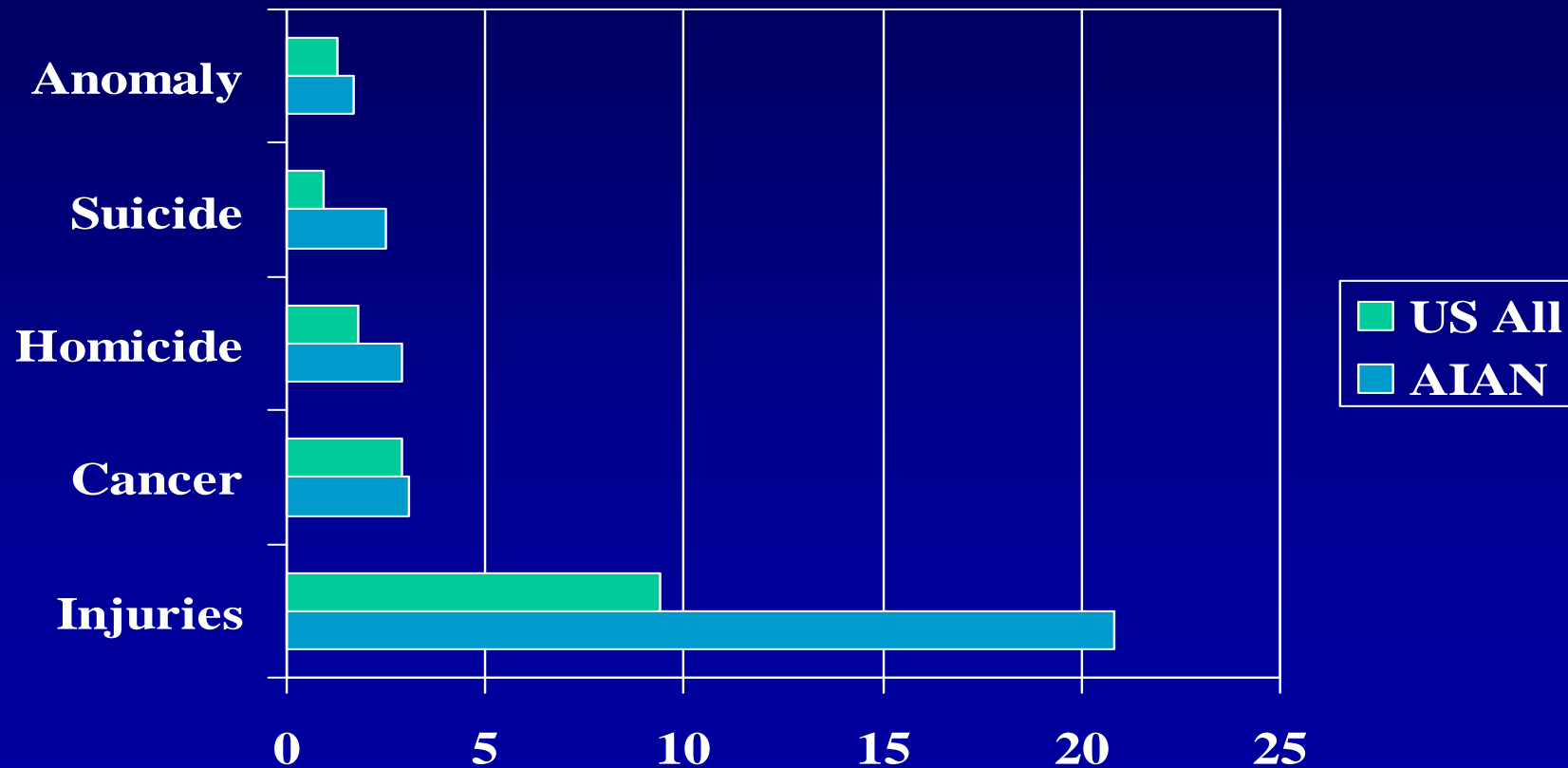


# Leading Causes of Death Ages 1-4



Death Rates Per 100,000 Population

# Leading Causes of Death Ages 5-14



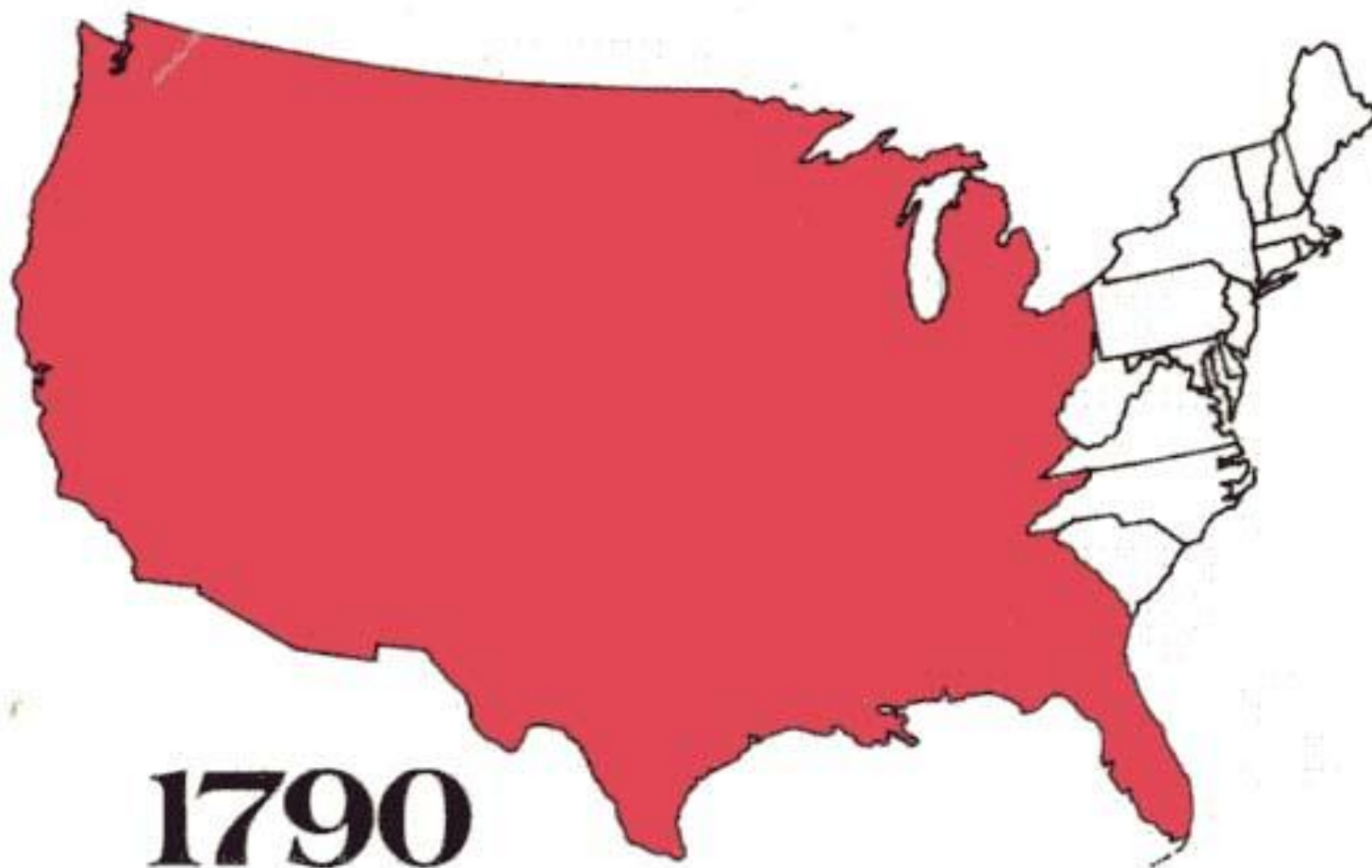
Death Rates Per 100,000 Population

# AI Demographics

- Over 2 million *American Indian Only* in 2000 Census
- Over 4 million *AI and 'other'* in 2000 Census
- Approximately 300,000 in Arizona
- ~60% of AI people live in urban areas
- >60,000 AI people live in Phoenix
- Nearly 100,000 AI people live in Phoenix Metro Area
- Over 560 federally recognized AI/AN tribes—22 Tribes in Arizona



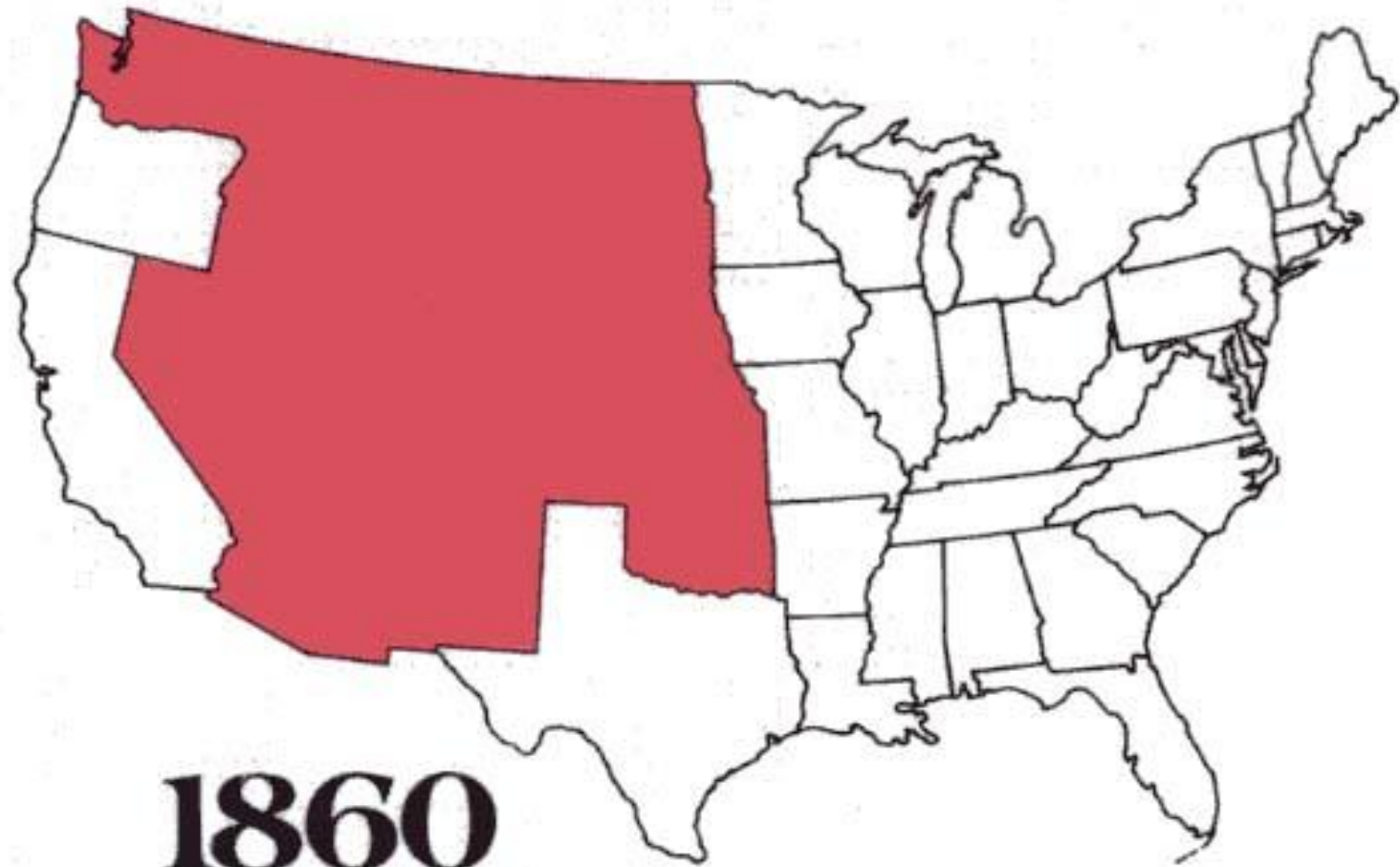
**1492**  
**America Discovered**



**1790**  
**Indians Forced Inland**



**1830**  
**“Indian Country”**



**1860**

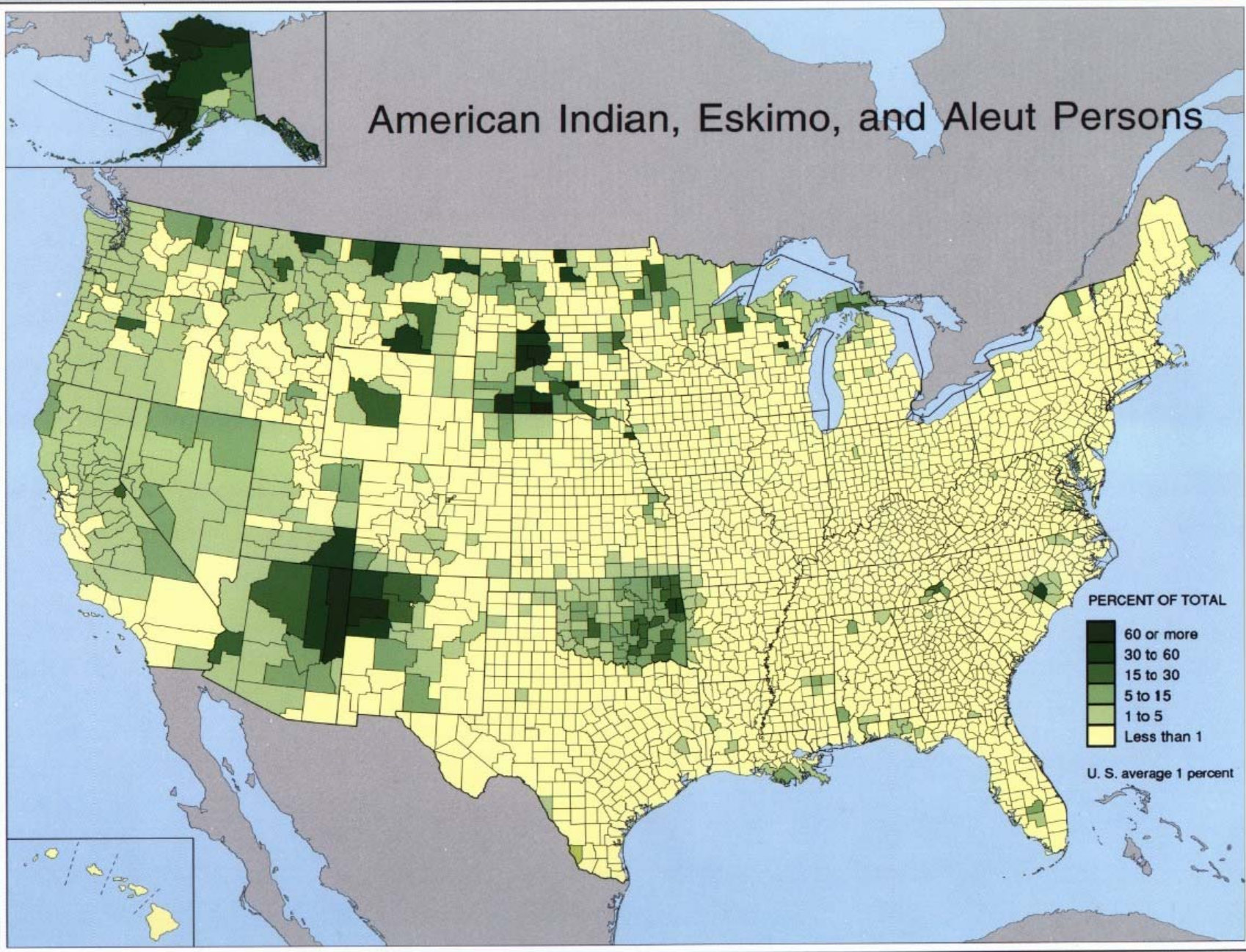
**Immigrant Stampede**



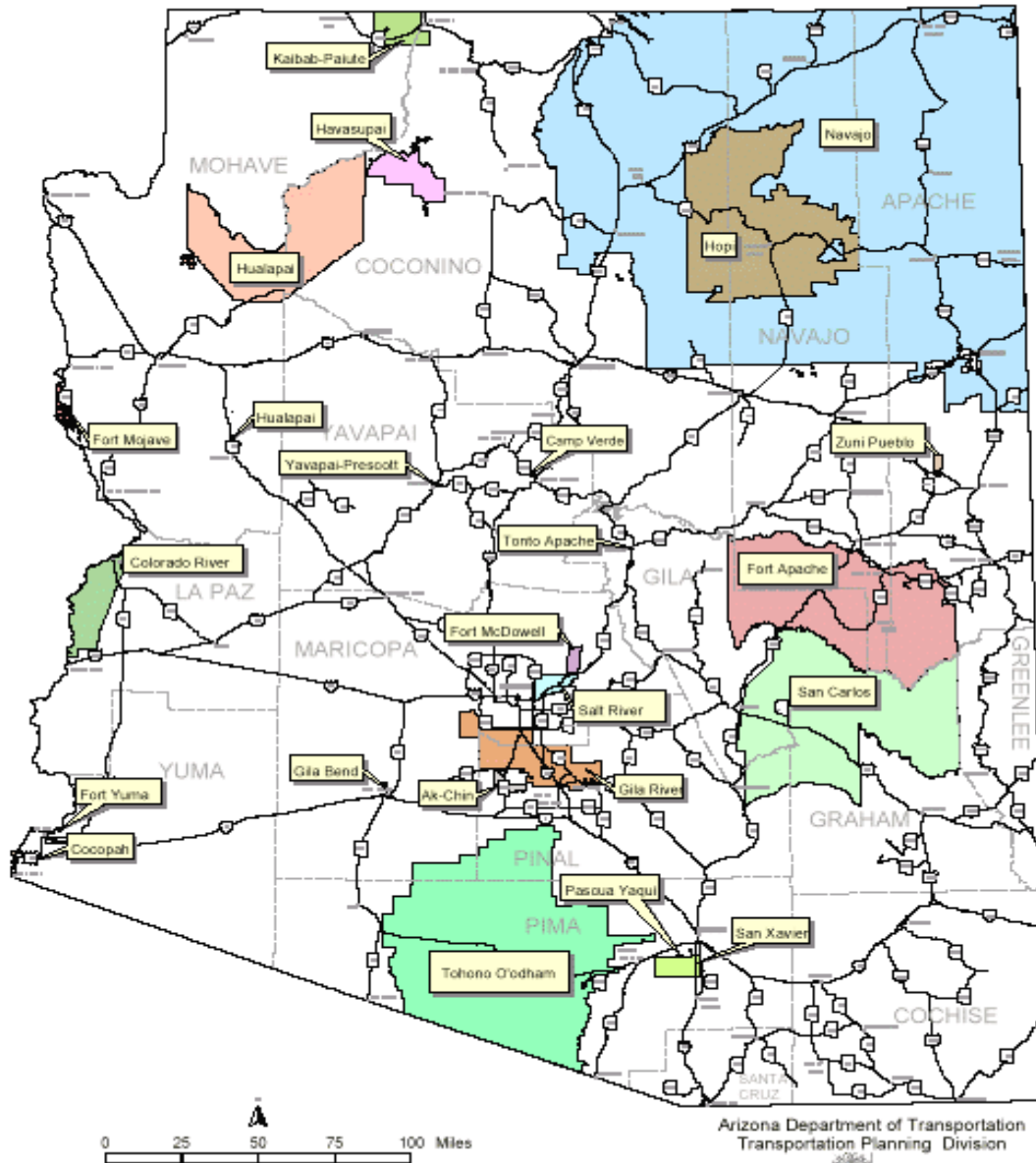
**1890**

# **The Vanquished Indian**

# American Indian, Eskimo, and Aleut Persons



## American Indian Reservations



## AIs in ARIZONA

- >1/4 of Land Base
- 22 Tribes
- ~300,000 Residents

## TIMELINE:

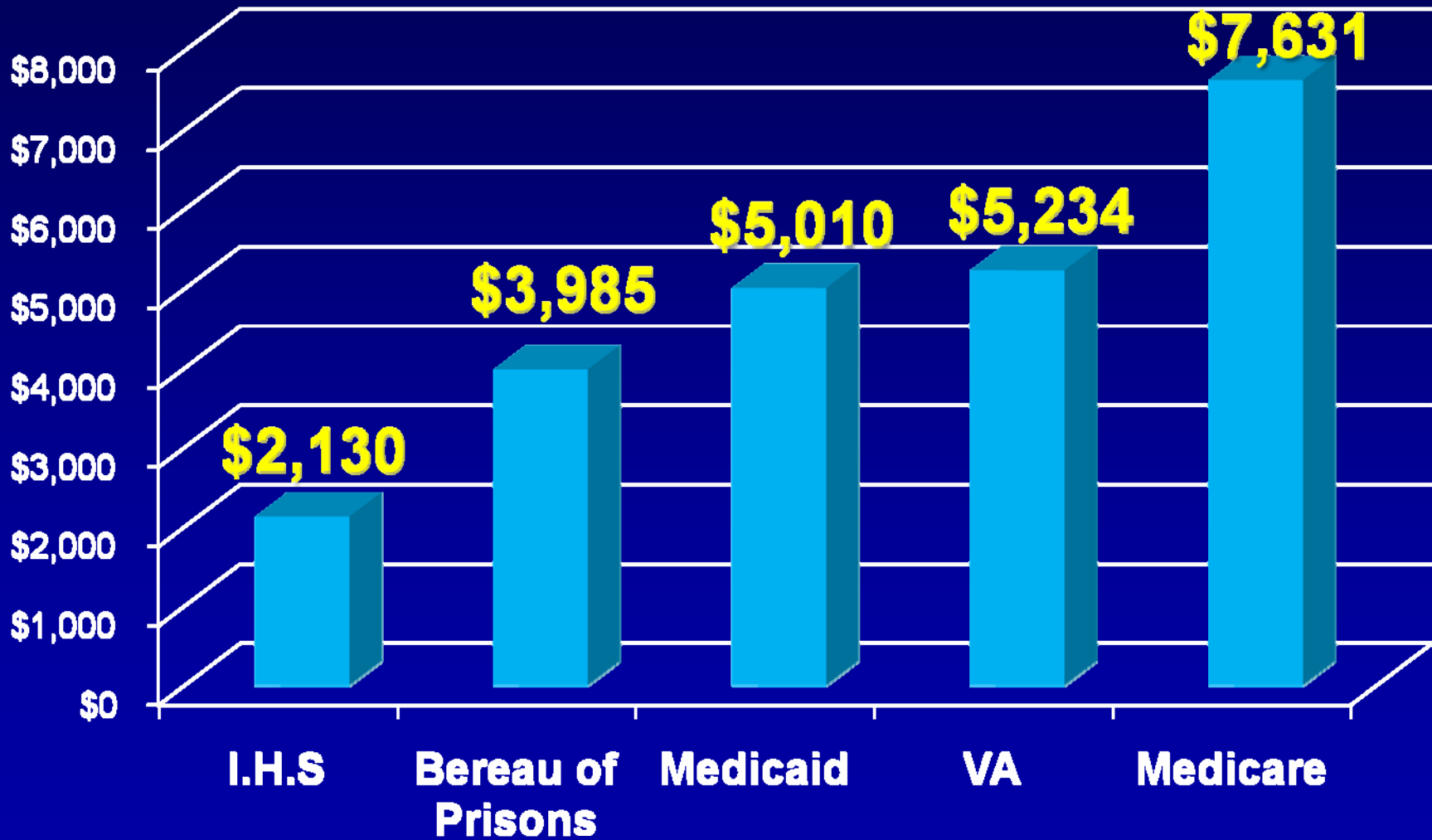
- Statehood 1912
- Citizenship 1924
- Voting Rights 1948

# AI Resource Disparities

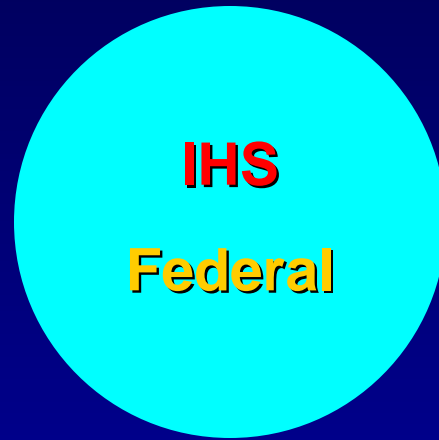
Per capita medical expenditures in 2005 federal budget:

- Indian Health Service \$2,130
- Medicaid recipients \$5,010
- VA beneficiaries \$5,234
- Medicare \$7,631
- Bureau of Prisons \$ 3,985

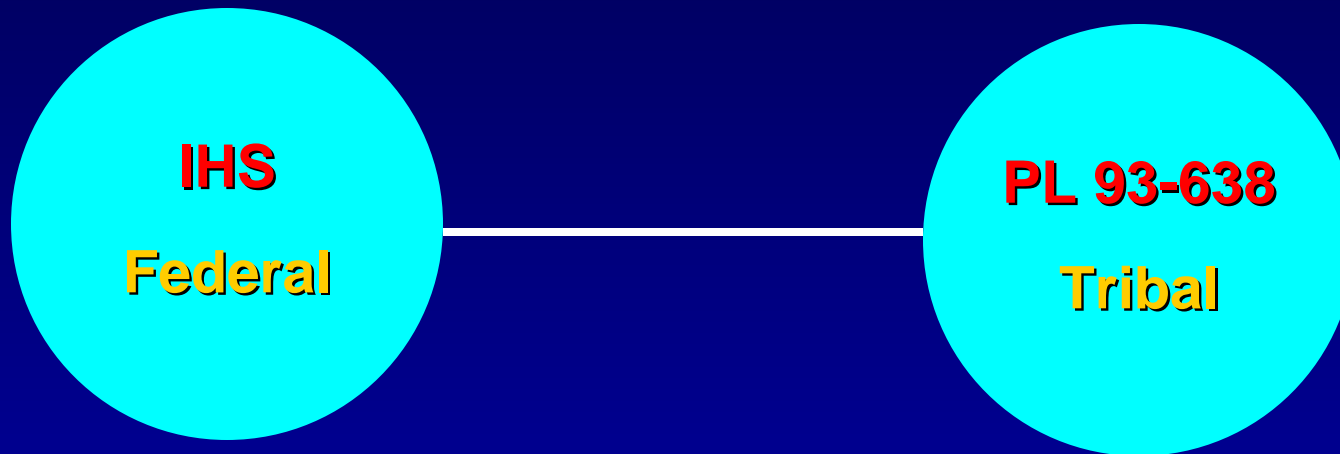
# AI Healthcare Resource Disparities



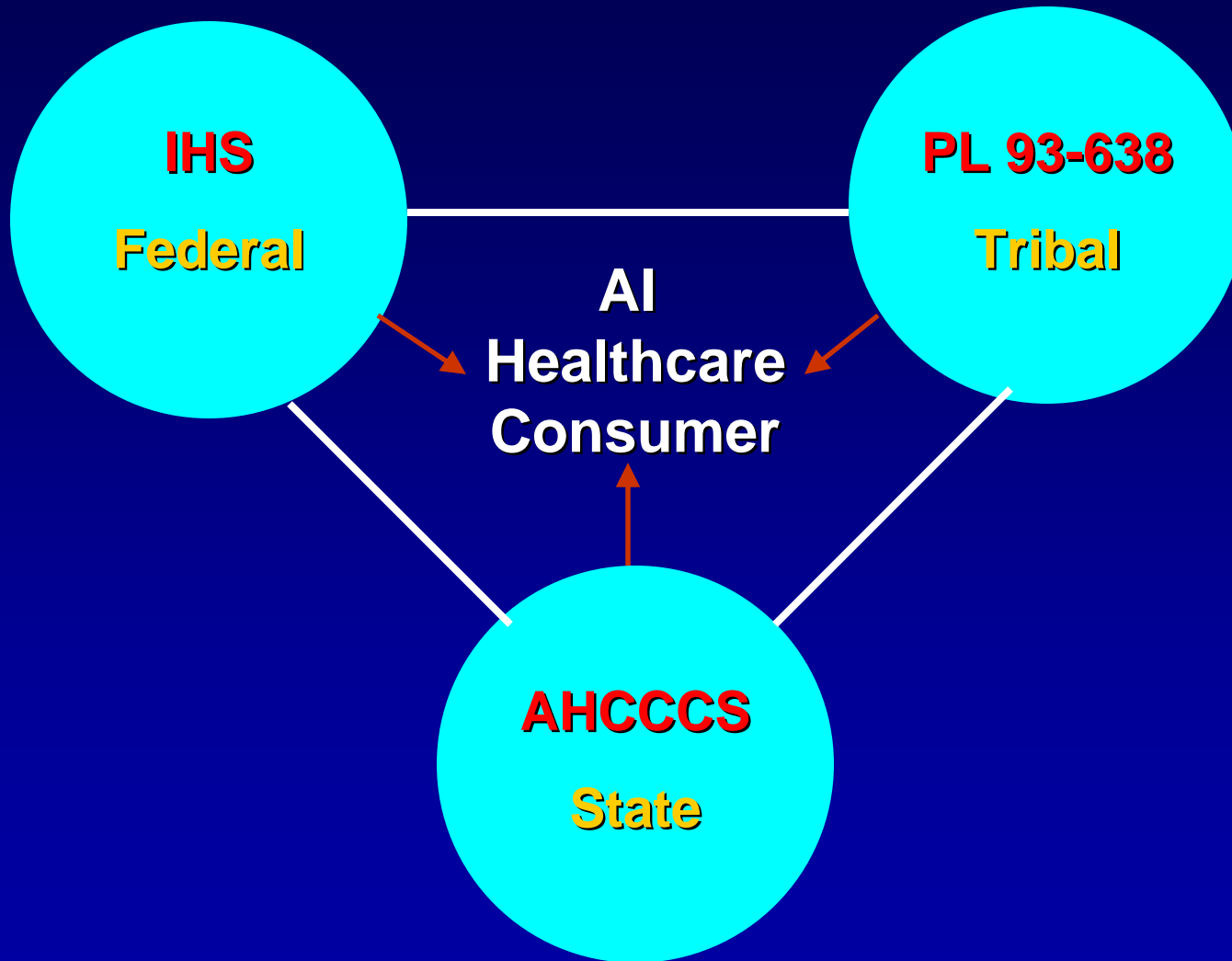
# AZ Indian Health System 1955-1975



# AZ Indian Health System 1975-1985



# AZ Indian Health System

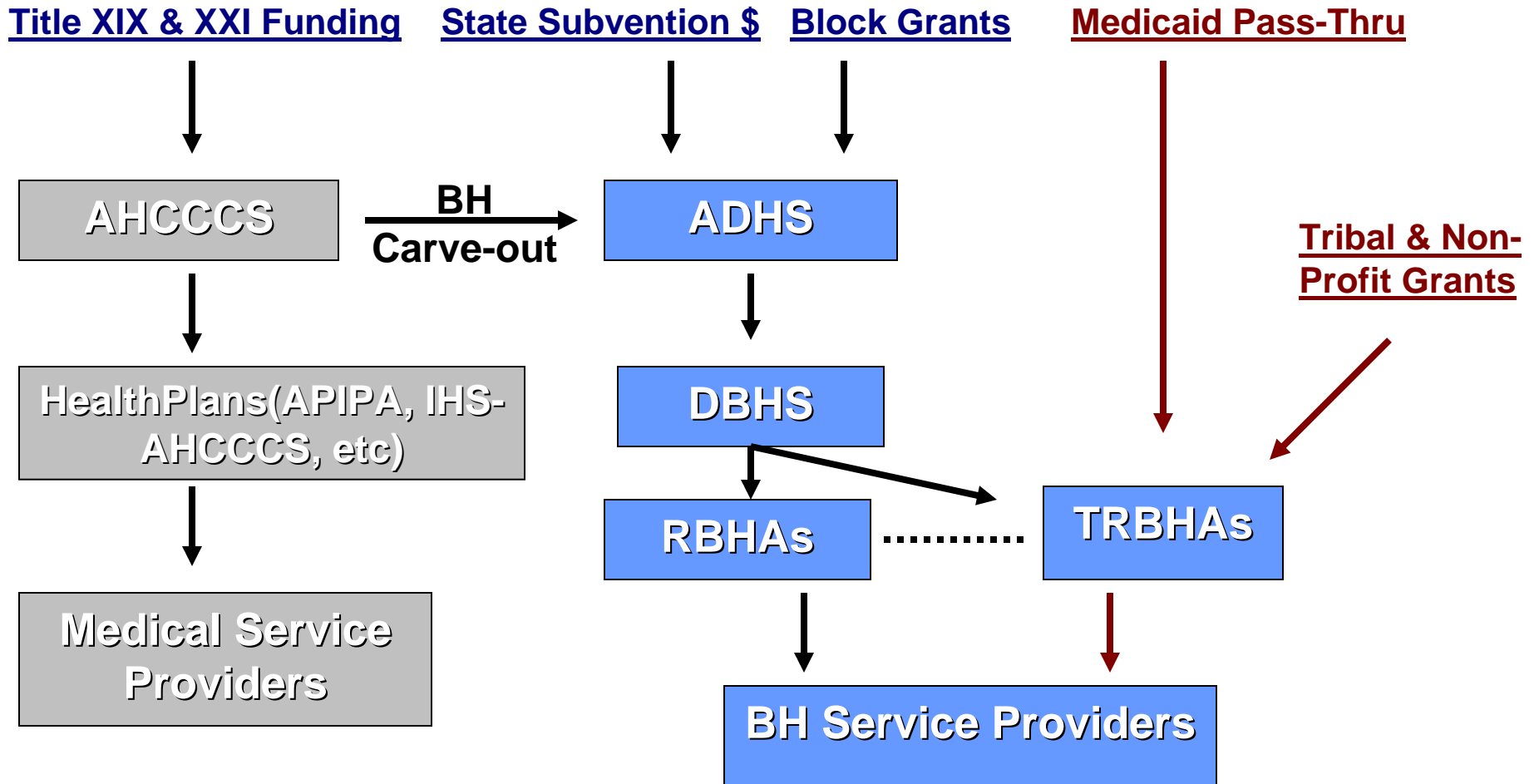


*Health Sector*

# The AZ Public Behavioral Health Managed Care RBHA System

- Health plans contract with AHCCCS to provide health care for low-income clients
- ADHS contracts with AHCCCS to administer the behavioral health care carve-out system
- Administrative entities called Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (RBHA) contract with the ADHS/DBHS to administer the behavioral health system—Tribes contract via intergovernmental agreements

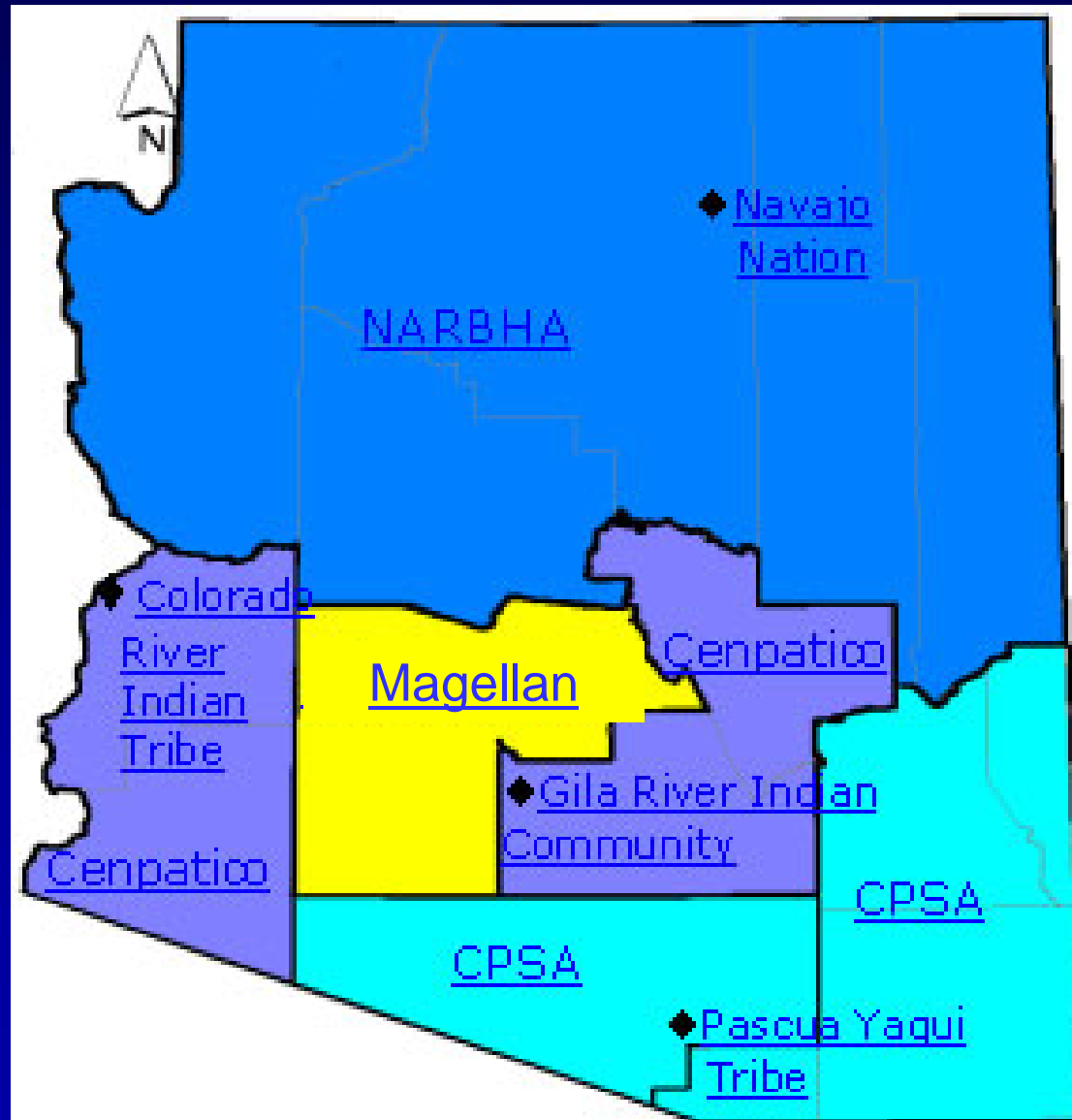
# Summary of Funding Streams for RBHA/TRBHA



# The AZ Public Behavioral Health Managed Care RBHA System

- The T/RBHA system is arranged by geographic service areas (GSA)
- TRBHAs GSA is typically the reservation
- RBHAs typically serve GSAs that are county specific
- Tribes without TRBHAs are served by an assigned RBHA, e.g., Magellan serves Salt River and Ft McDowell

# RBHA System Map (GSA)



# How T/RBHAs Provide Care

- T/RBHAs provide MH and S/A treatment via contracting with providers form a network of services that clients are referred to—T/RBHAs authorize those services
- RBHA revenues are capitated and TRBHAs operate on a fee-for services basis
- RBHAs serve clients in their GSA only
- TRBHAs provide care to their GSA and to tribal members who live on or off of the reservation (GRIC, NN, PYT, CRIT)

# CULTURAL COMPETENCE

## Definitions

- **Culture:** The totality of socially transmitted behavioral patterns, beliefs, values, customs and thought characteristics of a population that guides world view and decision making.
- **Cultural Competence:** The ability of systems to provide services to clients with diverse values beliefs and behaviors, including tailoring services to meet clients' social, cultural and linguistic needs.

# **CULTURAL COMPETENCE**

**Purnell's Model:**

**Person, Family, Community, Society**

- **Unconsciously incompetent**
- **Consciously incompetent**
- **Consciously competent**
- **Unconsciously competent**

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF MEDICINE

- 2000BC—Here, eat this root
- 1000AD—That root is heathen, here say this prayer
- 1800AD—That prayer is superstition, here drink this potion
- 1900AD—That potion is snake oil, here swallow this pill
- 1950AD—That pill is ineffective, here take this antibiotic
- 2000AD—That antibiotic is artificial, here eat this root

# Medicine Wheel & Cultural Competence



MODERN      TRADITIONAL

• Model

Allopathic

Holistic

MODERN

TRADITIONAL

• Provider

Physician

Healer



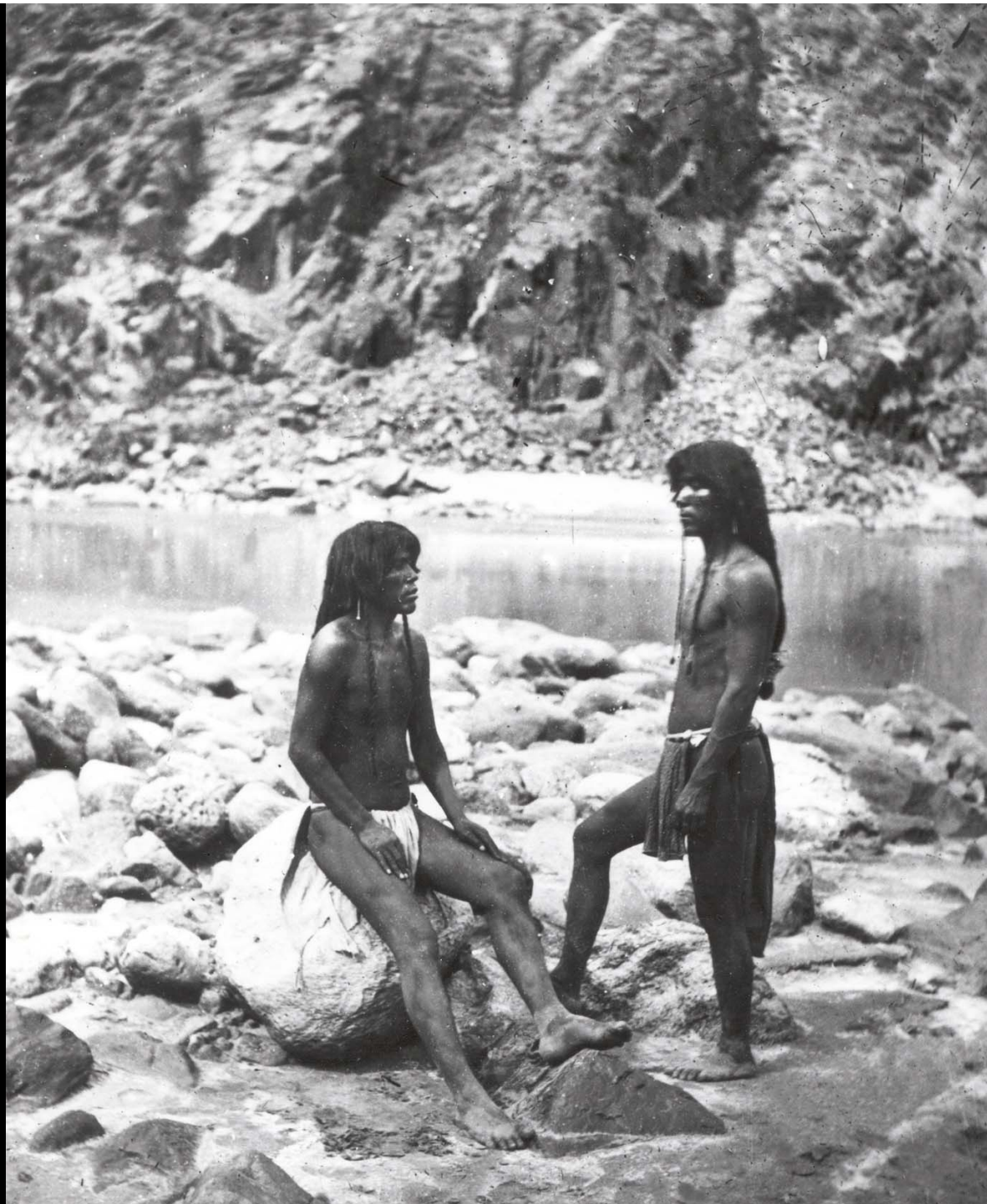
# Rick Two Dogs

*We need to understand that the primary reason our people are so afflicted with addiction, poverty, abuse and strife, is that our way of life was taken from us. Everything was taken. And nothing was replaced.*



# Substance Abuse and the Medicine Wheel

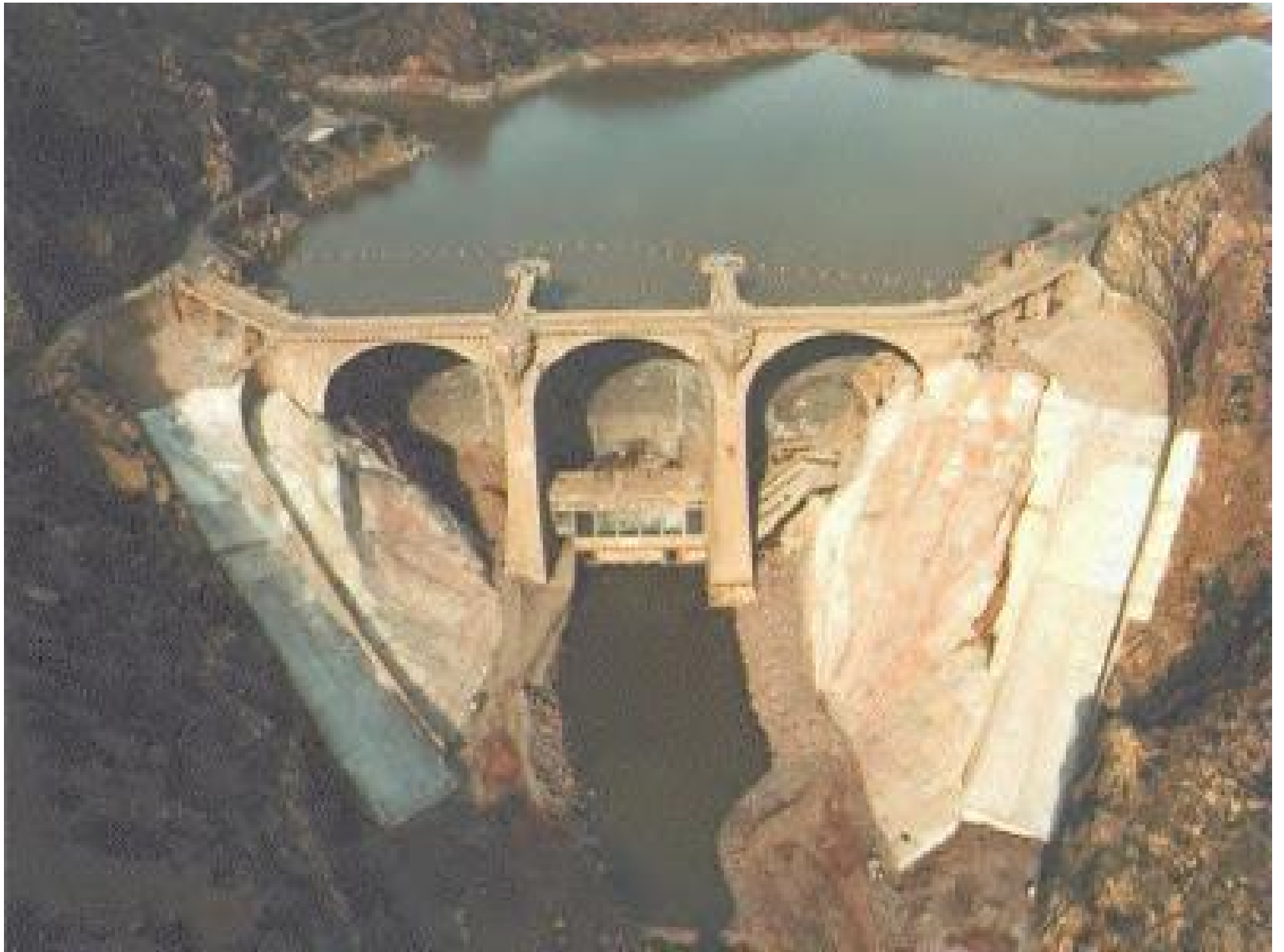
- *What greater grief than the loss of  
one's native land*
- Euripides  
485-406 B.C.













# MEDICINE WHEEL

MENTAL

PHYSICAL



SPIRITUAL

EMOTIONAL

# **MEDICINE WHEEL and Alcohol Abuse**

**DECISIONS**



**REACTIONS**

# **MEDICINE WHEEL and Alcohol Abuse**

**DECISIONS**

**DRINK  
ALCOHOL**



**NEGATIVE  
EMOTIONS**

# MEDICINE WHEEL

MENTAL

PHYSICAL



SPIRITUAL

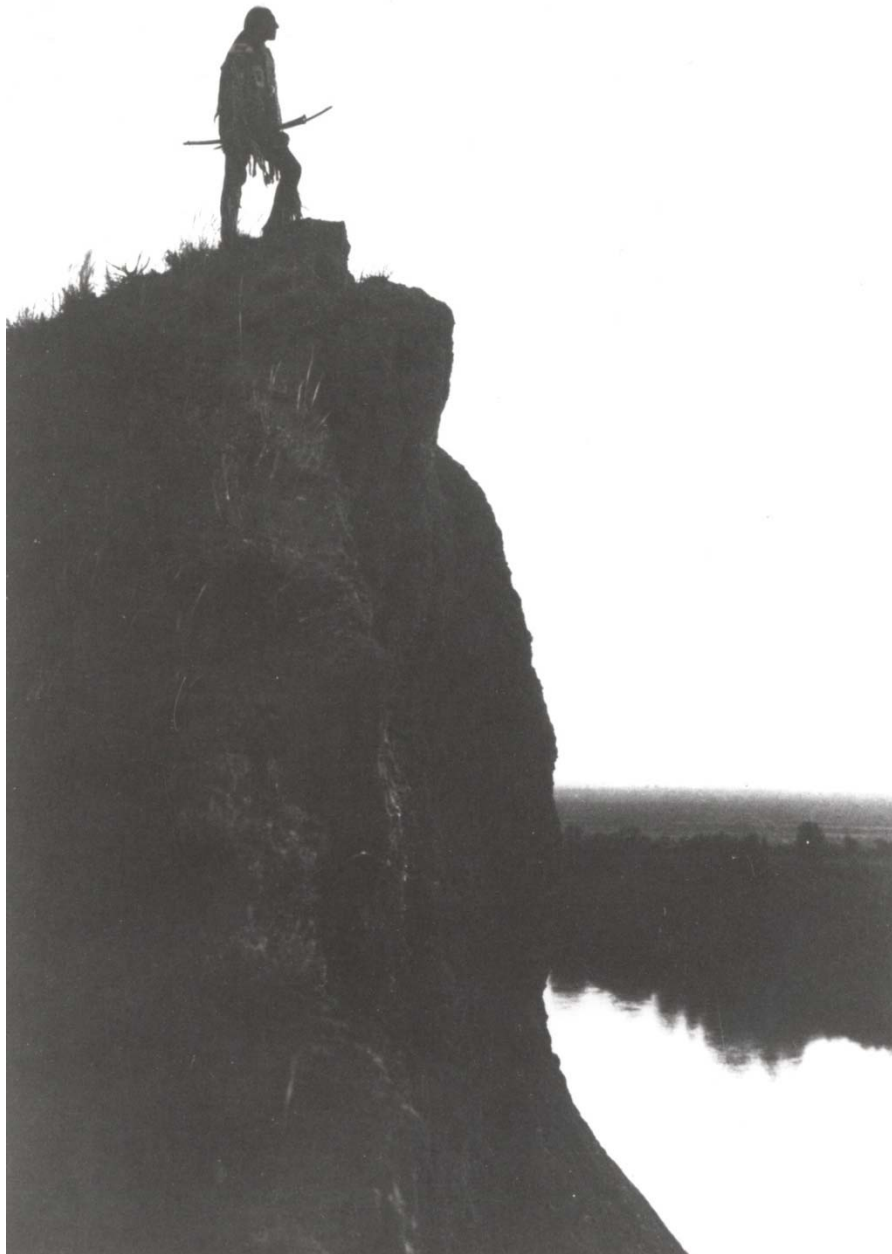
EMOTIONAL





# BLACK ELK

Of course it was not I who cured. It was the power from the outer world, and the visions and ceremonies had only made me like a hole through which the power could come to the two-leggeds. If I thought that I was doing it myself, the hole would close up and no power could come through.



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