



Minnesota
**Missing and Murdered
Indigenous Relatives**
Office

Responding to MMIR Injustice in Minnesota: Resiliency in Action a Statewide Strategy

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A Call to Action

The Missing and Murdered
Indigenous Relative Office
est. 2022

Vision:

Reduce and end violence against all
Indigenous relatives in Minnesota

Mission:

The development of implementation of
systemic legislative and transformative
social justice policies paired with the
application of sufficient resources,
programs and services that will foster
safety, equity, healing, civil and human
rights of Indigenous peoples and
communities in MN







What is MMIR Injustice in MN

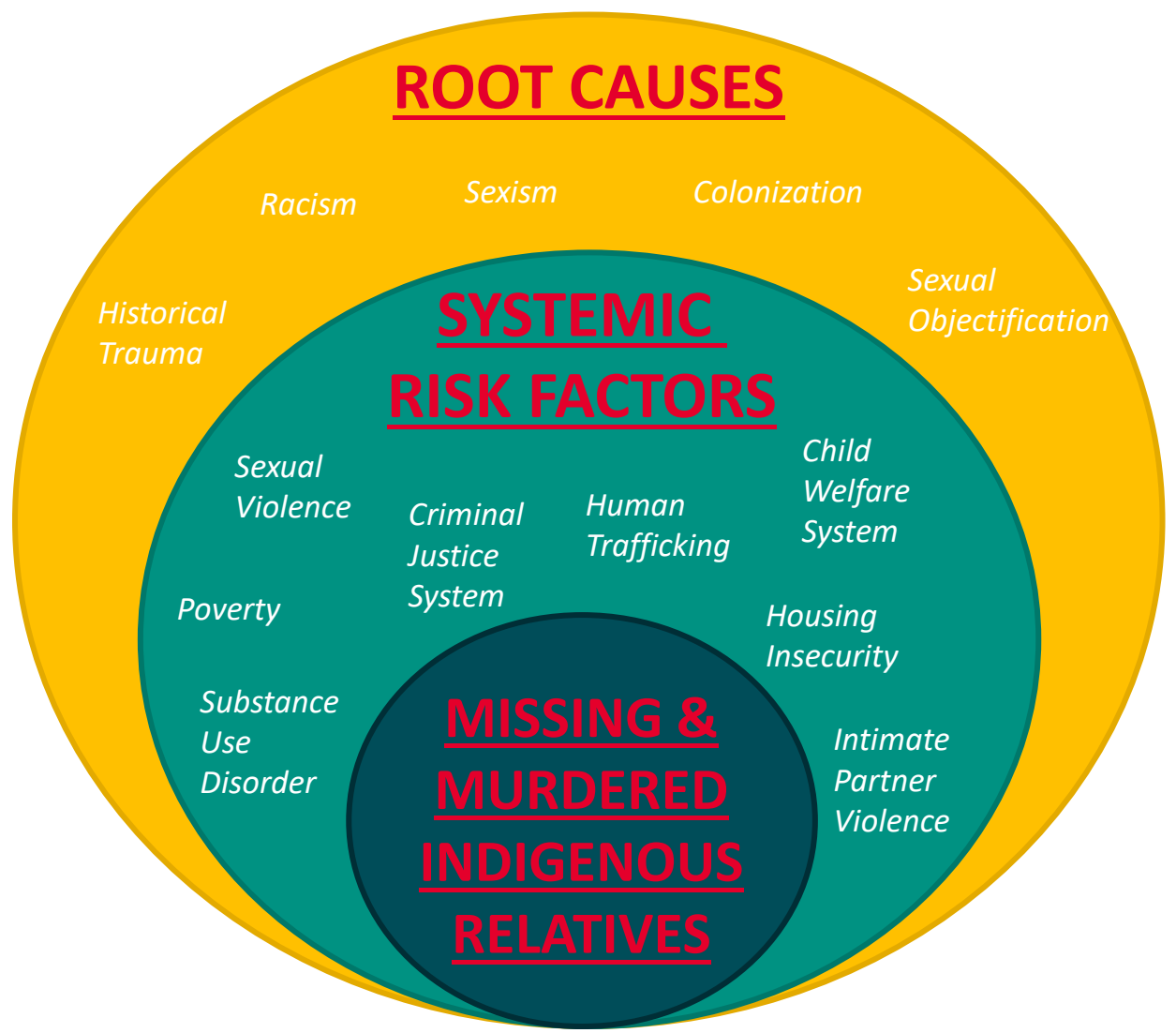


Although American Indian women and girls make up just **1% of the state's population**, from 2010 through 2018, **8% of all murdered women and girls in Minnesota were American Indian.**



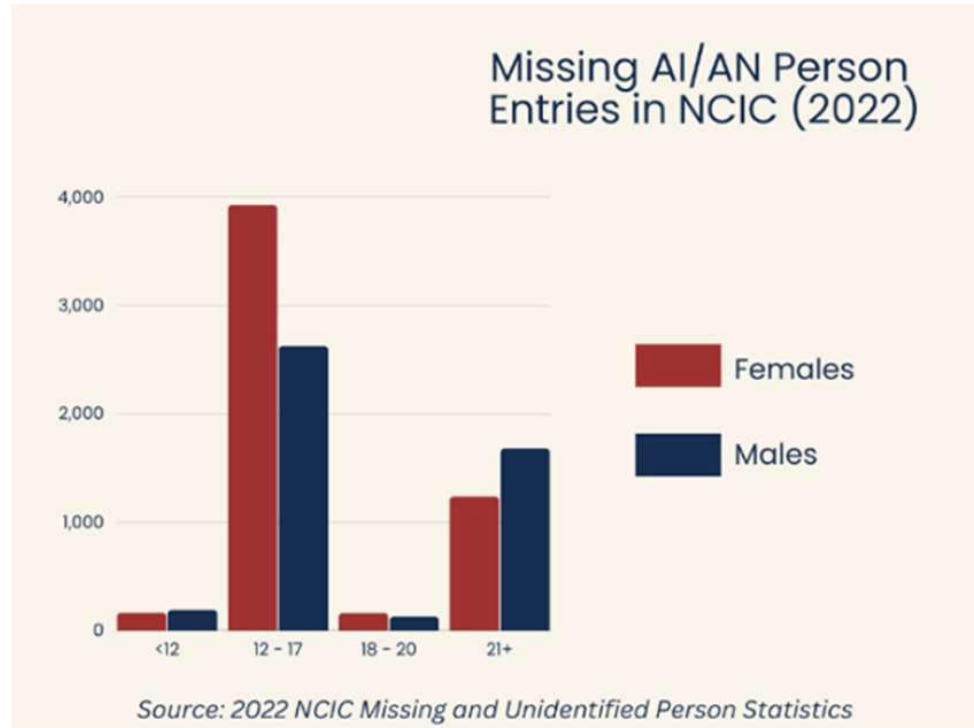
From 27 to 54 American Indian women and girls in Minnesota were missing in any given month from 2012 to 2020.





MMIR Data Overview

National



- Native women face murder rates at more than **10 times** the national average.
- More than **4 in 5** American Indian and Alaska Native women have experienced violence in their lifetime.
- **96%** of these American Indian and Alaska Native female victims have experienced violence from a non-Native perpetrator.





MMIR Data Overview

Minnesota

- **Population:** **2.8%** self-identify as either solely or in combination with Native American or American Indian.
- **Missing:** **8%** of all missing people in 2022 were reported as Indigenous.
9% of all missing women were Indigenous.
 - On average in 2022, a missing Indigenous person in Minnesota was **53% more likely to be female and 60% more likely to be under the age of 18.**
- **Homicides:** **3.35%** of all homicide victims were Indigenous





Address the systemic causes behind the disproportionate violence experienced by Indigenous women and girls.

Collect and report data on violence against Indigenous women and girls.

Address policies and practices in institutions that impact violence against Indigenous women and girls.

Reduce and eliminate violence against Indigenous women and girls.

Help Indigenous women and girls who are victims/survivors, their families, and their communities prevent and heal from violence.



Long Term Goals for MMIR Justice in Minnesota



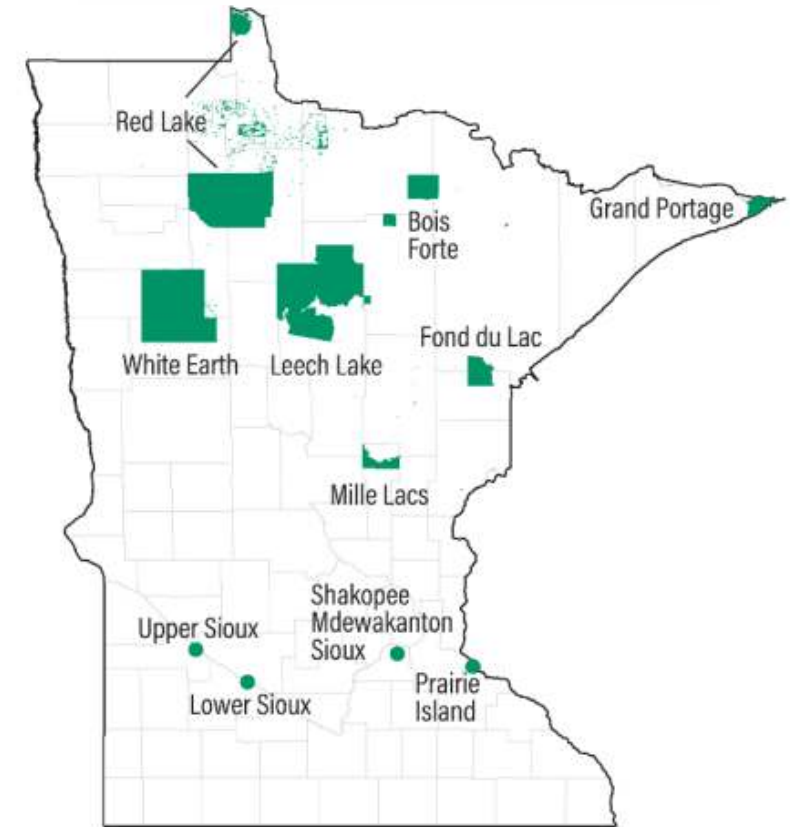
The Office of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives

Staff

- Director
- Community Planner
- Violence Prevention Coordinator
- Intelligence Specialist

Services

- Supportive services to families
- Educational and awareness presentations
- Community events
- Statewide data analysis
- Technical Assistance to law enforcement



Collaboration with Other Agencies

Cross-System Collaboration:

- [Mandate 14](#): Address the harms of the child welfare system has done to Indigenous families and communities
- [Mandate 15](#): Calls for age appropriate, culturally responsive, trauma-informed education on healthy relationship and consent to K-12 students
- [Mandate 20](#): Promote healing of perpetrators, survivors, relatives and community by supporting culturally responsive, community-led efforts

Human Trafficking/Exploitation Prevention & Intervention:

- [Mandate 9](#): Safe Harbor for all
- [Mandate 17](#): Prevent and reduce harms of trafficking/exploitation and normalized violence
- [Mandate 18](#): Sex trafficking awareness training and targeted prevention in Indian Country where extractive industries are located, as well as hotels and casinos





MMIR Advisory Council

- MMIR Advisory Council
 - ✓ 20 members: community, service providers, criminal justice professionals
 - ✓ Monte Fronk and Jessica Taylor –Co Chairs
 - ✓ Monthly meetings, open to the public

- Provide guidance, feedback, and goals for the MMIR Office



Gaagige Mikwendaagoziwag MMIR Reward Fund Advisory Board

The director of the Office for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives, in consultation with the stakeholder groups described in section 299A.85, subdivision 5, shall appoint an advisory group to make recommendations on:

- (1) **paying rewards** under this section;
- (2) supporting community-based efforts through **funding community-led searches** and **search kits**, including but not limited to global position system devices and vests; community-led communications, including but not limited to flyers, staples, and duct tape; and other justice-related expenses;
- (3) funding for community-led communications and **outreach**, including but not limited to **billboards and other media-related expenses**;
- (4) funding activities and programs to gather information on missing and murdered Indigenous women, children, and Two-Spirit relatives and to partner with and support community-led efforts;
- (5) developing, implementing, and coordinating prevention and awareness programming based on best practices and data-driven research; and
- (6) any other funding activities and needs.



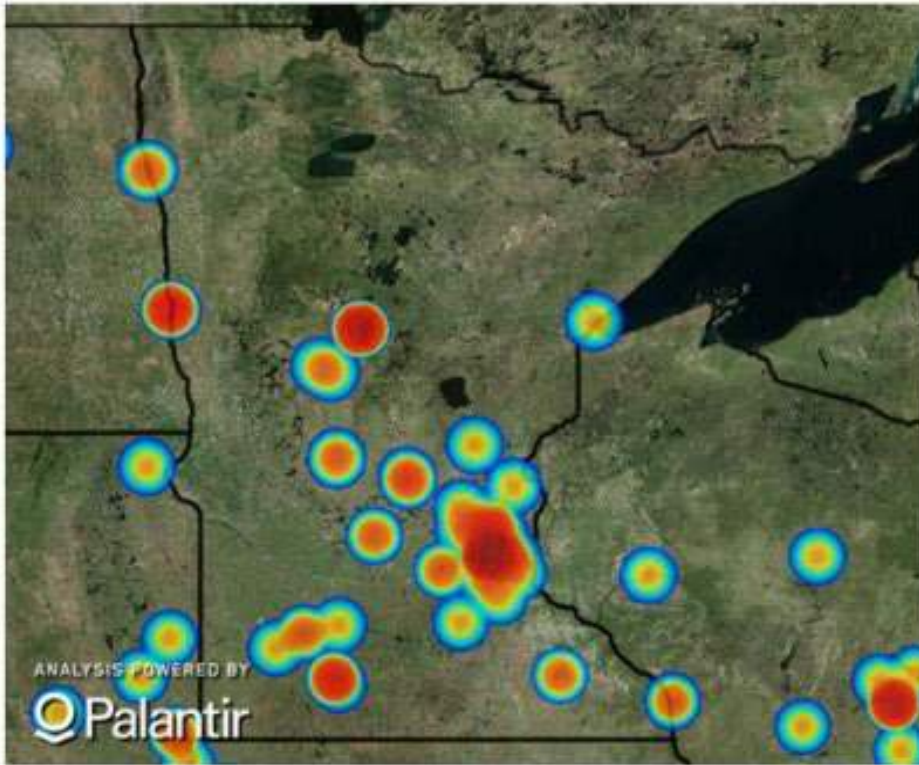
Data Analysis and Technical Assistance

- Preliminary stage of MMIR Data Dashboard Project, mandated in 299A.85 subd. 4(6).
 - ✓ Data sharing agreement with the BCA.
 - ✓ Collection of publicly available information from existing dashboards and data sources.
- Technical Assistance to local and Tribal law enforcement, statutorily mandated in 299A.85 subd. 4(7).
 - ✓ Crime analysis to support and aid in active MMIR investigations, utilizing quantitative and qualitative techniques.
 - ✓ Pilot program to be launched once the DPS Commissioner's Office approves the policy.
- Data quality checks on case information across multiple databases and systems.
- Provide support to the FSLs through open-source intelligence gathering, connecting with law enforcement, and navigating the criminal justice system.





Human Trafficking Data



The image above is a heat map that reflects the cases reported to the National Human Trafficking Hotline in 2016. Areas in which greater numbers of cases were reported contain more red shading. There is red shading in central, west, and south Minnesota. This map only reflects cases in which the location of the potential trafficking was known. Some cases may involve more than one location.

Law enforcement agencies reported **173** sex trafficking incidents in 2017.



Twenty percent of those victims were American Indian.

Source: Minnesota Statistical Analysis Center, 2019





MMIR and Extractive Industries: *2020 MMIW Task Force Report*

- ▶ **Mandate 18: Require sex trafficking awareness training and targeted prevention** to Indian Country, areas where extractive industries such as oil and mining camps are located, and casinos and hotels; partner with and hold companies accountable.

A focus on entertainment and extractive industries is also warranted due to increased prostitution and trafficking activity at hotels and casinos; in areas with “man camps” (e.g., oil fields, mining sites); and large sporting events and other places where lots of men tend to congregate. Indigenous people who are being trafficked may not have access to adequate, trauma-informed, non-judgmental, culturally responsive services to help them escape from their abusers and heal from the many negative physical and emotional consequences of being exploited and abused.

The trauma of sexual violence and violent crime affects victims and communities for generations.



We are Stronger in Community

- We can all help respond and improve system response to eliminate MMIR injustice in our communities
- Year two the team responded by listening, learning, collaborating and partnering
- We connected with people and communities impacted by MMIR, as well as with those who have been doing the work as community helpers and first responders.
- Our vision is evolving as we do the work
- Taking a holistic approach everyday



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