

Being a nomadic people, the Apache practiced agriculture only to a limited extent before their permanent establishment on reservations. They subsisted chiefly on the products of the chase and on roots (especially that of the maguey) and berries. Although fish and bear were found in abundance in their country, they were not eaten, being tabued as food.

They had few arts, but the women attained high skill in making baskets. Their dwellings were shelters of brush, which were easily erected by the women and were well adapted to their arid environment and constant shifting.

In physical appearance the Apache vary greatly, but are rather above the medium height. They are good talkers, are not readily deceived, and are honest in protecting property placed in their care, although they formerly obtained their chief support from plunder seized in their forays.

The Apache are divided into a number of tribal groups which have been so differently named and defined that it is sometimes difficult to determine to which branch writers refer. The most commonly accepted divisions are the Querechos or Vaqueros, consisting of the Mescaleros, Jicarillas, Faraones, Llaneros, and probably the Lipan; the Chiricahua; the Pinalenos; the Coyotereros, comprising the White Mountain and Pinal divisions; the Arivaipa; the Gila Apache, including the Gileños, Mimbrenos, and Mogollones; and the Tontos.

The present official designation of the divisions, with their population in 1903, is as follows; White Mountain Apache (comprising the Arivaipa, Tsiltaden or Chilion, Chiricahua, Coyotereros, Mimbrenos, Mogollones, Pinals, 'San Carlos,' and Tontos) under Fort Apache agency, 2058; Apache consisting of the same divisions as above, under San Carlos agency, 2275; Apache at Angora, Arizona, 38; Jicarillas under school superintendent, New Mexico, 782; Mescaleros under Mescalero agency, N.M., 464; Chiricahua at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, 298; Kiowa Apache, under Kiowa agency, 156.