

2nd Shortest Life Expectancy Highest Rates

-Highest rates of gonorrhea and chlamydial infection of all racial groups.^{6,7}
-Highest rates of syphilis infection; a statistic shared with the Latino community.^{10,11}

For American Indians once diagnosed with AIDS than any other race/ethnicity; the rates of many other diseases, including diabetes, tuberculosis, and alcoholism, also show shorter life expectancy; access to health care is poorer.^{14,15}

Of chronic liver disease and cirrhosis due to alcoholism, which is more common among American Indian/Alaskan Native women than among white women.¹³

87,241

The number of Native Americans in New York, the largest population of urban Indians in the country, according to the 2000 Census. Although most people have the perception that Native Americans and Alaska Natives live primarily on reservations, the majority actually live in urban areas. It was shown that 70% of American Indians reside in urban areas in the United States.

<1%

Of the total number of HIV/AIDS cases reported to the HIV/AIDS Reporting System are people who are American Indians and Alaskan Natives. However, when population size is taken into account, this population in 2004 was ranked 3rd in rates of AIDS diagnoses, after African Americans and Hispanics. The rate of AIDS diagnoses for this group has been higher than that for whites since 1995.⁹

10 years

AI/AN life spans are shorter than those of the average U.S. population. This difference is related to significantly higher rates of alcoholism, tuberculosis, diabetes, pneumonia, and influenza. One-third of all AI/ANs who die before age 45 do so because of drug and alcohol abuse. Drug and alcohol abuse, in combination with high poverty rates, creates barriers to sufficient HIV care among AI/ANs.⁷

2nd 0.8%

Of all women in the US are American Indian according to the 2000 Census.

Leading cause of death in American Indian/Alaskan Native females is cancer.¹⁵

3x as likely

For American Indian/Alaskan Native women to have diabetes compared to white women.²⁰

27.1%

Percent of American Indians and Alaskan Natives lack health insurance coverage. Their rate is significantly higher than that of African Americans (21.6 percent), Asians and Pacific Islanders (20.9 percent) and Whites (11.6 percent) according to the 2000 US Census.

32%

American Indians living below the poverty line – compared to the national average of 13%. Issues related to poverty like lower levels of education and poorer access to health care, has a direct and indirect impact on American Indian community.

JUST THE FACTS

4x

The AIDS case rate for American Indian/Alaskan Native versus non-Native women.¹⁷

65-70%

Americans Indians live in urban settings or do not reside on a reservation.⁶

Highest Teen Suicide Rate

The suicide rate for American Indian/Alaskan Natives aged 10-19 is 25 to 28 per 100,000 and is the highest suicide rate among all ethnic groups. In addition to the increased risk factors for ethnic groups, there is also evidence that gay, lesbian, and bisexual teens are also at a high risk for suicide. In fact, suicide is the number one cause of death for LGBT teens.⁸

56%

Of American Indians and Alaskan Natives in Los Angeles with AIDS were racially misclassified.¹³

1st

Leading cause of death in American Indian /Alaskan Native women is heart disease.¹⁸

46%

5-year survival rate among American Indian/Alaskan Native women for all types of cancer is significantly lower than the 5-year survival rate for cancer among the White U.S. female population (62 percent), according to the National Cancer Institute's (NCI) Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) data (NCI/SEER, 2000).

41%

Native Americans smoke - compare to 26% for white smokers.¹²

66%

American Indians who graduate from high school - compare to the national average of 75% for non-American Indians.⁵

8,724

Estimated number of Two-Spirit population in New York.¹

562

Federally recognized Nations within the country known as USA plus over 100 state-recognized Nations. Each Nation having its own culture, beliefs, and practices. Further, each nation may be subdivided into language groups.²

10%

Asian/Pacific Islanders and American Indian/Alaskan Natives living AIDS; this number has continued to rise each year for that past five years since 2004.¹⁶

Highest Record of Military Service Per Capita

For American Indian and Alaskan Native in comparison to all other ethnic groups.⁴



¹ This number is an approximation it is 10% of the total population. Although the number could be higher, as large urban settings is viewed as a haven for members of the LGBT community.

² US Census Bureau. States ranked by American Indian and Alaska Native population, July 1, 1999. Population estimates Program, Polulation Division, U.S. Census Bureau Washington, DC 20233: 2000 August 30.

³ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. HIV/AIDS among American Indians and Alaskan Natives – United States, 1981 – 1997. Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report. 1998;47:154-160. (accessed April 2006).

⁴ U.S. Census Bureau. 2000. Data Set: Census 2000 Summary File 3, Sex by Age by Armed Forces Status by Veteran Status for the Population 18 Years and Over (American Indian and Alaska Native Alone). Retrieved August 2, 2004 from

http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/DatasetMainPageServlet?_program=DEC&_lang=en

⁵ Jjen US Census Bureau. The American Indian, Eskimo, and Aleut population. 2001. Available at <http://www.census.gov/population/www/pop-profile/amerind.html>. Accessed April 6, 2006.

⁶ Brown, ER, Ojeda, VD, Wyn, and R Levan. **Racial and Enthic Disparities in Access to Health Insurance and Health Care**. UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and Kiser Family Foundation, April 2000.

⁷ Ashman JJ, Perez-Jimenes D, Marconi K. Health and support service utilization patterns of American Indians and Alaska natives diagnosed with HIV/AIDS. AIDS Education and Prevention. 2004;16(3): 238-249.

⁸ Testimony of the AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION Submitted to the Children and Families Subcommittee Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee COMMITTEE UNITED STATES SENATE For the Hearing Record on TEEN AND YOUNG ADULT SUICIDE: A NATIONAL HEALTH CRISIS, September 7, 2001

⁹ CDC. [HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report, 2004](#). Vol. 16. Atlanta: US Department of Health and Human Services, CDC: 2005:1–46.

¹⁰ CDC. [Sexually Transmitted Disease Surveillance 2004](#). Atlanta: US Department of Health and Human Services, CDC; September 2005: Tables 11B, 21B, 34B.

¹¹ McNaghten AD, Neal JJ, Li J, Fleming PL. Epidemiologic profile of HIV and AIDS among American Indians/Alaska Natives in the USA through 2000. *Ethnicity and Health* 2005;10:55–71.

¹² National Center for Health Statistics. Raw Data from the National Health Interview Survey, U.S., 1997-2003. (Analysis by the American Lung Association Research and Program Services Division, Using SPSS and SUDAAN).

¹³ Hu YW, Yu Harlan M, Frye DM. Racial misclassification among American Indians/Alaska Natives who were reported with AIDS in Los Angeles County, 1981–2002. National HIV Prevention Conference; August 2003; Atlanta. Abstract WO-BO703

¹⁴ Korenbrot CC, Ehlers S, Crouch JA. Disparities in hospitalizations of rural American Indians. *Medical Care* 2003;41:626–636.

¹⁵ Zuckerman S, Haley J, Roubideaux Y, Lillie-Blanton M. Health service access, use, and insurance coverage among American Indians/Alaska Natives and whites: what role does the Indian Health Service play? *American Journal of Public Health* 2004;94:53-59

¹⁶ CDC. [HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report, 2004](#). Vol. 16. Atlanta: US

¹⁷ CDC. [HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report, 2000](#) Vol. 12(No.2). Atlanta: US

¹⁸ Eberhardt MS, Ingram SS, Makus DM. Urban and Rural Health Chartbook. Health, US, 2001. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics; 2001.

¹⁹ The unequal burden of cancer: An assessment of NIH research and programs of ethnic minorities and the medically underserved. Washington, DC: Institute of Medicine, Nation Academy Press; 1999.

²⁰ Ross H. Lifting the Unequal Burden of Cancer on Minorities and the Underserved: NCI Develops Strategic Plan to Reduce Cancer Related Health Disparities. Washington, DC: Office of Minority Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; August 2000.

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