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| **Florida Health INsurance Coverage for American Indians and Alaska Natives: The Impact of the affordable care act 2012-2016.** |
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# Abstract

This brief examines the evidence of the impact of the Affordable Care Act on American Indians and Alaska Natives in Florida to determine if the ACA resulted in expected enrollment gains in Health Insurance coverage and the related reduction in uninsured. A review of findings from the American Community Survey depicts modest success in increasing the number insured, thus lowering the number uninsured for both males and females. The 2016 uninsured rate for American Indians and Alaska Natives in the state is still very high at 18%, but this is a decline from the 2012 level of 24% uninsured.

# Methodology

The American Community Survey provides estimates of the number of insured, uninsured for American Indians and Alaska Natives (alone and in combination). The one-year survey provides estimates with low error rates at the national level of analysis. This analysis provides cross tabulations by sex and by access to IHS-funded health programs for the years 2012 and 2016. The analysis is built on the comparison between the two years to the two variables of sex and access to IHS.

# Findings

### Summary Tables: Florida

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| American Indian and Alaska Native Population 2012 and 2016 | |
| 2012 | **2016** |
| 130,714 | 147,537 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| American Indian and Alaska Native Uninsured 2012 and 2016 | |
| 2012 | **2016** |
| 30,800 | 26,674 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Uninsured Rate 2012 and 2016 | |
| 2012 | **2016** |
| 24% | 18% |

# Health Insurance Coverage

## Health Insurance Coverage of all American Indians and Alaska Natives

The table that follows depicts significant increases in health insurance enrollment in Florida. The number of American Indians and Alaska Natives with health insurance was 99,900 in 2012 and increased by nearly 21,000 to 120,800 in 2016, a 21% increase.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2012-2016 Health Coverage American Indians and Alaska Natives | | | | |
|  | 2012 | 2016 | Increase 12-16 | % increase |
| Male | 50,764 | 59,700 | 8,936 | 18% |
| Female | 49,150 | 61,163 | 12,013 | 24% |
| Total | 99,914 | 120,863 | 20,949 | 21% |
| % Male | 51% | 49% | 43% |  |
| % Female | 49% | 51% | 57% |  |

## Health Insurance Coverage for American Indians and Alaska Natives with Access to IHS

The number of insured American Indians and Alaska Natives with access to IHS was so small that extreme caution should be exercised in interpreting the estimates. The small sample size reflects the very small number of American Indians and Alaska Natives in Florida who feel they have access to IHS services.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2012-2016 Health Coverage for American Indians and Alaska Natives with Access to IHS | | | | |
|  | 2012 | 2016 | Increase 12-16 | % increase |
| Male | 778 | 709 | (69) | -9% |
| Female | 1,728 | 1,731 | 3 | 0% |
| Total | 2,506 | 2,440 | (66) | -3% |
| % Male | 31% | 29% | 105% |  |
| % Female | 69% | 71% | -5% |  |

## Health Insurance Coverage for American Indians and Alaska Natives

## Without Access to IHS

The ACS estimates that there were 97,000 insured American Indians and Alaska Natives without access to IHS-funded health programs in 2012. By 2016, the number insured increased to 118,400. Males and females were equally represented in the number insured although females made up 57% of the increase since 2012.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 2012-2016 Health Coverage American Indians and Alaska Natives with No Access to IHS | | | | |
|  | 2012 | 2016 | Increase 12-16 | % increase |
| Male | 49,986 | 58,991 | 9,005 | 18% |
| Female | 47,422 | 59,432 | 12,010 | 25% |
| Total | 97,408 | 118,423 | 21,015 | 22% |
| % Male | 51% | 50% | 43% |  |
| % Female | 49% | 50% | 57% |  |

# Uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives

## Uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2012-2016 Uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives | | | | |
|  | 2012 | 2016 | Decrease 12-16 | % decrease |
| Male | 18,359 | 14,880 | (3,479) | -19% |
| Female | 12,441 | 11,794 | (647) | -5% |
| Total | 30,800 | 26,674 | (4,126) | -13% |
| % Male | 60% | 56% | 84% |  |
| % Female | 40% | 44% | 16% |  |

Florida had 30,800 American Indians and Alaska Natives who were uninsured in 2012. By 2016 this number had decreased to 26,600 uninsured, a 13% decrease in the number uninsured. 18% of the state’s American Indians and Alaska Natives remain uninsured.

## Uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives with Access to IHS

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2012-2016 Uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives  with Access to IHS | | | | | |
|  | 2012 | | 2016 | Increase 12-16 | % increase |
| Male | 2,084 | 2,064 | | (20) | -1% |
| Female | 774 | 1,497 | | 723 | 93% |
| Total | 2,858 | 3,561 | | 703 | 25% |
| % Male | 73% | 58% | | -3% |  |
| % Female | 27% | | 42% | 103% |  |

No conclusions can be drawn from such a small population.

## Uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives without Access to IHS

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2012-2016 American Indians and Alaska Natives Without Health Insurance Coverage with No Access to IHS | | | | |
|  | 2012 | 2016 | Decrease 12-16 | % decrease |
| Male | 16,275 | 12,816 | (3,459) | -21% |
| Female | 11,667 | 10,297 | (1,370) | -12% |
| Total | 27,942 | 23,113 | (4,829) | -17% |
| % Male | 58% | 55% | 72% |  |
| % Female | 42% | 45% | 28% |  |

The number of uninsured patients without access to IHS-funded health programs decreased by nearly 5,000 or 17% from 2012 to 2016. 23,100 American Indians and Alaska Natives who did not have access to IHS funded services remain uninsured in 2016.

# Conclusion

Florida was not too successful in reducing the number of uninsured. Florida did not adopt Medicaid expansion and this is the likely reason for the small reduction in uninsured. The state did see growth in the number insured, perhaps due to population growth and employer paid coverage.

Source of Data: 1-year American Community Survey, US Census

Years: 2012 and 2016

No Foreign Born, that is, nativity is the United States.

American Indian and Alaska Natives Alone and In-combination with other races.

### Change in Access to IHS from 2012 to 2016

### Change in the Uninsured Rate for American Indians and Alaska Natives 2012 to 2016 in 20 States