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| **Illinois Health INsurance Coverage for American Indians and Alaska Natives: The Impact of the affordable care act 2012-2016.** |
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Table of Contents

[Abstract 3](#_Toc498590107)

[Methodology 3](#_Toc498590108)

[Findings 3](#_Toc498590109)

[Summary Tables: Illinois 3](#_Toc498590110)

[Health Insurance Coverage 4](#_Toc498590111)

[Health Insurance Coverage of all American Indians and Alaska Natives 4](#_Toc498590112)

[Health Insurance Coverage for American Indians and Alaska Natives with Access to IHS 5](#_Toc498590113)

[Health Insurance Coverage for American Indians and Alaska Natives 6](#_Toc498590114)

[Without Access to IHS 6](#_Toc498590115)

[Uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives 7](#_Toc498590116)

[Uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives 7](#_Toc498590117)

[Uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives with Access to IHS 8](#_Toc498590118)

[Uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives without Access to IHS 9](#_Toc498590119)

[Conclusion 9](#_Toc498590120)

[Change in Access to IHS from 2012 to 2016: Illinois 11](#_Toc498590121)

[Change in the Uninsured Rate for American Indians and Alaska Natives 2012 to 2016 in 20 States 12](#_Toc498590122)

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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 Illinois 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 number of uninsured decrease by 27% for all American Indians and Alaska Natives.

# 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: Illinois

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| --- |
| American Indian and Alaska Native Population 2012 and 2016 |
| 2012 | **2016** |
|  81,417  |  87,878  |

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| American Indian and Alaska Native Uninsured 2012 and 2016 |
| 2012 | **2016** |
|  10,845  |  7,867  |

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| Uninsured Rate 2012 and 2016 |
| 2012 | **2016** |
| 13% | 9% |

# Health Insurance Coverage

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

The table that follows depicts small health insurance enrollment increases in Illinois. The number of American Indians and Alaska Natives with health insurance rose from 70,500 in 2012 to 80,000 in 2016. This 9,400 increase from 2012 to 2016 of insured American Indians and Alaska Natives represents a 13% increase in the number insured. The number of insured males increased by 30%, far more than females, who saw a 2% increase. Males made up 93% of the increase. Females now make up 52% of all insured and men now make up 48%, up from 41% in 2012.

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| --- |
| 2012-2016 Health Coverage American Indians and Alaska Natives |
|  | 2012 | 2016 | Increase 12-16 | % increase |
| Male |  29,256  |  38,074  |  8,818  | 30% |
| Female |  41,316  |  41,937  |  621  | 2% |
| Total |  70,572  |  80,011  |  9,439  | 13% |
|  % Male  | 41% | 48% | 93% |  |
|  % Female  | 59% | 52% | 7% |  |

## 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 Illinois who feel they have access to IHS services. There are no tribes in Illinois, but there is an IHS funded Urban Indian Health Program in Chicago. The small sample size means we can only say with confidence that the direction of change is positive, but the actual level of change is unknown.

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| 2012-2016 Health Coverage for American Indians and Alaska Natives with Access to IHS |
|  | 2012 | 2016 | Increase 12-16 | % increase |
| Male |  342  |  719  | 377 | 110% |
| Female |  139  |  500  | 361 | 260% |
| Total |  481  |  1,219  | 738 | 153% |
|  % Male  | 71% | 59% | 51% |  |
|  % Female  | 29% | 41% | 49% |  |

## Health Insurance Coverage for American Indians and Alaska Natives

## Without Access to IHS

The ACS estimates that there were 70,000 insured American Indians and Alaska Natives without access to IHS-funded health programs in 2012. By 2016 this increased to 78,700 an increase of 12%. Males represented 97% of the total increase of 8,700 newly insured and females an increase of just 1%. Males now only represent 47% of all insured up from 41% in 2012.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 2012-2016 Health Coverage American Indians and Alaska Natives with No Access to IHS |
|  | 2012 | 2016 | Increase 12-16 | % increase |
| Male |  28,914  |  37,355  |  8,441  | 29% |
| Female |  41,177  |  41,437  |  260  | 1% |
| Total |  70,091  |  78,792  |  8,701  | 12% |
|  % Male  | 41% | 47% | 97% |  |
|  % Female  | 59% | 53% | 3% |  |

# Uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives

## Uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives

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| 2012-2016 Uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives |
|  | 2012 | 2016 | Decrease 12-16 | % decrease |
| Male |  5,435  |  4,370  |  (1,065) | -20% |
| Female |  5,410  |  3,497  |  (1,913) | -35% |
| Total |  10,845  |  7,867  |  (2,978) | -27% |
|  % Male  | 50% | 56% | 36% |  |
|  % Female  | 50% | 44% | 64% |  |

Illinois had 10,800 American Indians and Alaska Natives who were uninsured in 2012. By 2016 this number had decreased to 7,800 uninsured, a 27% decrease in the number uninsured. Males made up 36% of the decrease and now males represent 56% of all uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives up from 50% in 2012.

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

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| 2012-2016 Uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives with Access to IHS |
|  | 2012 | 2016 | Increase 12-16 | % increase |
| Male |  98  |  80  |  (18) | -18% |
| Female |  36  |  63  |  27  | 75% |
| Total |  134  |  143  |  9  | 7% |
|  % Male  | 73% | 56% | -200% |  |
|  % Female  | 27% | 44% | 300% |  |

The number of uninsured patients with access to IHS-funded health programs is very small in Illinois and extreme caution is advised with the estimate for this population. No conclusions can be drawn from such a small sample size.

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

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| 2012-2016 American Indians and Alaska Natives Without Health Insurance Coverage with No Access to IHS |
|  | 2012 | 2016 | Decrease 12-16 | % decrease |
| Male |  5,337  |  4,290  |  (1,047) | -20% |
| Female |  5,374  |  3,434  |  (1,940) | -36% |
| Total |  10,711  |  7,724  |  (2,987) | -28% |
|  % Male  | 50% | 56% | 35% |  |
|  % Female  | 50% | 44% | 65% |  |

The number of uninsured patients without access to IHS-funded health programs decreased by nearly 3,000 or 28% from 2012 to 2016. Female uninsured declined by 36%, males by 20%. Males and females were equally represented among the uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives in 2012, by 2016 Males were more likely than females to be uninsured.

# Conclusion

In Illinois, the ACA was successful in increasing, by 13%, the enrollment of American Indian and Alaska Native with health insurance coverage and reducing the number of uninsured by 27%. Illinois did adopt Medicaid expansion and this is the likely reason for the decrease in the number uninsured.

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: Illinois

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