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| **Indiana 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](#_Toc498590139)

[Methodology 3](#_Toc498590140)

[Findings 3](#_Toc498590141)

[Summary Tables Indiana 3](#_Toc498590142)

[Health Insurance Coverage 4](#_Toc498590143)

[Health Insurance Coverage of all American Indians and Alaska Natives 4](#_Toc498590144)

[Health Insurance Coverage for American Indians and Alaska Natives with Access to IHS 5](#_Toc498590145)

[Health Insurance Coverage for American Indians and Alaska Natives 6](#_Toc498590146)

[Without Access to IHS 6](#_Toc498590147)

[Uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives 7](#_Toc498590148)

[Uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives 7](#_Toc498590149)

[Uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives with Access to IHS 8](#_Toc498590150)

[Uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives without Access to IHS 9](#_Toc498590151)

[Conclusion 9](#_Toc498590152)

[Indiana: Change in Access to IHS from 2012 to 2016 11](#_Toc498590153)

[Change in the Uninsured Rate for American Indians and Alaska Natives 2012 to 2016 in 20 States 12](#_Toc498590154)

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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 Indiana 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 some success in increasing the number insured, thus lowering the number uninsured for both males and females. The number of uninsured decreased by 47% for all American Indians and Alaska Natives. Very few American Indians and Alaska Natives in Indiana have access to IHS-funded services and no conclusions can be drawn for this population due to its small size.

# 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 Indiana

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| American Indian and Alaska Native Population 2012 and 2016 |
| 2012 | **2016** |
|  49,278  |  50,260  |

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| American Indian and Alaska Native Uninsured 2012 and 2016 |
| 2012 | **2016** |
|  10,783  |  5,705  |

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| Uninsured Rate 2012 and 2016 |
| 2012 | **2016** |
| 22% | 11% |

# Health Insurance Coverage

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

The table that follows depicts modest health insurance enrollment increases in Indiana. The number of American Indians and Alaska Natives with health insurance rose from 38,500 in 2012 to 44,500 in 2016. This 6,000 increase from 2012 to 2016 of insured American Indians and Alaska Natives represents a 16% increase in the number insured. The number of insured males increased by 27%, far more than females, who saw a 7% increase. Males made up 76% of the increase. Females now make up 51% of all insured and men now make up 49%.

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| 2012-2016 Health Coverage American Indians and Alaska Natives |
|  | 2012 | 2016 | Increase 12-16 | % increase |
| Male |  17,099  |  21,720  |  4,621  | 27% |
| Female |  21,396  |  22,835  |  1,439  | 7% |
| Total |  38,495  |  44,555  |  6,060  | 16% |
|  % Male  | 44% | 49% | 76% |  |
|  % Female  | 56% | 51% | 24% |  |

## 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 Indiana who feel they have access to IHS services. Only one tribe has a CHSDA in the state and its health program is located in Michigan.

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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 |  273  |  1,053  |  780  | 286% |
| Female |  909  |  77  |  (832) | -92% |
| Total |  1,182  |  1,130  |  (52) | -4% |
|  % Male  | 23% | 93% |  |  |
|  % Female  | 77% | 7% |  |  |

## Health Insurance Coverage for American Indians and Alaska Natives

## Without Access to IHS

The ACS estimates that there were 37,300 insured American Indians and Alaska Natives without access to IHS-funded health programs in 2012. By 2016 this increased to 43,400, an increase of 16%. Males represented 63% of the total increase of 6,100 newly insured and females an increase of just 37% insured. Males now only represent 48% of all insured.

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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 |  16,826  |  20,667  |  3,841  | 23% |
| Female |  20,487  |  22,758  |  2,271  | 11% |
| Total |  37,313  |  43,425  |  6,112  | 16% |
|  % Male  | 45% | 48% | 63% |  |
|  % Female  | 55% | 52% | 37% |  |

# 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 |  5,487  |  2,764  |  (2,723) | -50% |
| Female |  5,296  |  2,941  |  (2,355) | -44% |
| Total |  10,783  |  5,705  |  (5,078) | -47% |
|  % Male  | 51% | 48% | 54% |  |
|  % Female  | 49% | 52% | 46% |  |

Indiana had 10,700 American Indians and Alaska Natives who were uninsured in 2012. By 2016 this number had decreased to 5,700 uninsured, a 47% decrease in the number uninsured. Males made up 54% of the decrease and now males represent 48% of all uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives down from 51% 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 |  71  |  -  |  (71) | -100% |
| Female |  312  |  257  |  (55) | -18% |
| Total |  383  |  257  |  (126) | -33% |
|  % Male  | 19% | 0% | 56% |  |
|  % Female  | 81% | 100% | 44% |  |

The number of uninsured patients with access to IHS-funded health programs is very small in Indiana and extreme caution is advised with the estimate for this population. The direction of the estimate is toward ‘fewer’ uninsured, but again the small sample size reflects the small population of this group.

## 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 |  5,416  |  2,764  |  (2,652) | -49% |
| Female |  4,984  |  2,684  |  (2,300) | -46% |
| Total |  10,400  |  5,448  |  (4,952) | -48% |
|  % Male  | 52% | 51% | 54% |  |
|  % Female  | 48% | 49% | 46% |  |

The number of uninsured patients without access to IHS-funded health programs decreased by nearly 5,000 or 48% from 2012 to 2016. Female uninsured declined by 46%, males by 49%. Males and females were equally represented among the uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives.

# Conclusion

In Indiana, the ACA was successful in increasing, by 16%, the enrollment of American Indian and Alaska Native with health insurance coverage and reducing the number of uninsured by 47%. Indiana did adopt Medicaid expansion and this is the likely reason for the decrease in the number uninsured. The uninsured rate declined from 26% to 16% from 2012 to 2016 a relatively high level of uninsured similar to states that did not adopt Medicaid expansion, but an improvement nonetheless from 2012.

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.

### Indiana: 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