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| **Kansas 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 Kansas 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.

# 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 Kansas

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| American Indian and Alaska Native Population 2012 and 2016 | |
| 2012 | **2016** |
| 59,514 | 56,595 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| American Indian and Alaska Native Uninsured 2012 and 2016 | |
| 2012 | **2016** |
| 11,538 | 7,436 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Uninsured Rate 2012 and 2016 | |
| 2012 | **2016** |
| 19% | 13% |

# Health Insurance Coverage

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

The table that follows depicts no health insurance enrollment increases in Kansas. The number of American Indians and Alaska Natives with health insurance was 48,000 2012 and remained at just 49,100 in 2016, within the margin of error in the estimate.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2012-2016 Health Coverage American Indians and Alaska Natives | | | | |
|  | 2012 | 2016 | Increase 12-16 | % increase |
| Male | 21,708 | 23,666 | 1,958 | 9% |
| Female | 26,268 | 25,493 | (775) | -3% |
| Total | 47,976 | 49,159 | 1,183 | 2% |
| % Male | 45% | 48% | 166% |  |
| % Female | 55% | 52% | -66% |  |

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

Health insurance coverage declined by 13% from 2012 to 2016 for American Indians and Alaska Natives in Kansas who feel they have access to IHS services. The finding that female coverage actually declined by 41% deserves close attention to determine the validity of this finding and a search for the likely cause.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2012-2016 Health Coverage for American Indians and Alaska Natives with Access to IHS | | | | |
|  | 2012 | 2016 | Increase 12-16 | % increase |
| Male | 2,525 | 3,457 | 932 | 37% |
| Female | 4,440 | 2,623 | (1,817) | -41% |
| Total | 6,965 | 6,080 | (885) | -13% |
| % Male | 36% | 57% |  |  |
| % Female | 64% | 43% |  |  |

## Health Insurance Coverage for American Indians and Alaska Natives

## Without Access to IHS

The ACS estimates that there were 41,000 insured American Indians and Alaska Natives without access to IHS-funded health programs in 2012. By 2016, the number insured remained at just 43,000. There is no evidence of even modest success in Kansas as the 2012 to 2016 increase was just 5%. Females make up 53% of the insured American Indian and Alaska Native population in Kansas who do not have access to IHS-funded health programs.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 2012-2016 Health Coverage American Indians and Alaska Natives with No Access to IHS | | | | |
|  | 2012 | 2016 | Increase 12-16 | % increase |
| Male | 19,183 | 20,209 | 1,026 | 5% |
| Female | 21,828 | 22,870 | 1,042 | 5% |
| Total | 41,011 | 43,079 | 2,068 | 5% |
| % Male | 47% | 47% | 50% |  |
| % Female | 53% | 53% | 50% |  |

# 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 | 6,632 | 3,811 | (2,821) | -43% |
| Female | 4,906 | 3,625 | (1,281) | -26% |
| Total | 11,538 | 7,436 | (4,102) | -36% |
| % Male | 57% | 51% | 69% |  |
| % Female | 43% | 49% | 31% |  |

Kansas had 11,500 American Indians and Alaska Natives who were uninsured in 2012. By 2016 this number had decreased to 7,400 uninsured, a 36% decrease in the number uninsured. Males made up 69% of the decrease and now males represent 51% of all uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives and females make up 49% of the uninsured. The state’s American Indian and Alaska Native population did decline by 3,000 from 2012 to 2016 and this may be part of the explanation for the decline in the number 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 | Decrease  12-16 | % Decrease |
| Male | 2,080 | 865 | | (1,215) | -58% |
| Female | 1,446 | 1,025 | | (421) | -29% |
| Total | 3,526 | 1,890 | | (1,636) | -46% |
| % Male | 59% | 46% | | 74% |  |
| % Female | 41% | | 54% | 26% |  |

American Indians and Alaska Natives with access to IHS-funded health programs did see a 46% decline in the number uninsured from 2012 to 2016. Males uninsured declined by 58% and female by 29% resulting in 1,600 fewer uninsured in 2016. Females now make p 54% of the uninsured of those with access to IHS-funded health programs

## 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 | 4,552 | 2,946 | (1,606) | -35% |
| Female | 3,460 | 2,600 | (860) | -25% |
| Total | 8,012 | 5,546 | (2,466) | -31% |
| % Male | 57% | 53% | 65% |  |
| % Female | 43% | 47% | 35% |  |

The number of uninsured patients without access to IHS-funded health programs decreased by nearly 2,400 or 31% from 2012 to 2016. Males now make up 53% of the uninsured and females 47%.

# Conclusion

In Kansas, the ACA was successful in reducing the number of uninsured. Kansas did not adopt Medicaid expansion, so the reason for the decline is not clear, although a shrinking population is part of the explanation.

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.

### Kansas: 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