

National Indian
Health Board



**OREGON HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE
FOR AMERICAN INDIANS AND ALASKA
NATIVES: THE IMPACT OF THE
AFFORDABLE CARE ACT 2012-2016.**

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Abstract

This data brief examines the evidence of the impact of the Affordable Care Act on American Indians and Alaska Natives in Oregon 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 success in increasing the number insured, thus lowering the number uninsured for both males and females. It also depicts variation for American Indians and Alaska Natives with or without access to IHS-funded health programs. The increase in the number insured was 49%. The overall decline in uninsured was 54% for all American Indians and Alaska Natives. The decline in uninsured for those American Indians and Alaska Natives with access to IHS-funded programs was 48% compared to a 57% decline for those without access to IHS.

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: Oregon

American Indian and Alaska Native Population 2012 and 2016	
2012	2016
118,034	132,183

American Indian and Alaska Native Uninsured 2012 and 2016	
2012	2016
26,175	11,989

Uninsured Rate 2012 and 2016	
2012	2016
22%	9%

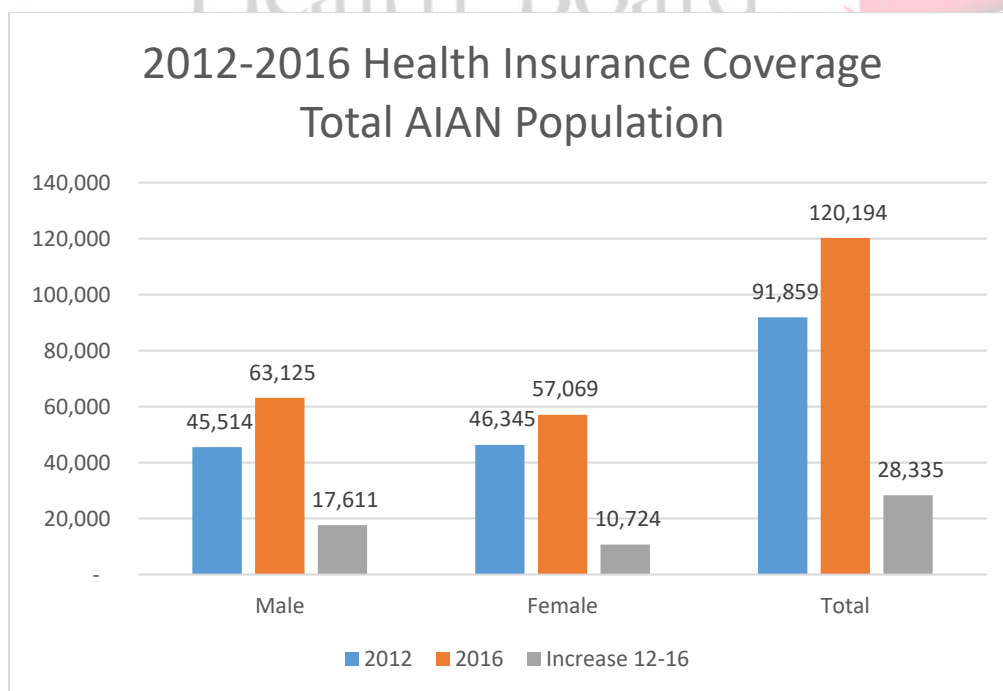
Health Insurance Coverage

Health Insurance Coverage of all American Indians and Alaska Natives

The table that follows depicts large health insurance enrollment increases in Oregon. The number of American Indians and Alaska Natives with health insurance rose from 91,800 in 2012 to 120,200 in 2016. The increase of 28,300 American Indians and Alaska Natives with insurance represents a 31% increase from 2012 to 2016. The number of insured males increased by 39%, more than females, who saw an increase of 23%. Males are now slightly more likely to be insured and they make up 53% of the total. Males were 62% of the increase in the insured population since 2012.

In Oregon, the ACS estimates that 29% of American Indians and Alaska Natives have access to IHS and 71% do not have access to IHS-funded health care services.

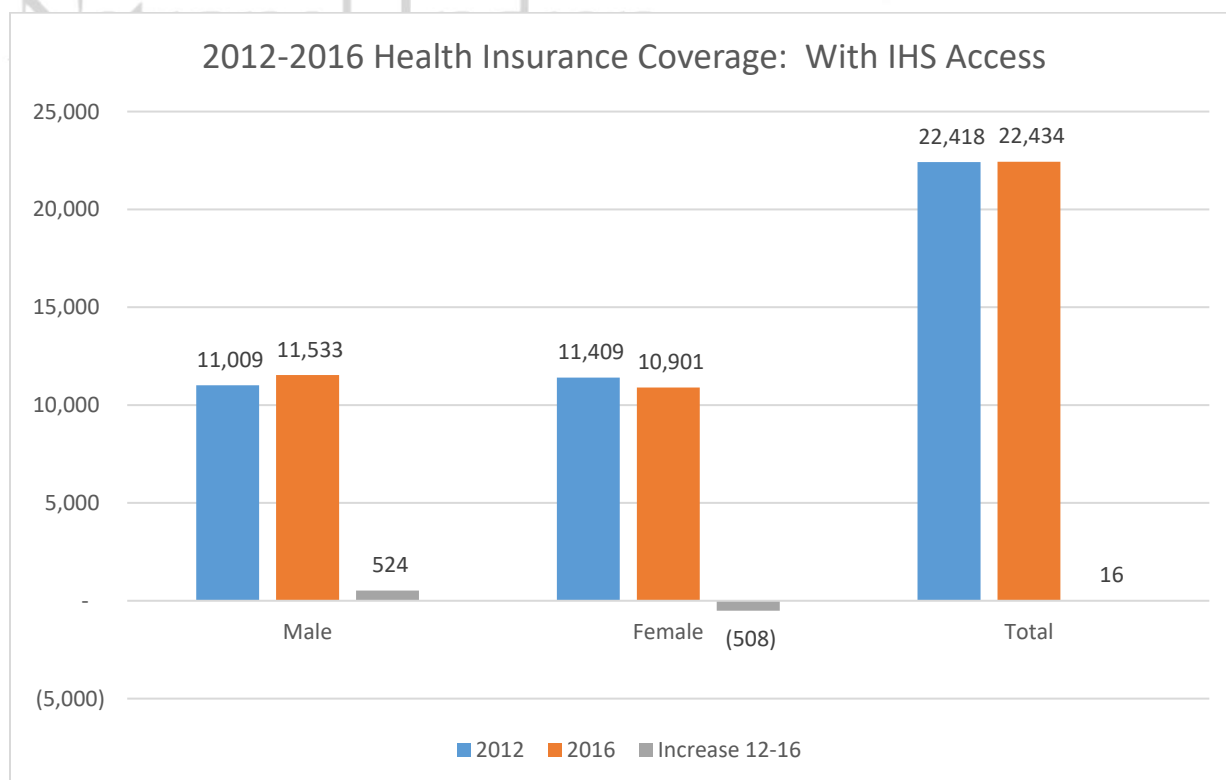
2012-2016 Health Coverage American Indians and Alaska Natives				
	2012	2016	Increase 12-16	% increase
Male	45,514	63,125	17,611	39%
Female	46,345	57,069	10,724	23%
Total	91,859	120,194	28,335	31%
% Male	50%	53%	62%	
% Female	50%	47%	38%	



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

From 2012 to 2016 there was essentially no change in the overall number insured for those with Access to IHS-funded services. In 2016, females made up 51% and males represent 49% of all insured. The population with access to IHS services declined from 31,200 to just 27,000 from 2012 to 2016 and this is part of the explanation for no increase in the insured population for those with access to IHS.

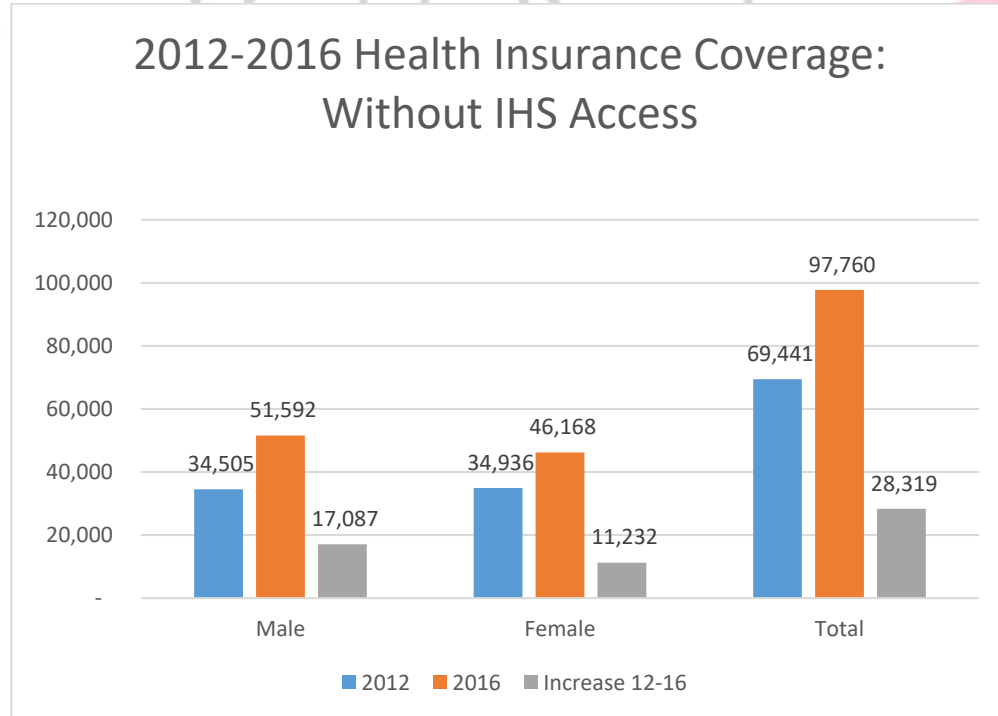
2012-2016 Health Coverage for American Indians and Alaska Natives with Access to IHS				
	2012	2016	Increase 12-16	% increase
Male	11,009	11,533	524	5%
Female	11,409	10,901	(508)	-4%
Total	22,418	22,434	16	0%
% Male	49%	51%		
% Female	51%	49%		



Health Insurance Coverage for American Indians and Alaska Natives Without Access to IHS

The ACS estimates that there were 69,400 insured American Indians and Alaska Natives without access to IHS-funded health programs in 2012. By 2016 this increased to 97,700 an increase of 41%. The rate of increase was 50% for males and 32% for females. In 2016, females make up 47% and males represent 53% of all insured. Females made up 40% of the increase since 2012 and males 60% of the increase. In 2012 86,800 American Indians and Alaska Natives did not have access to IHS-funded services, by 2016 this population increased to over 105,000 and this population increase explains, in part, the large increase in the insured population.

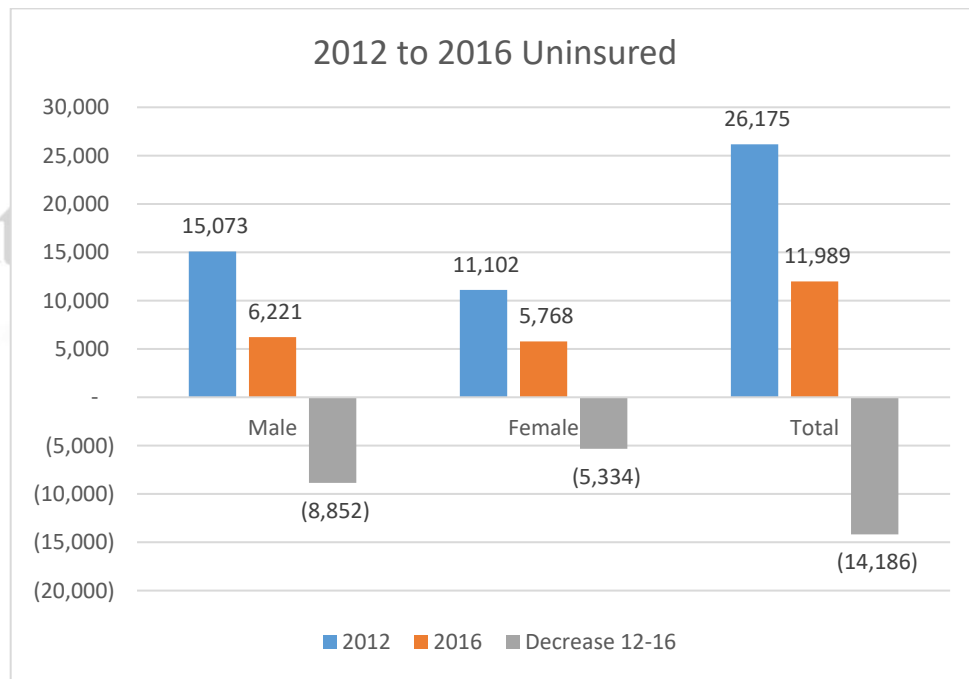
2012-2016 Health Coverage American Indians and Alaska Natives with No Access to IHS				
	2012	2016	Increase 12-16	% increase
Male	34,505	51,592	17,087	50%
Female	34,936	46,168	11,232	32%
Total	69,441	97,760	28,319	41%
% Male	50%	53%	60%	
% Female	50%	47%	40%	



Uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives

Uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives

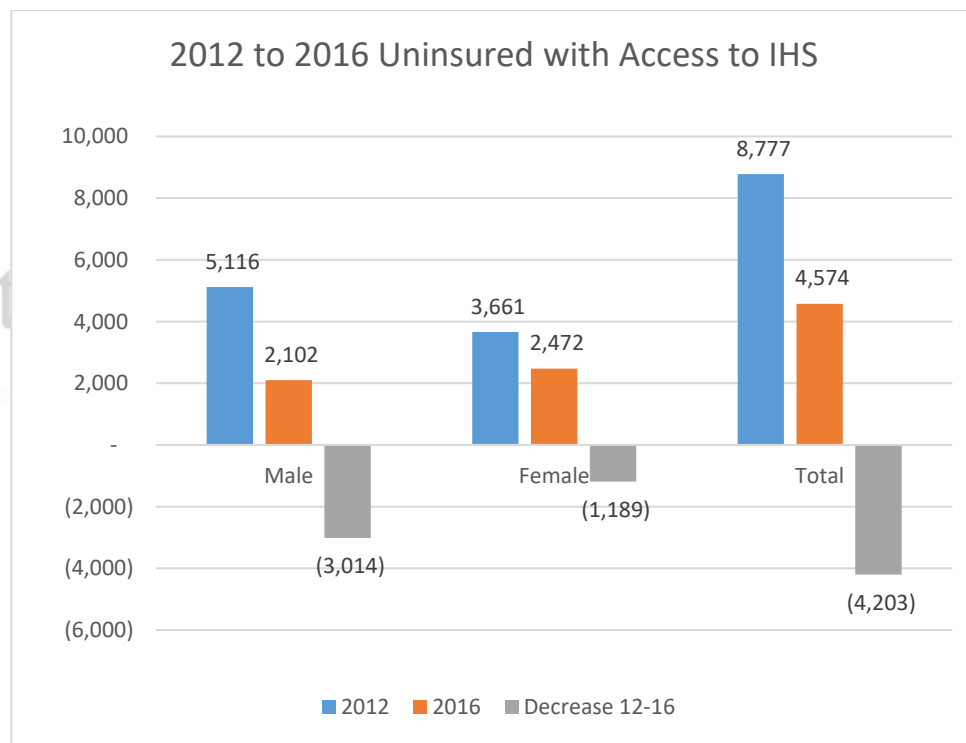
2012-2016 Uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives				
	2012	2016	Decrease 12-16	% increase
Male	15,073	6,221	(8,852)	-59%
Female	11,102	5,768	(5,334)	-48%
Total	26,175	11,989	(14,186)	-54%
% Male	58%	52%	62%	
% Female	42%	48%	38%	



26,100 American Indians and Alaska Natives were uninsured in 2012. By 2016 this number had dropped to nearly 12,000 uninsured, a 14,000 or 54% decrease in the number uninsured. Female uninsured declined by 48% and males 59%. Males now represent 52% of all uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives down from 58% in 2012 as the male share of the decrease since 2012 totaled 62%. The extension of Medicaid coverage to childless adults explains, in part, this decrease in the rate of uninsured males.

Uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives with Access to IHS

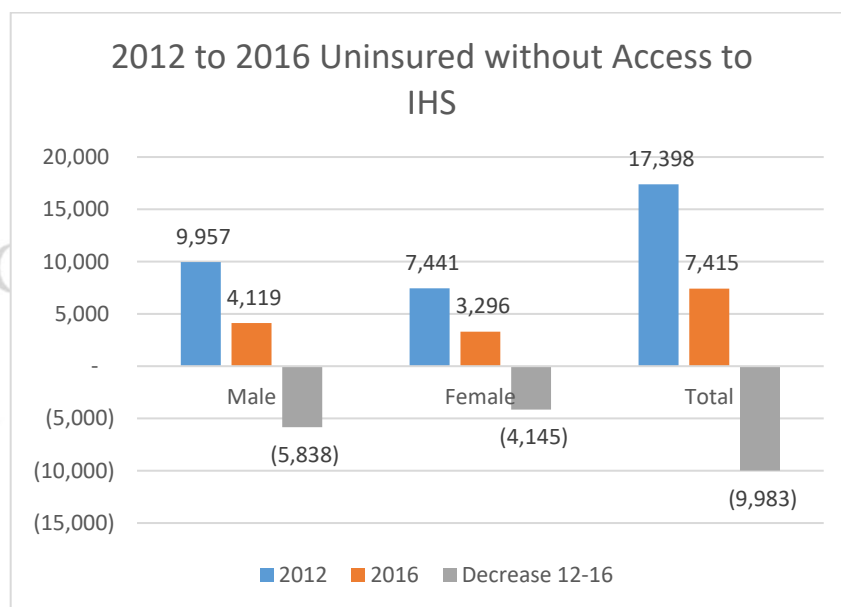
2012-2016 Uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives with Access to IHS				
	2012	2016	Decrease 12-16	% Decrease
Male	5,116	2,102	(3,014)	-59%
Female	3,661	2,472	(1,189)	-32%
Total	8,777	4,574	(4,203)	-48%
% Male	58%	46%	72%	
% Female	42%	54%	28%	



The number of uninsured patients with access to IHS-funded health programs declined from 8,700 in 2012 to 4,500 in 2016, a decline of about 4,200 or 48% uninsured. Since 2016, females made up 28% of this decrease and males 72%. The female share of the uninsured is now 54% compared to 42% in 2012, although both sexes saw significant declines the female share of the total uninsured increased.

Uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives without Access to IHS

2012-2016 Uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives With No Access to IHS				
	2012	2016	Decrease 12-16	% decrease
Male	9,957	4,119	(5,838)	-59%
Female	7,441	3,296	(4,145)	-56%
Total	17,398	7,415	(9,983)	-57%
% Male	57%	56%	58%	
% Female	43%	44%	42%	



The number of uninsured patients without access to IHS-funded health programs declined by nearly 10,000 or 57% from 2012 to 2016. Female uninsured declined by 56% and males by 59%. Males, without access to IHS, are more likely to be uninsured than females and they make up 56% of the total number uninsured. Oregon's success in reducing the number of American Indian and Alaska Native uninsured is unmatched in any other state.

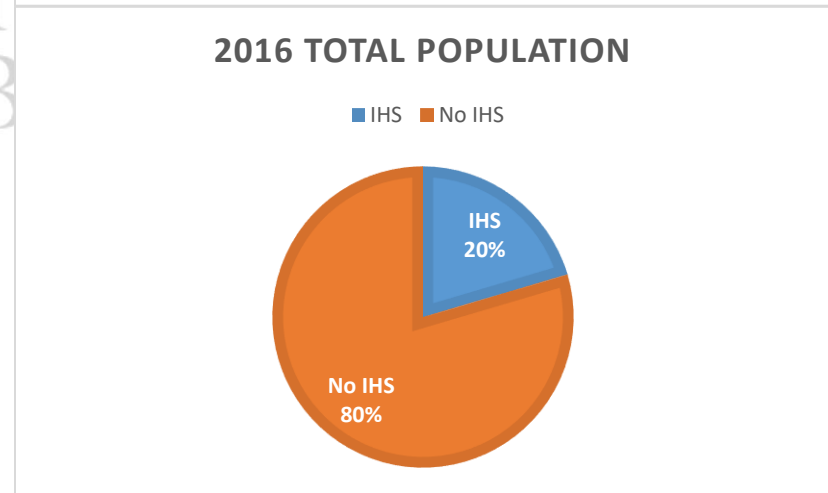
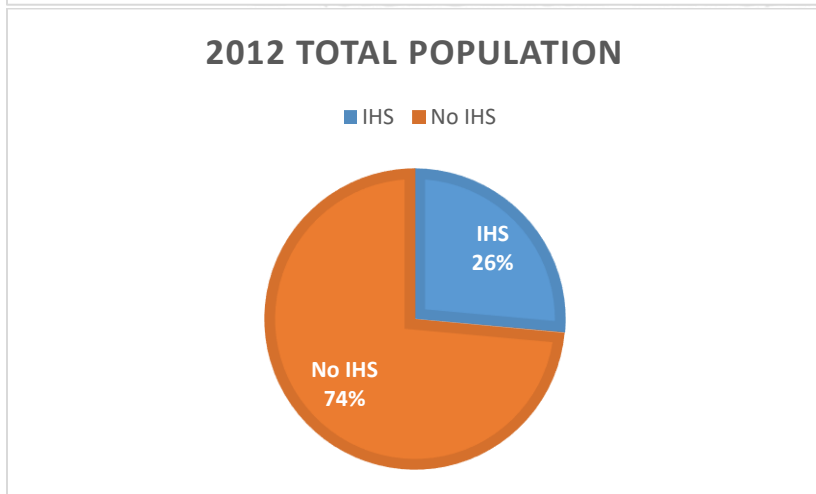
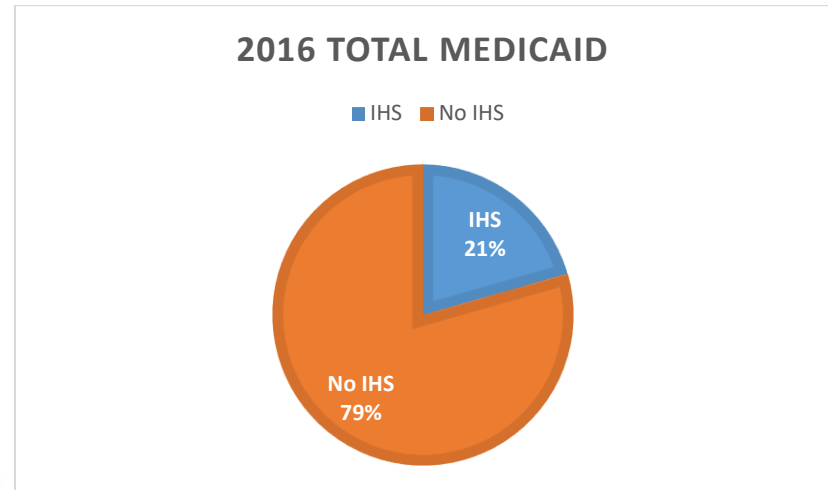
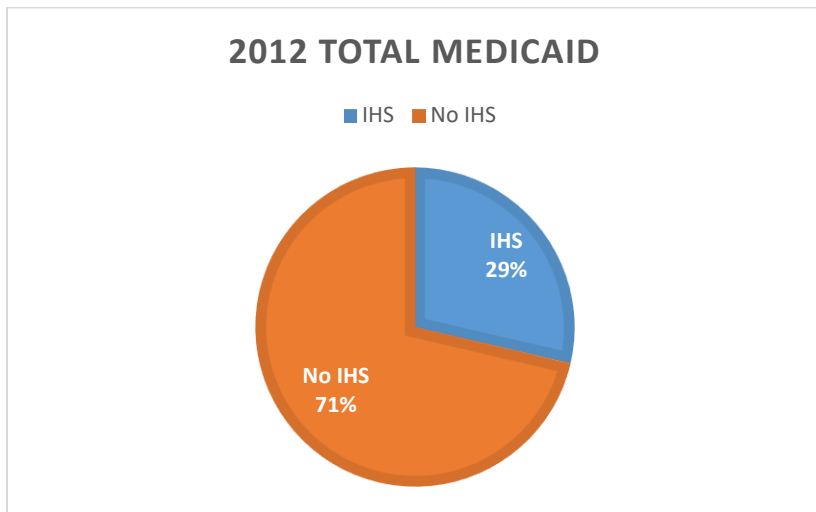
Conclusion

In Oregon, the ACA was very successful in increasing the enrollment of American Indian and Alaska Native with health insurance coverage. The number of American Indians and Alaska Natives with insurance increased by 49% and the number uninsured decreased by 54%. In a state with a large number of American Indians and Alaska Natives Oregon was able to drive its uninsured rate below 10%, one of the lowest in the nation in a state with a growing population.

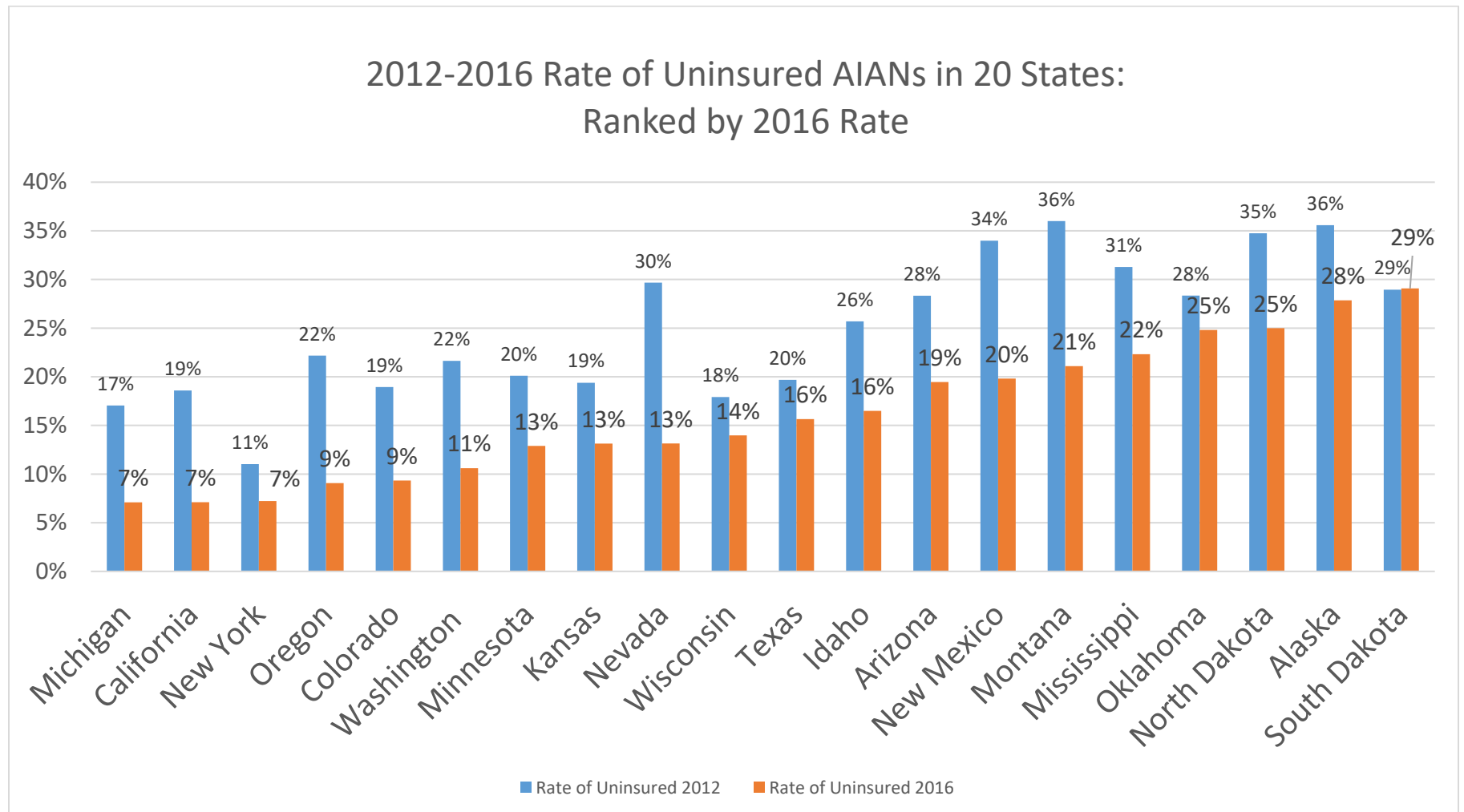
Source of Data: 1-year American Community Survey, US Census
Years: 2012 and 2016. 2016 ACS Data Release of October 19, 2017.
No Foreign Born, that is, nativity is the United States.
American Indian and Alaska Natives Alone and In-combination with other races.



Change in Access to IHS from 2012 to 2016: Oregon



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



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