



OKLAHOMA 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 Oklahoma 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 very limited success in increasing the number insured and likewise limited success in lowering the number uninsured. The uninsured rate did decline, from 28% to 25%, but a decline that places Oklahoma at or near the bottom when compared to other states with large Indian populations.

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 Oklahoma

American Indian and Alaska Native Population 2012 and 2016	
2012	2016
510,587	522,442

American Indian and Alaska Native Uninsured 2012 and 2016	
2012	2016
144,713	129,643

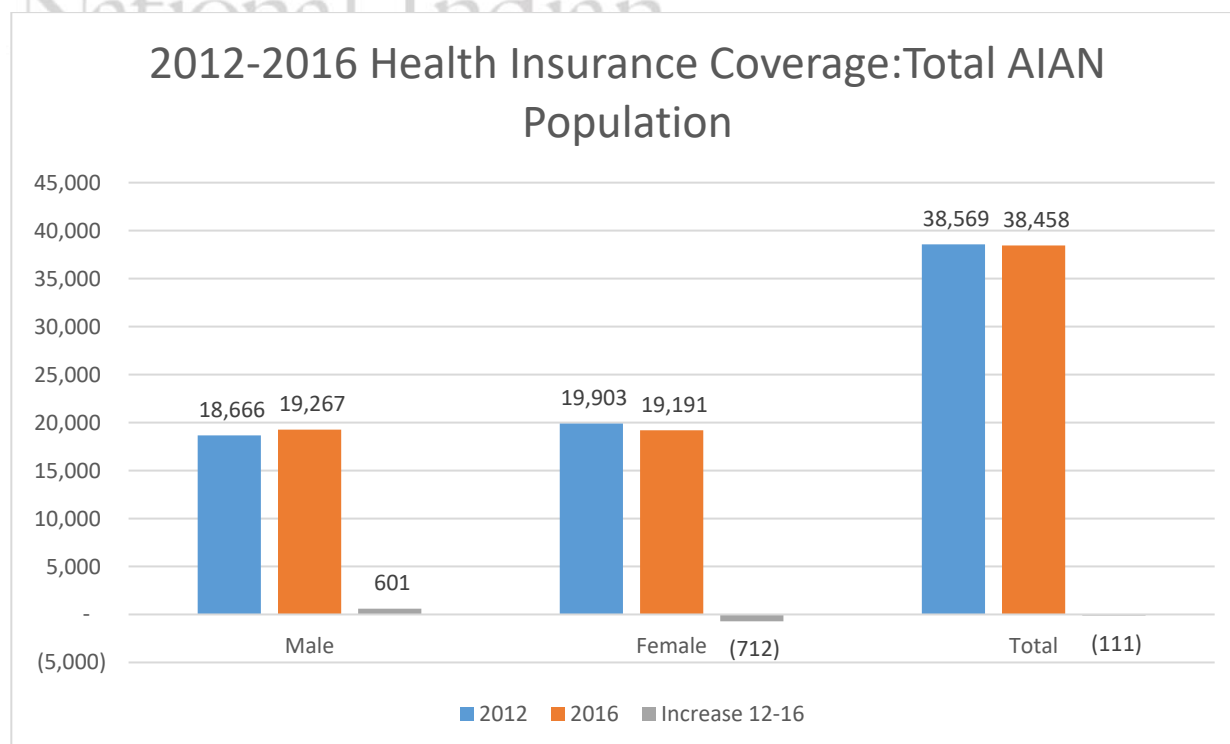
Uninsured Rate 2012 and 2016	
2012	2016
28%	25%

Health Insurance Coverage

Health Insurance Coverage of all American Indians and Alaska Natives

The table that follows depicts large health insurance enrollment increases in Oklahoma. The number of American Indians and Alaska Natives with health insurance rose from 365,800 in 2012 to 392,800 in 2016. This nearly 27,000 increase from 2012 to 2016 of insured American Indians and Alaska Natives represents a 7% increase in the number insured. The number of insured males increased by 10% similar to increase for females, who saw an 5% increase. Females represented 51% of all insured in 2016 compared to 52% in 2012.

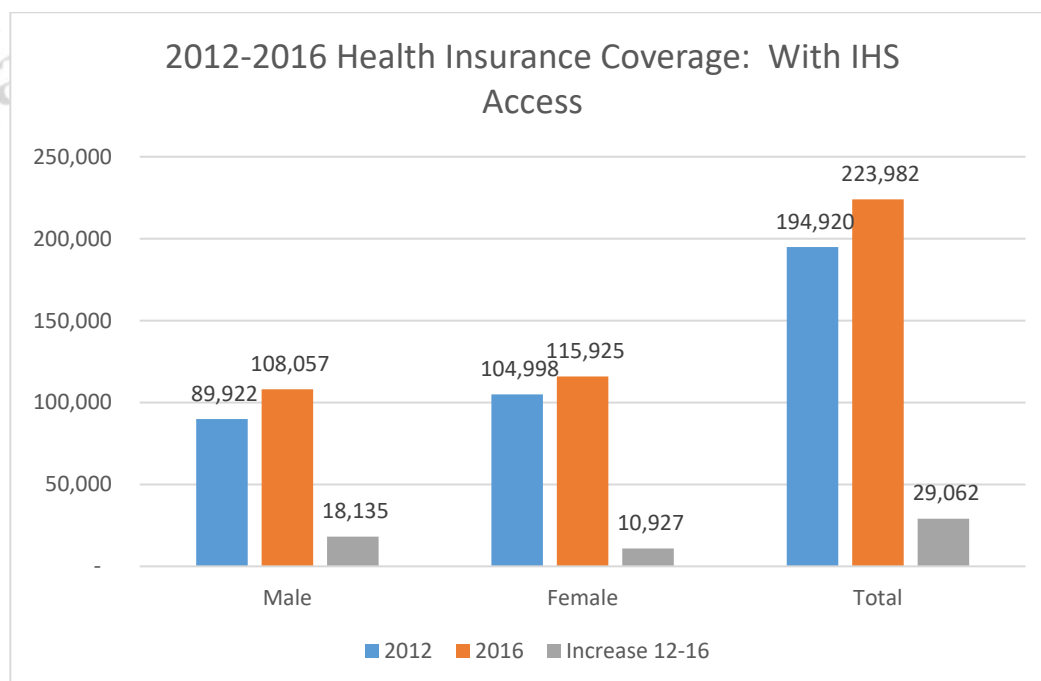
2012-2016 Health Coverage American Indians and Alaska Natives				
	2012	2016	Increase 12-16	% increase
Male	175,594	192,467	16,873	10%
Female	190,280	200,332	10,052	5%
Total	365,874	392,799	26,925	7%
% Male	48%	49%	63%	
% Female	52%	51%	37%	



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 remained relatively stable from about 195,000 in 2012 to 201,000 in 2016. This represents a 15% increase in insured patients at IHS funded health programs. Male insurance coverage increased by 20% while females increased by 10%. In 2016 females make up 52% of all insured compared to 54% in 2012, with males representing 48% of all insured.

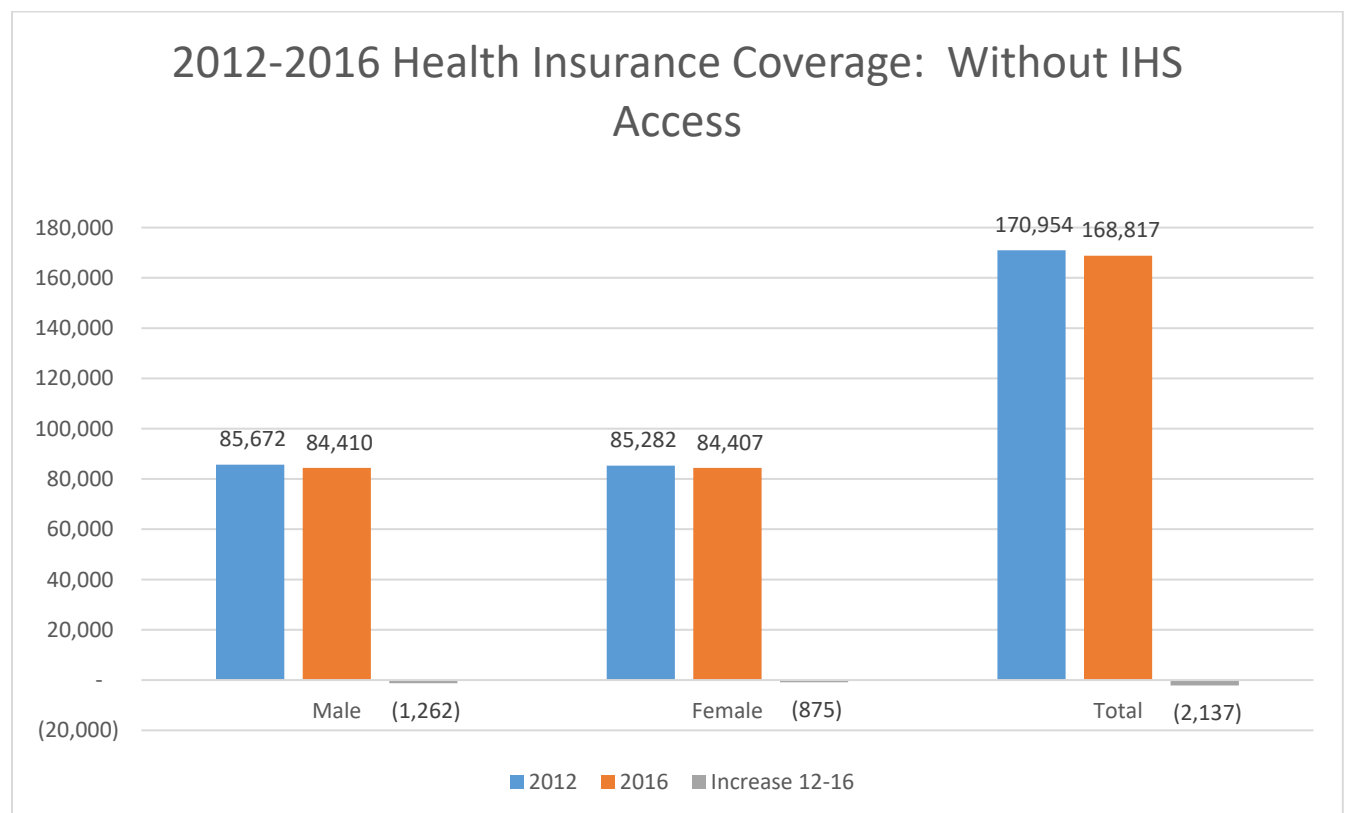
2012-2016 Health Coverage for American Indians and Alaska Natives with Access to IHS				
	2012	2016	Increase 12-16	% increase
Male	89,922	108,057	18,135	20%
Female	104,998	115,925	10,927	10%
Total	194,920	223,982	29,062	15%
% Male	46%	48%	62%	
% Female	54%	52%	38%	



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

The ACS estimates that there were 171,000 insured American Indians and Alaska Natives without access to IHS-funded health programs in 2012. By 2016 this decreased to 168,000 a 1% decrease (within the margin of error). Male and females are equally represented with a 50% share of the total insured population.

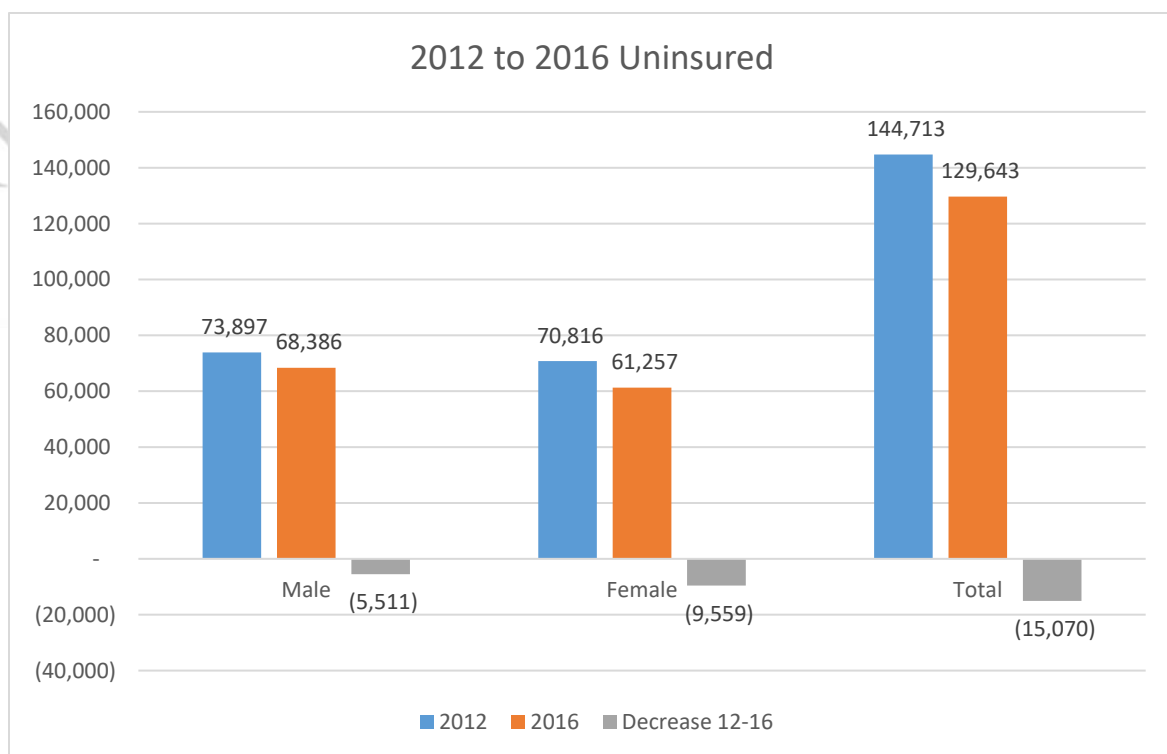
2012-2016 Health Coverage American Indians and Alaska Natives with No Access to IHS				
	2012	2016	Increase 12-16	% increase
Male	85,672	84,410	(1,262)	-1%
Female	85,282	84,407	(875)	-1%
Total	170,954	168,817	(2,137)	-1%
% Male	50%	50%	59%	
% Female	50%	50%	41%	



Uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives

Uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives

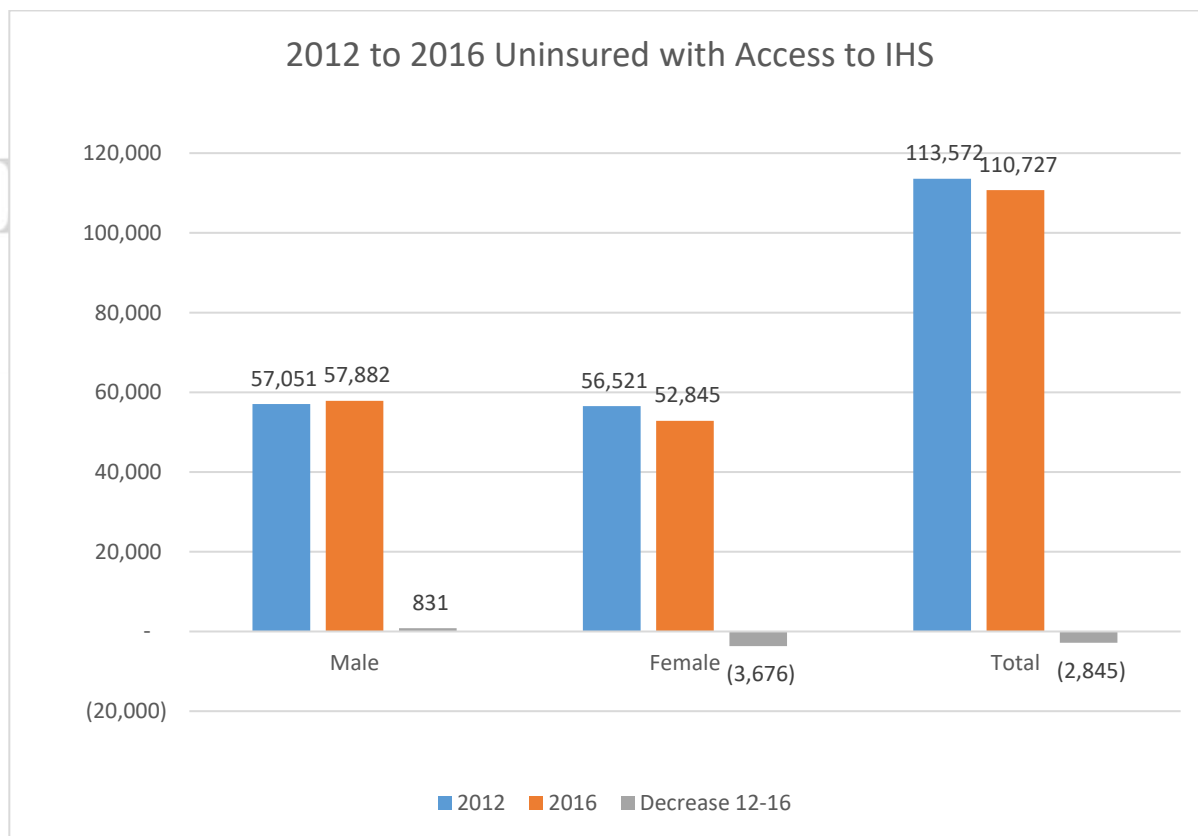
2012-2016 Uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives				
	2012	2016	Decrease 12-16	% increase
Male	73,897	68,386	(5,511)	-7%
Female	70,816	61,257	(9,559)	-13%
Total	144,713	129,643	(15,070)	-10%
% Male	51%	53%	37%	
% Female	49%	47%	63%	



Oklahoma had 144,713 American Indians and Alaska Natives who were uninsured in 2012. By 2016 this number had dropped to 129,600 uninsured, a 10% decrease in the number uninsured. Males represented 53% of all uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives. Females made up 63% of the decline in uninsured since 2012.

Uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives with Access to IHS

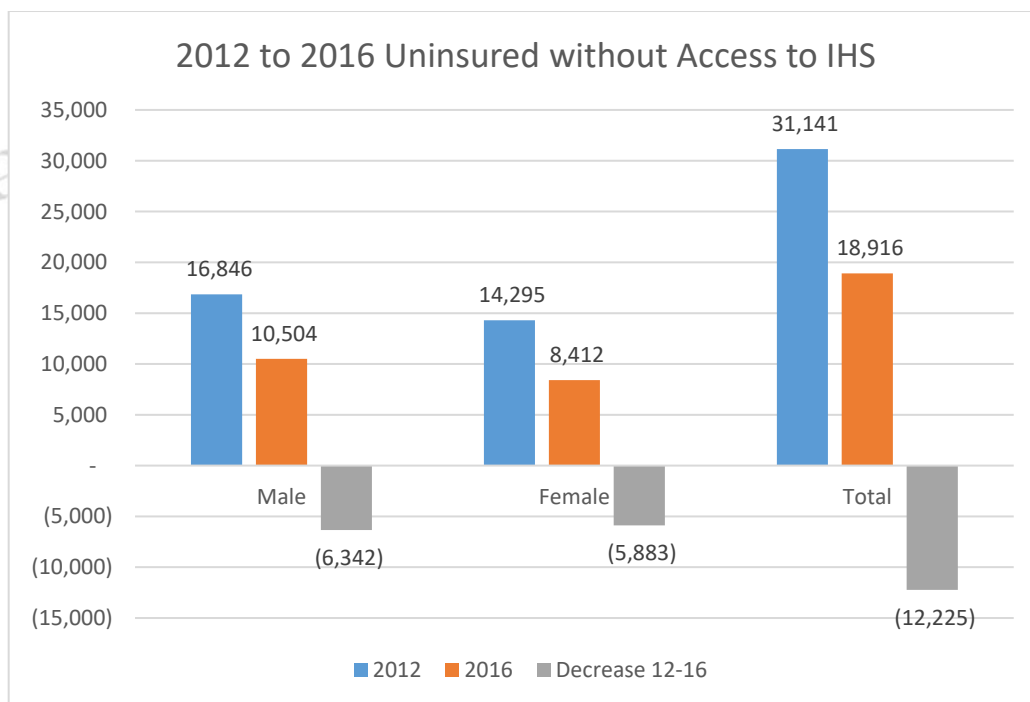
2012-2016 Uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives with Access to IHS				
	2012	2016	Decrease 12-16	% Decrease
Male	57,051	57,882	831	1%
Female	56,521	52,845	(3,676)	-7%
Total	113,572	110,727	(2,845)	-3%
% Male	50%	52%		
% Female	50%	48%		



The number of uninsured patients with access to IHS-funded health programs declined by 2,800 from 113,500 in 2012 to 110,700 in 2016 a reduction of just 3%. This anemic decline puts Oklahoma near the bottom of states in addressing the problem of health care access with increased health insurance.

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	16,846	10,504	(6,342)	-38%
Female	14,295	8,412	(5,883)	-41%
Total	31,141	18,916	(12,225)	-39%
% Male	54%	56%	52%	
% Female	46%	44%	48%	



The number of uninsured patients without access to IHS-funded health programs declined by 12,200 or 39% from 2012 to 2016. This compares with the decrease of just 3% for those American Indians and Alaska Natives with access to IHS-funded health programs. Males, without access to IHS, are more likely to be uninsured than females and they make up 56% of the total number uninsured in 2016, although males and females saw similar declines since 2012.

Conclusion

In Oklahoma, the ACA was not successful in increasing the enrollment of American Indian and Alaska Native in health insurance coverage. This is, in part, because the state did not adopt Medicaid Expansion. The 129,000 uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives in Oklahoma is a stark reminder of the impact of the state option to forego the expansion of its Medicaid program.

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

Years: 2012 and 2016

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

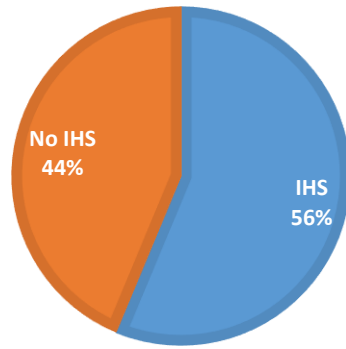
American Indian and Alaska Natives Alone and In-combination with other races.



Change in Access to IHS from 2012 to 2016: Oklahoma

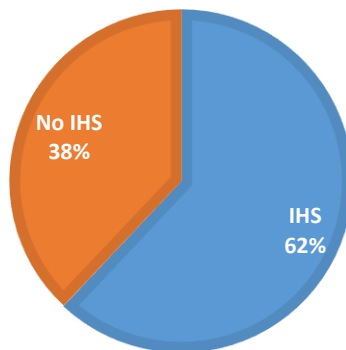
2012 TOTAL MEDICAID

■ IHS ■ No IHS



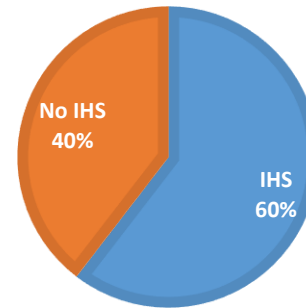
2016 TOTAL MEDICAID

■ IHS ■ No IHS



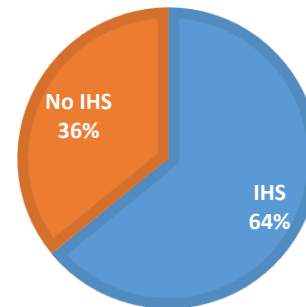
2012 TOTAL POPULATION

■ IHS ■ No IHS

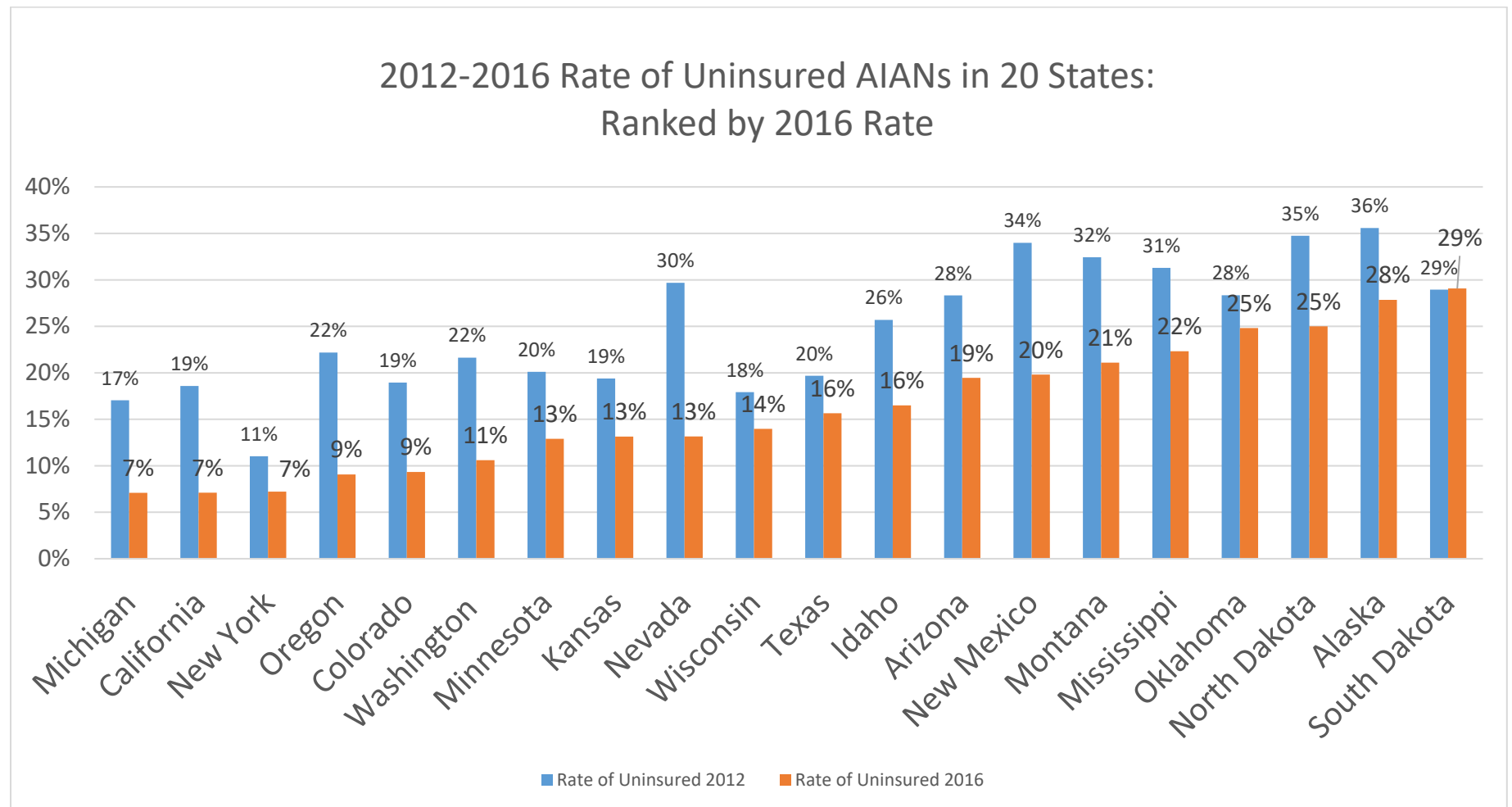


2016 TOTAL POPULATION

■ IHS ■ No IHS



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



National Indian Health Board

