



STDs in Alaska Natives* ALASKA

State Population & Alaska Natives, July 1 2005

Population Group	Male	Female	Total	%
Alaska Native	59,565	58,178	117,743	17.7
State	340,591	323,070	663,661	100.0

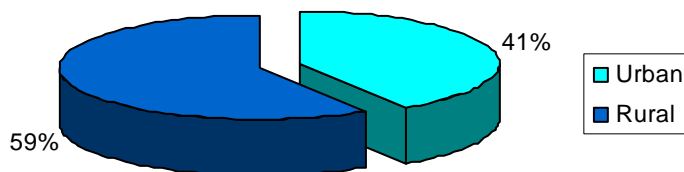
Source: Alaska Department of Labor & Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

Alaska STD Program Website: <http://www.epi.hss.state.ak.us/hivstd/default.stm>

CDC Project Area



Alaska Urban and Rural Alaska Native Populations, 2005



Alaska's three major cities, Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Juneau comprised 59.8% of the state's 2005 population. In 2005, 41.4% of the Alaska Native population resided in these three areas. Anchorage is often referred to as the largest Alaska Native village.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor & Workplace Development, Section of Research and Analysis

Sexually Transmitted Disease in the Alaska Native Population

National STD rates among Alaska Native and American Indians are 2-6 times higher than rates for whites. Although Alaska Natives comprised nearly 18% of the total population in Alaska in 2005, they accounted for 48.5% of the chlamydia and 52.7% of gonorrhea cases in 2005.

Alaska Chlamydia New Cases, 2005

Population Group	Male	Female	Total	%	Rate per 100,000
Alaska Native	559	1,555	3,225	74.0	2,739.0
State	1,447	2,910	4,357	100.0	656.5

Source: Alaska Division of Public Health, Section of Epidemiology

Alaska Gonorrhea New Cases, 2005

Population Group	Male	Female	Total	%	Rate per 100,000
Alaska Native	92	255	317	52.7	269.2
State	252	349	601	100.0	90.5

Source: Alaska Division of Public Health, Section of Epidemiology

Alaska P&S Syphilis New Cases, 2005

Population Group	Male	Female	Total	%	Rate per 100,000
Alaska Native	1	0	1	11.1	0.9
State	8	1	9	100.0	1.4

Source: Alaska Division of Public Health, Section of Epidemiology

**The term Alaska Native is used in the text to refer to the American Indian and Alaska Native population*

This Fact Sheet was developed by JSI Research & Training Institute (303-262-4300, www.jsi.com) in conjunction with the Northern Plains Tribal Epidemiology Center (605-721-1922, www.aatchb.org/epi)

Alaska HIV Reported New Cases with and without AIDS, 2005

Population Group	Male	%	Female	%	Total	%	Rate per 100,000
Alaska Native	4	22.2	2	28.6	6	24.0	5.1
State	18	100.0	7	100.0	25	100.0	3.8

Source: Alaska Division of Public Health, Section of Epidemiology

Alaska Hepatitis New Cases

Hepatitis A, B, and C case data not yet released in Alaska Native populations

Select Alaska Demographics

Births

2004	Number of Births	%	% of Births to Mothers ≤ 19	% w/ <12 yrs education	% Unmarried Mothers
Alaska Native	2,577	24.9	17.7	27.2	63.4
State	10,386	100.0	10.5	14.1	34.6

Source: Section of Epidemiology, Alaska Division of Public Health

Economics

2005	Median Household Income (USD)	% Below Poverty Level
Alaska Native	38,397	15.6
State	56,234	7.4

Source: US Census Bureau

Education

2004-2005	Enrollment % (7-12)	Actual Enrollment (7-12)	Dropout Rate % (2003-2004)
Alaska Native	24.3	15,157	8.1
State	100.0	62,473	4.9

Source: Alaska Department of Education

Resources/ Potential Partners/ Special Issues

Alaska Natives/Tribes: Alaska has 229 federally recognized tribes that live across 586,412 square miles of predominately roadless land. For a list of *federally-recognized* tribes please see: <http://www.indians.org/Resource/FedTribes99/Region1/region1.html>.

Tribal Health Programs: Since 1970, Alaska Natives have increasingly taken over from the Federal government the responsibility for managing their own health care system. Various tribes negotiated and signed an agreement known as the Alaska Tribal Health Compact with each other and the Indian Health Service. Through the compact, the Alaska Tribal Health System was established--a group of 39 tribal health organizations linked by an agreement on common goals and objectives. Included in the system are the Alaska Native Medical Center (a statewide referral and tertiary facility in Anchorage), six regional hospitals; and clinics in some 200 rural communities across the state. For more information please see: <http://www.tribalconnections.org/sitemap.html>

IHS Health Programs: Alaska Area Office of IHS, Alaska Area Native Health Service, 4141 Ambassador Drive, Suite 300, Anchorage, AK 99508.5928, (907) 729-3686. This Area Office works in conjunction with nine tribally operated service areas. Through the provisions of P.L. 93-638, there are 19 Title I contracts and one Title V compact with 21 annual funding agreements. Alaska tribes administer 99% of the IHS funds earmarked for Alaska. Tribal hospitals are located in Anchorage, Barrow, Bethel, Dillingham, Kotzebue, Nome and Sitka. There are 25 tribal health centers and 176 tribal community health aide clinics operated throughout the State. The Alaska Native Medical Center (ANMC) in Anchorage serves as the Area's referral center and gatekeeper for specialty care. Please see <http://www.ihs.gov/FacilitiesServices/AreaOffices/Alaska/ak-contact.asp> for more information.

Inter-Tribal Health Programs: [Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium](http://www.anthc.org/) 4000 Ambassador Drive, Mailstop C-DCHS, Anchorage, AK 99508, (907) 729-1900, <http://www.anthc.org/>. [Community Health Aid Program](http://www.akchap.org/) www.akchap.org.

Indian Health Boards: Alaska Native Health Board 3700 Woodland Drive, Suite 500, Anchorage, AK 99527, (907) 562-6006.

IHS Tribal Epidemiology Centers: [Alaska Native Epidemiology Center](http://www.anthc.org/cs/chs/epi/), Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, 4000 Ambassador Drive, Mailstop C-DCHS, Anchorage, AK 99508, (907) 729-1900, <http://www.anthc.org/cs/chs/epi/>.

Tribal Colleges: [Ilisagvik College](http://www.ilisagvikcollege.edu/) P.O. Box 749, Barrow, Alaska 99723, 907-852-3333, Toll-free (Alaska only): 1-800-478-7337, [webspace.ilisagvik.cc/](http://wwwspace.ilisagvik.cc/).

State Tribal Health Liaisons: Renee Gayhart, (907) 465-1619, renee_gayhart@health.state.ak.us; Charlene Galang, (907) 334-2433, charlene_galang@health.state.ak.us; Randall Super, (907) 344-2474, randall_super@health.state.ak.us.

Special Issues:

- Alaska Natives are the largest minority group in Alaska (almost 18% of state's population).
- Former IHS hospitals/facilities and health care responsibilities have been compacted to Alaska Regional Native Health Corporations in all areas of the state, as has the Alaska Native Medical Center in Anchorage (ANMC). ANMC, owned and operated by the non-profit Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, provides tertiary medical care to Alaska Natives statewide.
- STD services are provided to Alaska Natives in rural areas in Alaska Native Regional Health Corporation facilities and State of Alaska Public Health Centers. Community Health Aides/Practitioners and itinerant public health nurses provide STD services in villages.
- All providers and labs associated with Regional Native Health Corporations and the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium report STD, HIV/AIDS to the Alaska Division of Public Health.
- A 2002 study of HIV/AIDS cases jointly conducted by the State of Alaska, CDC, and IHS documented that misidentification of race/ethnicity data of STD and HIV cases occurs at much lower rates in Alaska (3.3%) than in jurisdictions in the contiguous 48 states, and does not result in undercounting of HIV/AIDS cases in Alaska.
- As in other tight-knit communities, confidentiality can be difficult to maintain in small rural communities. Family members are often employed by the local Native health care system, posing a potential barrier to prevention activities such as testing and treatment for HIV/STD and access to risk reduction information. Condoms are available in village health clinics.
- A high rate of travel between rural villages and between rural and urban areas of Alaska affects planning for prevention and care services.