



MARCH 20, 2025

Walking in Tradition, Anchored in Culture

#NNHAAD2025



Highlights



AI/AN make up 10% of New Mexico's population. In 2023, they represented **10% of new HIV cases**.



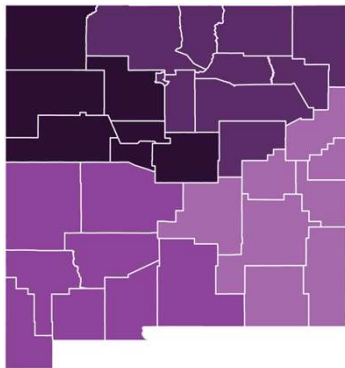
As of 2023, AI/AN ranked **3rd in the state for the number of people living with HIV** and made up 8% of all HIV cases in New Mexico.

American Indians/Alaska Natives (AI/AN) represent **2% of the country**. In 2022, they ranked **5th** in the number of new Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) cases.

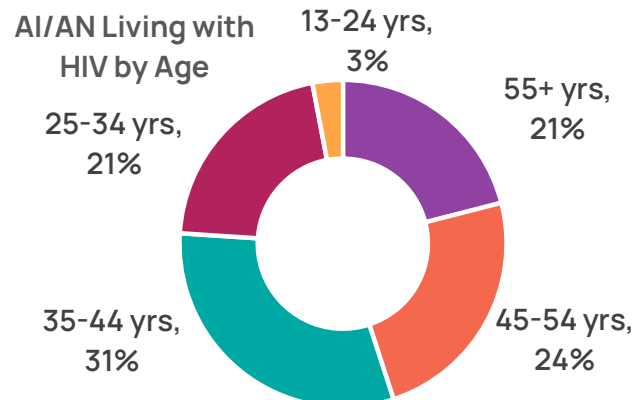
Across the country, **78% of all AI/AN with HIV have been linked to care**. For those that received care, **62% were virally suppressed**. Viral suppression is reached by taking medicine that cuts the HIV virus to such a low level where it can no longer cause harm or be passed on.

48% of AI/AN in New Mexico living with HIV are in stage 3 HIV. Stage 3 is when the immune system becomes so damaged by HIV, it can no longer fight off other diseases. This is also known as AIDS (acquired immunodeficiency syndrome) and happens when people with HIV do not have the medicine that is needed.

Across New Mexico



In 2023, the Metro and Northwest regions had the highest number of HIV cases among AI/AN. This is followed by the Northeast, Southwest, then Southeast areas of the state.



Within the AI/AN population, people ages 35-44 are the largest age group living with HIV (31%). Those 35-44 also make up most new HIV cases in 2023 (50%).

As of 2023, Native youths ages 13-24 are the smallest age group living with HIV (3%).



Across the AI/AN communities in New Mexico, Native men makeup 79% of all HIV cases. They also make up most of the new cases in 2023.



Native women represent the remaining 21% of HIV cases in 2023.

How HIV Spreads

Men who have sex with men is the most often reported way in how HIV is passed on within the AI/AN communities (53%).



High risk heterosexual behavior (23%) and injection drug use (8%) are two other commonly reported ways that HIV is spread.

FINDING CARE & STRATEGIES TO KEEPING HEALTHY

For HIV services, please follow the QR codes for more information:



For enrollment into a HIV service provider, please contact one of the following locations:



- 1 Supporting Awareness Events:** Funding National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (NNHAAD, March 20) and other community events throughout New Mexico to educate and raise awareness about HIV.
- 2 Expanding Testing Access:** Partnering with the Tribes and Native-serving organizations to establish HIV and syphilis testing for communities most affected by HIV.
- 3 Connecting People to Care:** Using the Social Network Strategy to reach and support young Native MSM to increase HIV testing and linkage to care within their communities.
- 4 Building Stronger Connections:** Engaging community members through outreach, group activities, and one on one support. Programs follow a CDC guided, data driven approach.
- 5 Offering Free HIV Prevention Medication:** Continuing to provide Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP, a medication to stop HIV infection) at no cost to prevent HIV in the AI/AN communities, including PrEP access through the Indian Health Services facilities.

References

1. NNHAAD. National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day. <https://www.nnhaad.org/fact-sheets/>. February 20, 2025.
2. New Mexico Population Estimates. Retrieved on February 17, 2025 from New Mexico Department of Health, Indicator-Based Information System for Public Health website: <https://ibis.doh.nm.gov/>
3. eHARS (Enhanced HIV/AIDS Reporting System) document and person data set 2023. New Mexico Department of Health. February 17, 2025.

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