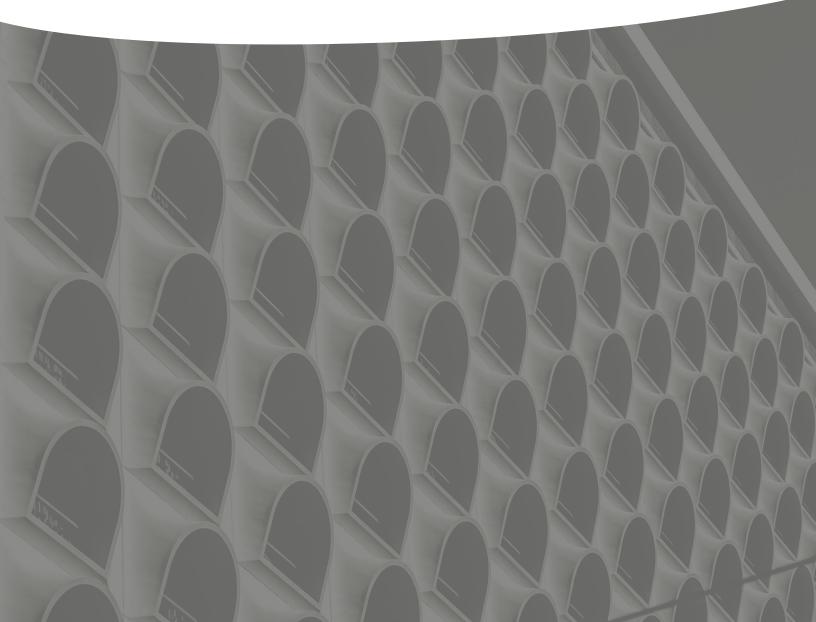
Community Health Profile

Individual Site Report | Missoula UIHP Service Area August 2017





The mission of the UIHI is to support the health and well-being of urban Indian communities through information, scientific inquiry, and technology.



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Recommended Citation:

Urban Indian Health Institute, Seattle Indian Health Board. (2017). *Community Health Profile: Individual Site Report, Missoula Urban Indian Health Program Service Area*. Seattle, WA: Urban Indian Health Institute.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 2 Urban Indian Health Programs
- 3 Introduction and Purpose
- 4 Methodology
- 6 Data Sources
- 8 Sociodemographics
- **15 Mortality**
- 21 Maternal and Child Health
- **30 References**
- 32 Appendix

Acknowledgements

Funding for this report was provided by the Indian Health Service Division of Epidemiology and Disease Prevention. The report contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Indian Health Service. Additionally, UIHI would like to acknowledge the contributions of Francesca Murnan, MPA, Katherine Ly, BA and Alexa Fay for their help in the production and review of this report.

The Urban Indian Health Institute would like to thank the staff at the Urban Indian Health Programs, social service and faith based agencies for the excellent work they do daily on behalf of their communities.

URBAN INDIAN HEALTH PROGRAMS

Urban Indian Health Programs (UIHPs) are private, non-profit corporations that serve American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) people in select cities with a range of health and social services from outreach and referral to full ambulatory care.

UIHPs are a network of 32 independent health agencies funded in part under Subchapter IV (formerly Title V) of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act and receive limited grants and contracts from the federal Indian Health Service (IHS). UIHPs are located in 18 states and serve individuals in approximately 100 U.S. counties where over 1.2 million Al/ANs reside.¹ In addition, there are numerous social service and faith based organizations serving the public health needs of urban Al/ANs.

UIHPs provide traditional health care services, cultural activities, and a culturally appropriate place for urban AI/ANs to receive health care. Comprehensive clinics provide direct primary care for at least 40 hours per week, Limited clinics provide direct primary care services for under 40 hours per week, and Outreach and Referral sites do not provide direct care services on site but refer patients to external health care providers. The map below identifies these sites, some of whom have multiple clinic locations, but it does not include AI/AN social service or faith based agencies.



For more information on individual Urban Indian Health Programs, visit <u>http://www.uihi.org/urban-indian-health-organization-profiles/</u>.

INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

Introduction

This community health profile provides an overview of the health status of AI/ANs living in select urban counties served by the Missoula Indian Center (MIC), which is one of 32 Subchapter IV UIHPs across the country. The counties analyzed in this report are defined as Missoula County by IHS. This report will refer to the service area as the Missoula service area and Missoula County interchangeably. This document presents data specific to demographics, social determinants of health, mortality, and maternal and child health. The data used is from national data sources and in no way uses patient data from MIC. The profile examines and addresses the disparities that exist among the urban AI/AN population compared to the non-Hispanic White (NHW) population and demonstrates the disproportionality in outcomes and risk factors that adversely affect them. Data for this profile comes from the U.S. Census, the American Community Survey, and the U.S. Center for Health Statistics.

Not all issues important to the health of urban Al/AN communities are included in this report. Locally collected data may provide additional information about the health of Al/ANs living in Missoula County. Data presented in this report may be most useful when combined with aggregate data, stories about patients and community members, and local surveillance or survey data when available.

Purpose

Improving community health through effective planning and decision-making requires good information about the factors that influence the health status of community members.² The following examples suggest possible ways to use the data from this report. UIHI is available to provide technical assistance on how to use the following data.

Program Planning

Data in this report can be used by UIHPs to identify health priorities, allocate resources, and guide the development of new programs.

Grant Writing

Data and figures in this report may be useful to include as background information for grant applications. This information can illustrate existing health disparities in the AI/AN population compared to NHWs. This report can also be cited as the reference.

Identifying Gaps in Data

This report may also reveal current gaps in nationally collected data. For example, notably low mortality rates may indicate the need for improvements to race determination in death records. State and regional linkage projects can help correctly classify Al/ANs in state death records.³ Oversampling Al/ANs in national surveys is another way to improve data collection by providing sufficient statistical power to provide more stable estimates.



METHODOLOGY

Methods

Analysis

The data for this report only includes information from Missoula County residents. For each indicator, prevalence or incidence was calculated for the AI/AN population and compared with the NHW population. Because NHWs are the racial/ethnic majority, this population was chosen as the comparison group.

The AI/AN population was defined as AI/AN only (not in combination with other races) unless otherwise indicated. The NHW population was defined as White only and excluded the Hispanic population unless otherwise indicated. Results were calculated using aggregate data from a twoto five-year time period in order to have sufficient data to provide stable estimates and protect individual privacy.

In some instances, confidence intervals were calculated and used to show differences in outcomes for specific indicators displayed in bar graphs. Confidence intervals are ranges of numbers used to assess the accuracy of a point estimate and measure the variability in the data. The point estimate may be a rate, such as a death rate or an infectious disease rate, or a frequency, such as the percent of individuals living in poverty or the percent of adults experiencing unemployment. Confidence intervals account for the uncertainty that arises from the natural variation inherent in the world around us. Confidence intervals also account for the difference between a sample from a population and the population itself. For analyses included in this report, confidence intervals were calculated at a p-value of <0.05, the 95 percent confidence level. This means that 95 times out of 100 the confidence interval captures the true value for the population. Differences in outcomes were called statistically significant if confidence intervals of the study group (AI/AN) did not overlap with the comparison group (NHW).

Data analysis for indicators were analyzed using the statistical software StataSE version 13 or SAS version 9.4.

Indicator Selection

A list of indicators for the community health profile were selected after an analysis of the available data sources. Sample size and stratification of each population based on demographics, such as age groups, gender, and education, were considered and used if the sample size was sufficient.

This profile uses national surveillance data. This report does not pull data from the client database of the MIC or any other urban AI/AN serving organization in the area. There may be information not captured by these systems that better represent the unique strengths and challenges in communities served by MIC. Local sources of data may provide a more regionspecific and comprehensive understanding of the community's health.

Page 4 | 2017 UIHP Community Health Profile

METHODOLOGY

Data Limitations

The contents of this report are specific to national surveillance data for Missoula County residents only.

Although data analysis and assessment of results were conducted for 42 indicators, data limitations were observed and experienced during the selection of these indicators and their analyses for this report. In some instances, the number of cases/sample size was limited, thus impacting the analysis and preventing or limiting the reporting of results. Frequently, data was only available for Al/ANs alone and was not inclusive of Al/ANs who also identify with another race or ethnicity. Thus, the estimates provided in this report may be an underestimation of the true value of the outcome or risk factor for any indicator analyzed in this report.

Another factor affecting and limiting the analysis of data are errors in racial misclassification, particularly for demographic and mortality data. Racial misclassification is defined as incorrect coding of an individual's race or ethnicity in public records.⁴ This can greatly underestimate the true rate of disease, risk factor, or outcome. Al/ANs are especially likely to experience problems of incorrect classification on death certificates; therefore, true mortality rates among AI/ANs are assumed to be higher than reported numbers suggest. Because mortality data are extracted from death certificates, the race/ethnicity category is not self-reported and is often completed by a funeral director based on information received from a family member or personal observation. In a national sample, age-adjusted mortality for AI/ANs was underestimated by 9.7%.⁵ The bias created by misclassification varies by age, proximity to a reservation, and cause-of-death.⁶ Based on documented racial misclassification of AI/ANs in surveillance data, any of the health disparities presented in this community health profile are assumed to be larger than reported.

Lastly, we would like to acknowledge the presence of other gender identities outside of male and female categories including Two-Spirit and transgender identities which are systemically ignored and not included in these larger national surveillance systems.⁷ The lack of these other categories for gender can lead to invisibility and lack of information to support the health and wellbeing of people outside of binary gender identities thus limiting our data analysis.



DATA SOURCES

Data Sources

2010 U.S. Census

The U.S. Census takes place every 10 years and provides official population counts for individuals living in the United States and provides information by age, race, Hispanic origin, and sex. In 2010, the U.S. Census allowed individuals to self-report belonging to more than one race group. When determining a population count, this report considers people to be of AI/AN race if they report AI/AN as their only race or if they report being AI/AN in combination with other races. Some Census statistics are not easily accessible when including individuals who report multiple races. For these indicators in the profile, only individuals who report AI/AN alone are included.

For more information about the U.S. census, visit: <u>www.census.gov</u>.

American Community Survey

The American Community Survey (ACS) is a nationwide, continuous survey that collects demographic, housing, social, and economic data every year. To provide reliable estimates for small counties, neighborhoods, and population groups, the ACS provides 1-, 3-, and 5-year aggregate estimates. Estimates for this report are from aggregated data from 2010-2014.

Race is self-reported on ACS, with similar race categories as the U.S. Census. However, some ACS data are not easily accessible for multiple

race groups. Therefore, ACS data are reported for Al/AN alone in this report. ACS estimates in this profile are not adjusted for age; observed differences in estimates may be due to a true difference in rates or due to differences in age distribution in the population.

For more information about the ACS, visit: <u>www.census.gov/acs</u>.

National Vital Statistics System

Mortality data from the National Vital Statistics System (NVSS) is generated from death certificates. This data is the primary source of demographic, geographic, and cause-of-death information among persons dying in a given year. The five most recent years for which complete mortality data was available was from 2010-2014. The five most recent years for which complete infant mortality data was available was from 2008-2012. Maternal mortality was only available from aggregated data from 2010 to 2012. All mortality data are age-adjusted to the U.S. population for the year 2000. Age-adjusted death rates are useful when comparing different populations because they remove the potential bias that can occur when comparing populations with different age distributions. For example, AI/ANs historically are a younger population than other race groups.

Birth certificate data from NVSS data files include all documented births occurring within the United States as filed in each state. These data include demographic information about parents,



DATA SOURCES

information on the infant, the mother's risk factors, and information on the birth. The five most recent years for which complete natality data was available was from 2008-2012.

Since not all states allow individuals to identify as more than one race, National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) releases bridged-race population estimates for calculation of rates. As a result, estimates in this report may not match local and county estimates because of differing projection methods.

For more information about Vital Statistics, visit: <u>http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss.htm</u>.



Introduction

The health of individuals and populations is greatly influenced by social determinants – the conditions in which people live, learn, work, and play.^{8, 9} Evidence from decades of research on the relationship between key social determinants and health outcomes overwhelmingly suggests that greater social disadvantage leads to poorer health.¹⁰ These determinants, including race, lack of access to education or employment, poverty, and housing, among other things, produce extensive inequities within and between populations.^{8,9} This section presents data on measures of demographics and social determinants of health to illustrate differences between urban AI/ANs and NHWs that may contribute to overall health inequities between these populations.

Age and Gender

Relative to the NHW population, the Al/AN population in Missoula County was younger (Figure 1 and Figure 2). In Missoula County, 43.6% of Al/ANs were under the age of 25 years, compared with 33.3% of NHWs. In contrast, 5.6% of Al/ANs were over the age of 65 years, compared with 13.3% of NHWs. Between the ages of 35 and 44 years, the proportion of Al/AN women was 2.3 times higher compared to Al/AN men.

Figure 1. Al/AN Population by Age and Gender, Missoula Service Area, 2010-2014

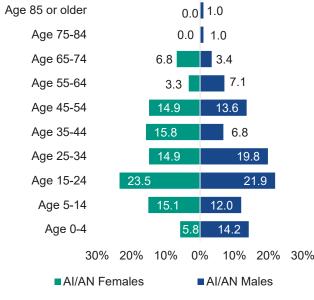
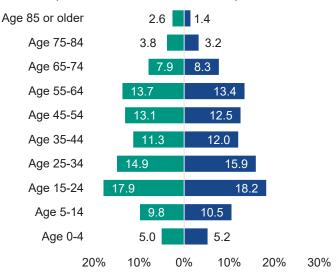


Figure 2. NHW Population by Age and Gender, Missoula Service Area, 2010-2014



■ Non-Hispanic White Females ■ Non-Hispanic White Males

Source: American Community Survey, 2010-2014 *Due to rounding error graphs may not total 100% Source: American Community Survey, 2010-2014 *Due to rounding error graphs may not total 100%

Page 8 | 2017 UIHP Community Health Profile

Race

As shown in Figure 3, an estimated 2,935 (2.6%) individuals identified as AI/AN alone in Missoula County combined, and an estimated 4,526 (4.1%) individuals identified as AI/AN alone or in combination with one or more races (data not shown). Those who identified as White alone comprised the largest proportion (92.5%) of the total population (100,271) in Missoula County. In addition, "two or more races" were the second largest population identified in Missoula County, consisting of 3,441 individuals or 3.1% of the total population.

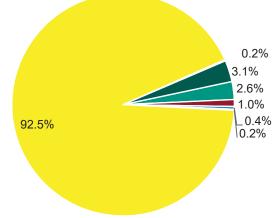


Figure 3. Population by Race, Missoula Service Area, 2010-2014

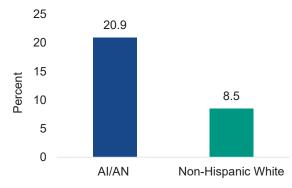
Source: American Community Survey, 2010-2014

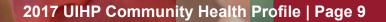
Employment

Extensive evidence has shown that unemployment has a negative effect on health.¹¹ Unemployed individuals may experience financial insecurity and reduction in social status, social relations, and self-esteem.¹² In addition, unemployed individuals are also more likely to lack health insurance coverage.¹³ In Missoula County, the percent of unemployed AI/ANs aged 16 and older was 2.5 times higher than NHWs (20.9% vs. 8.5%; Figure 4). These proportions do not include individuals in the military or individuals who are institutionalized.

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- White
- Some other race
- Two or more races

Figure 4. Civilian Labor Force 16 Years and Older, Missoula Service Area, 2010-2014

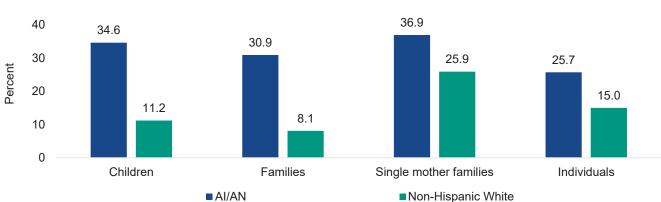




Poverty

Poverty and health are inextricably connected.¹⁴ Poverty may lead to poor health outcomes by limiting access to healthy foods, quality housing, safe neighborhoods, and adequate health care, among other things. Poverty can also impact many aspects of a child's health and well-being. Children in poverty have lower academic achievement and higher proportions of high school dropout, accidents, injuries, and food insecurity compared with their more affluent peers. Living in poverty as a child likely affects health throughout a person's lifespan.¹⁵ The American Community Survey defines individuals and families as being in poverty if their income is less than their poverty threshold (less than 100% of the federal poverty level).¹⁶

In Missoula County, more than a quarter of Al/AN individuals lived in poverty (25.7%; Figure 5), compared to just 15.0% of NHWs. Al/AN children experienced more poverty than NHWs. More than one in three Al/AN children aged 17 and under (34.6%) in Missoula County lived in households with an income below the federal poverty level. This proportion is 3.1 times that of the NHW population (11.2%). In addition, nearly one in three Al/AN families in Missoula County (30.9%) lived in households with an income below the federal poverty level. This is 3.8 times the proportion of NHWs (8.1%). Finally, among those families in households headed by single mothers, over one in three Al/AN families lived in poverty (36.9%), which was 1.4 times the proportion of NHWs (25.9%).





Source: American Community Survey, 2010-2014

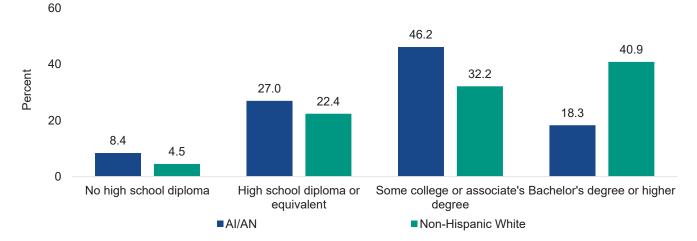
Data note: Federal poverty thresholds are used to determine poverty status. The thresholds are based on family size and the ages of family members. Federal poverty thresholds are not intended as a comprehensive description of families' needs, but rather as a statistical indicator that can be tracked over time.

Page 10 | 2017 UIHP Community Health Profile

Educational Attainment

The relationship between education and health, or the "health-education gradient," is well documented.¹⁷ Disparities in life expectancy by level of education are found among all demographic groups and are arguably increasing over time.¹⁸ In Missoula County, a higher percentage of Al/ANs aged 25 and older had not completed high school or passed the General Educational Development (GED) exam (8.4%; Figure 6) compared with the NHW population (4.5%). A lower percentage of Al/ANs (18.3%) reported an undergraduate or graduate degree as their highest level of education compared with the NHW population (40.9%).

Figure 6. Educational Attainment for the Population 25 Years and Older, Missoula Service Area, 2010-2014

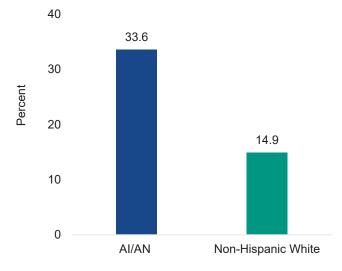




Health Insurance Coverage

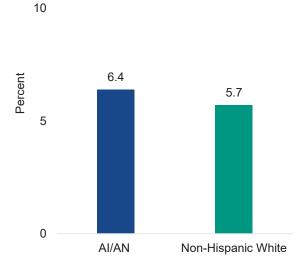
Compared to those with health insurance coverage, those without health insurance coverage have higher mortality rates.¹⁹ Individuals without health insurance are also less likely to receive care and take longer to return to health after an unintentional injury or the onset of a chronic disease compared to those with health insurance.²⁰ In Missoula County, one in three AI/ANs under age 65 (33.6%) reported having no health insurance, a proportion 2.3 times higher than that of NHWs (14.9%; Figure 7). The proportion of uninsured AI/AN children under the age of 18 in Missoula County was 12.3% higher than that of NHW children (6.4% vs. 5.7%; Figure 8).





Source: American Community Survey, 2010-2014





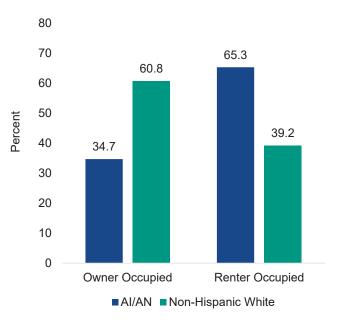


Housing

Housing and health are also closely linked. Several studies have found that home ownership is associated with many health benefits, including greater psychosocial wellbeing and lower mortality risk. These benefits may be explained by the fact that homeowners likely experience higher socioeconomic status, fewer problems of overcrowding, and lower exposure to neighborhood violence. In contrast, renters are more likely to experience poorer selfreported health, higher proportions of coronary heart disease, and more risk factors, such as smoking.²¹

In Missoula County, the proportion of renter occupation among Al/ANs was 1.7 times higher than NHWs (65.3% vs. 39.2%; Figure 9). In contrast, the proportion of home ownership among NHWs in Missoula County was 1.8 times higher than among Al/ANs (60.8% vs. 34.7%). Approximately a third of all homes of Al/ANs were owner occupied, compared with nearly two-thirds of homes for NHWs.

Figure 9. Type of Occupied Housing Units, Missoula Service Area, 2010-2014



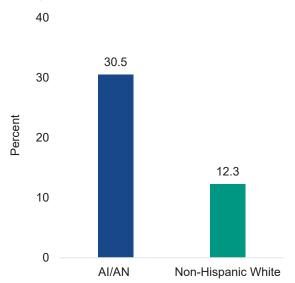


Food Stamps

As the largest food assistance program in the United States, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP; formally known as the Federal Food Stamp program) is a crucial part of the social safety net.²² Households with an income below 130% of the federal poverty level are eligible to receive SNAP benefits. According to a study done by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which administers the SNAP program, 55% of households receiving SNAP benefits remained food insecure after receiving SNAP²³ Moreover, children in households that receive SNAP benefits are significantly more likely to suffer from an array of health problems than those in households that do not receive SNAP.22

In Missoula County, almost one third of Al/AN households received SNAP benefits in the past year (Figure 10). The proportion of SNAP participation among Al/ANs in these areas was 2.5 times higher than NHWs.

Figure 10. Households that Received SNAP Benefits in the Past Year, Missoula Service Area, 2010-2014





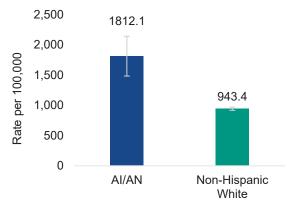
Introduction

Mortality data provides an indication of a community's or population's health and socioeconomic development status. Mortality data are also a key component in understanding population size, future growth, and change. Examining mortality data is one way to measure the burden of disease in a community or population. Tracking death rates may identify groups that are at an increased risk for premature death and may identify specific diagnoses resulting in death that are more prevalent in certain populations. In addition, high mortality rates may indicate an issue with environmental factors, communicable diseases, risk factors, and/or socioeconomic factors. This section examines age-adjusted mortality by race, gender, age groups, and specific causes of mortality. It is important to note that racial misclassification leads to an underestimation of mortality rates in Al/AN populations.²⁴ True mortality rates among Al/ANs in Missoula County are assumed to be higher than the rates described for this section.

All-Cause Mortality Rate

The all-cause mortality rate was 47.9% lower for the NHW population than for the Al/AN population; this is a significant difference (Figure 11).

Figure 11. All-Cause Mortality Rate, Missoula Service Area, 2010-2014

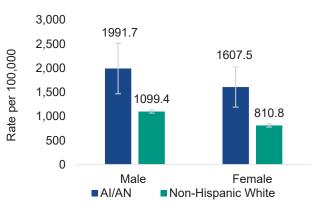


Source: US Center for Health Statistics, Death Certificates, 2010-2014

Mortality Rate by Gender

The mortality rates for males was 1.8 times higher among Al/ANs compared to NHWs and 2.0 times higher among Al/AN females compared to NHW females (Figure 12). Statistically, there was no difference in the mortality rate between Al/AN women and men.

Figure 12. Mortality Rate by Gender, Missoula Service Area, 2010-2014

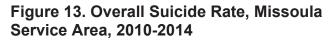


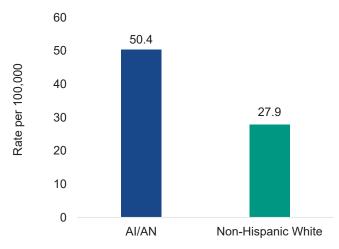
Source: US Center for Health Statistics, Death Certificates, 2010-2014



Suicide

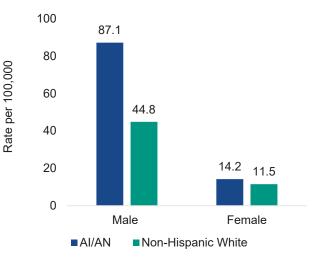
The suicide rate was 1.8 times higher among AI/ANs compared to NHWs (Figure 13). In addition, the suicide rate by gender was higher for both AI/AN men and women compared to NHW men and women, at 1.9 and 1.2 times higher, respectively (Figure 14). When comparing gender among AI/ANs, the suicide rate for AI/AN males was 6.1 times higher compared to AI/AN females





Source: US Center for Health Statistics, Death Certificates, 2010-2014

Figure 14. Suicide Rate by Gender, Missoula Service Area, 2010-2014



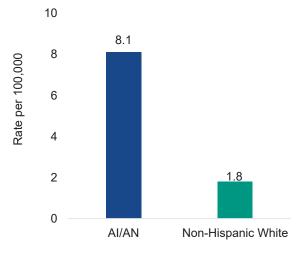
Source: US Center for Health Statistics, Death Certificates, 2010-2014



Homicide

Homicides rates were 4.5 times higher for the Al/AN population compared to the NHW population (Figure 15). Al/ANs experienced homicide at a rate of 8.1 deaths per 100,000 compared to NHWs at 1.8 per 100,000.

Figure 15. Overall Homicide Rate, Missoula Service Area, 2010-2014



Source: US Center for Health Statistics, Death Certificates, 2010-2014



Top Causes of Mortality

Table 1. Overall Top Causes of Mortality, Missoula Service Area, 2010-2014

AI/AN			NHW		
Rank	Cause	Rate (per 100,000)	Rank	Cause	Rate (per 100,000)
1	Vascular disease	1,607.8	1	Vascular disease	822.8
2	Cancer	713.2	2	Cancer	376.8
3	Chronic lower respiratory disease	283.6	3	Chronic lower respiratory disease	118.0
4	Flu and pneumonia	184.9	4	Intentional self-harm	55.5
5	Chronic liver disease and cirrhosis	107.8	5	Diabetes	46.2

Source: US Center for Health Statistics, Death Certificates, 2010-2014

Table 1 summarizes the top causes of mortality for both AI/ANs and NHWs.

Table 2. Top Male Causes of Mortality, Missoula Service Area, 2010-2014

AI/AN Males			NHW Males		
Rank	Cause	Rate (per 100,000)	Rank	Cause	Rate (per 100,000)
1	Cancer	498.6	1	Vascular disease	294.7
2	Vascular disease	490.6	2	Cancer	238.0
3	Chronic lower respiratory disease	145.6	3	Chronic lower respiratory disease	57.8
4	Chronic liver disease and cirrhosis	99.1	4	Intentional self-harm	44.8
5	Intentional self-harm	87.0	5	Motor vehicle accidents	25.8

Source: US Center for Health Statistics, Death Certificates, 2010-2014

Table 2 summarizes the top causes of mortality for both AI/AN and NHW men.

Page 18 | 2017 UIHP Community Health Profile

Table 3. Top Female Causes of Mortality, Missoula Service Area, 2010-2014

AI/AN Female			NHW Females		
Rank	Cause	Rate (per 100,000)	Rank	Cause	Rate (per 100,000)
1	Vascular disease	387.0	1	Vascular disease	222.5
2	Cancer	250.4	2	Cancer	174.4
3	Chronic lower respiratory disease	110.3	3	Chronic lower respiratory disease	61.0
4	Flu and pneumonia	71.5	4	Alzheimer's disease	20.9
5	Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome, and nephrosis	38.8	5	Diabetes	18.7

Source: US Center for Health Statistics, Death Certificates, 2010-2014

Table 3 summarizes the top causes of mortality for both AI/AN and NHW women.

Cancer Mortality

Table 4. Top Overall Causes of Cancer Mortality, Missoula Service Area, 2010-2014

AI/AN			NHW		
Rank	Cause	Rate (per 100,000)	Rank	Cause	Rate (per 100,000)
1	Tracheal/Bronchus/ Lung cancer	207.6	1	Tracheal/Bronchus/ Lung cancer	121.2
2	Prostate cancer	172.6	2	Colon cancer	30.7
3	Pancreatic cancer	76.0	3	Breast cancer	29.1
4	Bladder cancer	45.3	4	Pancreatic cancer	27.9
5	Colon cancer	35.5	5	Bladder cancer	25.2

Source: US Center for Health Statistics, Death Certificates, 2010-2014

Table 4 summarizes the top causes of cancer mortality for both AI/ANs and NHWs.

2017 UIHP Community Health Profile | Page 19

Table 5. Top Male Causes of Cancer Mortality, Missoula Service Area, 2010-2014

AI/AN Males			NHW Males		
Rank	Cause	Rate (per 100,000)	Rank	Cause	Rate (per 100,000)
1	Prostate cancer	159.6	1	Tracheal/Bronchus/ Lung cancer	66.1
2	Tracheal/Bronchus/ Lung cancer	97.5	2	Bladder cancer	19.3
3	Pancreatic cancer	76.0	3	Prostate cancer	18.2
4	Colon cancer	35.5	4	Colon cancer	16.4
5	Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma	21.5	5	Pancreatic cancer	14.4

Source: US Center for Health Statistics, Death Certificates, 2010-2014

Table 5 summarizes the top causes of cancer mortality for both AI/AN and NHW men.

Table 6. Top Female Causes of Cancer Mortality, Missoula Service Area, 2010-2014

AI/AN Females			NHW Females		
Rank	Cause	Rate (per 100,000)	Rank	Cause	Rate (per 100,000)
1	Tracheal/Bronchus/	131.3	1	Tracheal/Bronchus/ Lung cancer	45.3
2	Bladder cancer	45.3	2	Breast cancer	28.3
3	Breast cancer	14.2	3	Cervical cancer	14.4

Source: US Center for Health Statistics, Death Certificates, 2010-2014

Table 6 summarizes the top causes of cancer mortality for both AI/AN and NHW women.



Introduction

Maternal and child health (MCH) is the foundation for healthy children, mothers, and families. Monitoring indicators such as maternal smoking, gestational diabetes, prenatal care, and premature births can help MIC make decisions regarding programs that impact pregnant mothers, newborns, and infants. This section of the community health profile focuses on key indicators for MCH. The data can be used to further examine why these disparities exist and consider programs to eliminate these health disparities.

Total Births

From 2008 to 2012, there were a total of 8,171 births in Missoula County. Among those births, 4.8% were identified as non-Hispanic AI/AN alone (Figure 16). The largest proportions of births among the six racial/ethnic groups were from NHW (88.6%) and non-Hispanic AI/AN women. Hispanics were 4.2% all births while Non-Hispanic Blacks were 0.5% and non-Hispanic Asians and Pacific Islanders were 1.5% of all births.

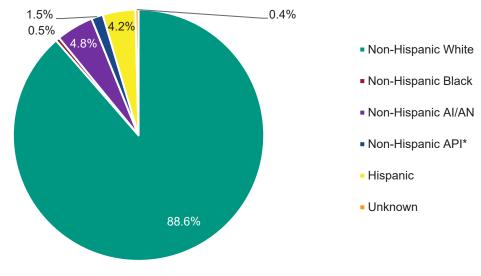


Figure 16. Births by Race/Ethnicity, Missoula Service Area, 2008-2012

Source: National Vital Statistics, Birth Certificates, 2008-2012 *API-Asian/Pacific Islander



Age

In general, AI/AN women tend to give birth at younger ages than their NHW counterparts (Figure 17). In Missoula County, 16.1% of births among AI/AN women were to teenage women (less than 19 years of age) compared to 5.7% of NHW births. The proportion of births to teenage women was 2.8 times higher in AI/ANs compared to NHWs. In addition, 62.7% of all births among AI/AN women were to women in their 20s, compared to 51.8% among NHWs. Conversely, NHW women had more children in their 30s compared to AI/AN women. While 39.1% of all births among NHW women were to women in their 30s, 20.4% of births were to AI/AN women in their 30s.

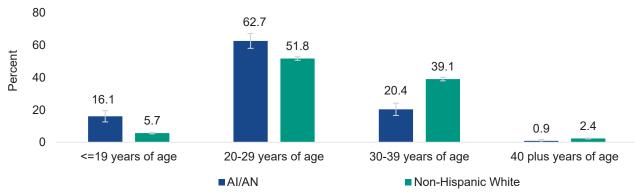


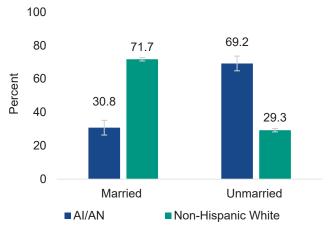
Figure 17. Births by Maternal Age Group, Missoula Service Area, 2008-2012

Source: National Vital Statistics, Birth Certificates, 2008-2012

Marital Status

In Missoula County, 30.8% of all births to Al/ANs were to women who were married and 69.2% were to women who were not married (Figure 18). This was significantly different compared to NHWs in which nearly 71.7% of births were to married mothers and 29.3% were to unmarried mothers. The proportion of births to unmarried women was 2.4 times higher in Al/ANs compared to their NHW counterparts.

Figure 18. Births by Marital Status, Missoula Service Area, 2008-2012



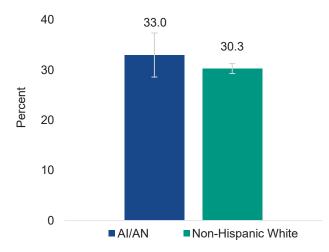
Source: National Vital Statistics, Birth Certificates, 2008-2012

Page 22 | 2017 UIHP Community Health Profile

Cesarean Section

In Missoula County, approximately three in ten births were delivered by cesarean section among AI/AN and NHW females (33.0% vs. 30.3%; Figure 19).

Figure 19. Births by Cesarean Section, Missoula Service Area, 2008-2012

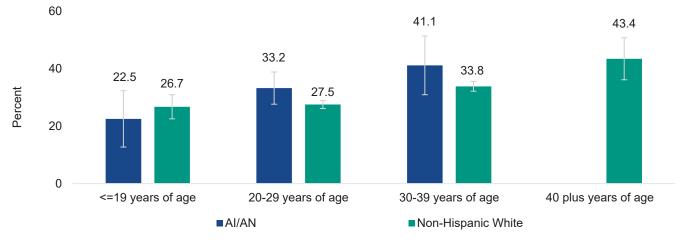


Source: National Vital Statistics, Birth Certificates 2008-2012

Cesarean Section by Maternal Age

Among NHW women, the proportion of cesarean deliveries increased significantly as maternal age increased; however, there was no significant difference across age groups among AI/ANs (Figure 20).





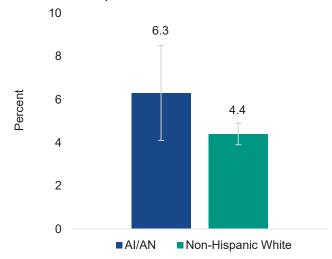
Source: National Vital Statistics, Birth Certificates, 2008-2012



Gestational Diabetes

In Missoula County, the proportion of women who were diagnosed with gestational diabetes during their pregnancy was similar between AI/ANs and NHWs (6.3% vs. 4.4%; Figure 21).

Figure 21. Gestational Diabetes, Missoula Service Area, 2008-2012



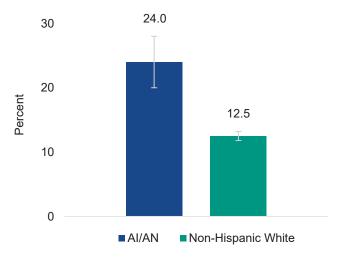
Source: National Vital Statistics, Birth Certificates, 2008-2012

Page 24 | 2017 UIHP Community Health Profile

Maternal Smoking

In Missoula County, 24.0% of Al/AN women smoked while pregnant compared to 12.5% NHW women (Figure 22). The proportion of women who smoked while pregnant was 1.9 times higher for Al/ANs compared to NHWs.

Figure 22. Maternal Smoking, Missoula Service Area, 2008-2012



Source: National Vital Statistics, Birth Certificates, 2008-2012

Smoking by Maternal Age

Among NHW women, maternal smoking decreased as maternal age increased for women in their 20s, 30s, and 40s; however, maternal smoking remained consistent for AI/AN women (Figure 23).

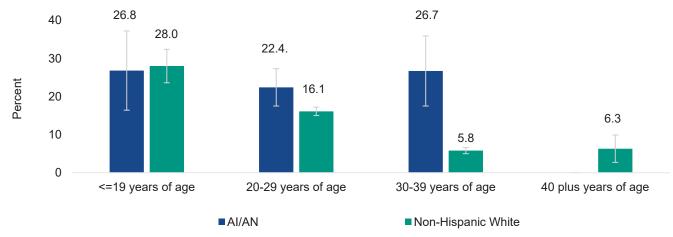


Figure 23. Maternal Smoking by Age Group, Missoula Service Area, 2008-2012

Source: National Vital Statistics, Birth Certificates, 2008-2012



Prenatal Care

Prenatal care refers to the medical attention received by women before or during their pregnancy, specifically addressing the mother's well-being during her pregnancy and caring for the development of her baby. The goal of prenatal care is to detect potential problems early on in the pregnancy and to prevent potential complications. Early prenatal care is a significant component in ensuring a good pregnancy outcome and it is recommended for women to begin prenatal care during the first trimester. Women who receive late or no prenatal care are at risk for having undetected complications during their pregnancy that can result in severe maternal morbidity and mortality, and serious consequences to the unborn infant including low birth weight, premature birth, morbidity and mortality.²⁵

Among pregnant women in Missoula County, 54.8% of AI/AN women began prenatal care in the first trimester compared to 76.5% of NHW women, a significant difference (Figure 24). The proportion of women beginning prenatal care in their first trimester was 1.4 times higher in NHW women compared to AI/AN women. In addition, 13.5% of AI/AN pregnant women began prenatal care in the third trimester or did not receive any prenatal care during their pregnancy compared to 5.2% of NHW pregnant women. The proportion of women beginning prenatal care in their third trimester or receiving no prenatal care was 2.6 times higher in AI/AN women compared to NHW women.





Source: National Vital Statistics, Birth Certificates, 2008-2012

Page 26 | 2017 UIHP Community Health Profile

Premature Births

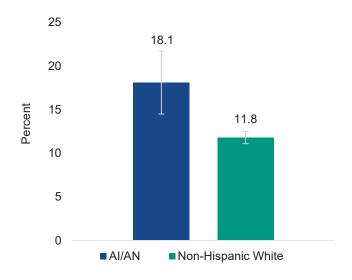
10

0

A premature birth is defined as childbirth occurring earlier than 37 completed weeks of pregnancy.²⁶ In Missoula County, 11.8% of all infants born to NHW women were born prematurely, which is significantly lower than all infants born prematurely to AI/AN women at 18.1% (Figure 25). The proportion of premature births to AI/AN women was 1.5 times higher than NHWs.

Premature biths were similar across age groups among NHWs; however, the only significant difference among AI/ANs was between women in their 20s and 30s (Figure 26). For women in their 30s, the proportion of premature births was 2.7 times higher among AI/ANs than NHWs.

Figure 25. Premature Births (<37 weeks), Missoula Service Area, 2008-2012



Source: National Vital Statistics, Birth Certificates, 2008-2012

12.0

Non-Hispanic White

40 plus years of age

30-39 years of age





11.5

20-29 years of age

AI/AN

Source: National Vital Statistics, Birth Certificates, 2008-2012

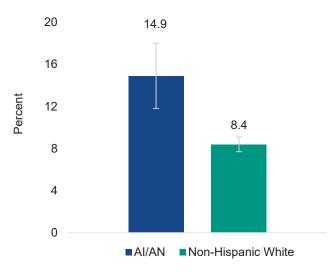
<=19 years of age

2017 UIHP Community Health Profile | Page 27

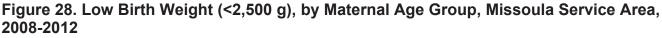
Low Birth Weight

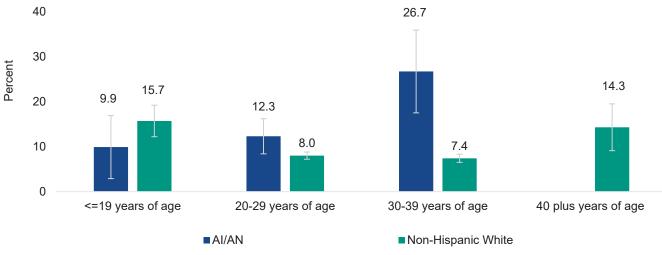
Low birth weight is defined as less than 2,500 grams (5.5 pounds).²⁷ In Missoula County, the proportion of low birth weight infants was 1.8 times higher among Al/ANs than NHWs (14.9% vs. 8.4%; Figure 27). Among NHWs, women in their 20s and 30s had significantly lower proportions of low birth weight infants compared to teenage women and women in their 40s (Figure 28). Among Al/ANs, women in their 30s had a significantly higher proportion of low birth weight babies compared to teenage women and women in their 20s. Among women in their 30s, the proportion of low birthweight infants was 3.6 times higher among Al/ANs than NHWs.

Figure 27. Low Birth Weight (<2,500 g), Missoula Service Area, 2008-2012



Source: National Vital Statistics, Birth Certificates, 2008-2012





Source: National Vital Statistics, Birth Certificates 2008-2012

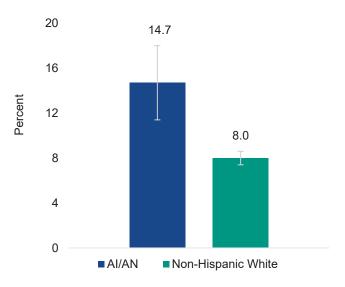
Page 28 | 2017 UIHP Community Health Profile

Neonatal Intensive Care Unit Admission

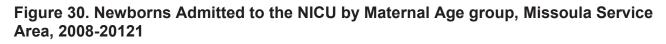
Most babies admitted to the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) are premature, have low birth weight, or have a medical condition that requires special care. In the U.S., nearly half a million babies are born preterm, and many of these babies also have low birth weights. Babies with medical conditions such as heart problems, infections, or birth defects are also cared for in the NICU.²⁸

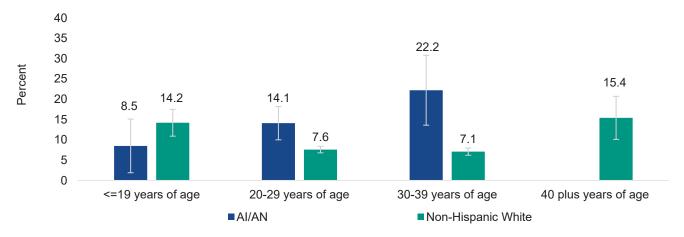
Admission to the NICU for newborns in Missoula County was significantly higher among Al/AN newborns than NHW newborns (14.7% vs. 8.0%; Figure 29). Being admitted to the NICU was 1.8 times higher among Al/ANs than NHWs. No significant difference could be seen across age groups among Al/AN women.

Figure 29. Newborns Admitted to the NICU, Missoula Service Area, 2008-2012



Source: National Vital Statistics, Birth Certificates, 2008-2012





Source: National Vital Statistics, Birth Certificates, 2008-2012



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Page 30 | 2017 UIHP Community Health Profile

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APPENDIX

Glossary of Terms

- ACS American Community Survey
- AI/AN American Indian / Alaska Native
- IHS Indian Health Service
- MCH Maternal and Child Health
- MIC Missoula Indian Center
- NCHS National Center for Health Statistics
- NHW Non-Hispanic White
- NICU Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
- NVSS National Vital Statistics System
- SNAP Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, commonly referred to as Food Stamps
- TEC Tribal Epidemiology Center
- UIHI Urban Indian Health Institute, a division of the Seattle Indian Health Board
- UIHP Urban Indian Health Program

APPENDIX

About Us – Our Mission & History

The mission of UIHI is to support the health and well-being of urban Indian communities through information, scientific inquiry, and technology.

The UIHI was established as a Division of the Seattle Indian Health Board, a community health center for urban American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/ANs). The UIHI is one of 12 tribal epidemiology centers (TECs) funded by the Indian Health Service (IHS). While the other 11 TECs work with tribes regionally, the UIHI focuses on the nationwide urban AI/AN population. As a crucial component of the health care resources for all AI/ANs, tribal epidemiology centers are responsible for:

- Managing public health information systems
- Investigating diseases of concern
- Managing disease prevention and control programs
- Communicating vital health information and resources
- Responding to public health emergencies
- Coordinating these activities with other public health authorities

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