



UIHI Communication Broadcast

April 2012

Access to Care: National Health Interview Survey Findings

Recent findings from an examination of the National Health Interview Survey (2006-09) show urban American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/ANs) have increased barriers to healthcare access and decreased use of healthcare services compared to non-Hispanic whites (NHW). Significant disparities exist for urban AI/ANs compared to NHWs in each of the categories examined below.

- Nearly 40% of urban AI/ANs lack health insurance* (39% AI/ANs vs. 12% NHWs; $p < 0.0001$), with greater than 60% reporting high cost as the reason (62% AI/ANs vs. 46% NHWs; $p < 0.0001$).
- Twice as many urban AI/ANs reported not being able to afford needed medical care (15% AI/ANs vs. 7% NHWs; $p < 0.0001$).
- More than twice as many urban AI/ANs reported delayed care based on long waits at the doctor's office (10% AI/ANs vs. 4% NHWs; $p < 0.001$).
- Over a quarter of urban AI/ANs reported having not talked with a healthcare professional in the past year or more (27% AI/ANs vs. 15% NHWs; $p < 0.0001$).

A comprehensive report of findings will be released in summer 2012 for use by partners in urban Indian health and beyond to help address access issues, barriers to care, and the use of healthcare in this population.

*Health insurance included private insurance and all government health programs except those with only Indian Health Service coverage.

If you have any questions, please email info@uihi.org.

Urban Indian Health Institute P.O. Box 3364, Seattle, WA 98114 p: (206) 812-3030 www.uihi.org

