



AMERICAN INDIAN/ALASKA NATIVE DATA ON COVID-19

FACT

The Declaration of National Indian Health Policy in the Indian Health Care Improvement Act states that:
"Congress declares that it is the policy of this Nation, in fulfillment of its special trust responsibilities and legal obligations to Indians to ensure the highest possible health status for Indians and urban Indians and to provide all resources necessary to effect that policy."



COVID-19 and AI/ANs

- ➔ The COVID-19 pandemic has disproportionately affected American Indian and Alaska Native populations across the country.
- ➔ The impact of COVID-19 on American Indian and Alaska Native health will continue beyond the pandemic. Loss of American Indian and Alaska Native lives—especially the loss of elders—means loss of Native culture, including language, ceremonies, and more.¹

Cases



AI/AN were 3.5x more likely to test positive for COVID-19 at the height of the pandemic.²

Hospitalization



AI/AN are 3.2 times more likely to be hospitalized for the virus.³

Death



AI/AN are 2.2x more likely to die from COVID-19.³

- ➔ American Indians and Alaska Natives have infection rates over 3.5 times higher than non-Hispanic whites, are over 3.2 times more likely to be hospitalized as a result of COVID-19 and have higher rates of mortality at younger ages than non-Hispanic whites.

¹<https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/10.1377/hlthaff.2021.01419>

²<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/69/wr/mm6934e1.htm>

³<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/covid-data/investigations-discovery/hospitalization-death-by-race-ethnicity.html> (As of 2/1/22)





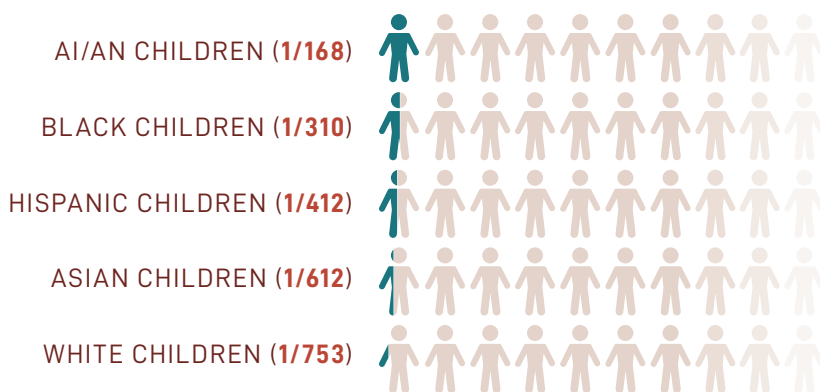
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ORPHANED CHILDREN



1 of every 168 AI/AN children experienced orphanhood or death of caregivers **due to the COVID-19 pandemic**

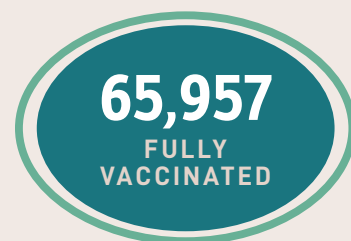
AI/AN children who lost a parent/caregiver to COVID-19⁴



Compared to white children, **American Indian/Alaska Native children were 4.5 times more likely to lose a parent or grandparent caregiver**, Black children were 2.4 times more likely, and Hispanic children were nearly 2 times (1.8) more likely.

VACCINATION RATES

As of February 2022, AI/ANs have the highest vaccination administration rates in the U.S with 70.6% of AI/ANs having received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, according to CDC Vaccine Administration Data.⁵



As of January 2022, UIOs that use IHS vaccine distribution have administered over 164,095 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine and fully vaccinated 65,957 people.

⁴<https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/more-140000-us-children-lost-primary-or-secondary-caregiver-due-covid-19-pandemic>

⁵ CDC COVID Data Tracker: <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#vaccination-demographics-trends>





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AI/AN Food Insecurity and COVID-19

~50%

Nearly half of U.S. Native population affected by food insecurity during COVID-19 pandemic.⁶

NCUIH's Be a Good Relative Campaign



Join us in our efforts to encourage AI/ANs to be a good relative and get vaccinated!

Download the Toolkit!

⁶ <https://nativeamericanagriculturefund.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Reimagining-Hunger-Responses-in-Times-of-Crisis.pdf>