



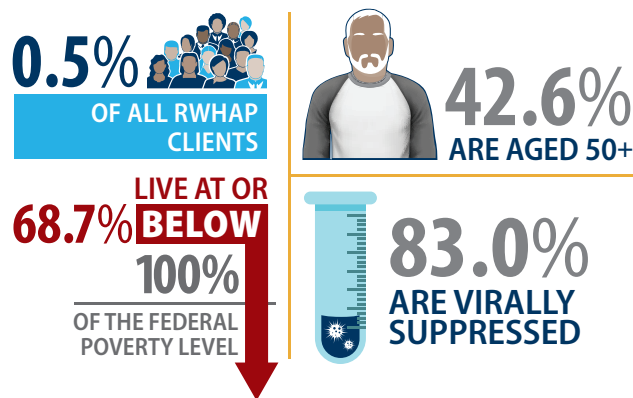
HRSA's Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program

January 2018



AMERICAN INDIAN/ALASKA NATIVE: RYAN WHITE HIV/AIDS PROGRAM CLIENTS, 2016

Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Client Fast Facts: American Indian/Alaska Native



The Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) provides a comprehensive system of HIV primary medical care, medications, and essential support services for low-income people living with HIV (PLWH). More than half the people living with diagnosed HIV in the United States—an estimated 551,000 people in 2016—receive services through RWHAP each year. RWHAP funds grants to states, cities/counties, and local community-based organizations to provide care and treatment services to PLWH to improve health outcomes and reduce HIV transmission among hard-to-reach populations.

A critical population served by the RWHAP is American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) clients. Of the more than half a million clients served by RWHAP, 73.3 percent are from racial or ethnic minority populations, with nearly 2,800 clients (0.5 percent) identifying as AI/AN.

Below are more details about this RWHAP client population:

- ▶ **The majority of AI/AN clients served by RWHAP are low income.** Data show that 68.7 percent of AI/AN clients served by RWHAP live at or below 100 percent of the federal poverty level, which is higher than the national RWHAP average (62.8 percent).
- ▶ **The majority of AI/AN clients served by RWHAP are male.** Among AI/AN RWHAP clients, 72.4 percent are male, 25.6 percent are female, and 2.1 percent are transgender.
- ▶ **Data show that 10.4 percent of AI/AN clients served by RWHAP have unstable housing.** This is higher than the national RWHAP average (5.2 percent).
- ▶ **The AI/AN client population is aging.** Data show that 42.6 percent of AI/AN clients are aged 50 years and older, and an additional 26.2 percent are aged 40–49 years.
- ▶ **Among AI/AN male clients, 67.2 percent are men who have sex with men (MSM).** This is higher than the national RWHAP average of MSM clients (64.1 percent of all male clients).

Medical care and treatment improve health outcomes and decrease the risk of HIV transmission. Approximately 83.0 percent of AI/AN RWHAP clients receiving HIV medical care are virally suppressed,* which is slightly lower than the national RWHAP average (84.9 percent).

* Viral suppression is defined as a viral load result of less than 200 copies/mL at most recent test, among PLWH who had at least one outpatient ambulatory health services visit and one viral load test during the measurement year.

