

HRSA's Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program

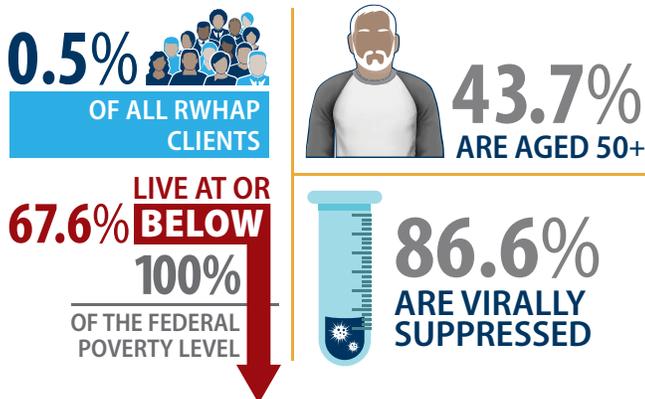
American Indian/Alaska Native Clients: Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program, 2018

Population Fact Sheet | January 2020

The Health Resources and Services Administration's Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) provides a comprehensive system of HIV primary medical care, medications, and essential support services for low-income people with HIV. More than half the people with diagnosed HIV in the United States—approximately 519,000 people in 2018—receive services through RWHAP each year. The RWHAP funds grants to states, cities/counties, and local community-based organizations to provide care and treatment services to people with HIV to improve health outcomes and reduce HIV transmission among hard-to-reach populations.



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



Of the more than half a million clients served by RWHAP, 73.7 percent are from racial/ethnic minority populations, with nearly 2,700 clients (0.5 percent) identifying as American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN).

More details about this RWHAP client population are outlined below:

- **The majority of AI/AN clients served by RWHAP are low income.** Data show that 67.6 percent of AI/AN clients are living at or below 100 percent of the federal poverty level, which is higher than the national RWHAP average (61.3 percent).

- **The majority of AI/AN clients served by RWHAP are male.** Data show that 71.5 percent of AI/AN clients are male, 25.5 percent are female, and 3.0 percent are transgender.
- **The AI/AN RWHAP client population is aging.** AI/AN clients aged 50 years and older account for 43.7 percent of all AI/AN RWHAP clients. This percentage is lower than the national RWHAP average (46.1 percent).
- **Among AI/AN RWHAP male clients, 67.3 percent are men who have sex with men (MSM).** This percentage is slightly higher than the national RWHAP average of MSM clients (65.7 percent of all male clients).

Medical care and treatment improve health outcomes and decrease the risk of HIV transmission. People with HIV who take HIV medication daily as prescribed and reach and maintain an undetectable viral load have effectively no risk of sexually transmitting the virus to an HIV-negative partner. In 2018, approximately 86.8 percent of AI/AN clients receiving RWHAP HIV medical care are virally suppressed,* which is slightly lower than the national RWHAP average (87.1 percent).

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