

# Trends in Indian Health

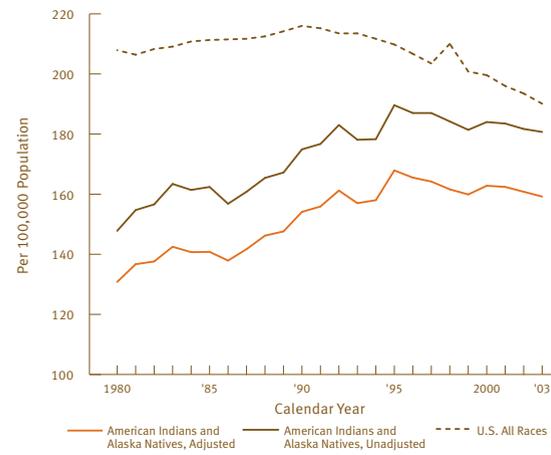
## 2002-2003 EDITION

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
 Indian Health Service  
 Office of Public Health Support  
 Division of Program Statistics

Released October 2009  
 ISSN 1095-2896

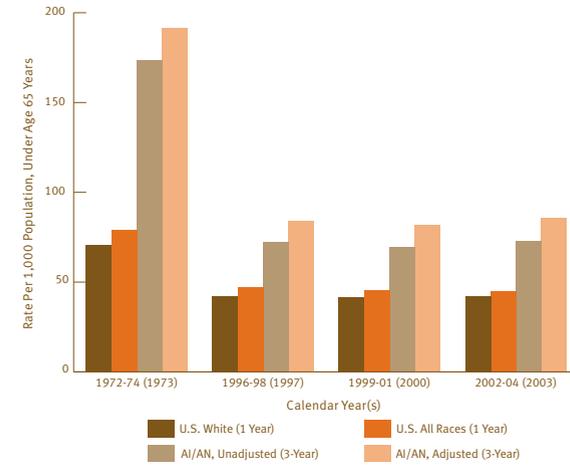


Chart 4.33 Age-Adjusted Malignant Neoplasm Death Rates



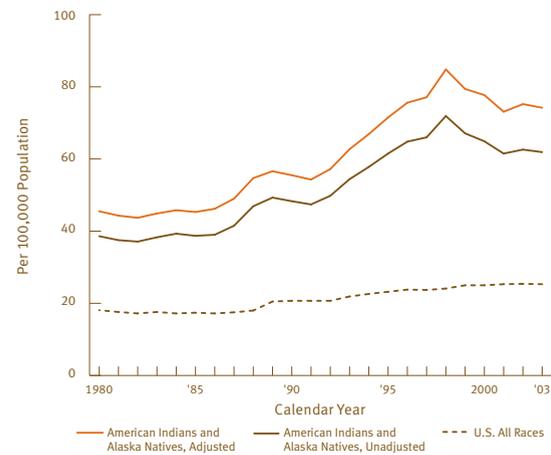
The AI/AN **age-adjusted malignant neoplasm death rate** (147.8) for 1979-1981 has increased to 180.7 for years 2002-2004. The U.S. all-races rate (190.1) for 2003 is 1.1 times higher than the comparable AI/AN rate (180.7) for 2002-2004. These AI/AN rates have been adjusted to compensate for misreporting of AI/AN race on state death certificates.

Chart 4.60 Years of Potential Life Lost (YPLL)



The **years of potential life lost (YPLL)** rate for American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/AN) for the three-year period 2002-2004 is 85.5; less than half of the YPLL rate (191.3) was for 1972-1974. The 2002-2004 AI/AN YPLL rate is 90 percent greater than the U.S. all-races YPLL rate of 45.1 for 2003 and 102 percent greater than the 2003 YPLL rate of 42.3 for U.S. whites. The AI/AN rates have been adjusted for misreporting of race on the state death certificates.

Chart 4.46 Age-Adjusted Diabetes Mellitus Death Rates



The AI/AN **age-adjusted diabetes mellitus death rate** for 2002-2004 was 74.2 which is 63.1 percent higher than the earlier rate of 45.5 for the 1979-1981 three year period. This latest rate of 74.2 is 2.9 times higher than the U.S. all-races rate of 25.3 for 2003. These AI/AN rates have been adjusted to compensate for misreporting of AI/AN race on state death certificates.

### SOURCES OF COPIES AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Indian Health Service  
 Office of Public Health Support  
 Division of Program Statistics  
 801 Thompson Building  
 Suite 120  
 Rockville, Maryland 20852  
  
 Phone: (301) 443-1180  
 E-mail: [DPS.Publications@ihs.gov](mailto:DPS.Publications@ihs.gov)

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
 Indian Health Service  
 Rockville, MD 20852  
OFFICIAL BUSINESS  
 Penalty for Private Use \$300

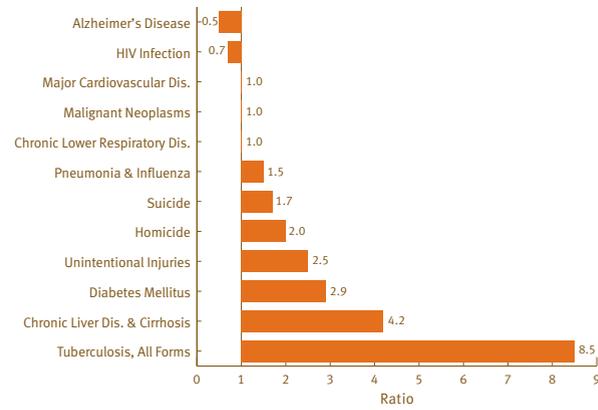




## INTRODUCTION

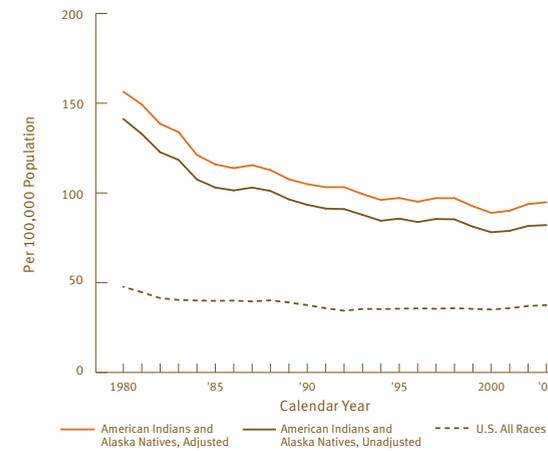
This pamphlet provides highlights from a larger report, *Trends in Indian Health 2002-2003 Edition*, published by the Indian Health Service (IHS). The Division of Program Statistics extracted information from the complete report to emphasize key improvements in American Indian and Alaska Native health and to focus on health conditions that warrant further attention. Charts and descriptive statements illustrate these points.

**Chart 4.11 Selected Age-Adjusted Death Rates, Ratio of American Indians and Alaska Natives (2002-2004) to U.S. All Races (2003)**



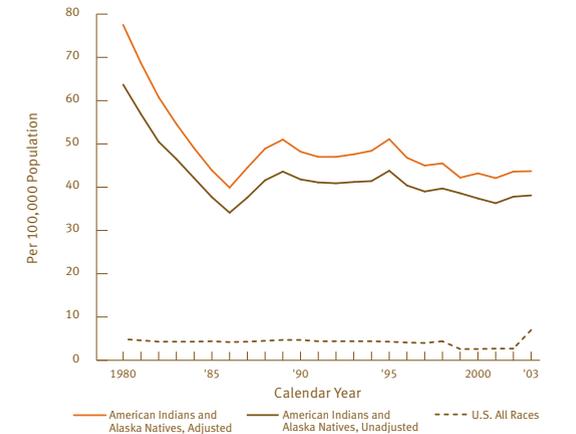
The AI/AN **age-adjusted death rates** for all causes of death for years 2002-2004 is 1.2 times the rate for U.S. all races (2003); tuberculosis (8.5 times), chronic liver disease and cirrhosis (4.2 times), diabetes (2.9 times), unintentional injuries (2.5) and homicide (2.0). AI/AN rates were below those of the U.S. all races for Alzheimer's disease (0.5 times), and HIV infection (0.7 times). These AI/AN rates have been adjusted to compensate for misreporting of AI/AN race on the state death certificates.

**Chart 4.19 Age-Adjusted Unintentional Injury Death Rates**



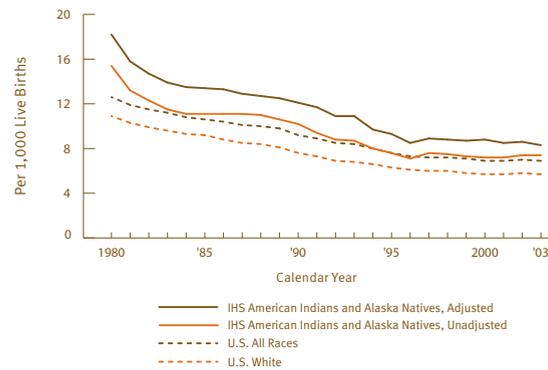
The AI/AN **age-adjusted unintentional injury death rate** (156.4) was 65 percent greater for years 1979-1981 than the 2002-2004 rate (94.8). The 2002-2004 rate is 2.5 times the U.S. all-races rate (37.5) for 2003. These AI/AN rates have been adjusted to compensate for misreporting of AI/AN race on the state death certificates.

**Chart 4.29 Age-Adjusted Alcohol-Related Death Rates**



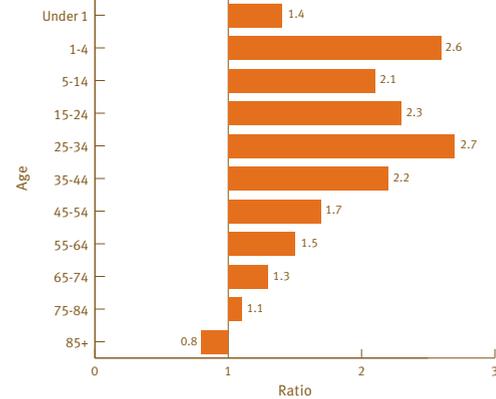
The **age-adjusted alcohol-related death rate** for AI/AN decreased from 77.5 (1979-1981) to 43.7 (2002-2004). The 2002-2004 rate of 43.7 is over six times the U.S. all races rate of 7.0 for 2003. These AI/AN rates have been adjusted to compensate for misreporting of AI/AN race on state death certificates.

**Chart 3.8 Infant Mortality Rates**



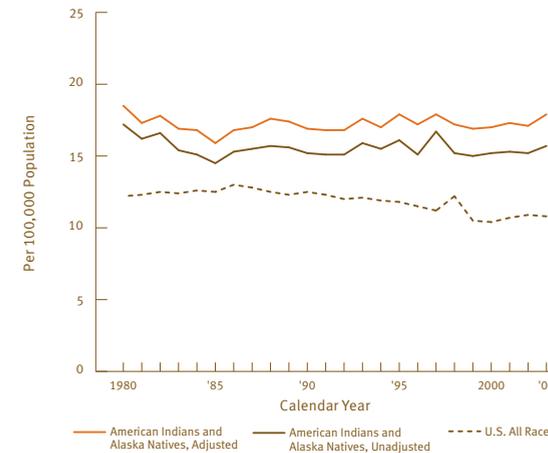
The **infant mortality rate** for AI/AN dropped from 25.0 (rate per 1,000 live births) in 1972-1974 to 8.3 in 2002-2004, a decrease of 67 percent. The 2002-2004 rate is 20 percent higher than the U.S. all-races rate of 6.9 for 2003. These AI/AN rates have been adjusted to compensate for misreporting of AI/AN race on state death certificates.

**Chart 4.12 Age-Specific Death Rates, Ratio of American Indians and Alaska Natives (2002-2004) to U.S. All Races (2003)**



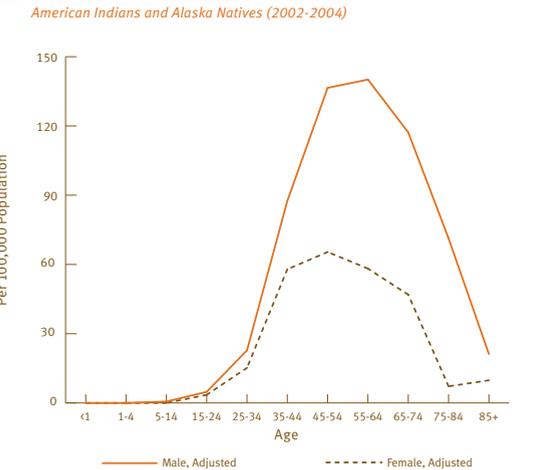
The **age-specific death rate** for AI/AN (2002-2004) was more than double the U.S. all races rate (2003) for age groups 1 through 44. The AI/AN rate was less than the U.S. all races rate for only one age group, 85 years and older. These AI/AN rates have been adjusted to compensate for misreporting of AI/AN race on the state death certificates.

**Chart 4.21 Age-Adjusted Suicide Death Rates**



The AI/AN **age-adjusted suicide death rate** (18.5) was 7.6 percent greater for 1979-1981 as compared to 17.1 in 2001-2003. In 2002-2004 the suicide rate increased to 17.9 from 17.1 for 2001-2003. The 2002-2004 rate (17.9) is 1.7 times greater than the U.S. all-races rate (10.8) for 2003. These AI/AN rates have been adjusted to compensate for misreporting of AI/AN race on state death certificates.

**Chart 4.30 Alcohol-Related Death Rates by Age and Sex**



Drinking has taken a great toll on AI/AN males compared to AI/AN females as evidenced by **alcohol related death rates**. The age specific alcohol related death rate (2002-2004) for AI/AN males was higher for all age groups in comparison with AI/AN females. However, the AI/AN female rate is much higher than the rate of females in the U.S. all races and white populations. The U.S. female rate never reached 9.0 for any age group in 2003, whereas the AI/AN female rate for years 2002-2004 ranged from 15.2 to 65.4 for age groups 25 through 74 years. These AI/AN rates have been adjusted to compensate for misreporting of AI/AN race on state death certificates.