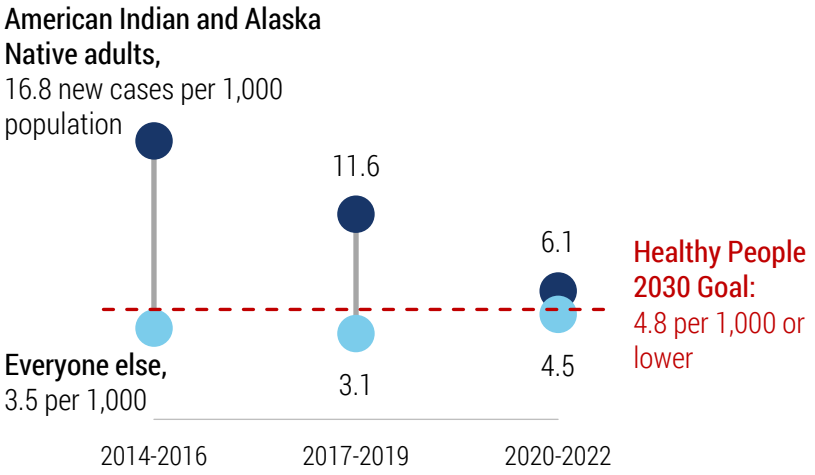
Diabetes in Montana among American Indians and Alaska Natives

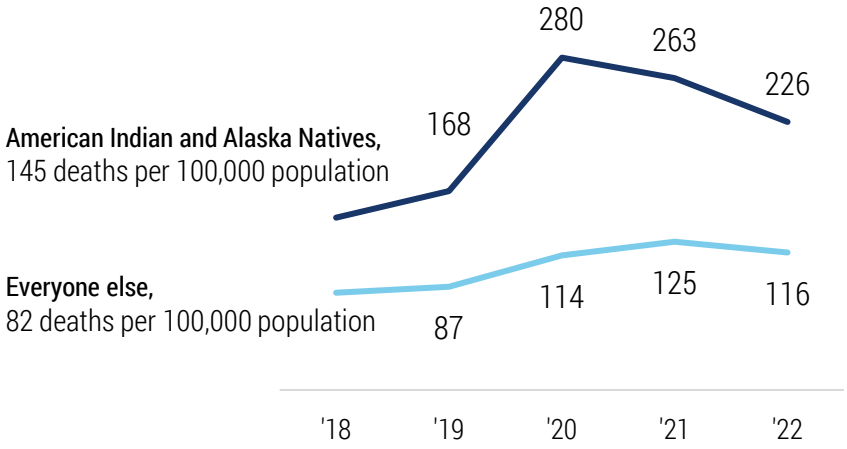
Due to the significant health disparities American Indians and Alaska Natives experience in Montana, the Montana Diabetes Program (MDP), in collaboration with the CDC, will tailor and focus projects and funding related to diabetes prevention and management to this population.

The gap in the incidence of diabetes in American Indian and Alaska Native adults in Montana and all other adults in Montana has narrowed, but the incidence is still above the Healthy People 2030 Goal.



Source: BRFSS, 2014-2022, age-adjusted

Diabetes-related deaths among American Indians and Alaska Natives in Montana was higher than among all other races, although the rate has been decreasing since 2020.

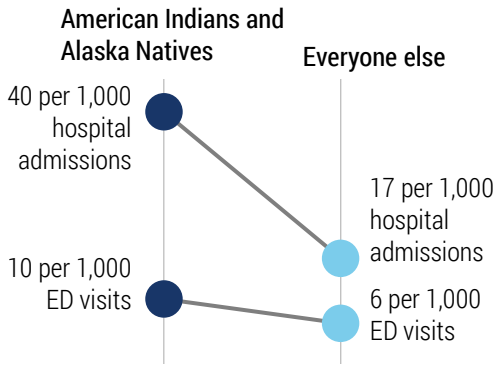


Source: CDC WONDER Multiple Cause of Death Data, 2018-2022

What is MDP doing to address this disparity in the next few years?

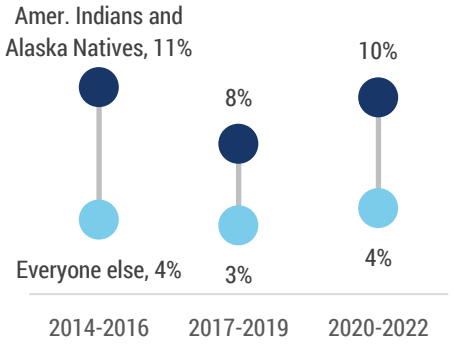
- We have set goals to increase priority population participation in Montana's National Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP) 15% by 2029. According to CDC DPRP Data, since 2014 there have only been 228 American Indians and Alaska Natives enrolled in the program (2.5% of participants with race data reported).
- We are rolling out diabetes support programs and family healthy weight programs throughout the state.
- We are contracting with sites to focus on American Indians and Alaska Natives as a priority population for quality improvement in diabetes care and prevention in the healthcare setting.

Hospital encounters related to diabetes were more common among American Indians and Alaska Natives.



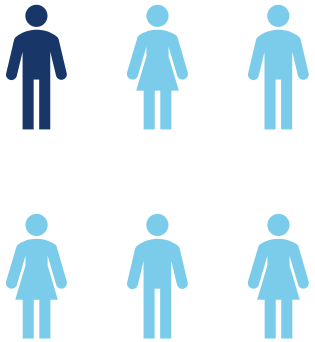
Source: Montana Hospital Discharge Data System, 2022

In Montana, the prevalence of diabetes has consistently been higher among American Indians and Alaska Natives.



Source: BRFSS, 2014-2022, age-adjusted

In Montana, 1 in 6 American Indians and Alaska Natives with diabetes reported not being able to afford visiting a healthcare provider.



Source: BRFSS, 2014-2022, age-adjusted

American Indians and Alaska Natives with diabetes reported having two or more other chronic diseases seven times as often as those without diabetes.

Source: BRFSS, 2020-2022, age-adjusted

American Indian/ Alaska Native in this report refers to single race, non-Hispanic people identified as having American Indian or Alaska Native descent either through self-reporting or other means of identification. This is not collected in a consistent manner across data systems and results are reflective of events where race data were recorded. **Age-adjusted data** reflect ages 18-85 years only. **Printing Note**: Formatted for 11" x 8.5" paper. **Published**: November 2024