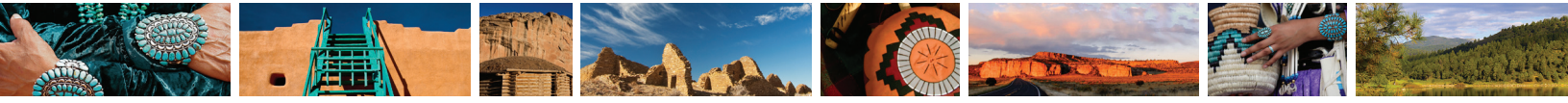


HIV-Related Risk Behaviors

of American Indian High School Students 2011: **New Mexico**

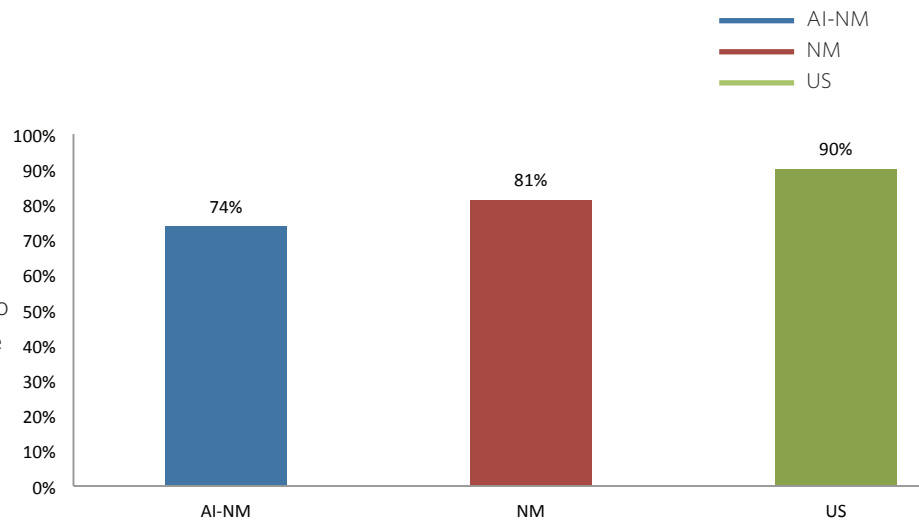


This fact sheet presents data on HIV-related risk behaviors among American Indian (AI) high school students in New Mexico. Comparisons are also made between the New Mexico AI student population and the all-race student population of New Mexico and the U.S. for 2011. The data comes from the NM Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey (YRRS), which seeks to better characterize risk behaviors and resiliency/protective factors among youth in New Mexico.

2011 NM YRRS data shows that HIV education and condom use is lower among American Indians in New Mexico, yet, sexual activity tends to be higher in comparison with the statewide and national population. A significantly higher rate of marijuana use was also reported by American Indian students in New Mexico. Reporting of other drug use was low among all student populations.

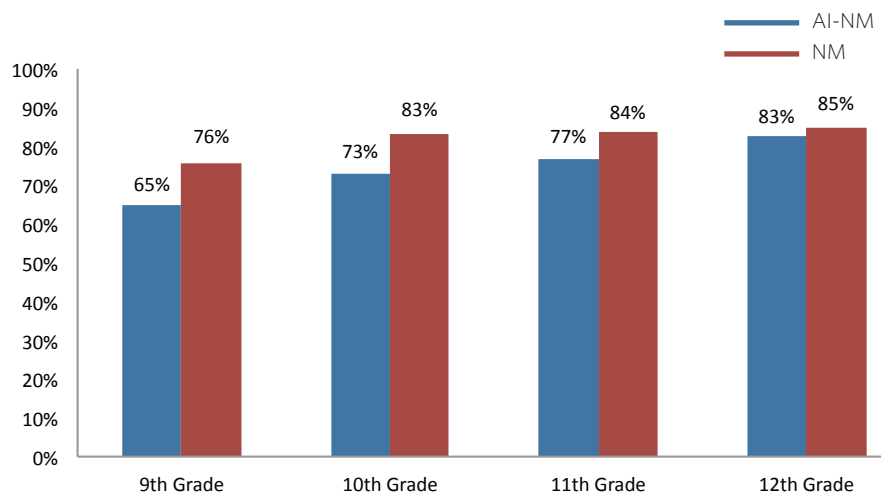
Percentage of High School Students Who Were Taught About HIV in School, 2011

In 2011, American Indian (NM) students were less likely to receive HIV education in school compared to the statewide (NM) population (7% difference). The difference in HIV education is even more prominent when compared to the US student population (16% difference).



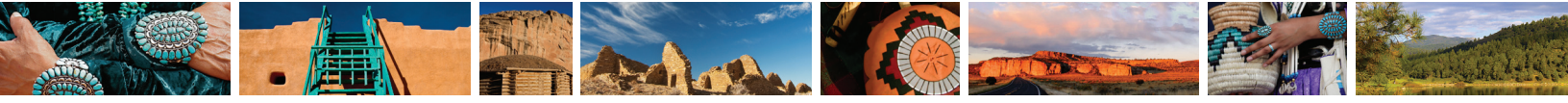
Percentage of High School Students Who Were Taught About HIV in School, by Grade 2011

An increase in HIV education in school is reported as student grade level increases. However, in 2011, American Indian (NM) high school students in all grade levels received less HIV education in school compared to the rest of New Mexico students.



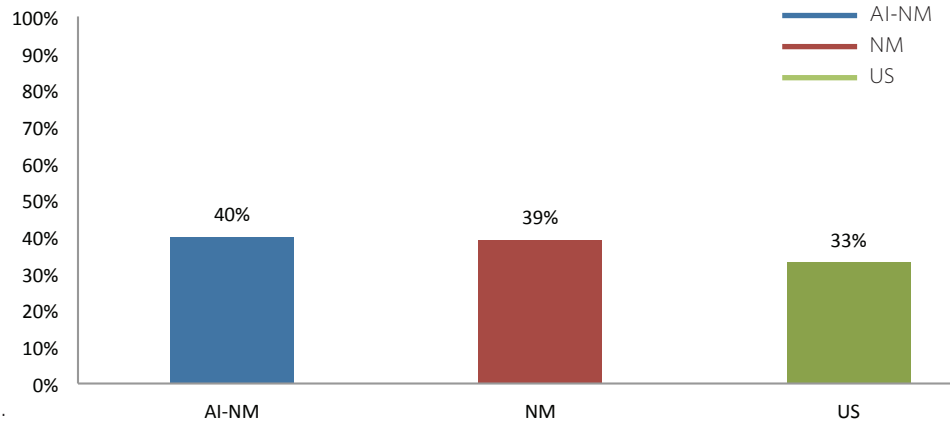
HIV-Related Risk Behaviors

of American Indian High School Students 2011: **New Mexico**



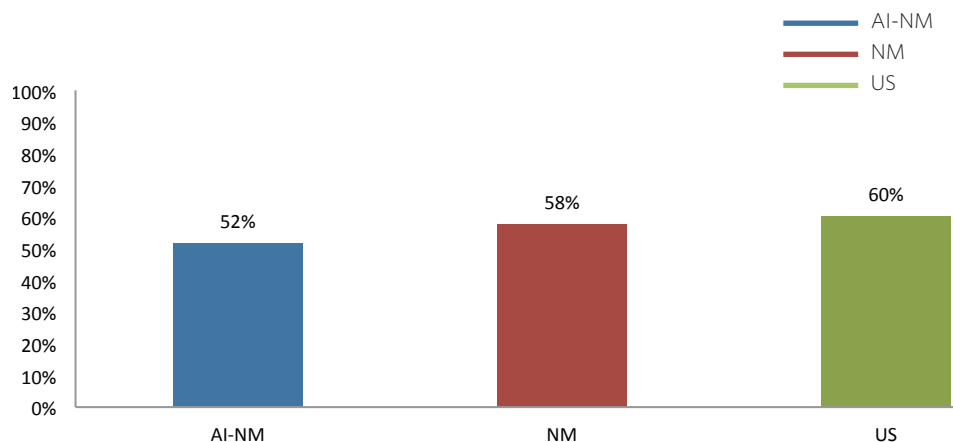
Percentage of High School Students Who Had **More Than Four Sexual Partners in Lifetime, 2011**

American Indian (NM) high school students report similar frequency of multiple sex partners (40%) as the rest of the New Mexico student population (39%). However, the prevalence of multiple sexual partners is higher among all students in New Mexico in comparison with the national rate (33%).



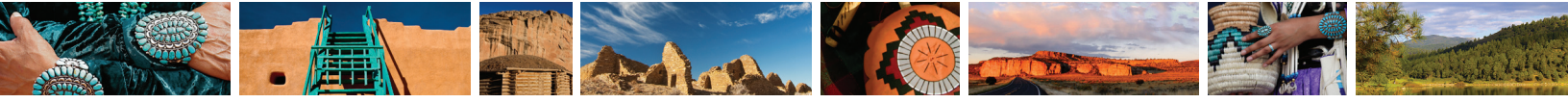
Percentage of High School Students Who **Used Condoms During Last Sexual Intercourse, 2011**

Condom use by sexually active high school students increased in 2011 nationwide. Even so, American Indian (NM) students reported lower frequency of condom use: 6% less than other New Mexico students, and 8% less than the rest of the US student population.



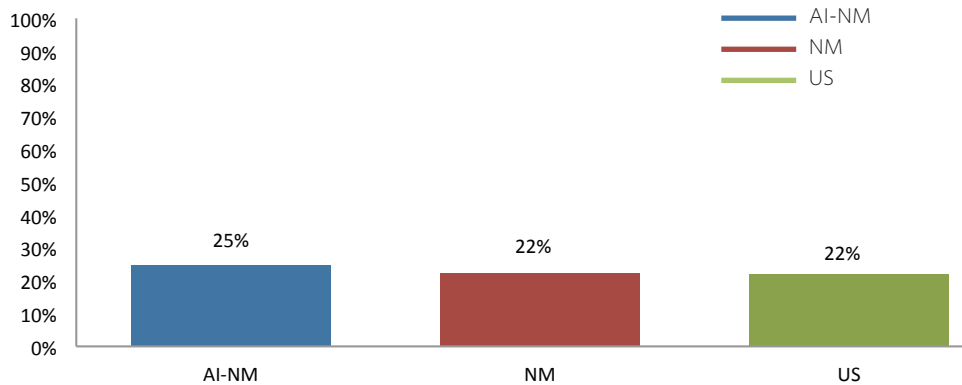
HIV-Related Risk Behaviors

of American Indian High School Students 2011: **New Mexico**



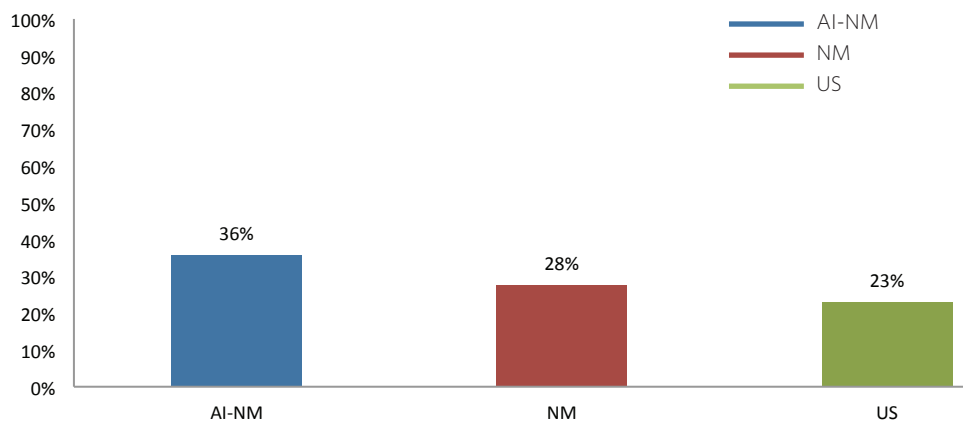
Percentage of High School Students Who Engaged in Binge Drinking Over the Past 30 Days, 2011

In 2011, American Indian high school students in New Mexico reported a slightly higher rate of binge drinking (25%) than the statewide high school population (22%) and the general US student population (22%). Binge drinking among youth is defined as having 4 or more alcoholic beverages on one occasion



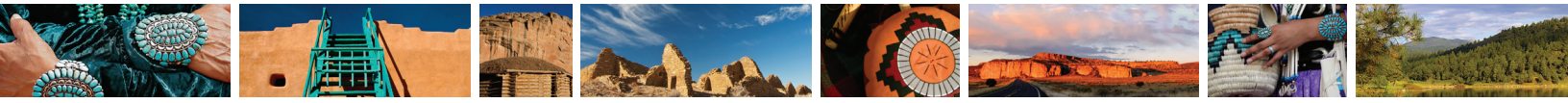
Percentage of High School Students Who Smoked Marijuana Over the Past 30 Days, 2011

In 2011, American Indian (NM) students reported a **significantly higher rate of marijuana use** (36%) compared to all New Mexico high school students (28%) and the general US student population (23%).



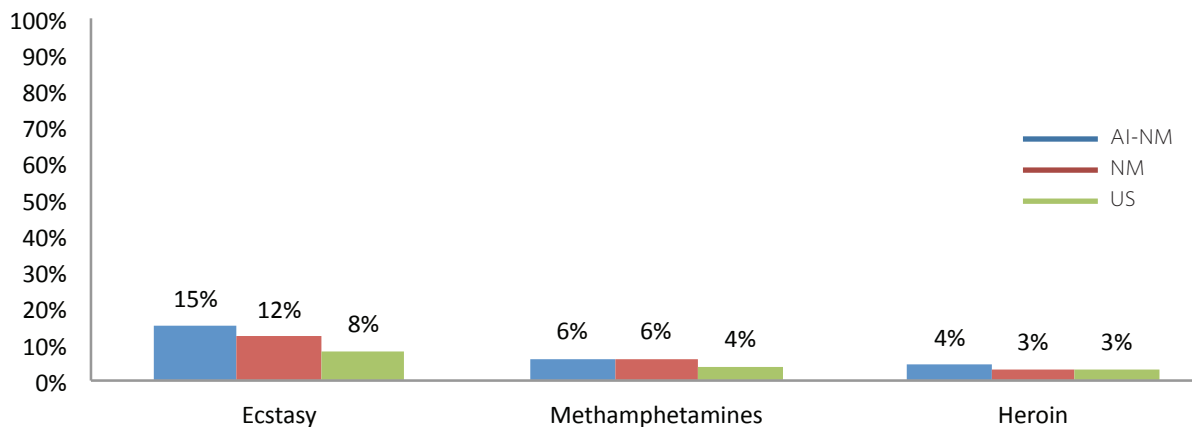
HIV-Related Risk Behaviors

of American Indian High School Students 2011: **New Mexico**



Percentage of High School Students Who Ever Used Ecstasy, Methamphetamines, and Heroin, 2011

In 2011, reporting on the use of ecstasy, methamphetamines, and heroin by high school students was low. However, among those who ever used ecstasy, American Indian (NM) high school students reported the highest rate (15%).



Conclusion

Protecting the health of young people and accelerating progress in HIV prevention will require building upon prevention efforts in homes, schools, and communities. It will be critical to address not only individual risk factors, but also the social, economic and historical factors that influence HIV-related risk behavior. Intervention approaches must also honor cultural norms and traditions practiced within Native American communities. Only by intensifying our collective efforts will we be able to eliminate disparities and achieve our shared goal of an AIDS-free generation.

Sources

The NM YRRS is a joint project of the New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH), the University of New Mexico Prevention Research Center (UNM PRC), the Albuquerque Area Southwest Tribal Epidemiology Center (AASSTEC), and the Division of Adolescent and School Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC-DASH).

The 2011 New Mexico statewide and county level YRRS results are available at www.youthrisk.org. Together, these documents comprise a useful tool for those working on youth-related issues at the state and local level.

CDC. Trends in HIV-related risk behaviors among high school students – United States, 1991–2011. MMWR 2012 July 24.