

Social Determinants of HIV and AIDS - Ethnicity

Why Is This Important?

Ethnicity influences the socially determined circumstances in which people are born, grow, live, work and age. Ethnicity has an important influence on health status and health seeking behaviours. Ethnicity affects social position in our society through factors such as racism, discrimination, oppression and poverty, all of which contribute to conditions that lead to higher disease rates and poorer health outcomes. Ethnicity may be a marker of economic status, risk behaviors, awareness of treatment options, access to culturally sensitive health care, and cultural beliefs about illness.^{12,13,14}

References: [About the Data](#)

What Is Being Done?

[Saskatchewan HIV Collaborative](#)
[Positive Living Program](#)
[Westside Clinic](#)
[Population & Public Health Front Line](#)

To Learn More:

Chief Medical Health Officer's [Call to Action](#)
[Cultural Considerations Front Line](#)
[Treatment Coverage](#)
[Diagnosis Stigma](#)
[Transportation](#)
[Provincial HIV Awareness Campaign](#)
[HIV Testing](#)

Highlights

The percentage of HIV positive individuals who are First Nations ethnicity is decreasing.

- Of the 227 individuals reported HIV positive from 2012 to 2016, 52% were First Nations, 29% were White (Caucasian), 13% were Métis, 5% were other ethnicities and 1% unknown (Figure 1).
- Of the 83 cases of AIDS reported since 2012, 63% were First Nations, a comparatively greater percentage than other ethnicities or the distribution of HIV (Figure 2).
- Seventy percent of HIV positive females were First Nations compared to 41% of males (not shown); 11% of female HIV positive clients were Métis, and 15% of male clients (not shown).
- Overall, the percentage of HIV positive individuals who are of First Nations ethnicity has decreased since 2012, and the percentage of White increased (Figure 3). Métis and other ethnicities remain unchanged.

Figure 1: HIV by Ethnicity, Saskatoon Health Region, 2012 to 2016

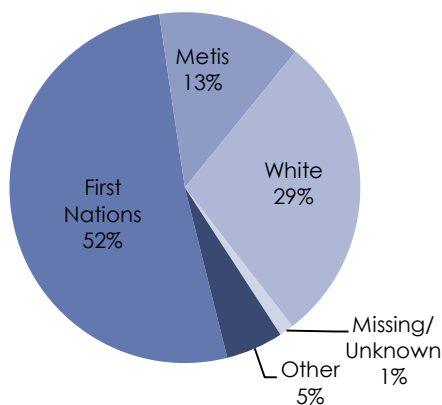


Figure 2: AIDS by Ethnicity, Saskatoon Health Region, 2012 to 2016

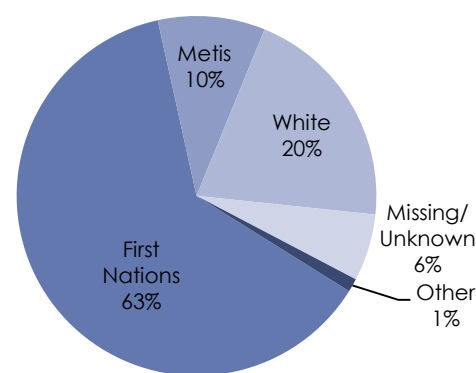
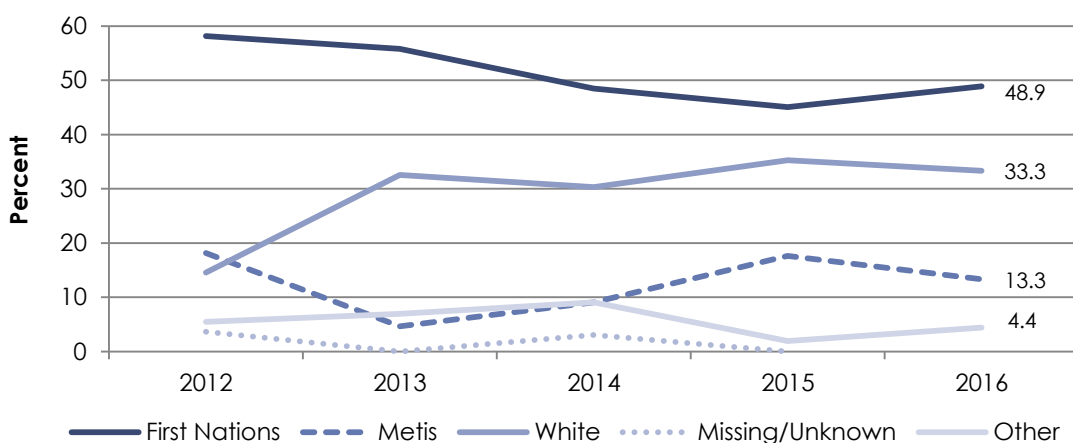


Figure 3: Percent Newly Reported HIV Cases by Ethnicity, Saskatoon Health Region, 2012 to 2016



Source: iPHIS