

Joe Lombardo
Governor



Richard Whitley
Director

Nevada American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) Health Data Summary - Update

Office of Analytics

Adam Ernst

07-18-2023



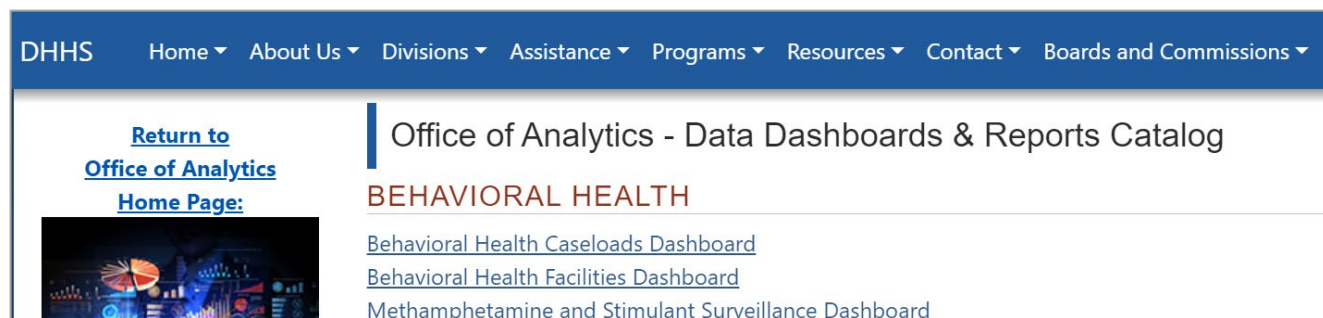
Department of Health and Human Services

Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.



Background – Office of Analytics

Office of Analytics is a part of the State of Nevada, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) – Director’s Office. Our mission is to help DHHS staff and stakeholders help people by providing reliable analytics and data to make a difference.



Information about available data sources as well as links to publicly available reports and dashboards produced by the Office of Analytics can be found on our website.

DHHS Office of Analytics website:

https://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/Office_of_Analytics/DHHS_Office_of_Analytics/



Acronyms

- AI/AN - American Indian Alaskan Native
- BRFSS – Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System
- HIB – Hospital Inpatient Billing
- DHHS- Department of Health and Human Services
- YRBS- Youth Risk Behavior Survey



Limitations of Race/Ethnicity Data

- Depending on the topic or report, population counts for American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) people may be small and require suppression.
- Small counts may cause rates and trends to have a lot of variability year over year, making it hard to determine statistically significant differences between AI/AN people and other groups.
- To discourage misinterpretation and misuse of rates and trends that are unstable or unreliable because of small counts, these statistics are often not shown in tables and figures. Because of this, there are gaps in the data for AI/AN people on some topics.



Topical Areas

- Tobacco Use and Smoking
- Substance Use During Pregnancy
- Poor Mental Health
- Alcohol and/or Substance-Related Deaths and Suicide Attempts



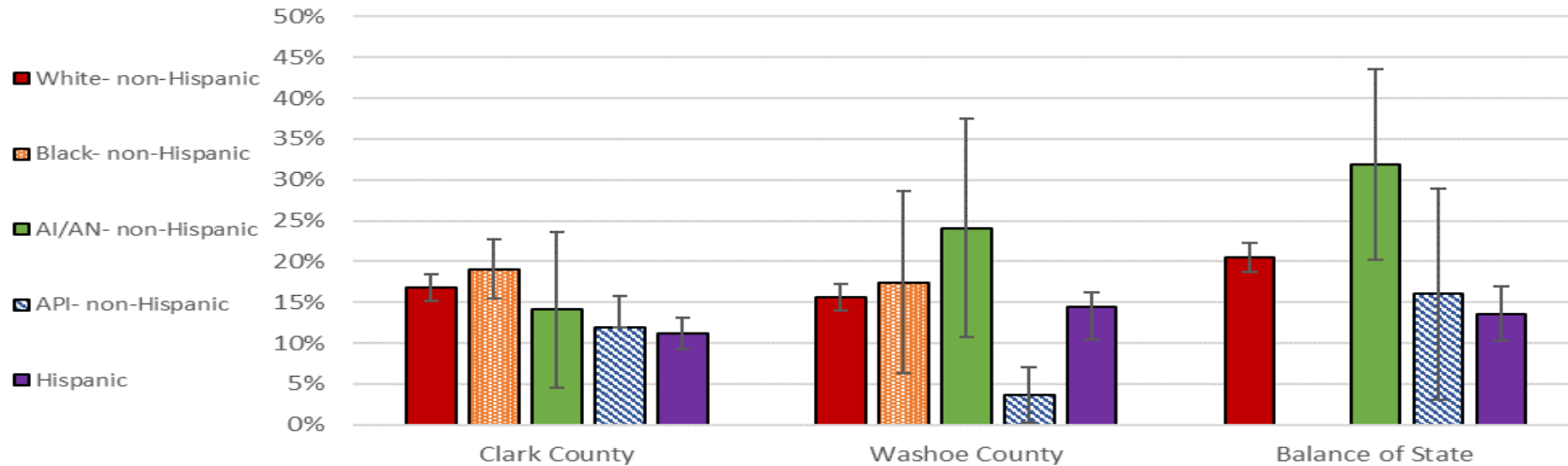
Tobacco Use and Smoking



Current Smokers, Adults Aged 18+

In Washoe County and rural Nevada, AI/AN self-report the highest prevalence of smoking, where more than 1 in 4 reported that they were current smokers. Overall, the percentages are similar to the previous years.

Current Smokers, Nevada Adults – Prevalence by Race/Ethnicity and Region, 2017-2021 Aggregated



Grouping:	Clark County	Washoe County	Balance of State
White-non-Hispanic	16.8% (15.2-18.4)	15.6% (13.9-17.2)	20.5% (18.7-22.3)
Black-non-Hispanic	19.1% (15.5-22.7)	17.5% (6.3-28.6)	‡
AI/AN-non-Hispanic	14.1% (4.5-23.6)	24.1% (6.3-28.6)	31.9% (20.3-43.5)
API-non-Hispanic	11.9% (8.1-15.8)	3.6% (0.2-7.0)	16.0% (3.1-28.9)
Hispanic	11.2% (9.3-13.1)	14.4% (10.4-18.4)	13.6% (10.3-16.9)

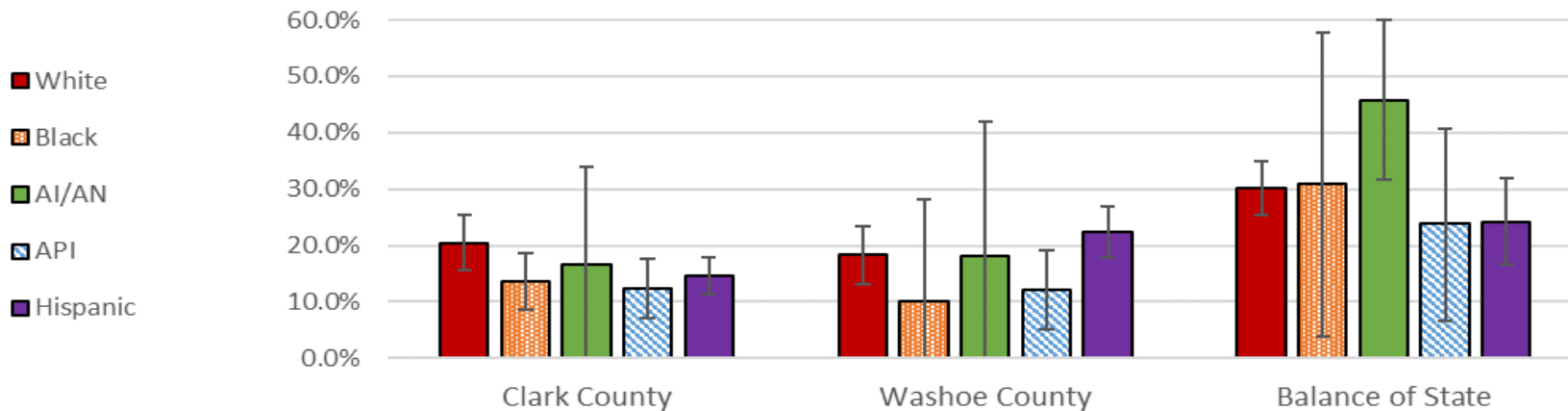
Source: Nevada Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). Note: Graph scaled to 60% to display difference between groups.



Nevada High School Students Who Ever Smoked

Over 16% of AI/AN Clark County high school students self-report to have ever smoked, over 18% in Washoe County, and almost half in rural Nevada. There were decreases in percentages for Clark and Washoe counties from 2019,(23.8%, 55.6%). However, these decrease were not significant due to large confidence intervals.

Nevada High School Students Who Ever Smoked Cigarettes – Prevalence by Race/Ethnicity and Region, 2021



Grouping:	Clark County	Washoe County	Balance of State
White-non-Hispanic	20.5% (15.6-25.4)	18.3% (13.2-23.3)	30.2% (25.3-35)
Black-non-Hispanic	13.6% (8.6-18.7)	10.1% (0-28.1)	30.8% (3.9-57.7)
AI/AN-non-Hispanic	16.7% (0-34)	18.1% (0-41.9)	45.8% (31.6-60)
API-non-Hispanic	12.4% (7.2-17.7)	12.1% (5.1-19.1)	23.8% (6.7-40.8)
Hispanic	14.6% (0-34)	22.3% (0-41.9)	24.2% (16.6-31.8)

Source: Nevada High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) Report. Note: Graph scaled to 60% to display difference between groups.

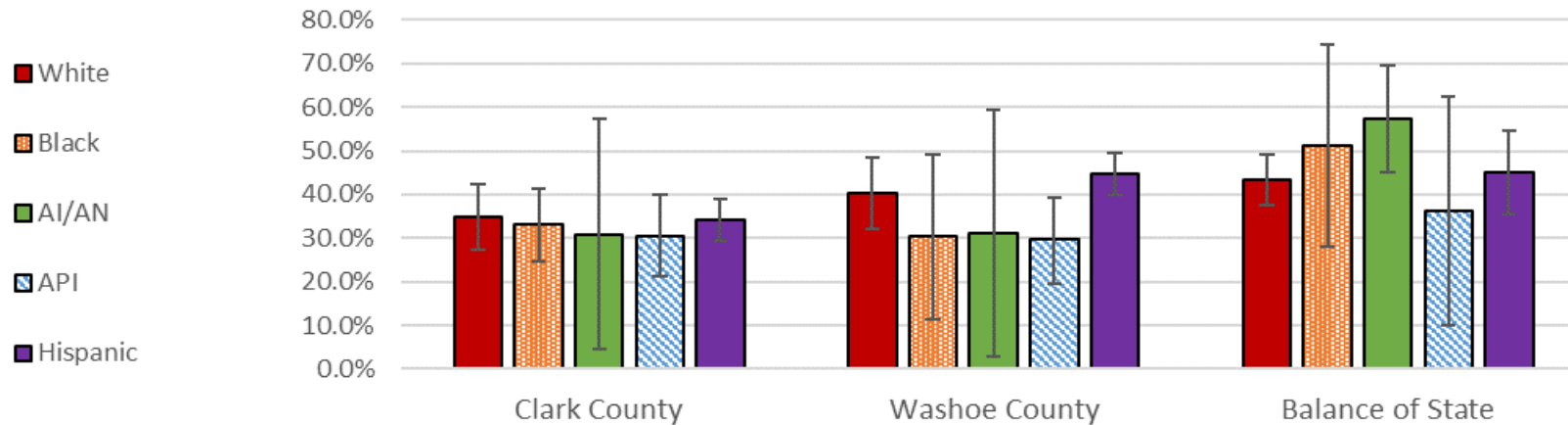




Nevada High School Students Who Ever Used Vapor Products

AI/AN youth self-report similar rates as other groups for having ever used a vapor product. These vary by region with the highest self-reported rate in rural Nevada (57.4%). There was some variation in percentages compared to previous years. Most notably a non-significant decrease of 24% in Washoe County.

Nevada High School Students Who Ever Used Electronic Vapor Products – Prevalence by Race/Ethnicity and Region, 2021



Grouping:	Clark County	Washoe County	Balance of State
White-non-Hispanic	35.0% (27.5-42.5)	40.3% (32.1-48.5)	43.5% (37.7-49.3)
Black-non-Hispanic	33.0% (24.8-41.2)	30.3% (11.4-49.2)	51.2% (28.2-74.2)
AI/AN-non-Hispanic	30.9% (4.5-57.2)	31.1% (2.8-59.3)	57.4% (45.2-69.5)
API-non-Hispanic	30.6% (21.3-39.9)	29.6% (19.7-39.4)	36.3% (10-62.5)
Hispanic	34.1% (4.5-57.2)	44.8% (2.8-59.3)	45.0% (35.5-54.6)

Source: Nevada High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) Report. Note: Graph scaled to 80% to display difference between groups.





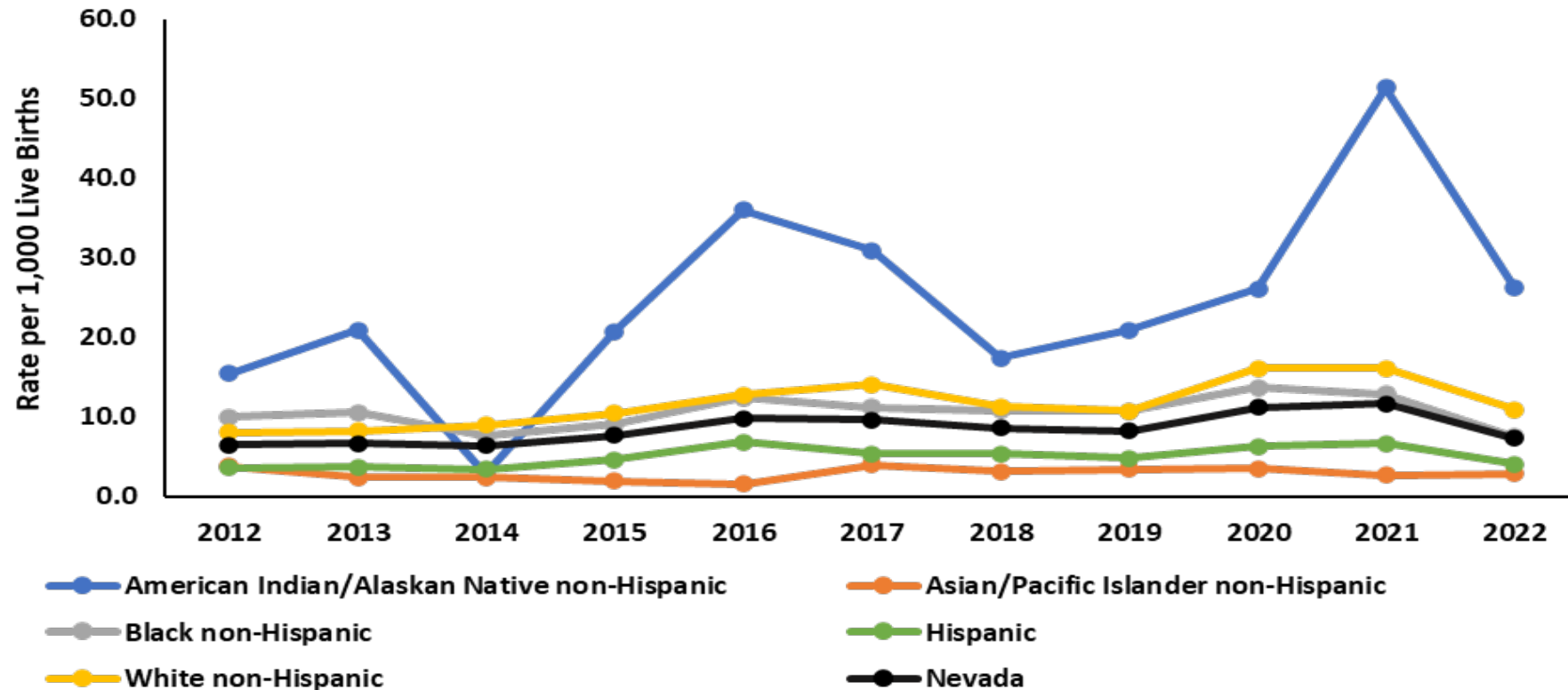
Substance Use During Pregnancy



Illicit Substance Use While Pregnant

In most years, AI/AN pregnant persons self-report the highest rates of illicit substance use (drug use including cocaine, heroin, meth, opioids, polysubstance use; marijuana/cannabis is not included). There was a 97% increase from 2020-2021, followed by a 49% decrease from 2021-2022.

Prenatal Substance Use Birth Rates (Self-Reported) for Illicit Substances by Race/ Ethnicity, Nevada Residents, 2012-2022



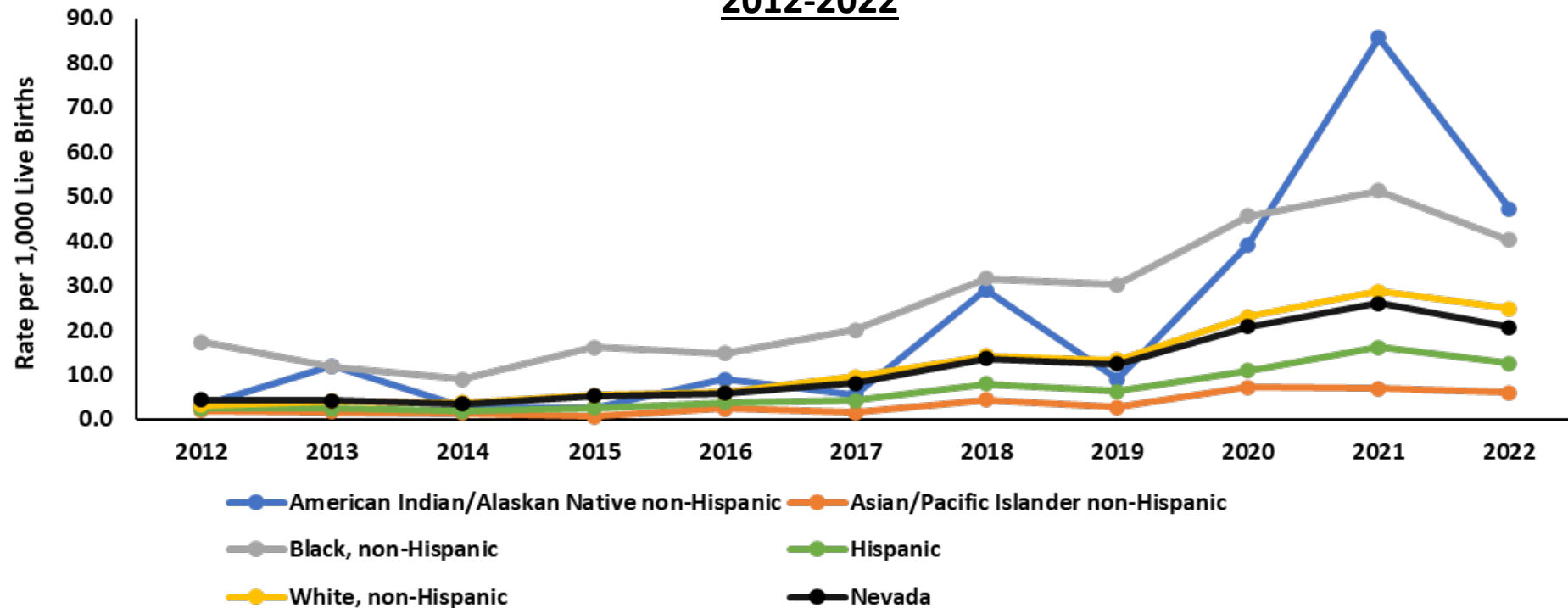
Source: Nevada Electronic Birth Registry System. 2022 data are preliminary and subject to change.



Self-Reported Prenatal Marijuana Use by R/E 2012-2022

American Indian/Alaskan Native non-Hispanic Nevadans self-reported marijuana use in 2022 was significantly higher than the overall Nevada rate at 47.2 per 1,000 live births. From 2017 to 2021 there was a 225% increase, although from 2021 to 2022 we see a 20% decrease.

Prenatal Marijuana Use by Race/Ethnicity Birth Rates (Self-Reported), Nevada Residents, 2012-2022



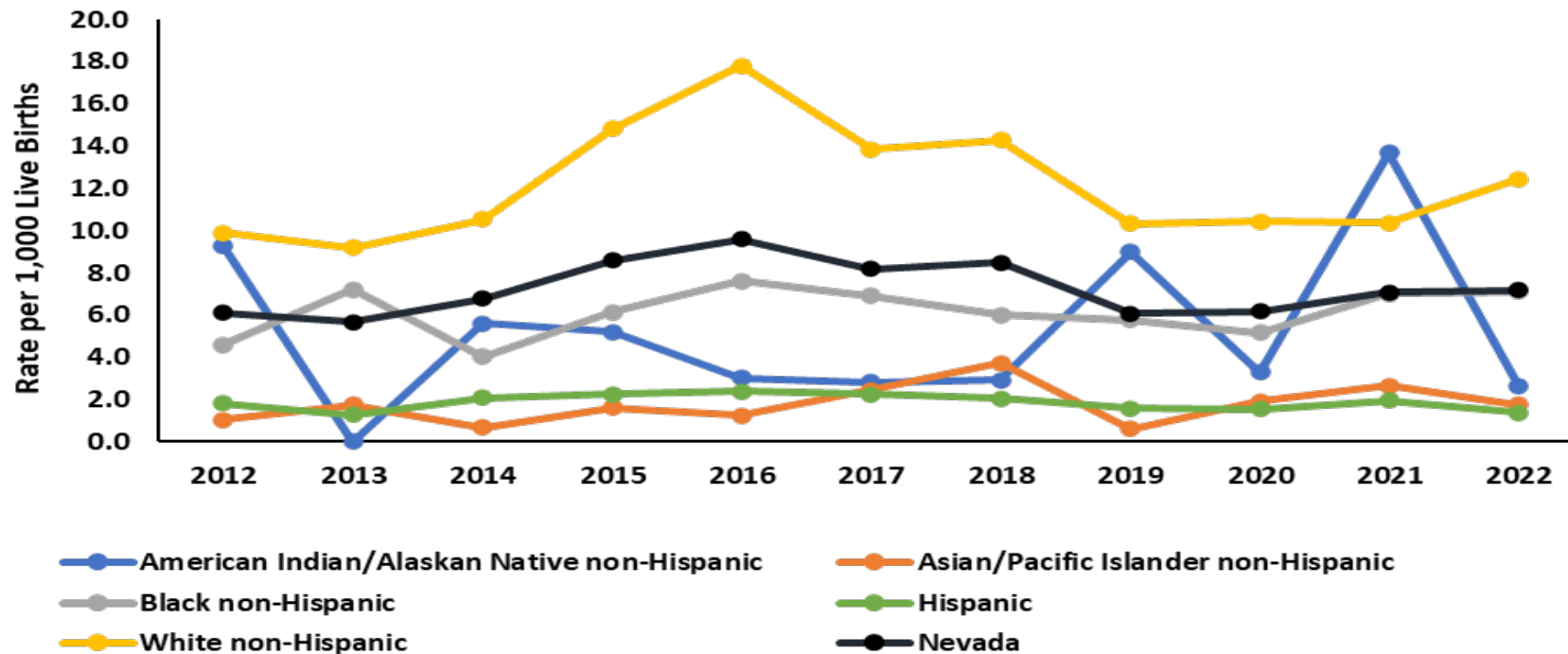
Source : Nevada Electronic Birth Registry System (NEBRS). 2022 data are preliminary and subject to change



Substance-Exposed Infants Experiencing Withdrawal at Birth

Rates of infants experiencing withdrawal or other medical issues due to substance exposure while in the womb (also known as Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome) born to AI/AN mothers have fluctuated over the years. In 2021, AI/AN women had the highest rate of substance-exposed infants (10.9 per 1,000 live births), however in 2022 rates fell to 2.6 per 1,000 live births, a decrease of 81%.

Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome by Race Ethnicity, Nevada Residents, 2012-2022



Source: : Hospital Inpatient Billing data and Nevada Electronic Birth Registry System. 2022 data are preliminary and subject to change.



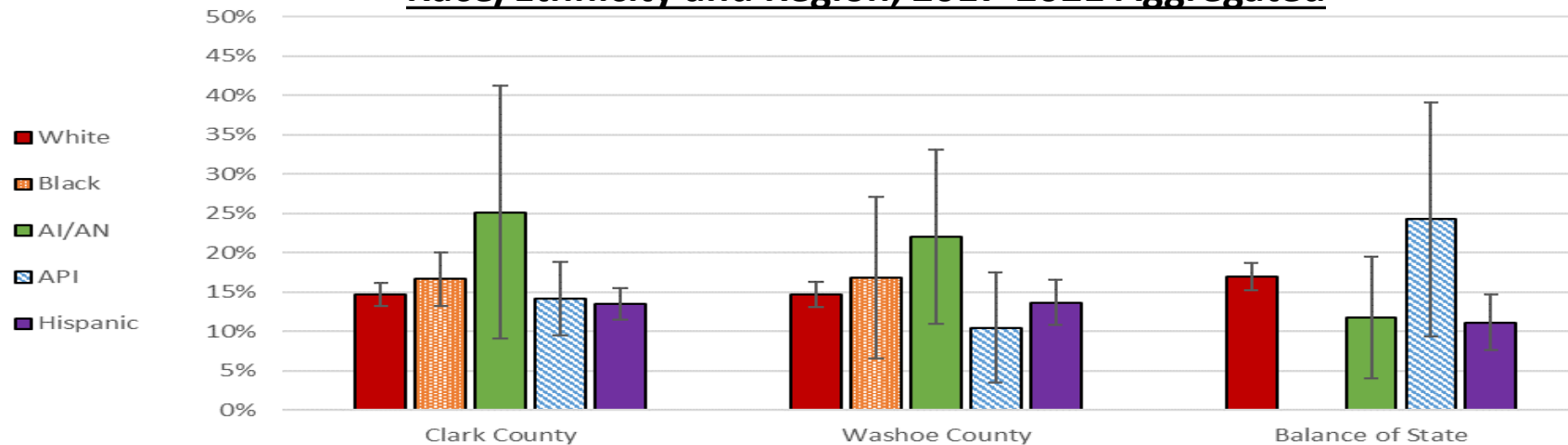
Poor Mental Health



Adults Reporting 14-30 Days of Poor Mental Health in Last Month

AI/AN adults self-report the highest prevalence of poor mental health days, most notably in Clark County where about 1/4 of those surveyed reported experiencing poor mental health for 14-30 days in the last month. There were some fluctuation in the percentages from the previous report, for example, there was a decrease of 10% in Washoe County.

Nevada Adults Who Reported 14-30 Days of Poor Mental Health in the Last Month - Prevalence by Race/Ethnicity and Region, 2017-2021 Aggregated



Race/Ethnicity:	Clark County	Washoe County	Balance of State
White-non-Hispanic	14.7% (13.2-16.2)	14.7% (13.1-16.4)	16.9% (15.2-18.7)
Black-non-Hispanic	16.7% (13.2-20.1)	16.8% (6.5-27.1)	‡
AI/AN-non-Hispanic	25.2% (9.0-41.3)	22.1% (6.5-27.1)	11.8% (4.0-19.5)
API-non-Hispanic	14.2% (9.5-18.9)	10.5% (3.4-17.5)	24.3% (9.4-39.1)
Hispanic	13.5% (11.5-15.4)	13.7% (10.8-16.6)	11.1% (7.6-14.7)

Source: Nevada Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). Note: Graph scaled to 50% to display difference between groups.

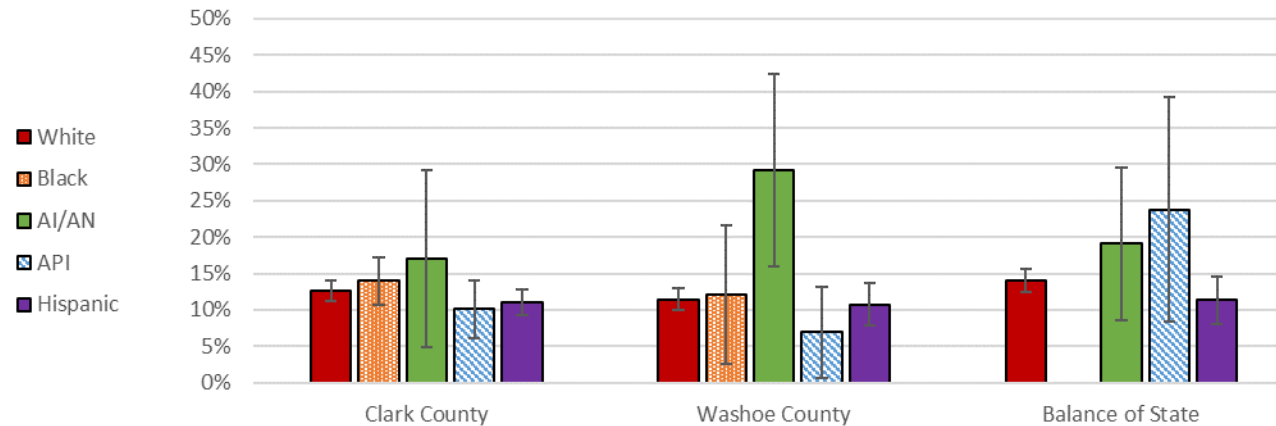




Adults Reporting Difficulties Due to Physical, Mental, or Emotional Conditions

Specifically in Washoe County and rural Nevada, AI/AN adults self-report the highest prevalence of experiencing difficulties due to a physical, mental, or emotional condition (over 1/4 of respondents in Washoe County). Overall, there was similar percentages compared to 2019.

Nevada Adults Who Reported Difficulty Concentrating, Remembering, or Making Decisions Because of a Physical, Mental, or Emotional Condition - Prevalence by Race/Ethnicity and Region, 2017-2021 Aggregated



Race/Ethnicity:	Clark County	Washoe County	Balance of State
White-non-Hispanic	12.7% (11.3-14.1)	11.4% (10.0-12.9)	14.1% (12.5-15.6)
Black-non-Hispanic	14.0% (10.7-17.3)	12.1% (2.6-21.6)	†
AI/AN-non-Hispanic	17.1% (4.9-29.2)	29.2% (2.6-21.6)	19.1% (8.5-29.6)
API-non-Hispanic	10.1% (6.2-14.0)	6.9% (.7-13.2)	23.8% (8.3-39.2)
Hispanic	11.1% (9.2-12.9)	10.7% (7.8-13.7)	11.3% (8.0-14.6)



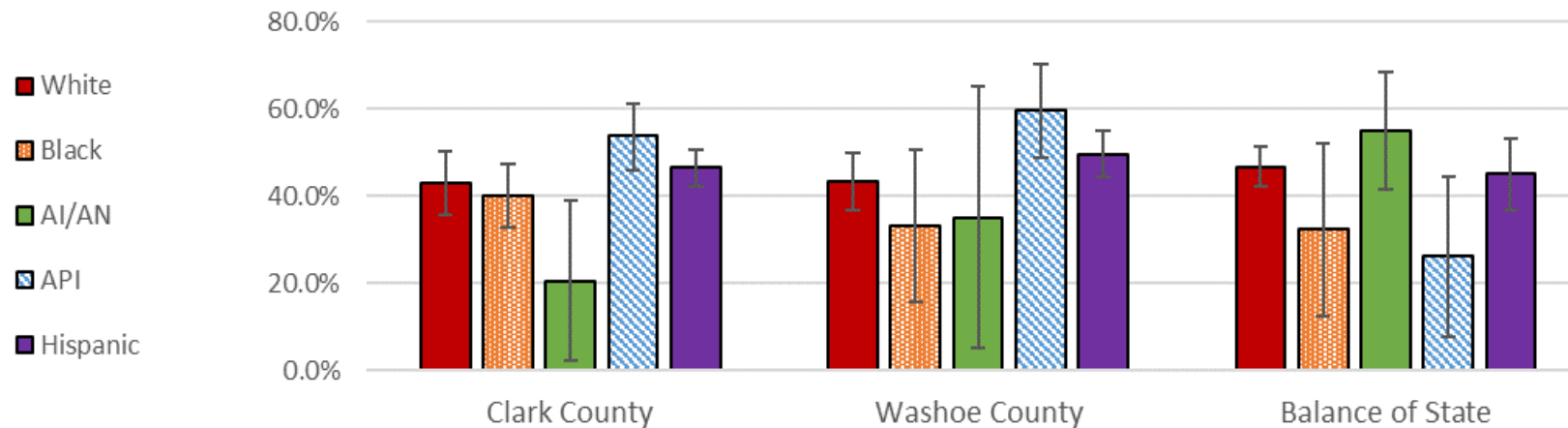
Source: Nevada Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). Note: Graph scaled to 50% to display difference between groups.



Nevada High School Students Who Felt Sad or Hopeless

About 1/3 of AI/AN youth in Washoe County, Nevada self-reported feeling sad or hopeless for two or more weeks in the year before the survey; in rural counties, over 1/2 of youth reported feeling this way. There were variation in the percentages from previous years, most notably a 25% decrease in Washoe County. However, due to large confidence intervals these decreases are not significant.

Nevada High School Students Who Felt Sad or Hopeless for Two or More Weeks in the 12 Months Before the Survey - Prevalence by Race/Ethnicity and Region, 2021



Race/Ethnicity:	Clark County	Washoe County	Balance of State
White-non-Hispanic	43.0% (35.8-50.3)	43.3% (36.9-49.8)	46.8% (42.3-51.3)
Black-non-Hispanic	40.2% (33-47.5)	33.3% (15.8-50.7)	32.4% (12.5-52.2)
AI/AN-non-Hispanic	20.6% (2.3-38.9)	35.2% (5.1-65.3)	54.9% (41.4-68.4)
API-non-Hispanic	54.0% (45.8-61.2)	59.6% (48.8-70.5)	26.2% (7.8-44.6)
Hispanic	46.5% (2.3-38.9)	49.7% (5.1-65.3)	45.2% (37-53.4)



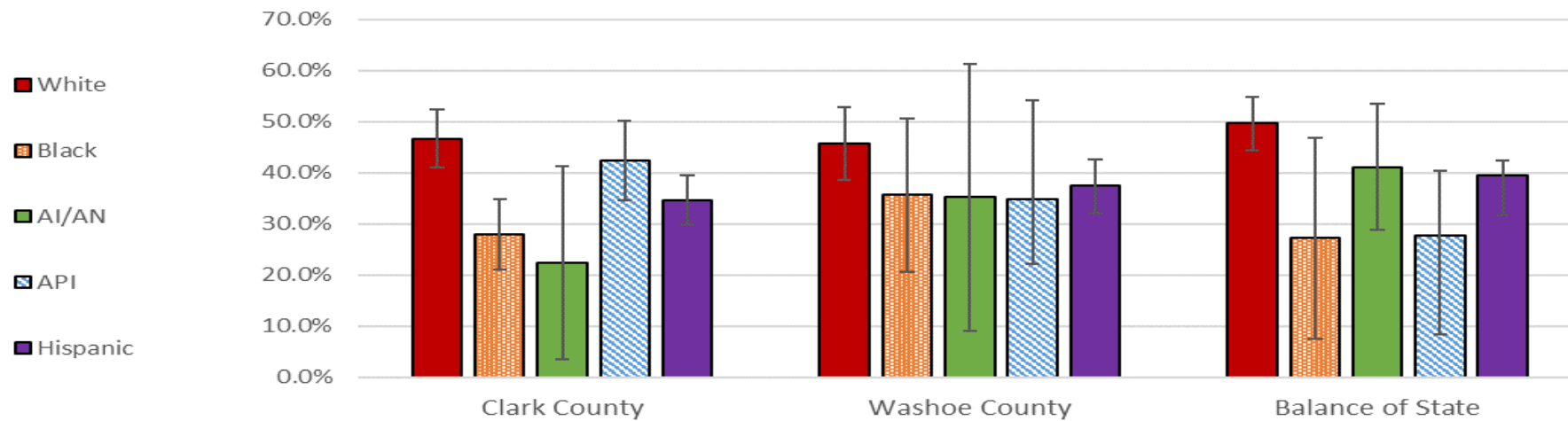
Source: Nevada High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) Report. Note: Graph scaled to 80% to display difference between groups.



Nevada High School Students Living With Mental Health Needs

About 1/5 of AI/AN high school students in Clark County and 1/3 in Washoe and rural counties reported ever living with someone who was depressed, mentally ill, or suicidal. There was a non-significant decrease of 27% from the previous report in Washoe County.

Nevada High School Students Who Ever Lived with Someone Who Was Depressed, Mentally Ill, or Suicidal - Prevalence by Race/Ethnicity and Region, 2021



Race/Ethnicity:	Clark County	Washoe County	Balance of State
White-non-Hispanic	46.7% (41.1-52.3)	45.7% (38.6-52.8)	49.6% (44.4-54.8)
Black-non-Hispanic	28.0% (21.1-34.8)	35.6% (20.7-50.5)	27.3% (7.6-46.9)
AI/AN-non-Hispanic	22.4% (3.5-41.3)	35.2% (9.1-61.3)	41.1% (28.8-53.4)
API-non-Hispanic	42.4% (34.6-50.1)	34.8% (22.2-47.4)	27.8% (8.4-47.1)
Hispanic	34.7% (3.5-41.3)	37.4% (9.1-61.3)	39.5% (31.7-42.3)

Source: Nevada High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) Report.
 Note: Graph scaled to 70% to display difference between groups





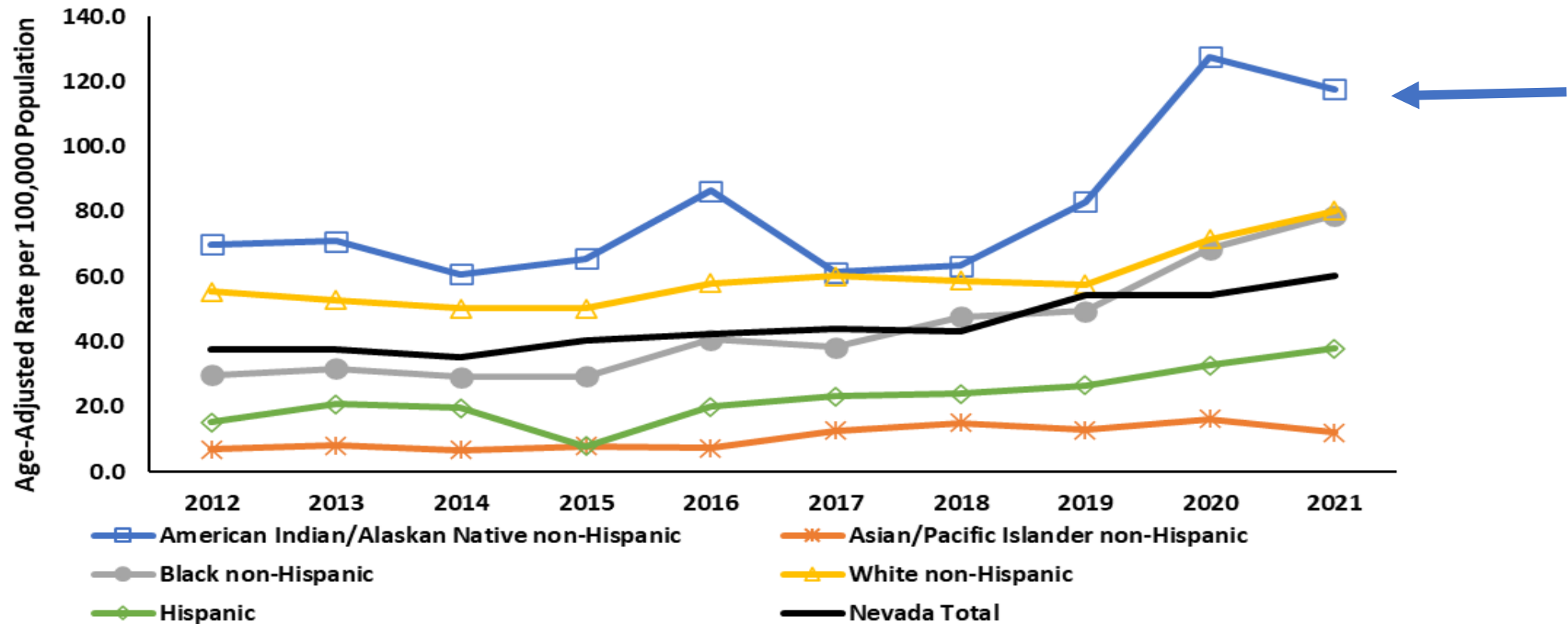
Alcohol and or Substance-Related Deaths and Suicide Attempts



Alcohol/Drug-Related Deaths

Nevada's AI/AN population has the highest rate of alcohol and/or drug-related deaths compared to other racial/ethnic populations. This includes all manners of alcohol/drug-related deaths including accidental or intentional drug overdoses.

Age-Adjusted Rate for Alcohol and/or Drug-Related Deaths by Race, Nevada Residents 2012-2021.



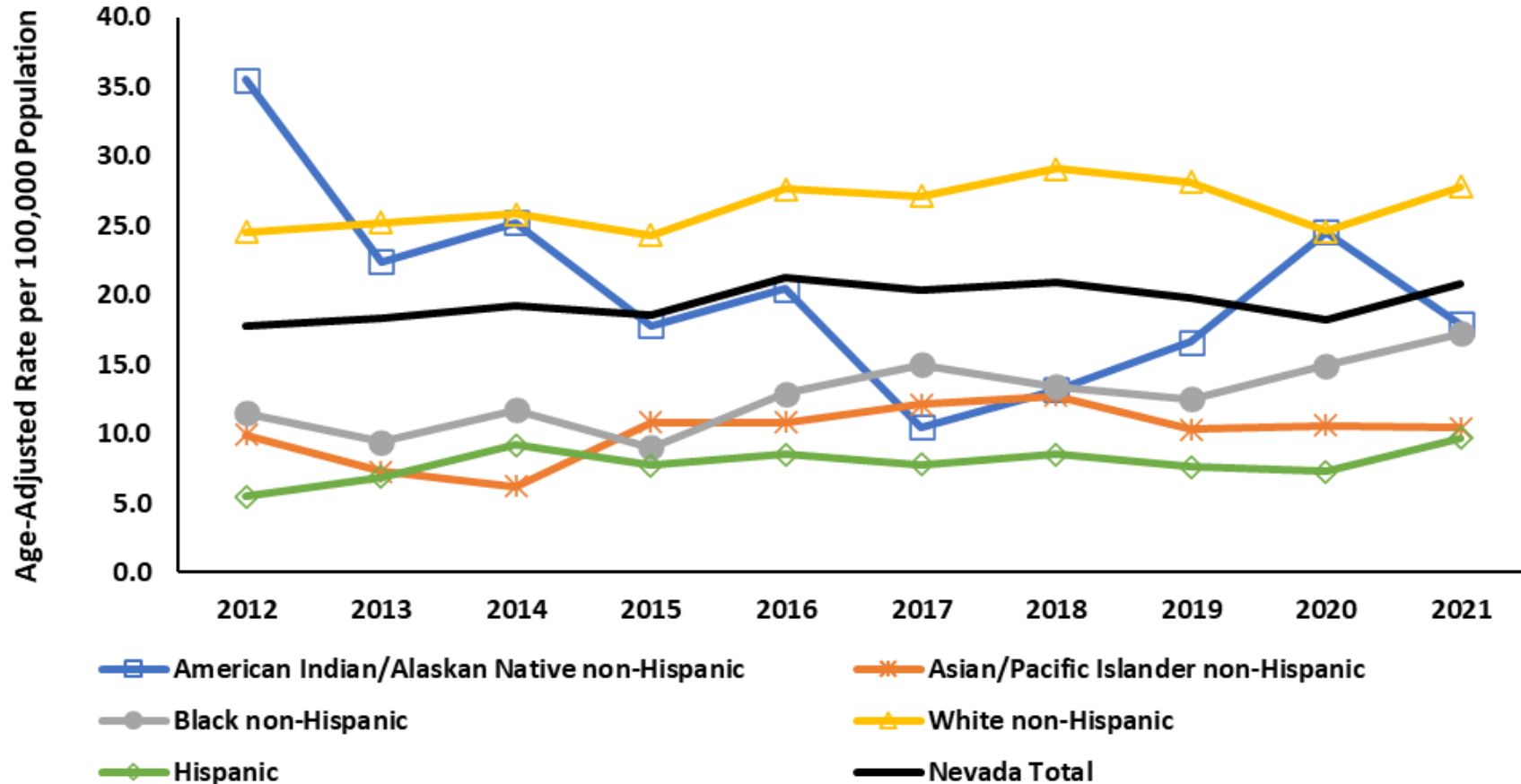
Source: Electronic Death Registry System



Age-Adjusted Suicide Rates by R/E 2012-2021

Before 2015, the AI/AN population was significantly higher than the Nevada average, although, after 2014 their population was at or below the Nevada average. In 2020 there was a slight rise above the average, followed by a decrease in 2021.

Age-Adjusted Suicide Rates by Race/Ethnicity, Nevada Residents, 2012-2021



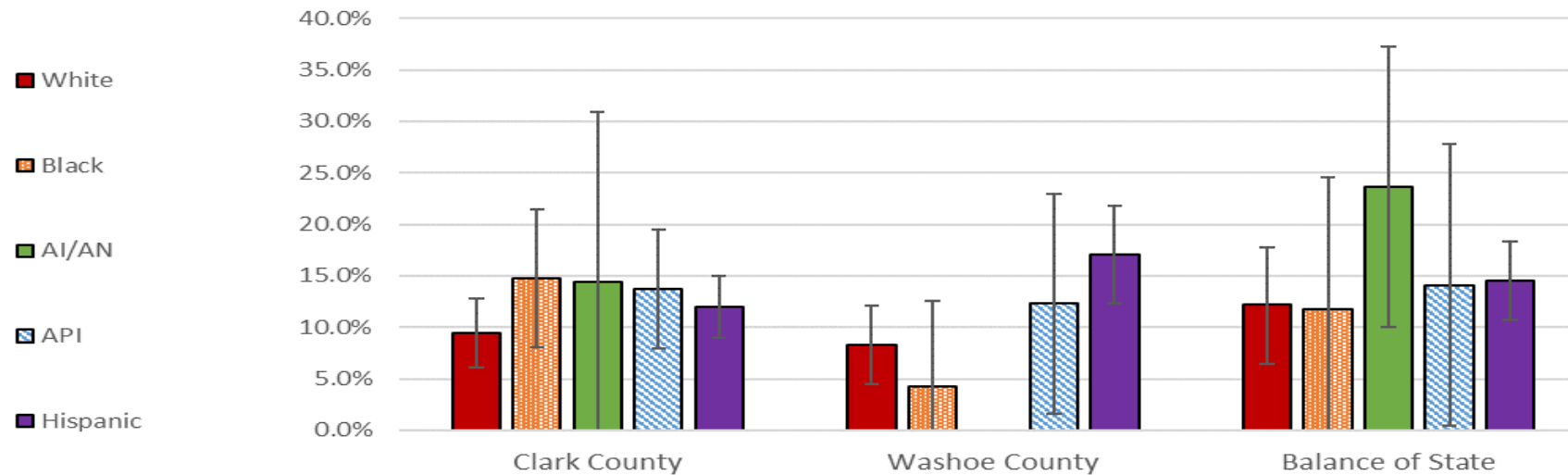
Source: Nevada Electronic Death Registry System.



Nevada High School Students Who Attempted Suicide

AI/AN youth self-report the highest prevalence of suicide attempts in the rural counties. Although in Washoe County there were no reported suicides. For Clark County there were similarly reported suicides to other groups.

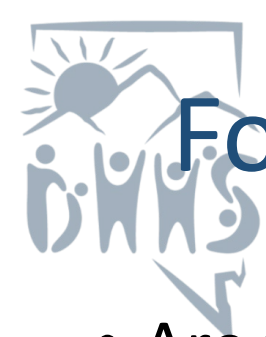
Nevada High School Students Who Attempted Suicide – Prevalence by Race/Ethnicity and Region, 2021



Race/Ethnicity:	Clark County	Washoe County	Balance of State
White-non-Hispanic	9.4% (6.1-12.8)	8.3% (4.5-12.1)	12.2% (6.5-17.8)
Black-non-Hispanic	14.8% (8.1-21.5)	4.2% (0-12.6)	11.8% (0-24.6)
AI/AN-non-Hispanic	14.4% (0-30.9)	0.0% (0-0)	23.6% (10-37.3)
API-non-Hispanic	13.7% (7.9-19.5)	12.3% (1.6-23)	14.1% (0.4-27.8)
Hispanic	12.0% (0-30.9)	17.1% (0-0)	14.5% (10.7-18.3)

Source: Nevada High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) Report.
 Note: Graph scaled to 40% to display difference between groups.





Follow up Questions From Previous Presentation

- Are the surveys administered to tribes or those on tribal areas?
 - For the BRFSS the selections process is done through random digit dialing. Therefore, the survey wouldn't necessarily be administered to tribes or tribal areas but rather to random individuals within the general area.
- How is the YRBS administered?
 - The YRBS is conducted through 50 randomly selected schools and the surveys are administered to the students and collected in the schools.
- Threshold the surveys must have in order to be published
 - For the BRFSS, if there are fewer than 50 responses to a survey question, the numbers are suppressed. There is no suppression threshold for the YRBS.
- How are people counted as Native American in the Data Source
 - The surveys rely on the participants to self-identify their demographic information.
- Differences in Washoe County ?
 - One possible explanation for the higher percentage of AI/AN population within Washoe County. (Clark 0.6%, Rural 0.8%, Washoe 1.5%), there could also be other sociocultural explanations as well.



Questions?



Contact Information

Name: Adam Ernst

Job Title: SUDORS contractor

Email: a.ernst@dhhs.nv.gov

Name: Amy Lucas

Job Title: Health Program Specialist II

Email: alucas@dhhs.nv.gov

Phone Number: 775-684-5895

[DHHS Office of Analytics \(nv.gov\)](http://dhhs.nv.gov)