

INTRODUCTION

The report *Health Status Profile of American Indians in Arizona: 2012 Data Book* is the annual update of population-level data on trends and patterns in natality and mortality among American Indians who were residents of specified tribal communities on reservations, and those who resided off reservation in Arizona in 2012.

American Indian births are determined by mother's race as indicated on a birth certificate, that is, these are the births to American Indian mothers. American Indian deaths are determined by decedent's race as stated on the death certificate.

The charts and tables comprising the 2012 *Health Status Profile of American Indians in Arizona* are grouped into five major sections:

- 1) a summary risk profile of American Indian residents of Arizona in 2012 on 70 indicators or measures of health status,
- 2) a comparison of American Indians' standing in Arizona with respect to selected health objectives for the years 2010 and 2020,
- 3) a section presenting trend data for 2002-2012 for selected health problems and health risks comparing American Indians to Arizona's entire population,
- 4) a four-part section concerned with the characteristics of American Indian newborns and mothers giving birth,
- 5) a three-part section focused on patterns of cause-specific mortality among American Indians by age group, gender, and place of residence in Arizona in 2012. Beginning with the 2006 report, it also includes additional statistics on "Comparative Cause-Specific Mortality" focused on leading causes of death by gender and residence status on or off reservation, as well as patterns in cancer mortality and proportional mortality from specific unintentional injuries.

These sections are followed by the **Technical Notes**, which provide information about the sources of data and definitions of terms used in the report. The causes of death for 2002-2012 are classified by the Tenth Revision (ICD-10).