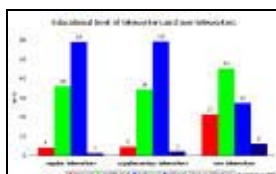




Goal 1: Human and Family Development

Desired Community Condition: Residents are literate and educated and engaged in the educational process.



Indicator: Education Achievement Level of Albuquerque Residents

Progress Rating: **Local Trend: POSITIVE** **National Comparison: BETTER**

Indicator Description

This indicator measures the educational achievement level of Albuquerque residents 25 years and older. The level of education is divided into seven categories; less than 9th grade, 9th to 12th grade-no diploma, high school graduate or equivalency, some college-no degree, Associate degree, Bachelor's degree, and graduate or professional degree.

Why is this indicator important?

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) undertook an extensive study to focus on the literacy skills of the nation's civilian labor force. They have shown the correlation between the education level attainment and literacy as determined using three scales: prose literacy, document literacy, and quantitative literacy. Prose literacy consists of the knowledge and skills needed to understand and use information from texts. Document literacy consists of the knowledge and skills required to locate and use information contained in materials that include job applications, payroll forms, maps, etc.. Quantitative literacy consists of the knowledge and skills required to apply arithmetic operations. Average mean proficiencies for the three categories for persons employed full time are as follows:

0-8 years: 172

9-12 years: 239

GED: 272

High school diploma: 275

Some postsecondary: 295

Two-year degree: 308

Four-year degree or higher: 331

This study showed that a 60-point increase in prose proficiency raised expected earnings \$3,131, or nearly 15 percent of mean annual earnings.

Data Sources

"Literacy in the Labor Force," U.S. Department of Education, Office of Education Research and Improvement, NCES 1999-470; American Community Survey

What can we tell from the data?

- There has been a 8.6% increase in the percent of Albuquerque residents who have attended college from 1990 to 2000 and a 12.4% decrease in the percent of residents who did not graduate from high school or receive a GED in the same time period.

- There has been a 12.0 % increase in the percent of residents who have attained a Bachelor's, Graduate or Professional degree from 1990 to 2000.
- Out of 69 major cities in the United States, Albuquerque ranks 13th for percent population ages 25 and older that are high school graduates (including equivalency) or higher and ranks 13th out of 69 for percent of people with a Bachelor's degree or more.

Albuquerque Residents' Education Level for Persons age 25 and Older

Education Level	1990	1990%	2000	2000%
Less than 9th Grade	14680	5.9	15695	5.4
9th of 12th Grade	25334	10.2	25346	8.7
High School Grad or GED	67148	27.0	70221	24.1
Some College	56839	22.9	70518	24.2
Associate Degree	13919	5.6	17070	5.9
Bachelor's Degree	41595	16.7	53562	18.4
Graduate or Professional Degree	29097	11.7	39073	13.4
Sample Size	248612		291485	

Percent Albuquerque Residents Attending College and Percent Less Than a High School Graduate or GED

