



Goal 1: Human and Family Development

Desired Community Condition: Residents are healthy and have access to health care, mental health care, and recreation.



Indicator: **Adult Residents Who Have Health Insurance Coverage**

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

Indicator Description

This is the percentage of Bernalillo County residents who reported having continuous medical insurance coverage in 1998 and 2001. Discontinuous health insurance coverage is counted as without coverage. This includes coverage from Medicaid, the Indian Health Service and conventional types of coverage, such as that offered through private insurers or employers. The reports were produced by the state of New Mexico Health Policy Commission.

Why is this indicator important?

Poor health care for its citizens presents a community with both human costs and economic costs. Healthy children learn and achieve more in school; healthy adults are more likely to be positive contributors to the social and economic aspects of the community; healthy seniors enrich the culture of a community and contribute to the economic health of the community.

Health coverage helps defray the costs of health care and for some individuals helps ensure that they have access to at least the most basic of health services. Mothers who lack health insurance are less likely to seek and obtain prenatal care. According to the Census Bureau, citizens of minority ethnicity, people in poverty, high school dropouts and young adults are less likely to have health insurance.

Data Sources

“New Mexico Health Care Coverage and Access Study 2002,” July 2003, State of New Mexico Health Policy Commission; “Health Care in New Mexico: Access, Financing, Delivery and Outcomes,” February 2000, New Mexico Health Policy Commission; “Health Insurance Coverage in the United States,” U.S. Census Bureau

What can we tell from the data?

- The percentage of adults in Bernalillo County with continuous health insurance increased from 80% to 84% from 1998 to 2001. Conversely, the percentage of adults in Bernalillo County without continuous health insurance coverage decreased from 20% to 16% in the same period.
- The percentage of adults with health insurance in Albuquerque is higher (84%) than the percentage of adults in the state of New Mexico (79%), but lower than the United States national rate (85%).

**Percentage of Residents without Health Insurance by State
Two Year Average 2001-2002**

Jurisdiction	Percent without Insurance
Arizona	17.4
Colorado	15.8
New Mexico	20.9
Texas	24.7
United States	14.9

Adults in Bernalillo County with and without Continuous Health Insurance Coverage

