



## Goal 1: Human and Family Development

**Desired Community Condition: Senior citizens live and function in optimal environments.**



### Indicator: **Self Assessed Personal Conditions of Senior Citizens by Age Groups**

**Progress Rating:**    **Local Trend:** STABLE    **National Comparison:** NOT KNOWN

#### Indicator Description

This indicator measures the self-assessed, personal conditions of seniors in Albuquerque and Bernalillo County, as reflected in large surveys of seniors conducted by the City and County in 2004 and 2001. Seniors were asked their level of agreement/disagreement with statements relating to their nourishment, mobility, educational interests, state of home repair, physical fitness, involvement in their community, degree of social life, their network of friends and family, and finally, receiving needed services. The samples of the survey were drawn from voting rolls, maintained by the Bernalillo County Clerk, and represented almost 71% of Bernalillo County seniors, aged 60 and over. Responses to the survey were broadly representative of County seniors by age, cultural identity, income, residence subarea, and age categories. This indicator also manifests the differences between seniors who participate in recreational and learning activities sponsored by the city and county from those who are aware and don't participate.

#### Why is this indicator important?

Senior citizens are major assets of any community. They are a living connection between past and future generations. They have time, experience, resources, knowledge, and maturity to contribute to the community. Yet, many seniors, due to complications in health, economic, social, and family issues, lose the ability or desire to participate and apply their assets.

#### Data Sources

Senior Needs Assessment Surveys by the City of Albuquerque Department of Senior Affairs and Office of Management and Budget, sponsored by the City of Albuquerque and Bernalillo County, 2004 and 2001

#### What can we tell from the data?

- Most seniors have overwhelmingly positive perspectives of their physical and social conditions, rating highly their nourishment, mobility, social life, physical fitness, and home repair conditions.
- Their involvement in their community is weaker than all the other outcomes tested.
- Despite the availability of many different kinds of services, many seniors don't feel that they are receiving needed services.
- Those availing themselves of recreational and learning opportunities, offered by the City and County, have significantly higher assessments of their personal conditions than those seniors who are aware of these services, but aren't currently using them.

| Senior Citizen<br>Self Assessed<br>Outcomes<br>by Age | 2004                 |                |                |                | 2001                    |                |                |              |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
|                                                       | Total<br>Sample      | 60-70<br>Years | 70-80<br>Years | >80<br>Years   | Total<br>Sample         | 60-70<br>Years | 70-80<br>Years | >80<br>Years |
| Mean                                                  | 5.0 = Strongly Agree | 4.0 = Agree    | 3.0 = Neutral  | 2.0 = Disagree | 1.0 = Strongly Disagree |                |                |              |
| I'm well-nourished                                    | 4.41                 | 4.43           | 4.43           | 4.3            | 4.41                    | 4.48           | 4.36           | 4.28         |
| I am mobile.                                          | 4.37                 | 4.53           | 4.35           | 3.99           | 4.37                    | 4.48           | 4.35           | 4.08         |
| Education & learning is an important part of my life. | 4.2                  | 4.36           | 4.16           | 3.81           | 4.14                    | 4.27           | 4.08           | 3.88         |
| My home is in good repair.                            | 4.17                 | 4.26           | 4.15           | 4.01           | 4.22                    | 4.29           | 4.16           | 4.12         |
| I have a strong network of family & friends.          | 4.19                 | 4.24           | 4.18           | 4.11           | 4.15                    | 4.23           | 4.07           | 4.06         |
| I live an appropriately active social life.           | 3.96                 | 4.11           | 3.97           | 3.53           | 4.03                    | 4.15           | 3.97           | 3.75         |
| I'm physically fit.                                   | 3.84                 | 4.02           | 3.88           | 3.28           | 3.86                    | 4.01           | 3.8            | 3.48         |
| I am involved in the community.                       | 3.41                 | 3.54           | 3.44           | 3.01           | 3.39                    | 3.58           | 3.25           | 3.08         |
| I am receiving needed services.                       | 3.46                 | 3.51           | 3.39           | 3.52           | 3.46                    | 3.48           | 3.41           | 3.5          |

#### Current Users vs Aware, Non Users Recreational and Learning Classes

The higher the mean, the stronger the agreement with the Outcome Statement.

Users of City and County sponsored recreational and learning classes and activities agree more strongly with these statements than those aware of the classes but not currently using them.

