

# 2015 KIDS COUNT

IN NEW MEXICO



NEW MEXICO  
**VOICES**  
FOR CHILDREN





NM Voices for Children 2012 Children's Charter:

# Our Vision for the Next Generation

1. All children and their families are economically secure.
2. All children and their families have a high-quality cradle-to-career system of care and education.
3. All children and their families have quality health care and supportive health programs.
4. All children and their families are free from discrimination based on race, ethnicity, religion, disability, gender, sexual orientation, or country of origin.
5. All children and their families live in safe and supportive communities.
6. All children and their families' interests and needs are adequately represented in all levels of government through effective civic participation and protection of voters' rights.
7. All children and their families' needs are a high priority in local, state, and federal budgets and benefit from a tax system that is fair, transparent, and that generates sufficient revenues.





## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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## The Race Toward

# EQUITY

for All Children

All children—regardless of social and economic status, race or ethnicity—should have the best possible shot at reaching their full potential. For children, the possibilities are limitless, but one’s potential is not achieved by accident. Every child needs the opportunities and support systems to reach their goals. Kids born into middle- and upper-income families are likely to have those opportunities and support systems. Children born into poverty are not. If we want poor children to thrive, to become the best people they can be, we must ensure that those opportunities and support systems are there for them too.

The data in the following pages tell the story of child well-being in New Mexico. For too many children, they tell a tale of struggle. The numbers show us where we stand and where we need to improve, and they serve as a tool and a resource for policy-makers, journalists, and advocates to ensure kids’ voices are heard. We invite readers to harness the power of data in the fight to improve the status of New Mexico’s kids and families.

### WHERE DO WE STAND? NEW MEXICO’S KIDS COUNT STORY

Each year, the Annie E. Casey Foundation’s national KIDS COUNT program ranks the 50 states in terms of child well-being. States are measured on 16 indicators

in four domains: economic well-being, education, health, and family and community. In 1995, New Mexico was ranked 40th among the states for child well-being, the best our state has ever fared. By 2009, we had dropped to 43rd. In 2013, for the first time ever, we were ranked last for child well-being. Currently, New Mexico ranks 49th among the states on overall child well-being.

This report shines a light on our ranking, indicator by indicator, shows how the data in each area have changed over time, takes a look at how counties, tribal areas, school districts, and racial and ethnic groups fare in the indicators measured, and recommends some proven steps we can take to improve our kids’ and our state’s futures.

Too many in New Mexico have become complacent about our state's poor standings, but enough is enough. We must focus on making improvements. Our kids are not all right, and we can and must do better by them. Our future depends on it—but we must make the necessary investments today. In order to improve child well-being in New Mexico and guarantee our state's future success, we must make children a priority, champion racial and ethnic equity, and focus on implementing two-generation solutions that simultaneously bolster kids and their families.

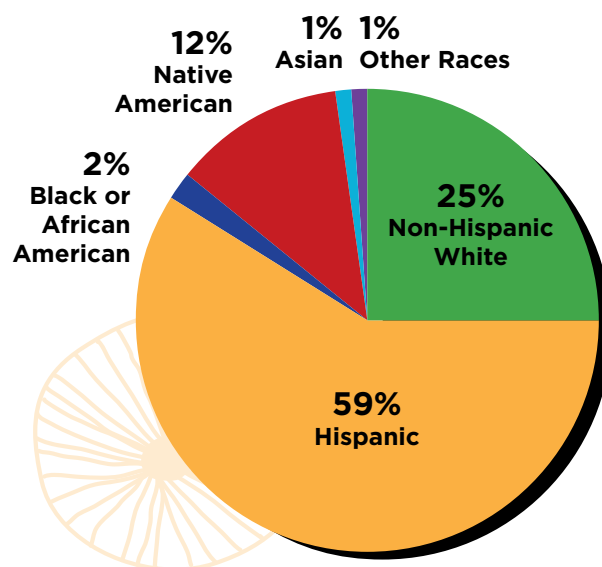
## WHAT CAN WE DO? PUT CHILDREN FIRST

Too often and for too long, we have treated children as lesser priorities in policy decisions. Many fiscal policies are targeted towards businesses to the detriment of other priorities. When it comes to children, some lawmakers take a wait-and-see attitude, as though childhood can be put on hold until other priorities have been met. But we can no longer afford to wait for good fortune to trickle down to our kids. New Mexico's children—the state's future generations—are in crisis now. We must put kids first in all policy decisions.

Children's chances of being healthy, doing well in school, and growing up to be productive and contributing members of society are tied to their experiences in the early years—from before birth up through age five. And in New Mexico, too many young children do not always get enough to eat, go without the kind of early childhood care and education that will put them on the path to success, and are held back by the consequences of living in poverty. Nearly one-third of our children live at or below the poverty level (just \$24,250 for a family of four) and New Mexico now has the highest rate of child poverty in the nation.

There is an undeniable correlation between poverty and poor outcomes in health and education, and there is no doubt that many aspects of poverty—chronic stress, familial instability, and the lack of economic security, among them—have long-lasting and powerful effects on children, the impacts of which continue into adulthood. By the same measure, growing up in positive, secure environments is linked to improved health and education outcomes, and is key to successful community and economic development. Knowing this, we cannot afford to allow nearly a third

## CHILD POPULATION BY RACE/ ETHNICITY (2014)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Tables B01001 and B01001 B, C, D, E, F, G, H, and I

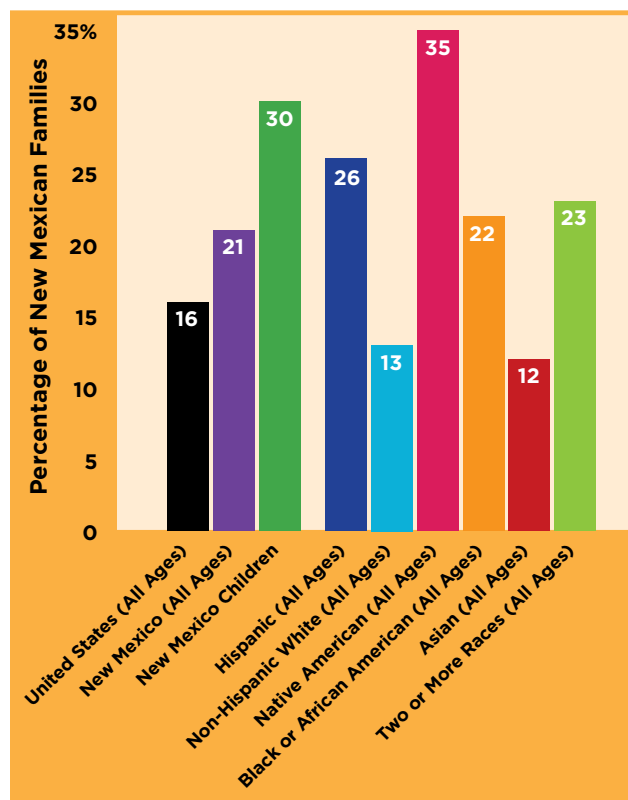
of our children to face such adversity and possibly fail to meet their full potential. Their future and ours depend too much upon it.

Luckily, we know what works. High-quality early childhood programs like home visiting, child care, and pre-K lead to improved child well-being and are linked to significant long-term improvements for children and savings for states. So first and foremost, we must invest more in high-quality early childhood programs now. Every year that we fail to invest enough money to serve all vulnerable children means more kids who are likely to enter school unprepared to learn.

We also need to align these programs with public education, sufficiently fund K-12 education, and support community schools and school-based health centers. We also know that when parents are better educated, their children do better in school and life, so we need to make college affordable and put more adults on career pathways to improve their employability. And in order to ensure that those children with the fewest resources can still pursue their dreams, we need to invest in programs that target improvements towards low-income, and racial and ethnic minority families and children.



## NEW MEXICANS LIVING IN POVERTY BY AGE AND RACE/ETHNICITY (2014)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S1701

## SUPPORT RACIAL AND ETHNIC EQUITY

Laying the foundation for a prosperous future for our state requires us to ensure that we adequately prepare all of our children to become thriving, contributing members of our communities. In order to do this, we have to acknowledge that too often, children of color may face more hurdles to success, and we must act deliberately to close racial and ethnic equity gaps.

No matter where they live in New Mexico, no matter how much their parents earn, and no matter the color of their skin, all of New Mexico's children should have access to opportunities to succeed. But equality of opportunity is not something that just happens: it is a product of systems, policies, and programs that work together to create an atmosphere and foundation for people to have an equal chance to participate in and strive for success in society. Disparities are also no accident. They come about because of structural forces that erect and maintain persistent, pervasive barriers to opportunities.

All across the nation children of color are lagging behind in economic well-being, education, and health outcomes. Racial and ethnic disparities exist in nearly every indicator of child well-being. Children of color are more likely to live in poverty and in high-poverty areas, and are less likely to live in two-parent families than white children. They are more likely to be born at a low birthweight and less likely to have access to high-quality early education. Early health, economic, and learning disadvantages contribute to lower percentages of children of color who are proficient in reading and math, graduate from high school, attend college, and earn advanced degrees.

Perhaps nowhere in the United States is racial and ethnic equity an issue of greater importance than in New Mexico where these severe and increasing disparities—especially among children—are particularly worrisome. While whites make up the majority population in most states and in the nation overall, New Mexico is a minority-majority state, with just 40 percent of our population identifying as non-Hispanic white. Among children, that demographic reality is even more pronounced: 75 percent of New Mexico's children are racial or ethnic minorities. With racial and ethnic minorities such a significant proportion of our population, the economic and social price of letting any group fall behind is high and—as demographics become increasingly more diverse—will only continue to grow.

In order to better understand and address racial and ethnic inequity, we need to collect and analyze data along racial and ethnic lines and use it to inform policies and decision making. In order to see the greatest positive impact on children of color, we need to direct policy solutions and investments towards communities, areas, or districts with high percentages of children of color. In order to ensure we're receiving the greatest return on our investments, we must implement and continue to invest in proven, evidence-based programs that are inclusive of and focused on improving outcomes for children of color.

## EXPAND EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES AND IMPLEMENT TWO-GENERATION SOLUTIONS

Parents are also plagued by the disparities that run along racial and ethnic lines. Research shows that a child's well-being is strongly tied to his or her





family's stability and resources, and so in addition to championing policies that are best for New Mexico's kids, policy-makers should also promote strategies that increase the strength of New Mexico parents and families. Any programs that seek to improve child outcomes should be coordinated with services that address the needs of parents. What's known as a "two-generation approach" is critical.

Though life can be hectic for all families, low-income families often tread a precarious line between stability and financial crisis. A sick child can mean lost work and wages for low-income parents. Living in substandard housing or high-poverty neighborhoods can put the health and safety of them and their children at risk. High-quality early care is generally out of the question on their limited wages, and this cost, plus their often chaotic work schedule, means their children may bounce between family, friends and unlicensed care centers. A job loss or a major expense like a car repair can drive them into homelessness. Low-income families of color face additional structural barriers, such as lower wages, fewer job opportunities, higher interest rates, and more.

The state's high poverty rate—over 21 percent—is one of New Mexico's most challenging problems. While most other states have recovered from the recession, New Mexico's economic recovery has flat-lined. Just as our state cannot thrive when so many of our families are struggling economically, children cannot thrive when they face stressors and adverse experiences that negatively affect their brain development, long-term health, and socio-emotional well-being.

However, there are common-sense solutions to our economic problems and to the crisis that our kids and families are facing. To be most effective, these solutions should include a deliberate and coordinated two-generational approach. The state's child care assistance program is one that would benefit from such an approach. It was created as a work support for parents, so little emphasis was put on ensuring that children receive the highest-quality experience possible, which would help prepare them for success in school. Greatly increasing the quality of care—which would require greater funding—would result in a program that had much broader benefits not just for the families it serves but for the state as a whole.

Other income, wage, and work-support programs help provide practical pathways out of poverty for entire families. Tax credits for low-income parents such as the Earned Income Tax Credit and New Mexico's Working Families Tax Credit boost the incomes of working families, helping them afford basic necessities as well as large expenses such as job training programs or a car repair. These credits are proven programs that reward work and lift tens of thousands of New Mexico kids and families out of poverty each year. Career pathways, job training, and apprenticeship programs also support families by helping parents develop the tools and skills they need to succeed. In turn, better-educated parents tend to raise better-educated children. Paid family, maternity, and sick leave options for workers as well as family-friendly scheduling help working parents take care of children in times of need without the threat of losing employment and a secure source of income for their families. Home visiting services model healthy parenting practices and help connect families with community resources—benefiting both the parents and the children in the families that receive these services.

## CONCLUSION

In the following pages, you'll find more information on how New Mexico's children and families fare in the 16 KIDS COUNT indicators. In tracking outcomes, we show differences across races, ethnicities, and counties, note some encouraging signs as well as outcomes that continue to be discouraging, and outline some proven policy steps that can lead to improvements.

All children should have access to the opportunities and resources they need to reach their full potential. By investing in New Mexico kids and families, we can make our communities, our economy, and our state stronger. We're all in this together, and investing in New Mexico kids is not just the right and the moral thing to do—it is also the smartest course of action to guarantee our state's future success.

## Economic Well-Being: CHILDREN IN POVERTY\*



“Evidence suggests that the lack of opportunities that are associated with poverty and low socio-economic status may have particularly long-lasting and powerful effects on children that can last into adulthood.”

### THE EXTENT OF THE PROBLEM

New Mexico’s future economic success and the quality of our future workforce is determined, in large part, by what sorts of opportunities our children have today. Children who live in poverty—there are 146,000 in New Mexico—have fewer opportunities to help them thrive, succeed, and achieve their full potential. Evidence suggests that the lack of opportunities that are associated with poverty and low socio-economic status may have particularly long-lasting and powerful effects on children that can last into adulthood. Childhood poverty is linked to a variety of health, cognitive, and emotional risk factors, and children in poverty are more likely to be food insecure, to suffer from adverse childhood experiences like abuse and homelessness, and to live in poverty as adults.



### TRACKING CHANGE IN 2015

Though the number of children in poverty and the child poverty rate—at 30 percent—decreased slightly from 2013 to 2014, New Mexico now has the highest rate in the nation. Child poverty rates are particularly high among Hispanic and Native-American children. Overall, New Mexico has seen its child poverty get significantly worse over time. Some 38,000 more kids live in poverty now than at the start of the recession in 2008—a 29 percent increase. While most other states have recovered from the recession, New Mexico’s economic recovery has flat-lined. In addition to a slow economic recovery, income inequality has worsened over time, and the state has seen few policy improvements to address this issue.

\*Poverty is defined as an income below \$23,850 for a family of two adults and two children in 2014.

\*\*Estimates for other races and ethnicities suppressed because the confidence interval around the percentage is greater than or equal to 10 percentage points.

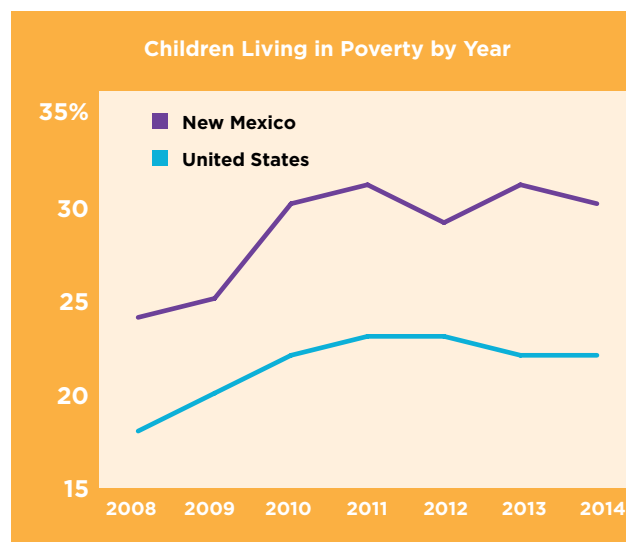
Trend Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C17001

Race/Ethnicity Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C17001

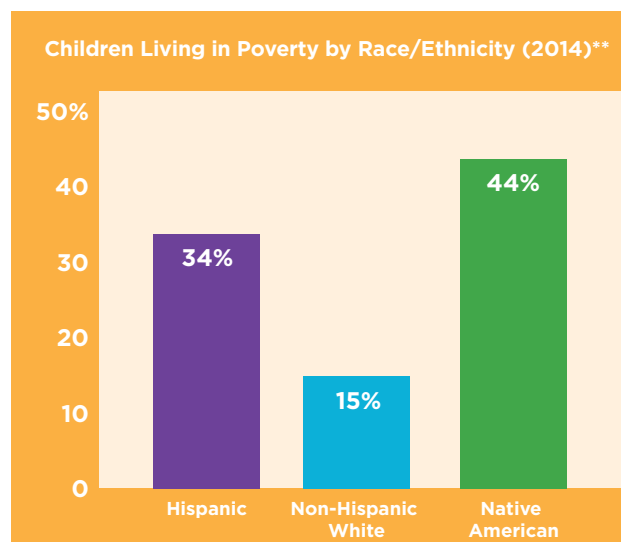
Ranking Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, 2013



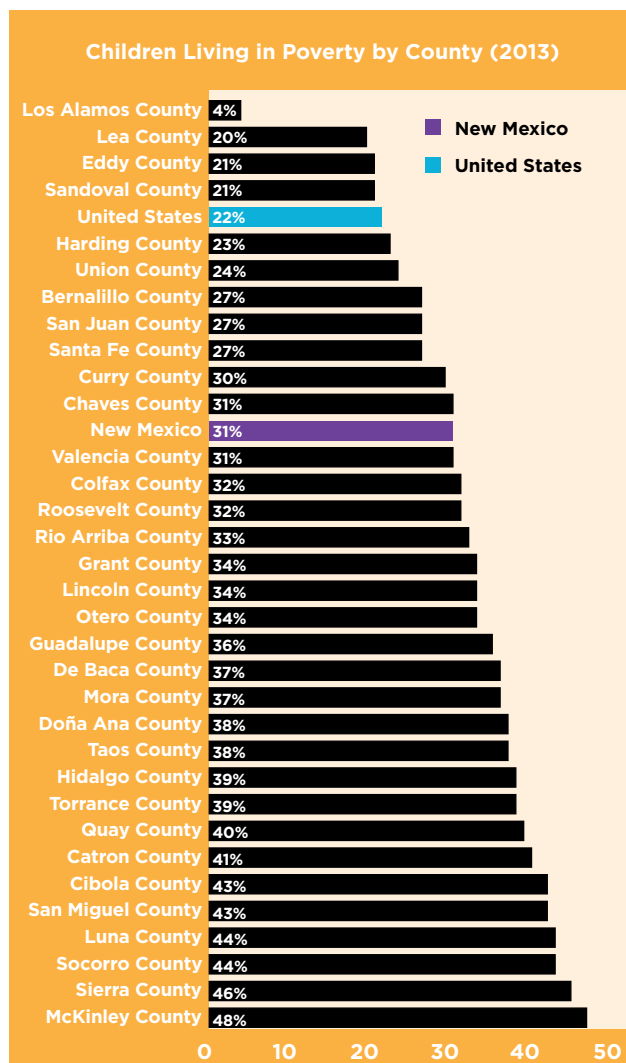
## TRENDS



## RACE/ETHNICITY



## RANKINGS



## POLICY SOLUTIONS FOR NEW MEXICO

- **Support two-generation approaches** to improve coordination of health, education, housing and food programs for both parents and children.
- **Restore eligibility levels for child care assistance** to 200 percent of the federal poverty level.
- **Raise the state's minimum wage** and index it to rise with inflation.
- **Increase refundable tax credits** like the Working Families Tax Credit (WFTC) and the Low Income Comprehensive Tax Rebate (LICTR), and enact a more progressive income tax system so low-income families do not bear a disproportionate responsibility for state programs.
- **Protect SNAP benefits** (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) from ill-considered eligibility changes or work requirements so New Mexico children who rely on these benefits do not go hungry.
- **Enact tougher restrictions on predatory loans** (payday, car title loans, etc.), which can trap poor and low-income families in an endless cycle of increasing debt.
- **Enact responsible economic development incentives** that are contingent on proving job and wage benefits before incentives are claimed.



## Economic Well-Being: PARENTS WITHOUT SECURE EMPLOYMENT



“More than one-third of New Mexico’s children live in families where no parent has secure (meaning full-time and year-round) employment, with Hispanic and Native-American children most likely to be at risk.”

### THE EXTENT OF THE PROBLEM

More than one-third of New Mexico’s children live in families where no parent has secure (meaning full-time and year-round) employment, with Hispanic and Native-American children most likely to be at risk. Parents who lack secure employment may be employed part time or seasonally because there aren’t enough jobs available (New Mexico has the highest rate of long-term unemployment, or residents who are persistent in looking for work). Other parents may not have the education or skills to qualify for the jobs that are available. These parents are more likely to be in poverty and less likely to have access to jobs that pay a living wage or provide benefits such as health insurance and sick leave, which hurts both them and their families.

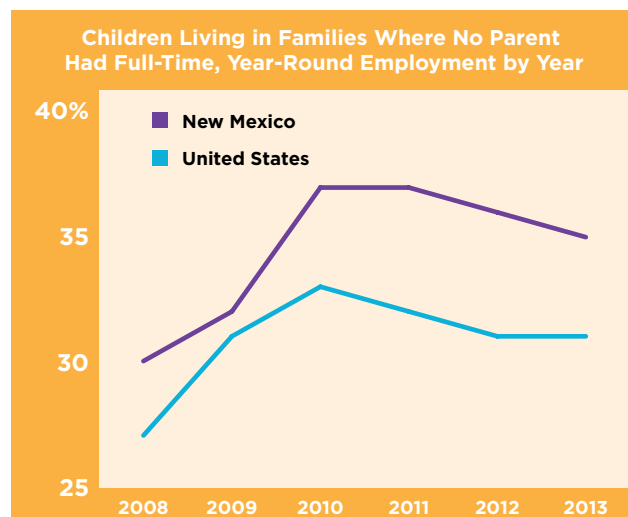


### TRACKING CHANGE IN 2015

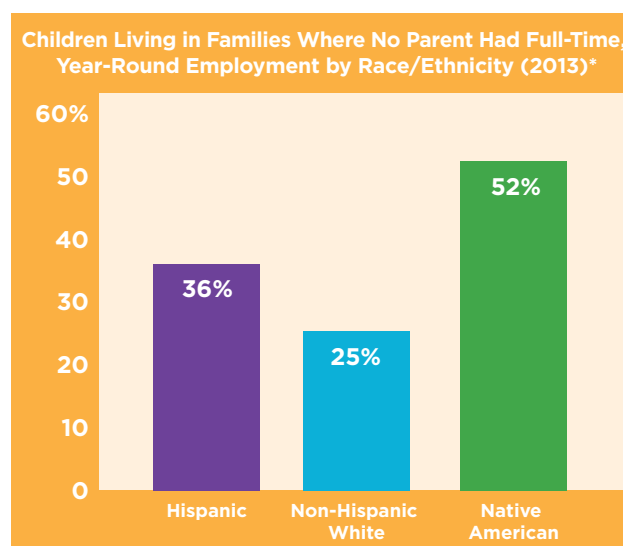
Though New Mexico saw a slight improvement from 2012 to 2013, the state is still ranked 46th nationally on this indicator, and has actually seen a 17 percent increase since 2008 in the number of kids living in families where no parent has secure employment. Parents need affordable child care in order to work. Unfortunately, the Children, Youth and Families Department recently implemented cost-savings measures that contributed to a decline in child care enrollment, which led, in part, to a funding cut of nearly \$1 million in the 2015 legislative session. On the flip side, changes mandated by the federal Child Care Development Block Grant may lead to improvements for many New Mexico families, such as 12-month eligibility. Another positive for families without secure employment is an increase in funding for adult basic education services. While the state recently received a large federal grant to improve health career pathways, the grant is temporary and does not address New Mexico’s need for long-term investment in improving career pathways.



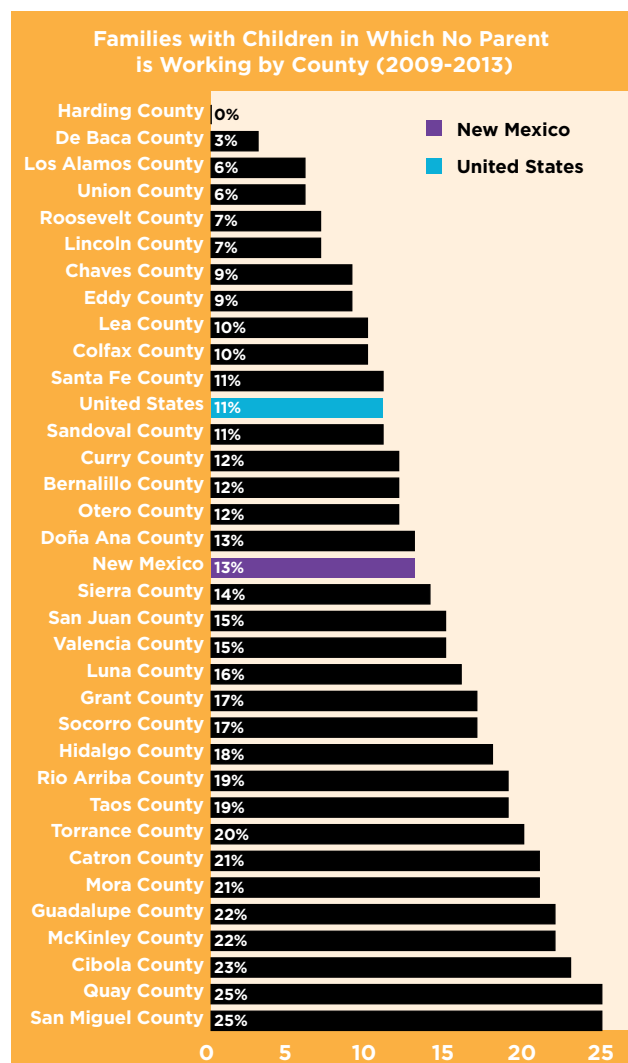
## TRENDS



## RACE/ETHNICITY



## RANKINGS



## POLICY SOLUTIONS FOR NEW MEXICO

- **Restore eligibility levels for child care assistance** to 200 percent of the federal poverty level.
- **Protect unemployment insurance and reinstate benefits** for child dependents to help tide over families during a rough economic patch. Before the recession, those receiving unemployment benefits got a small additional benefit for each dependent child, but this support was cut in 2011.
- **Enact targeted economic development initiatives** that require accountability for tax breaks to corporations so that tax benefits are only received if corporations create quality jobs. Tax breaks that do not create jobs should be repealed so the state can invest more money in support services for our children.
- **Expand access** to high school equivalency, adult basic education (ABE), job training, and career pathways programs.

**Note:** The denominators for trends, race/ethnicity, and county rankings are different. The denominator for trends and race/ethnicity is children, whereas the denominator for county rankings is families with children.

\*Estimates for other races and ethnicities suppressed because the confidence interval around the percentage is greater than or equal to 10 percentage points.

Trend Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013

Race/Ethnicity Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013

Ranking Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2009-2013, Table B23007

## Economic Well-Being: High Housing Cost Burden\*



“High housing cost burdens can push families into substandard housing, and mean that many families have little to spend on food, health services, utilities, and early childhood care and education.

### THE EXTENT OF THE PROBLEM

A third of New Mexico kids live in households that have a high housing cost burden, which means their families spend 30 percent or more of their income on housing. The rate is even higher among Hispanic children (38 percent) and low-income children (55 percent). High housing cost burdens can push families into substandard housing, and mean that many families have little to spend on food, health services, utilities, and early childhood care and education. Substandard housing units are also more likely to be hazardous, in unsafe areas, or pose health risks (such as radon leaks, mold, or asbestos) for the families living in them.



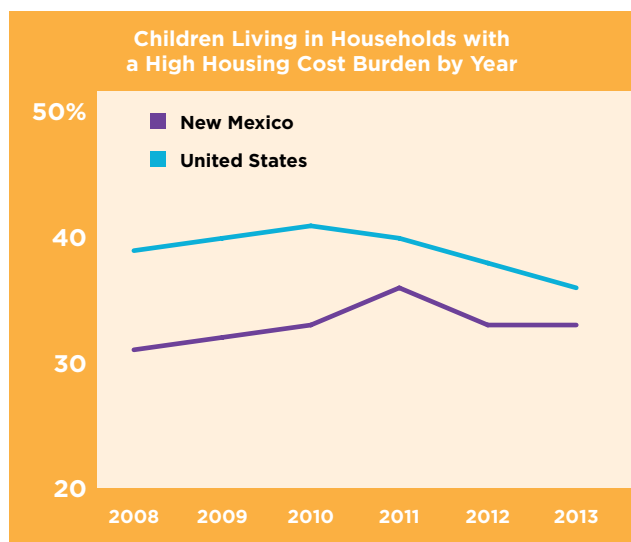
### TRACKING CHANGE IN 2015

The number of children living in households with a high housing cost burden—169,000 in 2013—has seen no real change over time. New Mexico is ranked 29th among the states in this indicator. As no major legislative action has been taken recently to address this issue, it is unlikely that New Mexico will see improvements in this indicator any time in the near future.

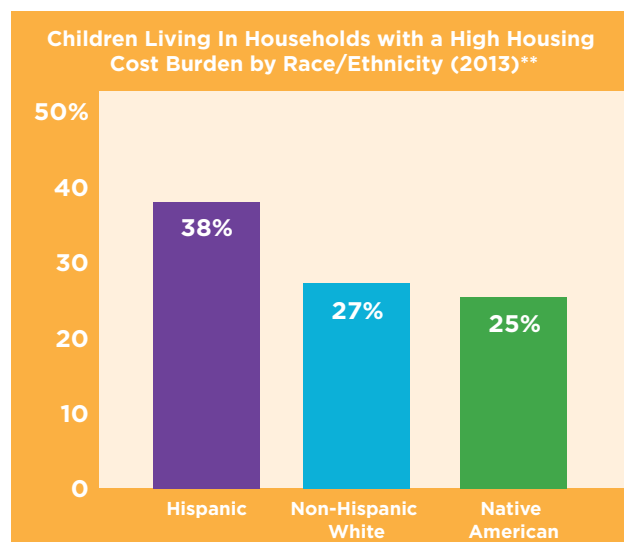




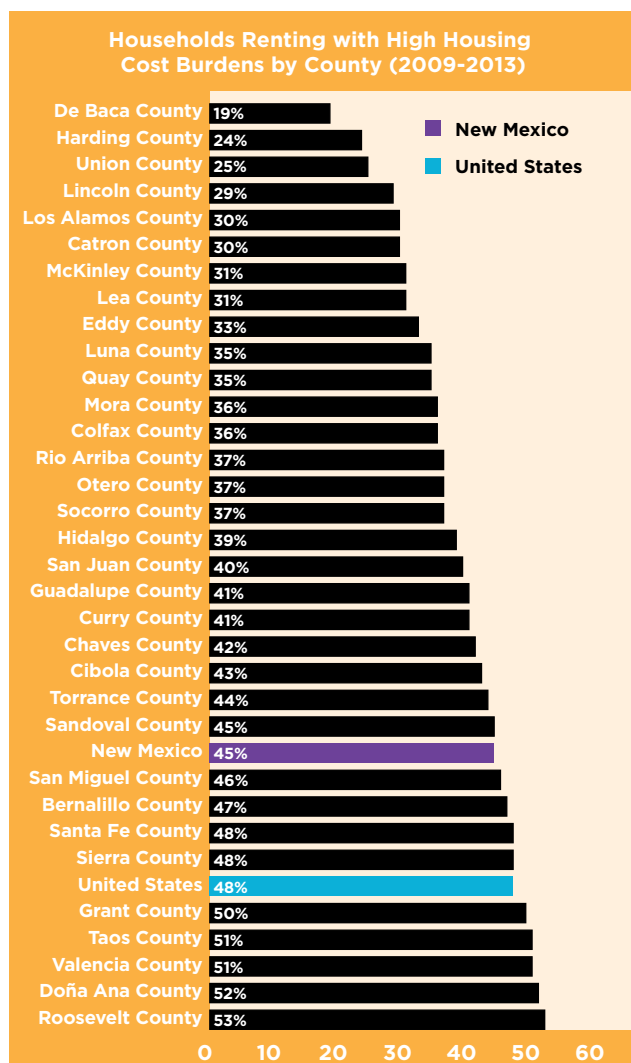
## TRENDS



## RACE/ETHNICITY



## RANKINGS



## POLICY SOLUTIONS FOR NEW MEXICO

- **Increase funding for the Housing Trust Fund** so more quality housing for low- and moderate-income families can be built providing more children with stable, safe homes.
- **Save the Home Loan Protection Act from repeal or reduction** to protect more families from predatory lending practices that can lead to home foreclosure.
- **Enact a rate cap of 36% APR** (including fees) on all lending products so that families are not caught in cycles of increasing debt and can save for home purchases.

\*Families that spend more than 30 percent of their income on housing are considered to have a high housing cost burden.

\*\*Estimates for other races and ethnicities suppressed because the confidence interval around the percentage is greater than or equal to 10 percentage points.

Trend Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013, 1-year microdata

Race/Ethnicity Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013

Ranking Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2009-2013, Table B25070

## Economic Well-Being: DISCONNECTED YOUTH



“The 2014 passage of a bill to waive tuition at New Mexico colleges and universities for youth aging out of foster care may contribute to continued improvement of this indicator, but more needs to be done.”

### THE EXTENT OF THE PROBLEM

Nine percent of New Mexico's teens (ages 16-19) are not in school and not working (often referred to as “disconnected”). These disconnected youth tend to be racial and ethnic minorities and low income. Disconnected teens are at risk for poor health and economic outcomes as adults, they have less access to comprehensive health care (including mental health services), and are more likely to miss out on social and emotional supports that can increase their chances of economic success and overall well-being.

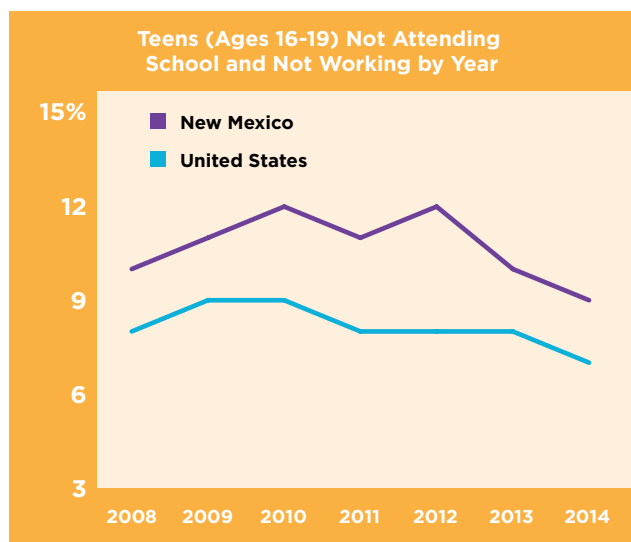


### TRACKING CHANGE IN 2015

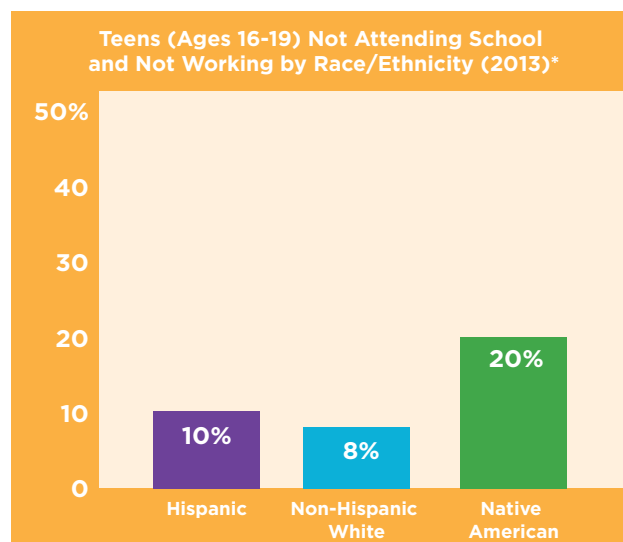
Though New Mexico is ranked 40th among the states on the percentage of teens (ages 16-19) who are not in school and not working, we have seen significant improvements on this indicator over time and have finally dropped below pre-recession levels. In 2012, 15,000 or 12 percent of teens were disconnected, but 2014 saw 5,000 fewer teens disconnected for an overall rate of 9 percent. The 2014 passage of a bill to waive tuition at New Mexico colleges and universities for youth aging out of foster care may contribute to continued improvement of this indicator, but more needs to be done.



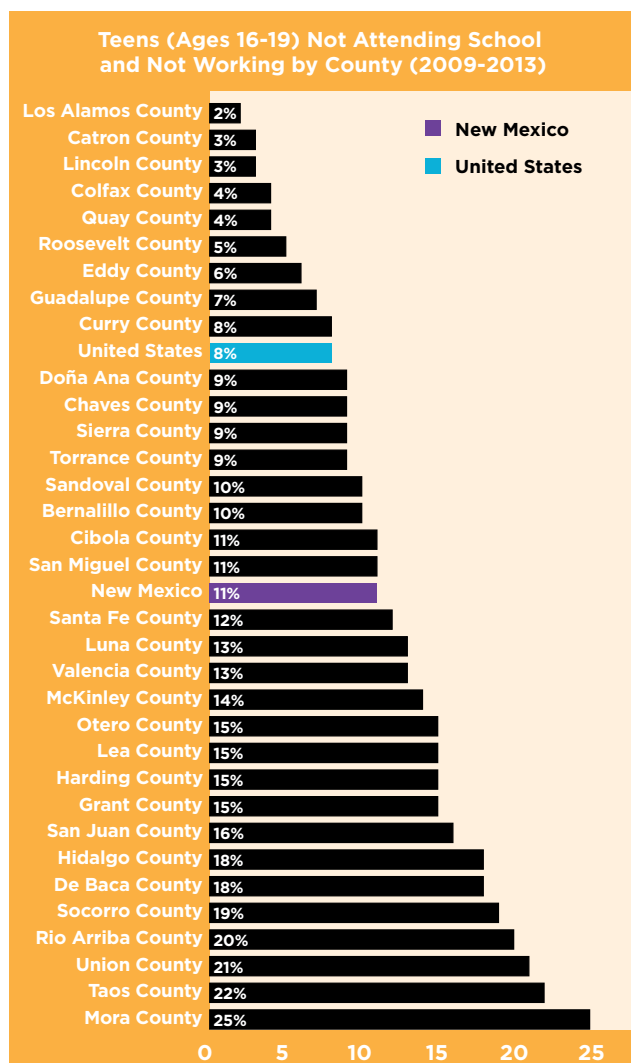
## TRENDS



## RACE/ETHNICITY



## RANKINGS



## POLICY SOLUTIONS FOR NEW MEXICO

- **Enact initiatives to lower the cost of college—** such as making the lottery scholarship need based, restoring the College Affordability Fund, and lowering interest rates for student loans—to preserve financial aid for those otherwise unable to attend college. Crushing student debt reduces the likelihood that students will earn degrees and is a national crisis.
- **Develop a state youth employment strategy** using a career pathways approach—which includes business, non-profits, government, school districts and higher education—to help identify and provide support for disconnected youth, link funding to accountability and meaningful outcomes, and create incentives. Such a model should focus on low- and moderate-skill workers to boost their employability and opportunities for knowledge acquisition through higher education.

\*Estimates for other races and ethnicities suppressed because the confidence interval around the percentage is greater than or equal to 10 percentage points.

Trend Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B14005

Race/Ethnicity Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013

Ranking Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2009-2013, Table B14005



## Education: PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT



“It’s during the first five years of a child’s life when 90 percent of the architecture of the brain is developed.”

### THE EXTENT OF THE PROBLEM

Children’s chances of doing well in school and growing up to be productive and contributing members of society are tied to their experiences in the early years. It’s during the first five years of a child’s life when 90 percent of the architecture of the brain is developed. Research shows that safe, secure, nurturing, and non-stressful environments during the first five years are essential to the positive development and healthy growth that will set children up for success later in school and life.

High quality early childhood programs like home visiting, child care, and pre-K lead to improved child well-being and are linked to significant improvements in educational and life outcomes for children, which means significant savings for states. Yet, only 41 percent of our 3- and 4-year-olds attended some form of preschool in 2014, with rates even lower among children of color and low-income children.

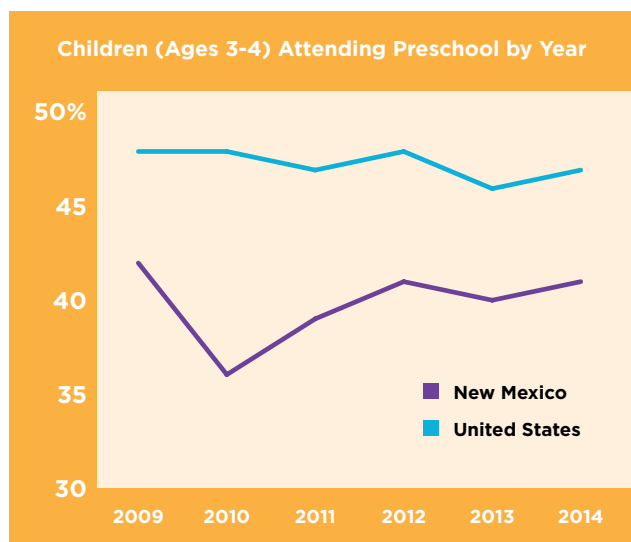


### TRACKING CHANGE IN 2015

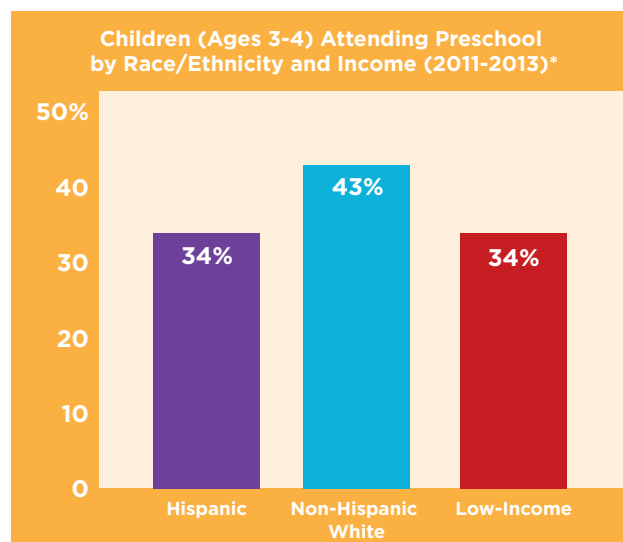
Between 2013 and 2014, the percent of children being served by early childhood programs increased very slightly, though the number has not changed over the long term, and is actually lower than it was in 2009. Continual expansions to the NM Pre-K and K-3 Plus programs mean that more children are able to attend pre-K and receive K-3 Plus services each year, but cuts to the child care assistance program mean fewer children are eligible for the child care assistance subsidies that help low-income working parents afford child care. Research and public opinion clearly support the need for expanded early childhood programs, and while policy-makers have made improvements and increases in some areas, those increases do not reach very young children and are not sufficient to adequately address the pressing needs in this policy area.



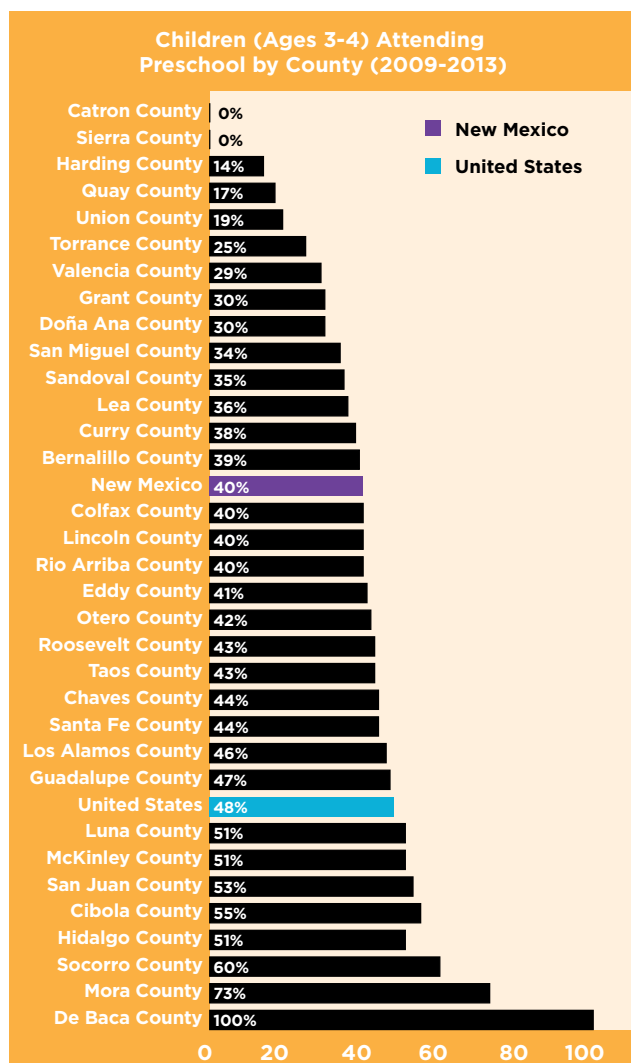
## TRENDS



## RACE/ETHNICITY



## RANKINGS



## POLICY SOLUTIONS FOR NEW MEXICO

- **Increase spending on high-quality home visiting/parent coaching.**
- **Increase general fund spending for early care and learning services** and pass a constitutional amendment to support these programs with a small percentage of the income generated from the state's Land Grant Permanent Fund.
- **Increase spending on high-quality pre-K** so it is available to all 4-year-olds.
- **Restore eligibility for child care assistance** to its pre-recession level so more low-income families and their children can be served.
- **Increase funding for child care** to incentivize and adequately compensate for quality.
- **Increase training, technical assistance, compensation, and retention incentives** for early learning providers.
- **Increase funding for the Family Infant Toddler (FIT) program.**

\*Estimates for other races and ethnicities suppressed because the confidence interval around the percentage is greater than or equal to 10 percentage points. "Low-income" children in this measure are those in families living below 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL).

Trend Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1-year estimates from 2009 to 2014, Table B14003

Race/Ethnicity Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2011-2013

Ranking Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2009-2013, Table B14003

# Education: READING AND MATH PROFICIENCY

“Children who cannot read proficiently will fall further and further behind as reading-based curricula move increasingly out of their reach. In fact, kids who are not reading at grade level by this critical point are more likely to drop out of school and less likely to go to college.”

## THE EXTENT OF THE PROBLEM

Reading proficiency is a crucial element of scholastic success, but in New Mexico, 77 percent of our children are not proficient in reading by the fourth grade. Children need to be able to read proficiently by fourth grade in order to be able to use their reading skills to learn other school subjects. Children who cannot read proficiently will fall further and further behind as reading-based curricula move increasingly out of their reach. In fact, kids who are not reading at grade level by this critical point are more likely to drop out of school and less likely to go to college. As has been the case in the past, boys, children of color, and low-income children have lower rates of fourth grade reading proficiency than the state average.

The 79 percent of New Mexico eighth graders who are behind in math also face risks: they lack the required skills to do well in high school and college math courses. As more and more jobs in today's increasingly high-tech work environment depend on science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) skills, students not proficient in math are at a real disadvantage. Girls, children of color, and low-income children are even more at risk of falling behind because they have lower proficiency rates than the state average on this indicator.



## TRACKING CHANGE IN 2015

Though the state still performs slightly worse in the percentage of fourth graders who score below proficient on reading than it did in 2007, this indicator has improved since 2009. Increases in funding will hopefully contribute to continued improvements. On the legislative front, \$2.5 million in new funding was appropriated for K-3 Plus in 2015, with \$1.5 million of the total going to serve an estimated 1,000 more children, and \$540,000 in new funding was appropriated for the early reading initiative.

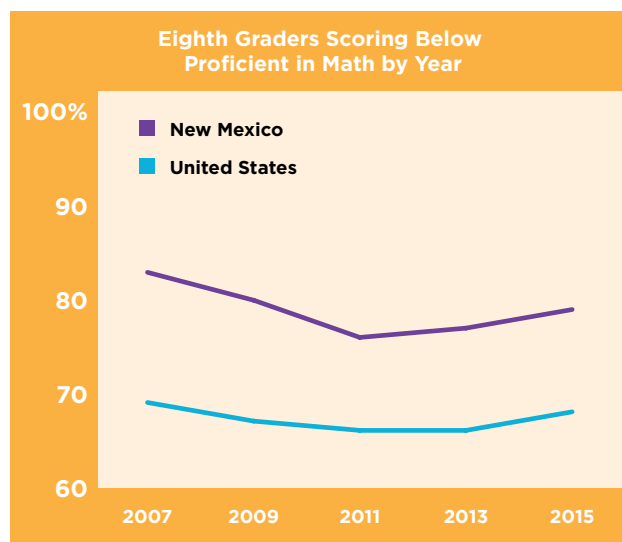
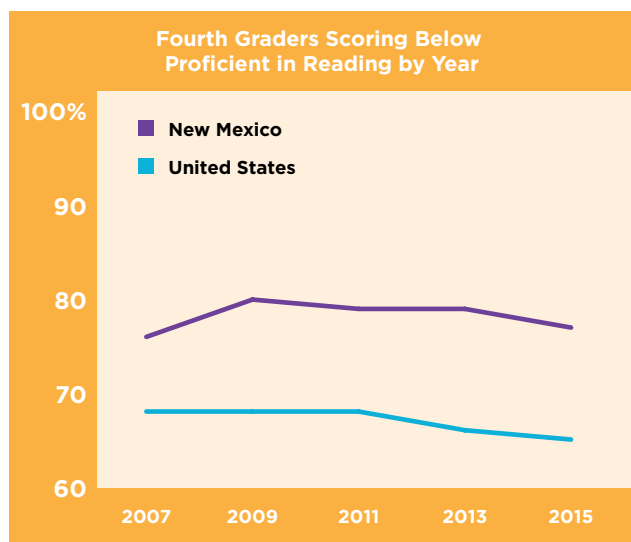
When it comes to eighth grade math proficiency, the percentage of students who are proficient has decreased slightly since 2013 (the last time this indicator was measured), but has improved over the long-term. Unfortunately, funding for after-school and summer enrichment programs, which could help with both reading and math proficiency, was essentially flat in 2015.

## POLICY SOLUTIONS FOR NEW MEXICO

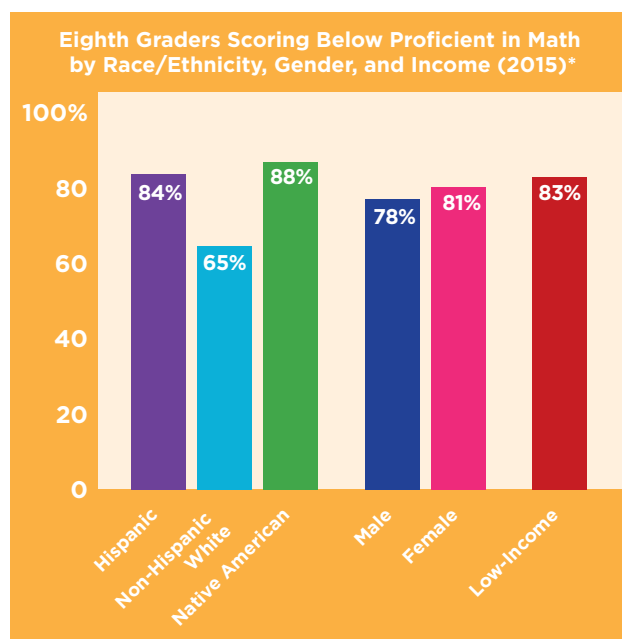
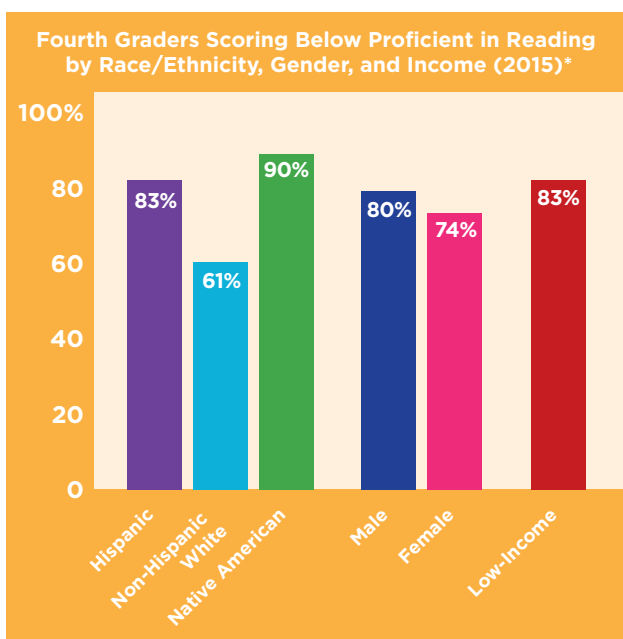
- **Expand high-quality early childhood care and education services** to help prepare children for school and increase the likelihood they will reach grade-level benchmarks on time.
- **Increase K-12 per-pupil funding** to help schools decrease over-crowding in classrooms, provide needed resources, and mitigate the problems associated with poverty.
- **Expand funding for K-3 Plus** so more low-income students have the additional quality instructional time they need to bring them up to grade level.
- **Expand K-3 Plus to a K-8 Plus program** because children in low-income families still need extra supports beyond third grade.
- **Expand quality before- and after-school, mentorship, and tutoring programs** to provide added academic assistance to low-income and low-performing students, or those whose parents may not be able to help them with their homework.
- **Increase the availability of reading coaches** and support evidence-based reading initiatives.
- **Provide math coaches and professional development for math teachers.**



## TRENDS



## RACE/ETHNICITY



\*Estimates for other races and ethnicities suppressed because the confidence interval around the percentage is greater than or equal to 10 percentage points. "Low-income" students in this measure are those who are eligible for free/reduced-price school lunches.

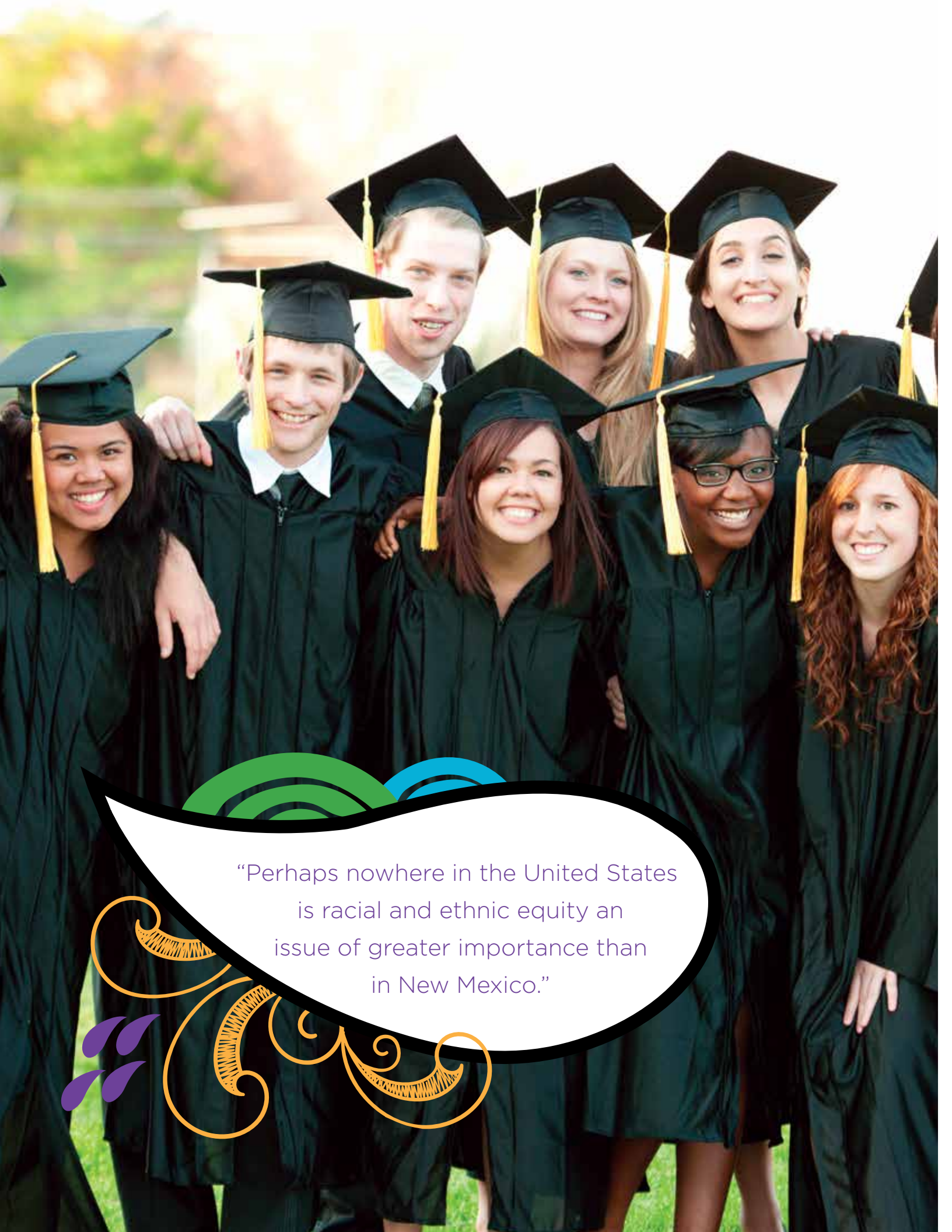
4th Grade Trends Source: National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

4th Grade Race/Ethnicity Source: National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), 2015

8th Grade Trends Source: National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

8th Grade Race/Ethnicity Source: National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), 2015

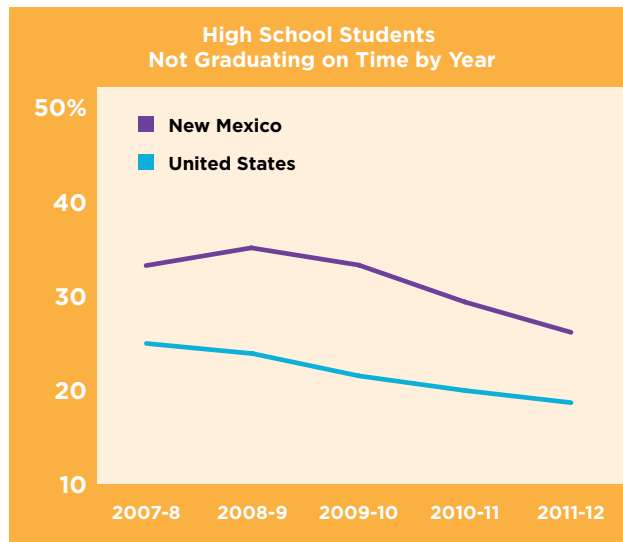




“Perhaps nowhere in the United States  
is racial and ethnic equity an  
issue of greater importance than  
in New Mexico.”

# Education: HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

## TRENDS



## THE EXTENT OF THE PROBLEM

More than 25 percent of New Mexico's student do not graduate on time\*—meaning four years after entering high school as freshmen. Rates are better than average among Asian American high-schoolers in New Mexico (10 percent do not graduate on time), but worse than average among Hispanics (27 percent), Native Americans (29 percent), and African Americans (32 percent). New Mexico is ranked 45th among the states on this indicator, which is concerning because students who don't graduate on time are more likely to drop out, less likely to go on to college, and more likely to be unemployed or employed in low paying jobs.

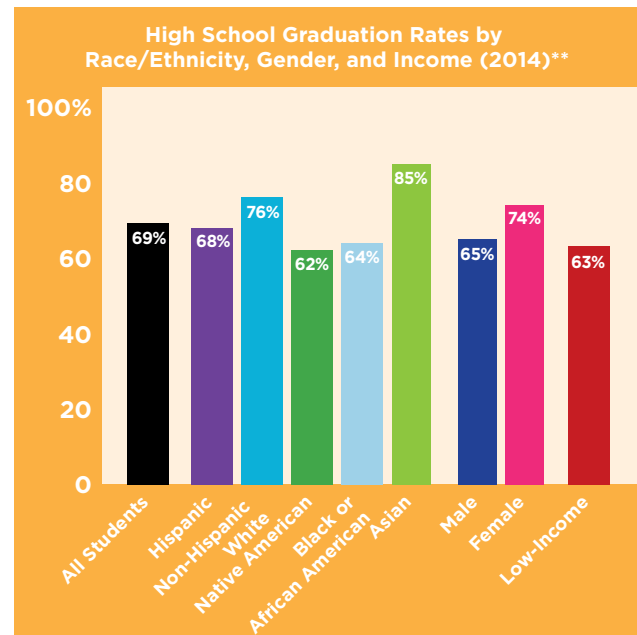


## TRACKING CHANGE IN 2015

Following a nationwide trend, the percentage of New Mexico students not graduating on time improved significantly from the 2007-2008 school year to the 2011-2012 school year (the last year data were reported for this indicator). Though New Mexico ranks poorly among the states on this measure, we have improved by 21 percentage points since 2007-2008.

During the recession, New Mexico made some of the deepest cuts in the nation in K-12 per-pupil spending. So while K-12 spending was increased overall by \$36.6 million in the 2015 legislative session, this represents an increase of less than 1 percent and leaves us still below pre-recession per-pupil spending levels when adjusted for inflation.

## RACE/ETHNICITY



## POLICY SOLUTIONS FOR NEW MEXICO

- **Provide more school counselors.**
- **Identify students in ninth grade who require additional learning time** and provide free summer school, after-school, and online learning opportunities.
- **Provide relevant learning opportunities** through service learning and dual credit parity to better prepare students for career or college.
- **Provide professional development** for teachers on the use of technology.
- **Support dropout recovery programs.**
- **Provide support for vulnerable students** (those experiencing homelessness, who are incarcerated, need special education, are English language learners, etc.) who are at risk for dropping out.
- **Increase funding for evidence-based teen pregnancy prevention programs.**
- **Assure support for community schools**, which provide students with services shown to increase academic performance—school-based health centers, quality before- and after-school programming, service learning, and classes for parents.

\*The percentage of students not graduating on time is not the same as the percentage of students who drop out. Some of these students will still graduate after attending summer school, for example, or with the next graduating class.

\*\*\*"Low-income" students in this measure are those who are eligible for the National School Lunch Program.

Trend Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of data from the U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data (CCD)

Race/Ethnicity Source: NM Public Education Department, 4-Year Cohort Graduation Rates, 2014

## Health: LOW BIRTH-WEIGHT BABIES



“Mothers who give birth to low birth-weight babies are more likely to live in poverty, give birth at a young age, smoke, use drugs or alcohol during pregnancy, receive late or no prenatal care, and not have enough to eat during pregnancy.”

### THE EXTENT OF THE PROBLEM

In 2014, 8.8 percent of New Mexico babies were born at a low birth-weight (weighing 5.5 pounds or less), ranking us 43rd in the nation on this indicator. Rates of low birth-weight babies in New Mexico are highest among African Americans (17 percent, an increase from 2013), and Asians and Pacific Islanders (10 percent each). Babies born at a low birth-weight are at greater risk for developmental delays, disabilities, chronic conditions, and early death. Mothers who give birth to low birth-weight babies are more likely to live in poverty, give birth at a young age, smoke, use drugs or alcohol during pregnancy, receive late or no prenatal care, and not have enough to eat during pregnancy.



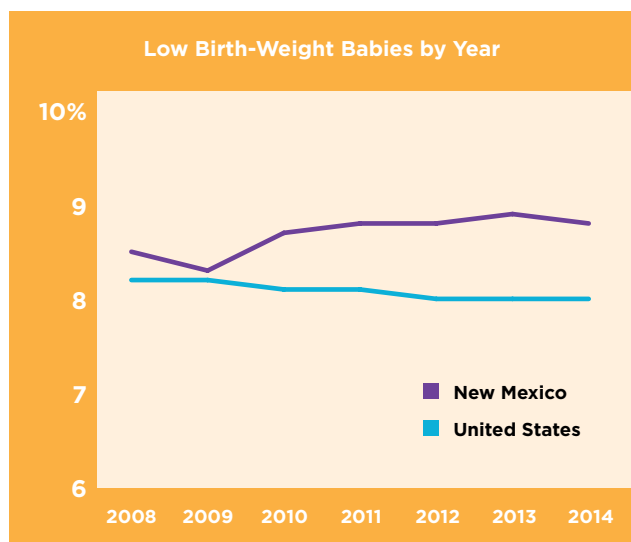
### TRACKING CHANGE IN 2015

Though New Mexico saw a slight improvement in our rate of low birth-weight babies from 2013 to 2014, our rate has increased since 2008. This goes against the national trend of improved well-being in this indicator. Policy solutions directed toward increasing prenatal care and coaching for pregnant mothers (especially those at highest risk of having low birth-weight babies) are crucial to making progress in this area. Unfortunately, in the 2015 legislative session, no new state funding was directed to expanding these programs.

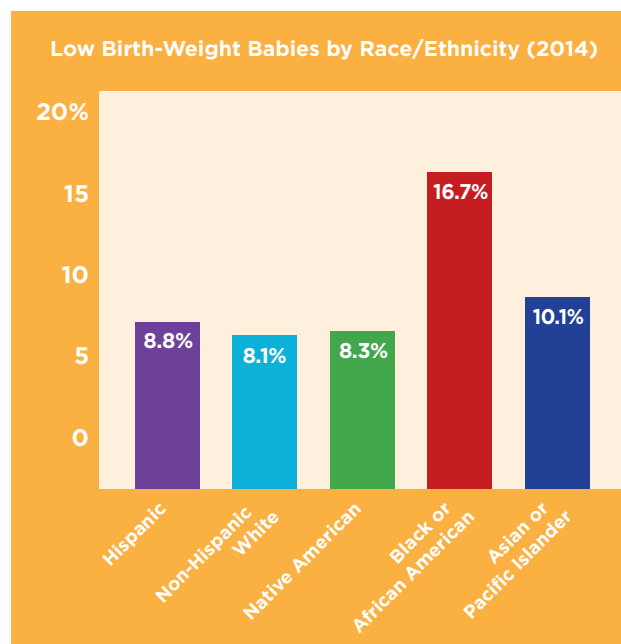




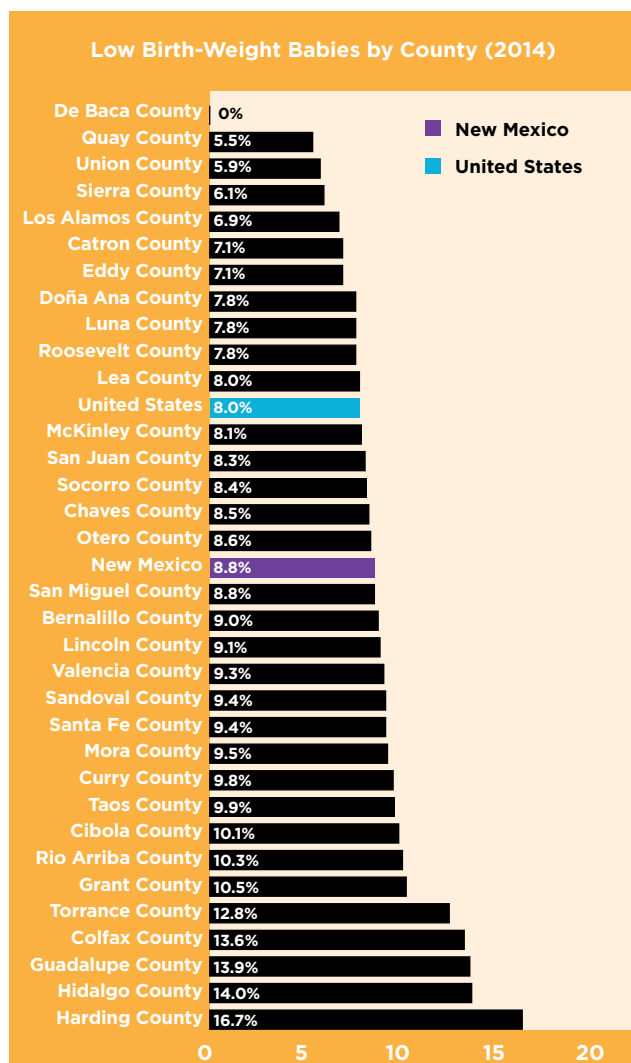
## TRENDS



## RACE/ETHNICITY



## RANKINGS



## POLICY SOLUTIONS FOR NEW MEXICO

- **Expand outreach to pregnant women** to enroll them in Medicaid early in their pregnancy so more prospective mothers get full-term pre-natal care that can help prevent low birth-weight. In New Mexico, from 50 to 70 percent of all births are covered by Medicaid, so this policy can have a major impact.
- **Provide adequate funding for more programs for new parents**, including home visiting programs that begin prenatally, so more women can be served during their pregnancy.
- **Expand and fully fund health and nutrition programs for pregnant teens.**
- **Support the creation of and funding for county and tribal health councils** in order to better integrate health care with social, emotional, behavioral, and cognitive development for young children.

Trend Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), National Vital Statistics Reports

Race/Ethnicity Source: New Mexico Department of Public Health, Indicator-Based Information System for Public Health (IBIS); retrieved November 20, 2015 from <http://ibis.health.state.nm.us>

Ranking Source: New Mexico Department of Public Health, Indicator-Based Information System for Public Health (IBIS); retrieved November 20, 2015 from <http://ibis.health.state.nm.us>



## Health: CHILDREN WITHOUT HEALTH INSURANCE



“Though New Mexico still ranks worse than the national average on this indicator, New Mexico has seen some of the biggest improvements in the nation in the percentage of the population without health insurance, thanks to the expansion of Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act (ACA).”

### THE EXTENT OF THE PROBLEM

New Mexico children face some major challenges, but ensuring that they have health insurance and access to preventive care can help address a number of these other issues that can threaten children's health and well-being. The 7 percent of New Mexico children without health insurance are less likely to get well-baby and well-child visits, less likely to receive immunizations, and more likely to have untreated developmental delays and chronic conditions that can hinder healthy growth and learning. Native-American children in New Mexico, with uninsured rates around 11 percent, are at the greatest risk of being uninsured.

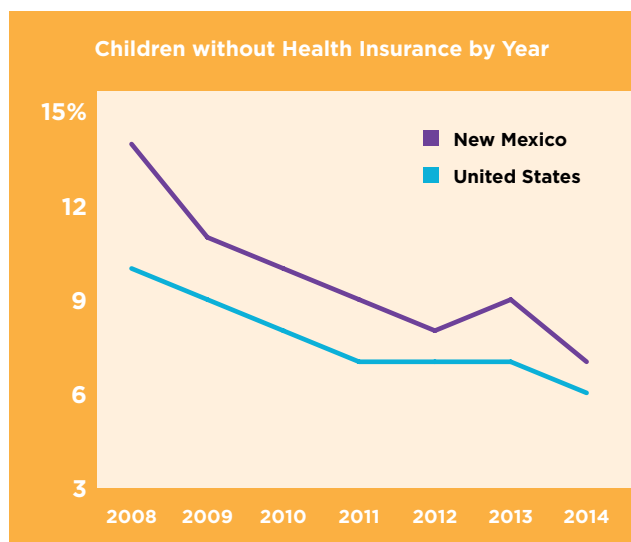


### TRACKING CHANGE IN 2015

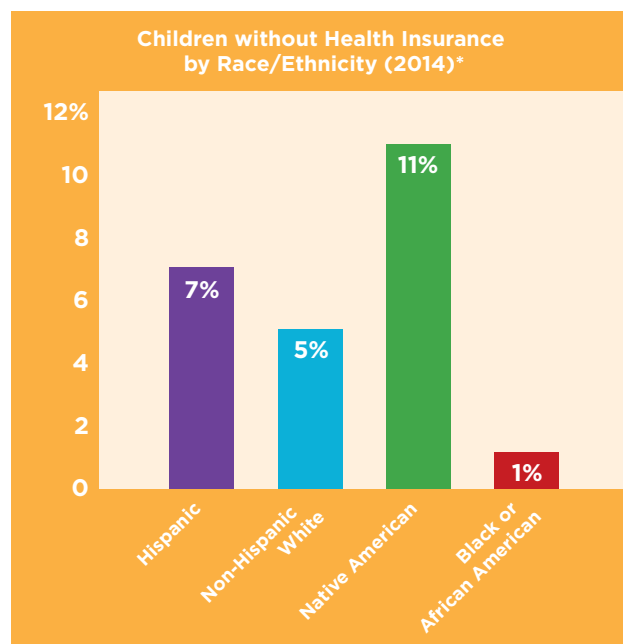
From 2008 to 2014, the percentage of children without health insurance dropped from 14 percent to 7 percent. Though New Mexico still ranks worse than the national average on this indicator, New Mexico has seen some of the biggest improvements in the nation in the percentage of the population without health insurance, thanks to the expansion of Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act (ACA). While New Mexico still needs to make many improvements that would simplify and expand enrollment in Medicaid, enrollment under the ACA has still exceeded expectations in the state.



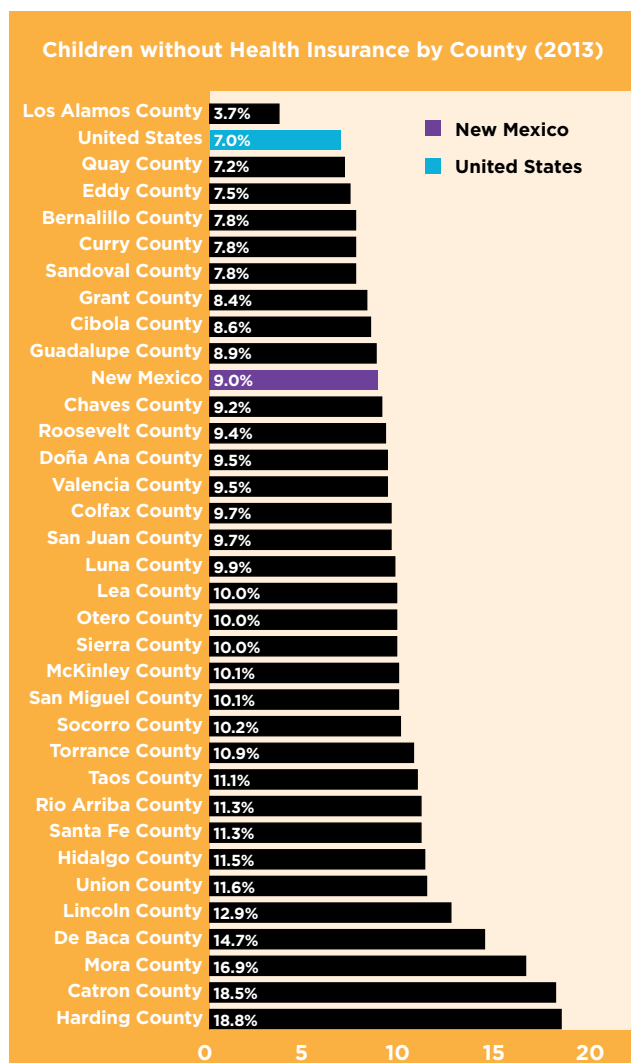
## TRENDS



## RACE/ETHNICITY



## RANKINGS



## POLICY SOLUTIONS FOR NEW MEXICO

- **Restore outreach and enrollment programs for Medicaid** for children to help cover those who are eligible for Medicaid but still not enrolled.
- **Integrate the health insurance marketplace with Medicaid** so there is “no wrong door” for enrollment to help low-income parents who are getting coverage for themselves enroll their Medicaid-eligible children at the same time.
- **Simplify the Medicaid enrollment and recertification process** for children, and enact express-lane enrollment, which would help the state identify eligible children using information from other programs like Head Start and SNAP (food stamps).
- **Reauthorize and continue to fully fund the Children’s Health Insurance Program**, a federal supplement to Medicaid that insures 8 million children nationwide.

\*Estimates for other races and ethnicities suppressed because the confidence interval around the percentage is greater than or equal to 10 percentage points.

Trend Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Surveys from 2008 to 2014, Table C27001

Race/Ethnicity Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 American Community Survey, Table C27001 (B,C,D,E,G,H,I)

Ranking Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Health Insurance Estimates, 2013

# Health: CHILD AND TEEN DEATH RATES\*



## THE EXTENT OF THE PROBLEM

New Mexico's child and teen death rate is 28 deaths per 100,000 children aged 1 to 19. This is slightly worse than the U.S. average rate of 24 per 100,000, and ranks New Mexico 33rd among the states on this measure. Rates among Native-American children in New Mexico (at 38 per 100,000) are significantly higher than the state and national averages on this indicator. Most youth deaths are preventable and caused by accidents, homicide, or suicide. Ensuring that New Mexico children and teens live in safe, supportive homes and communities and have access to safe public spaces and to a full range of physical and mental health care services can help improve rates in this area.



## TRACKING CHANGE IN 2015

New Mexico's child and teen death rate decreased by 30 percent from 2008 to 2013, following a national trend of gradual improvement in this indicator. One factor that may contribute to this is that vehicle safety standards continue to improve, and so fewer and fewer youths are dying in car accidents. Virtually no advances in gun safety, on the other hand, have been made. New Mexico's persistently high rates of youth suicide and child abuse mean that much more work needs to be done in order to address the child and teen death rate in the state.

\*Child death rates are the number of deaths per 100,000 children ages 1 to 14 years old. Teen death rates are the number of deaths per 100,000 children ages 15 to 19 years old.

\*\*Estimates for other races and ethnicities suppressed because the confidence interval around the percentage is greater than or equal to 10 percentage points.

\*\*\*The following counties had child death rates of zero: Catron, Cibola, Colfax, De Baca, Guadalupe, Harding, Hidalgo, Lincoln, Los Alamos, Mora, Otero, Quay, San Miguel, Sierra, Socorro, Taos, Torrance, and Union. The following counties had teen death rates of zero: Catron, Colfax, De Baca, Guadalupe, Harding, Hidalgo, Lincoln, Los Alamos, Luna, Mora, Socorro, and Torrance.

Trend Source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, Multiple Causes of Death Public Use Files for 2005-2013

Race/Ethnicity Source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, Multiple Causes of Death Public Use Files for 2005-2013

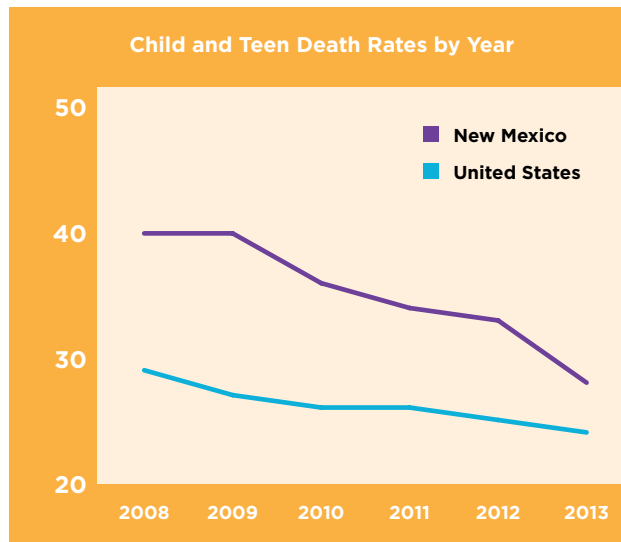
Ranking Source: New Mexico Department of Public Health, Indicator-Based Information System for Public Health (IBIS); retrieved November 20, 2015 from <http://ibis.health.state.nm.us>

## POLICY SOLUTIONS FOR NEW MEXICO

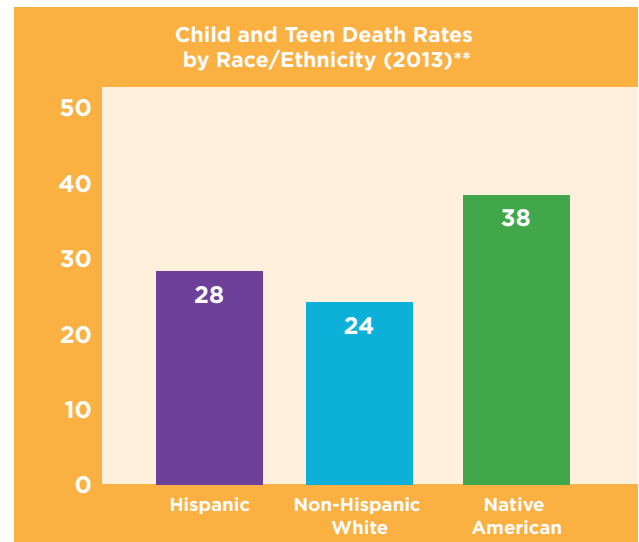
- **Support and expand quality home visiting** for families identified as high-risk for child abuse and neglect in order to help improve social and physical outcomes for infants and young children.
- **Expand funding for suicide prevention programs** to provide youth with supportive adults, strategies to cope with difficult situations, and a sense of hope.
- **Enact gun safety laws** to limit unauthorized child access to guns.
- **Adequately fund evidence-based child abuse prevention programs** and strengthen the Children, Youth and Families Department's role in prevention.
- **Increase funding for child protective services** in order to increase staff and reduce caseloads.
- **Create a citizen oversight or review board** for all CYFD child abuse cases that result in death.



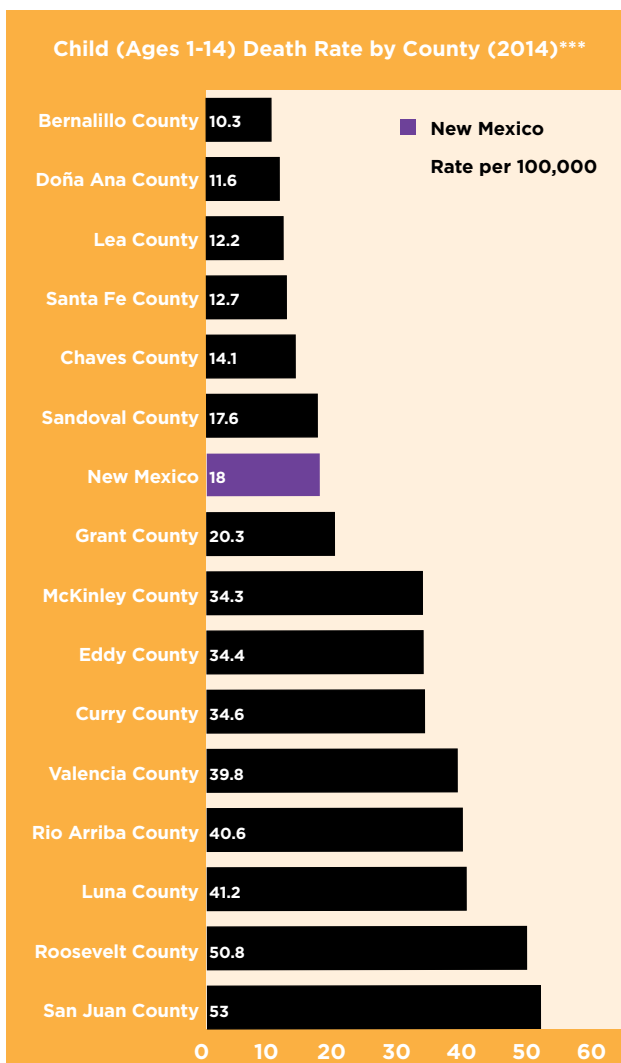
## TRENDS



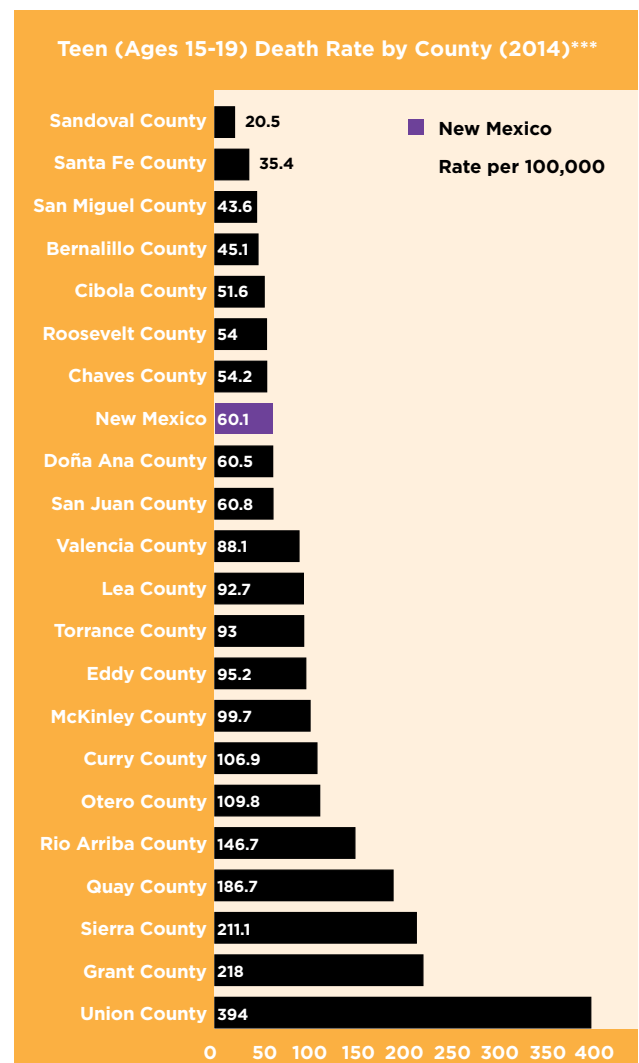
## RACE/ETHNICITY



## RANKINGS



## RANKINGS





## Health: TEEN ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE



“Teens who abuse alcohol or drugs are more likely to be convicted of a crime, drive under the influence, do poorly in school, drop out of school, or become teen parents.”

### THE EXTENT OF THE PROBLEM

Approximately 12,000 or 7 percent of New Mexico teens ages 12 to 17 abused drugs or alcohol from 2012 to 2013. This is slightly higher than the national average of 6 percent. Teen alcohol and drug abuse is associated with increased risks in a number of other areas. Teens who abuse alcohol or drugs are more likely to be convicted of a crime, drive under the influence, do poorly in school, drop out of school, or become teen parents. Alcohol and drug abuse can also lead to mental and physical health issues, the effects of which may carry over into adulthood.

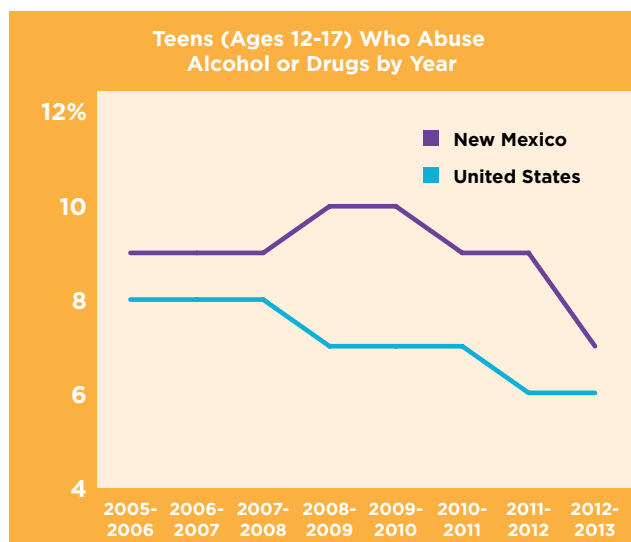


### TRACKING CHANGE IN 2015

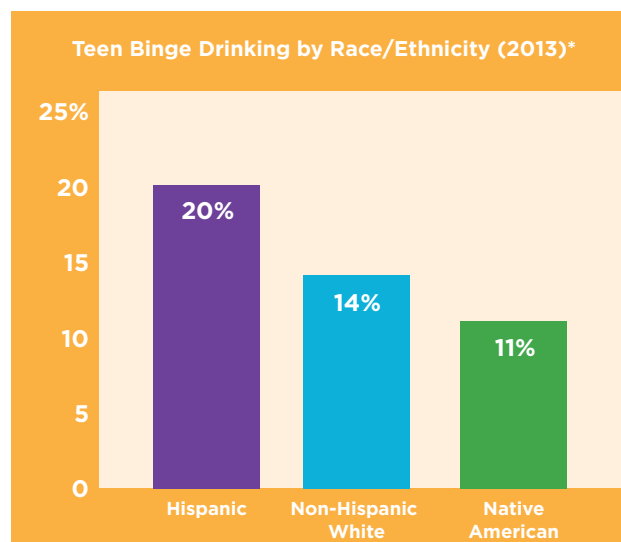
The number of teens abusing alcohol or drugs has improved in recent years from 10 percent in 2008-2009 to 7 percent in 2012-2013. This means that 5,000 fewer New Mexico teens are abusing alcohol and drugs than were in 2008-2009. However, New Mexico is still ranked 44th among the states on this indicator, so there is much room for improvement. Unfortunately, legislation that would allow treatment instead of incarceration for drug and alcohol offenses failed during the 2015 legislative session, and no new funding was appropriated to expand mental health programs for children, youth, and families. On a positive note, legislation was passed to reconvene the J. Paul Taylor Task Force, which is comprised of organizations all over the state that are working together to focus on and develop recommendations for coordinating behavioral health services for children.



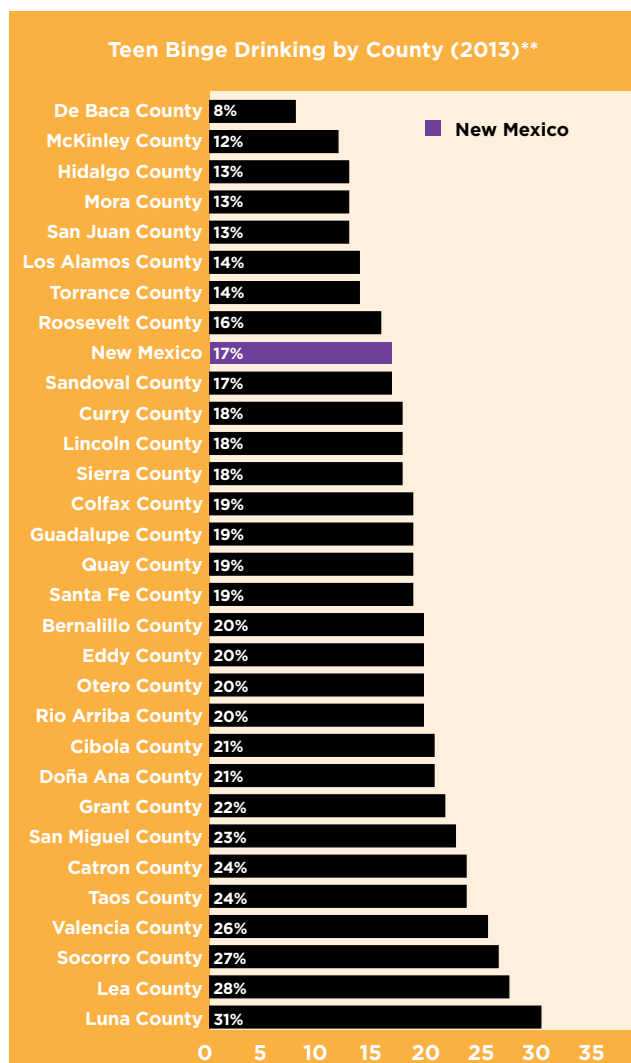
## TRENDS



## RACE/ETHNICITY



## RANKINGS



## POLICY SOLUTIONS FOR NEW MEXICO

- **Expand funding and support for school-based health centers (SBHCs)** so students have access to physical and mental health services they might not otherwise get, including confidential and developmentally appropriate behavioral health services in a safe, accessible place.
- **Support the creation of and funding for county and tribal health councils** in order to better reach young people who are attempting to self-medicate an untreated mental health problem with alcohol.
- **Fund drug and alcohol rehabilitation services for youth**, especially at an early intervention stage—as opposed to incarcerating youth for alcohol-related offenses—to help prevent further problems and reduce high rates of recidivism.

\*Binge drinking is different from overall drug and alcohol abuse and is defined as having had five or more drinks of alcohol in a row, within a couple of hours, on one or more of the 30 days prior to taking the YRRS.

\*\*Chaves, Harding, and Union counties are not listed because no data were available.

Trend Source: National Survey on Drug Use and Health 2005-06 to 2012-2013, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Race/Ethnicity Source: New Mexico Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey (YRRS), 2013

Ranking Source: New Mexico Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey (YRRS), 2013

## Family and Community: CHILDREN IN SINGLE-PARENT FAMILIES



“This long-term worsening of the rate of New Mexico children living in single-parent families mirrors a national trend, though it is particularly problematic in New Mexico because so many of our children already live in poverty, are food insecure, and face many educational and health challenges.”

### THE EXTENT OF THE PROBLEM

Forty one percent of New Mexico children live with a single parent. New Mexico’s rate is much higher than the national average of 35 percent, and it ranks us 48th among the states on this measure. Single-parent families tend to have lower incomes than do two-parent households, and may not have access to employer-sponsored benefits like health insurance and paid days off. These parents (who are often single mothers) may have to work two jobs or overtime hours just to provide basic necessities for their families, and may have trouble affording enriching experiences for their children like high-quality child care, which costs more than college tuition in New Mexico. Though there are times when children are better off without a problem parent in the household, children in single-parent families often have less access to emotional and economic resources than do children in two-parent families. Children of color fare worse on this indicator, with 46 percent of the state’s Hispanic children and 65 percent of Native-American children in New Mexico living in single-parent families.

\*Estimates for other races and ethnicities suppressed because the confidence interval around the percentage is greater than or equal to 10 percentage points.

Trend Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Surveys, 2008 through 2014, Table B09002

Race/Ethnicity Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey Supplementary Survey data from 2005 through 2013

Ranking Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2009-2013, Table B09002

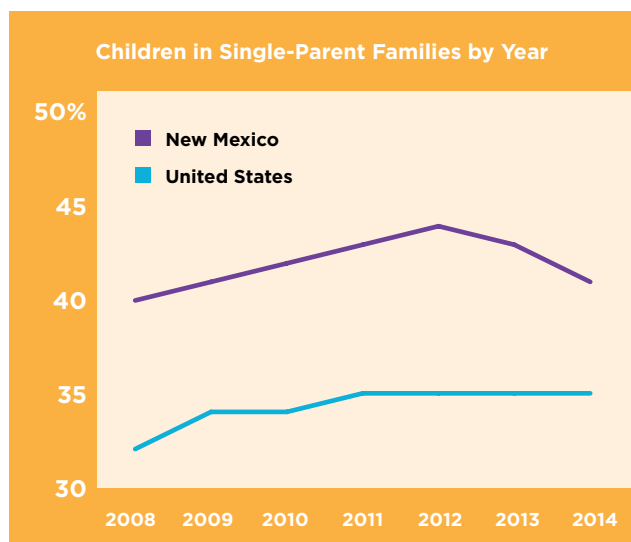


### TRACKING CHANGE IN 2015

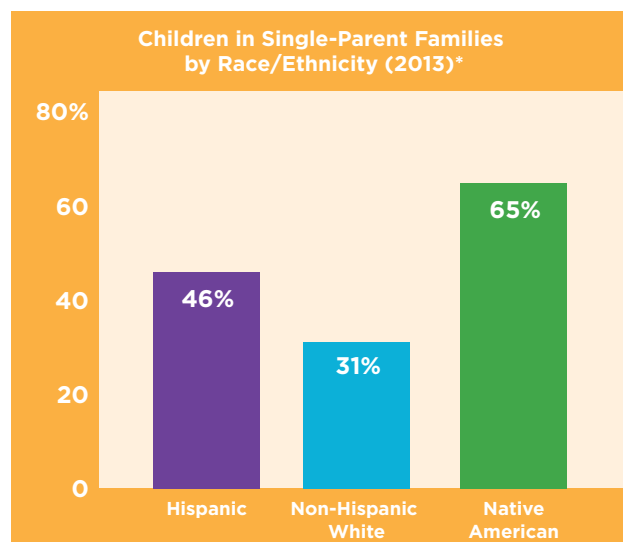
Though the rate of children living in single-parent families improved from 2013 to 2014, the number has increased by 23,000 kids—an 8 percent increase—since 2008. This long-term worsening of the rate of New Mexico children living in single-parent families mirrors a national trend, though it is particularly problematic in New Mexico because so many of our children already live in poverty, are food insecure, and face many educational and health challenges.



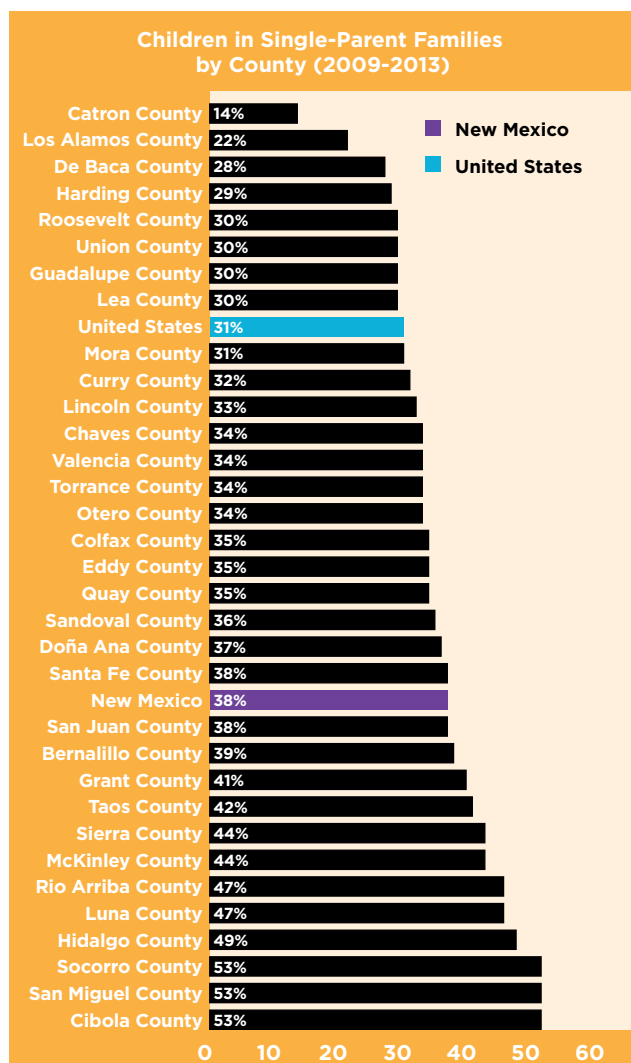
## TRENDS



## RACE/ETHNICITY



## RANKINGS



## POLICY SOLUTIONS FOR NEW MEXICO

- **Expand funding for home visiting programs,** especially for teen parents. Home visiting provides parents with early emotional support, parenting skills, and developmentally appropriate activities, and aid in accessing community, economic, health, and educational resources.
- **Restore eligibility for child care assistance** to twice the federal poverty level (200 percent of FPL), so greater numbers of low-income families headed by single parents can afford child care. As most single parents work, child care for them is a necessity. Currently a single mother raising two children on more than \$29,685 per year earns too much to qualify for child care assistance.
- **Expand funding for mentorship and other pregnancy prevention programs for teens.** Mentorship programs can help young women delay child bearing until they are older by fostering self-confidence and helping them work toward a future career.
- **Support career pathways** approaches that better align adult education with post-secondary education opportunities and industry needs, and that provide a clearer ladder to economic self-sufficiency.
- **Maintain current Medicaid eligibility** for family planning services.



## Family and Community: PARENTS WITHOUT A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA



“...the educational level of parents—especially the education level of mothers—is a strong predictor of how far a child will go in school.”

### THE EXTENT OF THE PROBLEM

In 2013, 18 percent of New Mexico children—or 90,000 New Mexico kids—lived in families where the head of the household lacked a high school diploma. Rates were higher among children of color, with 23 percent of the state’s Hispanic children and 21 percent of Native-American children in New Mexico living in families in which the household head lacked a diploma. Parents with higher levels of education are more likely to be employed, to have higher incomes, have access to a full range of employer health and leave benefits (that also benefit their families), and to be able to afford high-quality child care and other enriching opportunities for their children. Research shows that because of these and other factors, the educational level of parents—especially the education level of mothers—is a strong predictor of how far a child will go in school.

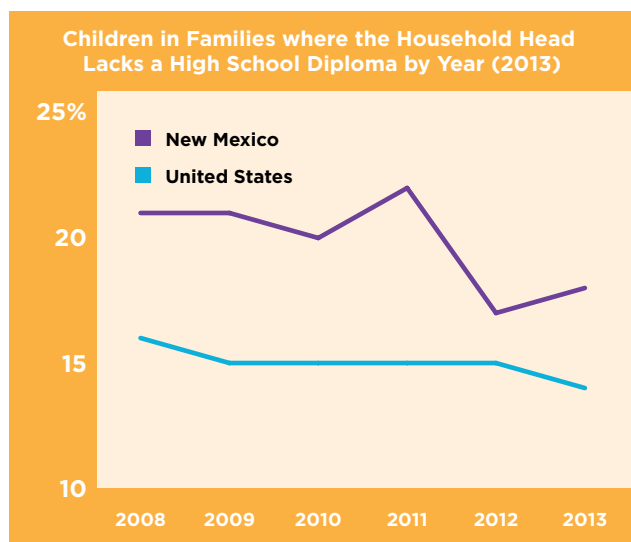


### TRACKING CHANGE IN 2015

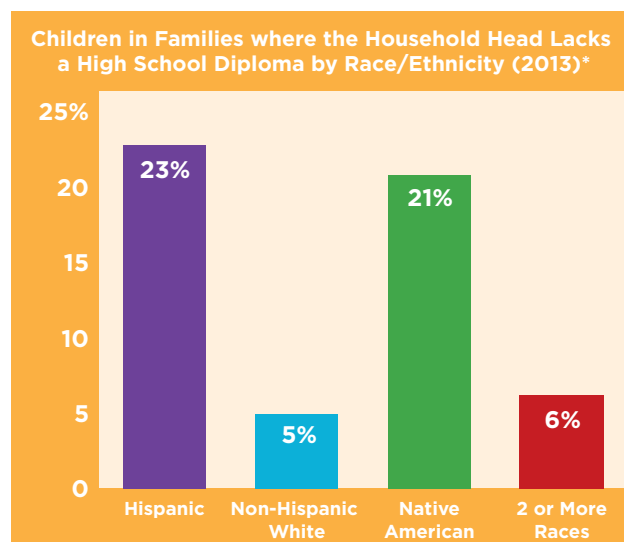
Though New Mexico worsened slightly on this indicator from 2012 to 2013, education levels in New Mexico and nationwide have generally been increasing since 2008. In fact, from 2008 to 2013, the rate of children living in families headed by a parent without a high-school diploma improved from 21 percent to 18 percent on this measure. However, New Mexico is still ranked 46th on this indicator and much work still needs to be done to address it. Unfortunately, we spend less per-pupil on K-12 education than prior to the recession. Low-income adults—often those who are most in need of job training and education to further their careers—face many barriers when trying to go back to school.



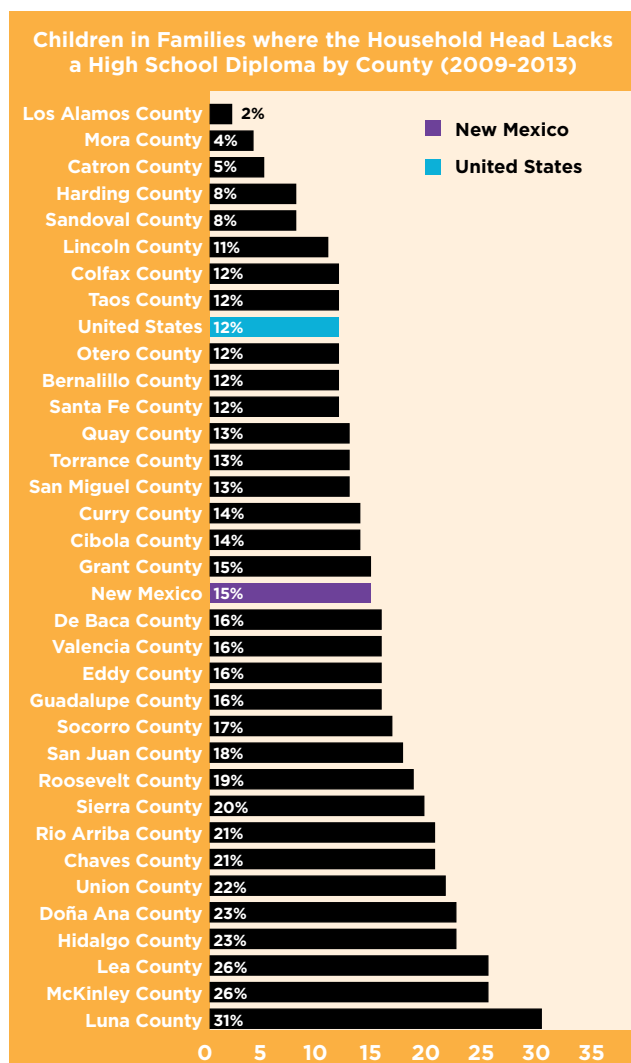
## TRENDS



## RACE/ETHNICITY



## RANKINGS



## POLICY SOLUTIONS FOR NEW MEXICO

- **Expand access to high school equivalency programs**, adult basic education, post-secondary education, and job training through a career pathways approach.
- **Provide need-based financial assistance** for low-income and low-skilled adults seeking entry into these programs. Need-based financial aid is vital for returning students because they do not qualify for the lottery scholarship and may have a family to support while they advance their education.
- **Expand funding and access for English as a second language (ESL) classes** to help parents increase their levels of education—or their opportunities to get a higher education—which, in turn, has a positive impact on their children. Children whose parents do not speak English fluently can be disadvantaged when seeking assistance with their schoolwork and these parents may be less able to be involved in their child's education.

\*Estimates for other races and ethnicities suppressed because the confidence interval around the percentage is greater than or equal to 10 percentage points.

Trend Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2008-2013, 1-year microdata

Race/Ethnicity Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013

Ranking Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2009-2013, Table B17018

## Family and Community: CHILDREN LIVING IN HIGH POVERTY AREAS\*

“Regardless of their own family’s income, children who grow up in neighborhoods where poverty rates are high are more likely to be exposed to drugs and be victims of violent crime. They are less likely to have access to fresh, healthy food, adequate high-quality housing, and community resources like great schools and safe places to play. All of these factors can negatively impact their health and development.”

\*“High-poverty areas” are Census tracts with overall poverty rates greater than or equal to 30 percent.

\*\*Estimates for other races and ethnicities suppressed because the confidence interval around the percentage is greater than or equal to 10 percentage points.

\*\*\*Catron, Colfax, De Baca, Eddy, Guadalupe, Harding, Lea, Lincoln, Los Alamos, Mora, Rio Arriba, Taos, and Union counties are estimated to have zero Census tracts where poverty is more than 30 percent.

Trend Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Surveys 5-year summary files released from 2008 to 2013

Race/Ethnicity Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2009-2013

Ranking Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2009-2013

### THE EXTENT OF THE PROBLEM

Nearly a quarter of New Mexico children live in high-poverty areas, which are areas where the overall poverty rate is 30 percent or higher. New Mexico’s rate is much higher than the national average of 14 percent, and ranks 48th in the nation on this indicator. Regardless of their own family’s income, children who grow up in neighborhoods where poverty rates are high are more likely to be exposed to drugs and be victims of violent crime. They are less likely to have access to fresh, healthy food, adequate high-quality housing, and community resources like great schools and safe places to play. All of these factors can negatively impact their health and development. New Mexico’s non-Hispanic white children and African-American children fare better than others in the state on this measure, while Hispanic children and Native-American children in the state are much more likely to live in high-poverty areas.

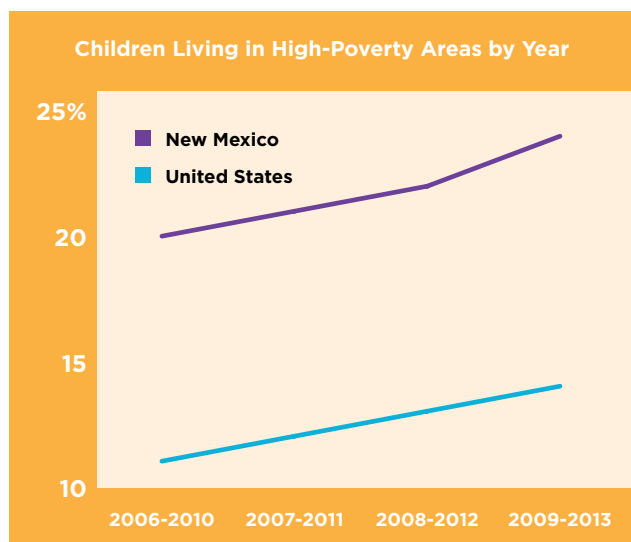


### TRACKING CHANGE IN 2015

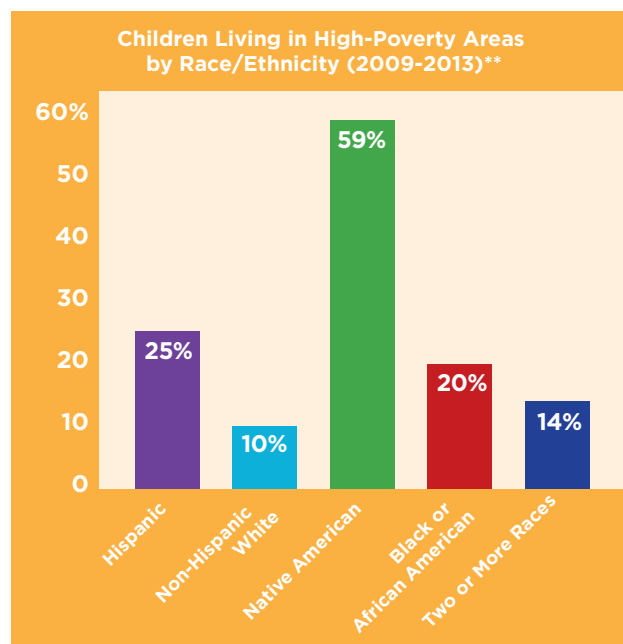
The number of children living in areas of concentrated poverty has been increasing steadily over time, and 25,000 more New Mexico children live in high-poverty areas now than did in 2006. Few state policies have been enacted in recent years to address and reverse this trend. In the 2015 legislative session, no new funding was appropriated for individual development accounts (IDAs) that offer incentives for low-income New Mexicans to save money; and while studies show that children in high-poverty areas are more likely to start school behind and will need more individual attention, no new funding was appropriated to reduce class sizes in high-poverty areas. However, in 2015, funding for K-3 Plus—a program that is targeted towards schools with high-poverty rates and attempts to narrow the achievement gap between disadvantaged students and other students by increasing the number of days in the school year—was increased by \$2.5 million. Measures were also passed to ensure that schools that qualified for K-3 Plus programs on the basis of poor performance maintained eligibility even after their school rankings improved.



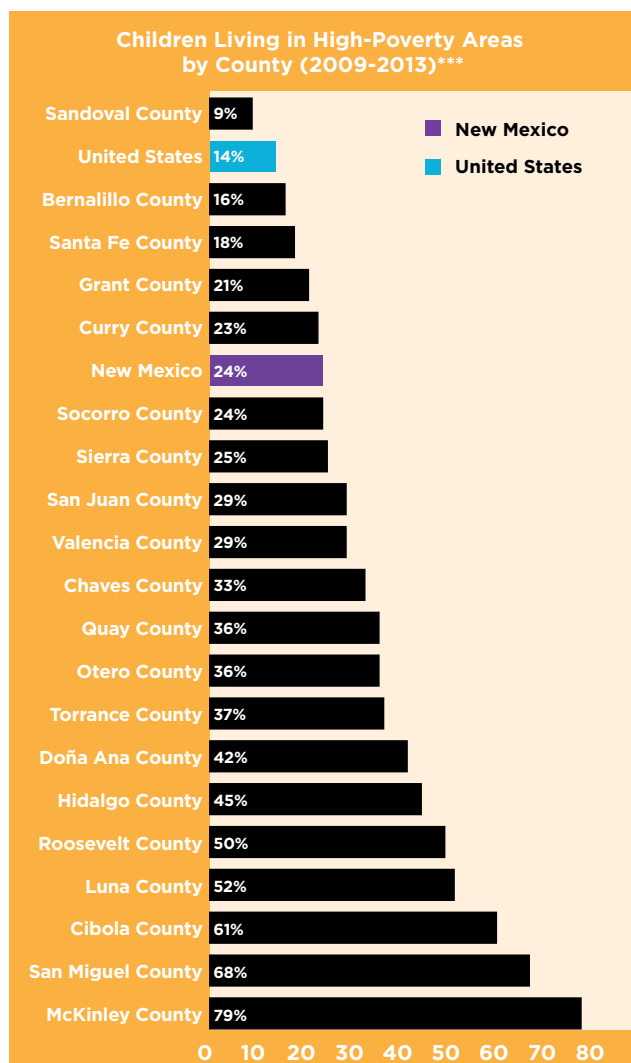
## TRENDS



## RACE/ETHNICITY



## RANKINGS



## POLICY SOLUTIONS FOR NEW MEXICO

- **Increase access to affordable housing in safe areas** with prospects of work for low-income families, especially families of color. One way to do this is to create or expand incentives for developers to build mixed-income housing developments.
- **Promote community change efforts** that integrate physical revitalization with human capital development. Combining investment in early childhood and education programs for children with workforce development and asset-building activities for parents can benefit lower-income families.
- **Increase funding for Individual Development Accounts (IDAs)**, which help parents and children save money for buying a home or paying for college. Children in families who own a home do better in school, and families feel more invested in their neighborhoods.
- **When possible, target school funding towards schools in high-poverty areas.**



## Family and Community: **TEEN BIRTH RATE\***



“Babies born to teen mothers are more likely to be born at low birth-weight, be malnourished, face developmental delays, do poorly in school, become teen parents themselves, and live in poverty.”

### THE EXTENT OF THE PROBLEM

New Mexico's rate of teen births is 43 births per every 1,000 female teens ages 15 to 19. This rate is higher than the U.S. average of 26 per 1,000, and it ranks New Mexico 47th among the states on this measure. Teen births are associated with negative outcomes for both mothers and children. Teen mothers are less likely to graduate high school, to receive adequate prenatal care, and to be economically secure. Babies born to teen mothers are more likely to be born at low birth-weight, be malnourished, face developmental delays, do poorly in school, become teen parents themselves, and live in poverty. Far from being an isolated issue, teen births affect the well-being of mothers, children, and society as a whole. Teen birth rates are lower among New Mexico's non-Hispanic whites and African Americans, and higher among Hispanic and Native Americans.

\*The teen birth rate is the number of births per 1,000 females ages 15 to 19.

\*\*Data for other races and ethnicities suppressed due to small numbers of cases.

\*\*\*No births for teens aged 15-19 were reported in Catron, De Baca, and Harding counties.

Trend Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics VitalStats birth data from 2008 through 2013

Race/Ethnicity Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics VitalStats 2013 birth data

Ranking Source: New Mexico Department of Public Health, Indicator-Based Information System for Public Health (IBIS); retrieved November 23, 2015 from <http://ibis.health.state.nm.us>

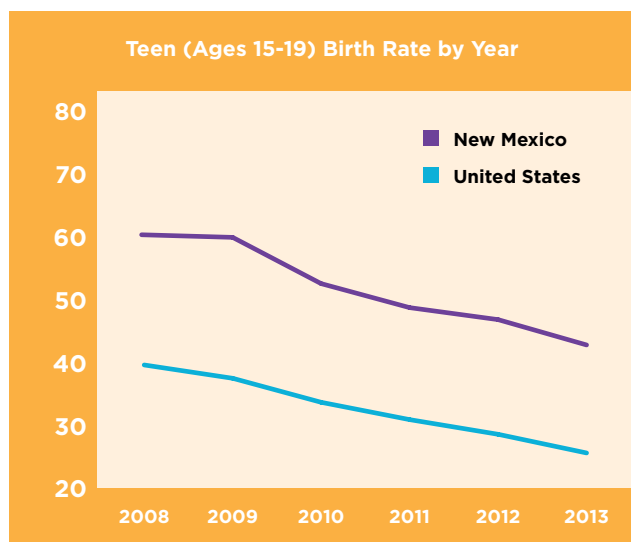


### TRACKING CHANGE IN 2015

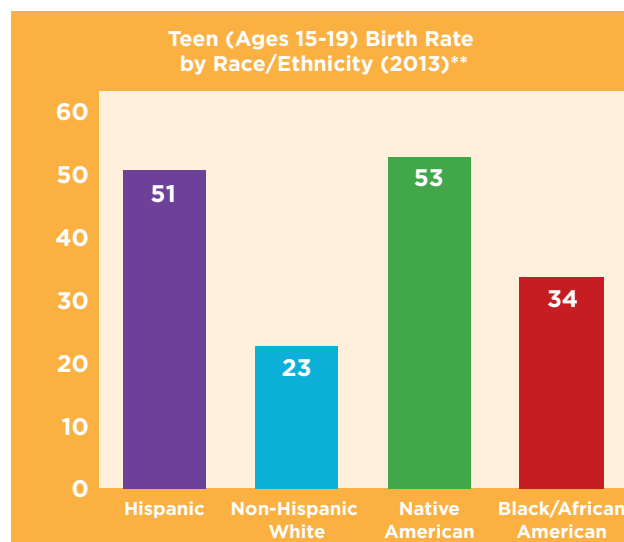
Following a national trend, the teen birth rate in New Mexico has decreased significantly over time, from 61 per 1,000 teens in 2008 to 43 per 1,000 in 2013. This represents a 30 percent improvement, and it moved New Mexico from 49th to 47th among the states on this indicator. However, much work still needs to be done. In the 2015 legislative session, \$50,000 in new funding was appropriated for school-based health services, which provide a safe, confidential place for youth seeking health services they might not be able to access elsewhere. Unfortunately, no new funding was appropriated for evidence-based sex education or for GRAD, the state's program for expecting and parenting teens.



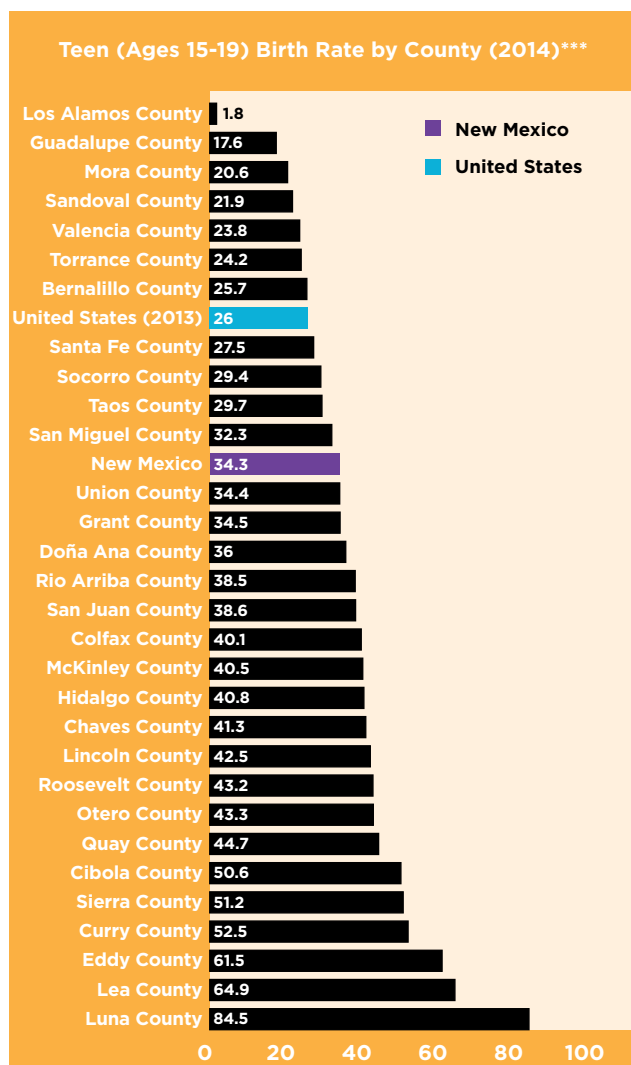
## TRENDS



## RACE/ETHNICITY



## RANKINGS



## POLICY SOLUTIONS FOR NEW MEXICO

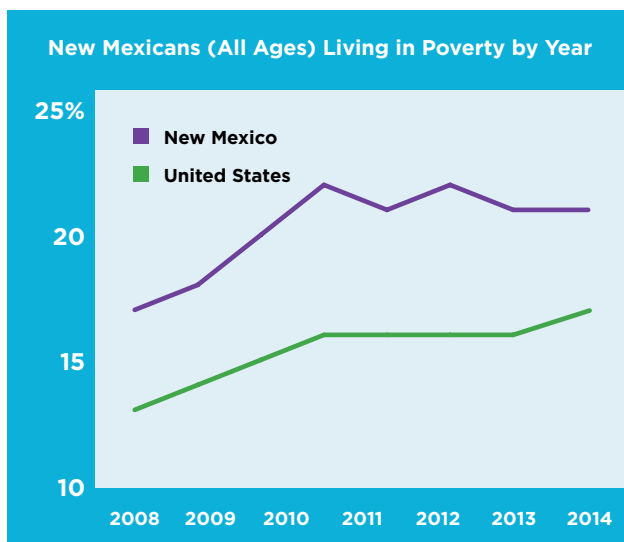
- **Increase funding for teen pregnancy prevention and support programs** to help at-risk young women avoid pregnancy, and imagine alternative opportunities for their future. Support programs such as home visiting also help young mothers delay second pregnancies, improve their parenting skills, get a high school diploma, and access community supports.
- **Expand funding and support for school-based health centers (SBHCs).** Students reaching sexual maturity need access to health professionals to help them make informed decisions. Expand evidence-based, age-appropriate sex education to help youth avoid pregnancy.
- **Fund service learning programs** that provide students with civic engagement and work-related experience, and that have been linked to decreases in teen pregnancy rates.
- **Support the creation and funding for county and tribal health councils** in order to better integrate health care with social, emotional, behavioral and cognitive development for teens.



# Economic Well-Being: OVERALL POVERTY

## NEW MEXICANS (ALL AGES) LIVING IN POVERTY BY YEAR

More than one in five New Mexicans live in poverty, which was just \$24,250 for a family of four in 2015. New Mexico has the next-to-worst poverty rate in the nation. This rate has continued to climb since 2008 and is much higher than the national average.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Surveys from 2008 to 2014, Table S1701

## NEW MEXICANS (ALL AGES) LIVING IN POVERTY BY RACE/ETHNICITY (2014)

The rates of poverty among most populations of color, such as Hispanics, Native Americans, and African Americans, are considerably higher than those of non-Hispanic Whites.

|                           | Percentage |
|---------------------------|------------|
| New Mexico (All Races)    | 21%        |
| Hispanic                  | 26%        |
| Non-Hispanic White        | 13%        |
| Native American           | 35%        |
| Black or African American | 22%        |
| Asian                     | 12%        |
| Two or More Races         | 23%        |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S1701

## NEW MEXICANS (ALL AGES) LIVING IN POVERTY BY COUNTY (2009-2013)

| Location          | Percentage |
|-------------------|------------|
| United States     | 15%        |
| New Mexico        | 20%        |
| Bernalillo County | 18%        |
| Catron County     | 20%        |
| Chaves County     | 21%        |
| Cibola County     | 28%        |
| Colfax County     | 18%        |
| Curry County      | 19%        |
| De Baca County    | 24%        |
| Doña Ana County   | 27%        |
| Eddy County       | 13%        |
| Grant County      | 20%        |
| Guadalupe County  | 18%        |
| Harding County    | 17%        |
| Hidalgo County    | 24%        |
| Lea County        | 15%        |
| Lincoln County    | 15%        |
| Los Alamos County | 4%         |
| Luna County       | 30%        |
| McKinley County   | 35%        |
| Mora County       | 20%        |
| Otero County      | 22%        |
| Quay County       | 21%        |
| Rio Arriba County | 21%        |
| Roosevelt County  | 25%        |
| San Juan County   | 22%        |
| San Miguel County | 29%        |
| Sandoval County   | 14%        |
| Santa Fe County   | 17%        |
| Sierra County     | 23%        |
| Socorro County    | 25%        |
| Taos County       | 25%        |
| Torrance County   | 29%        |
| Union County      | 12%        |
| Valencia County   | 24%        |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2009-2013, Table S1701

# Economic Well-Being: HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING SNAP BENEFITS

## HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING SNAP BENEFITS BY COUNTY (2009-2013)

| Location          | Percentage |
|-------------------|------------|
| United States     | 12%        |
| New Mexico        | 14%        |
| Bernalillo County | 13%        |
| Catron County     | 9%         |
| Chaves County     | 17%        |
| Cibola County     | 19%        |
| Colfax County     | 13%        |
| Curry County      | 15%        |
| De Baca County    | 10%        |
| Doña Ana County   | 17%        |
| Eddy County       | 14%        |
| Grant County      | 16%        |
| Guadalupe County  | 18%        |
| Harding County    | 8%         |
| Hidalgo County    | 22%        |
| Lea County        | 11%        |
| Lincoln County    | 13%        |
| Los Alamos County | 2%         |
| Luna County       | 25%        |
| McKinley County   | 20%        |
| Mora County       | 21%        |
| Otero County      | 17%        |
| Quay County       | 15%        |
| Rio Arriba County | 16%        |
| Roosevelt County  | 14%        |
| San Juan County   | 12%        |
| San Miguel County | 19%        |
| Sandoval County   | 11%        |
| Santa Fe County   | 10%        |
| Sierra County     | 15%        |
| Socorro County    | 21%        |
| Taos County       | 16%        |
| Torrance County   | 16%        |
| Union County      | 9%         |
| Valencia County   | 19%        |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2009-2013, Table DP03

The percentage of households receiving SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits (formerly food stamps) is a key indicator of food insecurity, and New Mexico's high SNAP reciprocity rates reflect our state's major challenges around hunger. New Mexico has higher rates of food insecurity, hunger, and SNAP reciprocity than the national average, and the rates are highest among our Hispanics and Native Americans.

## HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING SNAP BENEFITS BY RACE/ETHNICITY (2014)

|                           | Percentage |
|---------------------------|------------|
| United States             | 13%        |
| New Mexico (All Races)    | 16%        |
| Hispanic                  | 22%        |
| Non-Hispanic White        | 9%         |
| Native American           | 30%        |
| Black or African American | 17%        |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Tables B22003, B22005I, B22005H, B22005B, and B22005C







# Economic Well-Being: MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

## MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME BY COUNTY (2009-2013)

| Location          | Income    |
|-------------------|-----------|
| United States     | \$53,046  |
| New Mexico        | \$44,927  |
| Bernalillo County | \$48,801  |
| Catron County     | \$39,826  |
| Chaves County     | \$39,131  |
| Cibola County     | \$37,237  |
| Colfax County     | \$37,734  |
| Curry County      | \$39,871  |
| De Baca County    | \$37,660  |
| Doña Ana County   | \$37,933  |
| Eddy County       | \$49,165  |
| Grant County      | \$37,899  |
| Guadalupe County  | \$29,071  |
| Harding County    | \$34,063  |
| Hidalgo County    | \$34,080  |
| Lea County        | \$50,694  |
| Lincoln County    | \$43,014  |
| Los Alamos County | \$106,686 |
| Luna County       | \$29,282  |
| McKinley County   | \$30,458  |
| Mora County       | \$28,481  |
| Otero County      | \$39,263  |
| Quay County       | \$30,802  |
| Rio Arriba County | \$40,250  |
| Roosevelt County  | \$38,764  |
| San Juan County   | \$48,196  |
| San Miguel County | \$28,275  |
| Sandoval County   | \$58,017  |
| Santa Fe County   | \$52,917  |
| Sierra County     | \$27,430  |
| Socorro County    | \$34,036  |
| Taos County       | \$32,637  |
| Torrance County   | \$31,161  |
| Union County      | \$38,902  |
| Valencia County   | \$42,506  |

*The median household income in the U.S. is nearly 20 percent higher than in New Mexico. While median income rose from 2011 to 2014, the gains total less than \$700 over that time and the median income is still lower than it was in 2010. Economic recovery from the recession has been slow to reach most areas of New Mexico. More distressingly, the median household income is below 150 percent of the federal poverty level (\$30,135 for a family of three) in five New Mexico counties (Guadalupe, Luna, Mora, San Miguel, and Sierra).*

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2009-2013, Table B19013

## MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME BY RACE/ETHNICITY (2014)

|                           | Income   |
|---------------------------|----------|
| United States             | \$53,657 |
| New Mexico (All Races)    | \$44,803 |
| Hispanic                  | \$38,236 |
| Non-Hispanic White        | \$53,422 |
| Native American           | \$31,592 |
| Black or African American | \$37,773 |
| Asian                     | \$55,988 |

*As with other indicators of economic well-being, great variance exists among racial and ethnic groups on median household income, with Hispanics, Native Americans, and African Americans in New Mexico seeing lower incomes than the state average.*

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Tables B19013, B19013B, B19013C, B19013D, B19013H, B19013I



# Economic Well-Being: TRIBAL AREAS

## SELECTED INDICATORS OF ECONOMIC WELL-BEING FOR TRIBAL AREAS (2009-2013)\*

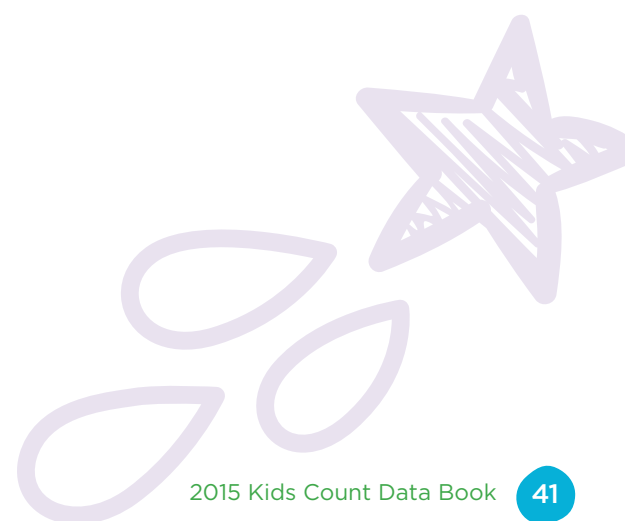
| Location             | Median Income | Total Poverty Rate (All Ages) | Child Poverty Rate |
|----------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| United States        | \$53,046      | 15%                           | 22%                |
| New Mexico           | \$44,927      | 20%                           | 29%                |
| Acoma Pueblo         | \$34,138      | 32%                           | 46%                |
| Cochiti Pueblo       | \$47,321      | 19%                           | 30%                |
| Isleta Pueblo        | \$39,645      | 22%                           | 27%                |
| Jemez Pueblo         | \$51,083      | 20%                           | 32%                |
| Jicarilla Apache     | \$42,991      | 22%                           | 26%                |
| Laguna Pueblo        | \$30,156      | 36%                           | 50%                |
| Mescalero Apache     | \$30,230      | 42%                           | 50%                |
| Nambe Pueblo         | \$51,029      | 12%                           | 12%                |
| Navajo**             | \$26,447      | 41%                           | 49%                |
| Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo | \$39,482      | 24%                           | 28%                |
| Picuris Pueblo       | \$32,188      | 21%                           | 25%                |
| Pojoaque Pueblo      | \$51,738      | 16%                           | 19%                |
| Sandia Pueblo        | \$37,675      | 27%                           | 37%                |
| San Felipe Pueblo    | \$45,809      | 30%                           | 37%                |
| San Ildefonso Pueblo | \$48,281      | 13%                           | 23%                |
| Santa Ana Pueblo     | \$46,944      | 14%                           | 17%                |
| Santa Clara Pueblo   | \$42,266      | 24%                           | 38%                |
| Santo Domingo Pueblo | \$40,966      | 33%                           | 37%                |
| Taos Pueblo          | \$37,729      | 19%                           | 29%                |
| Tesuque Pueblo       | \$42,045      | 19%                           | 32%                |
| Zia Pueblo           | \$32,083      | 29%                           | 36%                |
| Zuni Pueblo          | \$29,559      | 44%                           | 58%                |

Residents in tribal areas in New Mexico generally fare worse in traditional measures of economic well-being than do most New Mexico residents. Median income in most tribal areas is lower than the state average, and all tribal areas have lower median incomes than the U.S. average. Poverty rates tend to be higher in tribal areas as well, with populations on the Mescalero Apache Reservation, the Navajo Nation, and Zuni Pueblo facing poverty rates double the national average and much higher than the state average.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2009-2013, Table DP03

\*Data include off-reservation lands held in trust.

\*\*Only data for Navajos living on New Mexico reservation land are included.





# Education: ENROLLMENT

*Students qualify for free meals if their families earn below 130 percent of the federal poverty level (\$25,727 for a family of three) and reduced-price meals if their families earn below 185 percent of the federal poverty level (\$36,612 for a family of three). Children in these families are considered low-income, and they make up a large portion of the students in New Mexico. In fact, New Mexico has the highest rate (68 percent) in the nation of public school students who are low-income.*

Sources: "Enrollment by District by School for Public and Charter Schools 2014-2015," New Mexico Public Education Department; retrieved December 2015 from <http://www.ped.state.nm.us/it/schoolfact-sheets.html>; and "Free and Reduced Eligible October 2013 (SY2014)"; retrieved from: <http://www.ped.state.nm.us/nutrition/index.html>

## TOTAL ENROLLMENT AND PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ELIGIBLE FOR FREE/REDUCED-PRICE MEALS BY SCHOOL DISTRICT

| School District                  | Total Student Enrollment (2014-2015) | % of Students Eligible for Free/Reduced-Price Meals (2013-2014) |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Alamogordo Public Schools        | 5,914                                | 61%   |
| Albuquerque Public Schools       | 92,245                               | 63%   |
| Animas Public Schools            | 151                                  | 64%   |
| Artesia Public Schools           | 3,883                                | 47%   |
| Aztec Municipal Schools          | 3,317                                | 54%   |
| Belen Consolidated Schools       | 4,138                                | 75%   |
| Bernalillo Public Schools        | 2,935                                | 79%   |
| Bloomfield Municipal Schools     | 3,023                                | 72%   |
| Capitan Municipal Schools        | 480                                  | 67%   |
| Carlsbad Municipal Schools       | 6,572                                | 56%   |
| Carrizozo Municipal Schools      | 148                                  | 91%   |
| Central Consolidated Schools     | 6,379                                | 77%   |
| Chama Valley Independent Schools | 388                                  | 74%   |
| Cimarron Public Schools          | 445                                  | 66%   |
| Clayton Public Schools           | 489                                  | 64%   |
| Cloudcroft Municipal Schools     | 353                                  | 38%   |
| Clovis Municipal Schools         | 8,411                                | 61%   |
| Cobre Consolidated Schools       | 1,318                                | 75%   |
| Corona Municipal Schools         | 70                                   | 73%   |
| Cuba Independent Schools         | 560                                  | 77%   |
| Deming Public Schools            | 5,437                                | 79%   |
| Des Moines Municipal Schools     | 83                                   | 63%   |
| Dexter Consolidated Schools      | 981                                  | 76%   |
| Dora Consolidated Schools        | 245                                  | 48%   |
| Dulce Independent Schools        | 679                                  | 76%   |
| Elida Municipal Schools          | 129                                  | 61%   |
| Española Municipal Schools       | 3,944                                | 71%   |
| Estancia Municipal Schools       | 739                                  | 78%   |
| Eunice Municipal Schools         | 754                                  | 59%   |
| Farmington Municipal Schools     | 11,718                               | 51%   |
| Floyd Municipal Schools          | 224                                  | 76%   |
| Fort Sumner Municipal Schools    | 320                                  | 55%   |
| Gadsden Independent Schools      | 13,524                               | 93%   |
| Gallup-McKinley County Schools   | 11,747                               | 84%   |
| Grady Municipal Schools          | 128                                  | 53%   |
| Grants-Cibola County Schools     | 3,683                                | 75%   |
| Hagerman Municipal Schools       | 457                                  | 81%   |
| Hatch Valley Municipal Schools   | 1,295                                | 95%   |
| Hobbs Municipal Schools          | 9,923                                | 64%   |
| Hondo Valley Public Schools      | 132                                  | 87%   |
| House Municipal Schools          | 66                                   | 35%   |
| Jal Public Schools               | 476                                  | 54%   |
| Jemez Mountain Public Schools    | 272                                  | 86%   |



| School District                  | Total Student Enrollment (2014-2015) | % of Students Eligible for Free/Reduced-Price Meals (2013-2014) |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Jemez Valley Public Schools      | 409                                  | 86%   |
| Lake Arthur Municipal Schools    | 119                                  | 88%   |
| Las Cruces Public Schools        | 24,775                               | 60%   |
| Las Vegas City Public Schools    | 1,693                                | 72%   |
| Logan Municipal Schools          | 306                                  | 50%   |
| Lordsburg Municipal Schools      | 501                                  | 72%   |
| Los Alamos Public Schools        | 3,505                                | 11%   |
| Los Lunas Public Schools         | 8,466                                | 70%   |
| Loving Municipal Schools         | 595                                  | 90%   |
| Lovington Public Schools         | 3,788                                | 56%   |
| Magdalena Municipal Schools      | 352                                  | 82%   |
| Maxwell Municipal Schools        | 108                                  | 70%   |
| Melrose Public Schools           | 212                                  | 44%   |
| Mesa Vista Consolidated Schools  | 361                                  | 78%   |
| Mora Independent Schools         | 441                                  | 83%   |
| Moriarty Municipal Schools       | 2,545                                | 60%   |
| Mosquero Municipal Schools       | 42                                   | 49%   |
| Mountainair Public Schools       | 274                                  | 81%   |
| Pecos Independent Schools        | 623                                  | 74%   |
| Peñasco Independent Schools      | 348                                  | 86%   |
| Pojoaque Valley Public Schools   | 1,977                                | 66%   |
| Portales Municipal Schools       | 2,845                                | 64%   |
| Quemado Independent Schools      | 124                                  | 83%   |
| Questa Independent Schools       | 393                                  | 81%   |
| Raton Public Schools             | 974                                  | 73%   |
| Reserve Independent Schools      | 131                                  | 82%   |
| Rio Rancho Public Schools        | 17,206                               | 43%   |
| Roswell Independent Schools      | 10,436                               | 73%   |
| Roy Municipal Schools            | 58                                   | 50%   |
| Ruidoso Municipal Schools        | 2,066                                | 69%   |
| San Jon Municipal Schools        | 146                                  | 60%   |
| Santa Fe Public Schools          | 14,652                               | 69%   |
| Santa Rosa Consolidated Schools  | 643                                  | 83%   |
| Silver City Consolidated Schools | 2,883                                | 55%   |
| Socorro Consolidated Schools     | 1,868                                | 74%   |
| Springer Municipal Schools       | 176                                  | 78%   |
| Taos Municipal Schools           | 2,839                                | 65%   |
| Tatum Municipal Schools          | 383                                  | 48%   |
| Texico Municipal Schools         | 568                                  | 60%   |
| Truth or Consequences Schools    | 1,388                                | 85%   |
| Tucumcari Public Schools         | 948                                  | 83%   |
| Tularosa Municipal Schools       | 942                                  | 71%   |
| Vaughn Municipal Schools         | 92                                   | 79%   |
| Wagon Mound Public Schools       | 68                                   | 86%   |
| West Las Vegas Public Schools    | 1,526                                | 82%   |
| Zuni Public Schools              | 1,320                                | 87%   |





# Education: READING AND MATH PROFICIENCY

## STUDENTS MEETING OR EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS ON NEW MEXICO'S PARCC ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS AND MATH ASSESSMENTS BY GRADE AND SCHOOL DISTRICT (2014-2015)

*Fewer than one in four New Mexico 4th graders met or exceeded expectations in English Language Arts in the 2014-2015 school year, and fewer than one in ten New Mexico 8th graders met or exceeded expectations in math. These rates are significantly lower than in previous years, but it must be noted that these numbers reflect scores from a different assessment than was used in the past to evaluate 4th grade reading and 8th grade math abilities. The scores listed here are the first from the New Mexico's Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) assessment. The PARCC tests were developed to attempt to measure the full extent to which students are demonstrating mastery of the New Mexico Common Core State Standards (NMCCSS) and were first implemented in the 2014-2015 school year.*

| School District                  | Percent Meeting or Exceeding Expectations, 4th Grade English Language Arts | Percent Meeting or Exceeding Expectations, 8th Grade Mathematics |
|----------------------------------|--|--|
| New Mexico                       | 24%  | 9%   |
| Alamogordo Public Schools        | 32%  | 15%  |
| Albuquerque Public Schools       | 25%  | 7%   |
| Animas Public Schools            | 60%  | 17%  |
| Artesia Public Schools           | 22%  | 9%   |
| Aztec Municipal Schools          | 20%  | 6%   |
| Belen Consolidated Schools       | 21%  | 12%  |
| Bernalillo Public Schools        | 17%  | 2%   |
| Bloomfield Municipal Schools     | 10%  | 1%   |
| Capitan Municipal Schools        | 41%  | 3%   |
| Carlsbad Municipal Schools       | 23%  | 2%   |
| Carrizozo Municipal Schools      | 9%   | 0%   |
| Central Consolidated Schools     | 17%  | 13%  |
| Chama Valley Independent Schools | 16%  | 24%  |
| Cimarron Public Schools          | 20%  | 26%  |
| Clayton Public Schools           | 33%  | 19%  |
| Cloudcroft Municipal Schools     | 41%  | 6%   |
| Clovis Municipal Schools         | 25%  | 26%  |
| Cobre Consolidated Schools       | 21%  | 12%  |
| Corona Municipal Schools         | 0%   | 0%   |
| Cuba Independent Schools         | 9%   | 6%   |
| Deming Public Schools            | 10%  | 0%   |
| Des Moines Municipal Schools     | 0%   | 0%   |
| Dexter Consolidated Schools      | 31%  | 27%  |
| Dora Consolidated Schools        | 24%  | 39%  |
| Dulce Independent Schools        | 0%   | 0%   |
| Elida Municipal Schools          | 0%   | 36%  |
| Española Municipal Schools       | 19%  | 2%   |
| Estancia Municipal Schools       | 31%  | 25%  |
| Eunice Municipal Schools         | 5%   | 6%   |
| Farmington Municipal Schools     | 28%  | 7%   |
| Floyd Municipal Schools          | 20%  | 5%   |
| Fort Sumner Municipal Schools    | 28%  | 40%  |
| Gadsden Independent Schools      | 19%  | 18%  |
| Gallup-McKinley County Schools   | 11%  | 3%   |
| Grady Municipal Schools          | 0%   | NA   |
| Grants-Cibola County Schools     | 21%  | 13%  |
| Hagerman Municipal Schools       | 13%  | 17%  |
| Hatch Valley Municipal Schools   | 18%  | 29%  |
| Hobbs Municipal Schools          | 13%  | 3%   |
| Hondo Valley Public Schools      | 0%   | 0%   |
| House Municipal Schools          | 0%   | 0%   |
| Jal Public Schools               | NA   | NA   |
| Jemez Mountain Public Schools    | 26%  | 4%   |



| School District                  | 4th Grade English Language Arts | 8th Grade Mathematics |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Jemez Valley Public Schools      | 7%                              | 5%                    |
| Lake Arthur Municipal Schools    | 0%                              | NA                    |
| Las Cruces Public Schools        | 24%                             | 5%                    |
| Las Vegas City Public Schools    | 11%                             | 7%                    |
| Logan Municipal Schools          | 44%                             | 0%                    |
| Lordsburg Municipal Schools      | 21%                             | 6%                    |
| Los Alamos Public Schools        | 56%                             | 24%                   |
| Los Lunas Public Schools         | 24%                             | 2%                    |
| Loving Municipal Schools         | 26%                             | 4%                    |
| Lovington Public Schools         | 9%                              | 6%                    |
| Magdalena Municipal Schools      | 16%                             | 0%                    |
| Maxwell Municipal Schools        | 9%                              | 0%                    |
| Melrose Public Schools           | 29%                             | 27%                   |
| Mesa Vista Consolidated Schools  | 21%                             | 17%                   |
| Mora Independent Schools         | 15%                             | 12%                   |
| Moriarty Municipal Schools       | 26%                             | 8%                    |
| Mosquero Municipal Schools       | 0%                              | NA                    |
| Mountainair Public Schools       | 5%                              | 0%                    |
| Pecos Independent Schools        | 16%                             | 0%                    |
| Peñasco Independent Schools      | 18%                             | 0%                    |
| Pojoaque Valley Public Schools   | 25%                             | 0%                    |
| Portales Municipal Schools       | 31%                             | 6%                    |
| Quemado Independent Schools      | 30%                             | 18%                   |
| Questa Independent Schools       | 12%                             | 19%                   |
| Raton Public Schools             | 19%                             | 21%                   |
| Reserve Independent Schools      | 0%                              | 20%                   |
| Rio Rancho Public Schools        | 44%                             | 17%                   |
| Roswell Independent Schools      | 20%                             | 12%                   |
| Roy Municipal Schools            | 0%                              | 0%                    |
| Ruidoso Municipal Schools        | 19%                             | 1%                    |
| San Jon Municipal Schools        | 0%                              | 0%                    |
| Santa Fe Public Schools          | 26%                             | 1%                    |
| Santa Rosa Consolidated Schools  | 15%                             | 22%                   |
| Silver City Consolidated Schools | 22%                             | 6%                    |
| Socorro Consolidated Schools     | 12%                             | 6%                    |
| Springer Municipal Schools       | 0%                              | 10%                   |
| Taos Municipal Schools           | 31%                             | 14%                   |
| Tatum Municipal Schools          | 31%                             | 5%                    |
| Texico Municipal Schools         | 16%                             | 8%                    |
| Truth or Consequences Schools    | 12%                             | 14%                   |
| Tucumcari Public Schools         | 6%                              | 12%                   |
| Tularosa Municipal Schools       | 18%                             | 14%                   |
| Vaughn Municipal Schools         | 0%                              | 0%                    |
| Wagon Mound Public Schools       | 0%                              | 0%                    |
| West Las Vegas Public Schools    | 22%                             | 1%                    |
| Zuni Public Schools              | 12%                             | 3%                    |

Source: "NM PARCC Proficiencies 2015," New Mexico Public Education Department; retrieved December 2015 from <http://ped.state.nm.us/ped/NMPARCCindex.html>



# Education: ATTENDANCE

## HABITUAL TRUANCY\* AND DROPOUT RATES\*\* BY SCHOOL DISTRICT (2013-2014)

*New Mexico's rate of habitual truancy increased from 14 percent in 2012-2013 to 16 percent in 2013-2014, and many school districts in New Mexico have unacceptably high levels of habitual truancy, with at least one out of three students in the Belen, Bernalillo, Lake Arthur, Mountainair, Pecos, and Taos school districts habitually truant. New Mexico's dropout rate actually improved from 5 percent in 2012-2013 to 4 percent in 2013-2014, though a handful of school districts such as Bloomfield (10 percent), Gallup (9 percent), and House (21 percent) have much higher rates than the state average.*

| School District                  | Percent of Students Habitually Truant | Student Dropout Rate |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|
| New Mexico                       | 16%                                   | 4%                   |
| Alamogordo Public Schools        | 7%                                    | 3%                   |
| Albuquerque Public Schools       | 16%                                   | 7%                   |
| Animas Public Schools            | 1%                                    | 0%                   |
| Artesia Public Schools           | 7%                                    | 3%                   |
| Aztec Municipal Schools          | 13%                                   | 2%                   |
| Belen Consolidated Schools       | 33%                                   | 5%                   |
| Bernalillo Public Schools        | 35%                                   | 6%                   |
| Bloomfield Municipal Schools     | 6%                                    | 10%                  |
| Capitan Municipal Schools        | 7%                                    | 2%                   |
| Carlsbad Municipal Schools       | 8%                                    | 3%                   |
| Carrizozo Municipal Schools      | 1%                                    | 0%                   |
| Central Consolidated Schools     | 24%                                   | 3%                   |
| Chama Valley Independent Schools | 2%                                    | 1%                   |
| Cimarron Public Schools          | 14%                                   | 1%                   |
| Clayton Public Schools           | 5%                                    | 2%                   |
| Cloudcroft Municipal Schools     | 1%                                    | 1%                   |
| Clovis Municipal Schools         | 21%                                   | 3%                   |
| Cobre Consolidated Schools       | 16%                                   | 2%                   |
| Corona Municipal Schools         | 0%                                    | 0%                   |
| Cuba Independent Schools         | 29%                                   | 6%                   |
| Deming Public Schools            | 25%                                   | 5%                   |
| Des Moines Municipal Schools     | 31%                                   | 0%                   |
| Dexter Consolidated Schools      | 5%                                    | 1%                   |
| Dora Consolidated Schools        | 1%                                    | 0%                   |
| Dulce Independent Schools        | 6%                                    | 2%                   |
| Elida Municipal Schools          | 0%                                    | 0%                   |
| Española Municipal Schools       | 26%                                   | 7%                   |
| Estancia Municipal Schools       | 2%                                    | 4%                   |
| Eunice Municipal Schools         | 15%                                   | 2%                   |
| Farmington Municipal Schools     | 9%                                    | 3%                   |
| Floyd Municipal Schools          | 7%                                    | 2%                   |
| Fort Sumner Municipal Schools    | 2%                                    | 0%                   |
| Gadsden Independent Schools      | 17%                                   | 1%                   |
| Gallup-McKinley County Schools   | 15%                                   | 9%                   |
| Grady Municipal Schools          | 0%                                    | 0%                   |
| Grants-Cibola County Schools     | 9%                                    | 3%                   |
| Hagerman Municipal Schools       | 14%                                   | 2%                   |
| Hatch Valley Municipal Schools   | 21%                                   | 3%                   |
| Hobbs Municipal Schools          | 7%                                    | 1%                   |
| Hondo Valley Public Schools      | 0%                                    | 4%                   |
| House Municipal Schools          | 14%                                   | 21%                  |
| Jal Public Schools               | 7%                                    | 1%                   |
| Jemez Mountain Public Schools    | 3%                                    | 3%                   |



| School District                  | Percent of Students<br>Habitually Truant | Student<br>Dropout Rate |
|----------------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| Jemez Valley Public Schools      | 10%                                      | 0%                      |
| Lake Arthur Municipal Schools    | 34%                                      | 5%                      |
| Las Cruces Public Schools        | 25%                                      | 3%                      |
| Las Vegas City Public Schools    | 17%                                      | 4%                      |
| Logan Municipal Schools          | 1%                                       | 4%                      |
| Lordsburg Municipal Schools      | 5%                                       | 2%                      |
| Los Alamos Public Schools        | 1%                                       | 1%                      |
| Los Lunas Public Schools         | 11%                                      | 3%                      |
| Loving Municipal Schools         | 10%                                      | 0%                      |
| Lovington Public Schools         | 0%                                       | 5%                      |
| Magdalena Municipal Schools      | 18%                                      | 3%                      |
| Maxwell Municipal Schools        | 0%                                       | 0%                      |
| Melrose Public Schools           | 0%                                       | 2%                      |
| Mesa Vista Consolidated Schools  | 15%                                      | 1%                      |
| Mora Independent Schools         | 23%                                      | 3%                      |
| Moriarty Municipal Schools       | 6%                                       | 4%                      |
| Mosquero Municipal Schools       | 9%                                       | 0%                      |
| Mountainair Public Schools       | 62%                                      | 4%                      |
| Pecos Independent Schools        | 34%                                      | 5%                      |
| Peñasco Independent Schools      | 5%                                       | 3%                      |
| Pojoaque Valley Public Schools   | 3%                                       | 2%                      |
| Portales Municipal Schools       | 6%                                       | 2%                      |
| Quemado Independent Schools      | 7%                                       | 3%                      |
| Questa Independent Schools       | 8%                                       | 1%                      |
| Raton Public Schools             | 12%                                      | 6%                      |
| Reserve Independent Schools      | 0%                                       | 0%                      |
| Rio Rancho Public Schools        | 3%                                       | 1%                      |
| Roswell Independent Schools      | 8%                                       | 4%                      |
| Roy Municipal Schools            | 0%                                       | 0%                      |
| Ruidoso Municipal Schools        | 21%                                      | 2%                      |
| San Jon Municipal Schools        | 0%                                       | 0%                      |
| Santa Fe Public Schools          | 29%                                      | 3%                      |
| Santa Rosa Consolidated Schools  | 7%                                       | 0%                      |
| Silver City Consolidated Schools | 18%                                      | 2%                      |
| Socorro Consolidated Schools     | 24%                                      | 7%                      |
| Springer Municipal Schools       | 3%                                       | 0%                      |
| Taos Municipal Schools           | 41%                                      | 4%                      |
| Tatum Municipal Schools          | 1%                                       | 0%                      |
| Texico Municipal Schools         | 5%                                       | NA                      |
| Truth or Consequences Schools    | 24%                                      | 4%                      |
| Tucumcari Public Schools         | 8%                                       | 2%                      |
| Tularosa Municipal Schools       | 17%                                      | 1%                      |
| Vaughn Municipal Schools         | 2%                                       | 4%                      |
| Wagon Mound Public Schools       | 3%                                       | 3%                      |
| West Las Vegas Public Schools    | 18%                                      | 6%                      |
| Zuni Public Schools              | 13%                                      | 7%                      |

\*According to the NM PED, "habitually truant" means a student who has accumulated the equivalent of ten or more unexcused absences within a school year. (Source: Title 6 Primary and Secondary Education, Chapter 10: Public School Administration—Procedural Requirements, Part 8: Compulsory School Attendance)

\*\*The term "dropout" refers to a student who was enrolled during the previous school year, but is not enrolled at the beginning of the current school year, and does not meet any exclusionary conditions. Dropout rates are not related to cohort on-time graduation rates. Dropout rates and non-graduate rates are not equivalent because they do not represent the same measure. In other words, if you subtract the rate of non-graduates from those who graduate on time, you do not get the same rate as the dropout rate. In addition, unlike on-time graduation rates, which follow a cohort over four years, dropout rates are calculated each year.

Sources: "Habitual Truant Students by District and School Type, 2013-2014" and "2013-2014 Dropout Final Rates," New Mexico Public Education Department; retrieved December, 2015 from <http://www.ped.state.nm.us/it/schoolfactsheets.html>





# Education: GRADUATION RATES

## HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATES BY SELECTED STATUS AND SCHOOL DISTRICT (2013-2014)

*Sixty-nine percent of New Mexico high school students graduate in four years, with graduation rates lower among English language learners and economically disadvantaged students (those that qualify for free or reduced-priced meals). New*

*Mexico's overall graduation rate and its graduation rate among economically disadvantaged students worsened slightly from 2012-2013 to 2013-2014. The graduation rate for New Mexico English language learners remained unchanged during that time.*

| School District                  | Percent of All Students Who Graduate in Four Years | Percent of Economically Disadvantaged Students Who Graduate in Four Years | Percent of English Language Learners Who Graduate in Four Years |
|----------------------------------|--|---|---|
| New Mexico                       | 69%  | 63%   | 65%   |
| Alamogordo Public Schools        | 70%  | 57%   | 69%   |
| Albuquerque Public Schools       | 63%  | 56%   | 55%   |
| Animas Public Schools            | 83%  | NA  | NA  |
| Artesia Public Schools           | 68%  | 58%   | 44%   |
| Aztec Municipal Schools          | 76%  | 59%   | 83%   |
| Belen Consolidated Schools       | 58%  | 55%   | 49%   |
| Bernalillo Public Schools        | 59%  | 60%   | 61%   |
| Bloomfield Municipal Schools     | 59%  | 54%   | 44%   |
| Capitan Municipal Schools        | 83%  | 75%   | NA  |
| Carlsbad Municipal Schools       | 78%  | 67%   | 77%   |
| Carrizozo Municipal Schools      | 97%  | 97%   | NA  |
| Central Consolidated Schools     | 70%  | 70%   | 70%   |
| Chama Valley Independent Schools | 96%  | 96%   | 95%   |
| Cimarron Public Schools          | 97%  | NA  | NA  |
| Clayton Public Schools           | 91%  | 80%   | NA  |
| Cloudcroft Municipal Schools     | 97%  | NA  | NA  |
| Clovis Municipal Schools         | 73%  | 64%   | 67%   |
| Cobre Consolidated Schools       | 89%  | 89%   | 88%   |
| Corona Municipal Schools         | NA   | NA  | NA  |
| Cuba Independent Schools         | 61%  | 63%   | 64%   |
| Deming Public Schools            | 65%  | 72%   | 65%   |
| Des Moines Municipal Schools     | 98%  | NA  | NA  |
| Dexter Consolidated Schools      | 84%  | 82%   | 85%   |
| Dora Consolidated Schools        | 97%  | NA  | NA  |
| Dulce Independent Schools        | 85%  | 87%   | 84%   |
| Elida Municipal Schools          | 98%  | NA  | NA  |
| Española Municipal Schools       | 56%  | 54%   | 62%   |
| Estancia Municipal Schools       | 84%  | 80%   | NA  |
| Eunice Municipal Schools         | 88%  | 89%   | NA  |
| Farmington Municipal Schools     | 70%  | 56%   | 56%   |
| Floyd Municipal Schools          | 84%  | 74%   | NA  |
| Fort Sumner Municipal Schools    | 87%  | 80%   | NA  |
| Gadsden Independent Schools      | 80%  | 81%   | 80%   |
| Gallup-McKinley County Schools   | 65%  | 62%   | 64%   |
| Grady Municipal Schools          | 90%  | 80%   | NA  |
| Grants-Cibola County Schools     | 70%  | 67%   | 62%   |
| Hagerman Municipal Schools       | 85%  | 84%   | NA  |
| Hatch Valley Municipal Schools   | 69%  | 69%   | 70%   |
| Hobbs Municipal Schools          | 84%  | 77%   | 75%   |
| Hondo Valley Public Schools      | 97%  | 98%   | NA  |
| House Municipal Schools          | 20%  | 22%   | NA  |



| School District                  | Percent of All Students Who Graduate in Four Years | Percent of Economically Disadvantaged Students Who Graduate in Four Years | Percent of English Language Learners Who Graduate in Four Years |
|----------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Jal Public Schools               | 96%  | NA  | NA  |
| Jemez Mountain Public Schools    | 87%  | 92%   | NA  |
| Jemez Valley Public Schools      | 83%  | 83%   | 80%   |
| Lake Arthur Municipal Schools    | 78%  | 78%   | NA  |
| Las Cruces Public Schools        | 77%  | 52%   | 64%   |
| Las Vegas City Public Schools    | 77%  | 73%   | 75%   |
| Logan Municipal Schools          | 59%  | 75%   | NA  |
| Lordsburg Municipal Schools      | 69%  | 56%   | NA  |
| Los Alamos Public Schools        | 86%  | NA  | 82%   |
| Los Lunas Public Schools         | 74%  | 70%   | 70%   |
| Loving Municipal Schools         | 96%  | 96%   | 93%   |
| Lovington Public Schools         | 79%  | 76%   | 84%   |
| Magdalena Municipal Schools      | 81%  | 84%   | 61%   |
| Maxwell Municipal Schools        | 87%  | NA  | NA  |
| Melrose Public Schools           | 81%  | NA  | NA  |
| Mesa Vista Consolidated Schools  | 89%  | 98%   | 89%   |
| Mora Independent Schools         | 75%  | 75%   | 64%   |
| Moriarty Municipal Schools       | 70%  | 59%   | 64%   |
| Mosquero Municipal Schools       | 98%  | NA  | NA  |
| Mountainair Public Schools       | 75%  | 76%   | NA  |
| Pecos Independent Schools        | 69%  | 72%   | 69%   |
| Peñasco Independent Schools      | 75%  | 72%   | 78%   |
| Pojoaque Valley Public Schools   | 74%  | 71%   | 67%   |
| Portales Municipal Schools       | 81%  | 75%   | 71%   |
| Quemado Independent Schools      | 77%  | NA  | NA  |
| Questa Independent Schools       | 86%  | 85%   | 68%   |
| Raton Public Schools             | 75%  | 69%   | 69%   |
| Reserve Independent Schools      | 63%  | 56%   | NA  |
| Rio Rancho Public Schools        | 84%  | 73%   | 70%   |
| Roswell Independent Schools      | 68%  | 61%   | 64%   |
| Roy Municipal Schools            | NA   | NA  | NA  |
| Ruidoso Municipal Schools        | 84%  | 78%   | 93%   |
| San Jon Municipal Schools        | 76%  | 86%   | NA  |
| Santa Fe Public Schools          | 64%  | 65%   | 66%   |
| Santa Rosa Consolidated Schools  | 90%  | 91%   | 78%   |
| Silver City Consolidated Schools | 87%  | 79%   | 86%   |
| Socorro Consolidated Schools     | 61%  | 62%   | 52%   |
| Springer Municipal Schools       | 88%  | 94%   | NA  |
| Taos Municipal Schools           | 71%  | 63%   | 55%   |
| Tatum Municipal Schools          | 92%  | 95%   | NA  |
| Texico Municipal Schools         | 88%  | 73%   | NA  |
| Truth or Consequences Schools    | 75%  | 74%   | 68%   |
| Tucumcari Public Schools         | 67%  | 69%   | 85%   |
| Tularosa Municipal Schools       | 85%  | 87%   | NA  |
| Vaughn Municipal Schools         | 88%  | 88%   | NA  |
| Wagon Mound Public Schools       | 52%  | 52%   | 52%   |
| West Las Vegas Public Schools    | 64%  | 65%   | 65%   |
| Zuni Public Schools              | 55%  | 42%   | 55%   |

Source: "Cohort of 2014 4-Year Graduation Rates," New Mexico Public Education Department; retrieved December, 2015 from [http://ped.state.nm.us/ped/Graduation\\_data.html](http://ped.state.nm.us/ped/Graduation_data.html)



# Health: PRENATAL CARE

## BIRTHS TO WOMEN RECEIVING NO PRENATAL CARE BY SELECTED STATUS AND COUNTY (2014)\*

The rates of pregnant women receiving no prenatal care increased between 2012-2013 and 2013-2014. Rates are higher among teen mothers and mothers without a high

school diploma. Read this table as: "Of all mothers under the age of 20 who had a live birth, 2.9 percent of them received no prenatal care."

| Location          | Number of Live Births to Women Who Received No Prenatal Care | Percent of Live Births to Women Who Received No Prenatal Care | Percent of Mothers Younger than 20 Who Received No Prenatal Care | Percent of Mothers with Less than a High School Diploma and No Prenatal Care |
|-------------------|--|---|--|--|
| New Mexico        | 603  | 2.3%  | 2.9%   | 4.7%   |
| Bernalillo County | 141  | 1.8%  | 2.4%   | 2.8%   |
| Catron County     | 2  | 7.1%  | 0.0%   | 50.0%  |
| Chaves County     | 24   | 2.6%  | 1.9%   | 4.6%   |
| Cibola County     | 28   | 7.1%  | 4.1%   | 10.6%  |
| Colfax County     | 3  | 2.4%  | 0.0%   | 7.1%   |
| Curry County      | 13   | 1.4%  | 2.1%   | 3.9%   |
| De Baca County    | 0  | 0.0%  | 0.0%   | 0.0%   |
| Doña Ana County   | 89   | 3.1%  | 3.6%   | 7.4%   |
| Eddy County       | 16   | 1.8%  | 3.1%   | 5.7%   |
| Grant County      | 7  | 2.4%  | 0.0%   | 3.6%   |
| Guadalupe County  | 3  | 8.3%  | 0.0%   | 0.0%   |
| Harding County    | 1  | 16.7%   | 0.0%   | 0.0%   |
| Hidalgo County    | 2  | 3.5%  | 0.0%   | 6.7%   |
| Lea County        | 46   | 4.0%  | 3.4%   | 6.0%   |
| Lincoln County    | 2  | 1.1%  | 0.0%   | 4.2%   |
| Los Alamos County | 1  | 0.6%  | 0.0%   | 0.0%   |
| Luna County       | 19   | 4.8%  | 6.2%   | 5.7%   |
| McKinley County   | 25   | 2.2%  | 2.8%   | 4.9%   |
| Mora County       | 0  | 0.0%  | 0.0%   | 0.0%   |
| Otero County      | 27   | 3.0%  | 2.2%   | 7.2%   |
| Quay County       | 1  | 1.1%  | 0.0%   | 0.0%   |
| Rio Arriba County | 23   | 4.5%  | 12.0%  | 9.2%   |
| Roosevelt County  | 3  | 0.9%  | 0.0%   | 0.0%   |
| San Juan County   | 39   | 2.1%  | 1.1%   | 5.4%   |
| San Miguel County | 3  | 1.1%  | 0.0%   | 5.0%   |
| Sandoval County   | 19   | 1.3%  | 3.8%   | 1.9%   |
| Santa Fe County   | 19   | 1.4%  | 3.4%   | 2.9%   |
| Sierra County     | 6  | 5.3%  | 25.0%  | 0.0%   |
| Socorro County    | 15   | 7.0%  | 5.0%   | 7.6%   |
| Taos County       | 11   | 3.5%  | 3.6%   | 2.9%   |
| Torrance County   | 5  | 4.0%  | 0.0%   | 3.7%   |
| Union County      | 0  | 0.0%  | 0.0%   | 0.0%   |
| Valencia County   | 10   | 1.2%  | 0.0%   | 2.2%   |

\*Low birth counts may result in rates and percentages that are not indicative of the normal rate for that county and that may fluctuate widely over time due to random variation or chance.

Source: New Mexico Department of Public Health, Bureau of Vital Records and Health Statistics; retrieved December 2015 from the NM DoH Indicator-Based Information System for Public Health (IBIS): <http://ibis.health.state.nm.us>

## Health: INFANT MORTALITY

### WOMEN RECEIVING NO PRENATAL CARE BY RACE/ETHNICITY (2014)

|                           | Percentage |
|---------------------------|------------|
| New Mexico                | 2.3%       |
| Hispanic                  | 2.6%       |
| Non-Hispanic White        | 1.6%       |
| Native American           | 3.1%       |
| Black or African American | 1.9%       |
| Asian or Pacific Islander | 0.4%       |

Source: New Mexico Department of Public Health, Indicator-Based Information System for Public Health (IBIS); retrieved December 2015 from <http://ibis.health.state.nm.us>

### WOMEN RECEIVING PRENATAL CARE IN THE FIRST TRIMESTER BY RACE/ETHNICITY (2014)

|                           | Percentage |
|---------------------------|------------|
| New Mexico                | 63.9%      |
| Hispanic                  | 62.9%      |
| Non-Hispanic White        | 70.7%      |
| Native American           | 54.5%      |
| Black or African American | 61.3%      |
| Asian or Pacific Islander | 65.1%      |

Source: New Mexico Department of Public Health, Bureau of Vital Records and Health Statistics; retrieved December 2015 from the NM DoH Indicator-Based Information System for Public Health (IBIS): <http://ibis.health.state.nm.us>

\*Low birth counts may result in rates and percentages that are not indicative of the normal rate for that county and that may fluctuate widely over time due to random variation or chance.

\*\*The infant mortality rate is the number of infants per 1,000 live births that die within the first year after birth.

*Hispanic and Native-American women in New Mexico are the least likely pregnant women to receive prenatal care. Non-Hispanic White mothers are not only most likely to receive prenatal care, but to receive it early on in pregnancy. Babies born to mothers who do not receive prenatal care or to those who receive prenatal care only late in pregnancy are more likely to be born at a low birth-weight, to have complications during birth, and to die during or immediately following birth than are those born to mothers who receive comprehensive prenatal care.*

### INFANT MORTALITY NUMBERS AND RATES BY COUNTY (2014)\*

| Location          | Number of Infant Deaths | Infant Mortality Rate (Deaths per 1,000 Births**) |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---|
| New Mexico        | 141                     | 5.4   |
| Bernalillo County | 48                      | 6   |
| Catron County     | 0                       | 0   |
| Chaves County     | 3                       | 3.3   |
| Cibola County     | 3                       | 7.6   |
| Colfax County     | 4                       | 32  |
| Curry County      | 5                       | 5.4   |
| De Baca County    | 0                       | 0   |
| Doña Ana County   | 12                      | 4.2   |
| Eddy County       | 2                       | 2.3   |
| Grant County      | 1                       | 3.4   |
| Guadalupe County  | 0                       | 0   |
| Harding County    | 0                       | 0   |
| Hidalgo County    | 1                       | 17.5  |
| Lea County        | 12                      | 10.5  |
| Lincoln County    | 0                       | 0   |
| Los Alamos County | 0                       | 0   |
| Luna County       | 2                       | 5.1   |
| McKinley County   | 4                       | 3.5   |
| Mora County       | 0                       | 0   |
| Otero County      | 4                       | 4.5   |
| Quay County       | 0                       | 0   |
| Rio Arriba County | 3                       | 5.8   |
| Roosevelt County  | 5                       | 15.1  |
| San Juan County   | 9                       | 4.9   |
| San Miguel County | 1                       | 3.5   |
| Sandoval County   | 10                      | 6.7   |
| Santa Fe County   | 3                       | 2.3   |
| Sierra County     | 3                       | 26.3  |
| Socorro County    | 1                       | 4.7   |
| Taos County       | 1                       | 3.2   |
| Torrance County   | 0                       | 0   |
| Union County      | 1                       | 29.4  |
| Valencia County   | 3                       | 3.6   |

Source: New Mexico Department of Public Health, Office of Vital Records and Statistics, New Mexico Death Certificate Database; retrieved December 2015 from the NM DoH Indicator-Based Information System for Public Health (IBIS): <http://ibis.health.state.nm.us>



# Health: CHILD HEALTH INSURANCE

*Children without health insurance are less likely to get well-child visits, less likely to receive immunizations, and more likely to deal with untreated developmental delays and chronic conditions that can hinder healthy growth and learning. A majority (55 percent) of children in New Mexico are low-income, making them less likely to have access to health insurance.*

## CHILDREN WITHOUT HEALTH INSURANCE BY INCOME LEVEL AND COUNTY (2013)

| Location          | All Income Levels | Low Income* |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| New Mexico        | 9.0%              | 11%         |
| Bernalillo County | 7.8%              | 10%         |
| Catron County     | 18.5%             | 21%         |
| Chaves County     | 9.2%              | 11%         |
| Cibola County     | 8.6%              | 8%          |
| Colfax County     | 9.7%              | 12%         |
| Curry County      | 7.8%              | 10%         |
| De Baca County    | 14.7%             | 16%         |
| Doña Ana County   | 9.5%              | 11%         |
| Eddy County       | 7.5%              | 11%         |
| Grant County      | 8.4%              | 11%         |
| Guadalupe County  | 8.9%              | 10%         |
| Harding County    | 18.8%             | 25%         |
| Hidalgo County    | 11.5%             | 14%         |
| Lea County        | 10.0%             | 13%         |
| Lincoln County    | 12.9%             | 15%         |
| Los Alamos County | 3.7%              | 19%         |
| Luna County       | 9.9%              | 11%         |
| McKinley County   | 10.1%             | 9%          |
| Mora County       | 16.9%             | 22%         |
| Otero County      | 10.0%             | 12%         |
| Quay County       | 7.2%              | 8%          |
| Rio Arriba County | 11.3%             | 12%         |
| Roosevelt County  | 9.4%              | 11%         |
| San Juan County   | 9.7%              | 10%         |
| San Miguel County | 10.1%             | 12%         |
| Sandoval County   | 7.8%              | 11%         |
| Santa Fe County   | 11.3%             | 15%         |
| Sierra County     | 10.0%             | 11%         |
| Socorro County    | 10.2%             | 10%         |
| Taos County       | 11.1%             | 13%         |
| Torrance County   | 10.9%             | 12%         |
| Union County      | 11.6%             | 14%         |
| Valencia County   | 9.5%              | 11%         |

\*The low-income threshold used in the table is 200 percent of the federal poverty level for 2013, which was \$39,060 for a family of three.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Health Insurance Estimates, 2013



## CHILDREN AND YOUTH (YOUNGER THAN 21 YEARS) ENROLLED IN MEDICAID BY COUNTY (OCTOBER 2015)

| Location          | All Youth | Native American Youth |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------------------|
| New Mexico        | 335,516   | 51,869                |
| Bernalillo County | 94,296    | 8,090                 |
| Catron County     | 320       | 9                     |
| Chaves County     | 13,130    | 69                    |
| Cibola County     | 5,604     | 3,356                 |
| Colfax County     | 1,775     | 33                    |
| Curry County      | 8,422     | 62                    |
| De Baca County    | 319       | 5                     |
| Doña Ana County   | 44,007    | 331                   |
| Eddy County       | 9,192     | 81                    |
| Grant County      | 4,116     | 53                    |
| Guadalupe County  | 732       | 8                     |
| Harding County    | 34        | 2                     |
| Hidalgo County    | 682       | 4                     |
| Lea County        | 13,318    | 63                    |
| Lincoln County    | 2,861     | 190                   |
| Los Alamos County | 436       | 10                    |
| Luna County       | 6,265     | 50                    |
| McKinley County   | 17,723    | 15,574                |
| Mora County       | 515       | 15                    |
| Otero County      | 8,070     | 1,333                 |
| Quay County       | 1,421     | 11                    |
| Rio Arriba County | 8,625     | 1,489                 |
| Roosevelt County  | 3,284     | 47                    |
| San Juan County   | 23,477    | 13,212                |
| San Miguel County | 4,208     | 107                   |
| Sandoval County   | 18,621    | 4,817                 |
| Santa Fe County   | 17,192    | 987                   |
| Sierra County     | 1,901     | 19                    |
| Socorro County    | 2,959     | 807                   |
| Taos County       | 4,981     | 400                   |
| Torrance County   | 3,349     | 95                    |
| Union County      | 407       | 6                     |
| Valencia County   | 12,952    | 491                   |

Source: New Mexico Human Services Department, Medicaid Eligibility Reports: "October-All Children under 21 by County" and "Native Americans by County"; columns titled "Children including CHIP and not in another category." Retrieved December 2015 from <http://www.hsd.state.nm.us/LookingForInformation/medicaid-eligibility.aspx>



## Health: CHILD ABUSE

*A child abuse allegation is substantiated when it is determined that the victim is under the age of 18, a parent or caretaker has been identified as the perpetrator and/or identified as failing to protect the victim, and credible evidence exists to support the conclusion by the investigator that the child has been abused and/or neglected as defined by the New Mexico Children's Code.*


*The rates should be read as follows: "In state fiscal year 2015 (from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015), approximately 18.4 children in every 1,000 children under the age of 18 in New Mexico were abused or neglected." The percentages should be read as follows: "In fiscal year 2015, of all substantiated allegations of child abuse, 22 percent were for physical abuse, 2 percent were for sexual abuse, and 76 percent were for physical neglect."*

### SUBSTANTIATED CHILD ABUSE ALLEGATIONS AND INVESTIGATIONS BY TYPE OF ABUSE AND COUNTY (FY 2015)

| Location          | Substantiated Child Abuse Victim Rate (per 1,000 Children)* | Percent of Substantiated Abuse that is Physical Abuse | Percent of Substantiated Abuse that is Sexual Abuse | Percent of Substantiated Abuse that is Physical Neglect |
|-------------------|---|---|---|---|
| New Mexico        | 18.4  | 22%   | 2%  | 76%   |
| Bernalillo County | 21.2  | 25%   | 2%  | 73%   |
| Catron County     | 0.0   | NA  | NA  | NA  |
| Chaves County     | 17.4  | 8%  | 3%  | 89%   |
| Cibola County     | 13.9  | 25%   | 0%  | 75%   |
| Colfax County     | 37.4  | 22%   | 2%  | 76%   |
| Curry County      | 23.8  | 19%   | 2%  | 79%   |
| De Baca County    | 10.4  | 33%   | 0%  | 67%   |
| Doña Ana County   | 13.1  | 18%   | 3%  | 79%   |
| Eddy County       | 13.4  | 9%  | 4%  | 87%   |
| Grant County      | 23.6  | 28%   | 2%  | 70%   |
| Guadalupe County  | 21.4  | 43%   | 0%  | 57%   |
| Harding County    | 0.0   | NA  | NA  | NA  |
| Hidalgo County    | 3.6   | 0%  | 0%  | 100%  |
| Lea County        | 15.7  | 16%   | 3%  | 81%   |
| Lincoln County    | 23.8  | 14%   | 2%  | 84%   |
| Los Alamos County | 1.1   | 17%   | 0%  | 83%   |
| Luna County       | 19.5  | 22%   | 1%  | 77%   |
| McKinley County   | 20.9  | 22%   | 1%  | 77%   |
| Mora County       | 0.0   | NA  | NA  | NA  |
| Otero County      | 15.7  | 19%   | 2%  | 79%   |
| Quay County       | 22.3  | 31%   | 6%  | 63%   |
| Rio Arriba County | 20.7  | 20%   | 1%  | 79%   |
| Roosevelt County  | 11.0  | 22%   | 1%  | 77%   |
| San Juan County   | 14.4  | 26%   | 3%  | 71%   |
| San Miguel County | 43.9  | 28%   | 1%  | 71%   |
| Sandoval County   | 10.8  | 35%   | 2%  | 63%   |
| Santa Fe County   | 15.0  | 21%   | 2%  | 77%   |
| Sierra County     | 37.6  | 19%   | 3%  | 79%   |
| Socorro County    | 26.7  | 16%   | 1%  | 83%   |
| Taos County       | 24.8  | 9%  | 1%  | 90%   |
| Torrance County   | 28.1  | 28%   | 0%  | 72%   |
| Union County      | 4.8   | 0%  | 0%  | 100%  |
| Valencia County   | 25.9  | 20%   | 2%  | 78%   |

\*The substantiated child abuse victim rate is the number of victims of substantiated child abuse allegations per 1,000 children in New Mexico.

Source: 360 YEARLY, state and county profiles, FY 2015, New Mexico Children Youth and Families Department (CYFD); retrieved December 2015 from [https://cyfd.org/docs/360ANNUAL\\_FY15\\_FINAL.pdf](https://cyfd.org/docs/360ANNUAL_FY15_FINAL.pdf)



“No matter where they  
live in New Mexico, no matter how  
much their parents earn, and no matter  
the color of their skin, all of New Mexico’s  
children should have access to  
opportunities to succeed.”

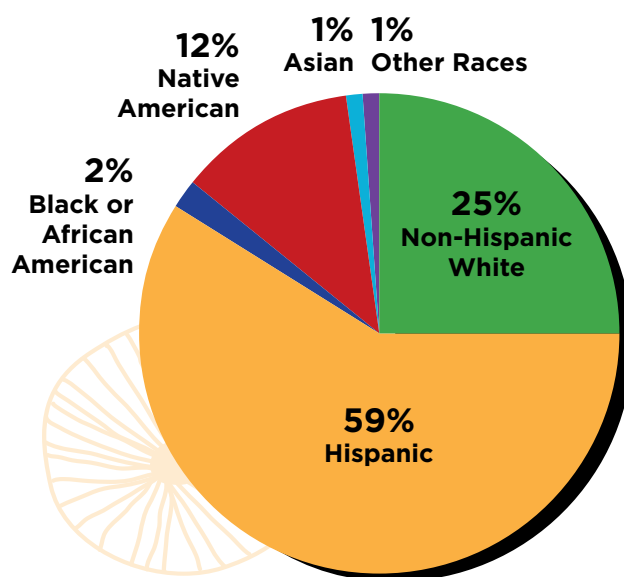


## Family and Community: POPULATION



*New Mexico is ahead of the national demographic trend in having what is often referred to as a “minority-majority” child population, where the majority of the child population is not White. The U.S. child population is not expected to become minority-majority until 2020, but approximately three-quarters of children in New Mexico are racial or ethnic minorities, with Hispanic children making up the largest racial or ethnic group. Because children of color generally—and Hispanic children specifically—tend to fare worse in measures of child well-being, it is critical that policies are implemented that focus on racial and ethnic equity and that promote opportunities for children of color.*

**CHILD POPULATION BY RACE/ETHNICITY (2014)**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Tables B01001 and B01001 B, C, D, E, F, G, H, and I





## POPULATION BY AGE AND COUNTY (2009-2013)

| Location          | Total Population<br>(All Ages) | Children Younger<br>than 5 Years | Children 0-19 |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|
| United States     | 314,107,084                    | 19,973,711                       | 82,643,483    |
| New Mexico        | 2,080,085                      | 141,533                          | 574,423       |
| Bernalillo County | 671,429                        | 44,406                           | 176,107       |
| Catron County     | 3,651                          | 22                               | 607           |
| Chaves County     | 65,850                         | 5,091                            | 20,518        |
| Cibola County     | 27,392                         | 1,951                            | 7,583         |
| Colfax County     | 13,264                         | 686                              | 2,999         |
| Curry County      | 50,173                         | 4,320                            | 15,183        |
| De Baca County    | 1,967                          | 62                               | 602           |
| Doña Ana County   | 212,942                        | 15,687                           | 64,333        |
| Eddy County       | 54,834                         | 3,822                            | 15,667        |
| Grant County      | 29,303                         | 1,691                            | 7,095         |
| Guadalupe County  | 4,594                          | 240                              | 1,141         |
| Harding County    | 655                            | 26                               | 123           |
| Hidalgo County    | 4,734                          | 334                              | 1,380         |
| Lea County        | 66,876                         | 5,736                            | 21,217        |
| Lincoln County    | 20,162                         | 988                              | 4,083         |
| Los Alamos County | 17,974                         | 886                              | 4,618         |
| Luna County       | 24,947                         | 1,777                            | 7,399         |
| McKinley County   | 73,082                         | 5,898                            | 25,206        |
| Mora County       | 4,722                          | 275                              | 959           |
| Otero County      | 65,415                         | 4,911                            | 17,872        |
| Quay County       | 8,822                          | 489                              | 2,233         |
| Rio Arriba County | 40,155                         | 2,760                            | 10,925        |
| Roosevelt County  | 20,065                         | 1,514                            | 6,155         |
| San Juan County   | 127,358                        | 10,301                           | 40,134        |
| San Miguel County | 28,899                         | 1,613                            | 7,393         |
| Sandoval County   | 135,191                        | 8,700                            | 38,163        |
| Santa Fe County   | 146,361                        | 7,916                            | 33,191        |
| Sierra County     | 11,774                         | 410                              | 2,027         |
| Socorro County    | 17,608                         | 1,040                            | 5,289         |
| Taos County       | 32,956                         | 1,737                            | 7,242         |
| Torrance County   | 16,037                         | 849                              | 4,104         |
| Union County      | 4,413                          | 201                              | 969           |
| Valencia County   | 76,480                         | 5,194                            | 21,906        |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2009-2013, Tables B01003 and DP05



# Family and Community: TYPES OF FAMILIES\*

## FAMILIES BY HOUSEHOLDER TYPE AND COUNTY (2009-2013)

| Location          | Total Households | Married-Couple Families with Own Children Younger than 18 | Single-Male Householder Families with Own Children Younger than 18 | Single-Female Householder Families with Own Children Younger than 18 |
|-------------------|------------------|---|--|--|
| United States     | 115,610,216      | 20%   | 2%   | 7%   |
| New Mexico        | 761,938          | 17%   | 3%   | 8%   |
| Bernalillo County | 263,135          | 17%   | 3%   | 8%   |
| Catron County     | 1,581            | 9%  | 1%   | 2%   |
| Chaves County     | 23,499           | 20%   | 3%   | 9%   |
| Cibola County     | 8,016            | 10%   | 6%   | 9%   |
| Colfax County     | 5,574            | 13%   | 2%   | 7%   |
| Curry County      | 18,027           | 22%   | 3%   | 9%   |
| De Baca County    | 689              | 17%   | 4%   | 5%   |
| Doña Ana County   | 73,797           | 19%   | 2%   | 10%  |
| Eddy County       | 19,866           | 19%   | 4%   | 8%   |
| Grant County      | 12,216           | 13%   | 3%   | 7%   |
| Guadalupe County  | 1,260            | 14%   | 3%   | 7%   |
| Harding County    | 261              | 8%  | 2%   | 2%   |
| Hidalgo County    | 1,837            | 12%   | 2%   | 10%  |
| Lea County        | 21,126           | 25%   | 4%   | 7%   |
| Lincoln County    | 8,685            | 14%   | 1%   | 6%   |
| Los Alamos County | 7,590            | 22%   | 2%   | 5%   |
| Luna County       | 8,862            | 15%   | 2%   | 8%   |
| McKinley County   | 17,427           | 16%   | 3%   | 10%  |
| Mora County       | 1,532            | 8%  | 0%   | 3%   |
| Otero County      | 23,945           | 20%   | 2%   | 8%   |
| Quay County       | 3,476            | 11%   | 2%   | 6%   |
| Rio Arriba County | 14,783           | 13%   | 4%   | 9%   |
| Roosevelt County  | 7,043            | 21%   | 4%   | 7%   |
| San Juan County   | 40,945           | 20%   | 4%   | 9%   |
| San Miguel County | 11,435           | 10%   | 4%   | 10%  |
| Sandoval County   | 47,164           | 20%   | 4%   | 8%   |
| Santa Fe County   | 61,012           | 14%   | 2%   | 7%   |
| Sierra County     | 4,350            | 6%  | 2%   | 4%   |
| Socorro County    | 5,329            | 10%   | 2%   | 6%   |
| Taos County       | 13,338           | 11%   | 2%   | 8%   |
| Torrance County   | 5,638            | 13%   | 1%   | 6%   |
| Union County      | 1,606            | 17%   | 2%   | 8%   |
| Valencia County   | 26,894           | 21%   | 4%   | 8%   |



## FAMILIES BY HOUSEHOLDER TYPE AND TRIBE OR PUEBLO (2009-2013)

| Location             | Total Households | Married-Couple Families with Own Children Younger than 18 | Single-Male Householder Families with Own Children Younger than 18 | Single-Female Householder Families with Own Children Younger than 18 |
|----------------------|------------------|---|--|--|
| United States        | 115,610,216      | 20%   | 2%   | 7%   |
| New Mexico           | 761,938          | 17%   | 3%   | 8%   |
| Acoma Pueblo         | 668              | 10%   | 7%   | 8%   |
| Cochiti Pueblo       | 582              | 10%   | 1%   | 8%   |
| Isleta Pueblo        | 1,245            | 15%   | 5%   | 17%  |
| Jemez Pueblo         | 447              | 12%   | 8%   | 8%   |
| Jicarilla Apache     | 944              | 16%   | 4%   | 13%  |
| Laguna Pueblo        | 1,011            | 11%   | 4%   | 8%   |
| Mescalero Apache     | 933              | 17%   | 4%   | 20%  |
| Nambe Pueblo         | 752              | 11%   | 2%   | 10%  |
| Navajo**             | 31,845           | 15%   | 4%   | 12%  |
| Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo | 2,267            | 17%   | 6%   | 10%  |
| Picuris Pueblo       | 726              | 13%   | 2%   | 5%   |
| Pojoaque Pueblo      | 1,477            | 15%   | 6%   | 7%   |
| Sandia Pueblo        | 1,648            | 17%   | 3%   | 13%  |
| San Felipe Pueblo    | 819              | 10%   | 6%   | 11%  |
| San Ildefonso Pueblo | 725              | 18%   | 4%   | 8%   |
| Santa Ana Pueblo     | 182              | 21%   | 4%   | 8%   |
| Santa Clara Pueblo   | 4,360            | 14%   | 3%   | 9%   |
| Santo Domingo Pueblo | 568              | 13%   | 4%   | 16%  |
| Taos Pueblo          | 1,953            | 9%  | 2%   | 8%   |
| Tesuque Pueblo       | 294              | 12%   | 5%   | 5%   |
| Zia Pueblo           | 220              | 11%   | 2%   | 11%  |
| Zuni Pueblo          | 1,413            | 14%   | 3%   | 7%   |

\*Households include all people who live in a housing unit, while the term families refers to households in which at least some members are related to each other (see methodology section for more detailed definitions). The numbers in these rows do not add up to 100 percent because there are other types of household structures besides families with children, including families and households without children, and households where no members are related.

\*\*Only data for Navajos living on New Mexico reservation land are included.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2009-2013, Table DP02



## Family and Community: ADULT EDUCATION

### ADULTS (AGES 25 AND OLDER) BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT LEVEL AND COUNTY (2009-2013)\*

| Location          | No High School Diploma | High School Diploma or Equivalency | Associate's Degree | Bachelor's Degree | Graduate or Professional Degree |
|-------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| United States     | 14%                    | 28%                                | 8%                 | 18%               | 11%                             |
| New Mexico        | 16%                    | 26%                                | 8%                 | 15%               | 11%                             |
| Bernalillo County | 13%                    | 24%                                | 7%                 | 18%               | 14%                             |
| Catron County     | 12%                    | 32%                                | 6%                 | 12%               | 6%                              |
| Chaves County     | 22%                    | 27%                                | 8%                 | 12%               | 6%                              |
| Cibola County     | 20%                    | 39%                                | 8%                 | 7%                | 4%                              |
| Colfax County     | 13%                    | 34%                                | 6%                 | 13%               | 7%                              |
| Curry County      | 19%                    | 24%                                | 10%                | 12%               | 8%                              |
| De Baca County    | 19%                    | 33%                                | 6%                 | 12%               | 6%                              |
| Doña Ana County   | 22%                    | 22%                                | 7%                 | 16%               | 11%                             |
| Eddy County       | 19%                    | 32%                                | 8%                 | 10%               | 7%                              |
| Grant County      | 16%                    | 28%                                | 7%                 | 12%               | 12%                             |
| Guadalupe County  | 21%                    | 43%                                | 4%                 | 6%                | 5%                              |
| Harding County    | 10%                    | 35%                                | 6%                 | 16%               | 6%                              |
| Hidalgo County    | 22%                    | 33%                                | 5%                 | 10%               | 5%                              |
| Lea County        | 29%                    | 29%                                | 7%                 | 8%                | 5%                              |
| Lincoln County    | 14%                    | 28%                                | 8%                 | 15%               | 8%                              |
| Los Alamos County | 3%                     | 11%                                | 7%                 | 26%               | 38%                             |
| Luna County       | 32%                    | 32%                                | 6%                 | 8%                | 6%                              |
| McKinley County   | 27%                    | 33%                                | 6%                 | 7%                | 5%                              |
| Mora County       | 16%                    | 44%                                | 10%                | 4%                | 6%                              |
| Otero County      | 16%                    | 29%                                | 9%                 | 10%               | 6%                              |
| Quay County       | 19%                    | 39%                                | 6%                 | 9%                | 4%                              |
| Rio Arriba County | 21%                    | 30%                                | 8%                 | 9%                | 7%                              |
| Roosevelt County  | 20%                    | 26%                                | 7%                 | 14%               | 8%                              |
| San Juan County   | 18%                    | 33%                                | 10%                | 10%               | 6%                              |
| San Miguel County | 16%                    | 32%                                | 7%                 | 11%               | 9%                              |
| Sandoval County   | 9%                     | 27%                                | 10%                | 17%               | 11%                             |
| Santa Fe County   | 13%                    | 21%                                | 6%                 | 21%               | 19%                             |
| Sierra County     | 16%                    | 35%                                | 5%                 | 15%               | 6%                              |
| Socorro County    | 21%                    | 33%                                | 6%                 | 11%               | 8%                              |
| Taos County       | 13%                    | 25%                                | 10%                | 18%               | 11%                             |
| Torrance County   | 19%                    | 34%                                | 7%                 | 9%                | 5%                              |
| Union County      | 23%                    | 37%                                | 4%                 | 10%               | 7%                              |
| Valencia County   | 19%                    | 30%                                | 7%                 | 11%               | 6%                              |



## ADULTS (AGES 25 AND OLDER) BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT LEVEL AND TRIBE OR PUEBLO (2009-2013)\*

| Location             | No High School Diploma | High School Diploma or Equivalency | Associate's Degree | Bachelor's Degree | Graduate or Professional Degree |
|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| United States        | 14%                    | 28%                                | 8%                 | 18%               | 11%                             |
| New Mexico           | 16%                    | 26%                                | 8%                 | 15%               | 11%                             |
| Acoma Pueblo         | 14%                    | 49%                                | 7%                 | 6%                | 2%                              |
| Cochiti Pueblo       | 13%                    | 28%                                | 9%                 | 13%               | 10%                             |
| Isleta Pueblo        | 14%                    | 36%                                | 13%                | 8%                | 2%                              |
| Jemez Pueblo         | 11%                    | 43%                                | 5%                 | 7%                | 4%                              |
| Jicarilla Apache     | 18%                    | 37%                                | 7%                 | 8%                | 3%                              |
| Laguna Pueblo        | 13%                    | 47%                                | 9%                 | 5%                | 2%                              |
| Mescalero Apache     | 21%                    | 34%                                | 6%                 | 6%                | 3%                              |
| Nambe Pueblo         | 12%                    | 31%                                | 8%                 | 17%               | 11%                             |
| Navajo**             | 30%                    | 34%                                | 8%                 | 4%                | 3%                              |
| Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo | 25%                    | 33%                                | 8%                 | 6%                | 3%                              |
| Picuris Pueblo       | 20%                    | 30%                                | 10%                | 8%                | 7%                              |
| Pojoaque Pueblo      | 12%                    | 32%                                | 7%                 | 15%               | 9%                              |
| Sandia Pueblo        | 24%                    | 38%                                | 5%                 | 6%                | 4%                              |
| San Felipe Pueblo    | 24%                    | 39%                                | 5%                 | 5%                | 3%                              |
| San Ildefonso Pueblo | 13%                    | 30%                                | 8%                 | 13%               | 10%                             |
| Santa Ana Pueblo     | 7%                     | 27%                                | 14%                | 10%               | 1%                              |
| Santa Clara Pueblo   | 19%                    | 29%                                | 8%                 | 11%               | 8%                              |
| Santo Domingo Pueblo | 29%                    | 35%                                | 7%                 | 4%                | 2%                              |
| Taos Pueblo          | 15%                    | 26%                                | 9%                 | 17%               | 9%                              |
| Tesuque Pueblo       | 26%                    | 25%                                | 5%                 | 14%               | 9%                              |
| Zia Pueblo           | 20%                    | 43%                                | 13%                | 4%                | 1%                              |
| Zuni Pueblo          | 23%                    | 39%                                | 4%                 | 5%                | 2%                              |

\*The numbers in these rows do not add up to 100 percent because some educational attainment levels are not included here, such as "some college, no degree."

\*\*Only data for Navajos living on New Mexico reservation land are included.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2009-2013, Table DP02



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# Methodology

**Data Sources:** At this time, the New Mexico KIDS COUNT program does not design or implement primary research in the state. Instead, the program uses and analyzes secondary data and study findings provided by credible research and data collection institutions both in the state and the nation, such as the U.S. Census Bureau. The New Mexico KIDS COUNT staff make every effort to confirm that the data gathered and used are the most reliable possible. However, we rely on the data collection and analysis skills of those institutions providing this information. More information on data sources can be found in the “Major Data Sources” section of this publication.

**Data Conditions:** Some tables in this report do not provide data for all New Mexico counties or school districts. In order to provide the most up-to-date information possible we make every effort to utilize the most recent U.S. Census Bureau data sets (generally the American Community Survey, or ACS). Given this, however, a certain trade-off takes place, as data are not always available in certain time frames for certain geographic areas, like counties with smaller population sizes. For example, one-year estimates such as the 2014 ACS are released earlier in the year in 2015 and provide the most current data available, but are only published for geographic areas with a population of 65,000 or more. ACS five-year estimates (such as for 2009-2013) provide data for areas with fewer than 20,000 people (as well as for all larger areas), because in five years a large enough sample has been accumulated to provide accurate estimates for those areas. However, five-year estimates are released later in the year than one-year estimates. For these reasons, the New Mexico KIDS COUNT Data Book often includes state-level estimates that are more current than county-level estimates. In this year’s book, most state-level data reported are from the 2014 one-year ACS, while most county and tribal data reported are from the 2009-2013 five-year ACS. It should be noted that a previously available three-year ACS was discontinued in 2015, so data from that series will no longer be used moving forward and should also not be considered for past years when compared as part of a time series comparison.

The data presented in the various tables and graphs in this report are often not comparable to each other. This is due to several factors. These data come from a variety of sources that may use different sample sizes in their research and/or data collection methods. Data may also be derived from surveys or questionnaires that apply different definitions to key, measurable terms—such as “family” versus “household” (see below). In addition, statistics, such as percentages or rates, may be calculated for certain populations based on different universes (the total number of units—e.g., individuals, households, businesses—in the population of interest). The universe generally serves as the denominator when a percentage or rate is calculated. A percentage is a measure calculated by taking the number of items in a group possessing a certain quality of interest and dividing by the total number of items in that group, and then multiplying by 100. A rate is the number of items, events or individuals in a group out of a number—generally 1,000 or 100,000—that fall into a certain category. Rates are determined by dividing the number of items possessing a certain quality of interest (like teens ages 15-19 giving birth) by the total number of items in the group (all teen females ages 15-19), and then multiplying the answer by 1,000. A rate is stated as the number “per 1,000” or “per 100,000.”

## Key U.S. Census Definitions to Help in Understanding Certain Tables and Graphs

A **household** includes all the people who occupy or live in a housing unit (apartment, house, mobile home, etc.) as their usual place of residence. A **householder** is the person in whose name the home is owned, mortgaged or rented. Households are classified by the gender of the householder and the presence of relatives, such as: married-couple family; male householder, no wife present; female householder, no husband present with own children; same-sex couple households; and the like.

A **family** includes a householder and people living in the same household who are related to that householder by birth, marriage or adoption and regarded as members of his/her family. A family



household *may have people **not** related to the householder, but they are **not** included as part of the householder's family in Census tabulations.*

- So, though the number of families equals the number of family households, *family households* may include more members than do families.
- Families are classified as "Married-Couple Family," "Single-Parent Family," "Stepfamily," or "Subfamily."

**Total income** is the sum of the amounts reported separately for wages, salary, commissions, bonuses, or tips; self-employment income from one's own non-farm or farm businesses, including proprietorships and partnerships; interest, dividends, net rental income, royalty income, or income from estates and trusts; Social Security or Railroad Retirement income; Supplemental Security Income (SSI); any public assistance or welfare payments from the state or local welfare office; retirement, survivor, or disability pensions; and any other sources of income received regularly, such as Veterans' (VA) payments, unemployment compensation, child support, or alimony.

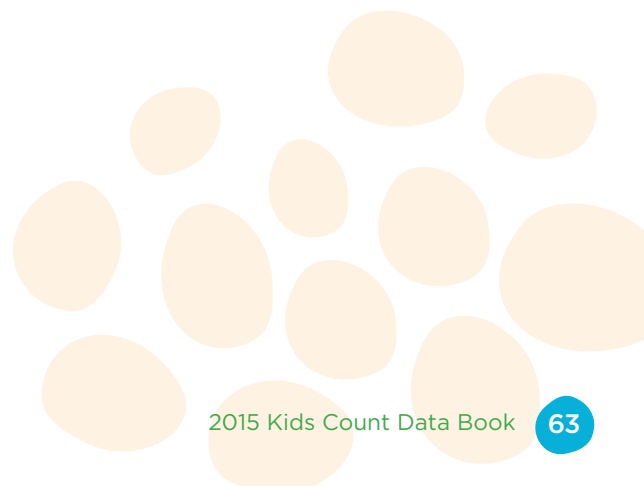
- **Household Income**, which is a summed number, includes the income of the householder and all other individuals ages 15 and older in the household, whether they are related to the householder or not.
- **Family Income** includes the summed incomes of all members ages 15 and older related to the householder; this summed income is treated as a single amount.

**Median income** divides households or families evenly in the middle with half of all households/families earning more than the median income and half of all households/families earning less than the median income. The U.S. Census Bureau considers the median income to be lower than the average income, and thus, a more accurate representation.

**Poverty level** can be difficult to interpret. The Census Bureau uses a set of income thresholds known as the Federal Poverty Guidelines which vary by family size and composition in order to determine who is poor. If total income for a family or individual falls below

the relevant poverty threshold, then the family or individual is classified as being "below the poverty level." However, the poverty level is generally far below what a family actually needs in order to live at a bare minimum level (i.e., have sufficient food, a place to live, transportation, and health care). The poverty levels used in the 2015 New Mexico KIDS COUNT Data Book are for 2013 and 2014. The poverty level was \$11,490 for one person in 2013 and \$11,670 in 2014. The poverty level for a family of four was an income of \$23,550 in 2013 and \$23,850 in 2014. However, a family of four at double (200 percent) the Federal Poverty Level (\$47,700 in 2014) is considered to be low-income, with just enough to cover basic family living expenses.

**Race and Hispanic Origin:** The U.S. Census uses six race categories: White, Black or African American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander, and Some Other Race. The term **origin** is used to indicate a person's (or the person's parents) heritage, nationality group, lineage, or country of birth. In addition, the Census uses two ethnic categories: Hispanic and Non-Hispanic. Hispanic (or Latino) refers to a person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race. People who identify their origin as Spanish or Hispanic may be of any race.



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# Major Data Sources

## American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

The majority of the data in the 2015 New Mexico KIDS COUNT Data Book comes from the American Community Survey (ACS). The ACS provides annual data on demographic, social, housing, and economic indicators. The ACS samples nearly 3 million addresses each year, resulting in approximately 2 million final interviews. After a broad nationwide data collection test conducted between 2000 and 2004, full implementation of the survey began in 2005, with the exception of group quarters (such as correctional facilities, college dorms, and nursing homes), which were first included in the 2006 ACS. Certain changes were made to the ACS questionnaire on health insurance coverage, veteran's service-connected disability, and marital history at the beginning of 2008. Each year, the ACS releases data for geographic areas with populations of 65,000 residents or more, and collects a sample over three- and five-year periods to produce estimates for smaller geographic areas. One-year estimates for 2014 were released in the early fall of 2015. The five-year estimates for 2014 were slated at publication time to be released in December of 2015. It should be noted that a previously-available three-year ACS data was discontinued in 2015, so data from that series will no longer be used moving forward and should also not be considered for past years when compared as part of a time series comparison.

American Community Survey data can be found on the U.S. Census webpage known as "American FactFinder" at: <http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>.

## Census 2010, U.S. Census Bureau

The federal government implements a national census every decade; the official 2010 Census results (known as "Census 2010") were released in 2011. Census data are collected from the entire population rather than a sample that is representative of the entire population (such as with the American Community Survey). Census data serve as the basis for redrawing federal congressional districts and state legislative districts under Public Law 94-171. Data from the U.S. Census can be accessed from the same FactFinder website as that of the American Community Survey (above) or from its own website: <http://www.census.gov/>.

## Small Area Health Insurance Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau

The Small Area Health Insurance Estimates (SAHIE) program provides health insurance estimates for all states and counties. At the county level, data are available on health insurance coverage by age, sex, and income. All SAHIE data can be found at: <http://www.census.gov/did/www/sahie/>.

## Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau

The Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) program, conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau with support from other federal agencies, provides selected income and poverty data for states, counties, and school districts. Data are used for the administration of federal programs and allocation of federal funds to localities, and can be found at: <http://www.census.gov/did/www/saipe/>.

## National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is the largest nationally representative and continuing assessment of what America's students know and can do in various subject areas. Results from mathematics and reading assessments are based on representative samples of approximately 279,000 fourth-graders and 273,000 eighth-graders across the nation. Results are reported for public school students in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Department of Defense schools. Results from NAEP allow for comparison across states and between different racial, ethnic, gender, and income groups within states. While state measures of reading and math proficiency may change, NAEP allows for a consistent measure across time periods, so that progress in a state can be tracked over time.

## Data Collection Bureau, New Mexico Public Education Department (PED)

The Data Collection Bureau gathers data from public school districts throughout New Mexico. The data collected include the percentage of students receiving free and reduced-price lunches, student enrollment figures, student-to-teacher ratios, high school graduation rates, and more. Key internet addresses include: [http://ped.state.nm.us/ped/Graduation\\_data.html](http://ped.state.nm.us/ped/Graduation_data.html), <http://www.ped.state.nm.us/IT/schoolFactSheets.html>, <http://www.ped.state.nm.us/IT/schoolFactSheets.html>.



[nm.us/nutrition/index.html](http://nm.us/nutrition/index.html), and <http://ped.state.nm.us/assessmentaccountability/AcademicGrowth/NMSBA.html>.

Starting in the 2014–2015 school year, the NM PED started measuring reading and math proficiency using a different test than in years past. The New Mexico’s Standards Based Assessment (SBA) was replaced with the New Mexico Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness of College and Careers (NM PARCC) assessments that were developed to measure the mastery of the New Mexico Common Core State Standards (NM CCSS). Because assessments for reading (now measured as “English Language Arts”) and math are different than in previous years, the NM PED test score data from the 2014–2015 school year cannot be directly compared with test scores from previous years. PARCC information and data can be found at: <http://ped.state.nm.us/ped/NMPARCCindex.html>.

#### **Medical Assistance Division, New Mexico Human Services Department (HSD)**

Medicaid—the health insurance program for the poor that is jointly funded by the federal government and the states—is called Centennial Care in New Mexico and is administered by the NM HSD’s Medical Assistance Division. Medicaid was traditionally available only to low-income children, pregnant women, some elderly, and disabled adults. It was expanded to low-income adults (138 percent of the poverty level) under the Affordable Care Act in 2014. Medicaid enrollment numbers are reported for children under age 21 (including Native-American children) by county. Medicaid eligibility reports, including those used in the 2015 New Mexico KIDS COUNT Data Book can be found at: <http://www.hsd.state.nm.us/LookingForInformation/medicaid-eligibility.aspx>.

#### **Bureau of Vital Records and Health Statistics, New Mexico Department of Health (DOH)**

The New Mexico Bureau of Vital Records and Health Statistics tabulates vital records data to analyze the health status of New Mexicans. The two major data systems are the files for births and deaths. The birth file contains data on demographic characteristics of newborns and their parents. Data on mothers’ pregnancy history and medical risk factors are included. The death file contains demographic data on decedents, which are provided by funeral directors, and the causes of death, which are provided by physicians or medical investigators. These data can be found at either the Bureau’s direct internet site:

[nmhealth.org/about/erd/bvrhs/vrp](http://nmhealth.org/about/erd/bvrhs/vrp) or can be accessed in the NM DOH’s Indicator-Based Information System (IBIS), Data Set Queries at: <https://ibis.health.state.nm.us/query>.

#### **Epidemiology and Response Division, New Mexico Department of Health**

The Epidemiology and Response Division maintains the recently reorganized and upgraded web-based public health data resource called NM-IBIS (New Mexico’s Indicator-Based Information System). This database provides up-to-date statistics from a variety of state health department divisions, including birth, death, disease prevalence, and incidence data. There is a health status indicator report section, as well as a direct query section where users can define their specific data requests and get responses in tabular and graph formats. Data are, in general, now available in table, chart, and geo-mapped formats. Internet address: <https://ibis.health.state.nm.us>.

#### **Research, Assessment, and Data Bureau of Protective Services Division (PSD), New Mexico Children, Youth & Families Department**

The PSD is the state agency designated to administer Child Welfare Services in New Mexico. PSD strives to enhance the safety, permanency and well-being of children and families in New Mexico by receiving, investigating, and taking action on reports of children in need of protection from abuse and/or neglect by their parent, guardian or custodian. The Research, Assessment, and Data Bureau collects and reports PSD data. The “360 Yearly” Annual Report is published annually on a state fiscal year, and contains annual child abuse and neglect data by state and county. PSD publications, including the “360 Yearly” report, can be found here: <https://cyfd.org/about-cyfd/publications-reports>.

#### **Office of School and Adolescent Health (OSAH), New Mexico Department of Health**

The OSAH works to improve student and adolescent health through integrated school-based or school-linked health services. OSAH also engages in adolescent health promotion and disease prevention activities directly and through collaboration with public and private agencies across New Mexico. Its website is: <http://nmhealth.org/about/phd/hsb/osah/>. The office oversees and provides data from the biannual high school and middle school Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey which covers risk behaviors and resiliency factors (<http://www.youthrisk.org/>).

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## Other Data Sources

The **Annie E. Casey Foundation** (<http://www.aecf.org>) has funded the KIDS COUNT initiative since 1990 and publishes an annual data book highlighting the well-being of children around the country. Using data from the U.S. Census Bureau, and National Center for Health Statistics, and other national data sites, the Casey Foundation also provides information at its online data center for each state, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, as well as by topic, such as poverty, education, employment, and income. The KIDS COUNT Data Center provides mapping, trend and bar charting, and other services relevant to the data presented. It can be found at: <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

The **New Mexico Community Data Collaborative (NMCDC)** is a network of public health analysts and advocates from a dozen or more state agencies and non-government organizations. The NMCDC operates an interactive website at ArcGIS Online where users share extensive data sets from multiple sources in the state. NMCDC maps contain aggregated data for over 1,000 indicators organized by sub-county areas such as census tract, zip code, school districts, and other administrative boundaries. In addition, users will find site specific information for public schools, licensed facilities, and other public services. The geo-mapping data site can be found at: <http://nmcde.maps.arcgis.com/home/index.html>.

**SHARE New Mexico** is an easy-to-use, customizable statewide site that allows users to find relevant data in chart, graph and mapped formats. Users can also locate services and organizations throughout the state, download research and reports from the site's library, and access a centralized directory of goods and services where organizations can post their needs and where New Mexicans can volunteer and/or get involved in their communities and/or state issues. It is at: <http://www.sharenm.org/communityplatform/newmexico>.

The **Economic Policy Institute (EPI)** is a nonprofit, non-partisan organization that produces reports about conditions facing low- and middle-income families in the areas of education, the economy, living standards, and the labor market. The EPI published the highly respected annual report The State of Working America. The Institute can be found online at: <http://www.epi.org>.

The **U.S. Department of Health and Human Services** provides poverty guidelines that are a simplified version of the federal poverty thresholds and are used for determining eligibility for various federal programs. The poverty thresholds are issued by the U.S. Census Bureau to calculate poverty population statistics (e.g., the percentage or number of people living in poverty in a particular area). Internet address: <http://www.hhs.gov>.



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## Learn More

Much more New Mexico data is available at the  
**KIDS COUNT Data Center**



[datacenter.kidscount.org](http://datacenter.kidscount.org)

### SEARCH BY:

- Location
- Topic
- Keyword

### CREATE CUSTOM:

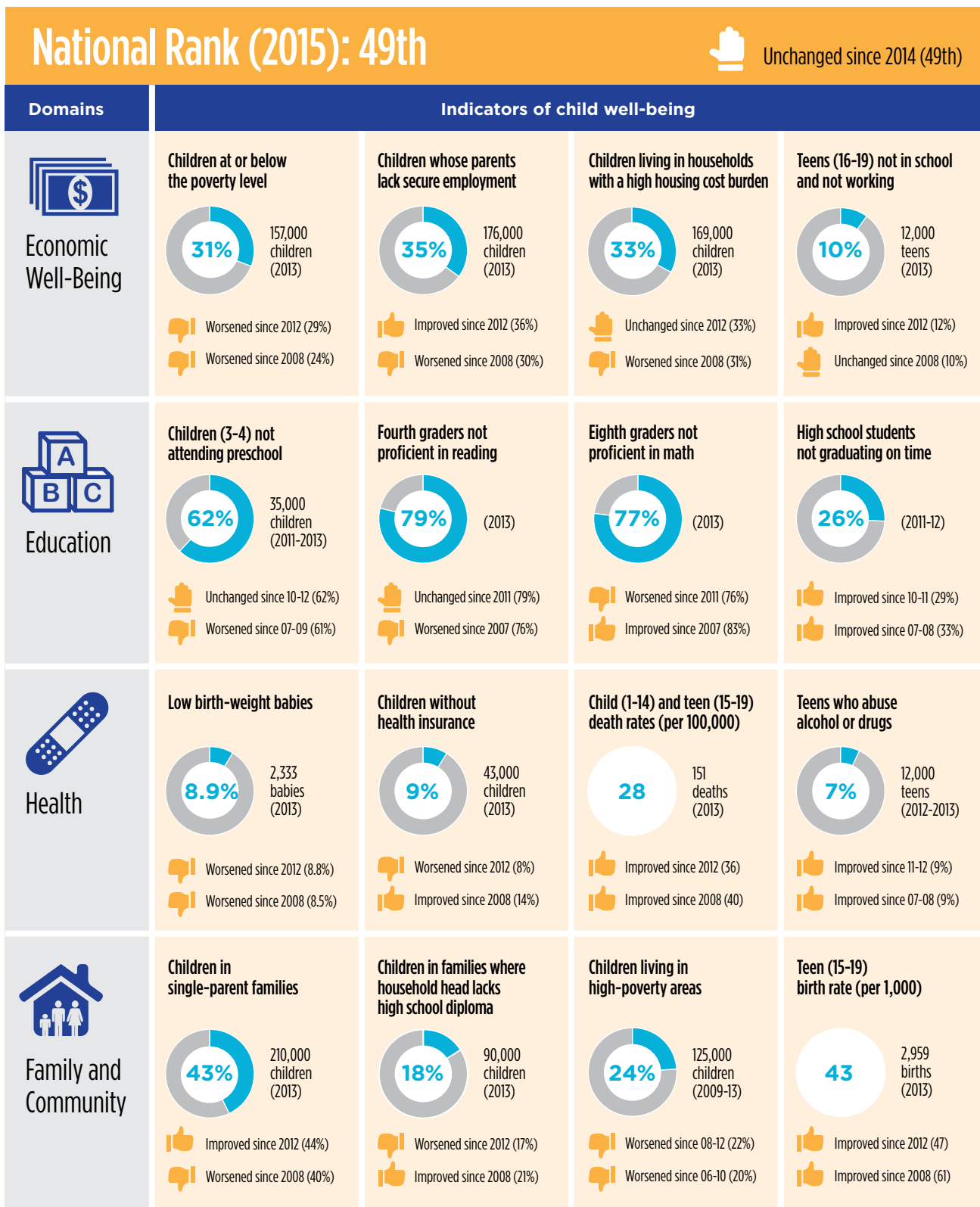
- Maps
- Tables
- Graphs

### COMPARE:

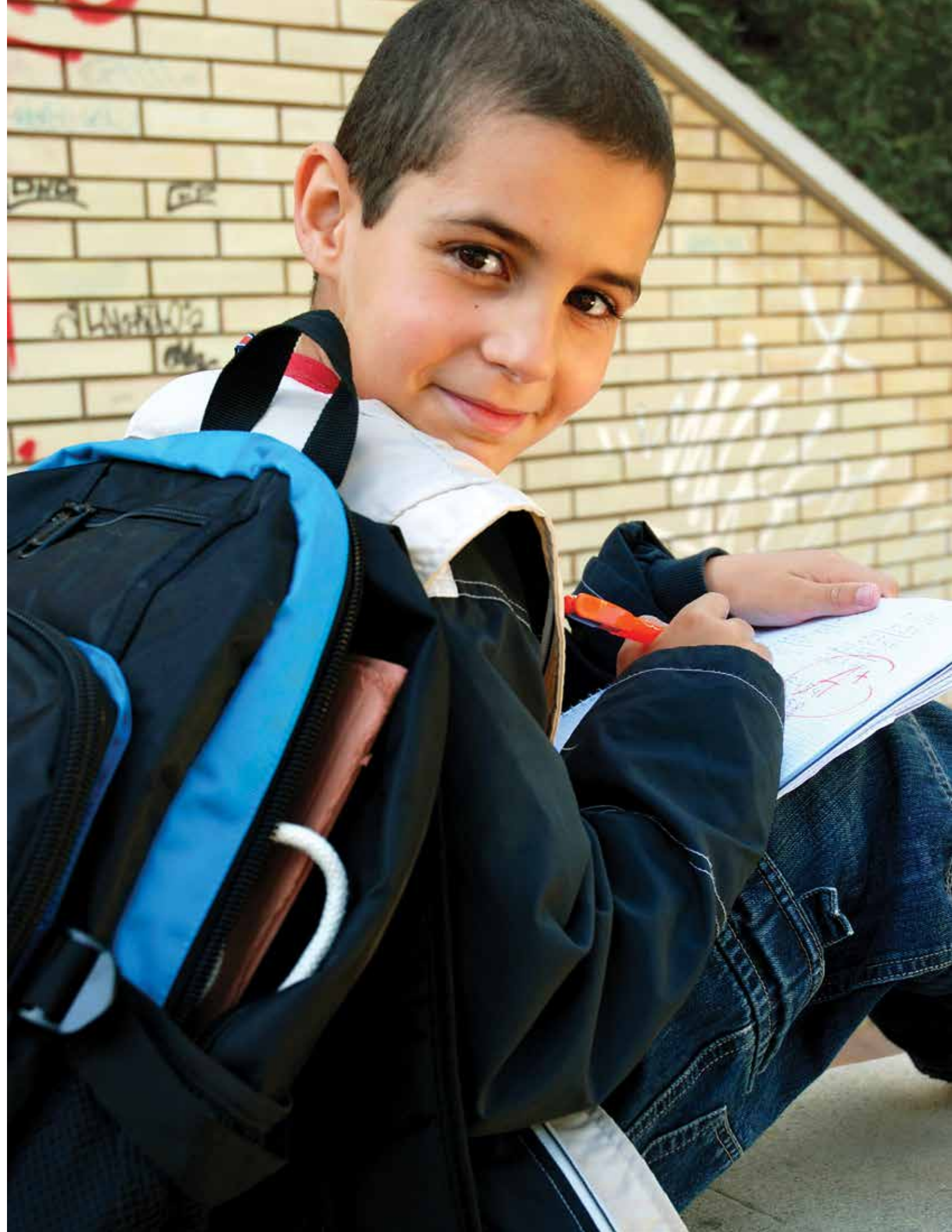
- States
- Counties
- Cities
- Tribal Areas
- School Districts
- Congressional Districts

# NM KIDS are COUNTing on Us: A Campaign for a Better New Mexico

For more on the 16 KIDS COUNT indicators—and the policies that can improve outcomes for our children—see our NM KIDS are COUNTing on Us campaign document at [www.nmvoices.org](http://www.nmvoices.org)



Source: KIDS COUNT Data Book, Annie E. Casey Foundation, multiple years







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New Mexico Voices for Children**

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<http://datacenter.kidscount.org/nm>



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