

Valencia Community Partnership County Health Profile 2007

Education

School enrollment in Valencia County 2005

	Estimate	Percent
Population 3 years and over enrolled in school	20,112	
Nursery school, preschool	887	4.4
Kindergarten	1,502	7.4
Grades 1-8	7,560	37.6
Grades 9-12	5,469	27.2
College or graduate school	4,694	23.3

Educational attainment

Population 25 years and over	45,518	
Less than 9 th grade	2,182	4.8
9 th to 12 th grade, no diploma	5,387	11.8
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	13,977	30.7
Some college, no degree	9,620	21.1
Associate's degree	3,451	7.6
Bachelor's degree	5,531	12.2
Graduate or professional degree	2,370	5.2
Percent high school graduate or higher		82.2
Percent bachelor's degree or higher		18.6

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2005 American Community Survey

The 2005 American Community Survey ranks New Mexico 41st in the nation at 82% for people 25 and over who have completed high school. Valencia County's rate of high school graduation is only slightly higher at 82.2%. According to the 2006 New Mexico KIDS COUNT Data Book, for the school year 2004-2005 the proportion of graduating class to 9th grade class size in Belen was 46%, in Los Lunas 59% and the drop-out rate in Belen was 6.2%, in Los Lunas 3.8%.

Other population subgroups

Persons with disabilities

Population 5 years and over	62,985
With a disability	13,281
Population 5 to 15 years	11,175
With a disability	1,231
Population 16 to 64 years	44,687
With a disability	9,307
Population 65 years and over	7,123
With a disability	3,283

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2005 Community Survey

Prison inmates and their families

Valencia County is home to two prison facilities, a minimum security farm and the Central New Mexico Correctional Facility (CNMCF). CNMCF is purportedly the largest prison facility in New Mexico and, though it is a self-contained facility, it becomes a health concern for the county because of the families that move into the area to be close to their incarcerated relatives and because of prisoners transitioning out who choose to remain in the area.

Community assets and wellness

1. Physical

- Clean air
- Good water
- Fertile valley lands
- Irrigation system
- Open areas
- Parks

2. Social/educational

- Arts organizations-Route 66 Art League, Belen Art League
- Public and private, faith-based schools
- UNM-VC
- Recreation centers
- Senior citizen centers
- Youth organizations-sports organizations, 4H, Boys and Girls Club, Boy/Girl Scouts, Youth Development, Inc., Explorers, faith-based youth groups

3. Regulatory

- Community/town councils
- County commission
- School boards
- Law enforcement-state police, county sheriff, Los Lunas and Belen police departments, Isleta police.

4. Cultural/historical

- Neighborhood associations
- Catholic church
- Other faith-based organizations