TORRANCE COUNTY EARLY CHILDHOOD DATA PROFILE



State of New Mexico
Children, Youth and Families Department
Early Childhood Services Division
2014



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Cover art by Erin, age six

Introduction

New Mexico's Children Youth and Families Department (CYFD) established Early Childhood Investment Zones in 2010. Since that time CYFD has prioritized funding for these communities when new funding streams have become available for early childhood services.

A taskforce from the New Mexico Department of Health, Public Education Department, and Children Youth and Families Department used epidemiological data to compare levels of risk and resiliency across New Mexico's communities to rank these geographical areas by levels of risk. Those with the highest aggregated need were identified as Investment Zones. These Early Childhood Investment Zones touch every region and every border of New Mexico, and range from frontier to urban population centers covering 11 counties and 35 school districts.



Data were gathered and

analyzed from all of New Mexico's counties and all of its school districts. The combined county and school district data allowed a broad look at indicators associated with health, family environment, poverty levels, child development, and factors that support literacy and school readiness. Also included were indicators related to school success including graduation rates, resource investment at the school district level, and support for pregnant and parenting teens.

The intent is that these communities "establish community-specific capacity building, infrastructure development and comprehensive integrated early childhood care, health and education services in ways that can be used as models by other communities across the state," State of New Mexico Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge Application For Phase 2 Funding, 2012.

For this *Early Childhood Data Profile*, the original data have been updated and expanded to include many additional indicators that can be used in local planning efforts. The data presented here are categorized into four broad domains:

- Birth Factors:
- Family Environment Factors;
- Education Factors:
- Economic Factors.

This report provides data on Torrance County and the three investment zones located in the county: Estancia Municipal Schools, Mountainair Public Schools, and Vaughn Municipal Schools.

Torrance County ranked sixth in severity for early childhood risk factors (a 1 denotes the highest severity of risk, while a 33 ranking indicates the lowest severity). Torrance County ranked high in the following indicators/factors:

- Infant mortality rates: ranked first;
- Low, very low birthweight rates: ranked sixth;
- High school graduation rate: ranked number eighth;
- Unemployment rate: ranked fifth;
- Child abuse rate: ranked seventh:
- Preterm birth rates: ranked ninth.

	Early Childhood Indicators used to identify Investment Zones					
			Torrance	NM	Rank in	
		Torrance	Rate or	Rate or	State	
	Indicator	Number	Percent	Percent	2010	
Birth	Infant mortality, <12 months					
Factors ¹	live births (2006-2012)	12	9.8/1,000	5.7/1,000	1	
	Low, very low birthweight, <2500 g (2006-2012)	12	1%	8.7%	6	
	Preterm births, <37 wks (2006-2012)	130	10.6%	11.9%	9	
	Adolescent births, ages 15-19 (2006-2012)	195	23.59/1,000	56.6/1,000	26	
Family	Child abuse, substantiated victims					
Factors ²	(2012-2013)	22	5.7/1,000	3.3/1,000	7	
	Juvenile arrests (2013)	175	9,323/100,000	n/a	20	
	Domestic violence incidents (2012)	120	7.5/1,000	9.5/1,000	22	
Education Factors ³	Graduation rates high school (2012)	-	71.4%	70.4%	8	
Economic Factors ⁴	Unemployment civilian labor force (2012)	-	16.8%	9.1%	5	
	Residents under 100% poverty level (2012)	-	25.9%	19.5%	11	

¹ Data compiled from the New Mexico Department of Health Indicator Based Information System (IBIS): http://ibis.health.state.nm.us

² Juvenile arrest data compiled from CYFD, New Mexico Juvenile Justice Services Annual Report; Child abuse data compiled from CYFD, Protective Services Fact Book: http://cyfd.org. Domestic violence data compiled from Incidence and Nature of Domestic Violence in New Mexico XII: http://www.nmcsap.org

³ Data compiled from IBIS: http://ibis.health.state.nm.us

⁴ Data compiled from 2012 U.S. Census: http://www.census.gov

Demographic Overview

The following demographic information is based on five-year estimates from the 2008-2012 U.S. Census American Community Survey. Torrance County encompasses 3,346 square miles and is situated in the geographic center of New Mexico. The table below breaks down the population of 16,285 into the following age categories.

Torrance County Population by Age (2008-2012)				
Torrance Torrance				
Population by Age	Number	Percent		
Less than 5	909	5.6%		
Ages 5-19	3,433	21.1%		
Ages 20-64	9,582	58.8%		
Age 65 and older	2,361	14.5%		
Total	16,285			

www.census.gov, American Community Survey

The largest population centers in Torrance County are listed in the table below including data for births and young children.

Torrance County Major Population Centers (2008-2012)					
Population Average					
City/Town	Population	Ages 0-4	Births/Year		
Moriarty	2,140	208	52		
Estancia	1,342	44	11		
Mountainair	892	88	22		
Vaughn	532	7	1.8		

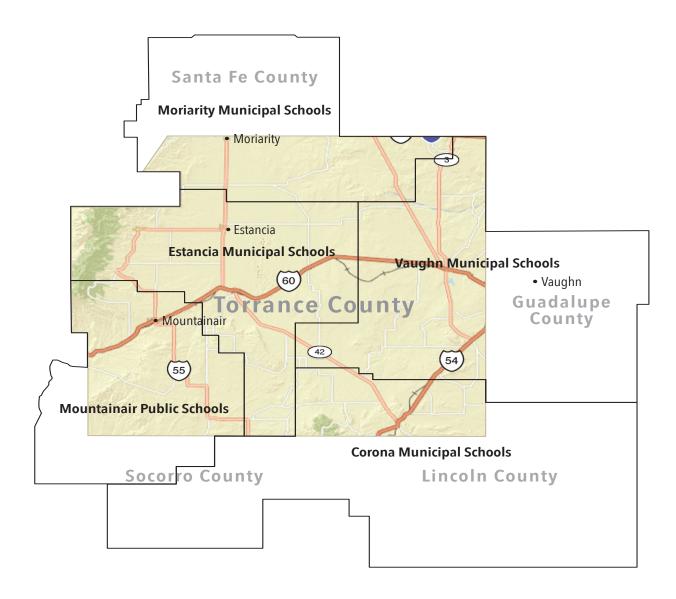
www.census.gov, American Community Survey

The largest percentage of the population is comprised of individuals self-identifying as White, not Hispanic or Latino. Data for race/ethnicity are listed below.

Torrance County Population by Race (2008-2012)				
Race/Ethnicity	Percentage			
White, not Hispanic/Latino	57.8%			
Hispanic/Latino	39.2%			
American Indian, Alaska Native	1.5%			
Black or African American	0.5%			
Two or more races	0.5%			
Asian	0.5%			

www.census.gov, American Community Survey

The following map of Torrance County shows the overlap for the county's three school districts that have been identified by CYFD as Early Childhood Investment Zones: Estancia Municipal Schools, Mountainair Public Schools, and Vaughn Municipal Schools.



Three school districts in Torrance County are included in this profile: Estancia Municipal Schools, Mountainair Public Schools, and Vaughn Municipal Schools. There are a total of 1,157 students enrolled in all grades of 11 schools. The table below lists the five elementary schools in the district, with a total enrollment in 2013-2014 of 570.

Torrance County Elementary School Enrollment (2013-2014)			
School District	Elementary School	Enrollment	
Estancia Municipal Schools	Estancia Lower Elementary	110	
	Estancia Upper Elementary	239	
	Van Stone Elementary	59	
Total Estancia Enrollment	408		
Mountainair Public Schools	Mountainair Elementary	113	
Vaughn Municipal Schools Vaughn Elementary		49	
Total Torrance Co. elementar	570		

www.ped.state.nm.us

Birth Factors

Torrance County Birth Factors					
Torrance NM					
	Torrance	Rate or	Rate or	State	
Indicator	Number	Percent	Number	2010	
Infant mortality, <12 months,					
live births (2006-2012)	12	9.8/1,000	5.7/1,000	1	
Low, very low birthweight,					
<2500 g (2006-2012)	12	1%	8.7%	6	
Preterm births, <37 wks					
(2006-2012)	130	10.6%	11.9%	9	
Adolescent births, ages 15-19					
(2006-2012)	195	23.59/1,000	56.6/1,000	26	

https://ibis.health.state.nm.us/

All birth-related information that follows was compiled through New Mexico Department of Health, Indicator-Based Information System (IBIS); rates are calculated from totals for the designated populations and the indicators specified. The table below shows the number of live births to all women for the most recent three years for which data are available.

Torrance County Number of Live Births (2010-2012)				
2010	2011	2012		
163	173	160		

https://ibis.health.state.nm.us/

The following table displays adolescent birth rates by ages, compared to New Mexico rates.

Torrance County Adolescent Birth Rates (2006-2012)						
	Torrance Torrance NM					
Age Groups	Number	Rate/1,000	Rate/1,000			
10-14	1	0.1	0.8			
15-17	53	10.7	31.6			
18-19	142	43.0	94.2			

https://ibis.health.state.nm.us/

The following data reflect the number of births, by age group, to single mothers in Torrance County.

Torrance County Births to Single Mothers (2010-2012)				
Age Groups	2010	2011	2012	
10-14	1	0	0	
15-17	6	9	9	
18-19	11	13	14	
20-29	54	52	45	
30-39	9	11	12	
40 +	0	2	0	

https://ibis.health.state.nm.us/

A number of factors impact maternal health, birth outcomes, and infant mortality. The following table lists causes of death for infants less than one year of age.

Torrance County Infant Mortality: Causes of Death (2006-2012)				
Total				
General Causes of Death	Number	Rate/1,000		
Perinatal conditions	7	5.7		
Medical conditions	2	1.6		
Congenital malformations	1	8.0		
SIDS	1	8.0		
Unintentional/accidental injury	1	0.8		
Total	12	9.8/1,000		

https://ibis.health.state.nm.us/

Some causes of infant mortality can be related to a number of general maternal factors and health issues, including month of initiation of prenatal care and substance and tobacco use. The tables below include data for a number of factors that may contribute to poor birth outcomes and/or infant mortality.

	Torrance County Prenatal Care Initiated First Trimester (2012)				
	Torrance	Torrance County	Torrance County	New Mexico	
	County Number	Number w/1 st	Percentage w/1 st	Percentage w/1 st	
Age Group	Live Births	Trimester Care	Trimester Care	Trimester Care	
10-14	0	0	-	42%	
15-17	10	2	20%	48%	
18-24	70	34	21.2%	58.5%	
25-29	43	30	69.8%	67%	
30-39	35	20	57.1%	67.7%	
40+	2	1	50%	63.7%	
Totals	160	87	54.4%	63.2%	
	Torrance County P	renatal Care Initiate	ed Third Trimester (2	2012)	
	Torrance	Torrance County	Torrance County	New Mexico	
	County Number	Number w/3 rd	Percentage w/3 rd	Percentage w/3 rd	
Age Group	Live Births	Trimester Care	Trimester Care	Trimester Care	
10-14	0	0	-	16%	
15-17	10	3	30%	9.8%	
18-24	70	5	7.1%	6.8%	
25-29	43	0	0	4.8%	
30-39	35	3	8.5%	4.5%	
40+	2	0	0	4.6%	
Totals	160	11	6.9%	5.7%	
	Torranc	e County No Prenat	al Care (2012)		
	Torrance	Torrance County	Torrance County	New Mexico	
	County Number	Number With No	Percentage With	Percentage With	
Age Group	Live Births	Care	No Care	No Care	
10-14	0	0	-	0	
15-17	10	0	0	1.1%	
18-24	70	0	0	1.5%	
25-29	43	0	0	1.1%	
30-39	35	0	0	1%	
40+	2	0	0	1.4%	
Totals	160	0	0	1.3%	

https://ibis.health.state.nm.us/

The timing between pregnancies may affect the risk of pregnancy complications. A Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) report from October 2006 cited a large study (Fuentes-Afflick et al) in which women with short interpregnancy spacing (IPS) were more likely to have a premature birth. The study also found that women with the shortest intervals had the highest risk of premature births. Women with IPS of less than three months were at higher risk for preterm births (earlier than 37 weeks), small gestational age (less than the tenth percentile), and low birth weight (less than 2500 grams).

Torrance County Preterm Births (2010-2012)						
		Number Live Births	Percentage Live Births			
	Number Live	that were Pre-Term	that were Pre-Term			
Birthweight	Births	(<37 weeks)	(<37 weeks)			
Very low (<1500 g)	5	5	100%			
Low (1500-2499 g)	55	31	56.4%			
Normal (2500-3999 g)	408	28	6.9%			
High (4000+ g)	27	0	0			
Unknown, not reported	1	0	0			
Total	496	64	12.9%			

https://ibis.health.state.nm.us/

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) found that women with an interpregnancy interval less than 18 months are at greater risk of delivering a low birthweight infant compared to women with interpregnancy intervals of 24 to 36 months. The tables below lists rates for interpregnancy spacing in Torrance County by birthweights, compared to statewide rates. All births were to women who had previously given birth.

Torrance County Interpregnancy Intervals (2010-2012)								
		% Low,		% Low,		% Low,		% Low,
		Very		Very		Very		Very
	7-12	Low	13-15	Low	16-24	Low	25+	Low
Birthweight	Mos.	BW	Mos.	BW	Mos.	BW	Mos.	BW
Very low (<1500 g)	0	0	0	17%	0	22%	2	10%
Low (1500-2499 g)	0		2	1//0	7	22/0	14	10%
Normal (2500-3999 g)	9		9		21		127	
High (4000+ g)	1	_	1	_	4	_	12	_
Total	10		12		32		155	

http://ibis.health.state.nm.us/

New Mexico Interpregnancy Intervals (2010-2012)										
		% Low,		% Low,		% Low,		% Low,		% Low,
		Very		Very		Very		Very		Very
	1-6	Low	7-12	Low	13-15	Low	16-24	Low	25+	Low
Birthweight	Mos.	BW	Mos.	BW	Mos.	BW	Mos.	BW	Mos.	BW
Very low (<1500 g)	0	7%	25	12%	13	7%	52	6%	277	7%
Low (1500-2499 g)	2	7 /0	129	12/0	117	7 /0	434	0/0	1,826	7 /0
Normal (2500-3999 g)	24		1,032		1,548		6,586		27,873	
High (4000+ g)	3	_	50	_	73	_	464	_	2,095	-
Total	29		1,236		1,751		7,536		32,071	

http://ibis.health.state.nm.us/

The dangers of tobacco use to infants during pregnancy include premature birth, some birth defects, and infant death. Even second-hand exposure to cigarettes can put a woman and her baby at risk. Following are birthweight statistics for women who reported using tobacco during pregnancy. Of the 124 women who reported using tobacco while pregnant, 21, or 17%, gave birth to low or very low birthweight babies.

Torrance County Maternal Tobacco Use During Pregnancy (2010-2012)						
		Torrance County	Torrance County	New Mexico		
	Torrance	Number Live	Percentage Live	Percentage Live		
	County	Births w/Maternal	Births w/Maternal	Births w/Maternal		
	Number	Tobacco Use	Tobacco Use	Tobacco Use		
Birthweight	Live Births	During Pregnancy	During Pregnancy	During Pregnancy		
Very low (<1500 g)	5	0	0	13.5%		
Low (1500-2499 g)	55	21	38.2%	15.3%		
Normal (2500-3999 g)	408	100	24.5%	10.6%		
High (4000+ g)	27	3	11.1%	7.3%		
Unknown, Not Reported	1	-	-	8.3%		
Total	496	124	25%	10.8%		

https://ibis.health.state.nm.us/

Maternal use of alcohol during pregnancy can have multiple adverse effects on an infant, including low birthweight. Other long-term effects can include fetal alcohol spectrum disorders that may affect physical, behavioral, and learning development. The table below reflects birthweights for infants whose mothers reported alcohol use during pregnancy. Of the 59 women who reported using alcohol while pregnant, 4, or 7%, gave birth to low or very low birthweight babies.

Torrance County Maternal Alcohol Use During Pregnancy (2010-2012)						
		Torrance County	Torrance County	New Mexico		
	Torrance	Number Live	Percentage Live	Percentage Live		
	County	Births w/Maternal	Births w/Maternal	Births w/Maternal		
	Number	Alcohol Use	Alcohol Use	Alcohol Use		
Birthweight	Live Births	During Pregnancy	During Pregnancy	During Pregnancy		
Very low (<1500 g)	5	0	0	9.1%		
Low (1500-2499 g)	55	4	7.3%	9.3%		
Normal (2500-3999 g)	408	50	12.3%	9.1%		
High (4000+ g)	27	5	18.5%	8.4%		
Unknown, Not Reported	1	-	-	5.2%		
Total	496	59	12%	9%		

https://ibis.health.state.nm.us/

The table below lists the rate of Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) in Torrance County, compared to statewide rates. NAS can occur when a newborn has been exposed to addictive substances while in the mother's womb (U.S. National Library of Medicine, 2012).

Torrance County Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (2011-2012)				
	Total Births	NAS diagnosis	Rate/100,000	
Torrance	333	1	3.0	
New Mexico	54,241	376	6.9	

NM DOH, Hospital discharges related to NAS by County, 2011 & 2012

Family Environment Factors

Family Environment Factors						
				Rank in		
	Torrance	Torrance	NM	State		
Indicator	Number	Rate	Rate	2010		
Child abuse, substantiated victims						
(2012-2013) ¹	22	5.7/1,000	3.3/1,000	7		
Juvenile arrests (2013) ²	175	9,323/100,000	n/a	20		
Domestic violence incidents (2012) ³	120	7.5/1,000	9.5/1,000	22		

¹ CYFD, 360 Yearly Protective Services Department Fact Book, FY2012-FY2013

Postpartum depression can interfere with parenting, and lead to poor physical and mental health in children. While county-level data are not available, the Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring Systems (PRAMS) Surveillance Report published in 2012 contains state-level information compiled between 2009 and 2010. Among 17 states collecting information on postpartum depressive symptoms, New Mexico mothers reported the highest rate, 20%, for the 2004-2005 reporting period. Additionally, during the 2006-2008 time frame, 22.4% of Native American mothers reported these symptoms, compared to 19% of Hispanic, and 16.4% of non-Hispanic White women. Postpartum depression may be a complication of giving birth, and can be associated with fear, anxiety, or stress, and may result in longer-term depression. The following data display the number of women responding to the PRAMS survey who reported experiencing postpartum depression. Over the three years of data displayed below, 18% of women who responded to the PRAMS survey reported experiencing postpartum depression.

New Mexico Postpartum Depression (2006-2008)					
	Total	Number Reported			
	Respondents	Postpartum Depression			
2006	1,510	285			
2007	1,016	175			
2008	1,267	209			
Total	3,793	660			

www.cdc.gov/prams

² CYFD, New Mexico Juvenile Justice Services Annual Report, FY2013

³ NM DOH, Incidence and Nature of Domestic Violence in New Mexico XII, 2012

Data derived from the 2009-2010 PRAMS report show the following sources of stress New Mexican women reported experiencing during their pregnancies; no county-level PRAMS data were available.

New Mexico Maternal Sources of Stress Reported on PRAMS (2009-2010)			
Source of Stress	Percentage		
Partner lost their job	17%		
Lost their job	11.4%		
Separated/divorced	11.3%		
Partner rejected pregnancy	8.8%		
Partner went to jail	7.2%		
Involved in a fight 4.4			
Experienced homelessness	3.5%		

www.cdc.gov/prams

The annual *National KIDS COUNT Data Book* ranks states and counties on child well-being based on 16 indicators that reflect child health and education outcomes, and economic and family risk and protective factors. The *2013 New Mexico KIDS COUNT Data Book (2013 Kids Count)* indicates that 42% of children in Torrance County live in single parent families, compared to the New Mexico percentage of 36%. An estimated 519 grandparents live with their grandchildren, and of those, 317, or 61%, are responsible for their grandchildren. Following are the number of years for which grandparents report that they have been responsible for their grandchildren.

Torrance County Grandparents Responsible for Grandchildren (2008-2012)			
Years	Estimated Number of		
Responsible	Grandparents		
< 1	106		
1-2	77		
3-4	73		
5+	61		
Total Grandparents	317		

www.census.gov

Torrance County ranked seventh in child abuse in the 2010 data study undertaken by CYFD. The table below lists child abuse investigations for 2013-2014. CYFD defines unsubstantiated cases as investigations when information collected does not support a finding that the child was abused and/or neglected; when credible evidence exists to support a finding that the child has been abused and/or neglected, it is classified as a substantiated case.

Torrance County Child Abuse Investigations (2013-2014)					
	Torrance County	Torrance County			
Quarter	Number Unsubstantiated	Number Substantiated			
FY13 Q1	44	10			
FY13 Q2	47	17			
FY13 Q3	43	14			
FY13 Q4	40	15			
FY14 Q1	34	4			

CYFD, 350 Quarterly State and County Profile, FY2013-FY2014 Q1

Domestic violence rates in Torrance County have risen somewhat over the past three years, as indicated in the table below. While Torrance ranked number twenty-second in 2010, they ranked number 10 in 2012.

Torrance County Domestic Violence Rates (2010-2012)					
	Torrance	New Mexico			
Year	Rate/1,000	Rate/1,000			
2010	5.5	10.5			
2011	7.2	10.2			
2012	7.5	9.5			

NM DOH, Incidence and Nature of Domestic Violence in New Mexico XII, 2012

Education Factors

School Districts were ranked based on the aggregated risk factors listed below; a 1 denotes the highest severity of risk, while an 89 ranking indicates the lowest severity.

Torrance County Education Factors					
	Estancia	Mountainair	Vaughn	Torrance	New
Factor	Municipal	Public	Municipal	County	Mexico
School District Rank	10	28	n/a	-	-
Third Grade Reading Proficiency, Proficient & Above (2012-2013) ¹	57.9%	53.3%	-	-	55.2%
Third Grade Math Proficiency, Proficient & Above 2012-2013) ¹	57.9%	46.7%	-	-	51%
Students Eligible for Free/Reduced-Price Meals (2013-2014) ¹	78.3%	81.2%	78.8%	-	66.2%
High School Graduation – Percent of all students who graduate (2012) ²	75%	80%	93%	71.4%	70%
Population 25+, no high school diploma ³	36.7%	16%	24.6%	17.4%	16.6%
Births to mothers with no high school diploma ⁴	29.2%	21.2%	25%	18.1%	21%

¹ Reading and math proficiency rates, and free/reduced price meals data (State data, 2012) compiled from the New Mexico Public Education Department (PED): http://www.ped.state.nm.us

² School district and state High School Graduation rates compiled from the *2013 NM Kids Count* County High School Graduation compiled from IBIS: http://ibis.health.state.nm.us

³ School district data (2006-2010), and County and State data (2008-2012) compiled from the U.S. Census, American Community Survey http://www.census.gov/

⁴ School district data (2003-2007) compiled from the New Mexico Community Data Collaborative (NMCDC): http://nmcdc.maps.arcgis.com/home/
County and State 2012 data compiled from the New Mexico Department of Health Indicator Based Information System (IBIS): https://ibis.health.state.nm.us/

Torrance County Educational Support Factors					
	Estancia	Mountainair	Vaughn	New	
Factor	Municipal	Public	Municipal	Mexico	
School District Rank	10	28	n/a	=	
Schools with school-based health centers (2013) ¹	0	1	0	-	
Graduation, Reality and Dual Role Skills (GRADS) - programs for parenting teens (2012-2013) ²	0	0	0	26	
GRADS program enrollment (2012-2013) ²	0	0	0	518	
Schools Title I designation – at least 40% of students from low income families (2008-2009) ³	83.3%	100%	100%	-	
Dollars expended on personnel salaries per pupil (2008-2009) ³	\$4,312	\$5,013	\$7,307	-	
Elementary schools graded "D" or "F" (2011-2012) ⁴	66%	100%	100%	-	

¹ Data compiled March 2014 from the New Mexico Alliance for School-Based Health Care (NMASBHC): http://www.nmasbhc.org/index.html

Positive and impactful early learning is key to children's later social emotional & intellectual success, yet many of New Mexico's children lack access to consistent, high-quality care and educational opportunities. A new and major body of research from multiple fields has demonstrated that the most important period of brain development, and when the brain is most supple, is during the first six years of life. This sets the stage for children's school success. High-quality early child care and education can contribute to this success. These include services such as: prenatal care, home visiting and parent mentoring, licensed child care, and preschool programs.

Early Learning Factors

Home Visiting programs are voluntary services designed to promote child wellbeing and prevent adverse childhood experiences. Trained home visiting staff work with Torrance County families to encourage effective parental skills and increase parenting confidence, and support successful early childhood health and development. Other privately-funded home visiting programs may exist in the county, but their capacity data are not published.

Torrance County Home Visiting (2013)		
Program	Capacity	
Torrance County Amigas de la Familia	61	

CYFD, New Mexico 1st Annual Home Visiting Report, FY2013

² GRADS data compiled February 2014 from the New Mexico GRADS program: http://nmgrads.org/

³ Data compiled from the NMCDC: http://nmcdc.maps.arcgis.com/home/

⁴ Data compiled from the New Mexico PED: http://www.ped.state.nm.us

The table below lists the number of childcare providers by type, and includes the capacity for each type, as well as the number of children receiving childcare subsidies (funds that cover the cost of childcare for low-income parents that are working and/or in school). Six percent (6%) of children in registered or licensed childcare received child care subsidies.

Torrance County Summary of Child Care Providers (2013)			
	Potential	Number of Child	
Туре	Capacity	Care Subsidies	
Licensed 5-Star Center (4)	146	0	
Licensed 2-Star Center (2)	75	6	
Licensed 2-Star Group Home (3)	36	13	
Registered Providers (13)	78	3	
Totals (22)	335	22	

CYFD Childcare data by County, 9/30/14

According to the PEW Center 2011 report, *Transforming Public Education: Pathway to a PreK-12 Future*, "Participation in high-quality early education programs not only improves early literacy and math skills, but is also associated with later academic performance in the primary grades and beyond." In New Mexico, only 40% of children attend preschool (*2013 Kids Count*). The following table lists data for Head Start/Early Head Start programs in Torrance County. Note: no data were available for the number of children served at specific centers by Presbyterian Medical Services (PMS) Head Start or Early Head Start, only a county total for FY 2014.

Torrance County Head Start/Early Head Start Capacity (2013-2014)				
Provider	Center	Children Served FY14		
PMS Head Start	Estancia HS Center	n/a		
	Mountainair HS Center	n/a		
Moriarty HS/ESH Center n/a				
Total Torrance	County HS/EHS Capacity	164		

New Mexico Head Start Collaboration, Needs Assessment Survey, 2014

The following table lists enrollment numbers for Torrance County PreK sites funded by the New Mexico Public Education Department (PED). There are currently no PreK sites funded by CYFD in Torrance County (CYFD New Mexico PreK Annual Report 2012-2013).

Torrance County PED PreK Enrollment (2013)			
City	School District	School/Site	Enrollment
Estancia	Estancia Municipal	Lower Elementary	10
Mountainair Mountainair Public Mountainair Elementary			2
Total Torran	ce County PED PreK Er	nrollment	12

www.ped.state.nm.us

School-based Health Centers (SBHC) provide services to students including primary medical care, behavioral health, and health promotion and education. The table below lists SBHC's in Torrance County.

Torrance County School-Based Health Centers (2013)			
Grades			
District	Name	Served	
Mountainair Public Schools	The Mustang Health Center	K-12	

www.nmasbhc.org/

The consequences of insufficient access to high-quality early education can be seen as early as third grade, reflected in reading proficiency scores. According to the report, "Learning to Read–Early Warning! Why Reading by the End of Third Grade Matters," conducted for the Annie E. Casey Foundation in 2010 (Fiester, L. & Smith, R.), "Reading proficiency by fourth grade is considered a 'make or break' benchmark for whether a child will succeed in school and in life." Because children learn to read through third grade, in fourth grade they must "read to learn." According to the National Assessment for Educational Progress, New Mexico ranks last in the nation for fourth grade reading proficiency, with only 20% of fourth graders reading at proficient levels. Following are reading and math proficiency rates for the three school districts in Torrance County, compared to statewide rates. Note: no proficiency rates were available for Vaughn Municipal Schools, and data were not available for all ethnicities.

Torrance County Third Grade Reading Proficiency, Proficient & Above (2012-2013)				
	Estancia	Mountainair	Vaughn	New Mexico
All Students	56.1%	53.3%	-	55.2%
American Indian	-	-	-	39.2%
Caucasian	57.9%	-	1	71.1%
Hispanic	55.8%	-	-	51%

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Torrance County Third Grade Math Proficiency, Proficient & Above (2012-2013)				
Estancia Mountainair Vaughn New Mexico				
All Students	51.5%	46.7%	-	51%
American Indian	-	-	-	37.4%
Caucasian	52.6%	-	-	66%
Hispanic	51.2%	-	-	46.7%

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PED developed a grading system to assess districts and individual schools. Grades take into account student proficiency and student performance growth, among other factors. Following are grades for the three school districts and five elementary schools in Torrance County.

Torrance County District Grades (2013)		
District	Grade	
Estancia Municipal	C	
Mountainair Public	С	
Vaughn Municipal	С	

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Torrance County Elementary School Grades (2013)			
District	School	Grade	
Estancia Municipal Schools	Estancia Lower Elementary	С	
	Estancia Upper Elementary		
	Van Stone Elementary	D	
Mountainair Public Schools	Mountainair Elementary	D	
Vaughn Municipal Schols	Vaughn Elementary	D	

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The following table reflects habitual truancy, defined by PED as "accumulating the equivalent of ten or more unexcused absences within a school year." PED had no truancy data for Estancia, and data for Vaughn Municipal Schools were listed as "0%" in all school levels.

Torrance County Truancy Rates (2011-2012)				
District	Elementary	Middle School	High School	
Estancia Municipal Schools	-	-	-	
Mountainair Public Schools	40%	3.3%	4.46%	
Vaughn Municipal Schools	0%	0%	0%	
New Mexico	11.1%	13.9%	20.8%	

www.ped.state.nm.us

New Mexico ranks second in the nation (28%) for children living in households with food insecurities (*2012 National Kids Count*). Eligibility for the free-reduced price lunch program is a reflection of local poverty levels. Children from families with incomes at or below 185 percent of the poverty level, or \$43,568 for a family of four, are eligible for free or reduced price meals (U.S. Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service). Sixty-six percent (66%) of New Mexico's students enrolled in the state's school districts are eligible for free and/or reduced price lunch programs.

Torrance County Free-Reduced Price Lunch Program (2013-2014)				
	Total District	Percentage		
District	Enrollment	Eligible Students		
Estancia Municipal Schools	797	78.3%		
Mountainair Public Schools	276	81.2%		
Vaughn Municipal Schools	104	78.8%		
New Mexico (2012)	344,532	66%		

www.ped.state.nm.us

Title I designation is based on poverty levels. Schools that are designated Title I have at least 40% of their students from low-income families. Funding is distributed to schools and school districts for educational purposes, dropout prevention, and improvement of schools. One hundred percent (100%) of the schools in Mountainair Public and Vaughn Municipal school districts are designated Title I; 66% of the schools in Estancia Municipal are Title I.

Secondary School Education Factors

Research indicates that children who are not proficient readers by fourth grade are more likely to drop out or not graduate from high school ("Learning to Read–Early Warning! Why Reading by the End of Third Grade Matters"). New Mexico's low reading proficiency scores correlate with the state's gradation rates: in a 2012 report from the U.S. Department of Education only one state ranked lower than New Mexico for on-time graduation rates. Torrance County high school graduation and dropout rates are displayed in the table below.

Torrance County Graduation/Dropout Rates (2011-2012)				
	Estancia	Mountainair	Vaughn	New Mexico
Graduation rate	75%	80%	93%	70%
Dropout rate	8%	3%	0%	5%

2013 Kids Count

Only 25% of New Mexico youth ages 16 to 19 are employed, and approximately 12% of this age group are not in school and not working (2012 Kids Count). Youth that do not gain early work experience are more likely to suffer from later unemployment and less likely to achieve higher-level careers. The table below lists the percentage of teens (ages 16-19) that are not in school and not working in Torrance County, compared to the statewide percentage.

Torrance County Teens Not in School and Not Working (2011)			
	Torrance	New Mexico	
Teens Not in School,			
Not Working	10%	10%	

2013 Kids Count

Individuals without a high school diploma often experience higher rates of unemployment and have more difficulty keeping jobs that offer high pay and benefits. The following table lists percentages of families in which the head of household lacks a high school diploma.

Torrance County Head of Household Lacks High School Diploma (2011)			
		New	
	Torrance	Mexico	
Families head of household – no diploma	16%	16%	

2013 Kids Count

Young mothers without a high school diploma find it even harder to obtain a rewarding job with adequate pay that supports themselves & their children. The table below indicates the number of women in Torrance County who did not have a high school diploma and who gave birth over the past three years.

Torrance County Births to Women with no High School Diploma (2010-2012)				
	Total Births	Births Mothers No Diploma	Torrance Percentage	New Mexico Percentage
2010	163	40	24.5%	23.7%
2011	173	38	21.9%	22.3%
2012	160	29	18.1%	21%

https://ibis.health.state.nm.us/

New Mexico GRADS are in-school programs to help teenage parents graduate high school by learning how to balance work and family roles. This includes providing on-site childcare centers, career readiness curriculum, youth leadership and fatherhood programs. According to the New Mexico GRADS program in 2013, 82% of teen mothers enrolled in GRADS graduate compared to approximately 50% of teen mothers nationwide. Currently there are no GRADS programs in Torrance County.

Economic Factors

Torrance County Economic Factors			
			Rank in
	Torrance	NM	State
Indicator	Percentage	Percentage	2010
Percent residents under 100%			
poverty level (2012)	25.9%	19.5%	11
Unemployment (2012)	16.8%	9.1%	5

www.census.gov

New Mexico ranks number three in the nation for the percent of children (29%) living at or below 100% of the poverty level (2012 National Kids Count).

Data from the 2008-2012 U.S. Census American Community Survey indicate the following:

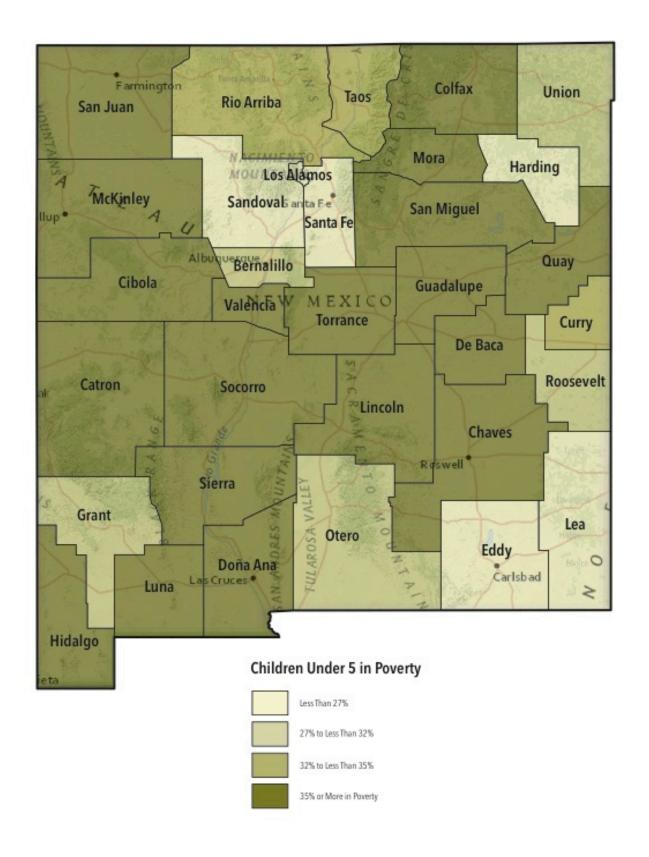
- Nearly 26% of people in Torrance County, and slightly more than 18% of all families, had incomes below the poverty level;
- The median household income is \$31,538, compared to \$44,886 for the state.

The table below lists families with income below the poverty level in Torrance County.

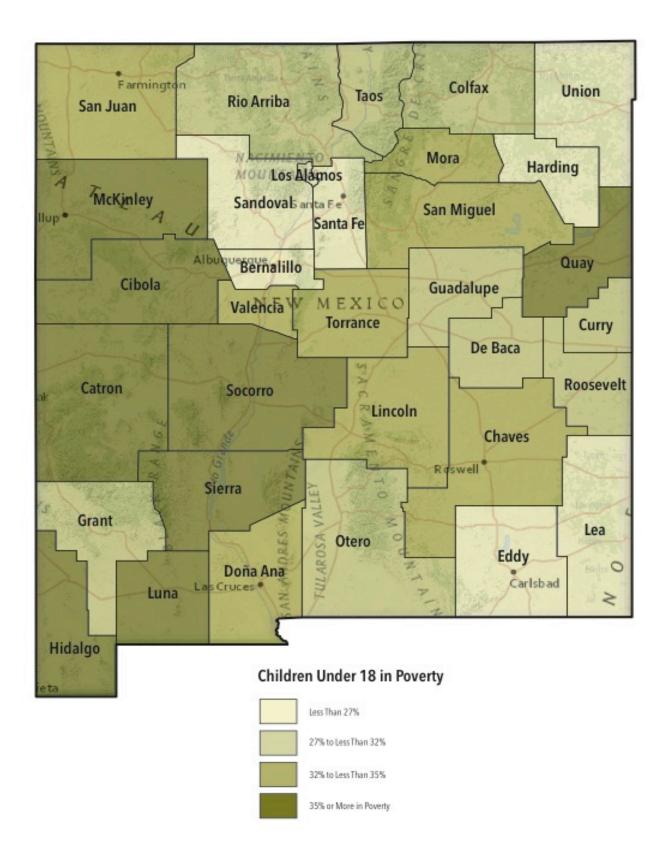
Torrance County Families with Income Below Poverty Level (2008-2012)			
	Torrance	NM	
	Percentage	Percentage	
All people	25.9%	19.5%	
Related children <5	42.9%	32.1%	
Related children 5-17	38.3%	25.7%	
All families	18.1%	14.9%	
With children <5	20.5%	23.9%	
With children <18	31.2%	23.1%	
Families with female householder			
(no husband present)	43.1%	33.8%	
With children <5	19.5%	46.9%	
With children <18	51.7%	42.8%	

www.census.gov

The map below reflects poverty levels for the state for children less than age five.



The map below reflects poverty levels for the state for children less than age 18.



Data Sources

American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau, http://factfinder2.census.gov

Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico (BBER), http://bber.unm.edu/

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