

MC-SA • Survey Notes

Findings on West Side Families' Insurance Coverage

The number of uninsured Hispanics in the US increased by 1.3 million from 2005 to 2006, according to a report released Aug. 28 by the US Census Bureau. In 2006 there were 15.3 million—one of every three—Hispanics without health insurance. Texas was the state with the highest proportion of persons uninsured.*

Six in ten of all people in the nation were covered by employment-based health insurance in 2006, a decrease from the previous year. That is about the same proportion that was found in a 2002 *Making Connections* survey of all households in Bexar County conducted by the National Opinion Research Center (NORC). By contrast, only one in three families on the West Side were receiving health coverage from their jobs.

Jobs and Health Care Benefits

While almost all households with children have at least one parent employed more than 30 hours per week, only one in three of the jobs has health benefits attached. This is in sharp contrast to all households in the county, where two out of three families with children are receiving health coverage for their families from their jobs.

An even smaller number—one in five—of West Side households receives full benefits from employment, a significant decline from 2002 to 2005. The percentage of families on the West Side receiving benefits from their jobs was half the county proportion.

These are examples of the inequalities that *Making Connections-San Antonio* is addressing in its Neighborhood Transformation/Family Development initiative. One of the workforce solutions can be found in the Westside Education and Training Center at 563 SW 40th Street.

Family Income

Another inequality documented by the *Making Connections* surveys was the disparity in income. Fewer than half of the West Side households with children have incomes above \$20,000, compared to three-fourths of Bexar County families. Adequate employment and the types of benefits that come with the job are priorities of concern to the *Making Connections* initiative.

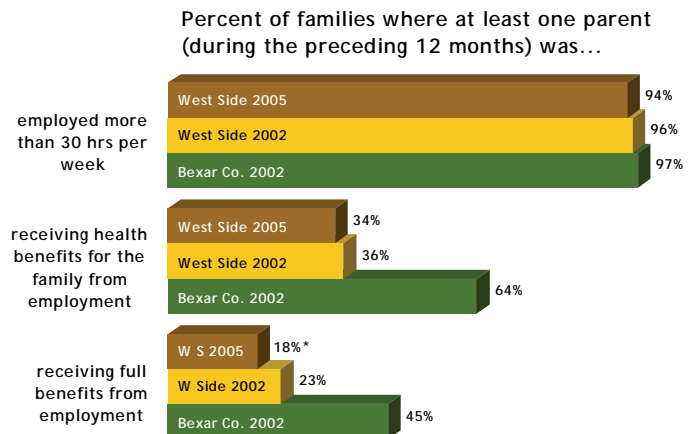
Family Hardships

Because income and job benefits are inadequate on the West Side, family hardship is more evident. One in four families in 2005 failed to fill a prescription when needed because either they did not have the insurance or lacked the money to pay for it. Three in ten delayed going to the doctor when they needed for exactly the same reasons.

One of the strategies initiated to address adequate jobs, asset building and family services can be found in the Centers for Work and Family at The Neighborhood Place-Edgewood, 3014 Rivas.

*DeNavas-Walt, Carmen, Bernadette D. Proctor, and Jessica Smith, U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Reports, P60-233, *Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2006*, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC, 2007.

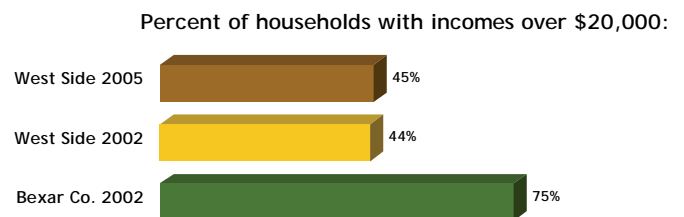
Neighborhood Snapshot: Households with Children



*This change between 2002 and 2005 on the West Side is statistically significant.

Source: Cross-Site Surveys conducted by NORC for The Annie E. Casey Foundation in 2002 & 2005

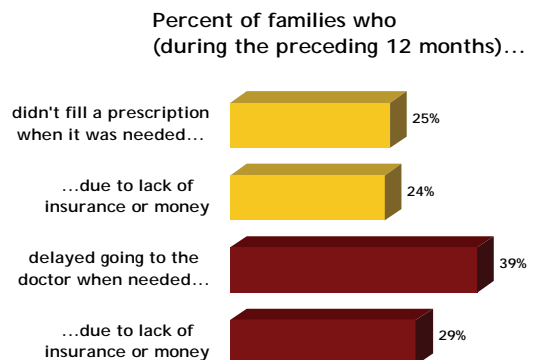
Neighborhood Snapshot: Households with Children



Changes between 2002 and 2005 on the West Side are not statistically significant.

Source: Cross-Site Surveys conducted by NORC for The Annie E. Casey Foundation in 2002 & 2005

Neighborhood Snapshot: Households with Children



Source: Cross-Site Survey conducted by NORC for The Annie E. Casey Foundation in 2005