



Border Kids Count Fact Sheet

New Mexico's border counties:

The Border Kids Count snapshots look at 24 state legislative districts, which span 6 counties (Dona Ana, Grant, Hidalgo, Luna, Otero and Sierra).

34% of border children live in poverty, compared to 25% statewide.

Hispanics living on the border are more likely to be poor than non-Hispanic whites.

Colonias, unincorporated communities on or near the border, lack basic infrastructure, such as access to clean water, solid waste disposal, and adequate housing.

It is estimated that New Mexico has 141 colonias, which are home to an estimated 40,000 people.

54% of the border population is Hispanic, compared to 42% statewide.

75% of border children speak English fluently, compared to 85% statewide. However, 66% speak two languages, compared to only 47% statewide.

Overall school dropout rates are lower on the border than the statewide average.

The border region, spanning from California to Texas:

There are 32 counties along our southern border. They are home to 6.5 million people, 1.8 million of whom are children.

The annual median household income in 2000 was a little over \$28,000.

Average annual incomes in colonias were estimated to be as low as \$5000 in 2000.

The rates of infant mortality and low birth weight along the border are lower than the national average, indicating the strong family values imbedded within this largely Hispanic culture.

Source: Annie E Casey Foundation and U.S. Census. More data is available at aecf.org



Press Conference Speakers List

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