



Young Parents in New Mexico: Strengths and Challenges

Aspen Institute Ascend

**New Mexico Voices for
Children**

May 10, 2023

www.nmvoices.org

A group of four diverse children are playing outdoors in a park-like setting. They are all smiling and looking towards the camera. The child on the far left is a young boy with short brown hair, wearing a blue denim jacket over a dark t-shirt. The child in the center is a girl with long blonde hair, wearing a light-colored top. The child in the center-right is a boy with curly brown hair, wearing a plaid shirt. The child on the far right is a girl with curly dark hair, wearing a striped shirt and denim overalls. They are all holding bubble wands, and several bubbles are floating in the air around them. The background is a soft-focus view of trees and foliage, suggesting a natural outdoor environment. The overall mood is joyful and carefree.

**Our mission is to
champion public
policies that improve
the well-being of
New Mexico's
children, families,
and communities**

A photograph of a family of three sitting on the floor and high-fiving each other. On the left is a young girl with a large, curly afro hairstyle, wearing a grey t-shirt. In the center is a man with a beard and short hair, wearing a white t-shirt. On the right is a woman with dark curly hair, wearing a white sleeveless top. They are all smiling and looking towards each other. The background is a simple, brightly lit room with a wooden floor and a white wall.

About the Data

IPUMS USE (Integrated Public use Microdata Series)

U.S. Census Bureau 5-Year ACS (American Community Survey) data for 2016-2020

Goals of the Report



- Explore characteristics of young parents (ages 18 to 24) in New Mexico
 - Employment
 - Educational attainment
 - Health insurance coverage
 - Poverty status and income

The data only tell part of the story!

Demographics

FIGURE I

New Mexico's Population by Race and Ethnicity

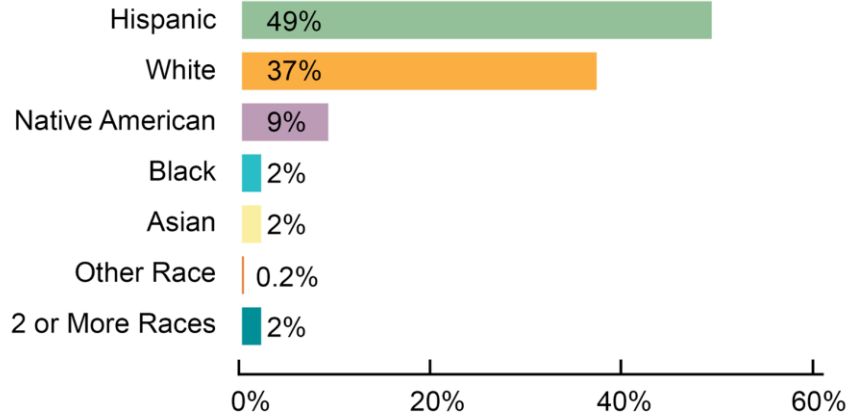
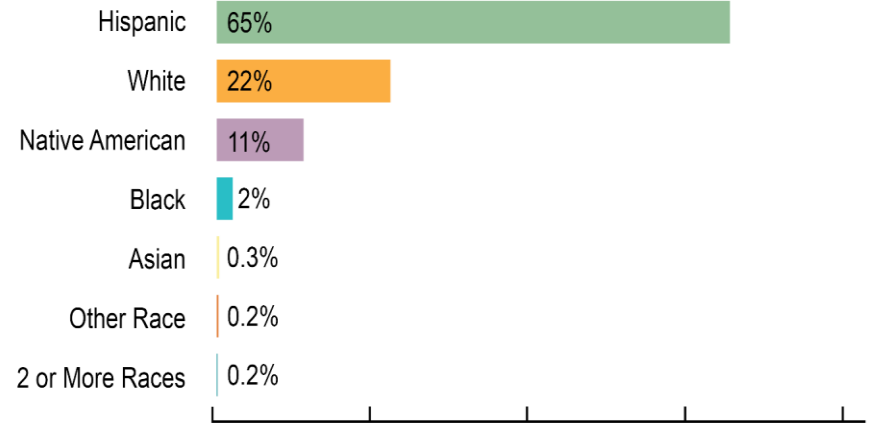


FIGURE VII

Young Parents by Race and Ethnicity



Demographics

FIGURE III

Parents with Minor Children as a Share of the Total Population

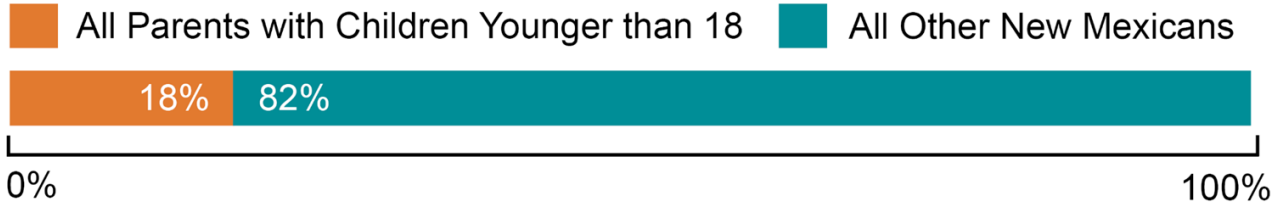
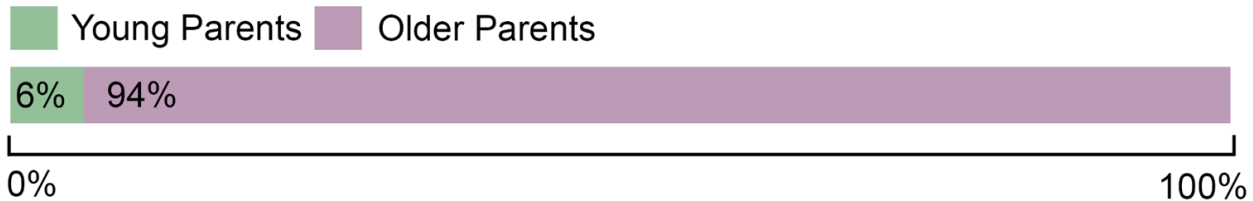


FIGURE IV

Young Parents as a Share of all Parents with Minor Children



Demographics

FIGURE V

Young Parents as a Share of all Young Adults

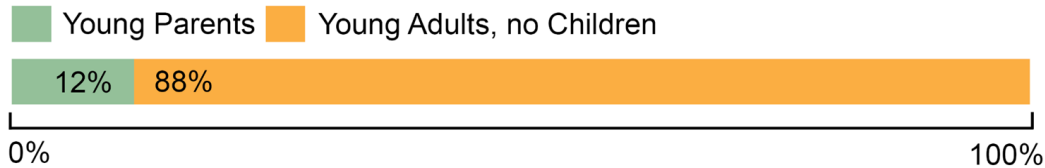
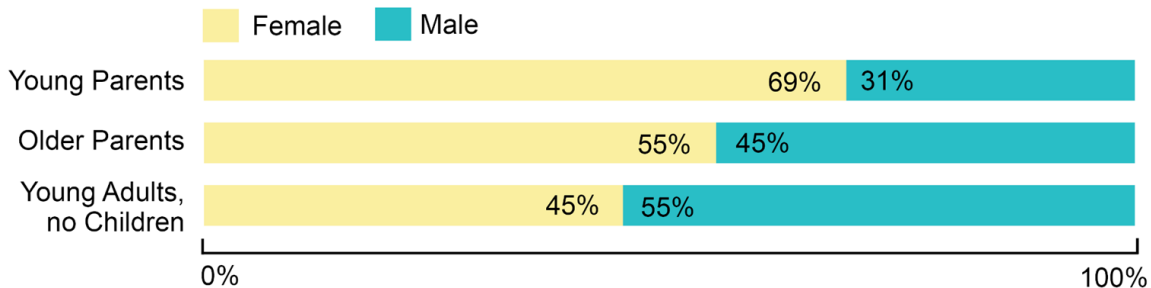


FIGURE VI

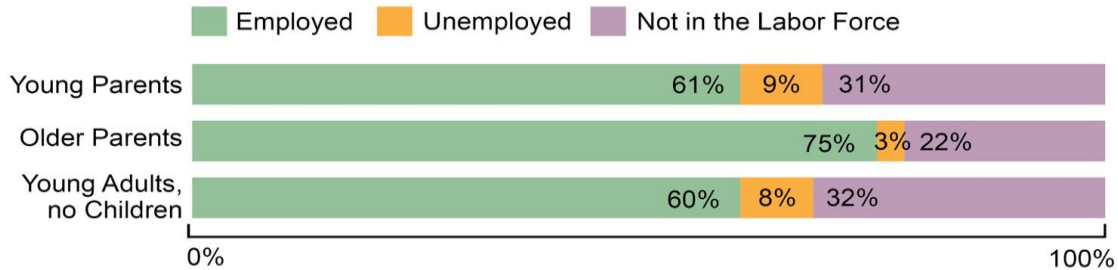
All Parents with Minor Children and All Young Adults by Sex



Employment

FIGURE X

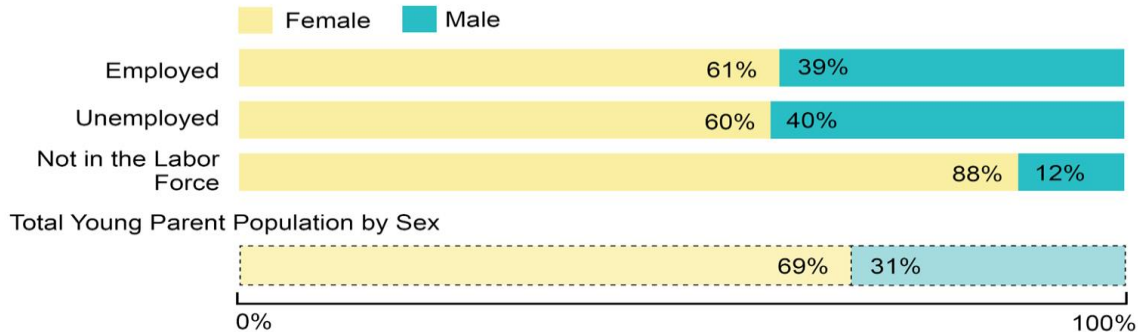
All Parents with Minor Children and All Young Adults by Employment Status



How to read this bar chart: “Of all young parents, 61% are employed, 9% are unemployed, and the remaining 31% are not in the labor force.”

FIGURE XI

Young Parents by Employment Status and Sex



Income and Poverty

FIGURE XIII

All Parents with Minor Children and All Young Adults by Income Level

	Less than \$25,000	\$25,000-\$40,000	\$40,000-\$55,000	\$55,000-\$75,000	\$75,000-\$100,000	\$100,000-\$400,000	\$400,000-\$1,000,000
Young Parents	33%	22%	16%	11%	10%	8%	0.3%
Older Parents	16%	12%	13%	14%	15%	29%	1%
Young Adults, no Children	18%	13%	12%	13%	13%	23%	1%

FIGURE XVI

All Parents with Minor Children and All Young Adults by Poverty Level

	Less than 100% FPL	100%-200% FPL	200%-300% FPL	300%-400% FPL	400%-500% FPL
Young Parents	42%	31%	15%	5%	7%
Older Parents	19%	22%	19%	15%	25%
Young Adults, no Children	28%	21%	17%	12%	22%

Educational Attainment

FIGURE XXI

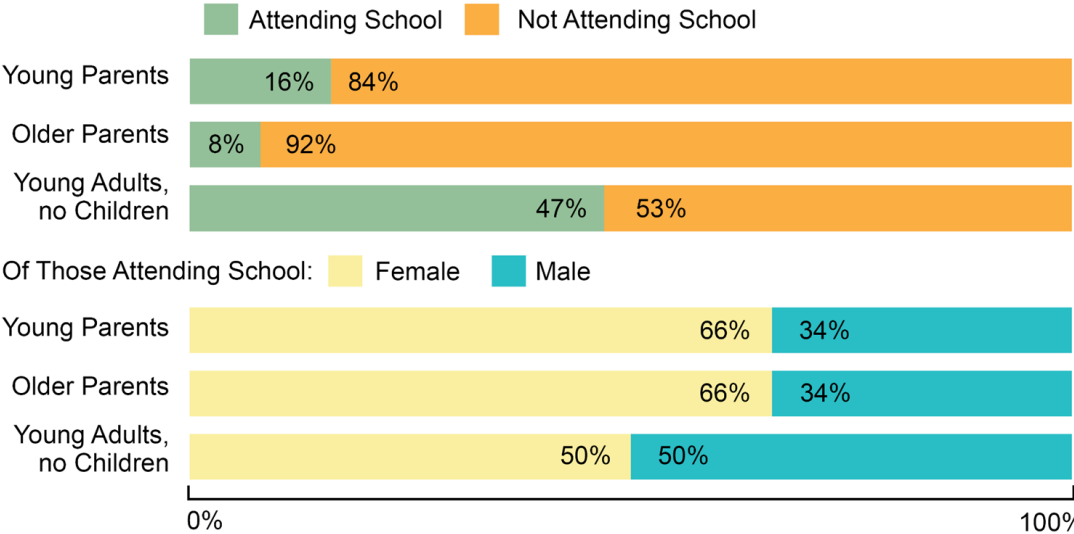
All Parents with Minor Children and All Young Adults by Level of Educational Attainment

	Attended 9th-12th Grade, no Diploma	High School Diploma or GED	Some College, less than 1 Year	1 or more Years of College, no Degree	Associate's Degree	Bachelor's Degree	Master's Degree
Young Parents	20%	40%	10%	21%	7%	1%	0.4%
Older Parents	9%	24%	6%	18%	10%	17%	8%
Young Adults, no Children	13%	33%	10%	30%	6%	6%	0.5%

Educational Attainment

FIGURE XIX

All Parents with Minor Children and All Young Adults by School Attendance and Sex

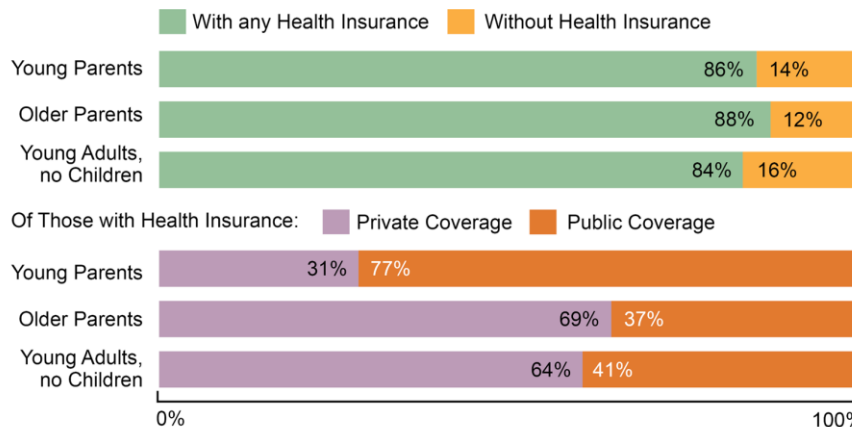


How to read these bar charts: "Of all young parents, just 16% are attending school. Of all young parents attending school, 66% are female and 34% are male."

Health Care and SNAP

FIGURE XXIV

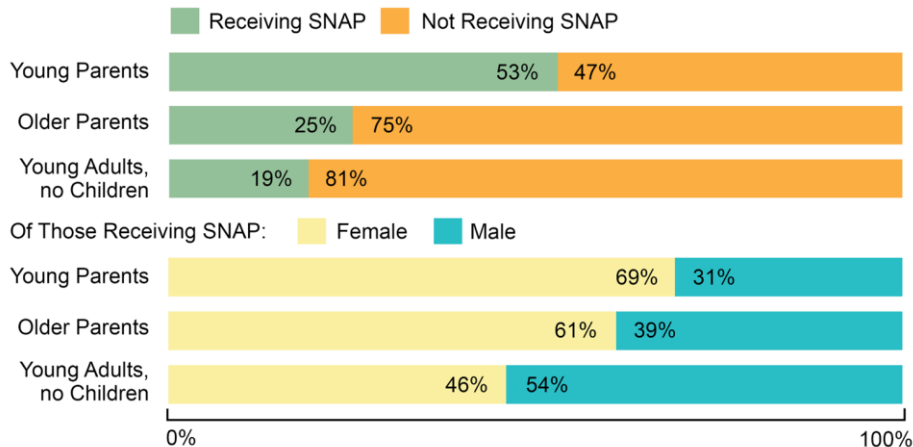
All Parents with Minor Children and All Young Adults by Health Insurance Coverage and Type



How to read these bar charts: “Of all young parents, 86% have health insurance and 14% do not. Of all young parents who have health insurance, 31% have private insurance and 77% have public insurance.”

FIGURE XXVII

All Parents with Minor Children and All Young Adults by SNAP Reciprocity and Sex

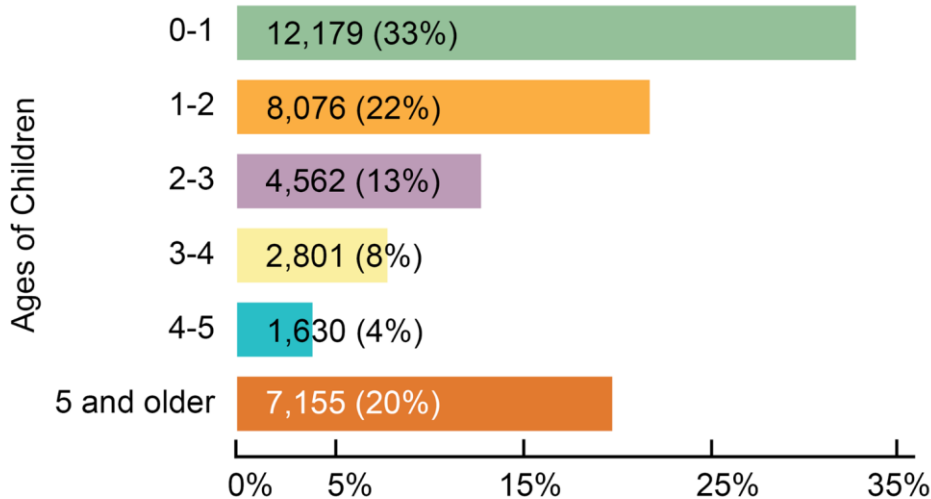


How to read these bar charts: “Of all young parents, 53% receive SNAP benefits and 47% do not. Of all young parents who do receive SNAP benefits, 69% are female and 31% are male.”

Children of Young Parents

FIGURE XXXIX

Number and Percentage of Children of Young Parents by Age Group



How to read this bar chart: "Of all children of young parents, 12,179 of them are younger than 1 year old. That age groups makes up 33% of all children of young parents."

A group of approximately 30 children are sitting in a large circle on a light-colored tiled floor. In the center of the circle is a large, light-colored mosaic of an eagle with its wings spread, perched on a banner that reads "CONSTITUTION". The children are wearing yellow t-shirts with a circular logo, and many are wearing colorful masks (red, green, purple, blue, orange). Some children are waving their hands, and one child in the foreground is making a peace sign. The overall atmosphere is celebratory and joyful.

Thank You!

New Mexico Voices for Children
www.nmvoices.org