

# 2002 Brazos Valley Health Assessment

## Project Summary & Goals

The 2002 Brazos Valley Health Assessment was a collaborative effort on the part of several local stakeholders to collect local data on the health status of the community. This was intended to be data useful for planning and resource development, as well as setting common priorities for the communities of the Brazos Valley that would guide collaboration.

The project goals were:

- To collect local data regarding health status of Brazos Valley residents
- To identify local resources
- To improve understanding of community issues
- To provide information to communities that is useful for planning and resource development

## Principal Investigator

James N. Burdine, Dr.P.H.

## Project Dates

2001-2002

## Communities Involved

Brazos County  
Burleson County  
Grimes County  
Leon County  
Madison County  
Robertson County  
Washington County

## Funders

Brazos Valley Council of Governments  
Brazos County Health Department  
College Station Medical Center  
St. Joseph Regional Health Center  
Madison St. Joseph Health Center  
Texas A&M Health Science Center School of Rural Public Health

## Key Findings

- Perceived overall BV health status by survey respondents is slightly worse compared to the nation.
- More BV respondents report having chronic diseases than the nation.
- One fifth of BV survey population has three or more risk factors.
- A third of the population “often” or “occasionally” delay seeking medical care due to cost. Numbers are higher for dental care.
- Two thirds of those who do not have insurance “often or “occasionally” delay seeking care due to cost. For dental, almost 75% report cost as a problem.
- Percentage of people who did not receive adequate prenatal care is double in rural counties compared to Brazos County.

- A fifth of BV respondents report that their children's insurance is not accepted by health care providers.
- A third of the respondents feel that teen pregnancy, drug abuse and public transportation are serious community issues.

## **Outcomes**

- Brazos Valley Health Partnership formed.
- Assessment results used for planning by various local organizations.
- Four task groups assembled to develop recommendations on how to address key issues.
- The health resource center model was proposed and piloted in Madison County.
- A Healthy Community Access Program (HCAP) grant was awarded to the Center for Community Health Development on behalf of the Brazos Valley Health Partnership by the Health Resources and Services Administration for \$2.1 million.