

South Texas Health Assessment

Project Summary & Goals

The South Texas Health Assessment was an effort 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 local communities that would guide collaboration.

Project goals were:

- To collect local data regarding health status of Lower Rio Grande 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

2003

Communities Involved

Hidalgo County

Starr County

Funders

Health Resources and Services Administration

Texas A&M Health Science Center School of Rural Public Health

Key Findings

- High rate of poverty
- Poor health status of the population
- High rate of diabetes
- Poor access and utilization of prenatal care
- Poor access to care
- Much of the population travels to Mexico to obtain health care
- Illegal drug use is common