

MADISON COUNTY

Community Description

Madison County is described as being a small rural community that is friendly, traditional, and with low crime. Discussion group participants note the community is generous and supportive thanks to a strong presence of faith-based organizations, with a growing senior citizen population. Residents expressed concerns about the lack of businesses to provide jobs and services, lack of available housing, and transportation issues as well. There is also some noted distrust between residents and elected officials. However, a large number of health and human service organizations deliver services within the county.



Community Issues

Top concerns expressed in Madison County Community Discussion Groups were:

- Lack of medical specialists, especially obstetricians, gynecologists, optometrists, and dentists
- Lack of affordable medical services
- Lack of transportation
- No entertainment for residents, especially for youth and the elderly population
- Need variety in grocery stores for high quality, low cost food
- Lack of job opportunities
- Need better accommodations for Spanish speaking residents



The leading concerns in terms of mortality for Madison County were motor vehicle and unintentional injury (62.3 per 100,000). Given the rural environment, motor vehicle deaths and deaths related to heavy machinery are common findings. Morbidity yielded Alzheimer's disease/dementia (13.2%) and older adult depression (14.2%) as leading concerns. Healthcare access and quality again pertained to the main issue of a significant uninsured population (31.0%). Health behaviors only list teen births as moderate (63.9 per 1,000 females age 15-19), with social factors being limited to single parent households. Physical environments listed access to parks and living near highways as primary concerns.

