
DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

UNM/CNM/Sunport Transit Study

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Executive Summary

The study area for the UNM / CNM /Sunport Transit Study is a relatively small geographic area located approximately one mile east of Downtown Albuquerque. The area is one of the most familiar corridors for those who live in or have visited New Mexico – home to the City’s airport, the University of New Mexico and UNM Hospital and Central New Mexico Community College. The presence of these and other destinations make the area the largest activity center in the region, and presumably the state.

- While the number of persons who reside in the area is relatively small (20,533), the daytime population of the institutions (faculty, staff and students) contributes approximately 74,000 persons a day (2010). Additionally, the UNM Hospital also attracts approximately 1,000,000 persons a year and a number of cultural and athletic facilities in the area add significant population sporadically through the year.
- In addition to the strong institutional presence, thirteen neighborhood associations are present the area.
- The population is 33.2% minority and 36.7% Hispanic, similar to the County and State. Overall, 26.2% of household are in the low income categories.
- The residential neighborhoods in the study area vary dramatically from student housing to low income neighborhoods to those composed of primarily UNM faculty and retirees. An area located south and east of UNM south campus has higher rates of Hispanic or Latino residents and low income households.
- The presence of students in the study area is also shown in the higher percentages of 18 – 24 year olds – 23.8% in the study area versus 10.6% citywide (ACS 2007 – 11).
- Population densities are highest along east – west Central Ave. The large parcels of land with no residential population are concentrated along the north – south University Boulevard due to the institution uses and some vacant parcels.
- The study area has a very high rate of populations below the poverty level (27.7%), compared to both the City and County rates. This is partly attributable the University student population in the areas in the center of the study area. Additionally, the study area’s rate of individuals at the poverty level (6.3%) is also higher than the larger area.
- High rates of households with no vehicles characterize the area, with rates of 10% - 20%. As would be expected, the UNM campus areas of on-campus housing (dormitory) have rates of over 20%, some of the nearby student neighborhood have similarly high rates.
- Areas with relatively high percentages of workers who travel by public transit, bicycle, or who walk are prevalent within the study area. Over 20% of the block groups have transit usage ranging from 7% to 15%. Almost 60% of the block groups have very high percentages of workers who travel by bicycle or foot.



1.0 Study Overview

The UNM/CNM/Sunport Transit Study is an initiative of the Mid-Region Council of Governments in collaboration with the University of New Mexico (UNM), Central New Mexico Community College (CNM), Rio Metro, City of Albuquerque Aviation, Municipal Development, and Planning Departments, and Bernalillo County Public Works Department. The study is focused on transportation and parking problems and needs associated with the UNM north, central, and south campuses, CNM Main campus, and the Albuquerque Sunport. A primary objective of the study is the identification of strategies and investments to improve north-south mobility to and between the major activity centers within the study area. While emphasis is on transit access and mobility, bicycle and pedestrian needs are also a consideration. Parking strategies and travel demand management strategies will also be identified as they relate to better transit mobility. In addition, land use strategies will be developed and evaluated as they relate to transit.

1.1 Study Team Structure

The UNM/CNM/Sunport Study is managed by the Mid-Region Council of Governments (MRCOG). MRCOG has assembled an inter-agency steering committee to participate in the study. This committee includes representatives from UNM, CNM, City of Albuquerque Council Services, Planning, Municipal Development, ABQ Ride, and the Aviation Department. The function of this team is to provide direction, review information and materials, provide continuity on other plans and projects under their jurisdiction, and to serve as a sounding board. Technical support is being provided by a team of consulting planners and engineers.

1.2 Study Area Context and Setting

The geographic coverage of the UNM/CNM/Sunport Study is illustrated in Figure 1. The study area includes the north-south corridor that encompasses the northern part of the Albuquerque International Airport (Sunport), CNM, the UNM south, central, and north campuses, and the UNM Hospital and related health science facilities. The region's major sports facilities, including the UNM basketball area, UNM football stadium, and Isotopes baseball stadium are also within the study area. While the majority of classrooms at the UNM central campus area and CNM area are located within the corridor between University Boulevard and Yale Boulevard, the hospital, Johnson Gym/Field (a popular recreational area for university students and staff and nearby neighborhoods), and UNM dormitories are in the corridor between Yale Boulevard and Girard Boulevard.

The combined travel associated with CNM, UNM, and UNM Hospital makes this area the largest activity center within the Albuquerque metropolitan area. Estimates by the MRCOG indicate a daytime population of approximately 74,000 for these three institutions. This population includes students, faculty, and staff. Additional travel is generated by area businesses, hospital patients and visitors, and neighborhoods. Estimates of vehicle miles of travel indicate the area generates almost 1.3 million VMT on a weekday. This travel results in congestion on area streets and intrusions into the neighborhoods surrounding UNM and CNM as students search for close-in parking.



2.0 Population Demographic Profile

Thirteen distinct neighborhoods exist within and near the study area. Figure 2 illustrates these neighborhoods.

The portions of these neighborhoods within the study area are within seven census tracts and seventeen block groups. US Census data for the 2010 census and data from the 2006 – 2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimate were reviewed for each block group to determine age, race, ethnicity, persons with household income below poverty level for the last year, English-speaking proficiency, and mode of transportation used. Persons with sensory and/or mobility disabilities were also reviewed; however, this data was obtained from the 2000 census, as 2010 data were not available. Figure 3 illustrates the locations of the tracts and block groups. Tables 1 through 4 summarize the data.



Figure 1: Study Area





Figure 2: Neighborhoods within the Study Area

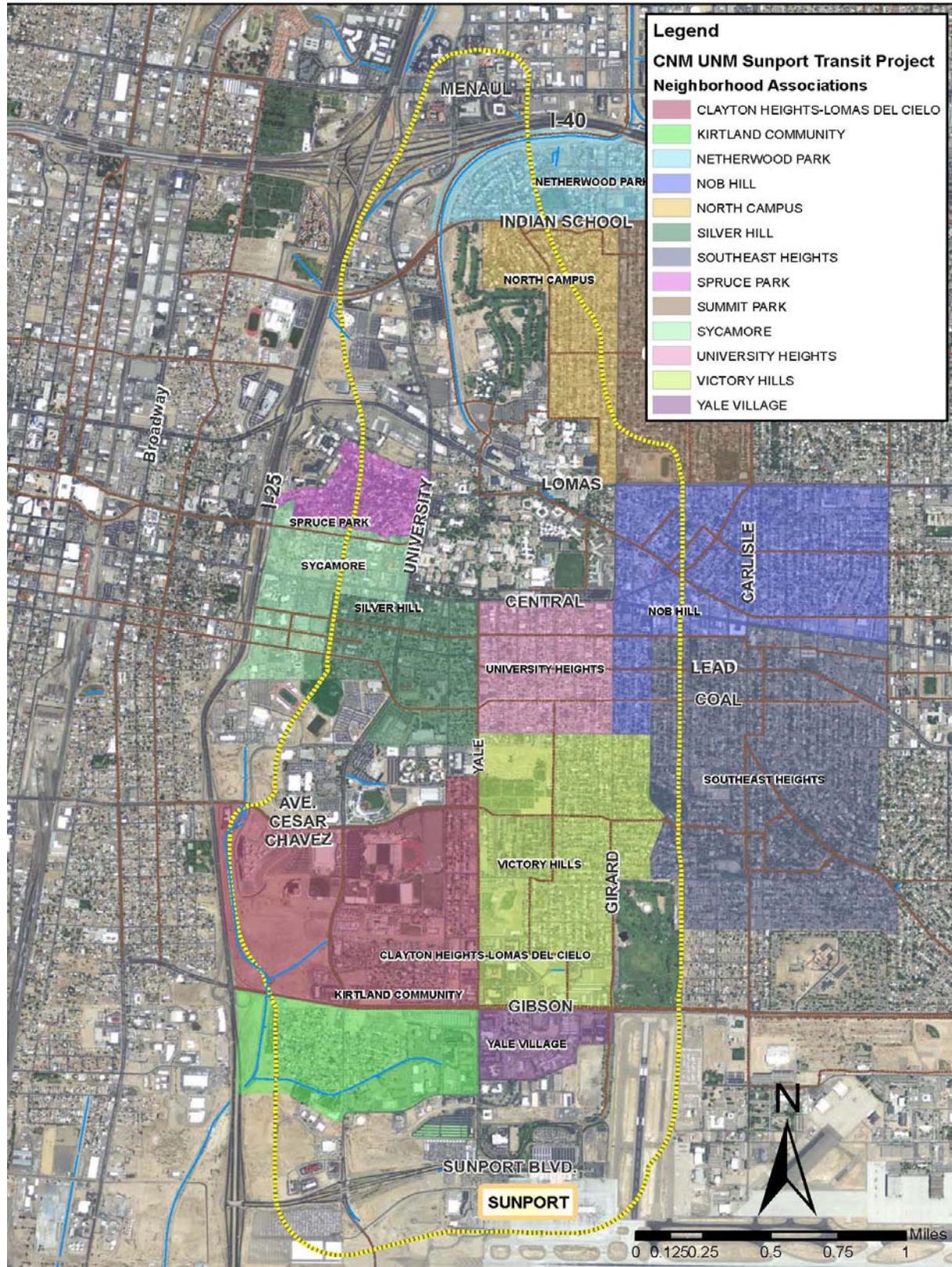




Figure 3: Census Tracts and Block Groups

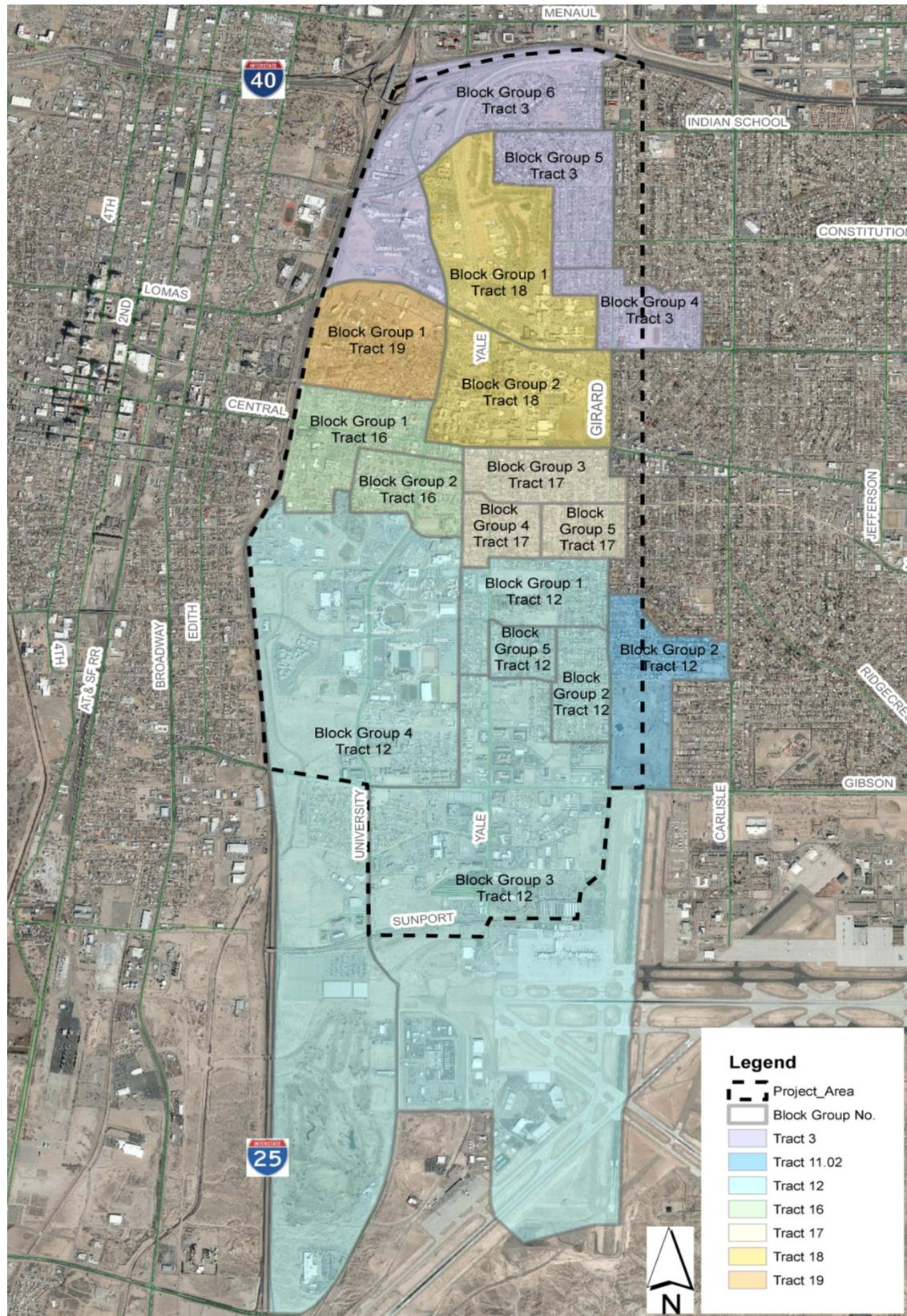




Figure 4: Study Area Population Density

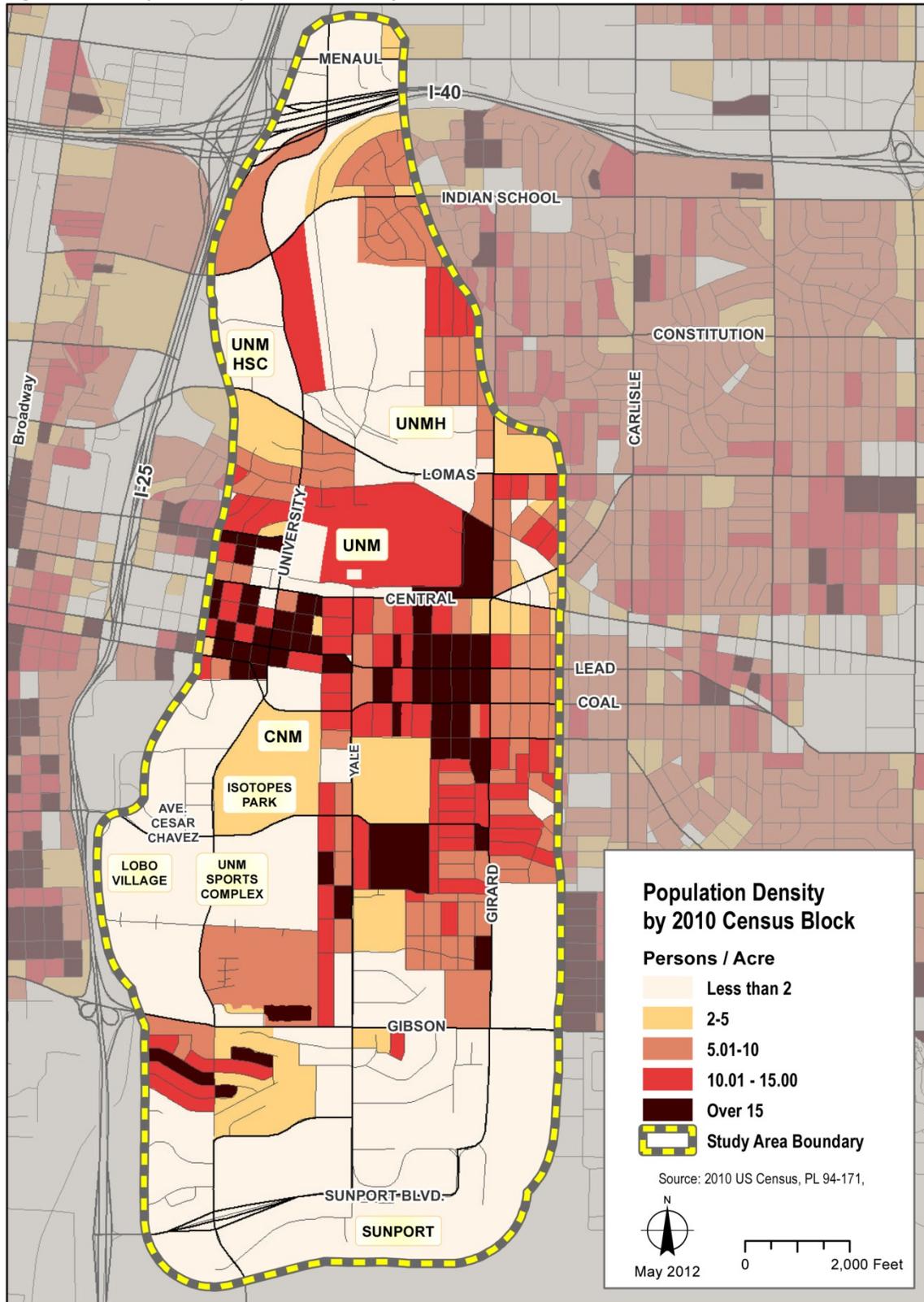




Table 1: US Census Data for Age, Race, and Ethnicity

Place, Census Tract, and Block Group	Total Population	Elderly ⁽¹⁾ %	Race % Minority ⁽²⁾	% Latino or Hispanic ⁽³⁾
Bernalillo County	662,564	12.2%	30.6%	47.9%
Albuquerque	545,852	12.1%	30.3%	46.7%
Study Area	20,533	8.8%	33.2%	36.7%
Census Tract 3 BG 4	789	11.7%	16.0%	18.9%
Census Tract 3 BG 5	1,278	14.6%	15.1%	22.8%
Census Tract 3 BG 6	1,074	19.4%	23.0%	31.7%
Census Tract 11.02 BG 2	707	14.7%	15.4%	22.8%
Census Tract 12 BG 1	1,025	9.5%	28.3%	35.8%
Census Tract 12 BG 2	809	12.5%	22.5%	33.7%
Census Tract 12 BG 3	1,433	7.7%	50.2%	53.7%
Census Tract 12 BG 4	2,288	6.8%	57.7%	50.8%
Census Tract 12 BG 5	1,609	6.3%	59.3%	78.6%
Census Tract 16 BG 1	1,340	7.5%	31.9%	27.9%
Census Tract 16 BG 2	1,189	4.0%	36.1%	29.5%
Census Tract 17 BG 3	1,362	3.2%	30.5%	25.4%
Census Tract 17 BG 4	733	2.9%	29.6%	28.2%
Census Tract 17 BG 5	911	4.3%	32.1%	26.3%
Census Tract 18 BG 1	501	27.3%	24.6%	33.9%
Census Tract 18 BG 2	2,430	0.5%	24.9%	34.3%
Census Tract 19 BG 1	1,055	22.9%	15.4%	22.7%

¹ Elderly accounts for those residents age 65 and older

² Residents who identify themselves as a race other than White: Black or African American, American Indian and Alaska Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, Some other Race, and Two or More Races

³ Residents who categorize themselves as Hispanic or Latino

- Study area population indicates that densities are highest along east – west Central Ave. The large parcels of land with no residential population are concentrated along the north – south University Boulevard due to the institution uses and some vacant parcels (Figure 4).
- The population is 33.2% minority and 36.7% Hispanic, similar to the County and State. Overall, 26.2% of household are in the low income categories (Table 1).



Table 2: Population with Household Income below Poverty Level

Place, Census Tract, and Block Group		Population (for whom poverty is determined)	% Below Poverty	% at Poverty (100% - 124%)	Above Poverty
Bernalillo County		638,074	15.6%	4.8%	79.6%
Albuquerque		523,500	15.7%	4.9%	79.4%
Study Area		16,948	27.7%	6.3%	66.0%
Tract	Block Group				
3	4	931	9.2%	6.2%	84.5%
3	5	1,473	9.0%	3.1%	87.9%
3	6	816	17.2%	0.0%	82.8%
11.02	2	904	12.4%	3.7%	84.0%
12	1	1,230	10.2%	1.6%	88.2%
12	2	668	16.3%	7.8%	75.9%
12	3	1,330	23.8%	11.8%	64.4%
12	4	1,786	40.8%	13.2%	46.1%
12	5	989	47.2%	8.7%	44.1%
16	1	1,383	39.3%	12.2%	48.4%
16	2	1,096	35.2%	11.0%	53.7%
17	3	1,437	53.2%	10.0%	36.9%
17	4	776	47.9%	6.2%	45.9%
17	5	661	18.2%	6.4%	75.5%
18	1	411	25.5%	5.6%	68.9%
18	2	56	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
19	1	1,001	19.3%	3.8%	76.9%
Source: 2006-2010 ACS C17002					

- Areas with higher percentages of households with income below poverty are found in several areas within the study area, most notably in the areas immediately surrounding the UNM main campus and the CNM campus. In addition, the neighborhood immediately northwest of the airport also falls into this category (Figure 5).
- The study area has a very high rate of populations below the poverty level (27.7%), compared to both the City and County rates. This is partly attributable the University student population in the areas in the center of the study area. Additionally, the study area’s rate of individuals at the poverty level (6.3%) is also higher than the larger area (Table 2).



Figure 5: Study Area Population Below Poverty Level

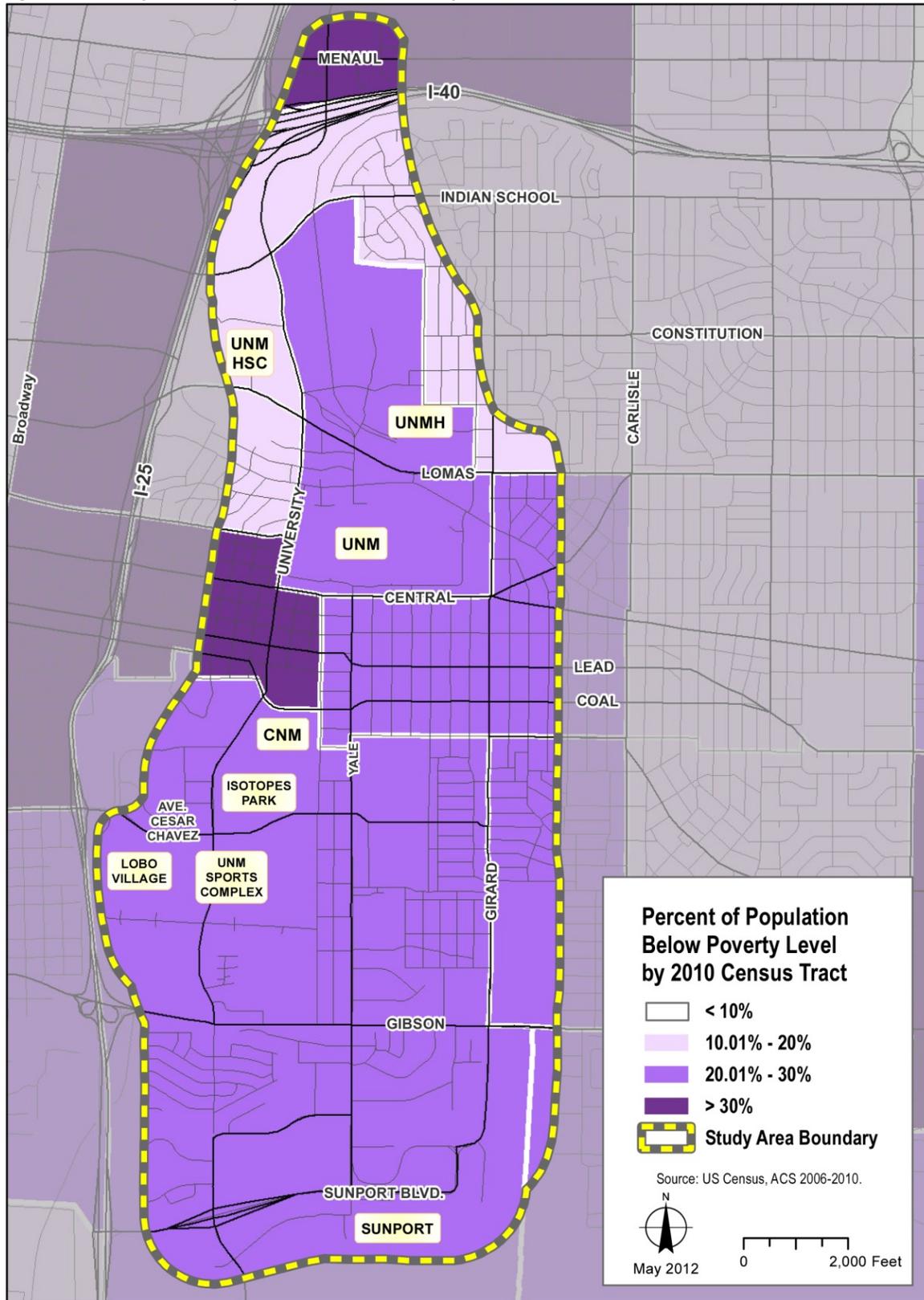
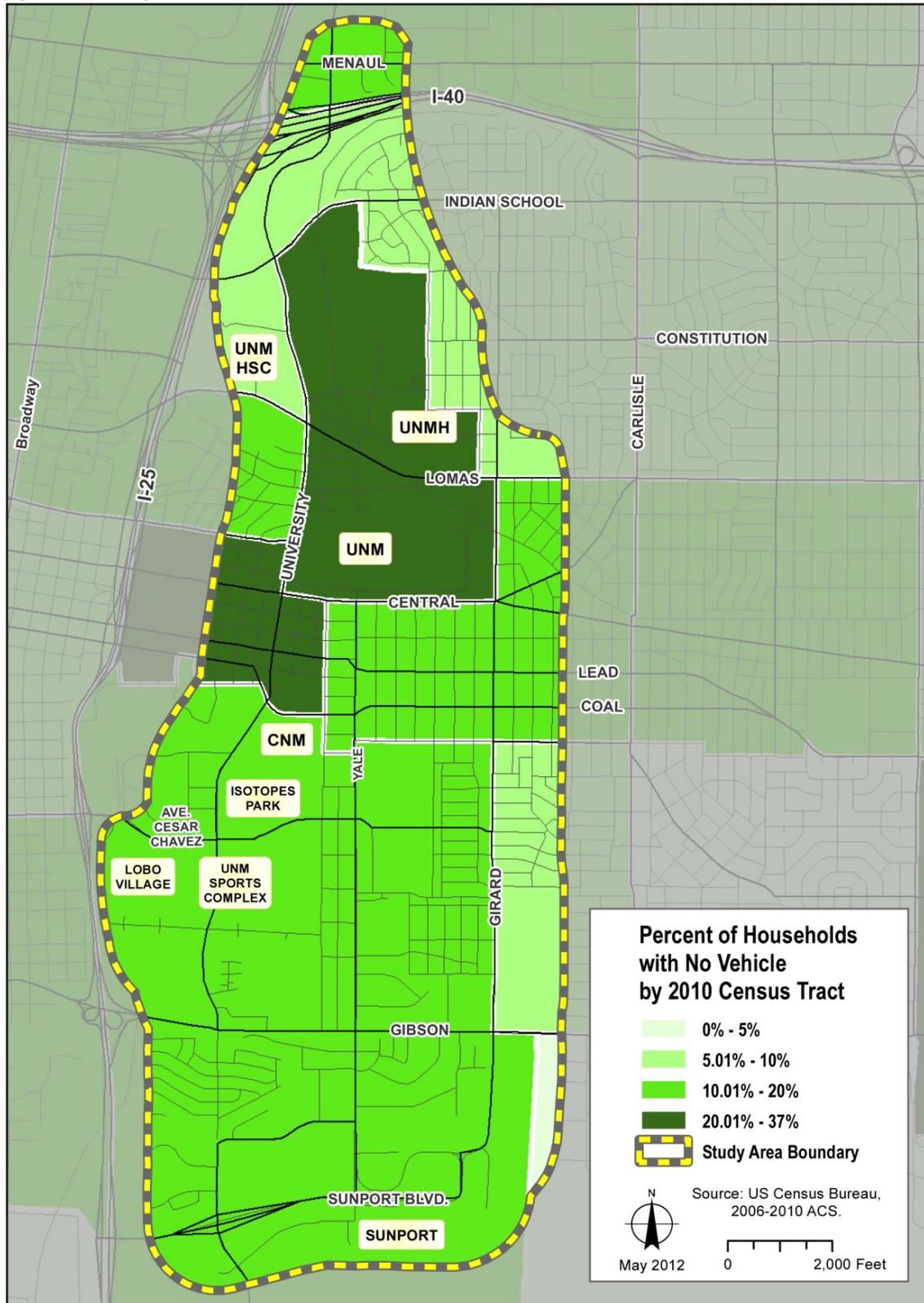




Figure 6: Study Area Households with No Vehicles



**Table 3: English Speaking Ability of Households**

Place		Total Households	Household Language	
			% No English ⁽¹⁾	% Some English ⁽²⁾
Bernalillo County		259,165	4.6%	23.9%
Albuquerque		217,256	4.2%	22.6%
Census Tract 3	BG 4	433	0.0%	15.5%
Census Tract 3	BG 5	663	0.0%	12.1%
Census Tract 3	BG 6	405	0.0%	27.2%
Census Tract 11.02	BG 2	402	2.2%	16.7%
Census Tract 12	BG 1	702	0.0%	48.7%
Census Tract 12	BG 2	415	3.9%	16.4%
Census Tract 12	BG 3	484	10.1%	42.6%
Census Tract 12	BG 4	757	2.0%	43.2%
Census Tract 12	BG 5	362	19.6%	41.7%
Census Tract 16	BG 1	876	2.9%	19.3%
Census Tract 16	BG 2	700	1.3%	19.6%
Census Tract 17	BG 3	880	0.0%	21.1%
Census Tract 17	BG 4	430	12.8%	9.5%
Census Tract 17	BG 5	423	0.0%	0.0%
Census Tract 18	BG 1	301	3.7%	26.2%
Census Tract 18	BG 2	26	0.0%	0.0%
Census Tract 19	BG 1	565	0.0%	27.6%

(1) Meaning all adults (in this case any household member 14 years of age or older) speak English only or speaks English "very well."

(2) At least one person age 14 or older speaks English only or speaks English "very well."

- High rates of households with no vehicles characterize the area, with rates of 10% - 20%. As would be expected, the UNM campus areas of on-campus housing (dormitory) have rates of over 20%, some of the nearby student neighborhood have similarly high rates (Figure 6).
- Areas that have higher percentages of households that do not include an adult with strong English speaking skills are generally the same or lower than the City and County. Three block groups have higher percentages of non-English speaking households. These areas are east of CNM and south and east of the UNM south campus area (Table 3).



Table 4: Travel Mode

Place, Census Tract, and Block Group	Total Population ¹	% Drive Alone	% Carpooled	% Public Transit	% Bicycle	% Walked	% Other Means
Bernalillo County	309,088	78.4%	11.4%	1.9%	1.1%	1.9%	0.7%
Albuquerque	277,740	72.8%	10.3%	1.9%	1.2%	1.9%	0.7%
Census Tract 3 BG 4	552	79.3%	11.2%	0.0%	7.6%	7.4%	0.0%
Census Tract 3 BG 5	739	52.6%	22.2%	0.0%	17.5%	11.2%	0.0%
Census Tract 3 BG 6	463	67.8%	39.3%	0.0%	1.9%	0.0%	10.6%
Census Tract 11.02 BG 2	511	81.2%	26.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Census Tract 12 BG 1	625	76.6%	12.5%	0.0%	13.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Census Tract 12 BG 2	459	85.0%	0.0%	3.3%	9.4%	0.0%	0.0%
Census Tract 12 BG 3	605	87.9%	14.9%	2.3%	2.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Census Tract 12 BG 4	778	77.1%	0.0%	4.1%	3.0%	13.1%	0.0%
Census Tract 12 BG 5	407	60.0%	23.1%	11.5%	0.0%	10.1%	6.9%
Census Tract 16 BG 1	1,032	52.1%	10.9%	0.0%	7.4%	33.0%	0.0%
Census Tract 16 BG 2	694	58.6%	9.8%	7.2%	13.0%	4.5%	5.0%
Census Tract 17 BG 3	785	47.1%	15.3%	1.5%	10.7%	29.0%	0.0%
Census Tract 17 BG 4	485	35.3%	0.0%	0.0%	21.9%	32.2%	0.0%
Census Tract 17 BG 5	343	56.0%	15.2%	0.0%	17.2%	6.4%	0.0%
Census Tract 18 BG 1	201	49.3%	29.9%	10.4%	6.5%	12.4%	0.0%
Census Tract 18 BG 2	1,194	26.2%	19.6%	15.2%	8.9%	35.8%	0.0%
Census Tract 19 BG 1	558	73.8%	14.7%	0.0%	6.3%	7.5%	1.4%

1- Total population includes workers 16 and older

- Finally, areas with relatively high percentages of workers who travel by public transit, bicycle, or who walk are prevalent within the study area. Over 20% of the block groups have transit usage ranging from 7% to 15%. Almost 60% of the block groups have very high percentages of workers who travel by bicycle or foot (Table 4).

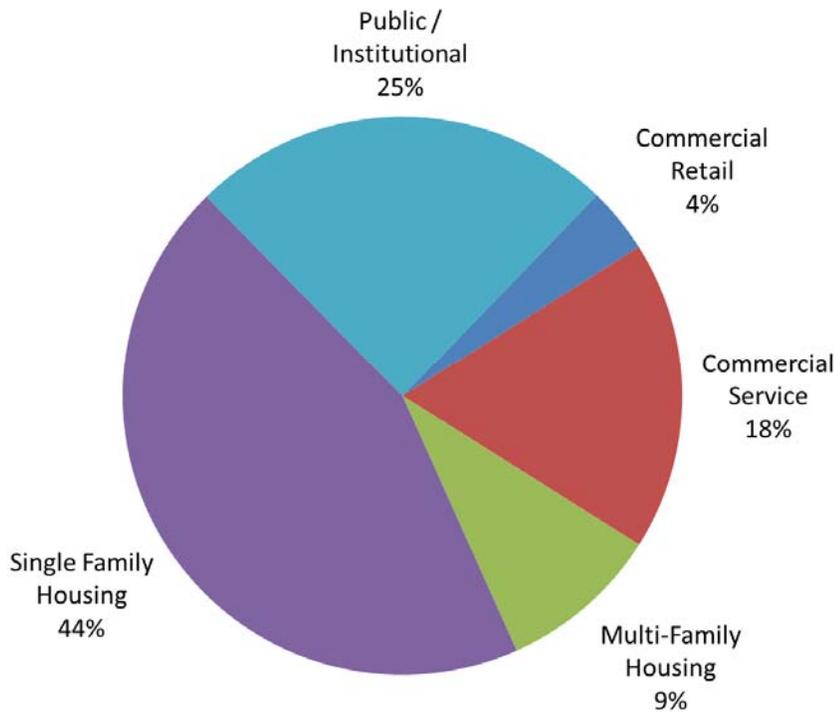
In addition to the data in the above tables, statistics for persons with disabilities was also evaluated. This data is from the 2000 Census as disability data is no longer collected though the decennial census. One area — Tract 18 Block Group 1 — has an unusually high percentage of disabled persons at 53.6% as compared to the County and City percentages of 19.7% and 19.6%, respectively. This finding is attributed to a large assisted living and retirement complex located just east of the intersection of University Boulevard and Indian School Road. Tract 12, Block Group 5 also has a higher than expected percentage of disabled persons (33.6%).



3.0 Land Use

While a more comprehensive analysis of land use is included in the Land Use Profile, the mix of land uses is shown in Figure 7, below. The Mid Region Council of Governments uses a derived measure to evaluate land use mix called the Overall Land Use Mix Score. This score describes the mix of the areas dedicated to the following uses: Public/Institutional, Commercial Retail, Commercial Services, Multi-Family Housing, Single Family Housing. In this measure, an area with a perfect balance of each use it gets a score of 1. The study area score was 0.60 compared to a score of 0.43 for Bernalillo County as a whole.

Figure 7: Study Area Land Use



4.0 Employment

As shown in Figure 8, the University of New Mexico, UNM Hospital, UNM Cancer Center, and Central New Mexico Community College are large employers located in the center of the study area. Combined, these institutions employ approximately 15,000 persons. Additionally, large employers – many of them private sector – are distributed through the corridor with concentration in the area of the Sunport, Lomas Blvd. and Indian School Road. While there is a healthy mix of employer types and size throughout the area, there is a notable concentration of hotels both near the Sunport (Gibson and Yale) and on the north end of University. Combined, the study area contains over 2,000 hotel rooms.



Figure 8: Study Area Employers

