The 2017 Hispanic Health Assessment (HHA) is the first population specific assessment developed to address the needs of a targeted population in the county. It is an example of the commitment the Florida Department of Health in Orange County has in utilizing best practices to improve the health of community residents. The HHA is an essential tool which answers questions that further explain the population, growth, change, characteristics, and health indicators among Hispanics. This tool can be used to engage community partners in improvement plans and enhance the spread of public health message.

Florida’s vision is to become the Healthiest state in the nation by 2030. We do this by ensuring that all races and ethnicities have reached their best state of health through the provision of quality health services to each resident in our community. This publication is the product of the hard work and dedication of the Florida Department of Health in Orange County.
**HISPANICS**

**HEALTH INDICATORS**

**SOCIOECONOMIC**

- Unemployed: 39%
- Unwed Mothers: 49.3%
- Uninsured: 20%
- Lower income than the median income of the county: 28%
- Have a High School Diploma: 78%

**ACCESS**

- Adults Without Access to Personal Doctor: 42%
- Hispanics who reside in the Azalea Park, Union Park, Oakridge, Meadow Woods, and South Conway communities lack access to healthy foods.
Orange County Florida

2017

44.8% Puerto Rican
12.3% Mexican
9.6% Cuban
7.3% Colombian
6.1% Dominican

Largest Puerto Rican Population in the State

39.5%
Population Growth from 2010-2016

59%
Adults who do not meet aerobic recommendations

335.2 per 1,000 people
High Emergency Department Utilization Rate, compared to Non-Hispanics.

Top Causes of Death
- Cancer
- Heart Disease
- Cerebrovascular Disease

ZIP Codes with Highest Morbidity Prevalence:
32822 | 32807 | 32825 | 32829

Obesity
Higher than Non-Hispanics

Maternal Deaths
Hispanics experience a higher yearly maternal death frequency

Increase
Non-Congenital Zika Virus Cases
100 Reported in 2016

1 in 15
Hispanics ages 20-24 are diagnosed with Chlamydia

Diabetes
Hospitalization rates have increased

Largest Puerto Rican Population in the State

ACCESS MORTALITY/MORBIDITY
Community Analysis

Orange County Communities with the Largest Hispanic Population:
Avalon Park, Azalea Park, Meadow Woods/South Chase

North (Apopka, Zellwood): This is a mainly rural region with many surrounding farms. Many Hispanics commute to the area to work in the farms. Apopka is the main city where a variety of resources are available for its surrounding residents. Many services lack Spanish speaking staff, only a few facilities provide bilingual services. This region is composed of low to mid household incomes. Residents feel safe living in this area. Many open spaces for recreational activities easily accessible which provides and family friendly location.

South (Hunters Creek, Southchase, Meadow Woods): High concentration of Hispanics with a variety of resources for Hispanics, and many are provided in their native language (Spanish). Mid income families reside in this region. Residents feel safe living in this area, Open spaces for recreational activities, transportation services, good schools, healthy foods and medical facilities are easily accessible.

West: Hispanics are the minority in this area. There are limited resources catered for the Hispanic population; however, a few Spanish speaking physicians and staff can be found nearby. It is close to many tourist attractions, providing a variety of employment opportunities. This region has a low to mid household income.

East (Avalon Park, Azalea Park, Rio Pinar): High concentration of Hispanics, with a variety of resources catering to the Hispanic Population. Low (Azalea Park) to High (Avalon Park) household family income are found in this region. Disproportionate health rates are seen in the Azalea Park neighborhood. Open spaces for recreational activities, churches of different denominations, transportation services, and many medical facilities are easily accessible.

Community Perspective: Based on the community focus group results, Hispanics come to Orange County for many reason (work, family, better life etc.). For the most part they consider their residential neighborhood safe and good to live in. Financial problems, medical/healthcare access (uninsured/underinsured), and lack of accessible information are among some of the major challenges faced. Hispanics understand the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle; however, due to life stressors, it is difficult for some to obtain optimal health. They believe health equity does not exist. They perceive to be treated differently and without the same opportunities as others. Hispanics would like service agencies/organizations to increase, access to translation services or Spanish speaking staff, cultural competencies, and marketing strategies; which are limiting factors.

Sources:
Primary Data Collection:
Community Focus Groups (Southchase/Meadow Woods, Apopka, East Orlando) | Community Windshield Observations
Secondary Data Collection:

Ellis Pérez, MPH
Population Health and Quality Improvement Data Manager
Ellis.Perez@flhealth.gov