A Community Assessment of Winslow Arizona

CPCHP - AHEC Scholars 2024-2026

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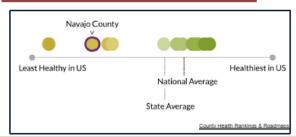


INTRODUCTION

Winslow, Arizona, is a historically significant community with a population of just over 9,000. Once a major railroad hub, the city experienced economic decline following the rise of Interstate 40, which diverted traffic from Route 66. Today, Winslow's economy relies on transportation, healthcare, and tourism, with attractions like the Standin' on the Corner Park drawing visitors. Despite its strong community identity, Winslow faces significant healthcare challenges. Economic hardship further impacts health outcomes, with 31.6% of residents living in poverty and limited employment opportunities.



NAVAJO CO. HEALTH OUTCOMES



<u>PURPOSE</u>

The purpose of this presentation is to report the results of a team-based field experience aimed at identifying healthcare challenges experienced within the community of Winslow, Arizona.

METHOD

Scholars collected data in October 2024 and February 2025 immersions through windshield survey observation, community member presentations, and community member interviews. Population and epidemiological data were gathered through public records via government agency websites.

Windshield Survey Findings Healthcare Barriers:

- 1. Access to healthy food
- 2. Access to primary health services
- 3. Access to specialty health services
- 4. Limited transportation options
- 5. Healthcare and disease stigma
- 6. Lack of infrastructure





WILOW + ARIZONA

FINDINGS

Healthcare Access Challenges – Many residents must travel to Flagstaff for specialty care due to limited local services.

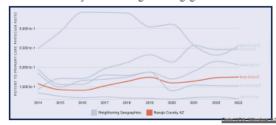
High Prevalence of Chronic Diseases – Diabetes, obesity, substance abuse, and chronic pain are widespread, worsened by food insecurity and limited healthcare access.

Economic Disparities – About 31.6% of residents live in poverty, with few opportunities for higher-paying jobs.

Lack of Reliable Public Transportation – Limited transit options make it difficult for residents to access healthcare, grocery stores, and employment.

Food Insecurity – Many residents rely on convenience stores rather than grocery stores, limiting access to fresh and nutritious food

Community Resilience and Strengths – Winslow has a strong sense of community & increasing local engagement



Economic Subsystem	
Employment Rates	Total population: 9,005; Employment rate: 44.6% ± 4.4%
Income Levels	Median household income: \$53,114 ± \$6,895
Major Industries	Education, Healthcare, & social assistance at 30.8%
Economic Disparities	Citizens without healthcare coverage: 13.8%

SUMMARY & RECOMMENDATIONS

Expand Healthcare Access – Increase primary care, specialty services, support telehealth initiatives, address provider shortages. Improve Food Security – Strengthen programs like WIC, SNAP, and the farmers market to promote access to nutritious foods. Enhance Public Transportation – Develop a reliable transportation system to improve access to healthcare, grocery stores, and employment opportunities.

Support Economic Growth – Create job training and workforce development programs to address economic disparities.

Promote Preventative Health Initiatives – Increase community education on nutrition, exercise, and chronic disease management. Strengthen Community Partnerships – Foster collaboration between healthcare providers, local government, and community organizations to develop sustainable solutions.

CONCLUSION

Winslow's strengths lie in its sense of community, engaged local leadership, and initiatives like the Mother Road Farmers Market that promote food security. However, the city faces significant health disparities. Addressing these disparities requires a comprehensive approach to expanding healthcare services, enhancing public transit, and strengthening local food programs. Sustainable, community-led solutions will be essential in fostering long-term health equity and improving the overall well-being of Winslow residents.



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