

NE COLORADO LABOR STUDY, 5 NE COUNTIES, COLORADO

Survey and Report

The study was developed to show what the classic unemployment numbers missed and what everyone in the area knew; that there were a lot of people who were not unemployed by state and federal standards, but who continued to look for work. The study involved 3,664 phone surveys of random households. The results were tabulated for each county and identified “labor-sheds” around each of the regions major towns. The survey was administered in both English and Spanish.

The results indicated that a total of 7,489 people in the region were either unemployed and looking for work, thinking of entering the work force or looking for a different job. A high per-

centage of job-seekers had a college degree and a higher level of skills than the general population

The survey and report had a great impact on the understanding of labor conditions in Northeastern Colorado. Additionally, the distribution of the report raised a great deal of public interest in the capabilities and size of the available labor force in rural Colorado.

Project Timeline: Spring-Summer 2003

DENTAL STUDY, NORTH EASTERN COLORADO

Survey and Report

This survey covered 7 rural Colorado counties to study their oral health service needs. The study was conducted using survey groups, telephone surveys and by mail. The surveys were conducted in both English and Spanish. The study confirmed that although most residents considered dental care very important and they were willing to travel to get it, 42% of the children in the study area had no dental coverage. Dental insurance was a primary factor in the frequency of visits. In rural areas, access to basic dental care was a major concern and the lack of knowledge about oral health was a limiting factor.

The report and survey data will help the local communities develop oral health programs to educate and provide coverage to the region.

Project Timeline: Spring-Summer 2003