



South Tucson Community Profile

Developed by the CPPW Evaluation Team

University of Arizona

Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health

for the

Communities Putting Prevention to Work Program

Pima County Health Department

Made possible by funding from the Pima County Health Department via the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

SOUTH TUCSON

Population: 5,918

Location: In metro Tucson, directly south of downtown

Target Area Boundaries:

North: 22nd St.

South: 40th St. / I-10

East: Union-Pacific tracks

West: I-10 / I-19

Land area: Approximately 1.3 mi²

Colonia: Yes

Congressional District: 7

Board of Supervisors District: 2

Census Tracts: 23

Ward: 5

The City of South Tucson is a small incorporated community located within metropolitan Tucson.



July 29, 2011

Data Sources: This community profile contains information from multiple sources.



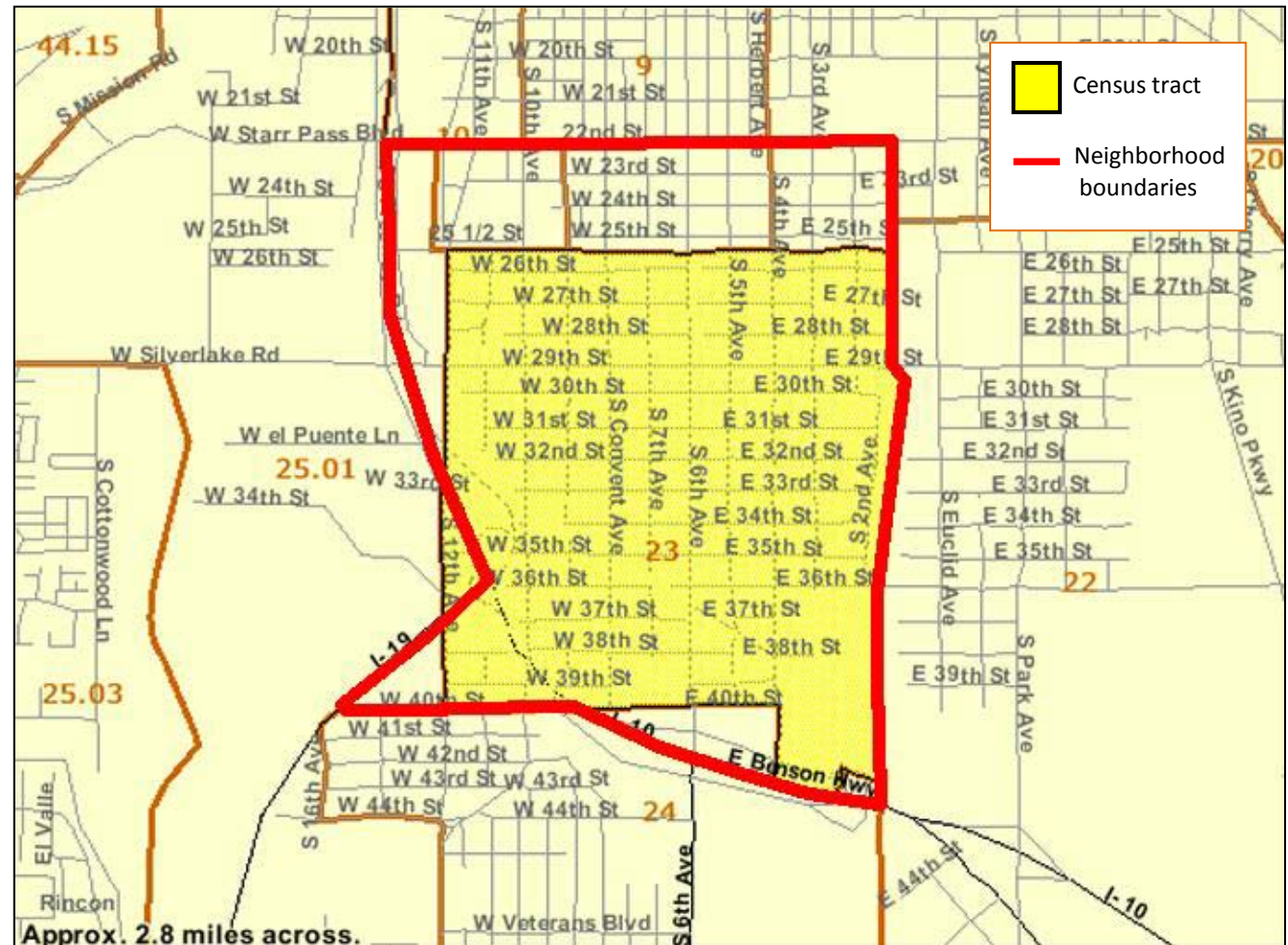
The magnifying glass symbol indicates that the information came from public sources like the U.S. Census Bureau or agency websites.



The camera symbol indicates that the information originated from an observational assessment of the community conducted by evaluators from the University of Arizona College of Public Health.



The microphone symbol indicates that the information came from an interview with the CPPW neighborhood Connector conducted by evaluators from the University of Arizona College of Public Health.



SOURCES: Govtrack.us. Arizona's 7th Congressional District & Map. Available at: <http://www.govtrack.us/congress/findyourreps.xpd?state=AZ&district=7>.
Pima County Board of Supervisors. District Map. Available at: <http://www.pima.gov/bos/distmap/images/bos17.pdf>.
U.S. Census Bureau. 2005-2009 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. Available at: <http://factfinder.census.gov>.
U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development. Designated Colonias in Arizona. Available at: <http://www.hud.gov/local/az/groups/coloniasaz.cfm>.

POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

The population of South Tucson differs from the population of Pima County and the overall U.S. population (**see table at right**). Compared to these two groups, residents in South Tucson:

- *Are more likely to be male* – 58% of South Tucson residents are male, compared to less than half (49%) countywide and nationwide.
- *Are slightly younger* – Median age of those in South Tucson – about 32 years – is less than that for Pima County and the U.S. (37 years). There are more children under 5 years of age and fewer adults over 65 than Pima County and the U.S.
- *Live in bigger households and have bigger families* - Average household size and family size are greater than those for Pima County and the U.S.
- *Have lower incomes* – Median household income and median family income are each less than half those in Pima County and the U.S. Per capita income is less than one-third those of Pima County and the nation.
- *Are more Hispanic* - 72% compared to 33% in Pima County and 15% in the U.S.
- *Are more likely to be American Indian or Alaska Natives* – These races alone account for 7% of those in South Tucson, compared to 3% of those countywide and less than 1% of those nationwide.
- *Are more likely to be foreign born* – 25% were born outside the U.S., compared to 13% countywide and 12% nationwide.
- *Are more likely to speak languages other than English* – More than three-fifths speak a language other than English at home, compared to less than one-fifth for the U.S.

Employment by Industry

Of the South Tucson population age 16 years and over, just over half (52%) are in the labor force, compared to 65% of the U.S. population.

- *Educational, health and social services* are the top industry in both South Tucson (23% of labor) and in Pima County (24%).
- *Construction* (22%) and arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation and food services (18%) each account for a higher proportion of labor in South Tucson than in Pima County (9% and 11%, respectively).

Demographics (ACS 2005-2009)

	SOUTH TUCSON	PIMA COUNTY	U.S.
GENDER			
Male	57.8%	49.0%	49.3%
Female	42.2%	51.0%	50.7%
AGE			
Median age	31.8 years	36.8 years	36.5 years
Under 5 years	10.4%	6.9%	6.9%
18 years and over	68.8%	76.3%	75.4%
65 years and over	8.3%	14.7%	12.6%
HOUSEHOLDS AND FAMILIES			
Average household size	3.15 people	2.62 people	2.60 people
Average family size	4.25 people	3.30 people	3.19 people
Median household income	\$17,718	\$45,885	\$51,425
Median family income	\$19,503	\$56,711	\$62,363
Per capita income	\$7,849	\$24,556	\$27,041
RACE AND ETHNICITY			
Not Hispanic or Latino:			
White alone	18.2%	57.2%	65.8%
Black or African American alone	0.6%	3.1%	12.1%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	6.8%	2.5%	0.7%
Asian alone	0.2%	2.4%	4.3%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%
Some other race alone	0.0%	0.3%	0.2%
Two or more races	2.2%	1.6%	1.6%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	71.9%	32.8%	15.1%
NATIVITY / LANGUAGE			
Foreign born	24.9%	13.2%	12.4%
Speak a language other than English at home (population 5 years and over)	61.0%	28.0%	19.6%

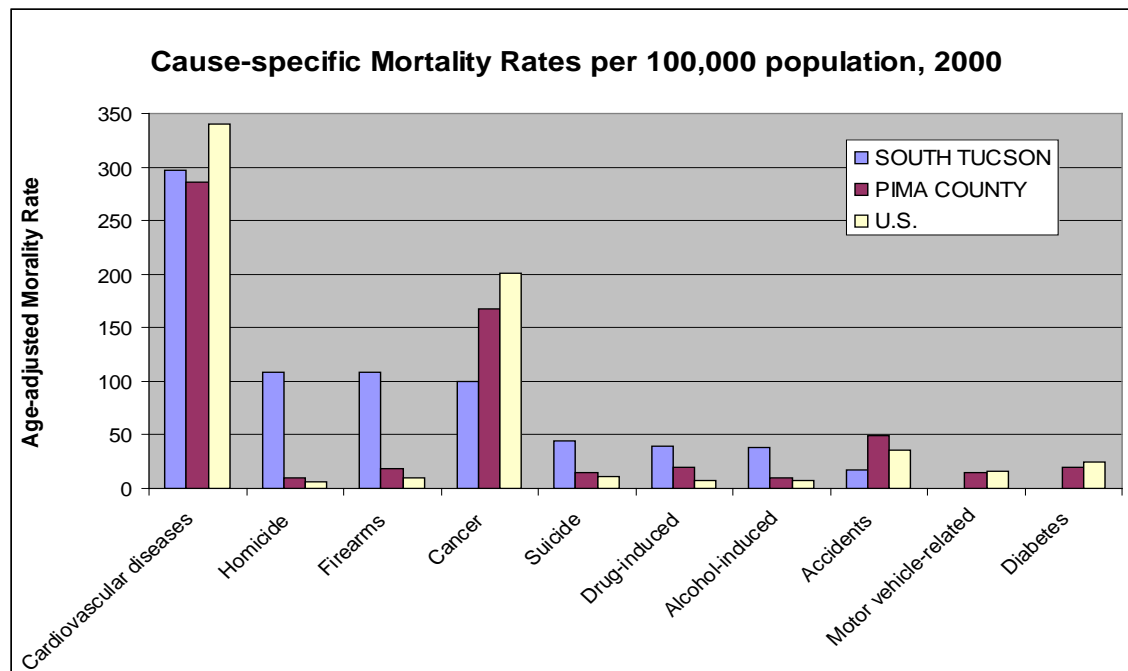
HEALTH INDICATORS

Cause-specific mortality rates differ between those in South Tucson and those in Pima County and the U.S. (see chart below):

- Cardiovascular diseases are the leading cause of death in South Tucson, Pima County, and the U.S.
- Mortality from cancer and diabetes in South Tucson was less than for Pima County or the U.S.
- Rates of homicide, deaths from firearm-related injuries, suicide, and drug- and alcohol-induced deaths were all substantially higher in South Tucson than countywide or nationwide.



Health signage in South Tucson



I think the residents of South Tucson might think of food and exercise when defining health or wellness, but I think it would be pretty basic.

I think they would talk about things they have – the Latino community has a lot of diabetes and alcohol and drug consumption. I don't think they'd be forthcoming and want to talk about that. For some of the people it's all about just getting through the day. It's very much chaos management. Bigger, broader ideas for health and wellness - they can appreciate it - but it's not at the forefront and they wouldn't be able to talk about those things.

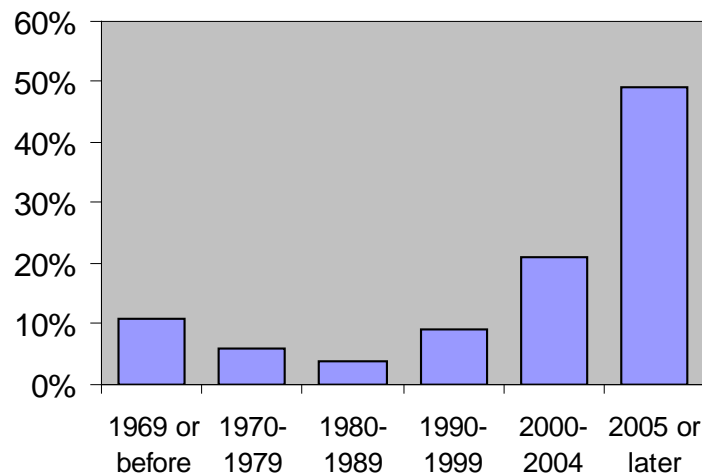
NEIGHBORHOOD CHARACTERISTICS: HOMES VS. COMMERCIAL DESTINATIONS

Residential Areas

Housing characteristics:

- South Tucson has 1,885 housing units.
- More than 17% of housing units are vacant, compared to about 12% in Pima County.
- There are more renters than homeowners: 65% of housing units in this neighborhood are renter-occupied and 35% are owner-occupied.

**Occupied Housing Units by Year
Householder Moved Into Unit**



2.1% of housing units lack complete plumbing facilities
2.7% lack complete kitchen facilities
17.9% have no telephone services

Commercial / Public Access Destinations

Of approximately 245 commercial or public access destinations in South Tucson, the greatest proportion is auto shops (22%). Additionally:

- Restaurants or other food vendors and taquerias or mobile stands account for 12% of destinations
- There are more abandoned homes/buildings and vacant lots (31) than there are recreational facilities (8) (see Recreational Facilities section)

Destination	Count (approx.)	Percentage
Auto shop	53	22%
Other service (salon/beautician, lawyer, laundry)	45	18%
Abandoned home/building/vacant lot	31	13%
Other retail (card shop, video rental, florist etc.)	25	10%
Restaurant or other food vendor	25	10%
Warehouse/factory/industrial building	14	6%
Health and human services	9	4%
Other civil service	8	3%
Place of worship	8	3%
Hotel / motel	6	2%
Taqueria/mobile stand	5	2%
Bus station, other transportation (non-airport, train)	4	2%
Check-cashing business	3	1%
Home-based child care	2	1%
Night club	2	1%
Fitness facility	2	1%
Library	1	0%
Post office	1	0%
Other entertainment	1	0%



There's two things about South Tucson: (1) It's a highly rental community, like 60-70% rental. (2) About 30% who are home owners have been there for many generations - not just 1 or 2 generations. -they've always lived there. Those families are really an anchor for the community. That's why people who move away always come back because someone lives there, nana or someone.

The rental communities are very mobile. Schools talk about having 60-70% mobility rates with their schools every year. That's part of that renter's community - in and out, in and out, in and out, and then there's this other half, a smaller proportion, that's like, "We're not going anywhere".

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

Arizona's Children Association

Arizona's Children Association, a nonprofit which aims to protect children and preserve families, annually serves more than 45,000 children and their families statewide. The organization has a facility in South Tucson and operates a school for children with behavioral health needs.

South Tucson Prevention Coalition

Long term goals are: to expand and strengthen collaboration among Coalition members to support prevention and reduction of youth substance use; and to prevent or delay adolescent (9-15yrs) first use of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, inhalants, and methamphetamines through perception of risk and harm from drugs and disapproval of drug use by peers and family.

Neighborhood Stabilization in the City of South Tucson Initiative

Funded by the Community Foundation for Southern Arizona, this project aims to increase resident satisfaction with the neighborhood, increase neighborhood security and stability, reduce crime, and create a more positive perception of the neighborhood by the larger community via a teen-administered Neighborhood Revitalization Survey. Collaborators include the Primavera Foundation, South Tucson Prevention Coalition, PRO Neighborhoods, Arizona's Children Association, House of Neighborly Service, local schools, and the City of South Tucson.



Community art in South Tucson (above and at top right)

SOURCES: Arizona's Children Association. Nellie P. Covert. Available at: <http://www.arizonaschildren.org/nelliepcovert.htm>.
City of South Tucson. ST Prevention Coalition. Available at: <http://www.southtucson.org/user/departments.php?choice=department&deptid=15>.
Community Foundation for Southern Arizona. Planning Grant Descriptions. Available at: <http://www.cfsoaz.org/cfsa/Nonprofits/Grants/CommunityInvestmentGrants/PlanningGrants/tabid/312/Default.aspx>.

COMMUNITY RECREATIONAL FACILITIES



8 recreational facilities were identified in South Tucson (see map at right). These include:



Mission View Elementary School
2600 S. 8th Ave.



Nellie P. Covert School /
Arizona's Children Association
2700 S. 8th Ave.



Southside Presbyterian
Southside Head Start
317 W. 23rd St.



Ochoa Elementary School /
John A. Valenzuela Youth Center
101 W. 25th St.



House of Neighborly Services
243 W. 33rd St.



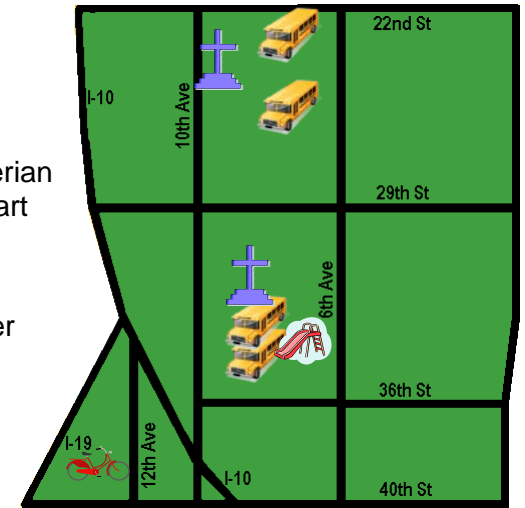
Project YES
Angel Family Center
100 W. 37th St.



Santa Cruz Catholic School
29 W. 22nd St.



Julian Wash Cultural History Park
S. 12th Ave. between 39th & 40th St.



These recreational facilities were assessed for the presence/ visibility and quality of features:

	Open to the public?	Play equipment	Grass	Sports fields	Tennis courts	Benches	Picnic tables	Water fountains	Restrooms	Bike racks	Trash bins	Exercise stations	Walking trails	Lights	Pool	Vending machines	Auditory annoyance	Litter / broken glass	Dog refuse	Dogs unattended	Evidence of alcohol / substance use	Sex paraphernalia	Graffiti / vandalism
Mission View Elementary	✓																						
Ochoa Elementary / Valenzuela Youth Ctr	✗																						
Santa Cruz Catholic	✗																						
Nellie P. Covert / Arizona's Children Association	✓																						
House of Neighborly Services	✓																						
Julian Wash Cultural History Park	✓																						
Southside Presbyterian / Head Start	✗																						
Project YES – Angel Family Ctr																						✓	

COMMUNITY RECREATIONAL FACILITIES – SCHOOLS ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC

MISSION VIEW ELEMENTARY

Medium-sized school outdoor recreational facilities are **open to the general public** daily after school. Hours are posted in English and Spanish. The area includes:

- Unshaded play equipment
- Benches
- Baseball field and grassy areas
- Basketball courts
- Bike racks
- Jungle gym
- Lights

Litter, broken glass, and graffiti were observed, and there was evidence of alcohol use. No sex paraphernalia were observed.



NELLIE P. COVERT SCHOOL / ARIZONA'S CHILDREN ASSOCIATION



Large school recreational facilities are accessible to the public. Hours are not posted. The area includes:

- Shaded and unshaded play equipment
- Shaded picnic tables and benches
- Multi-use fields (baseball, football, soccer) and grassy areas (see photo at near left)
- Basketball courts
- Water fountains
- Restrooms
- Exercise stations
- Walking trail / track
- Lights
- Pool

Some graffiti and litter were observed outside of the park area. There was no evidence of alcohol or substance use or sex paraphernalia.

COMMUNITY RECREATIONAL FACILITIES – PARKS ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC



HOUSE OF NEIGHBORLY SERVICES

Medium-sized park and community center **open to the general public**. Community center is open 9am-3pm; park is open 8am-9pm. Hours are posted in English and Spanish. The area includes:

- Shaded play equipment (see photo at far left)
- Unshaded picnic tables and benches
- Basketball court (see photo at near left)
- Bike racks
- Lights (see photo at far left)
- Trash bins

No litter, graffiti or vandalism was observed, and there was no evidence of alcohol or substance use or sex paraphernalia.

JULIAN WASH CULTURAL HISTORY PARK

Large trail / park facility **open to the general public**. Hours are not posted. The area includes:

- Shaded and unshaded play equipment
- Benches
- Bike racks
- Trash bins
- Walking and biking trails (see photo at right)
- Lights

Graffiti was observed, but there was no litter or vandalism and no evidence of alcohol or substance use or sex paraphernalia.



COMMUNITY RECREATIONAL FACILITIES – SCHOOLS POSSIBLY ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC



OCHOA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL / JOHN A. VALENZUELA YOUTH CENTER

Ochoa Elementary includes a large recreational area that is **not open** to the public. No hours are posted. The area includes:

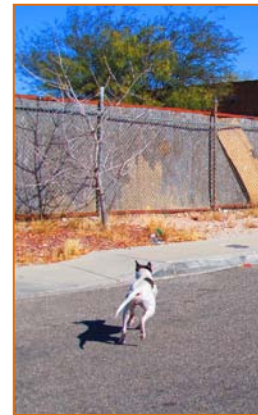
- Shaded play equipment
- Benches
- Soccer and baseball fields and grassy areas
- Basketball courts (see photo at near right)
- Bike racks
- Trash bins
- Jungle gym
- Lights (see photo at near right)

Some graffiti was observed, but there was no litter and no evidence of alcohol or substance use or sex paraphernalia.

John A. Valenzuela Youth Center is located adjacent to Ochoa Elementary. The following activities are offered free of charge: Youth program, after-school program, tween and teen program, Girlz Nitel!, and community outreach services (wellness program, case management, ESOL classes).



These initiatives to be physically active or eat better really generate from schools, but I don't know how much goes home after that. Schools can't do everything. Ochoa school has students come in through the UA College of Agriculture once a week and offer kids fruits and vegetables. It's been going on for years, but does anyone know that?



SANTA CRUZ CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Large locked school recreational area **not open** to the general public. The area includes:

- Unshaded play equipment (see photo at far left)
- Basketball courts (see photo at far left)
- Trash bins
- Lights (see photo at far left)

Graffiti, litter, and unattended dogs were observed (see photo at near left). There was no evidence of alcohol or substance use or sex paraphernalia.

COMMUNITY RECREATIONAL FACILITIES – SITES NOT ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC

SOUTHSIDE PRESBYTERIAN / HEAD START

Small recreational facility. No hours are posted and the area is **not open** to the public. The area includes:

- Shaded and unshaded play equipment
- Water fountains
- Restrooms
- Bike racks
- Trash bins
- Lights

No litter or graffiti/vandalism were observed, and there was no evidence of alcohol or substance use or sex paraphernalia.



*For adults to play soccer, baseball, or softball – they would enjoy that, but there's no facility and there are no parks. We have **mini parks**, but mini – smaller than a classroom - and mini parks have gates and walls around them. When the parks were unveiled, they got heavily vandalized... So the city decided they needed to guard our parks, our property, so they put up walls and gates and locks.*

The mini parks also don't have a good policy for who opens and closes the gates, when does the park open, etc. If it's open, its open, if it's not, it's not. City public works is the one who goes in to take out the trash, and they go in there knowing it's locked, and they still find drug paraphernalia. So people are still climbing the fence, people are still getting in. They cut the wiring and the lights.



PROJECT YES – ANGEL FAMILY CENTER

Small recreational area. No hours posted – facilities are **not open** to the general public. The area includes:

- Shaded and unshaded play equipment (see photo at near left)
- Unshaded benches and picnic tables
- Basketball court (see photo at near left)
- Water fountains
- Bike racks
- Lights

Litter and broken glass was observed, and a used condom was also visible. There was no graffiti/vandalism and no evidence of alcohol or substance use.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

SunTran (Tucson's regional bus service)

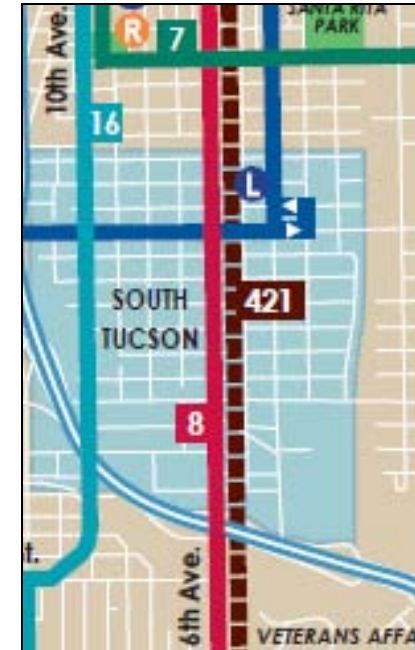
Service

At least three full-service routes run through South Tucson (blue shaded area on map at right). Additionally, one Express route and one Sun Shuttle route (Green Valley / Sahuarita connector) pass through the area.

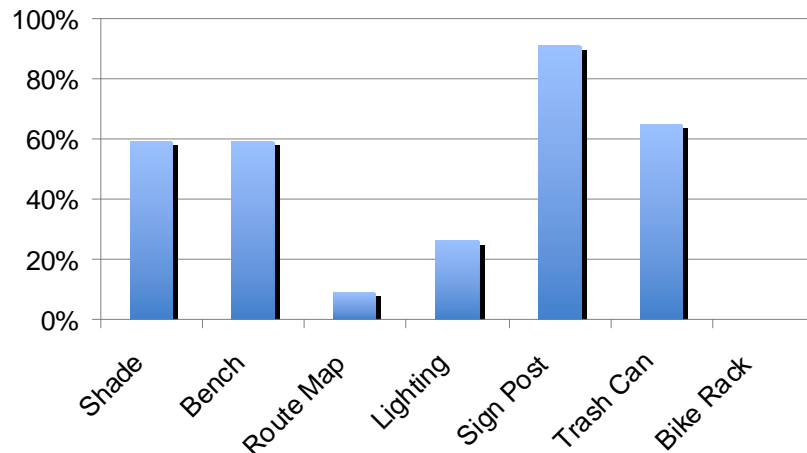
Bus Stops

Of 34 bus stops observed, most had a sign post, more than half had a bench, trash can, and/or shade, few had a route map or lighting, and none had a bike rack.

Map of Sun Tran Routes in South Tucson



Bus Stop Characteristics



Bus stop in South Tucson

SOURCES: Observational Assessment of South Tucson. Conducted December 13, 2010.
SunTran. System-wide Map. <http://www.suntran.com/pdf/Current%20System%20Map%20AUG%202010.pdf>.

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION



Bikeability

Bike Routes

South Tucson has a variety of bike routes and bikeable residential streets (see map below).

Map of Bike Routes in South Tucson



Liberty-10th Ave Bikeway



South Tucson is a heavily pedestrian community. People who drive are business people or are just driving through. People who live here don't drive. Bikes are expensive. If people don't have bikes, it's not because they don't know how or don't like them. You see people walking because that's what they have. I like the idea of bike paths, but they're not being used by South Tucson residents, but by outsiders. Residents aren't asking for bike paths.

Notes from observational assessment:

- Several designated bike routes are located on narrow, busy streets, while more optimal routes are less busy and have wider shoulders.
- 14 of 15 observed neighborhood food sources are located on designated bike routes or bikeable streets; two have bike racks.

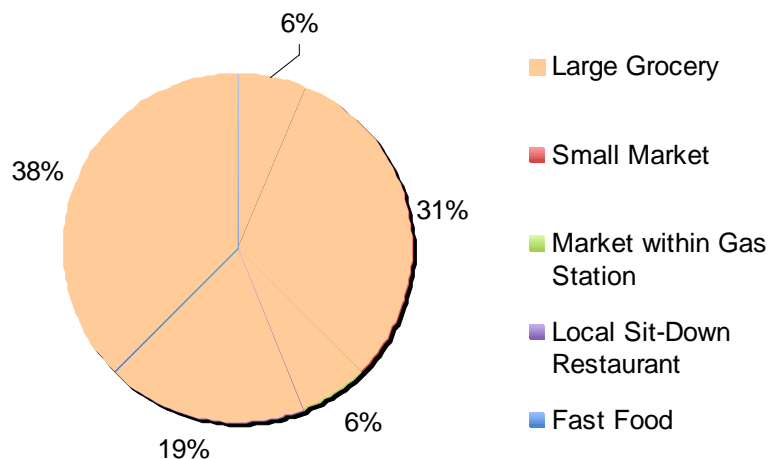


A "ghost bike" memorial in South Tucson (bottom)

FOOD ACCESSIBILITY



Food Vendors by Type



Of 16 observed neighborhood food sources, there is one large grocery store, 5 small markets, 1 market within a gas station, 3 local sit-down restaurants and 6 fast food options.



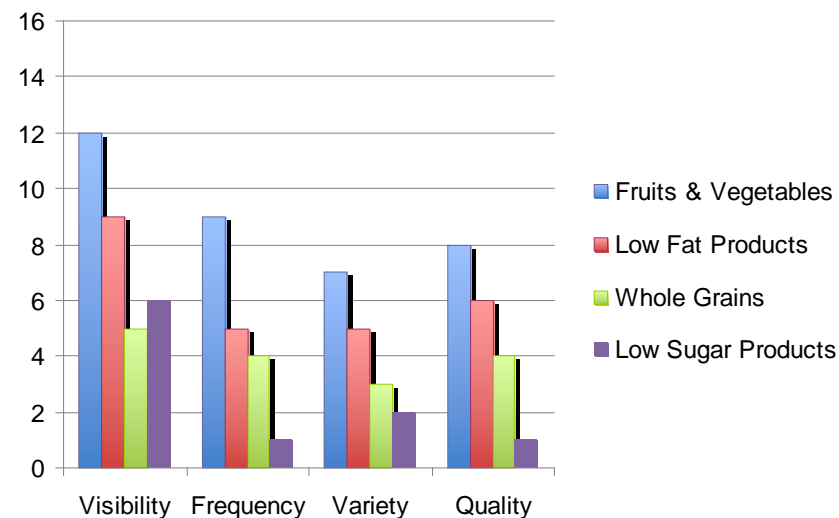
Signage for WIC-approved products in South Tucson

ADVERTISING / PLACEMENT

- None of the vendors had visible promotional displays or signage for healthy foods
- Two vendors offered price incentives for healthy options
- None of the vendors had healthy foods available near checkout

ASSESSMENT OF HEALTHY FOODS

Food Vendor Characteristics by Food Type



Of 16 food vendors assessed, three-quarters stock fruits and vegetables, and these produce offerings are found somewhat frequently, with some variety, and poor to adequate quality (see photos below). Low fat products were visible at more than half of these locations, and whole grain products and low sugar products were each visible at fewer than half.



Diversity of produce supply at vendors in South Tucson



HEALTH SERVICES

Closest hospital* (located 2.5 miles southeast of South Tucson):

***University Physicians Hospital at Kino**
2800 E. Ajo Way

Services: Emergency room, pharmacy, laboratory, inpatient/ outpatient surgery, behavioral health, and more.

*Tucson Veterans Hospital borders the southern boundary of South Tucson and offers services to eligible veterans.

Health care providers in South Tucson:

> Pima County Health Department	> JC Rose Dental Center
> Centro del Sur Office	> Kool Smiles (dentistry)
Services: WIC, nutritional services	> Grupo Tucson (AA)
> La Frontera AZ Child & Family Center	> Grupo Al Anon Nueva Vida
Services: Behavioral health services	> South Tucson Social Security
> Fresenius Medical Care	



The city of South Tucson is its own municipality, but all their services are referral. So the city itself doesn't have any social services under the government. There's no clinic and no doctors here. There is one dentist in the food city plaza. Other than that, everything's outsourced.

There's no concept right now of a home health office. That's one thing we would like to do, but with no doctors in the area, it makes it hard. The dentistry does really well, and they've been there a number of years. They see themselves as a part of the community, they want to help, they like to be there, and they want to be there. There's no eye doctor.

There aren't really any promotoras. Different times I've heard there's a program, but nothing ever long sustaining.

SOURCES: La Frontera Center. Available at: <http://www.lafrontera.org/index2.htm>.
LocalHarvest. Map-based search engine. Available at: <http://www.localharvest.org/>.
Observational Assessment of South Tucson. Conducted December 13, 2010.
Pima County Health Department Clinics and Neighborhood Services. Available at: http://www.pimahealth.org/clinics_locations.asp.
University Physicians Healthcare. University Physicians Hospital. Available at: <http://www.uph.org/Hospitals/UPHHospitalatKinoCampus/tabid/84/Default.aspx>.

FOOD SYSTEMS RESOURCES

Farmers' Markets

NONE WITHIN TARGET AREA

Closest farmers' market (about 2.5 miles southeast of South Tucson):

El Pueblo Farmers' Market
SW corner of Irvington Rd. & 6th Ave.
Saturdays
9am - noon (year-round)
Accepts WIC benefits and Food Stamps

Gardening

1. School gardens

Gardens were observed at several schools in South Tucson, including Ochoa Elementary and Santa Cruz Catholic School (see photo below).



2. Gardens at community sites

Gardens were observed at several communities sites, including the House of Neighborly Service and Southside Presbyterian Church / Head Start.



What's lacking in community gardens is the community support. They get started before they get the buy-in from the group of people who is going to actually do the garden. Whether there's that group or not, they were still going to do it. Those people exist, but they are not at the table. Everyone gets excited. I know it takes a lot of time, and people like the idea, but they don't realize how much work it is.

SCHOOLS & CHILD CARE

Schools

- Mission View Elementary
- Ochoa Elementary
- Santa Cruz Catholic School (Pre K-8)
- Nellie P. Covert School (K-12)*

* Serves students with behavioral health needs

Children and youth who reside in South Tucson attend schools in Tucson Unified School District (TUSD). Two TUSD public schools (Mission View Elementary and Ochoa Elementary) and two private schools (Nellie P. Covert School and Santa Cruz Catholic School) are located within the target area boundaries. Nellie P. Covert School is operated by Arizona's Children Association and serves students with specialized behavioral health needs. Proportions of students who qualified for free or reduced lunch status in March 2010 ranged from 74% (Santa Cruz Catholic) to 99% (Ochoa Elementary).

Map of Schools in South Tucson



Child Care

Dr. Nelva Chavez Child/Family Center
502 W. 29th St.

Krystal Clear Daycare
108 W. 27th St.

My Little Angels Daycare
1960 S. Park Ave.

Santa Cruz Catholic School
29 W. 22nd St.

Southside Head Start
317 W. 23rd St.

Tuty's Daycare and Preschool
251 W. 38th St.

School and
child care
photos from
top:
Southside
Head Start,
Santa Cruz
Catholic
School, and
Ochoa
Elementary



SOURCES: Arizona Department of Education. Child Nutrition Programs. Tables SY2009, SY2010. Available at: <http://www.ade.state.az.us/health-safety/cnp/frpercentages/>.
Arizona's Children Association. Nellie P. Covert. Available at: <http://www.arizonaschildren.org/nelliepcovert.htm>.
ChildcareCenter.us. Childcare Centers in 85713. Available at: <http://childcarecenter.us/state>.
Observational Assessment of South Tucson. Conducted December 13, 2010.
Tucson Unified School District. District Map. Available at: <http://www.tusd.k12.az.us/contents/depart/efp/Documents/TUSD%20MAP.pdf>.

FAITH-BASED COMMUNITY



There are over 20 churches in this 1 square mile. There are the same number of liquor licenses in the same square mile. Churches match liquor licenses. Churches themselves are not necessarily closed in, but there's not a lot of collaboration that goes on among the churches. I haven't looked at that in depth, but I've always wanted to.

There are weird reasons why South Tucson is divided. 6th Avenue and 29th Street split South Tucson into 4 quadrants. A lot of people don't cross 6th Avenue from both sides. It was the old highway, and they would tell kids not to cross the road. 29th street is also a natural barrier. People stay within their pockets.

I wonder, are churches this way too or is it practices or beliefs that separate them? There are good faith-based organizations here.

10 faith-based organizations were identified in South Tucson.

Assembly of God-Spanish

249 West 31st Street

Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Parish

507 W. 29th St.

Centro Cristiano Carismatico

2600 S. 5th Ave. #122

Ejercito de Salvacion / Salvation Army / Christian Church

2717 S. 6th Ave.

Gentile Church of Christ

1748 S. 4th Ave.

Good Fellas Christian Fellowship

2920 South 4th Avenue

Iglesia de Dios "Siloe"

519 W 27th St

Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church

1330 S. 2nd Ave.

Santa Cruz Catholic Church

1200 S. 6th Ave.

Southside Presbyterian Church

317 W. 23rd St.



Southside Presbyterian Church

COMMUNITY STRESS INDICATORS

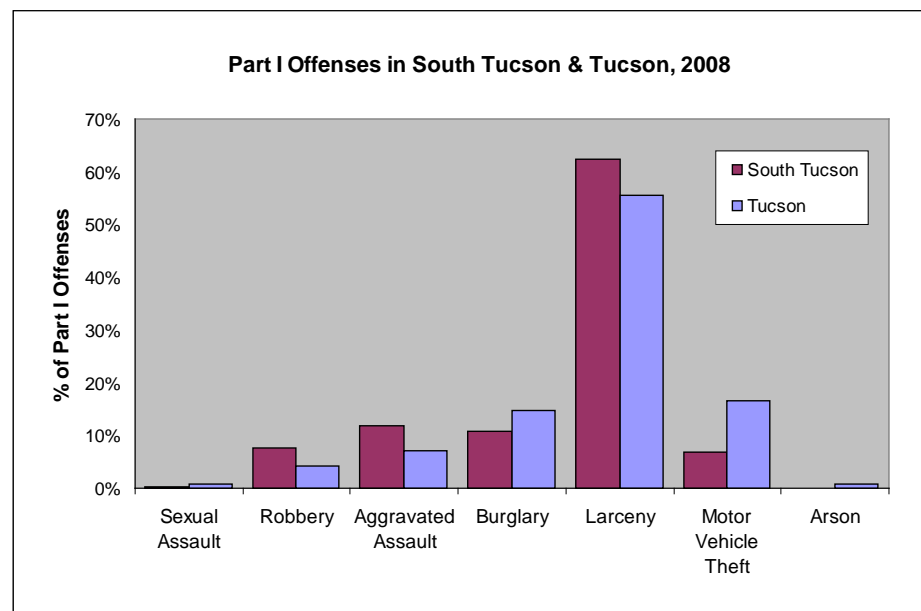
Poverty

In South Tucson, proportions of individuals and families living below the poverty level are substantially greater than in Pima County.

Percent whose income in the past 12 months is below poverty level			
	South Tucson	Pima County	U.S.
All people	53.4%	15.7%	13.5%
18 years and over	49.7%	13.8%	11.8%
65 years and over	25.3%	8.4%	9.8%
Related children under 18 years	61.0%	21.6%	18.2%
Related children 5 to 17 years	55.2%	19.6%	16.9%
Families	41.4%	10.7%	9.9%
With related children under 18 years	51.7%	17.6%	15.3%
With related children under 5 years	67.4%	19.4%	16.6%
Families with female householder, no husband present	62.4%	27.5%	28.7%
With related children under 18 years	75.2%	35.5%	37.1%
With related children under 5 years	100.0%	45.1%	45.6%

Crime

Compared to all of Tucson, there were greater proportions of robbery, aggravated assault, and larceny in South Tucson in 2008.



Financial resources within the family home are barriers. I mean I think they would like their children to participate in extracurricular activities, but their resources are very limited. Some of those safe havens, like John Valenzuela Youth Center, have their own sports league. It's small, and they play teams within the city, so they don't necessarily play bigger teams or whatever, but at least it's something. They recognize that families can't afford the fees.



Safety is a big issue. You don't see a lot of kids playing in parks and streets. There are hookers on the streets, mean people on the corners.

SOURCES: Federal Bureau of Investigation. Crime in the U.S. – 2008. Available at: <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2008>.
 Observational Assessment of South Tucson. Conducted December 13, 2010.
 Tucson Police Department. Official Uniform Crime Statistics: Counts of Part I Crimes by Type and Year. Available at: http://tpdinternet.tucsonaz.gov/Stats/PART1_CHART_2008.PDF.
 Tucson Police Department. TPD Crime Statistics Search. Available at: <http://tpdinternet.tucsonaz.gov/Stats/Def.aspx>.
 U.S. Census Bureau. 2005-2009 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. Available at: <http://factfinder.census.gov>.

OPPORTUNITIES

1. Community gardens:

- Arizona children's home
- Mission View Elementary School
- Casa Maria
- Property recently purchased by the city of South Tucson where Lily's Café used to be

2. Organized community activities for all ages

- Community Run
- Walking group
- Soccer or basketball tournaments
- More movie nights at the mini parks

3. Walking path

4. Hip hop dancing

5. Family recreational days at the schools

6. Cross country or track team at elementary schools

7. Vacant lots



SOURCE: Observational Assessment of South Tucson. Conducted December 13, 2010.



***Teenagers** are our best asset. The youth leadership team has grown and learned a lot about being advocates in their own community and have demonstrated that over and over. But the **parents** are hard to come by, and I choose to believe it's not because they don't care. They're overwhelmed and don't always know how or who or what to ask for help. And because they know it's not just them, it's everyone else on their block or street.*



If extracurricular services were to be provided for health and wellness, 99% of the time they need to be offered for free or through a grant program. It's a real hardship to ask people to pay even 2 or 3 dollars.



*Most **schools** have already been approved with Pima County Neighborhood Preservation, and they're going to turn playgrounds into public parks, redo equipment, and all of that. Children had a lot to do with this. The school is careful in guiding them. They're not buying equipment where you need things to add to it – like a pole with a ball, what if we lose the ball? The primary school playground is included, but if it is used for the community, then the age needs to be expanded. Schools are proactive in that.*