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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**ALMOST THREE TIMES AS MANY ANAHEIM RESIDENTS COULD NOT AFFORD TO SEE A DOCTOR VERSUS ALL OTHER COUNTY RESIDENTS, STUDY FINDS**

ANAHEIM (March 22, 2006) – Compared to all other Orange County residents, almost three times as many Anaheim residents reported that they could not afford to see a doctor in the past year, according to a report compiled by the Orange County Health Needs Assessment (OCHNA).

The data report prepared by OCHNA, a not-for-profit community organization which serves as the primary source for data on the health needs and well-being of Orange County's three million residents, cited an estimated 11.7 percent of Anaheim residents who stated that they could not afford to see doctor, versus 4.3 percent of all other County residents. Anaheim residents also reported a higher rate of lacking health care coverage; about 17.4 percent of Anaheim residents lack health care coverage, a rate that appears to be higher than the estimated 9.8 percent rate found among all other Orange County residents. An estimated 37.8 percent of Anaheim residents lack mental health coverage. This gap in mental health coverage among Anaheim residents appears more severe when compared to the rate among all other County residents, where 23 percent reported that they lack coverage for mental health services.

Slightly more than half (an estimated 52.2 percent) of Anaheim residents do not have dental coverage. This rate is higher than the rate among all Orange County residents, where 41.7 percent lack dental care coverage.

Almost 60 percent of Anaheim residents maintain a healthy weight as measured by the Body Mass Index (BMI), the most widely used measurement of healthy weight. The remainder of Anaheim residents are estimated to be either overweight (weighing more than 10 percent of recommended weight) or obese (weighing more than 20 percent over their recommended weight).

Even though about 40.2 percent of Anaheim residents were estimated to have BMI rates higher than recommended, among all County residents, 50 percent of them had BMI rates classifying them as overweight (38.4 percent) or obese (11.6 percent).

The Orange County Health Needs Assessment (OCHNA) survey report is produced every three years, with the most recent release in 2004.

For more information or to download a free copy of current and past OCHNA reports, please log on to [www.ochna.org](http://www.ochna.org)

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