



Arkansas Department
of Health
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Arkansas Health Counts

A publication of the Arkansas Center for Health Statistics

Spring, 2002

Volume 8, Issue 1

Center develops survey method to account for the phoneless

The world of health statistics breaks down into two distinct realms.

There are counts of actual numbers, such as the number of births in a given year or the number of deaths attributable to automobile accidents.

Then there are surveys, where researchers try to get the most representative possible sample of a population, making various mathematical adjustments to compensate for inherent sample shortcomings.

Most scientific surveys are conducted over the telephone, so members of the general public sometimes say "But you are not counting the people without phones."

"So, we like to correct our community surveys for households without telephones," said John Senner, senior analyst for the Arkansas Center for Health Statistics.

Senner and colleagues Tara Clark-Hendrix and Shalini Manjanatha set about determining a mechanism to account for households without telephones.

They interviewed 4,149 people from seven Arkansas counties, adding the following questions to the demographic section, immediately after the section asking about the number of residential telephones in a household.

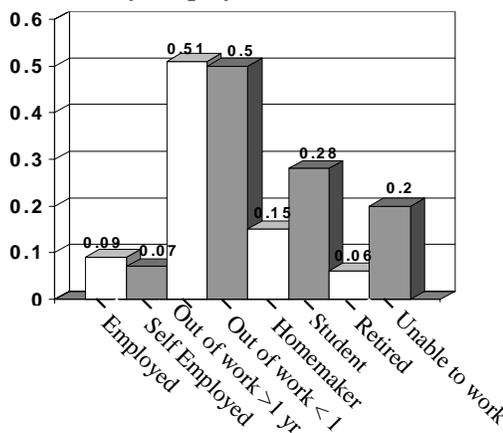
"Not counting inter-

(Continued on page 2)



From left: Tara Clark-Hendrix, John Senner, Shalini Manjanatha

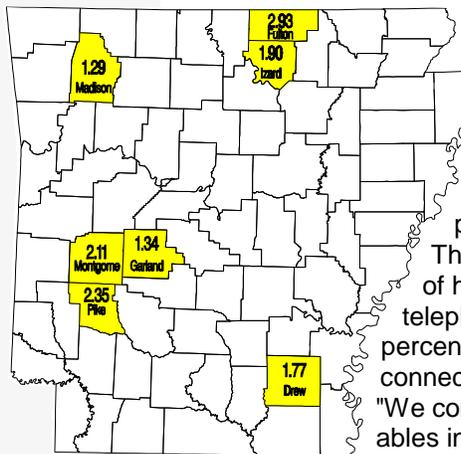
**Average disconnect time in months
By Employment Status**



Inside: Jacob, Christopher, Jose-top names vary by race Page 3

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ruptions in service because of weather, has your regular home telephone service been disconnected in the last 12 months?"



Those responding "yes" were then asked, "In the past 12 months, about how many months in total were you without a working home telephone?"

The unweighted percent of households with "partial" telephone service was 6.2 percent, with an average disconnect time of 1.8 months.

"We combined the two variables into a single

"monthswithout" variable and compared it to the demographics," Senner said.

"We found significant differences in average disconnect time by employment status, marital status, age, income, education and race."

The highest disconnect times were found among those out of work more than one year, unmarried couples, those younger than 25, those making \$10,000-\$15,000 a year, those with an eighth grade education or less and among Blacks.

The lowest disconnect times were among those who are retired, widowed, older than 65, earning \$50,000-\$75,000 a year, college graduates and Asians.

"Based on these results, we suggest that persons with partial telephone service are a good proxy for those without telephones. We are adding the term 12/(12-monthswithout) to the raw weight computation to correct for those without telephones," he said.

"This math has the effect of double-counting the persons who had a phone now, but didn't for half the year to compensate for the persons who didn't have a phone now, but would for half the year. Of course, this cannot compensate for the person who never has a telephone, but we believe these are a minority of the phoneless," Senner said.



Health Department busy in 2001

The state Health Department, through its local health units, gave nearly a million WIC vouchers last year and a third of a million immunizations. The Health Department logs more actual interactions and services than health departments in most other states, in large part because it is one of the few unified health departments in the nation, according to Center for Health Statistics Senior Research Analyst Paul Johnson.

The state Health Department comprises all the local county health units—and some counties have more than one—and the central office at Little Rock.

During the year, state Health Department personnel participated in 155,698 family planning visits and nearly 45,000 maternity checkups.

Nurses examined for sexually transmitted diseases 83,117 times and tuberculosis 36,641 times.

Arkansans received attention for breast and cervical cancer, including checkups, 4,806 times. They gave 162,357 TB skins tests.

The Home Care and Maternal Infant Program monthly caseload was nearly 3,000 and the monthly Home Health caseload was about 2,000.

The Personal Care and Target Case Management caseload was about 4,650 a month.

Hospice care was extended monthly to about

200 clients.

During that year, there were 125 sanitarian staff members and 683 clinic staff members.

The Department recorded 27,652 death certificates and recorded 530,538 encounters with the public, or an average of 44,212 each month.

Most mixed-race Arkansans claim "white-American Indian"

Of 2,928 telephone survey interviews in 2001, 97.5 percent of respondents identified themselves a single race, 0.5 percent refused or didn't know, and 2 percent reported being mixed race.

Two-thirds of the mixed race people said they were White-American Indian or Alaskan Native combinations. Of the remainder, American Indian - White is the most frequent combination.

One person reported three races and another four races: Other, White, American Indian, Black.

Classifying themselves to a single race, 81.12 percent of all Arkansas residents say they are white nonHispanic. Another 1.74 percent classify themselves as white Hispanic and 11.69 percent who classify themselves as Black. American Indians account for 1.29 percent of the respondents.

Most popular Arkansas baby names vary by mother's race

2001 Top Baby Names

Hannah was the most popular name for newborn girls in Arkansas in 2001, edging out Madison, 284 babies to 274.

Jacob, a perennial favorite over the past few years, outdistanced William for the number one slot among boys, 311 babies to 232.

Broken out by race, the most popular boy names were Jacob (white), Christopher (black), and Jose (Hispanic.)

Among girl babies, Hannah was the most popular name for whites, Destiny for blacks and Jennifer for Hispanics.

The chart (right) shows the top 10 baby names by gender, race and overall.

The top 10 boy names overall for 2001 were, in order, Jacob, William, Joshua, Hunter, Ethan, Austin, Matthew, Christopher, Tyler and John.

Rounding out the top 10 girl names after Hannah and Madison were Emily, Alexis, Destiny (Destiny's Child?), Sarah, Taylor, Olivia, Abigail and Elizabeth.

Among those, Alexis, Destiny, Olivia and Abigail are recent additions to the top 10 list.

Among the boy names, only Ethan is a relative newcomer to the top 10, perhaps attributable in part to actor Ethan Hawke.

The most common names of the mothers

and fathers of these children were Jennifer and Michael, but only two baby Jacobs were born to Jennifer/Michael couples. No Hannahs were.

As always, Arkansas parents were endlessly creative. In all, 3,697 girls were given

Top 10 baby names by race or ethnicity

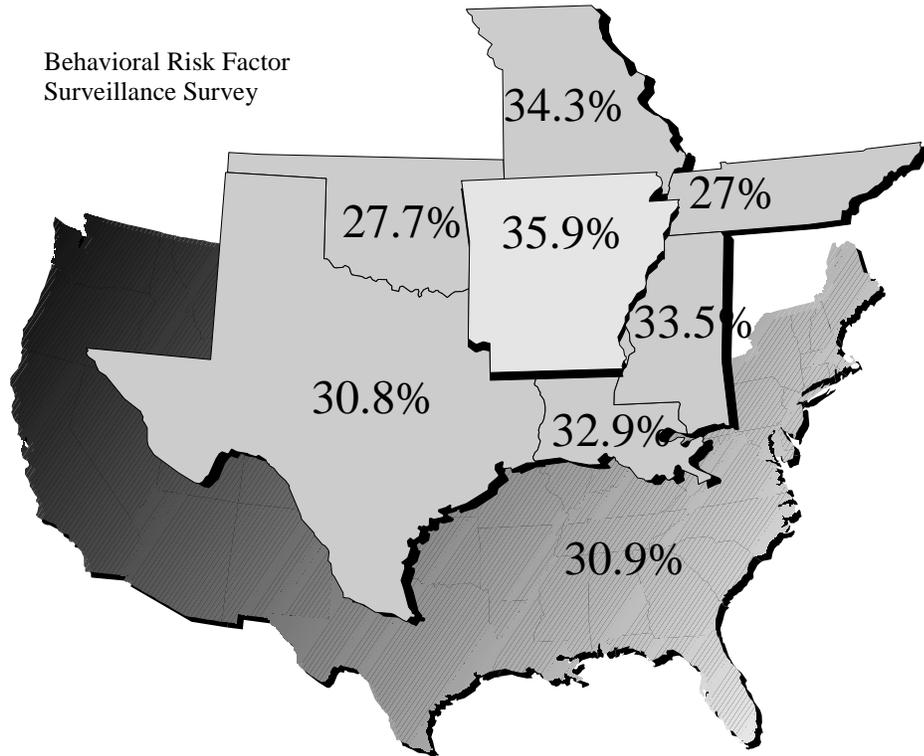
All Males	White Male	Black Male	Hispanic Male	Number	All Females	White Female	Black Female	Hispanic Female
Jacob	Jacob	Christopher	Jose	1	Hannah	Hannah	Destiny	Jennifer
William	William	Joshua	Juan	2	Madison	Madison	Alexis	Maria
Joshua	Hunter	Tyler	Jesus	3	Emily	Emily	Diamond	Ashley
Hunter	Austin	Jordan	Jonathan	4	Alexis	Alexis	Jada	Emily
Ethan	Matthew	Cameron	Luis	5	Destiny	Sarah	Aaliyah	Jessica
Austin	Ethan	Justin	Daniel	6	Sarah	Anna	Jasmine	Andrea
Matthew	Joshua	Isaiah	Carlos	7	Taylor	Abigail	Kayla	Jasmine
Christopher	Zachary	Michael	Kevin	8	Olivia	Olivia	Makayla	Michelle
Tyler	John	Malik	Miguel	9	Abigail	Lauren	Trinity	Ana
John	Tyler	Brandon	David	10	Elizabeth	Elizabeth	Taylor	Leslie

one-of-a-kind names, at least for 2001. Girl baby names included: Alitzel, Boston, Chasty, Cor'laxicya, Devine, Halo, Irish, Kodee, Love, Mercedeas, Peaches, Starr, Wyndi, Zyunnia. There were two Promises, two Memorys and not one Unique, but two.

Among the boys, there were 152 Dylans, 79 Elijahs, 42 Juans, 33 Xaviers, 31 Chances, 27 Kkobes, six Kobys, six Zachariahs, four Dustys and four Maximuses.

No cholesterol check within 5 years, 1999

Behavioral Risk Factor
Surveillance Survey



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