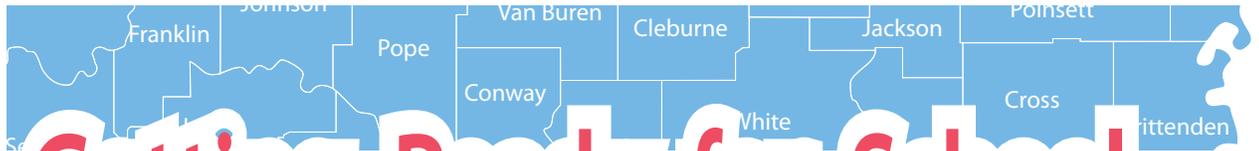




Getting Ready for School

2006 Arkansas Map Data

Prepared by University of Arkansas at Little Rock, College of Business, Institute for Economic Advancement
For Arkansas Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education



Getting Ready for School

Children, Families, Schools, Communities

Arkansas Map Data, 2006

Prepared by:

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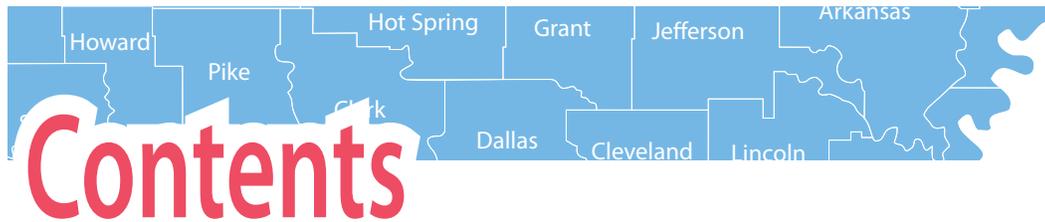
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Other staff members at the Institute for Economic Advancement who contributed time, effort, and skills to this report are Randolph Peterson, Mary McFarland, Jerry Bell, David Rasmussen, and Neva Wayman. The UALR GIS Applications Laboratory helped in the creation of the thematic maps. Huey Crisp of the Rhetoric and Writing Department edited the report.



With the increased awareness that children need to start school ready to learn, we continue to track the School Readiness Indicators that were developed in 2003 by the Arkansas School Readiness Initiative Team. As a part of a 17 state initiative, these indicators were identified in order to change policies so we may have ready children, families, schools, and communities. The National School Readiness Indicators Initiative was sponsored by the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, and the Ford Foundation.

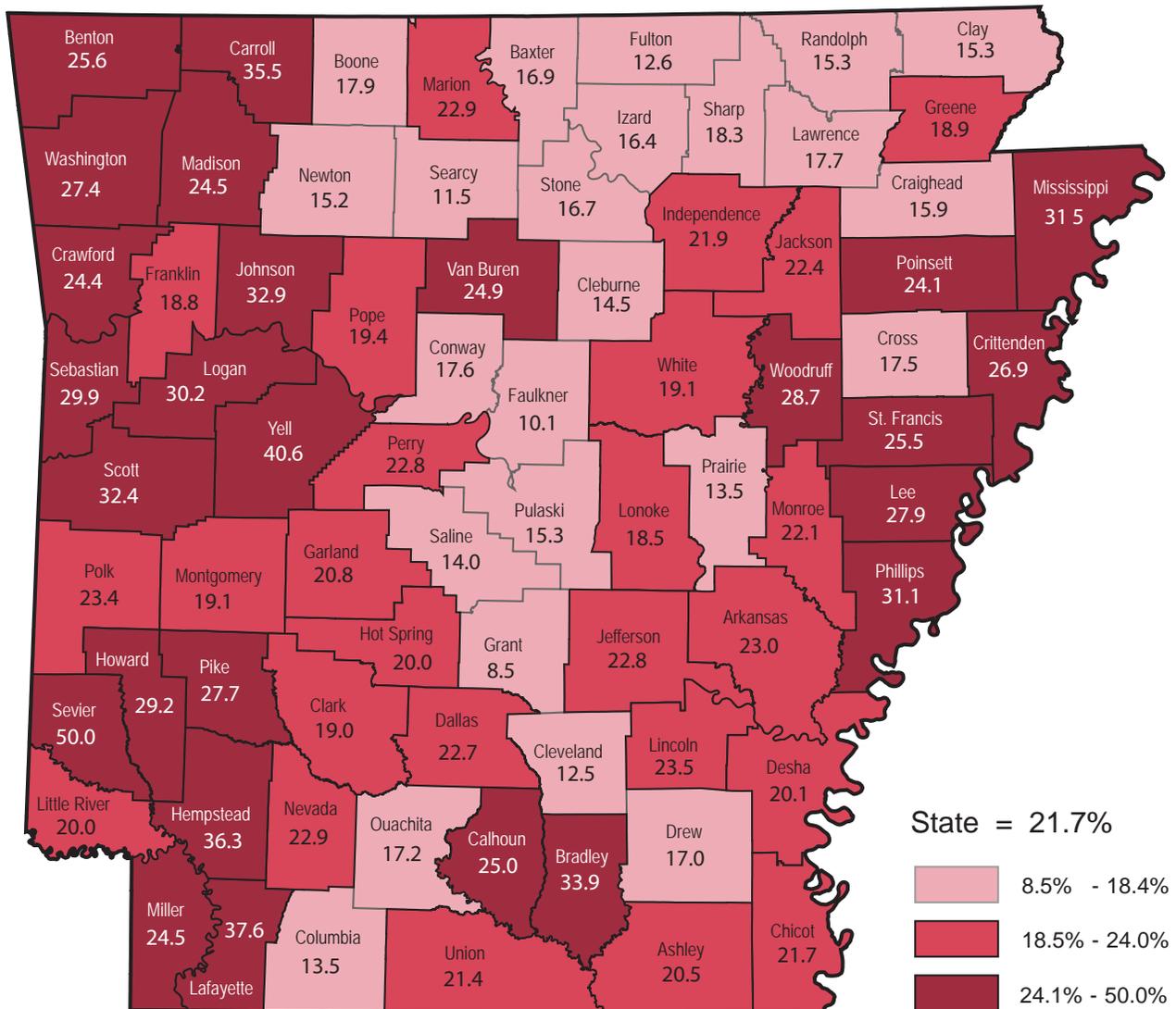
Arkansas' School Readiness Indicators are continually collected and updated. The regular tracking of these indicators enables policy makers and community leaders to identify areas most in need of intervention, track the results of investments, and monitor trends over time. This year the data are presented in thematic map format by county and school district.

These data provide reliable measures with which the state's families, legislative leaders, educators, and communities may continue to track and pursue strategies that will move us toward the goal of *Getting Ready for School*.



Ready Children

Percent of All Births to Mothers with Less than 12th Grade Education by County: 2004

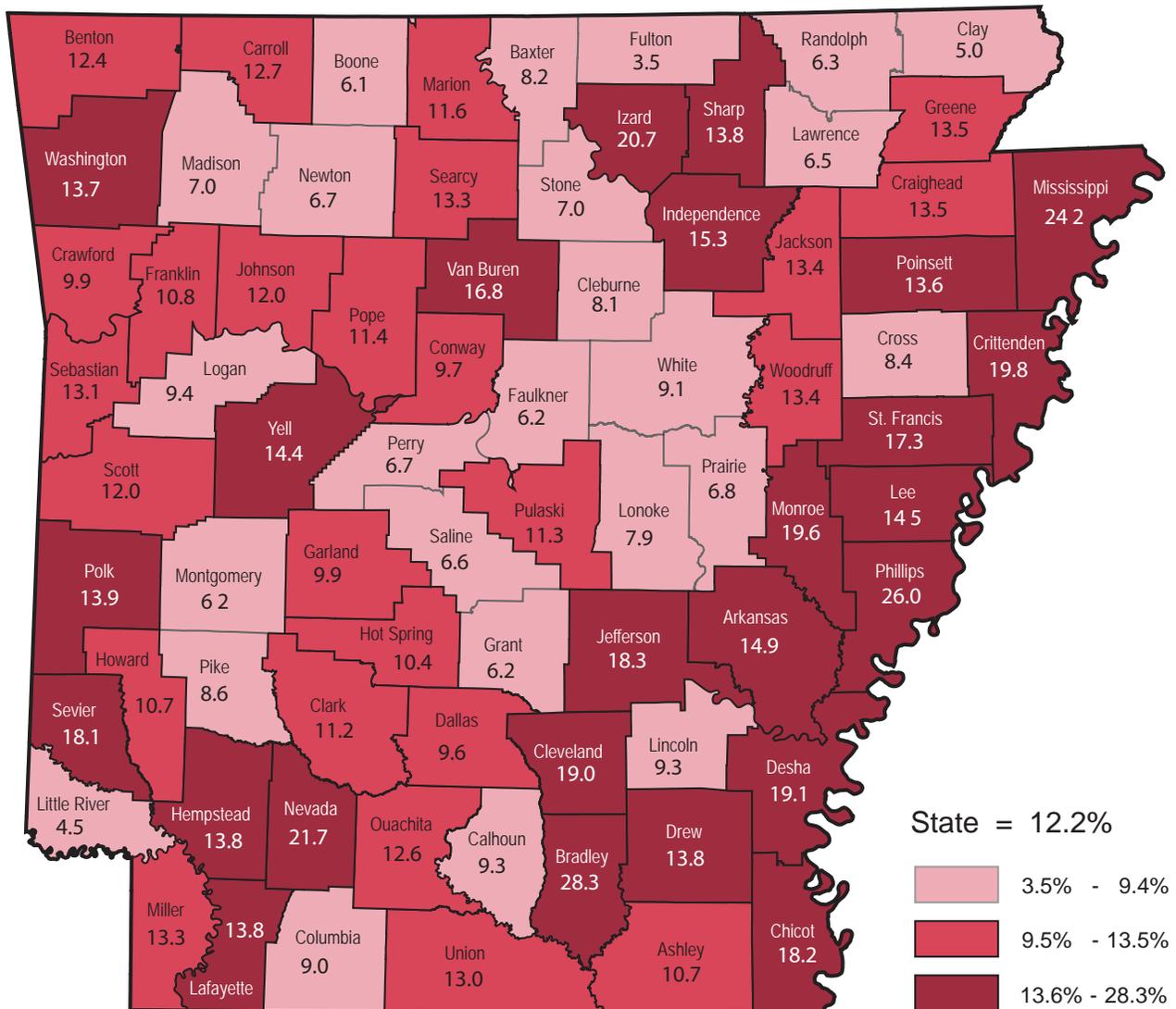


Source: Arkansas Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health, Center for Health Statistics.



Ready Children

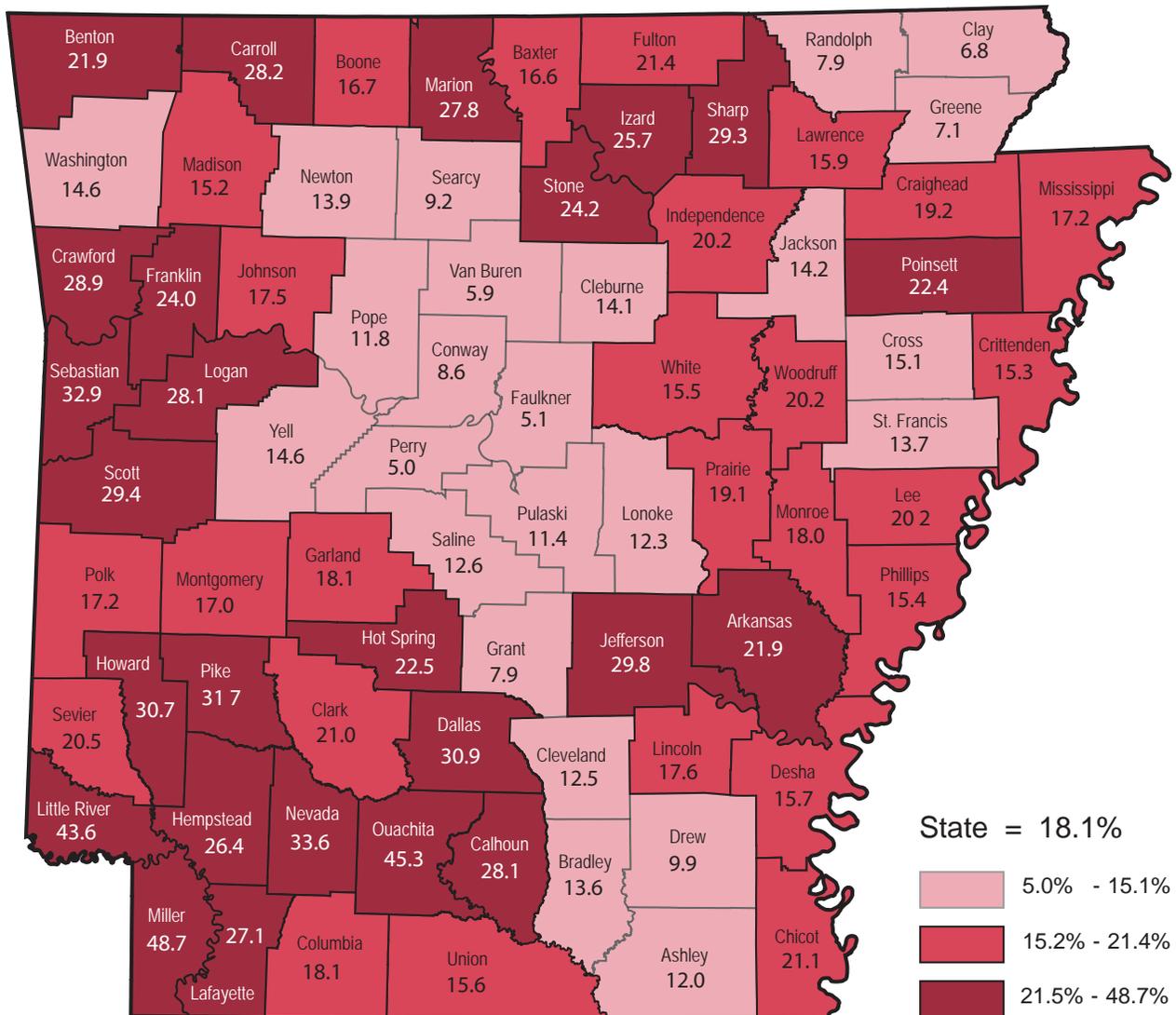
Births to Teens, Age 10-17, by County: 2004
(rate per 1000 females age 10-17)



Source: Arkansas Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health, Center for Health Statistics.

Ready Children

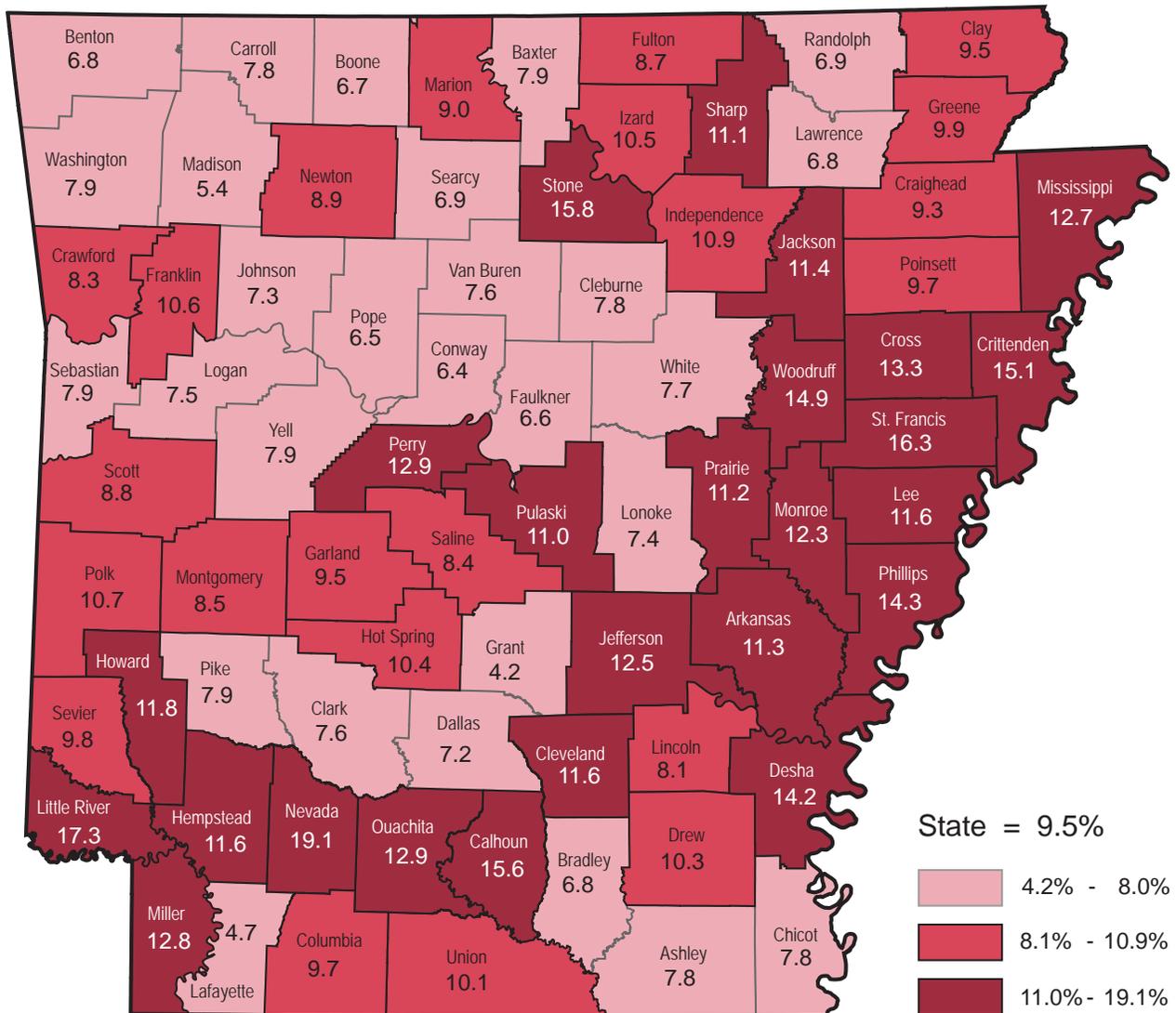
No Prenatal Care During First Trimester, Percent of All Births, by County: 2004 (percent of all births in which mother did not begin prenatal care during the first three months of pregnancy)



Source: Arkansas Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health, Center for Health Statistics.

Ready Children

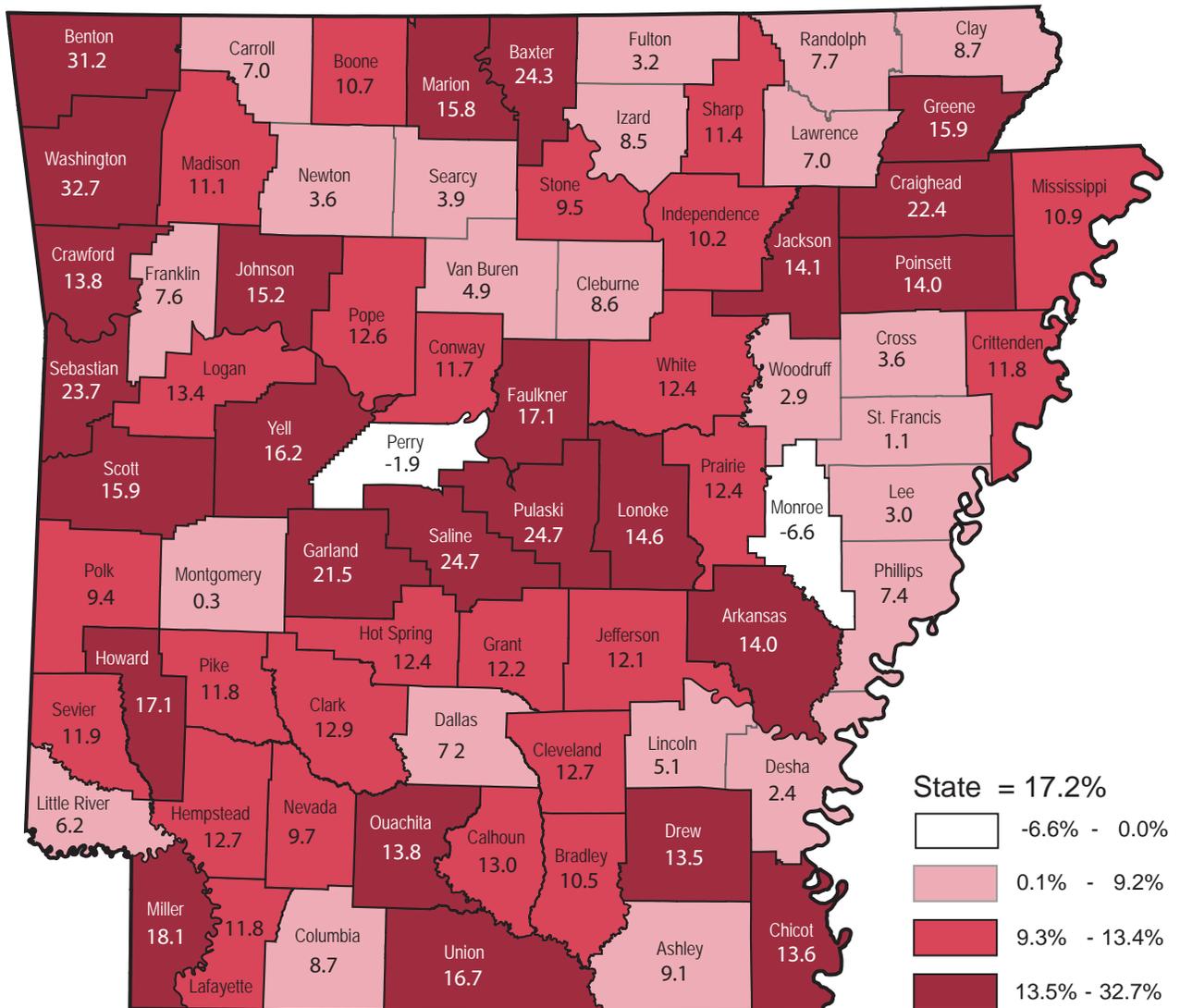
Low Birth Weight Babies, Percent of All Births, by County: 2004



Source: Arkansas Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health, Center for Health Statistics.

Ready Children

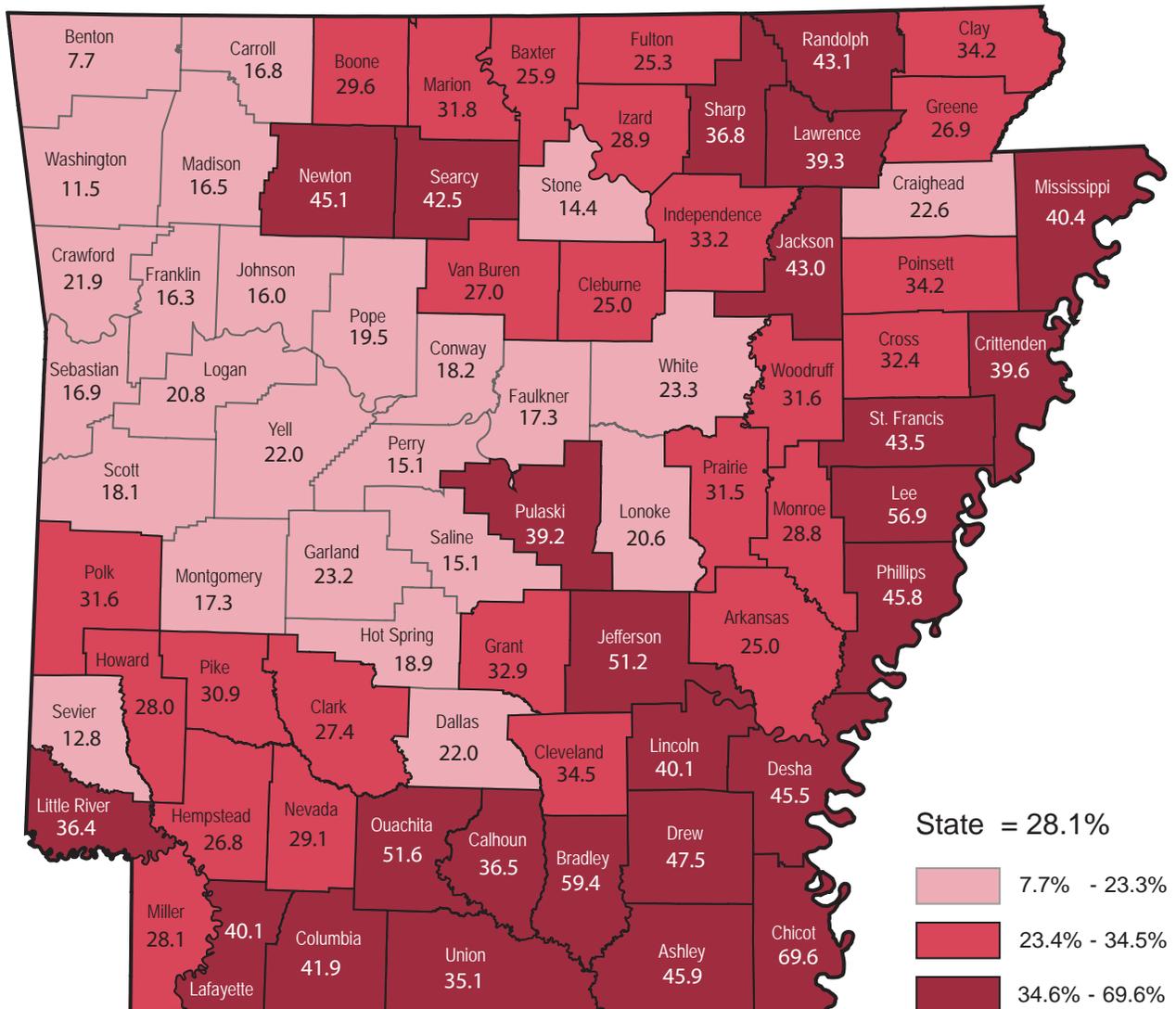
ARKids First Enrollment, Percent Change 2003-2005, by County



Source: Arkansas Department of Health and Human Services, Division of County Operations, Report IM-2414, Monthly Statistical Report on Number of Cases Eligible for Medicaid.

Ready Children

Percent of Children, Age 0-5, Served by State and Federally Funded Programs by County: 2004-05 Early Special Education, ABC, ABC/SS, CCDF, Head Start, Early Head Start

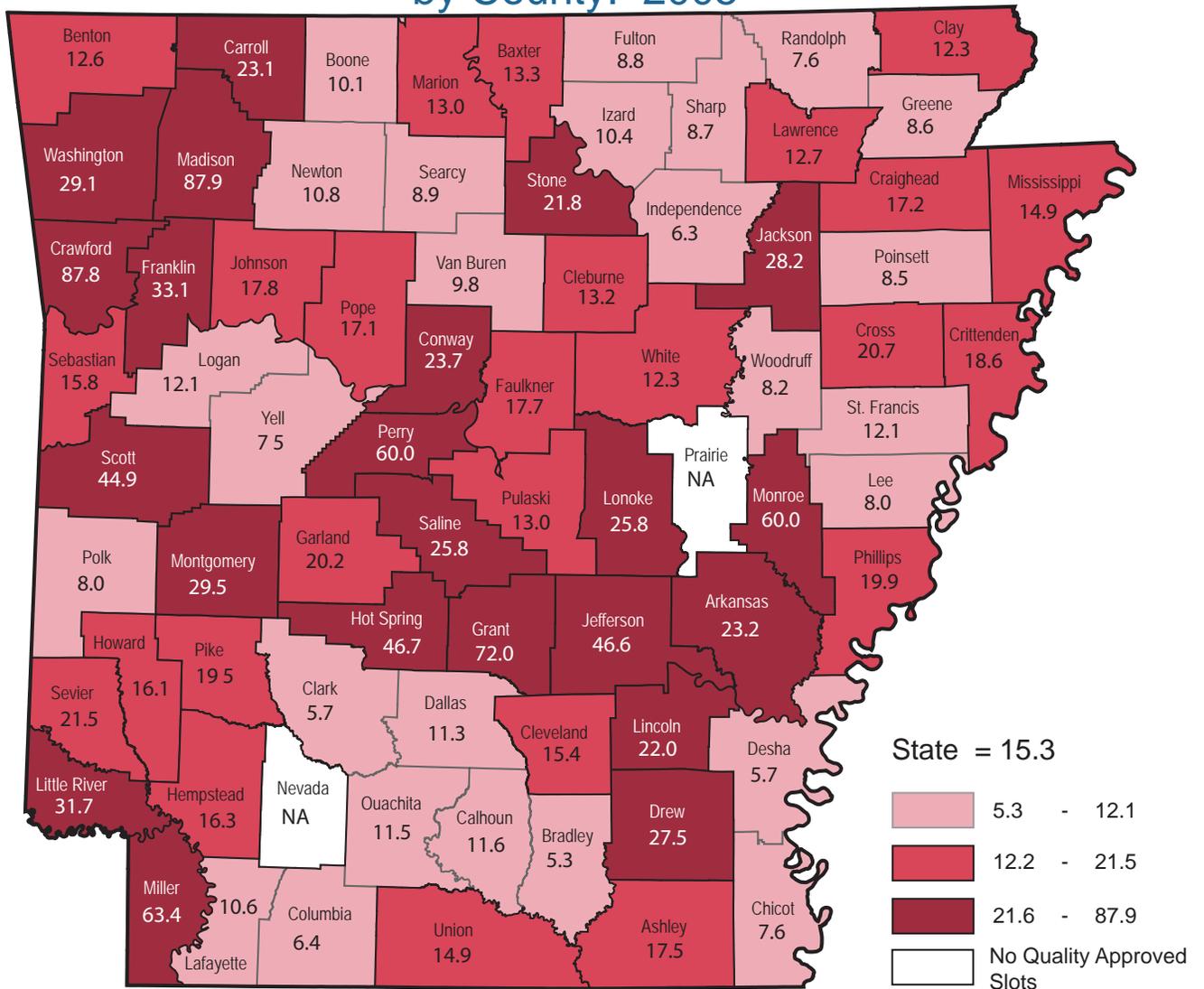


Source: Arkansas Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education; Arkansas Head Start Association-State Collaboration Project; Arkansas Department of Education, Special Education, IDEA Data and Research partnership with UALR College of Education; and Population Estimates processed by Demographic Research, Institute for Economic Advancement, UALR, from U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, Vintage 2005.



Ready Children

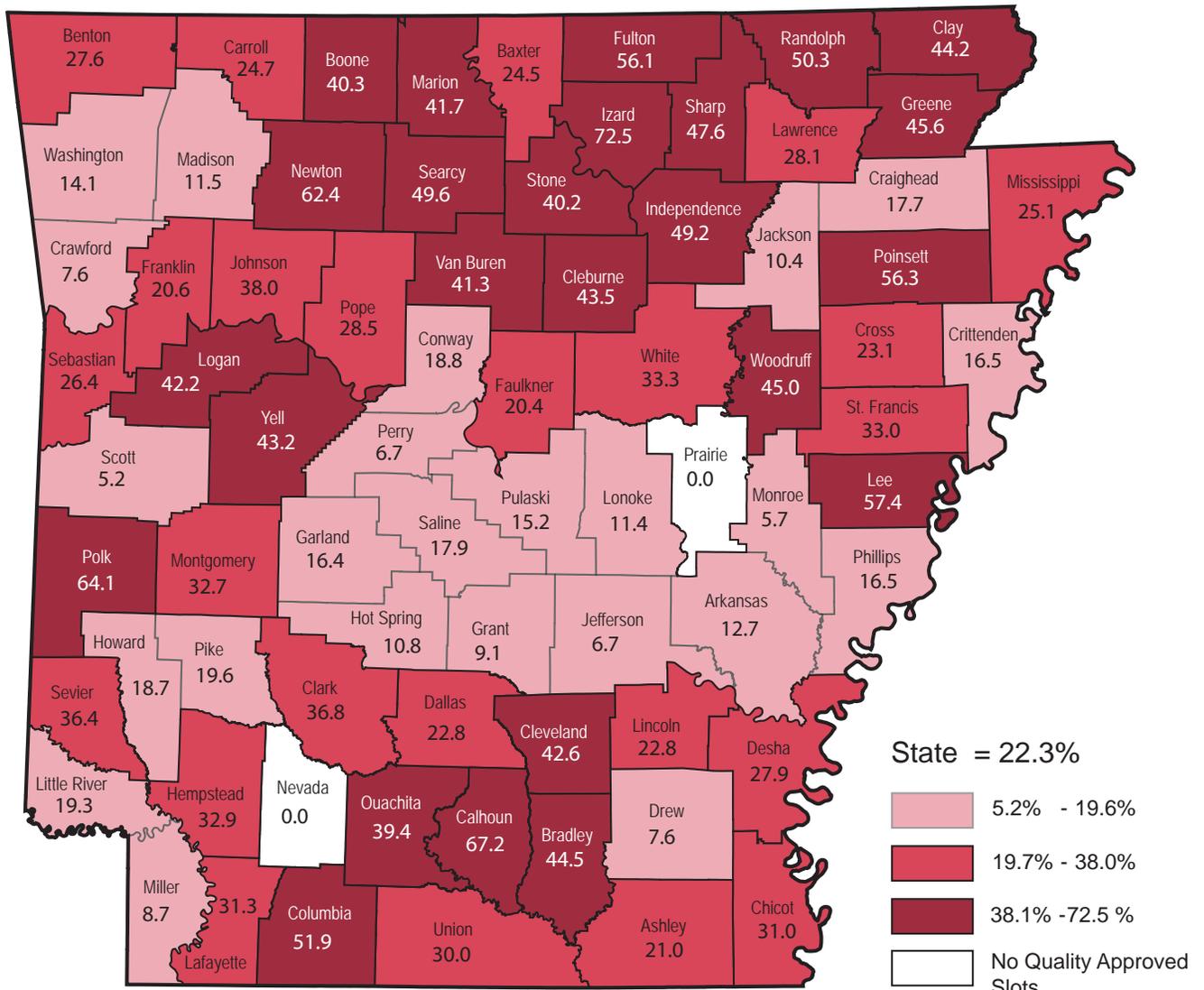
Children, Age 0-13, Per Child Care Slot in Licensed Child Care Facilities Meeting Quality Approval Standards by County: 2005



Source: Arkansas Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education, Licensing and Accreditation Unit; and Population Estimates processed by Demographic Research, Institute for Economic Advancement, UALR, from U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, Vintage 2005.

Ready Children

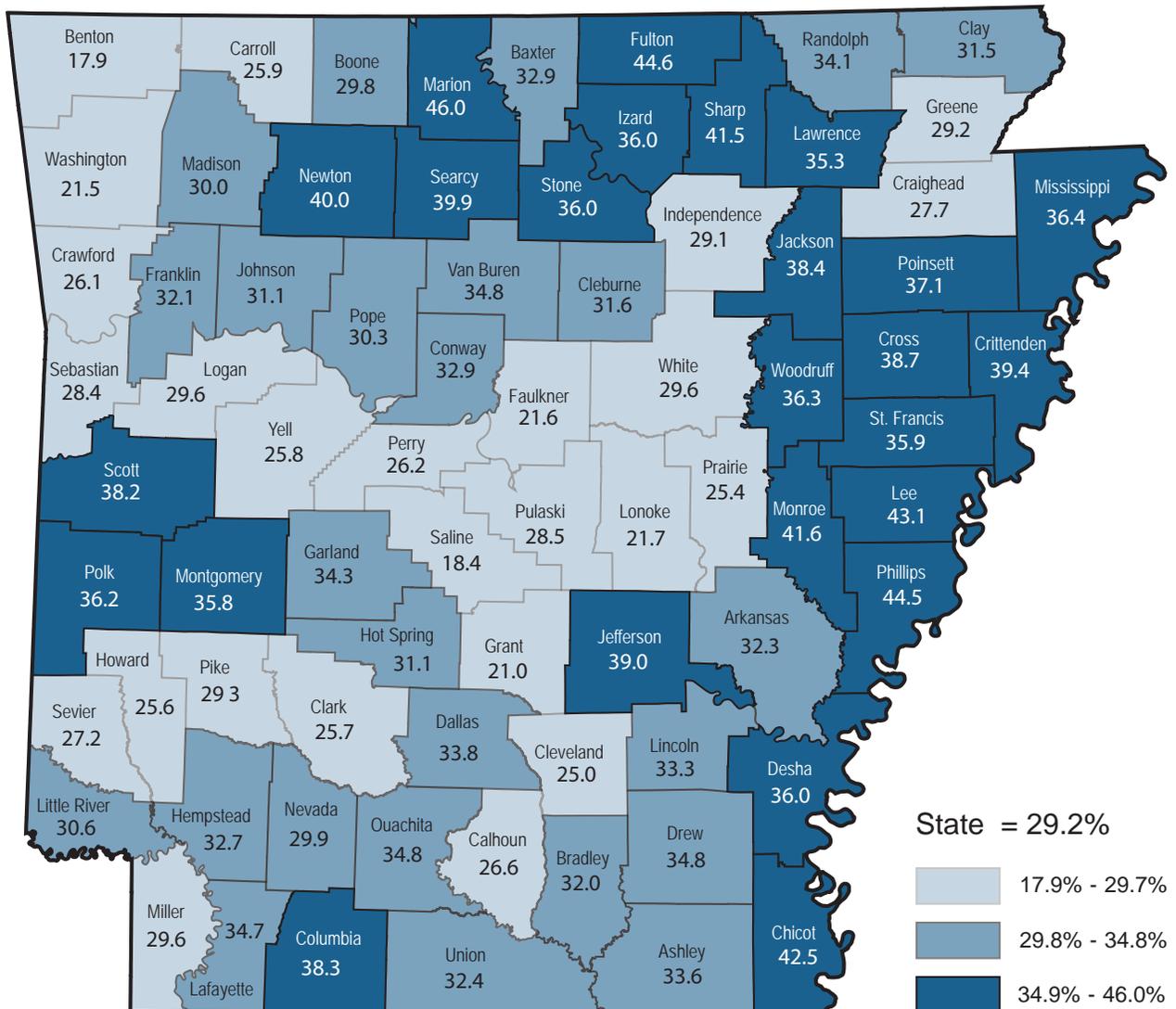
Percent of Child Care Licensed Capacity Meeting Quality Approval Standards by County: 2005



Source: Arkansas Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education, Licensing and Accreditation Unit.

Ready Families

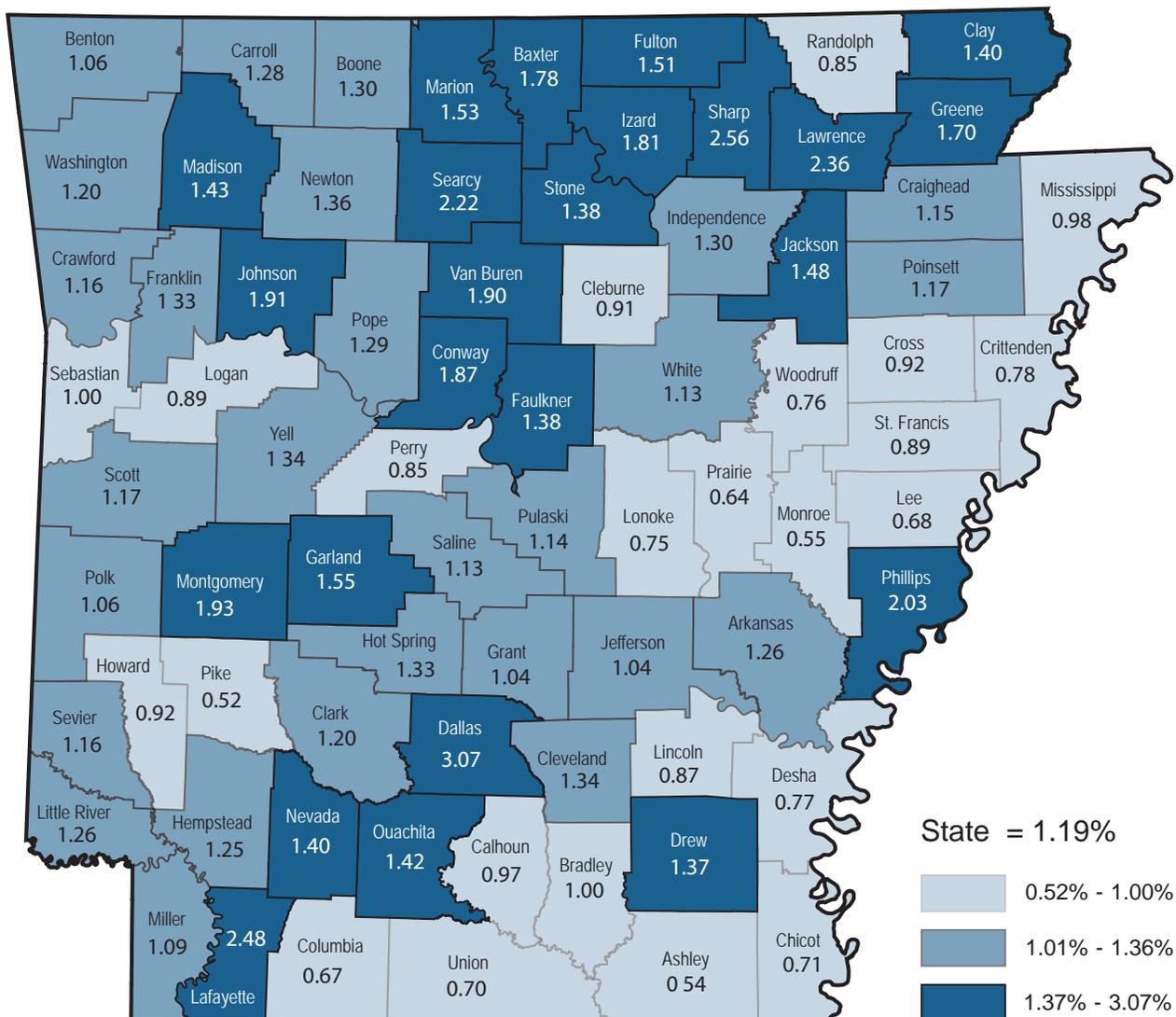
Percent of Children under Five Years of Age in Poverty by County: 2003



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates; and Population Estimates processed by Demographic Research, Institute for Economic Advancement, UALR, from U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, Vintage 2004.

Ready Families

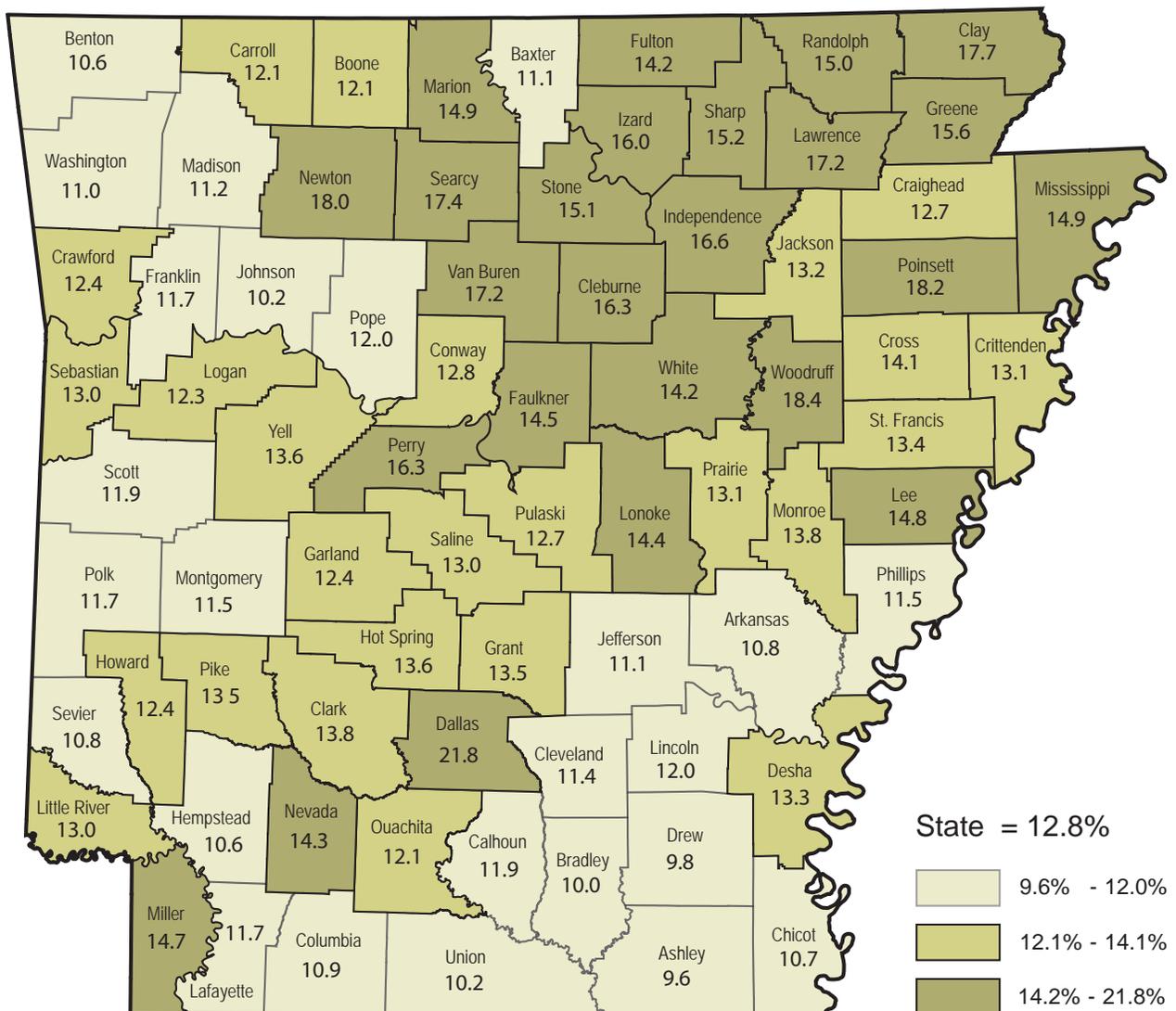
Child Maltreatment, Percent of Population under 18 Years of Age, by County: 2004



Source: Arkansas Department of Health and Human Services, Annual Statistical Report and Population Estimates processed by Demographic Research, Institute for Economic Advancement, UALR, from U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, Vintage 2004.

Ready Schools

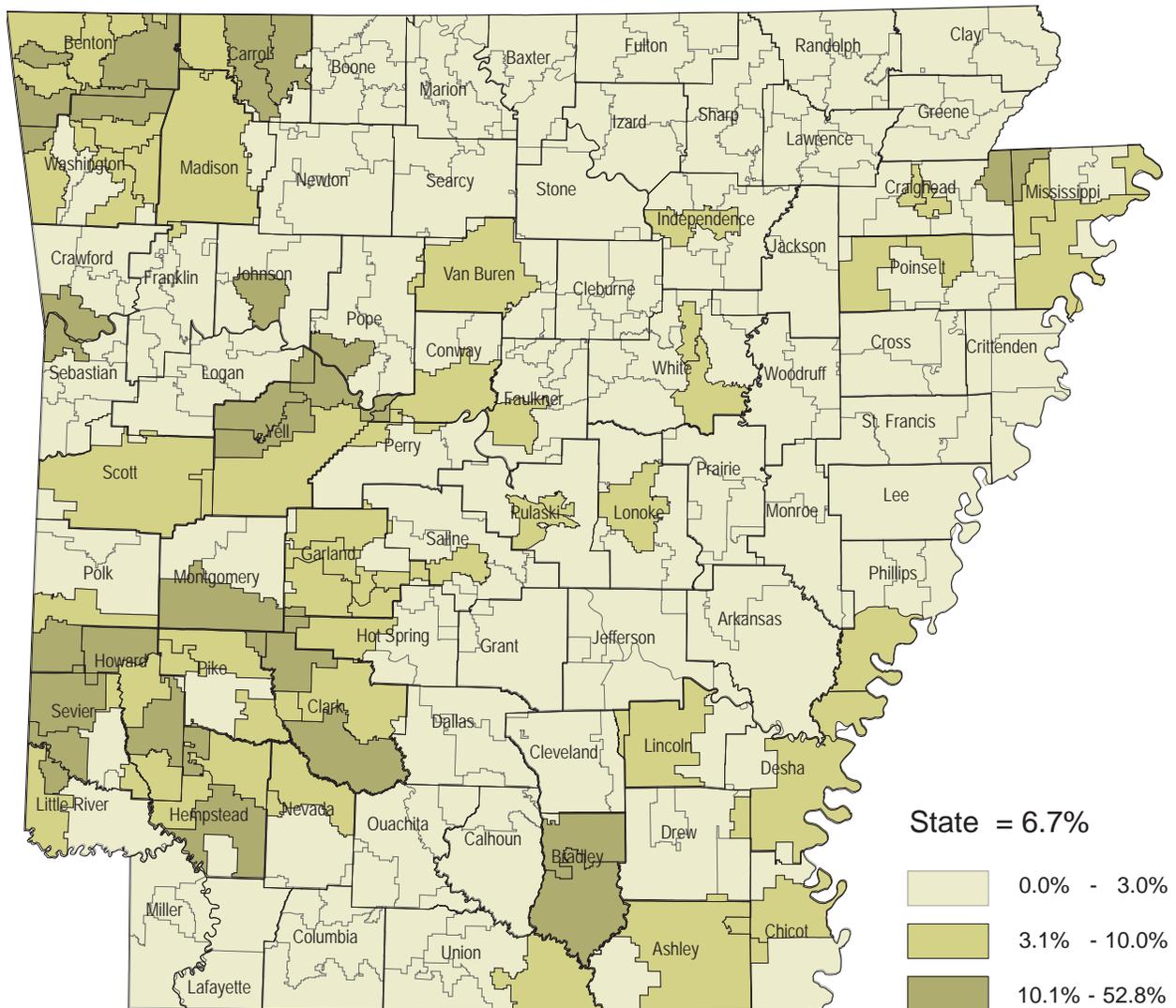
Percent of Children Receiving Special Education K-12 Provided in School Districts by County: 2005



Source: Arkansas Department of Education, Special Education, IDEA Data and Research partnership with UALR College of Education.

Ready Schools

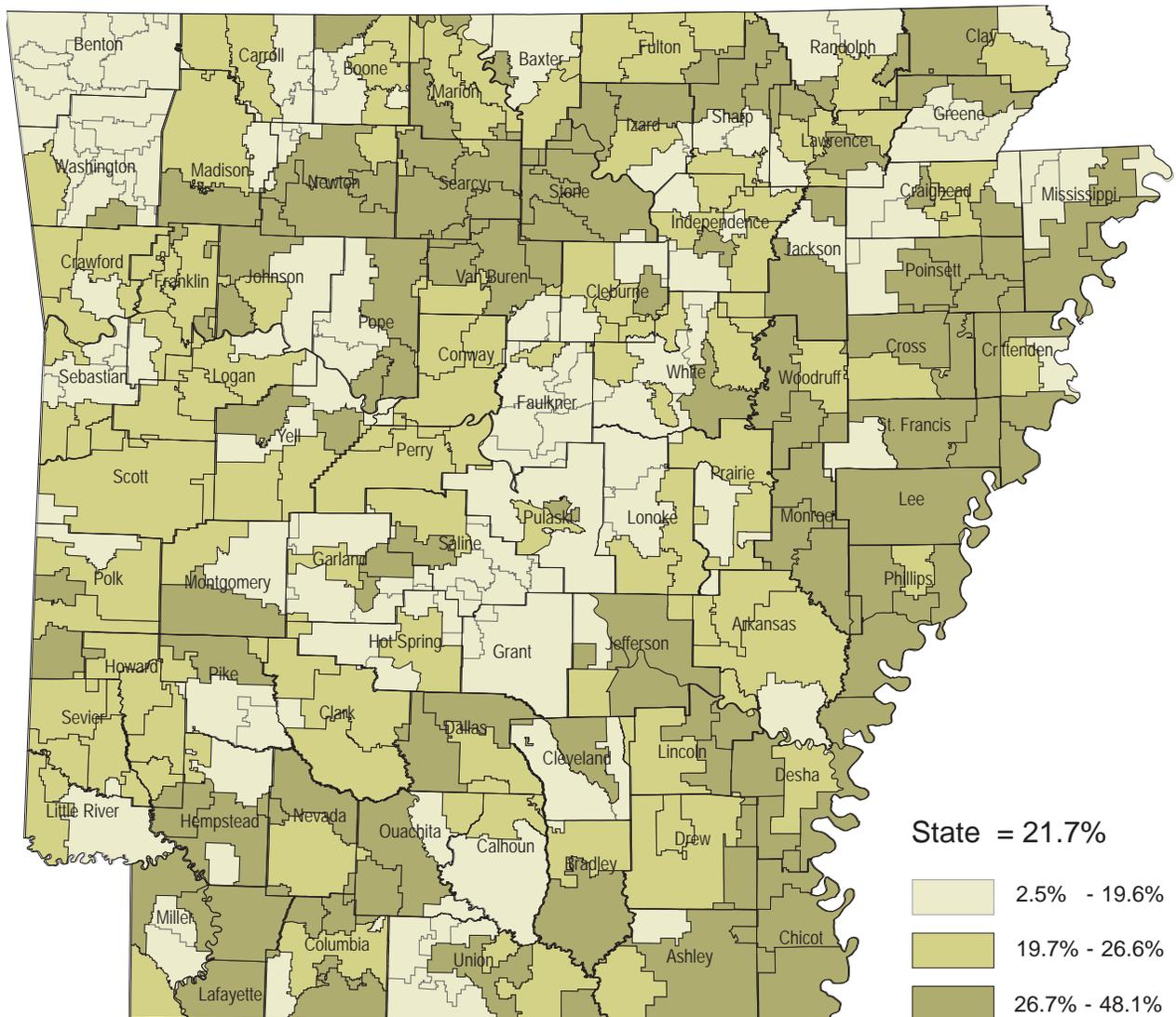
Percent Hispanic Enrollment by School Districts: 2005-2006



Source: Arkansas Department of Education, Office of Data Administration.

Ready Schools

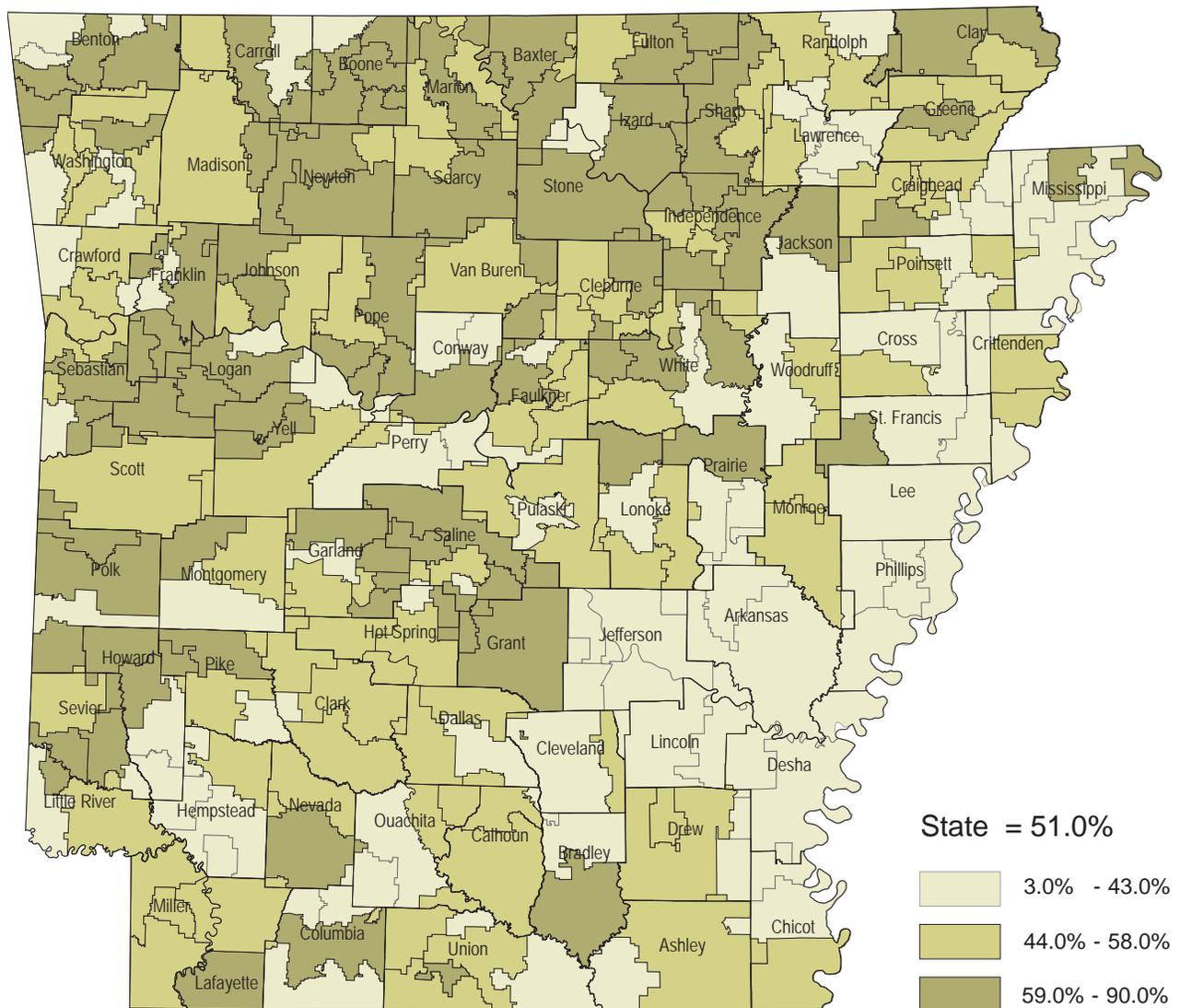
Percent of Children in Poverty, 5 - 17 Years of Age, by School Districts: 2003



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, released November 2005.

Ready Schools

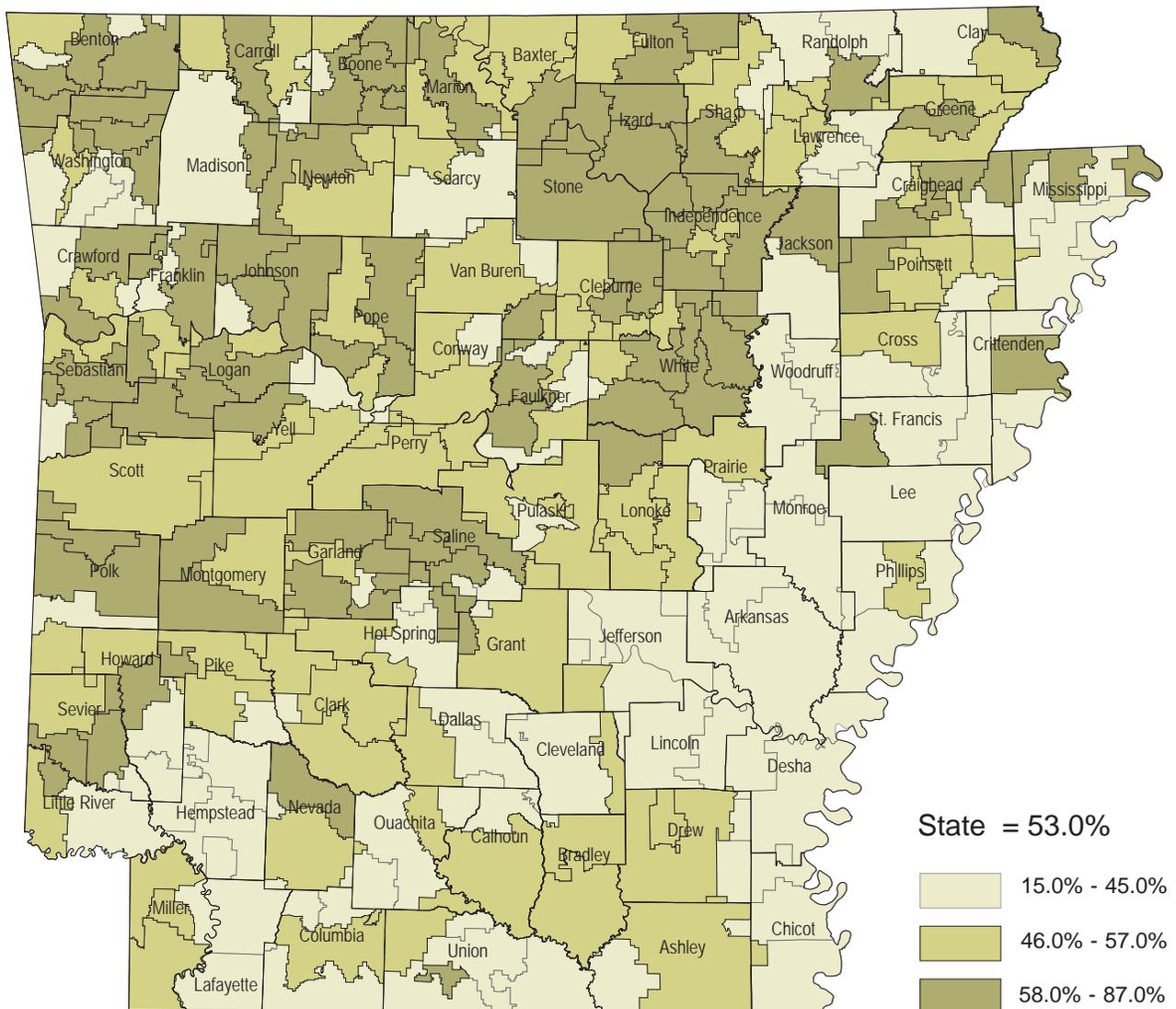
Grade 4 Math Proficiency by School Districts: 2005



Source: Arkansas Department of Education, Office of Data Administration.

Ready Schools

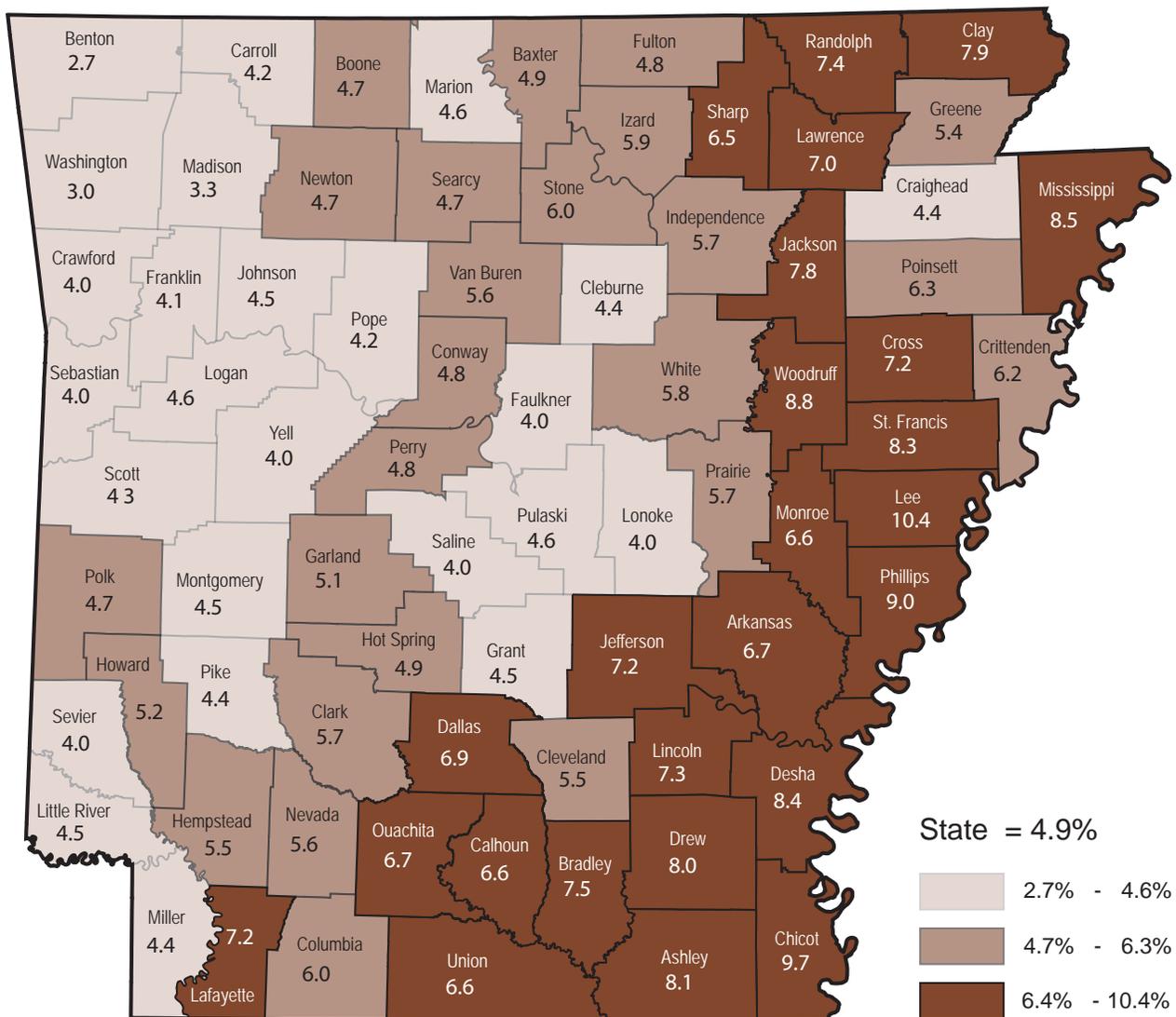
Grade 4 Literacy Proficiency by School Districts: 2005



Source: Arkansas Department of Education, Office of Data Administration.

Ready Communities

Unemployment Rate by County: 2005 (annual, not seasonally adjusted)



Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Labor Market Information, May 4, 2006.



Page

2 Births to Mothers with Less than 12th Grade Education: The percent of all births where the woman (all ages) has received less than 12 year of formal education.

3 Births to Teens: The number of births in which the woman was less than 18 years of age.

4 No Prenatal Care During First Trimester: The number of all births in which the mother did not begin prenatal care during the first three months of pregnancy.

5 Low Birth Weight Babies: The number of all births in which the infant weighed less than 2,500 grams or 5.5 pounds.

6 ARKids First Enrollment: The number of children enrolled in ARKids First, an insurance program provided by the state of Arkansas for children who come from working poor families without insurance. The ARKids First waiver program and SOBRA Medicaid, the largest category of children's Medicaid, were combined under the ARKids umbrella. SOBRA became ARKids A and the waiver program became ARKids B.

7 Children, Age 0-5, Served by State and Federally Funded Programs: The number of children served in various early childhood programs during the program year divided by the population 0 - 5 years of age.

Early Special Education: Preschool child count under part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

Arkansas Better Chance Program: The number of children served at any time during the program year in the Arkansas Better Chance Program (ABC) and Arkansas Better Chance for School Success (ABC/SS). The ABC program is intended to serve educationally deprived children, birth to 5 years of age while the ABC/SS serves children ages 3 and 4 from families up to 200% of federal poverty level.

Child Care and Development Fund: The number of children served at any time during the program year in the Child Care and Development Fund, which assists low-income families and those transitioning off welfare to obtain child care so that they can work or attend training or education. Eligible children are those under age 13 (or up to age 19, if disabled). The state currently serves families at 60 percent of the state median income.

Head Start: Each Head Start program is funded to provide services to a designated number of children and exists to provide and to promote a high quality, developmentally appropriate child development program for economically deprived children 3-5 and/or 0-3 years of age, thus reducing the potential for school failure.

Early Head Start: Head Start programs for age 0-3.

8 Children, Age 0-13, Per Child Care Slot in Licensed Care Facilities Meeting Quality Approval Standards: The total number of children, age 0-13, divided by the total capacity of licensed centers meeting the state early childhood accreditation/quality approval standards. These standards ensure quality programs for young children.

9 Licensed Child Care Capacity Meeting Quality Approval Standards: The percent of licensed capacity by type of facility that meet the state early childhood accreditation/quality approval standards.

10 Children Under Five Years of Age in Poverty: The percent of children 0-4 years of age in poverty is the sum of children below the poverty level divided by the total number of all children 0-4 years of age in families. Poverty status is determined from income data. Poverty thresholds are arranged in a two dimensional matrix based on family size and number of children in the family. The total income of the family was tested against the appropriate threshold to determine the poverty status of the family. If the family income was less than the corresponding cutoff, the family was classified as below poverty level.

11 Child Maltreatment: The number of children for whom an allegation of maltreatment has been founded and the percent of the population that is less than 18 years of age.

12 Children Receiving Special Education K-12 in School Districts: The number of students counted under the P.L. 94-142 grant for all districts combined for each school year. Students in special education placements are those who have been identified as disabled according to criteria set forth in state and federal regulations, and who are receiving special education and related services as necessary. The percent is determined by dividing the enrollment in special education by the total enrollment. Data for Arkansas School for the Blind and Arkansas School for the Deaf are included.

13 Hispanic Enrollment by School Districts: The number of Hispanic students divided by the total enrollment.

14 Graduation Rates: Graduation (completion) rates are the percent of students enrolled during grade 9 and completing grade 12.

15 Children in Poverty, 5-17 Years of Age: The percent of children 5-17 years of age in poverty was the sum of children below the poverty level divided by the total number of all children 5-17 years of age in families.

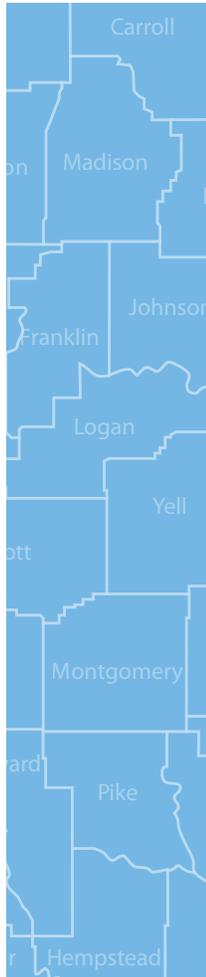
16 Grade 4 Math Proficiency: Percent of students in Grade 4 meeting or exceeding proficiency in math on the Criterion Referenced Test, Benchmark Examination, Combined Population, April 2005.

17 Grade 4 Literacy Proficiency: Percent of students in Grade 4 meeting or exceeding proficiency in literacy on the Criterion Referenced Test, Benchmark Examination, Combined Population, April 2005.

18 Unemployment Rate: The unemployment rate is the number of unemployed divided by the civilian labor force.

19 Per Capita Personal Income: Total personal income of the residents of a given area divided by the resident population of the area.

20 Median Household Income: Median household income divides the income distribution into two equal parts, one having incomes above the median and the other having incomes below the median.



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