

Getting Ready *for* School

2010

ARKANSAS MAP DATA | CHILDREN • FAMILIES • SCHOOLS • COMMUNITIES

Prepared by: University of Arkansas at Little Rock,
College of Business, Institute for Economic Advancement

For: Arkansas Department of Human Services,
Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education



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ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF
Human Services
Division of Child Care & Early Childhood Education



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Preface

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 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 policymakers and community leaders to identify areas most in need of intervention, track the results of investments, and monitor trends over time. These indicators are presented as a dynamic and ever-improving set of measurements to monitor child outcomes and tell the story of successes as well as areas that need improvement.

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.

Acknowledgements

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Other staff members at the Institute for Economic Advancement who contributed time, effort, and skills to this report are Mary McFarland, Alison Wiley, Neva Wayman, Inderpreet Singh Farmahan, and Susan Jackson, who designed the publication.

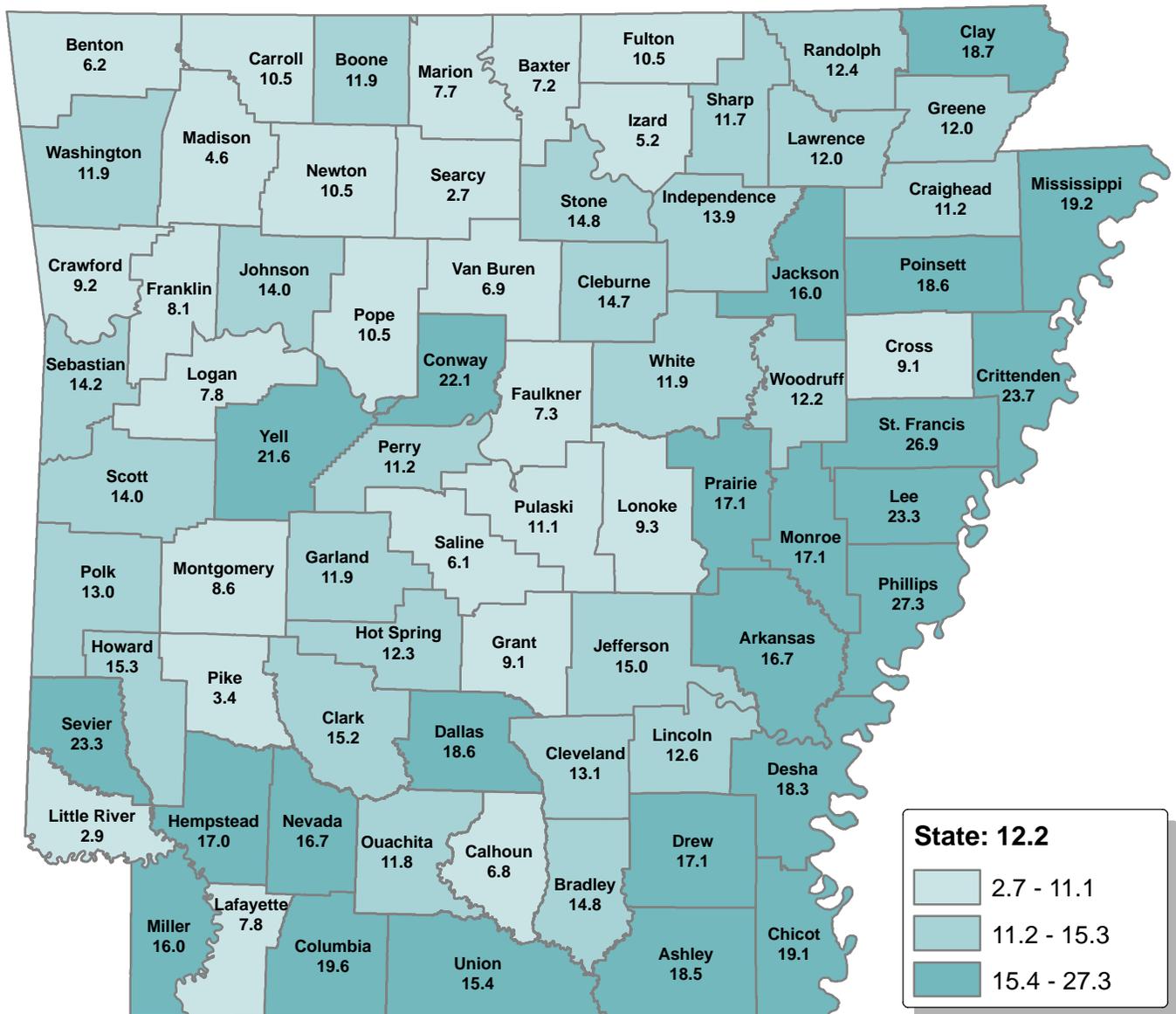


Ready Children



Births to Teens, Age 10-17, by County: 2008

(rate per 1000 females age 10-17)

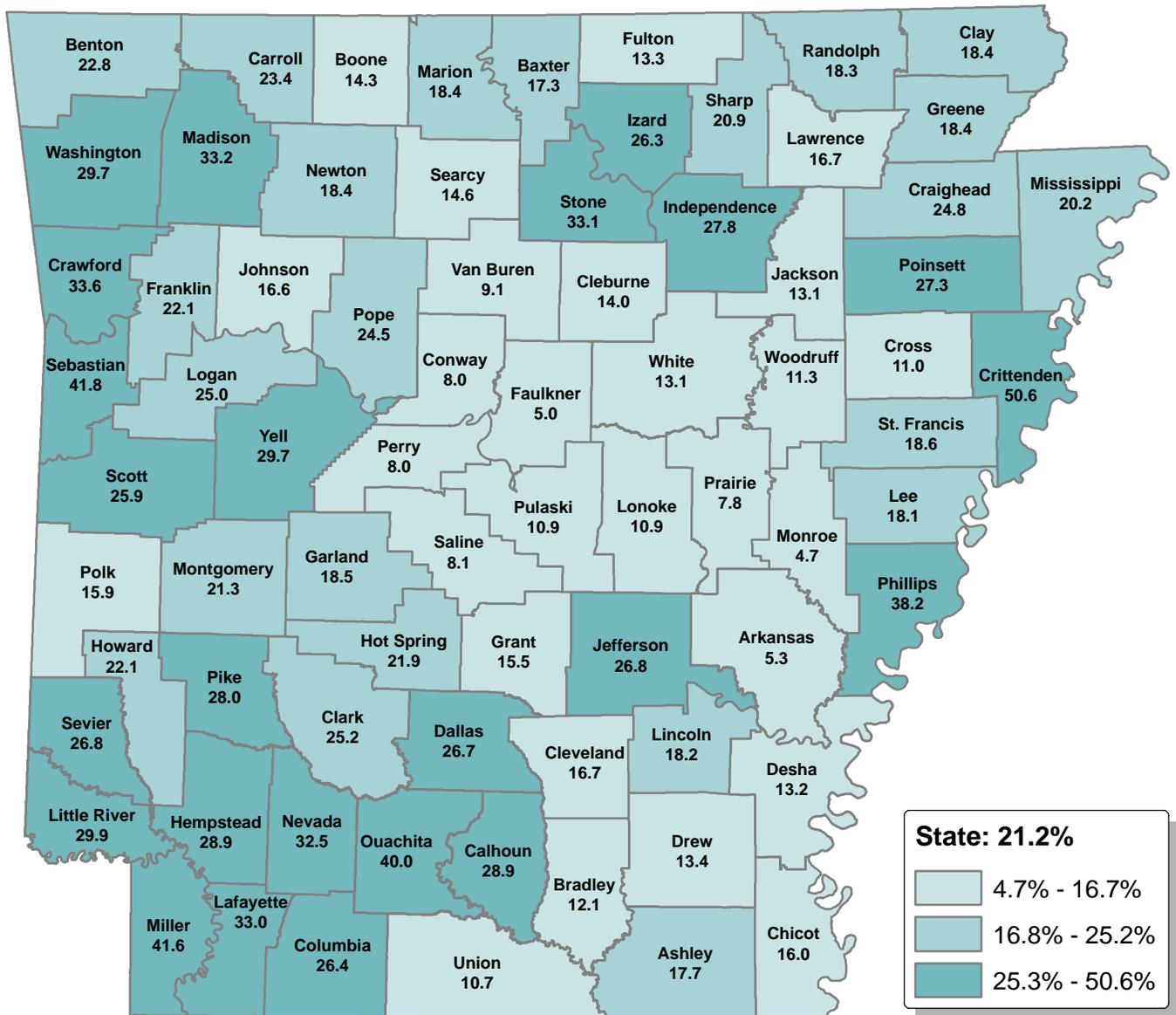


Source: Arkansas Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics.



No Prenatal Care During First Trimester, Percent of all Births, by County: 2008

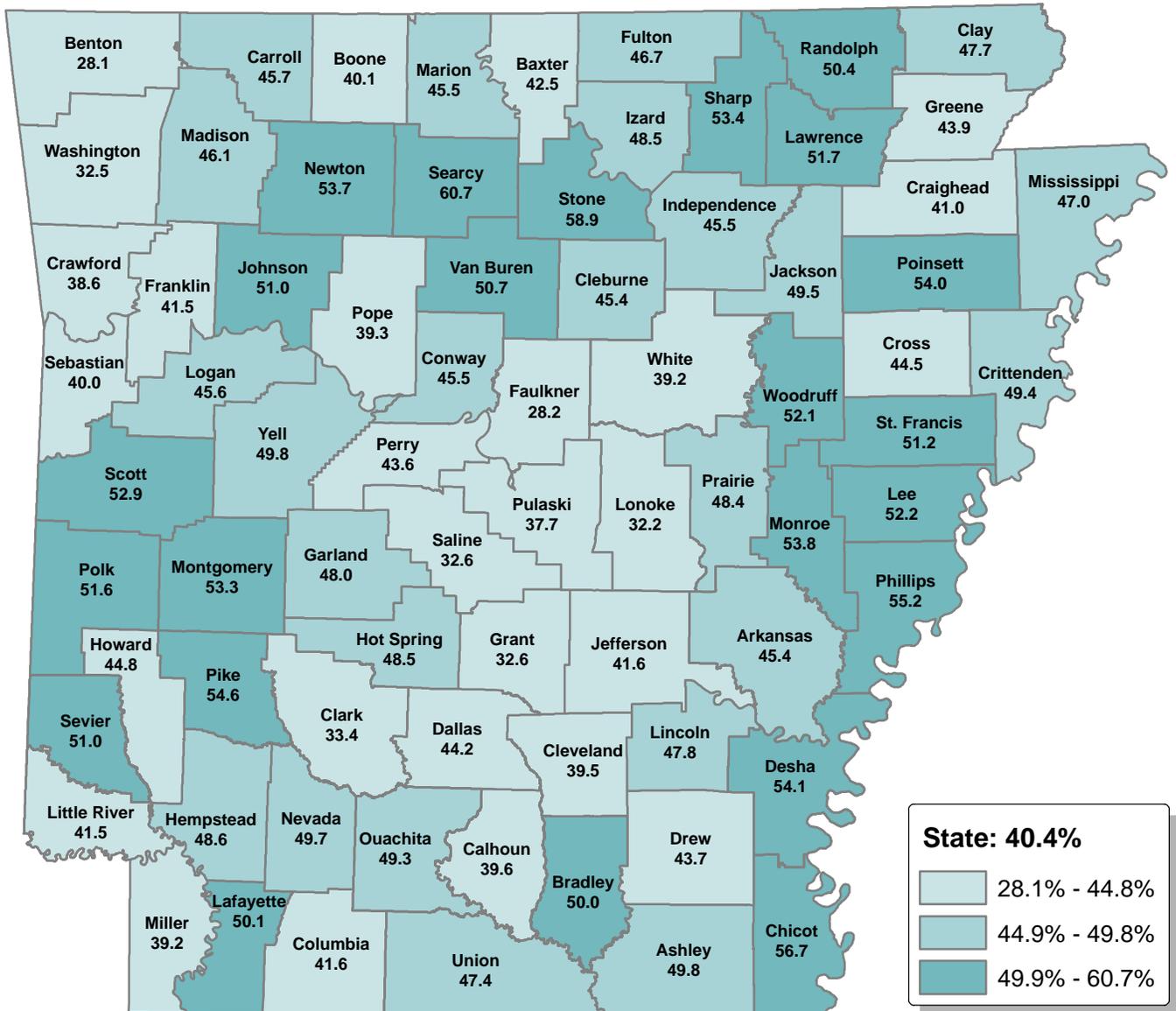
(percent of all births in which mother did not begin prenatal care during the first three months of pregnancy)



Source: Arkansas Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics.



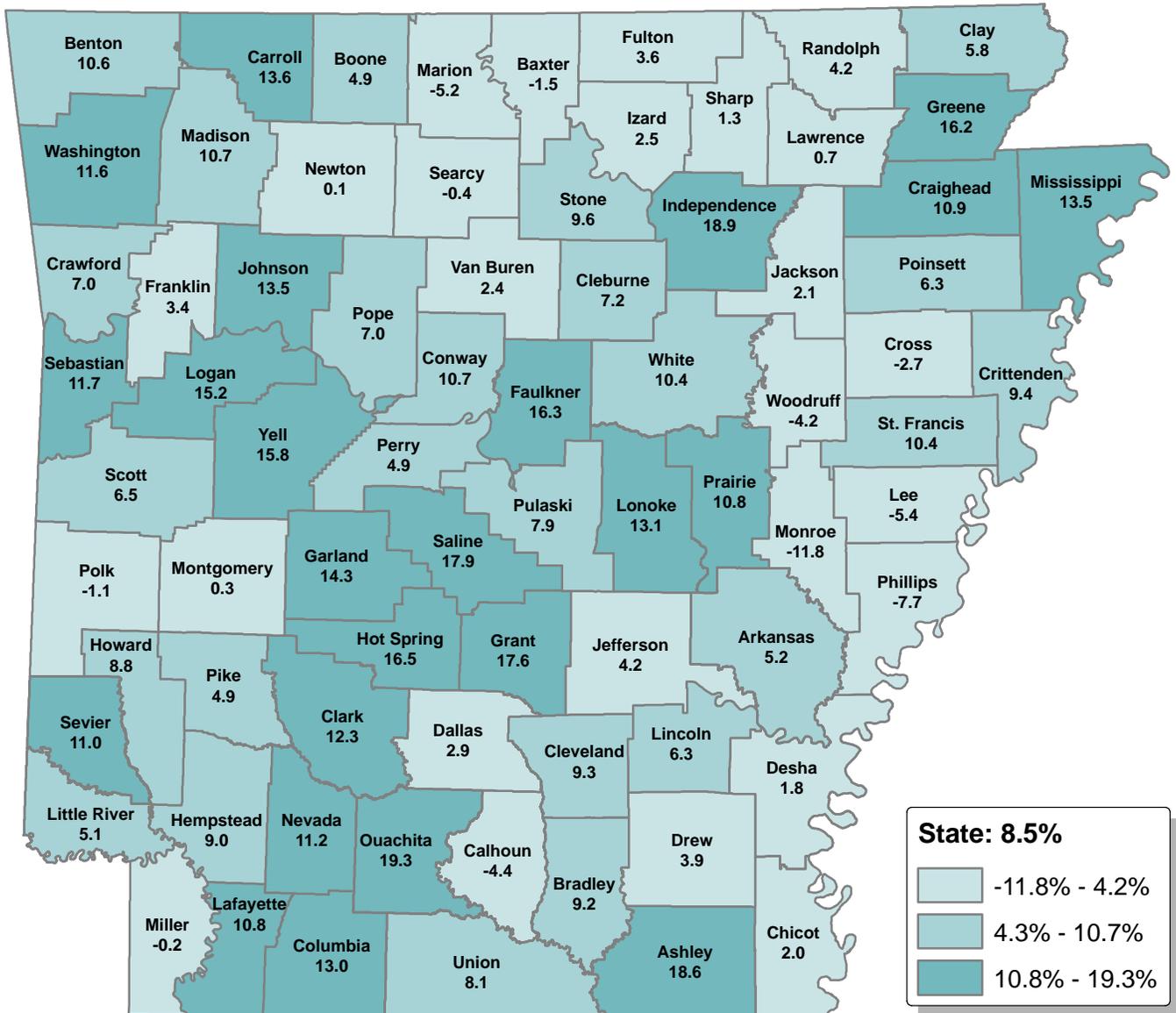
ARKids First Enrollment as a Percent of Population, Age 0-19, by County: 2008-09



Sources: Arkansas Department of Human Services, Division of County Operations, Report IM2414, *Monthly Statistical Report on Number of Cases Eligible for Medicaid*; and Population Estimates processed by Demographic Research, Institute for Economic Advancement, UALR from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, Vintage 2009.

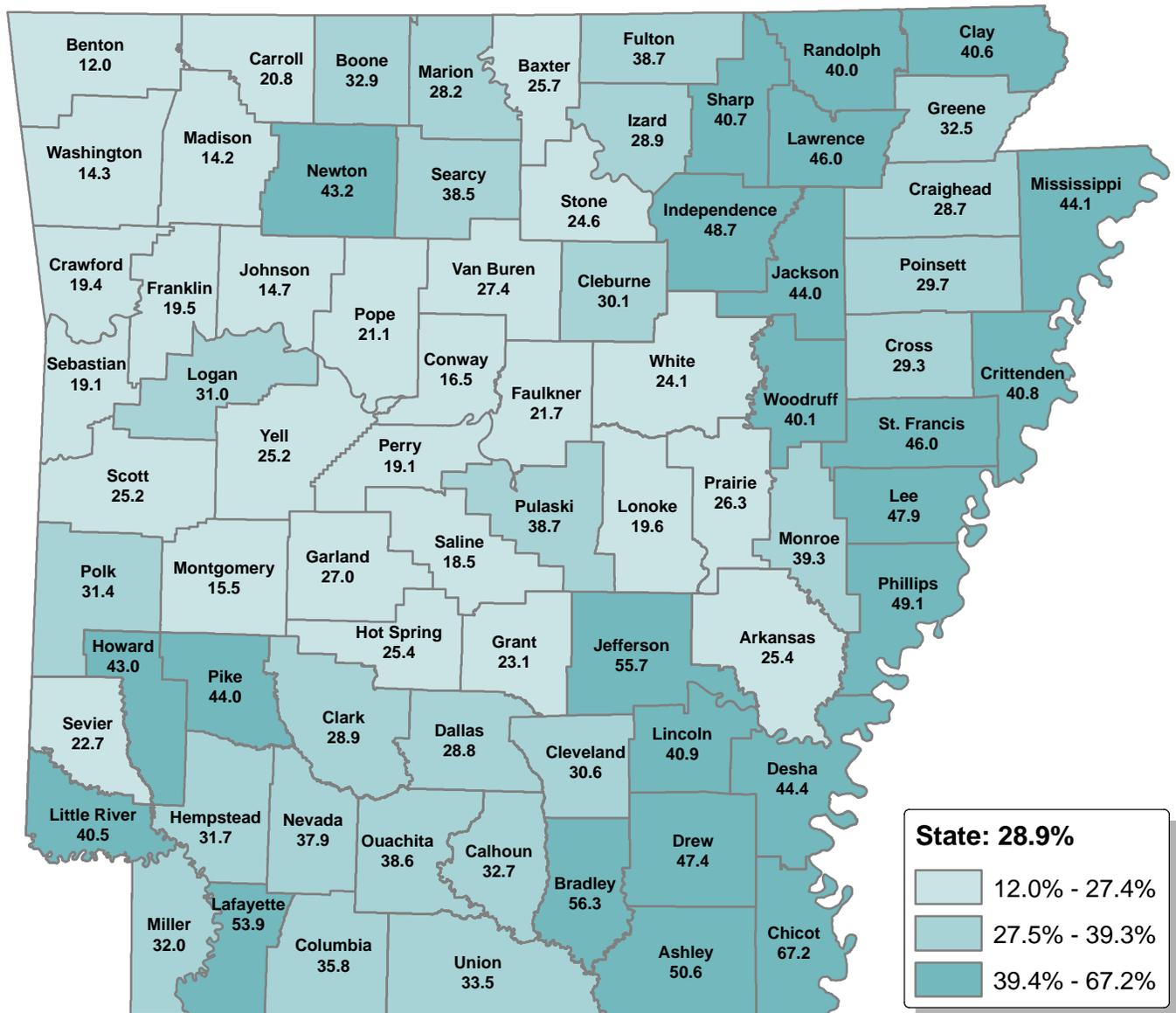


ARKids First Enrollment, Percent Change, by County: 2005-08



Percent of Children, Age 0-5, Served by State and Federally Funded Programs, by County: 2008-09

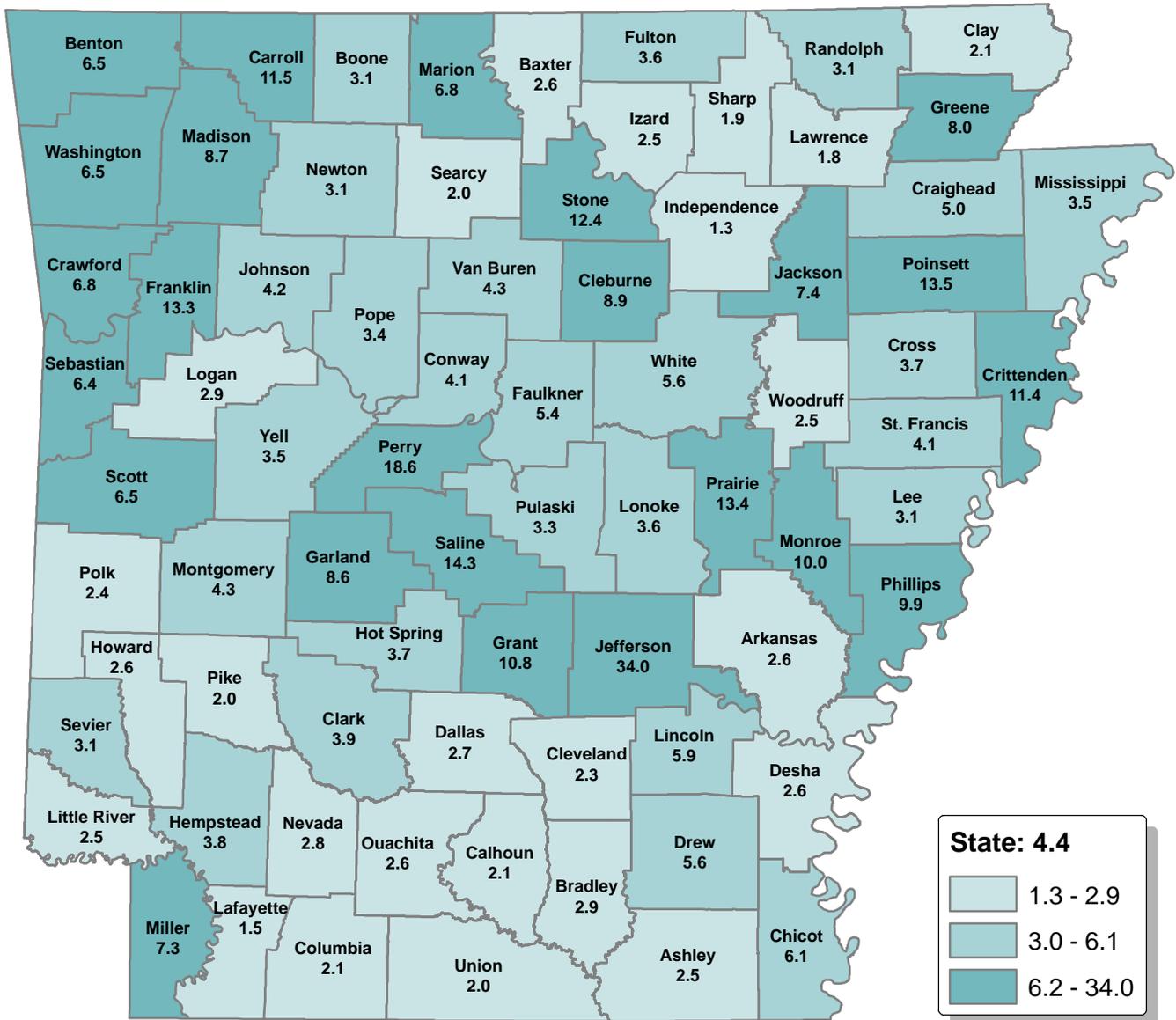
Early Special Education, Early Intervention, ABC, ABC/SS, CCDF, Head Start, Early Head Start



Sources: Arkansas Department of 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 the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, Vintage 2009.



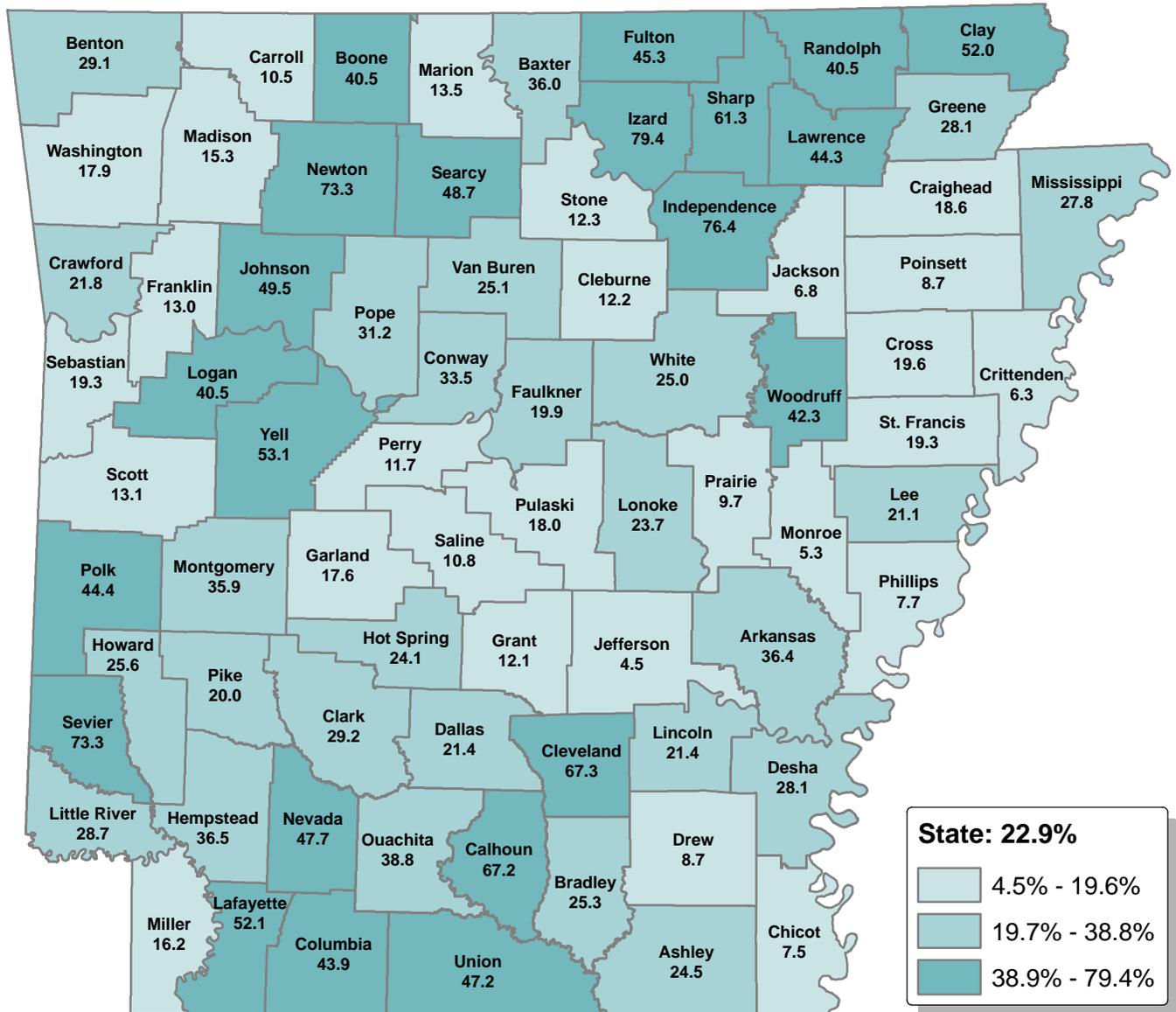
Children, Age 3-5, Per Preschool Slot in Center Based Licensed Child Care Facilities Meeting Quality Approval Standards, by County: 2008-09



Sources: Arkansas Department of 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 the U.S Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, Vintage 2009.



Capacity of Licensed Child Care Providers, Percent Meeting Quality Approval Standards, by County: 2008-09



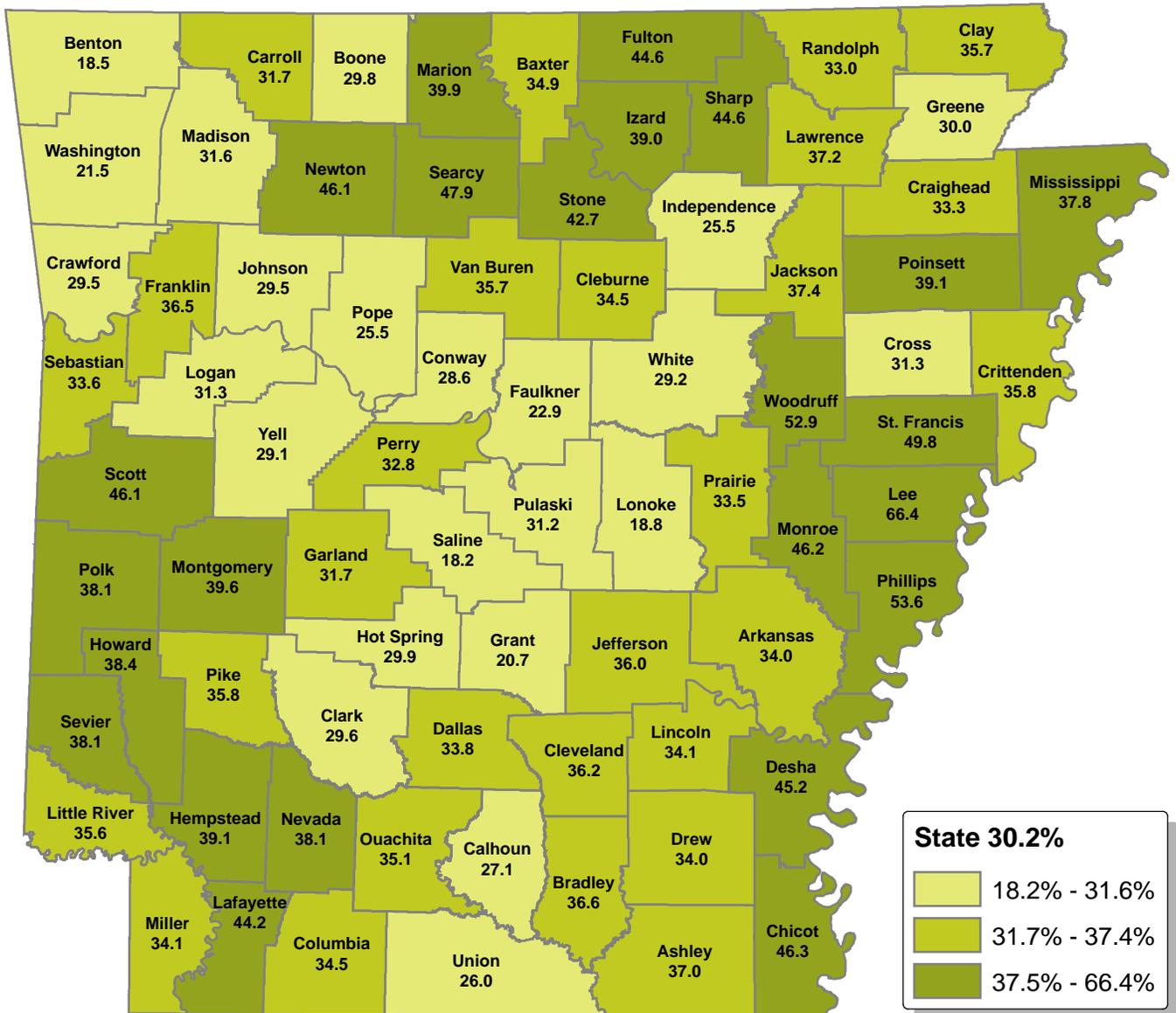
Source: Arkansas Department of Human Services, Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education, Licensing and Accreditation Unit.





Ready Families

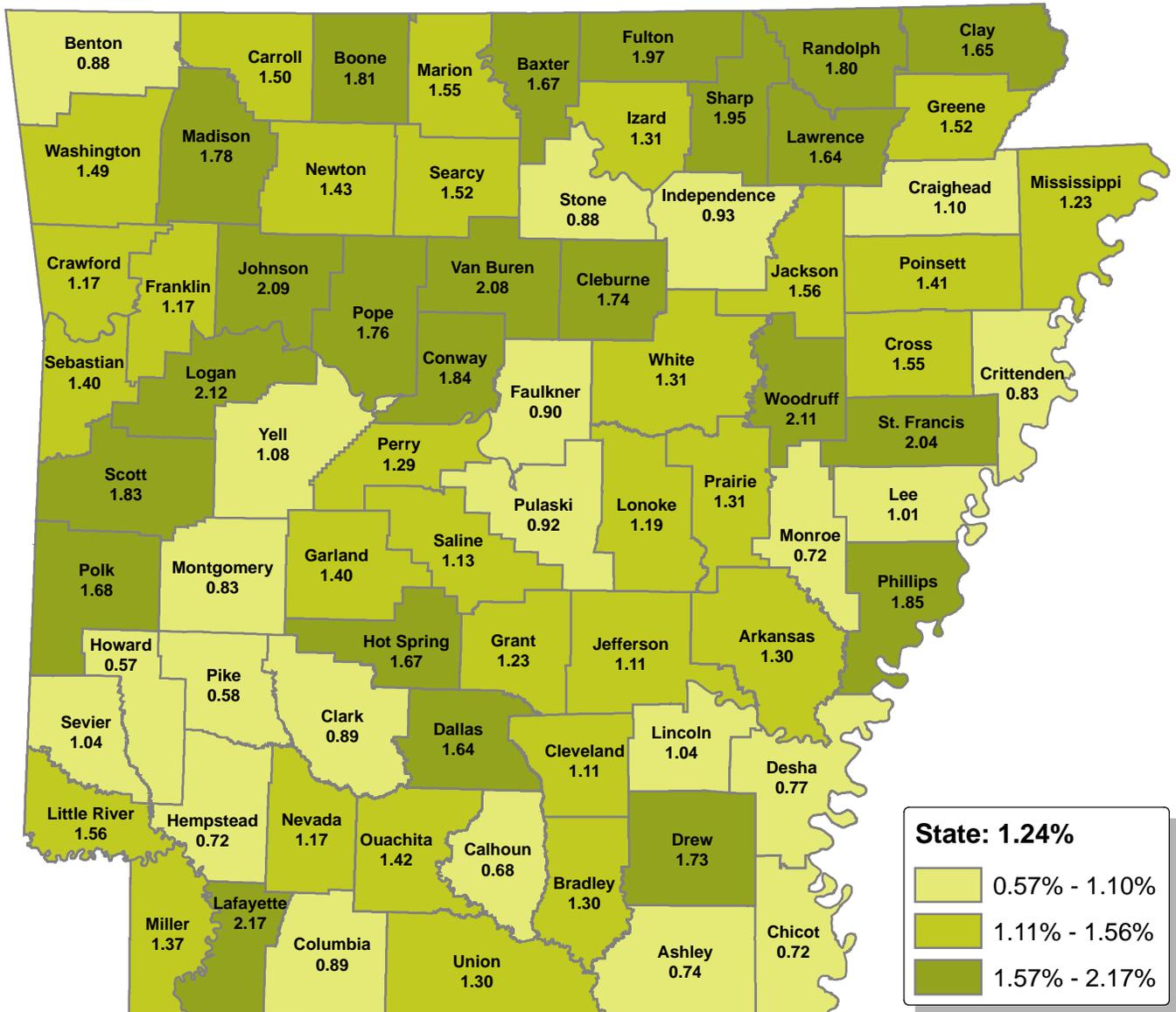
Percent of Children Under Five Years of Age in Poverty, by County: 2008



Sources: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, released January 2009; and Population Estimates processed by Demographic Research, Institute for Advancement, UALR from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, Vintage 2009.



Victims of Child Maltreatment, Percent of Population Under 18 Years of Age, by County: 2008-09

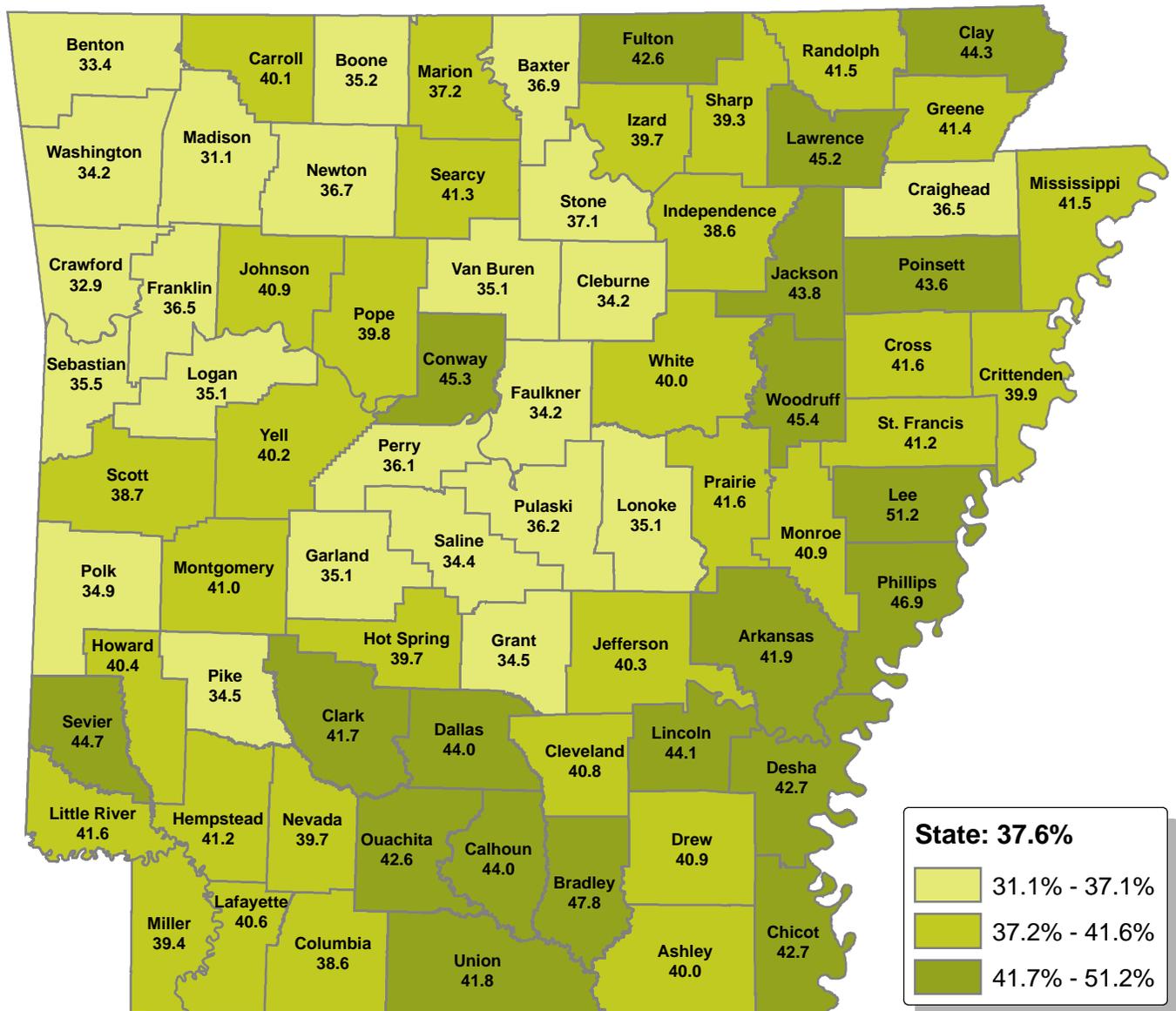


Sources: Arkansas Department of Human Services; and Population Estimates processed by Demographic Research, Institute for Advancement, UALR from the U.S Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, Vintage 2009.



Percentage of Students Who Are Overweight or Obese, by County: 2008-09

(grades K, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10)

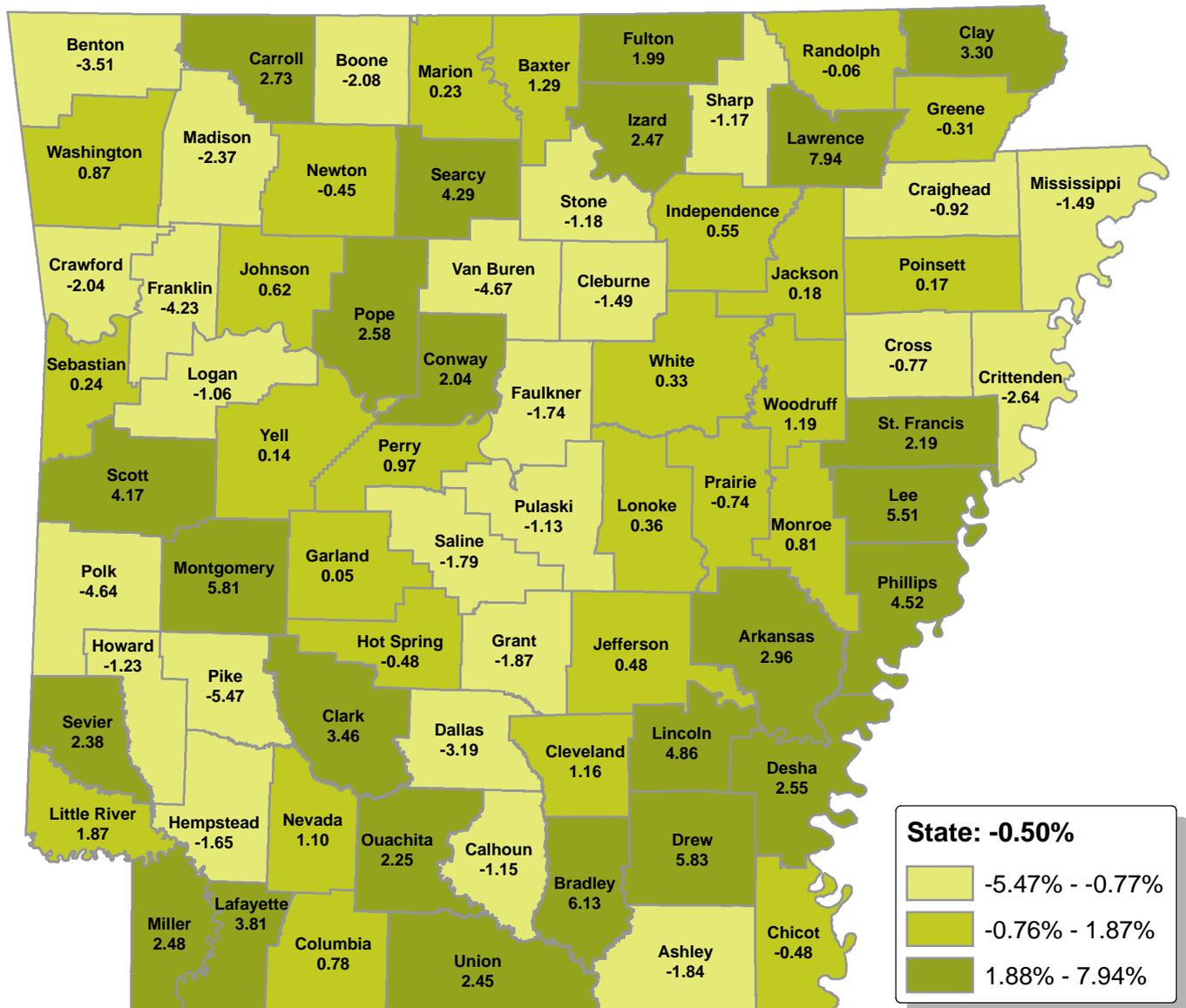


Source: Arkansas Center for Health Improvement, *Assessment of Childhood and Adolescent Obesity in Arkansas, Year Six*.



Change in Percentage of Overweight or Obese Students, by County: 2003-04 to 2008-09

(grades K, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10)



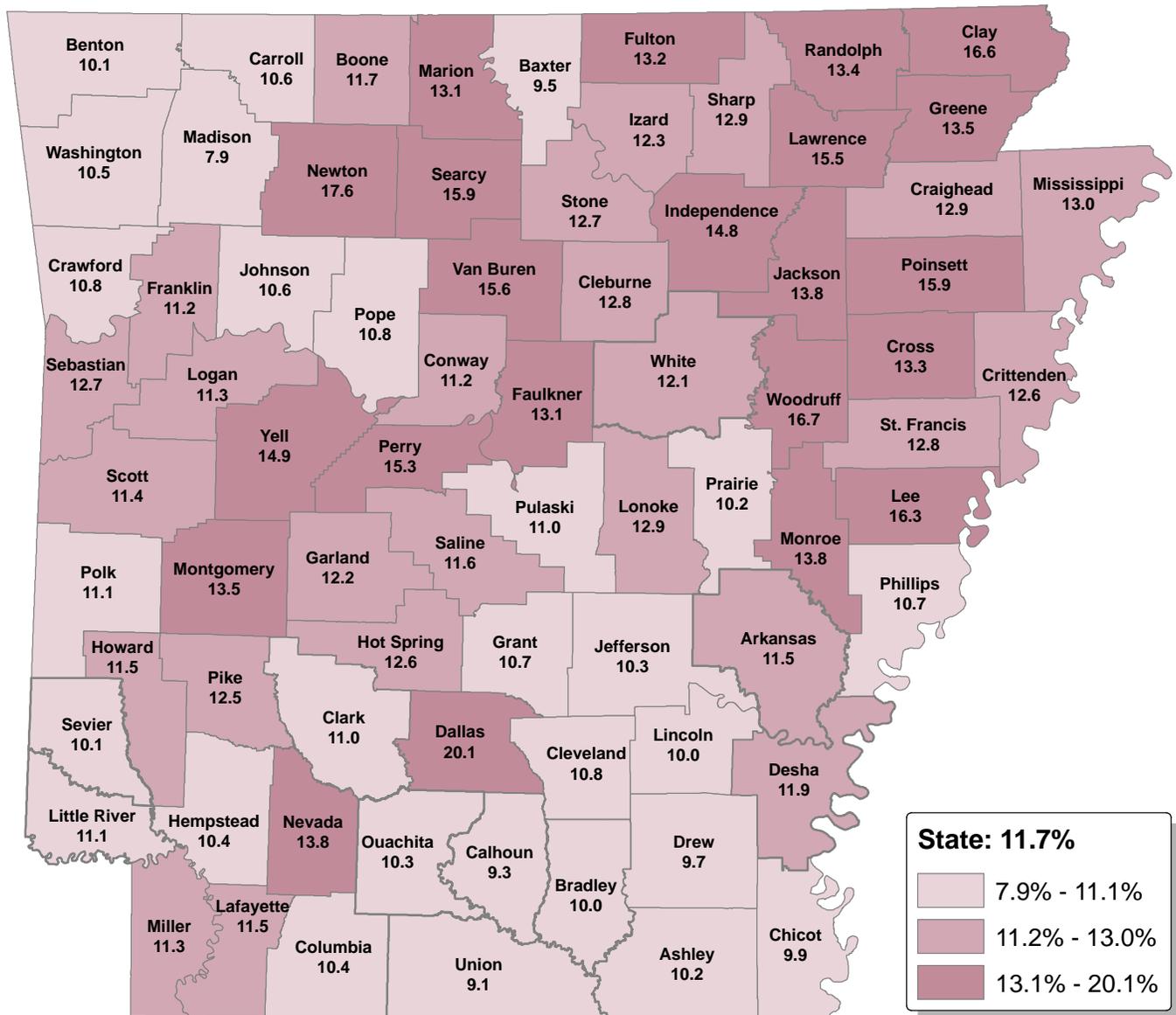
Source: Arkansas Center for Health Improvement, *Assessment of Childhood and Adolescent Obesity in Arkansas, Year One* and *Assessment of Childhood and Adolescent Obesity in Arkansas, Year Six*.



Ready Schools



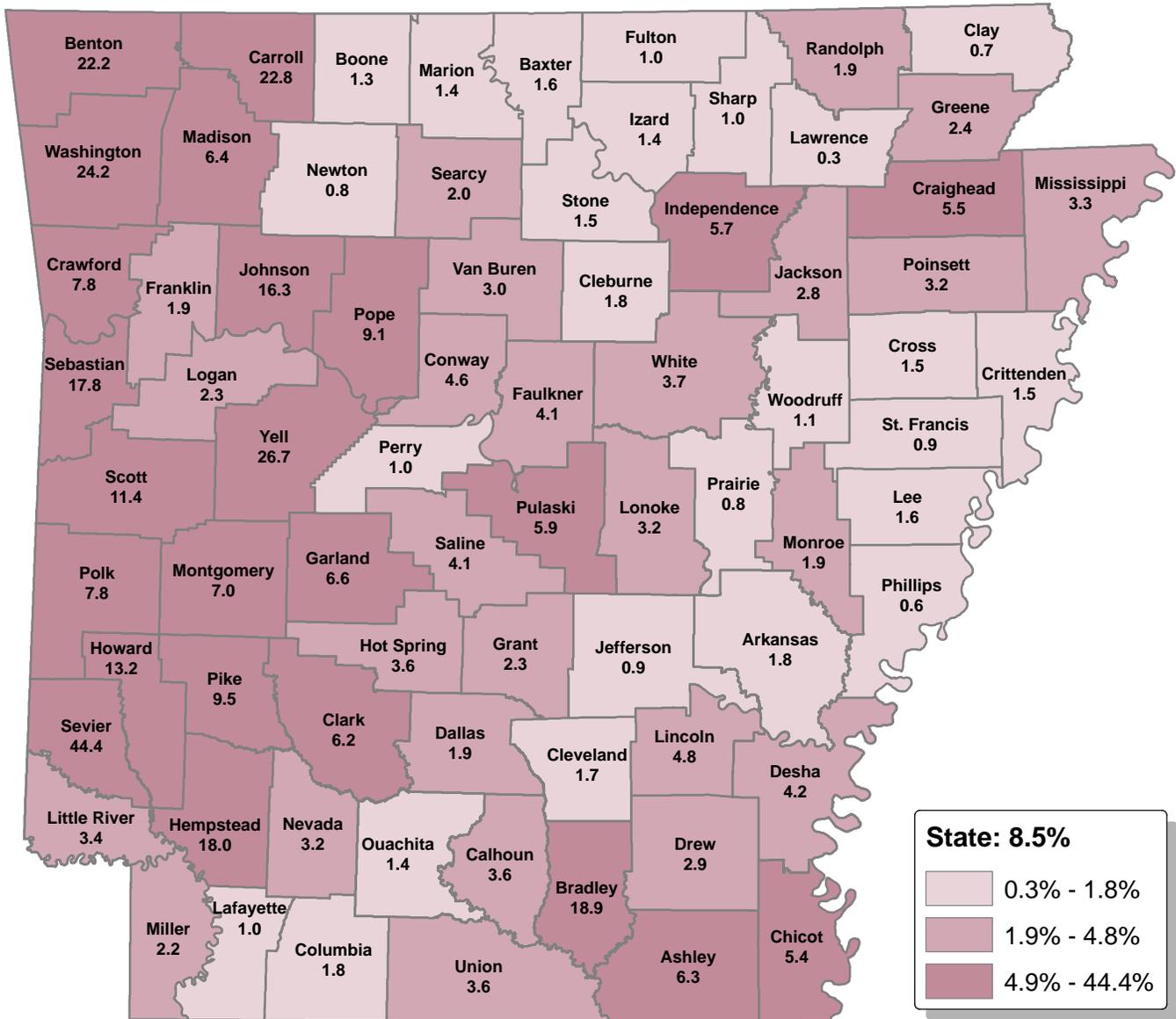
Percent of Children Receiving Special Education K-12 Provided in School Districts, by County: 2008-09



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



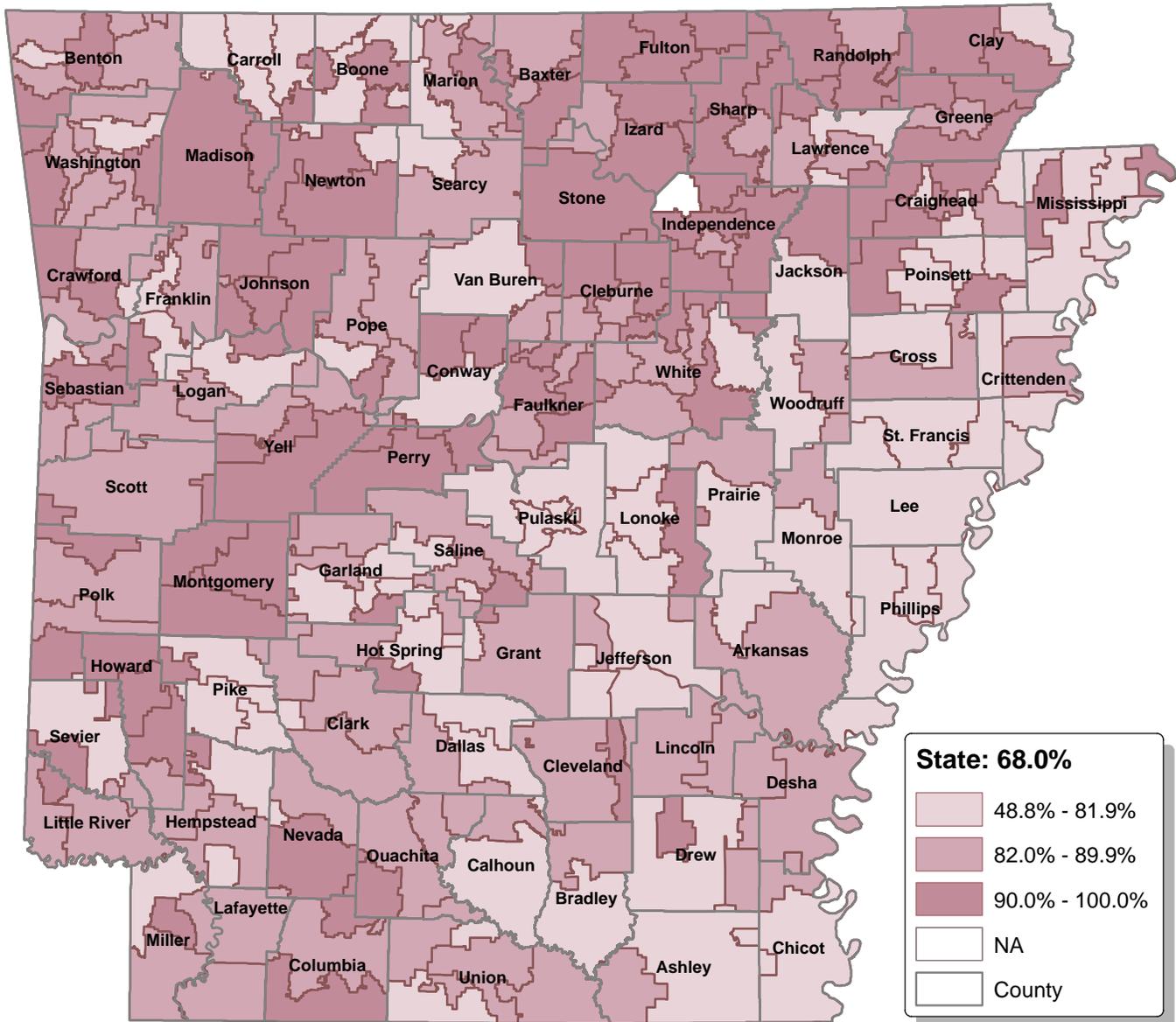
Percent of Hispanic Enrollment in School Districts, by County: 2008-09



Source: Arkansas Department of Education, ADE Data Center website, downloaded October 25, 2010 for year 2008-09.



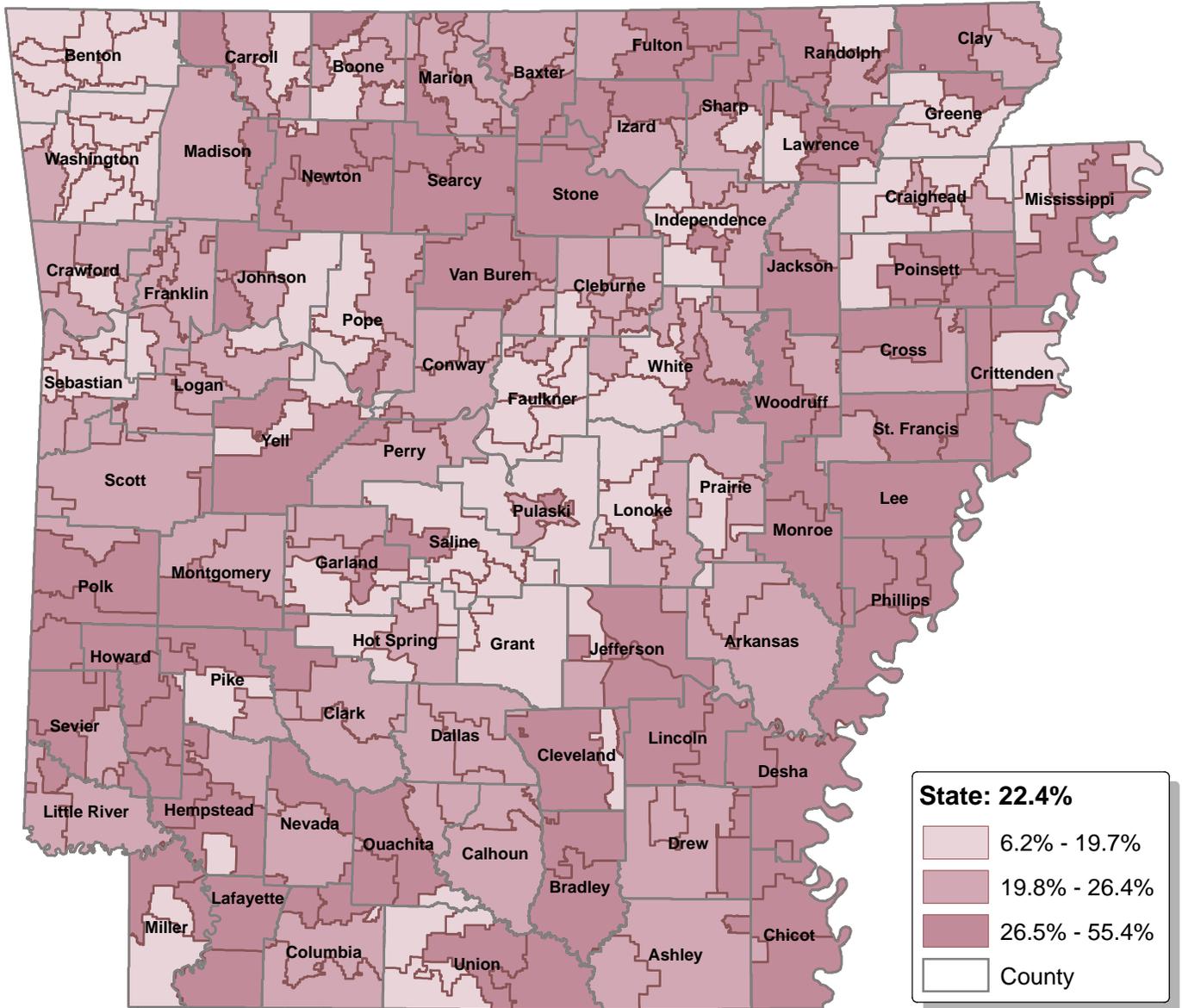
Graduation Rates, by School Districts: 2008-09



Source: Arkansas Department of Education, Office of Data Administration.
 Note: State rate calculated using National Governor's Association (NGA) formula since 2006



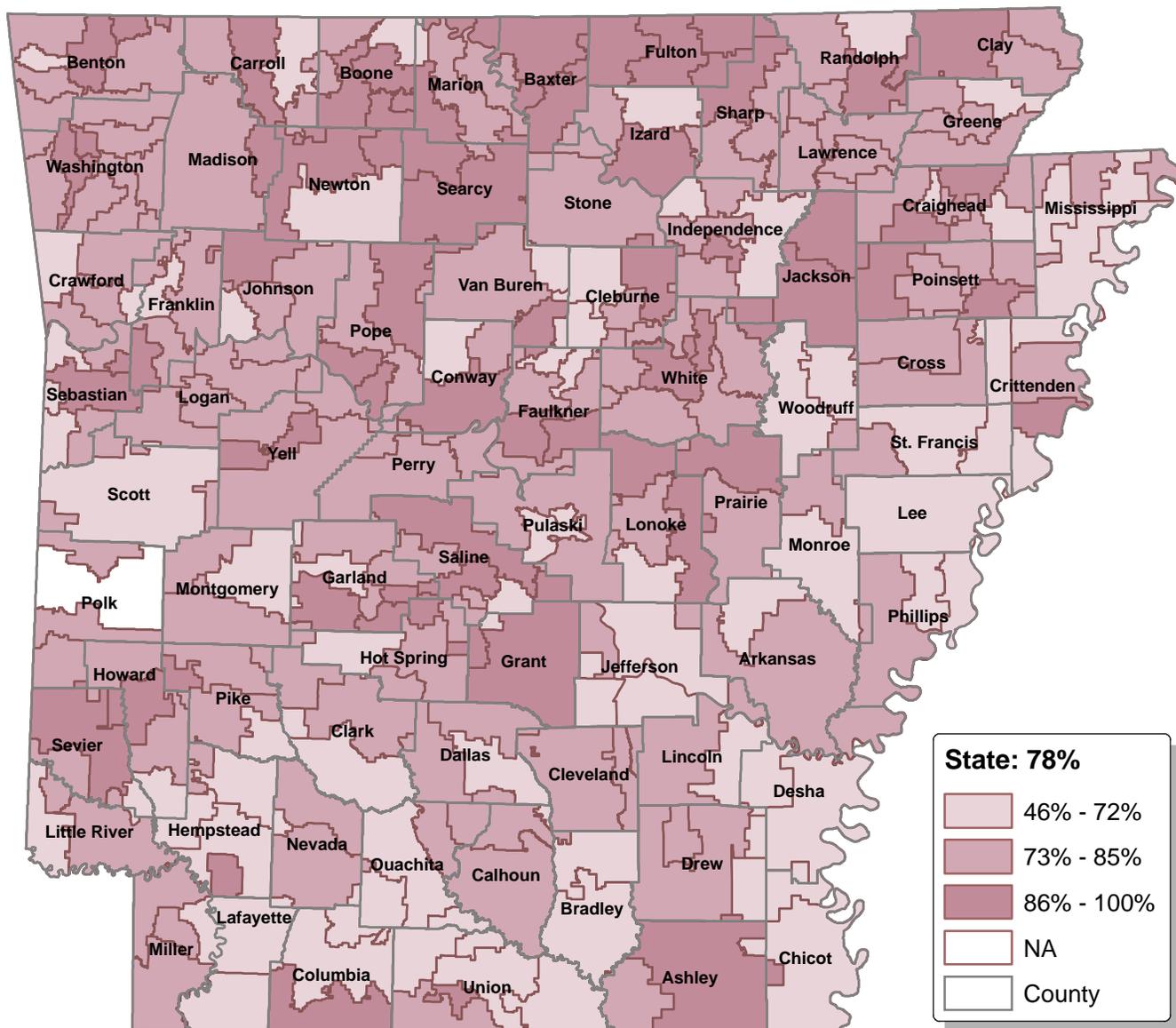
Percent of Children in Poverty, 5-17 Years of Age, by School Districts: 2008



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census,
Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, released January 2009.



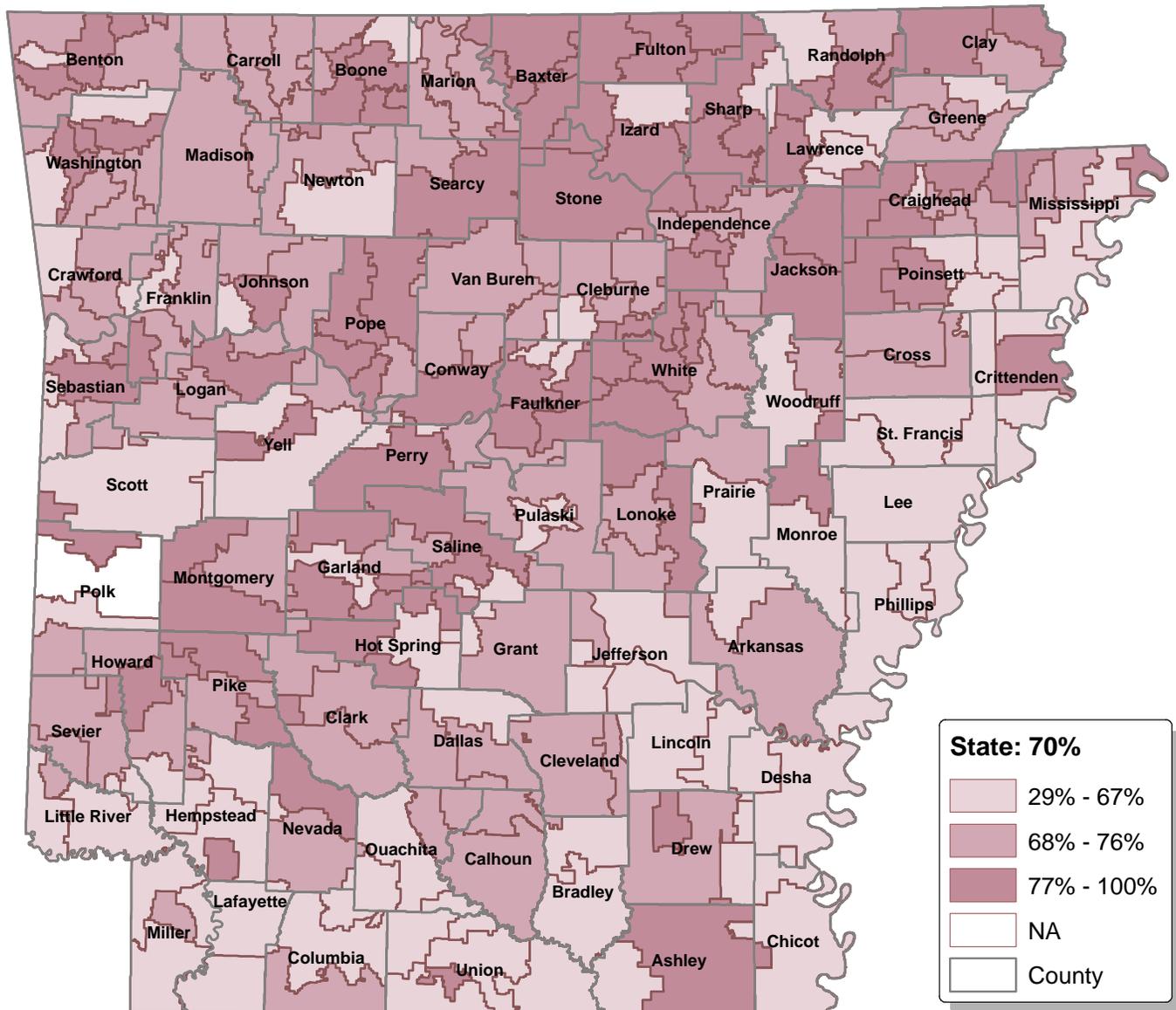
Grade 4 Math Proficiency, by School Districts: 2009



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



Grade 4 Literacy Proficiency, by School Districts: 2009



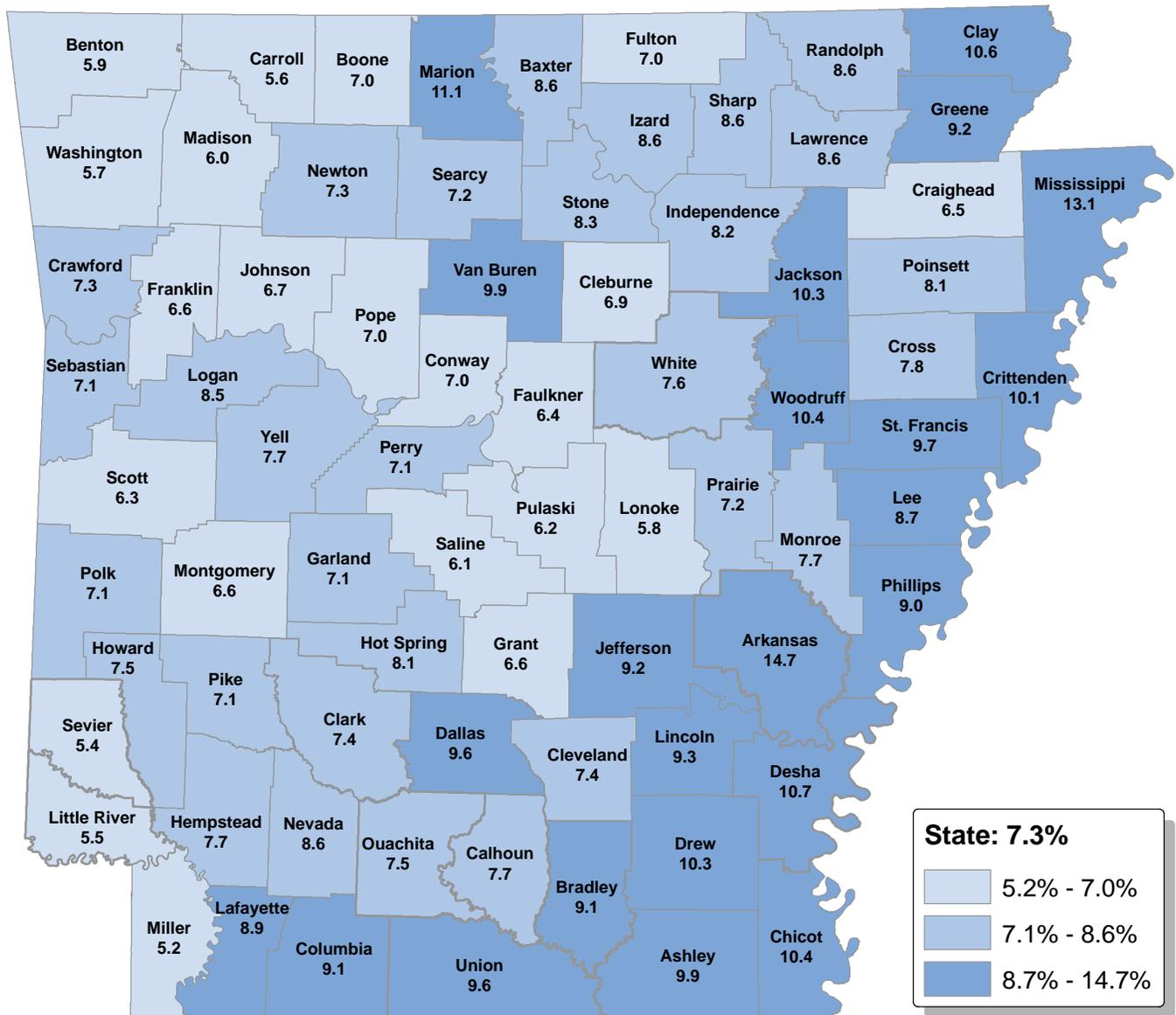
Source: Arkansas Department of Education, Office of Data Administration.



Ready Communities



Unemployment Rate, by County: 2009



Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Labor Market Information, September 22, 2010.



Definitions

Page		Page	
2	Births to Teens: The number of births in which the woman was less than 18 years of age. Calendar year.	9	Capacity of Licensed Child Care Providers, Percent Meeting Quality Approval Standards: The percent of licensed capacity by type of facility that meets the state early childhood accreditation/quality approval standards. State fiscal year.
3	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. Calendar year.	11	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. Calendar year.
4-5	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. June of current year.	12	Victims of 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. State fiscal year.
6	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. The programs are: Early Special Education: Preschool child count, age 3 - 5, under part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. December of current year. Early Intervention: Child count, birth to 2 years, under part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. December of current year. 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. State fiscal year. 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. State fiscal year. 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. State fiscal year. Early Head Start: Head Start programs for age 0-3. State fiscal year.	13	Overweight or Obese Students: Based on Body Mass Index (BMI), the number or percent of students in public schools who are overweight or obese. School year.
7	Children, Age 0-3, Per Center Based Infant/Toddler Slot in Licensed Care Facilities Meeting Quality Approval Standards: The total number of children, age 0-3, 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. State fiscal year.	14	Change in Percentage of Overweight or Obese Students, by County: The change in the percentage of students who are overweight or obese from school year 2003-04 to 2008-09. School year.
8	Children, Age 3-5, Per Center Based Preschool Slot in Licensed Care Facilities Meeting Quality Approval Standards: The total number of children, age 3-5, divided by the total capacity of centers licensed for preschool meeting the state early childhood accreditation/quality approval standards. These standards ensure quality programs for young children. State fiscal year.	16	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. December of current year.
		17	Hispanic Enrollment by School Districts: The number of Hispanic students divided by the total enrollment. October of current year.
		18	Graduation Rates: Graduation (completion) rates are the percent of students enrolled during grade 9 and completing grade 12. School year.
		19	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. Calendar year.
		20	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 of current year.
		21	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 of current year.
		23	Unemployment Rate: The unemployment rate is the number of unemployed divided by the civilian labor force. Calendar year.
		24	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. Calendar year.





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