



behavior research center's

Rocky Mountain Poll

NEWS RELEASE [RMP 2003-IV-08]

Contact: Earl de Berge
Research Director
Or
Jim Haynes
President

QUARTER OF WORKING AGE FAMILIES ARE JOB HUNTING;
16 PERCENT LACK MEDICAL INSURANCE

Phoenix, Arizona, November 3, 2003. A quarter of working-age families in Arizona report that at least one member of the household is out of work and actively seeking a job. The figure rises to 29 percent in Pima County and rural Arizona, is 30 percent among Hispanics and over 40 percent in other minority groups. Joblessness also rises among those with only high school education.

At the same time, the proportion of working-age households that have no medical insurance registers at 15 percent and rises sharply within lower income families (36%).

As might be expected, job hunting is inversely correlated to family income and educational attainment. Among those in the lowest income and education segments, unemployment is more than twice the rate as in their more affluent and well-educated counterparts.

The findings outlined in this report are based on a survey of 701 adults across Arizona conducted between October 9th and October 16th, 2003, by the Behavior Research Center of Arizona as part of the Center's independent and non-partisan Rocky Mountain Poll series. The public is welcome to visit www.brcpolls.com to read this and other recent polls.

-30-

EDITOR'S NOTE: This Rocky Mountain Poll Arizona (2003-IV-08) is based on 701 telephone interviews with adults, conducted from October 9th through October 16th, 2003 throughout Arizona. In the overall sample, one may say with 95 percent certainty that the results have a statistical precision of plus or minus 3.8 percent of what they would have been had the entire adult population been surveyed. The Rocky Mountain Poll is conducted by the Behavior Research Center of Arizona and is an independent and non-partisan research program.

This statement conforms to the principles of disclosure of the National Council on Public Polls.

ENCLOSED: Statistical data for reference.

STATISTICAL DATA

Behavior Research Center
Rocky Mountain Poll - Arizona
RMP 2003-III-08

For this and other polls, see www.brcpolls.com/results.

A. "Is anyone in your household currently out of work and actively looking for a job?"

B. "At the present time, is your family covered by any medical insurance or do you not have medical insurance at this time?"

	<u>NON-RETIREMENT HOUSEHOLDS</u>	
	A	B
	% Answering Yes	% With No Medical Insurance
STATEWIDE	26%	15%
<u>COUNTY</u>		
Maricopa	24	16
Pima	29	12
Rural	29	14
<u>ETHNICITY</u>		
White	23	14
Hispanic	30	24
Other	42	15
<u>AGE</u>		
Under 35	25	20
35 to 54	26	14
55 +	27	12
<u>FAMILY INCOME</u>		
Under \$25,000	43	36
\$25,000 to \$44,999	27	22
\$45,000 to \$64,999	27	9
\$65,000 +	17	3
<u>EDUCATION</u>		
High school or less	35	26
Some college	30	12
College	17	10

~~~~~