



behavior research center's

Latino Poll

NEWS RELEASE
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FAMILY HISTORY OF CANCER REGISTERS 40 PERCENT AMONG HISPANICS;
DIABETES INCIDENCE APPROACHES 60 PERCENT

Phoenix, Arizona, October 29, 2003. Six of ten Hispanics in Arizona report that there is a history of diabetes in one or both of their parents' families and the incidence rises among those Hispanics with higher income groups and among those with the best command of the English language. Both higher income and English language skills are usually associated with cultural assimilation and longer terms of residence in the United States, so the rise in the incidence in these groups may suggest that lifestyle, dietary and perhaps even environmental conditions of Hispanics in the United States are contributing factors.

A similar pattern is found in the reported family incidence of cancer, which averages 40 percent across the Hispanic community in Arizona, but rises to nearly 50 percent among those with strong English language skills, while falling off to only 31 percent among Spanish-language dominants.

Families with a history of stomach cancer totals 11 percent in this survey and those with a history of cancer affecting children registered at three percent.

Hispanic Magazine reports that approximately two million Latinos in the United States have diabetes and that early detection and awareness of the disease is important to decrease the chances of developing the complications of this stealth disease.

The findings outlined in this report are based on a survey of 400 heads of household across Arizona who self-identify as Hispanic or Latino, conducted between September 23 through September 25, 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.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This Latino Poll (2003-III-16) is based on 400 telephone interviews with heads of household across Arizona who self-identify as Hispanic or Latino, conducted from September 23 through September 25, 2003. In the overall sample, one may say with 95 percent certainty that the results have a statistical precision of plus or minus 4.4 percent of what they would have been had the entire Hispanic adult population been surveyed. The registered voter subsample includes 225 voters and has a margin of error estimated at plus or minus 6.5 percent. The Latino Poll is a part of the ongoing series of Rocky Mountain Polls 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.

BELOW: Statistical data. For this and other polls. See www.brcpolls.com/results

STATISTICAL DATA

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 Rocky Mountain Poll - Arizona
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*“For my next question, I would like you to think about your parents.
 As far as you know, is there any history in your parents’ families of:”*

% ANSWERING YES

	Total	<u>Language Skills</u>		
		Spanish-Dominant	Bilingual	English-Dominant
Diabetes	59%	47%	59%	64%
Cancer of any kind	40	31	34	49
Stomach cancer	11	8	12	12
Childhood cancer	3	1	4	3

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