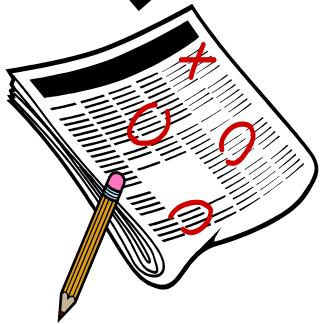
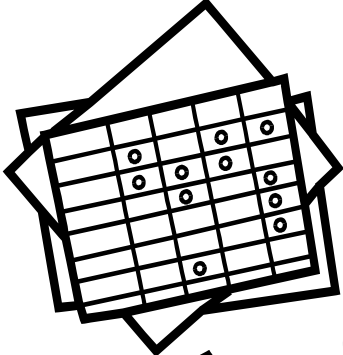
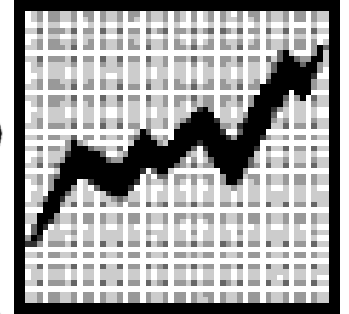
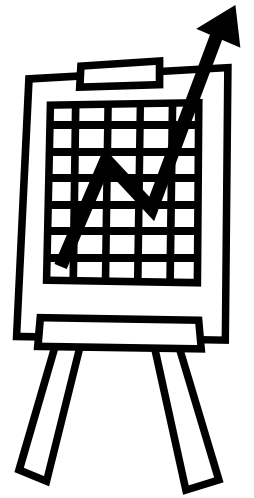
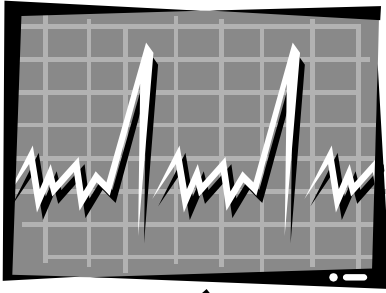


Keene State College
Community Research Center



DEMYSTIFYING
THE
CENSUS



How to Access and Use Census Data
for Local Demographic Analysis

A Workshop Co-Sponsored by

The Community Research Center, Keene State College

And the Monadnock United Way

October 23, 2002

Facilitated by G. Sherman H. Morrison

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction.....	1
Workshop Goal.....	2
What is the Census?.....	3
Accessing Census Data On-Line.....	7
Case Study: Head Start Demographic Research.....	9
Head Start Program Information.....	10
Exercises:	
1. Number of Head Start Eligible Families.....	12
2. Racial Composition of Head Start Eligible Families.....	13
3. Ethnic Composition of Head Start Eligible Families.....	14
4. Number of Head Start Eligible Children.....	15
5. Racial Composition of Head Start Eligible Children.....	16
6. Ethnic Composition of Head Start Eligible Children.....	17

APPENDIX: List of Tables for Census Data

INTRODUCTION



YOUR FACILITATOR:

G. Sherman H. Morrison

Manager

Community Research Center

(603) 358-2810

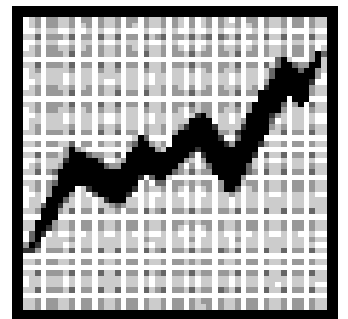
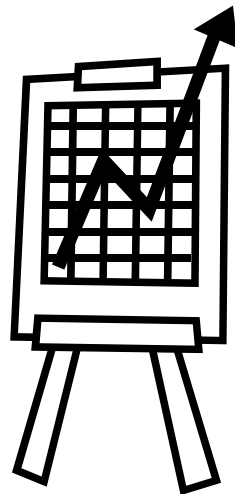
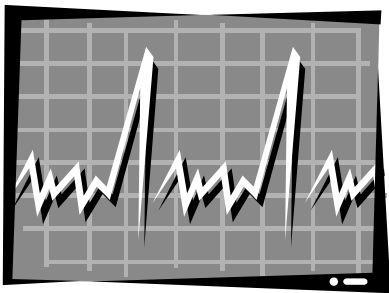
commresctr@keene.edu

Sherman has been the Manager of the Community Research Center since February, 2001. He brings more than 10 years of non-profit organization management experience to the CRC.

The Community Research Center's mission is to develop research skills and promote professional development among Keene State College students while helping to meet the research needs of non-profit and public agencies in the Monadnock Region. It primarily assists agencies with needs and program assessment, grant writing, and conducting local surveys, but is available to help in other research areas. The CRC seeks to strengthen community and campus relations through the services it provides for local agencies.

WORKSHOP GOALS

- Introduce you to the 2000 Census
- Teach you to access Census data on-line
- Provide you with hands-on experience in collecting and analyzing Census data



WHAT IS THE CENSUS?

- A census is an official count of the entire population and housing units
- It is comprised of a *SHORT FORM* and a *LONG FORM*.
- The *SHORT FORM* counts population and a few very basic demographic characteristics. In the 2000 Census, it was distributed to 83% of all housing units.
- The *LONG FORM* gathers more detailed information on economic, social, and housing characteristics. In the 2000 Census, it was sent to 17% of all housing units.
- How accurate is it? The Census bureau estimates that in the 2000 Census, it missed less than 1% of the population, compared to 1.6% in 1990.

WHAT IS THE CENSUS?

CONTINUED

- In 2010, the Long Form will be replaced by the American Community Survey (ACS)
- The ACS is a continuous demographics survey (as opposed to once every 10 years)
- It will produce annual and multi-year estimates of population and housing demographics.
- It will produce its information at all geographic levels.
- Provide data researchers with timely demographic, housing, social, and economic data.
- Sample size will be 1 in 6, comparable to the *LONG FORM*.
- It will be a mail-in self-response survey.
- A 1-in-3 sample will be personally interviewed.
- Data is based on an estimate between the lower and upper bounds with a 90% confidence interval, meaning it is 90% certain the true value lies between the two bounds. The *Direct Estimate* is the average of the bounds.

WHAT IS THE CENSUS?

CONTINUED

DATA SETS: (SF3 is the broadest, most useful)

➤ SF1: Summary File 1 presents counts and information [age, sex, race, Hispanic/Latino origin, household relationship, whether residence is owned or rented] collected from all people and housing units.

➤ SF2: Population and housing characteristics iterated for many detailed race and Hispanic or Latino categories, and American Indian and Alaska Native tribes.

➤ **SF3: Summary File 3 presents detailed population and housing data (such as place of birth, education, employment status, income, value of housing unit, year structure built) collected from a 1-in-6 sample and weighted to represent the total population. USE THIS!**

ACCESSING CENSUS DATA

1. Open your web browser, go to www.census.gov
2. Click on the *American FactFinder* link.
3. Under Data Sets, United States Census 2000, click on the *2000 Summary File 3* link.
4. On the right side, click on the *Detailed Tables* link.
5. Beside the *Select a geographic type*, use the pull-down menu to begin selecting your geography (keep selection method on *list*). Additional drop-down menus will appear as you narrow down your geography. When you have reached the smallest geography you want, don't forget to *Add* it!
6. Click *Next* to move on to data table selection.

ACCESSING CENSUS DATA

CONTINUED

7. Now you can select what data tables you want to see. You can choose as many as you want. To make non-contiguous selections, hold down the Ctrl key on your keyboard as you make your selections.
8. Click on *Show Table*.
9. The data will appear in html format.
10. If you wish to change some of your selection criteria, click on *Change Selections*.
11. You can print or download your data.
Downloads can be in comma-delimited or text format. You can also cut-and-paste into word processing documents, which you'll do later!

CASE STUDY

Head Start Demographic Research

Client: Southwestern Community Services

Project: Community Needs Assessment for the Head Start Program

Objective: The client wants to know....

➤ The demographic make-up of Head Start eligible children and families, including their estimated number, geographic location, and racial and ethnic composition.

CASE STUDY

Head Start Demographic Research

The first step I did was a little research on Head Start eligibility. Here's what I found:

In order for a family to enroll their child in a local Head Start program they must meet the income eligibility requirements of the program. Specifically, a family's income must be below the poverty line

The Head Start Act establishes income eligibility for participation in Head Start programs based on the poverty guidelines updated annually in the Federal Register by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under the authority of 42 U.S.C. 9902(2). The 1999 Family Income Guidelines below were published in the *Federal Register*, March 18, 1999, (Volume 64, Number 52)][Pages 13428-13430]. The guidelines can be found on the next page.

In Addition:

Children from families receiving public assistance (TANF or SSI) are eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start services regardless of income. Children in foster care are Head Start eligible, regardless of family income.

For purposes of this presentation, we will just focus on data for the poverty guideline pool of head start eligible children and families.

CASE STUDY

1999 Poverty Guidelines			
Size of family unit	Contiguous (48) states and District of Columbia	Alaska	Hawaii
1	\$8,240	10,320	9,490
2	11,060	13,840	12,730
3	13,880	17,360	15,970
4	16,700	20,880	19,210
5	19,520	24,400	22,450
6	22,340	27,920	25,690
7	25,160	31,440	28,930
8	27,980	34,960	32,170

CASE STUDY

Head Start Demographic Research

Continued

Estimated number of Head Start Eligible families.

P90. POVERTY STATUS IN 1999 OF FAMILIES BY FAMILY TYPE BY PRESENCE OF RELATED CHILDREN UNDER 18 YEARS BY AGE OF RELATED CHILDREN

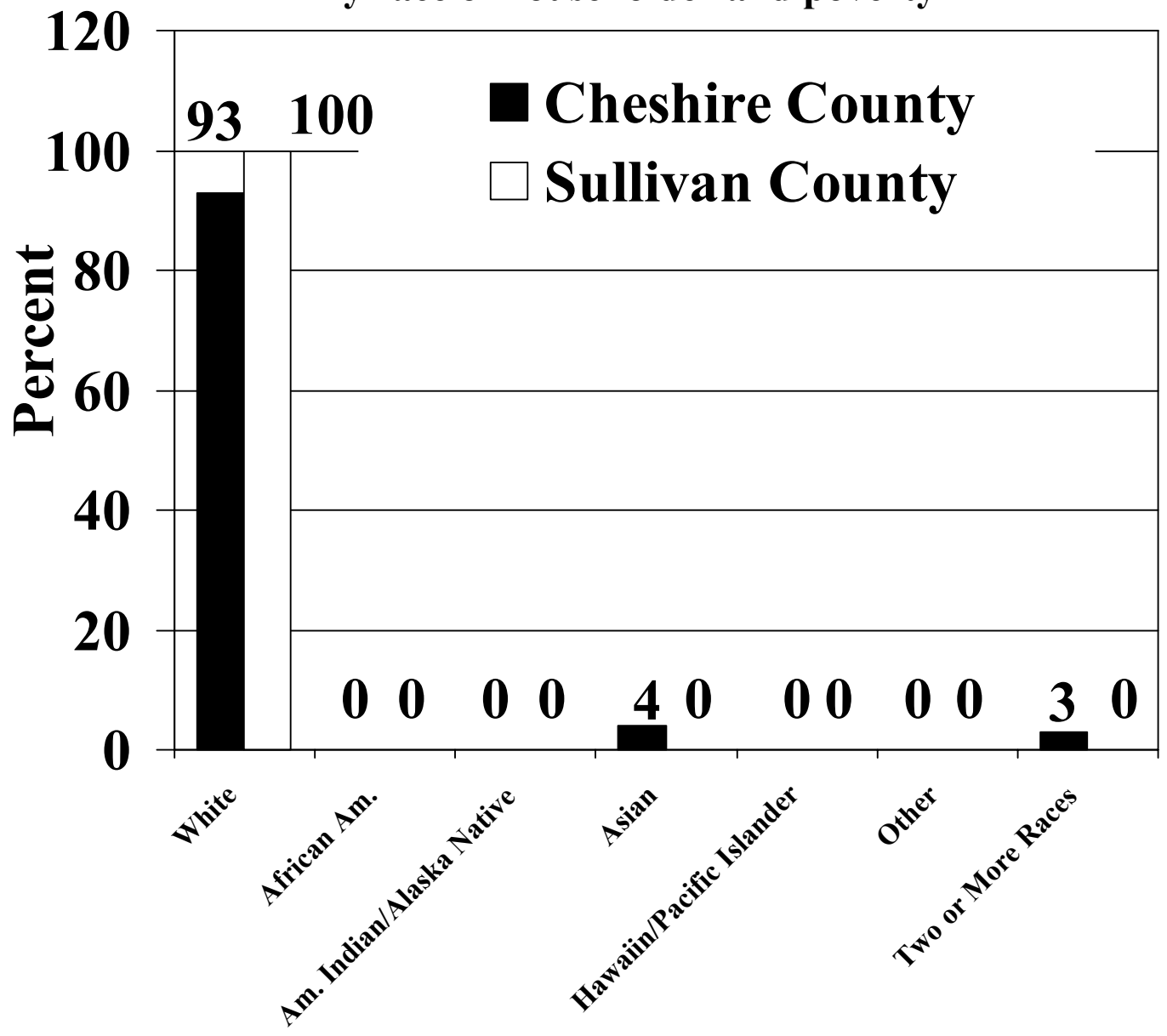
Families with children under 5 by type in Poverty	Cheshire County	Sullivan County
Married-couple family:	142 (42%)	68 (28%)
Male householder, no wife present:	21 (6%)	7 (3%)
Female householder, no husband present:	174 (52%)	170 (69%)
<i>Total Head Start Eligible Families (based on poverty)</i>	337	245

CASE STUDY

Head Start Demographic Research

Continued

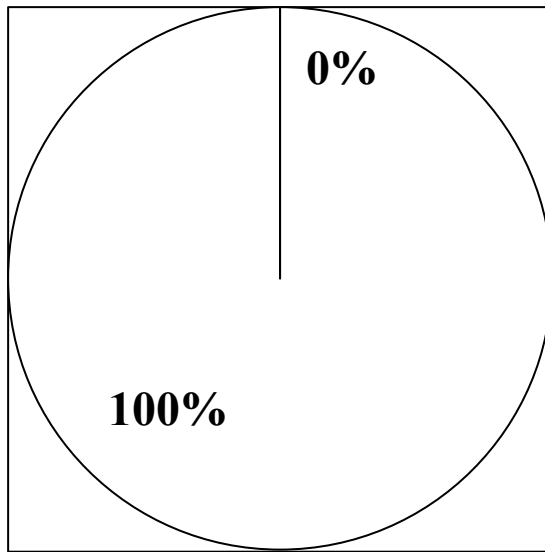
**Racial Composition of Head Start Eligible families
By race of householder and poverty**



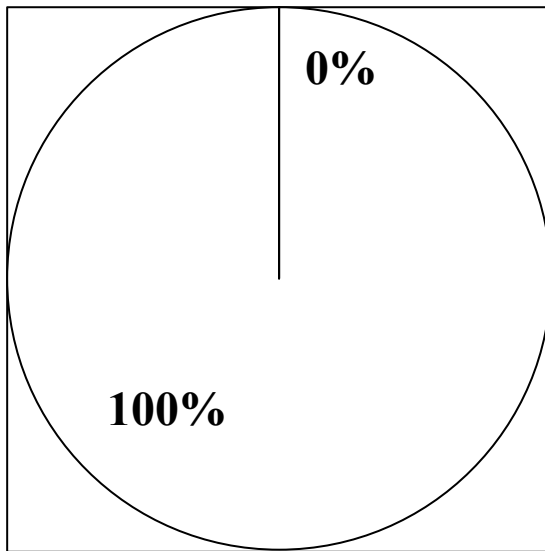
CASE STUDY

Head Start Demographic Research

Continued



Ethnic composition of Head Start Eligible Families Cheshire County.



Ethnic composition of Head Start Eligible Families Sullivan County.



NOTE: Hispanic is not a race, but rather an ethnicity.

Hispanics can be of any race!

CASE STUDY

Head Start Demographic Research

Continued

Estimated number of Head Start Eligible children.

P87. POVERTY STATUS IN 1999 BY AGE [17] - Universe:
Population for whom poverty status is determined

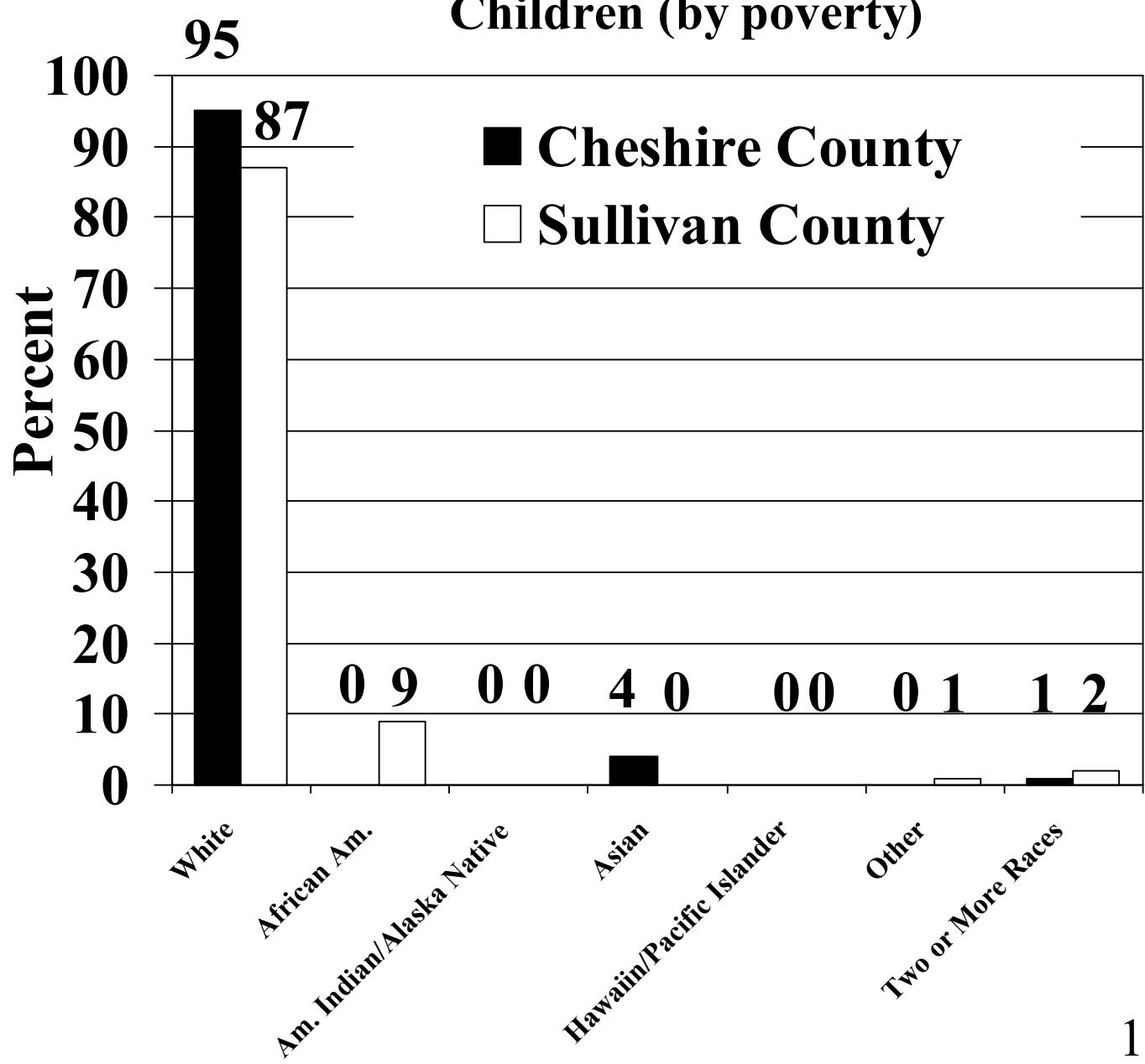
Head Start Eligible Children (by poverty)	Cheshire County	Sullivan County
Total population in county:	69,792	39,816
Income in 1999 below poverty level:	5,550	3,367
<i>Under 5 years</i>	461	287

CASE STUDY

Head Start Demographic Research

Continued

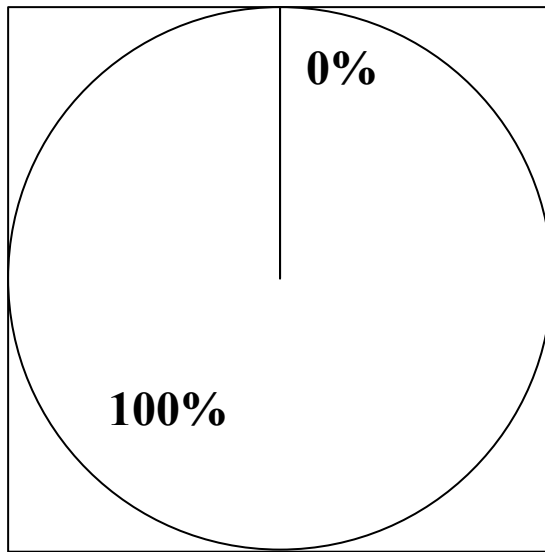
Racial Composition of Head Start Eligible Children (by poverty)



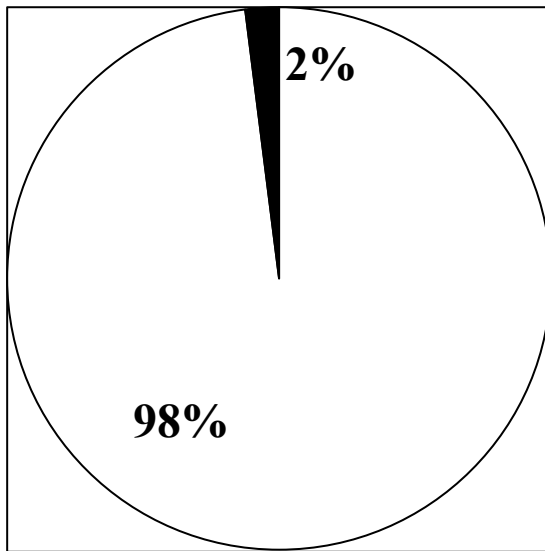
CASE STUDY

Head Start Demographic Research

Continued



Ethnic composition of Head Start Eligible children Cheshire County.



Ethnic composition of Head Start Eligible children Sullivan County.



NOTE: Hispanic is not a race, but rather an ethnicity.

Hispanics can be of any race!