

## PREFACE

The information in this report is based on data collected in the 1996 Utah Health Status Survey. The survey represents the third of its type, with previous surveys conducted in 1986 and 1991. It provides information on a variety of topics related to health status and health care delivery systems at statewide and health district levels. These topics are presented in separate reports due to be released in 1997 under the headings listed below.

*Health Insurance Coverage*

*Health Care Access and Utilization*

*Health Status in Utah*

*Socio-Economic Determinants of Health Status*

*Behavioral Risk Factors: Alcohol, Tobacco,  
and Exercise*

*Chronic Medical Conditions*

*Preventive Health Screening*

*Injuries in Utah*

*Interpersonal Violence*

*Hearing, Vision, and Speech Disorders*

The survey was funded by a one-time legislative appropriation and was designed, analyzed, and reported by the Utah Department of Health, Bureau of Surveillance and Analysis. The survey sample was designed to be representative of Utahns, and is perhaps best described as a weighted probability sample consisting of approximately 6,300 households disproportionately stratified by twelve local health districts that cover the entire state.

The Gallup Organization conducted the telephone interviews using computer-assisted random digit dialing techniques. In each household, one adult (age 18 or older) was randomly selected to respond to survey questions about themselves, about the household as a unit, or with regard to each household member. In addition to “core” survey questions that were asked of every household, sets of supplemental questions were administered to different subsets of the overall sample. The survey results were weighted to reflect the age, sex, geographic distribution, and Hispanic status of the population. Selected analyses were adjusted for non-telephone households. The interview process took place over a three month period from June to August, 1996. The cooperation rate was 66.3%. A detailed description of the methodology can be found in the *Technical Notes* section of this report.

The information in this report can be used to facilitate policy and planning decisions. While it is intended for public health program managers, administrators, and other health care professionals in the public and private health care sectors, the report may also be of interest to anyone wishing to inform themselves on the current health situation in Utah.