

Title:

Households Dumping Their Home Phones

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Summary:

According to the National Health Interview Survey, conducted by the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention, the number of households that have only cell phones has increased significantly since 2003.

Keywords:

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Article Body:

According to the National Health Interview Survey, conducted by the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention, the number of households that have only cell phones has increased significantly since 2003.

The federal figures, released Wednesday, showed that reliance on cells is continuing to rise as landline use declines.

The number of wireless-only households grew by 2 percent since the first half of last year. Unsurprisingly, the number of households with only landlines fell by 2 percent.

During the second half of last year, 16% of households only had mobiles, while 13% had mobiles and landlines. The number of households with only landlines fell by 2 percent.

We've written about the decline in landline use before, and these numbers are not surprising and are consistent with what we've seen in other surveys.

The survey had other interesting data including:

- Low-income people are likelier than the more affluent to have only cell phones.
- Those with only cells tend to be living with unrelated roommates, renters rather than homeowners.
- About a third of those under age 30 only have cell phones.
- Households with both cell and landline phones who rarely or never get calls on their landlines.
- About 2% of households reported having no telephones.

The National Health Interview Survey, conducted by the CDC, involved in-person interviews with a representative sample of households.

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