



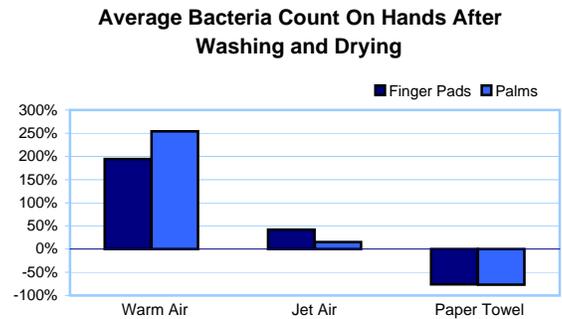
## Why choose paper towels over air dryers?

Paper towels are more hygienic and more effective at hand drying than hot air dryers. A comparative study by the University of Westminster, London, looked at three hand drying methods: paper towels, warm air dryers, and jet air dryers. The study looked at drying times, effectiveness, and potential for cross contamination.

Paper towels and the jet air dryers achieved 90% dryness in approximately ten seconds. The warm air dryer was less efficient, taking 47 seconds, over four times as long, to achieve the same 90% dryness.

*Paper towels were shown to **DECREASE** bacterial counts on hands after drying by over 75%.*

*Both methods of air drying were shown to **INCREASE** the bacterial counts on hands. Warm air dryers increased the counts up to 254% and jet air dryers increased the counts by up to 42%.*



The study also looked at the potential to contaminate other people and surfaces in the washrooms. The paper towels showed no significant spread of micro-organisms. Warm air dryers spread contamination nearly nine inches away. The jet air dryers, with advertised air speeds of 400 mph, was shown to spread contamination to surfaces over six feet away!

### More importantly, people prefer paper towels.

A recent Harris Interactive Research Poll, commissioned by SCA Tissue, showed consumers overwhelmingly responded that paper towels are their drying method of choice. If they had a choice, 55% responded they prefer paper towels to dry their hands, with 25% preferring jet air dryers and only 16% prefer hot air dryers. 59% of respondents also believe that paper towels are the fastest way to dry their hands.



For more information on the hygienic benefits of Tork Systems as well as links to the Harris Interactive Poll and University of Westminster study, please visit:

[www.torkusa.com](http://www.torkusa.com)