


**Rural Health Disparities: A Baseline for Healthcare Reform**



Michael Meit, MA, MPH  
Alana Knudson, PhD

**The Walsh Center**  
for Rural Health Analysis  
NORC AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Rural Health Reform Policy  
**RESEARCH CENTER**

**Examination of Trends in Rural and Urban Health:  
Establishing a Baseline for Health Reform**

- CDC published *Health United States, 2001 With Urban and Rural Health Chartbook*
  - No urban/rural data update since 2001
- Purpose of this study:
  - Update of rural health status ten years later to understand trends
  - Provide baseline of rural/urban differences in health status and access to care prior to ACA implementation

2

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Rural Health Reform Policy  
**RESEARCH CENTER**

**Methods**

- Replicated analyses conducted in 2001 using most recent data available (2006-2011)
- Used same data source, when possible:
  - National Vital Statistics System
  - Area Resource File (HRSA)
  - U.S. Census Bureau
  - National Health Interview Survey (NCHS)
  - National Hospital Discharge Survey (NCHS)
  - National Survey on Drug Use and Health (SAMHSA)
  - Treatment Episode Data Set (SAMHSA)
- Applied same geographic definitions, although classifications may have changed since 2001:
  - **Metropolitan Counties:** large central, large fringe, small
  - **Nonmetropolitan Counties:** with a city  $\geq$  10,000 population, without a city  $\geq$  10,000 population

3

---

---

---

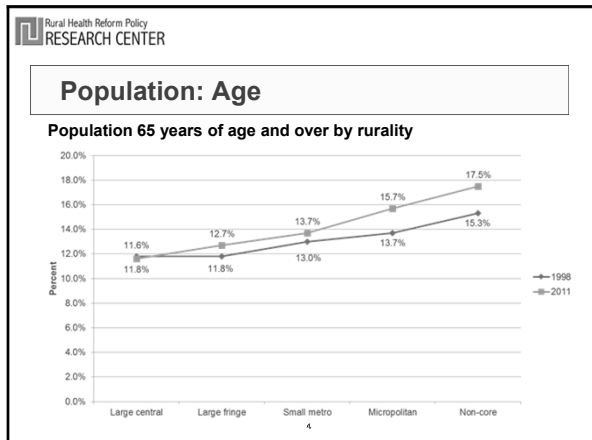
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

---

---

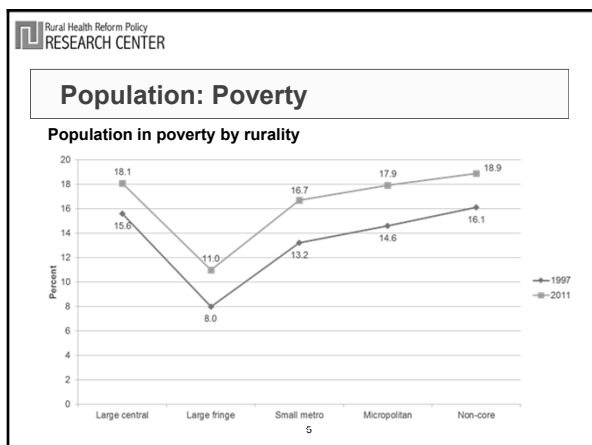
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

---

---

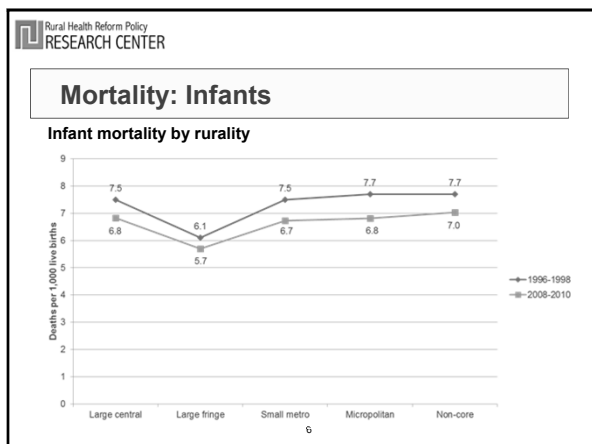
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

---

---

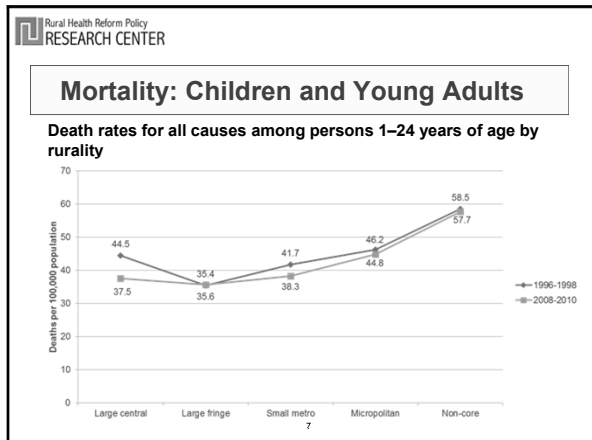
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

---

---

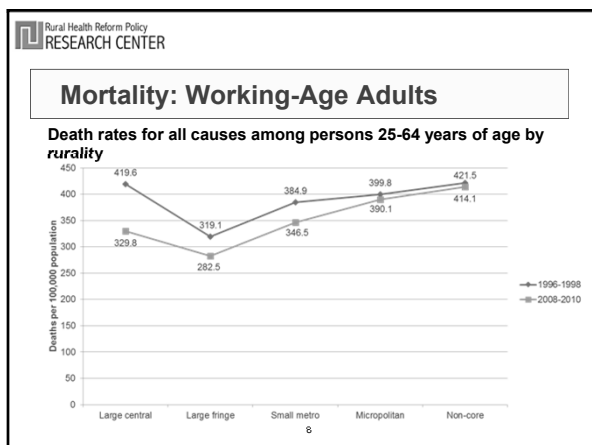
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

---

---

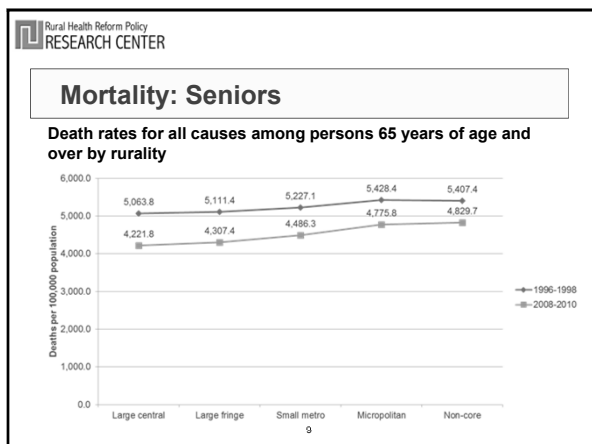
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

---

---

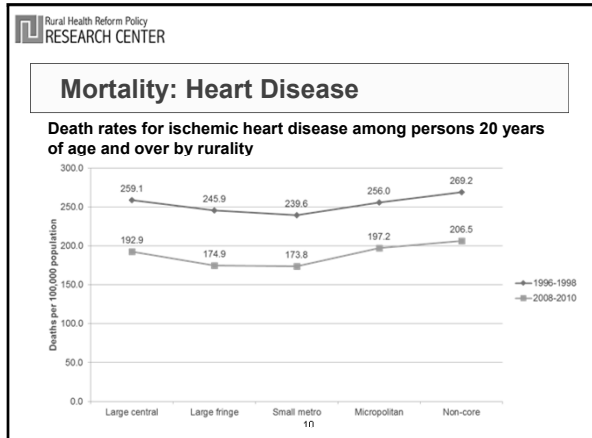
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

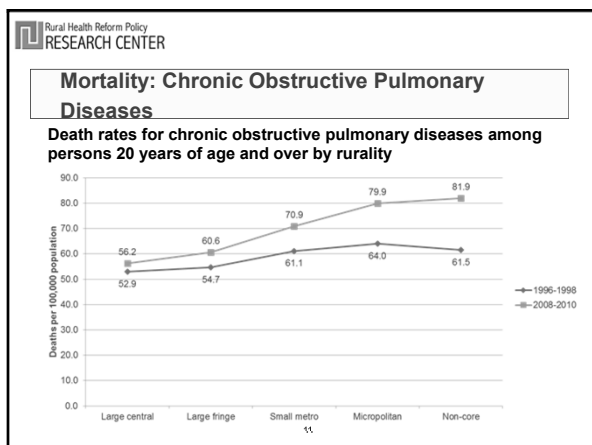
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

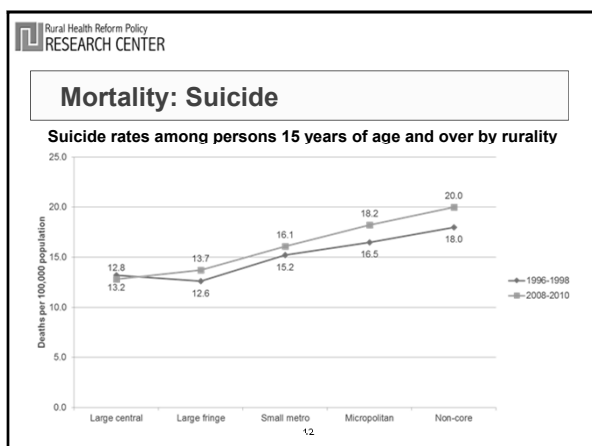
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

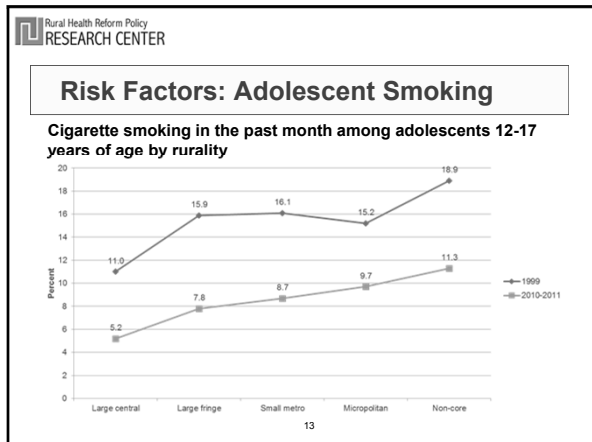
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

---

---

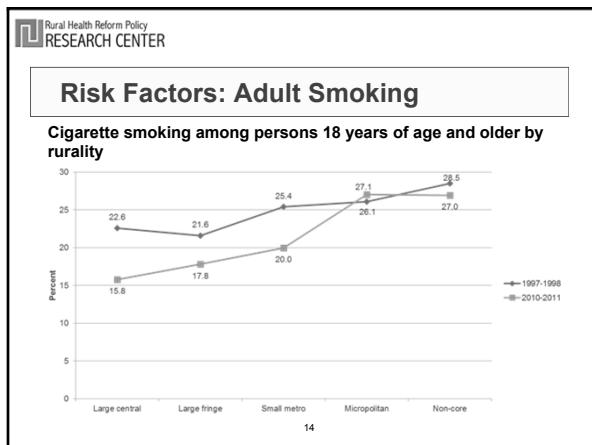
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

---

---

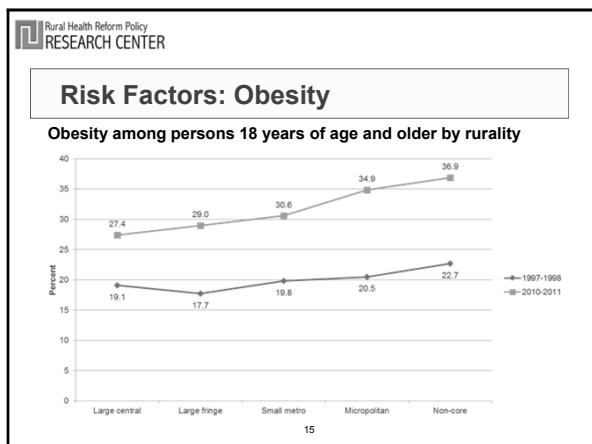
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

---

---

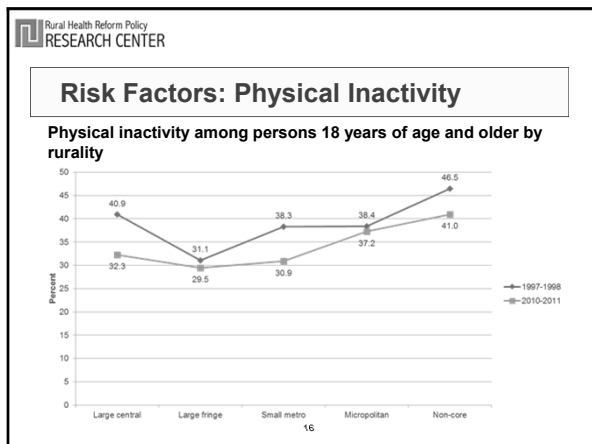
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Evidence-Based Models  
Toolkit Series

NORC  
at the UNIVERSITY of CHICAGO

- Conducted on behalf of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (ORHP)
- A compilation of evidence-based practices and resources that can strengthen rural health programs
- New toolkits each year on different topics that target ORHP grantees, future applicants, and rural communities
- Applicable to organizations with different levels of knowledge and at different stages of implementation
- Hosted by the Rural Assistance Center on the Community Health Gateway

17

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Rural Community Health Gateway

**Build What Works**  
The Rural Community Health Gateway can help you build effective community health programs and improve services you offer. Resources and examples in this Gateway are chosen for effectiveness and adaptability and drawn from programs with a strong history of service and community success. By starting from approaches that are known to be effective, you can make the best use of limited funding and resources.

**Evidence-Based Toolkits**

- **Care Coordination Toolkit**  
Resources and best practices to help you identify and implement a care coordination program.
- **Community Health Workers Toolkit**  
Resources to help you develop a community health worker (CHW) program to reach underserved populations, using evidence-based approaches from other rural communities.
- **Mental Health and Substance Abuse Toolkit**  
Resources to develop and implement programs to improve community mental health using proven approaches and strategies.
- **Obesity Prevention Toolkit**  
Resources to help you develop an obesity prevention program, building on best practices of successful obesity prevention programs.
- **Oral Health Toolkit**  
Resources and best practices to help you develop and implement a program to address oral health disparities in your community.

Future Toolkits: Health Promotion and Education

**Evidence-Based Program Examples**  
The Rural Health Models and Innovations Hub provides access to program models that have been shown to be effective:

- Browse for programs by level of evidence
- Learn about the criteria and evidence base for included programs

You may also be interested in other collections of program examples from reputable sources, each of which use their own criteria for what types of programs are included.

**About the Rural Community Health Gateway**  
The Rural Community Health Gateway showcases program approaches that you can adapt to fit your community and the people you serve, allowing you to:

- Research approaches to featured community health programs
- Discover what works and why
- Learn about common obstacles
- Connect with program experts
- Evaluate your program to show impact

Gateway resources are made available through the NORC Health Center for Rural Health Analysis and the University of Minnesota Rural Health Research Center in collaboration with the Rural Assistance Center. Funding is provided by the Office of Rural Health Policy (ORHP), Health Resources and Services Administration.

**More Useful Tools**

**Economic Impact Analysis**  
Show how your program's grant funding affects your community's economic well-being and share this information with sponsors, funders and your community.

**Planning for Sustainability**  
Tools to help you plan and position your grant-funded projects so that services can be sustained over the long term.

**Rural Health Models and Innovations Hub**  
Find examples of approaches you can adapt for your program, including models shown to be effective, as well as new and emerging ideas.

18

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---


---

---

---

---

**Our Changing Rural Public Health System**



- While the Affordable Care Act (ACA) expands insurance coverage and coverage of clinical preventive services, it also shifts responsibility for some health department services to the provider setting
- As demand for HHS-funded preventive services programs shifts, categorical funding for these programs is likely to decline
  - States in NORC's ACA Impacts studies have already reported reduced volume in breast and cervical cancer screening programs and in immunization programs.
  - CDC funds for immunization have already been reduced, and other programs may follow.
    - Are resources sufficient to serve a high-need remaining uninsured population?
    - Do LHDs enter the marketplace as a provider? If so, will reimbursement cover the costs?
    - What happens in rural communities with insufficient numbers of providers?

19

---

---

---

---


---

---

---

---

**APHA Rural and Frontier Subcommittee**



- Vision is to host a *Summit on Population Health in Rural America* – targeting February 2016
- Holding meeting at APHA Annual Meeting on 11/16 at 3pm – to establish Rural Caucus
- Will try to reconvene at NRHA Policy Institute in February, 2015, and APHA Annual Meeting in November, 2015.

20

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Thank You!



insight for informed decisions™

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---