

Key Facts in Rural Health

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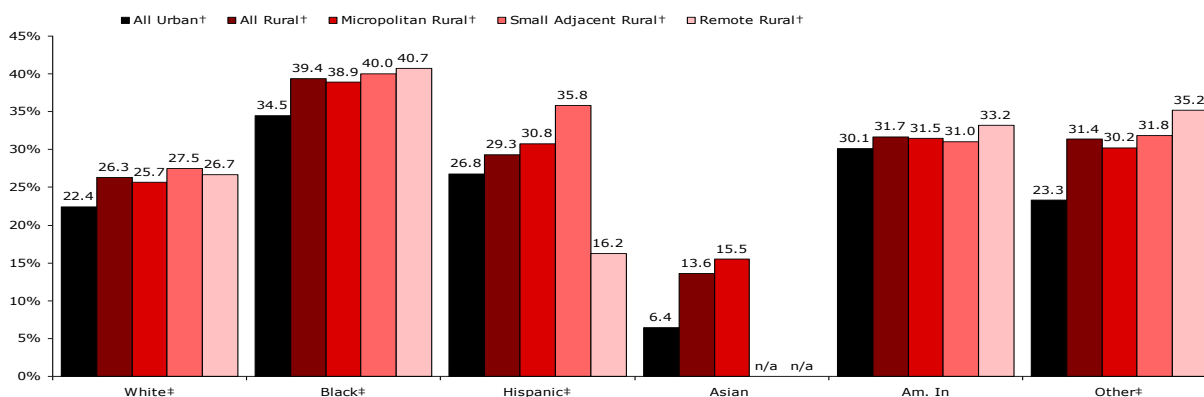
Health Disparities: A Rural – Urban Chartbook

Rural minorities experience disparities in health and health care delivery. *Health Disparities: A Rural – Urban Chartbook* expands on the work of the National Healthcare Disparities Reports, issued annually by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, by examining potential disparities among rural populations in health, health behaviors, preventive services and diabetes care, using information from the 2005 and 2006 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. Key findings include:

Health & Health Behaviors

- Rural residents were more likely to describe their health as “fair to poor” than were urban residents (19.5% versus 15.6%)
- Rural adults were more likely to be obese than urban adults (27.4% versus 23.9%), with particularly high rates of obesity among rural African Americans (see below).

Obesity Among Adults, by Race and Level of Rurality, in Percents



† Significantly different, by race, $p < 0.05$ ‡ Significantly different from urban, $p < 0.05$
“n/a” indicates too few observations to display a stable estimate.

Access to Healthcare Services

- Rural adults were more likely to be uninsured than urban adults (17.8% versus 15.3%), with uninsurance rates among rural Hispanic adults ranging from 40.8% in rural micropolitan counties to 56.1% in small remote rural counties.

Receipt of Preventive Services

- Rural residents were less likely to report an annual dental exam with cleaning than urban residents (82.1% versus 88.8%).
- Rural women were less likely than urban women to be in compliance with mammogram screening guidelines (70.7% versus 77.9%).



A full copy of the report can be obtained from the
SC Rural Health Research Center website.
<http://rhr.sph.sc.edu>

At the Heart of Health Policy