



CARSEY **INSTITUTE**

UNIVERSITY of NEW HAMPSHIRE

Rural Poverty

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<http://www.carseyinstitute.unh.edu>



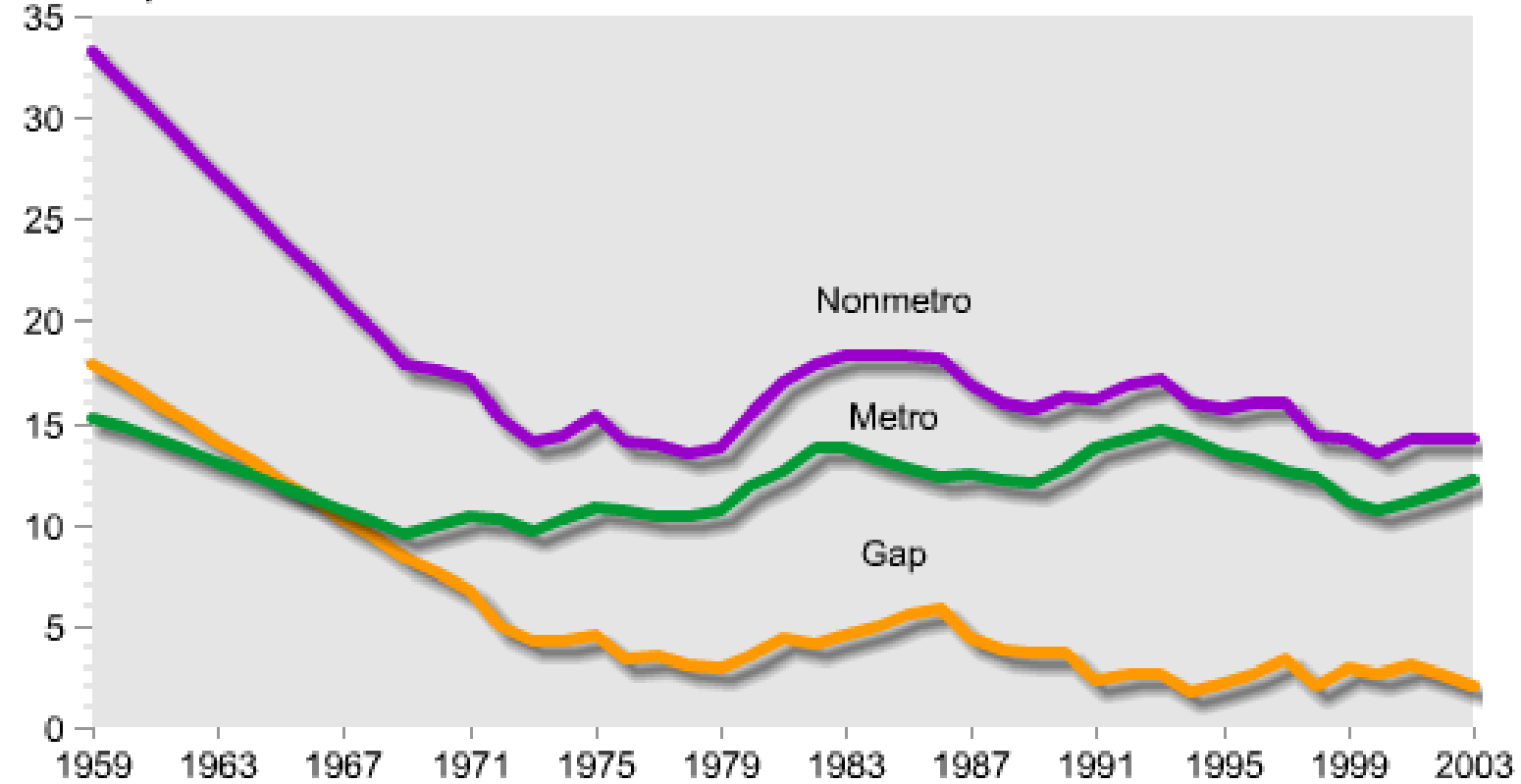
March 10, 2010

Rural Poverty in the United States

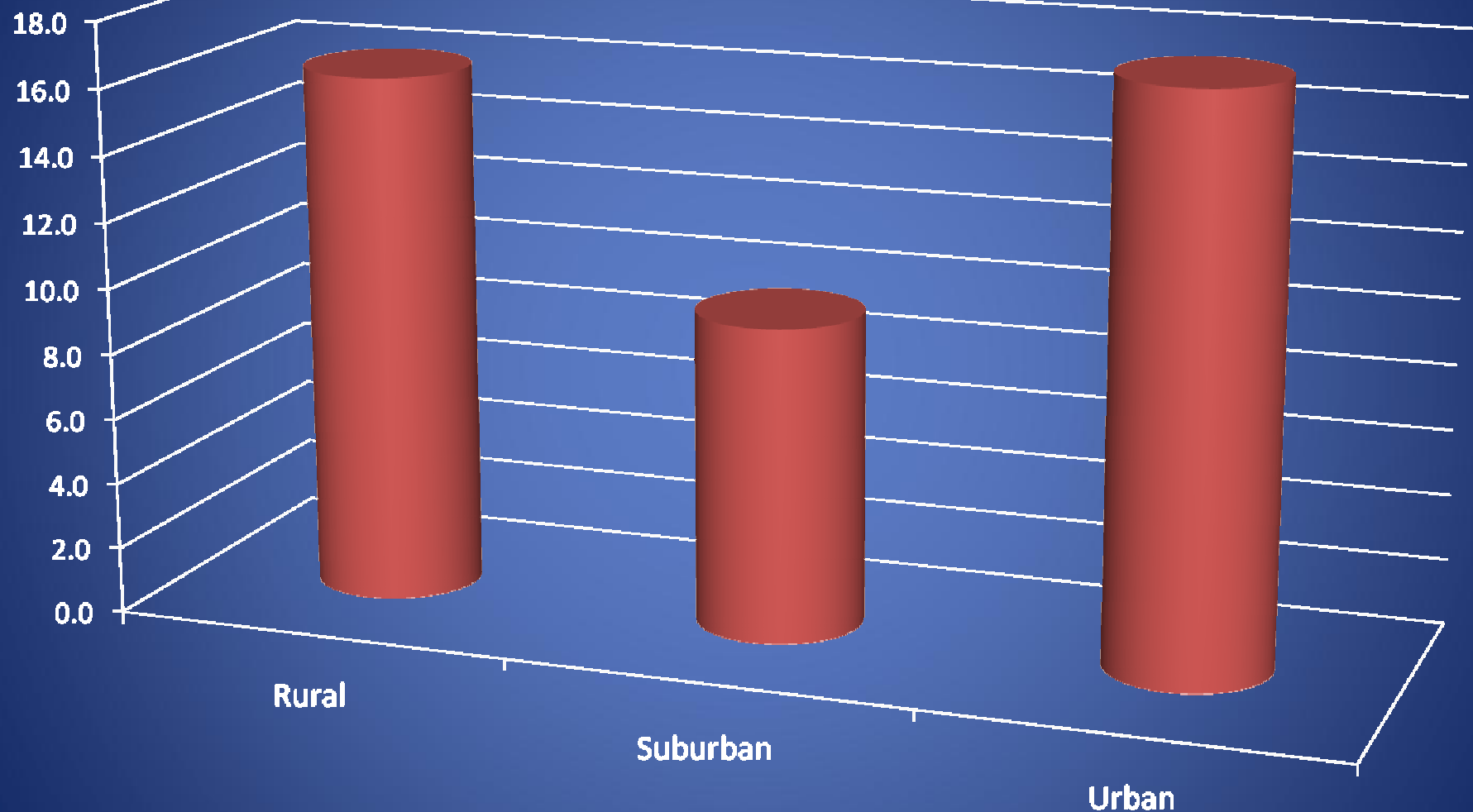
Poverty rates by residence, 1959-2003

Nonmetro poverty has been higher than metro in every year since 1959

Percent poor

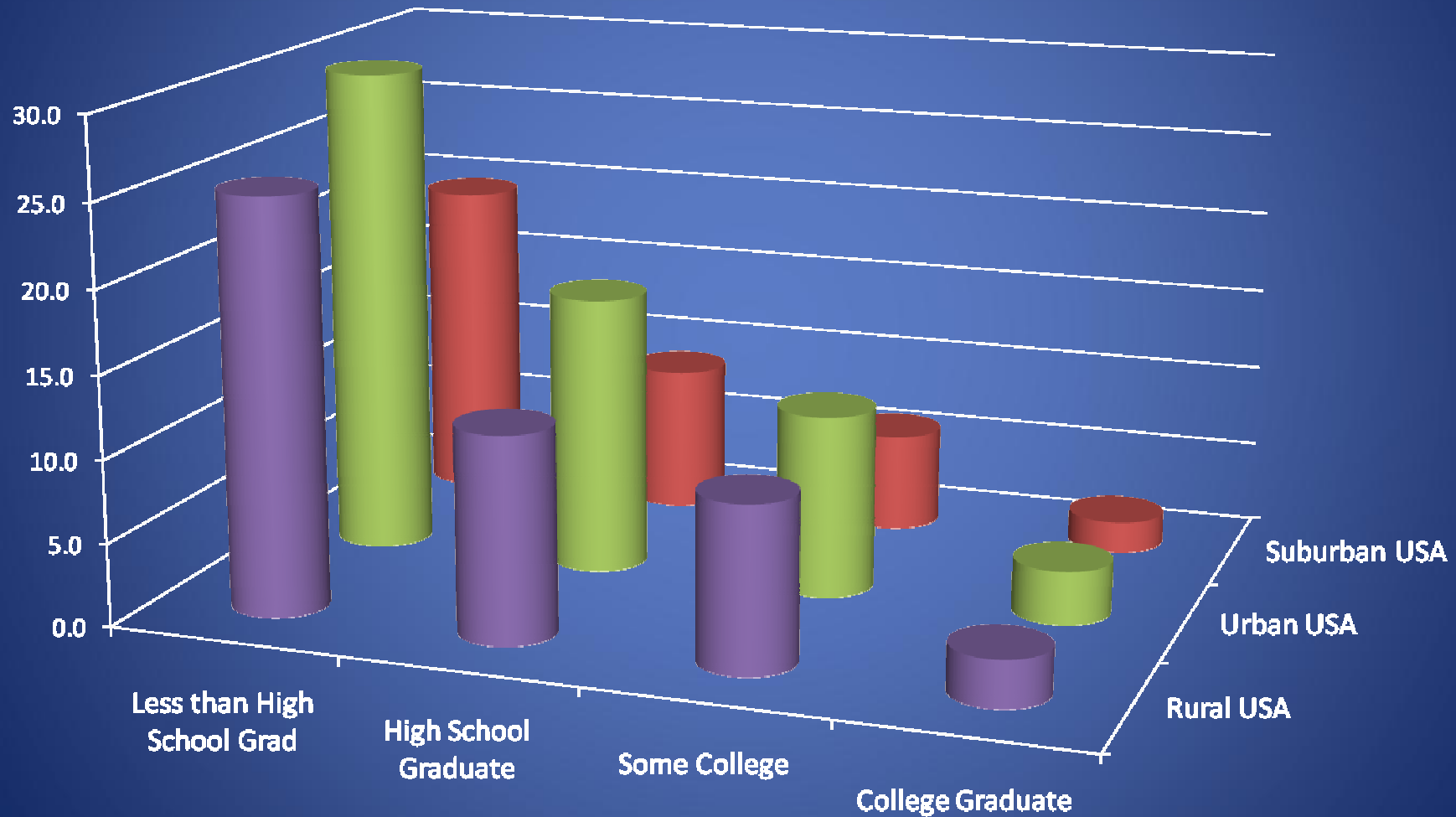


Average Poverty Rates among All People by Place Type in the U.S.



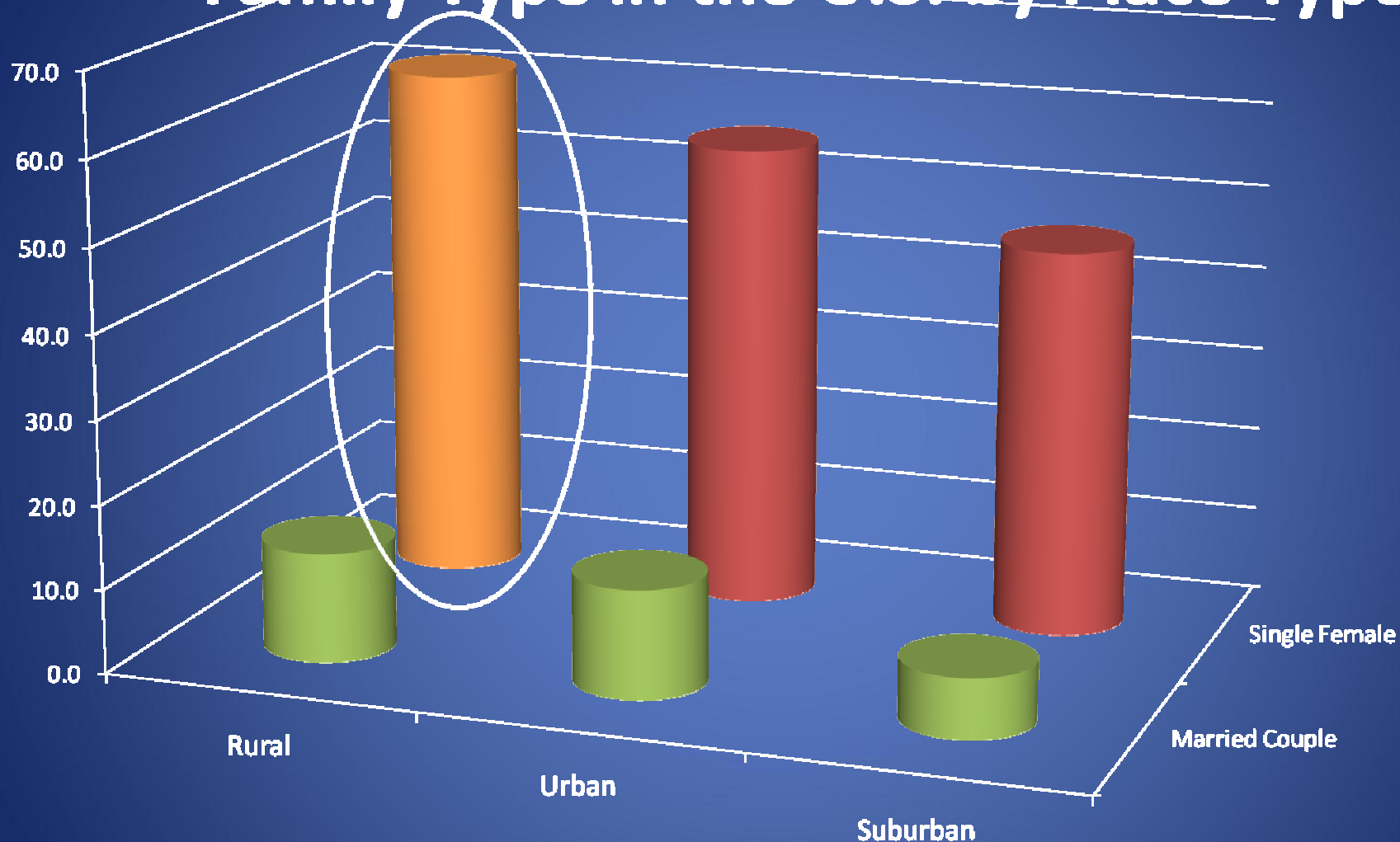
Source: U.S. Census Bureau. Data were calculated from the American Community Survey, 3-Year Estimates, 2006-2008.

Adult Poverty Status by Educational Attainment in the US by Place Type



Source: U.S. Census Bureau. Data were calculated from the American Community Survey, 3-Year Estimates, 2006-2008.

Poverty Status of Young Children by Family Type in the U.S. by Place Type



Source: U.S. Census Bureau. Data were calculated from the American Community Survey, 3-Year Estimates, 2006-2008.

The Rural Poor Today

7.5
million

20% of rural kids (2.6
million) – 1 in 3 young
kids in the South

Poverty is high for rural minorities ~
1 in 3 of Blacks, Native Americans,
and Hispanics are poor (11% of
rural Whites)

Big challenges impact rural places differently (depending on local conditions)

Economic challenges

Loss of stable, blue collar jobs that pay a living wage and decades of neglect in poor areas

Demographic changes

An aging population, outmigration of young and the educated, and a growing immigrant population

Environmental pressures

Environmental degradation and stress on natural resources; impact of climate change and high energy costs

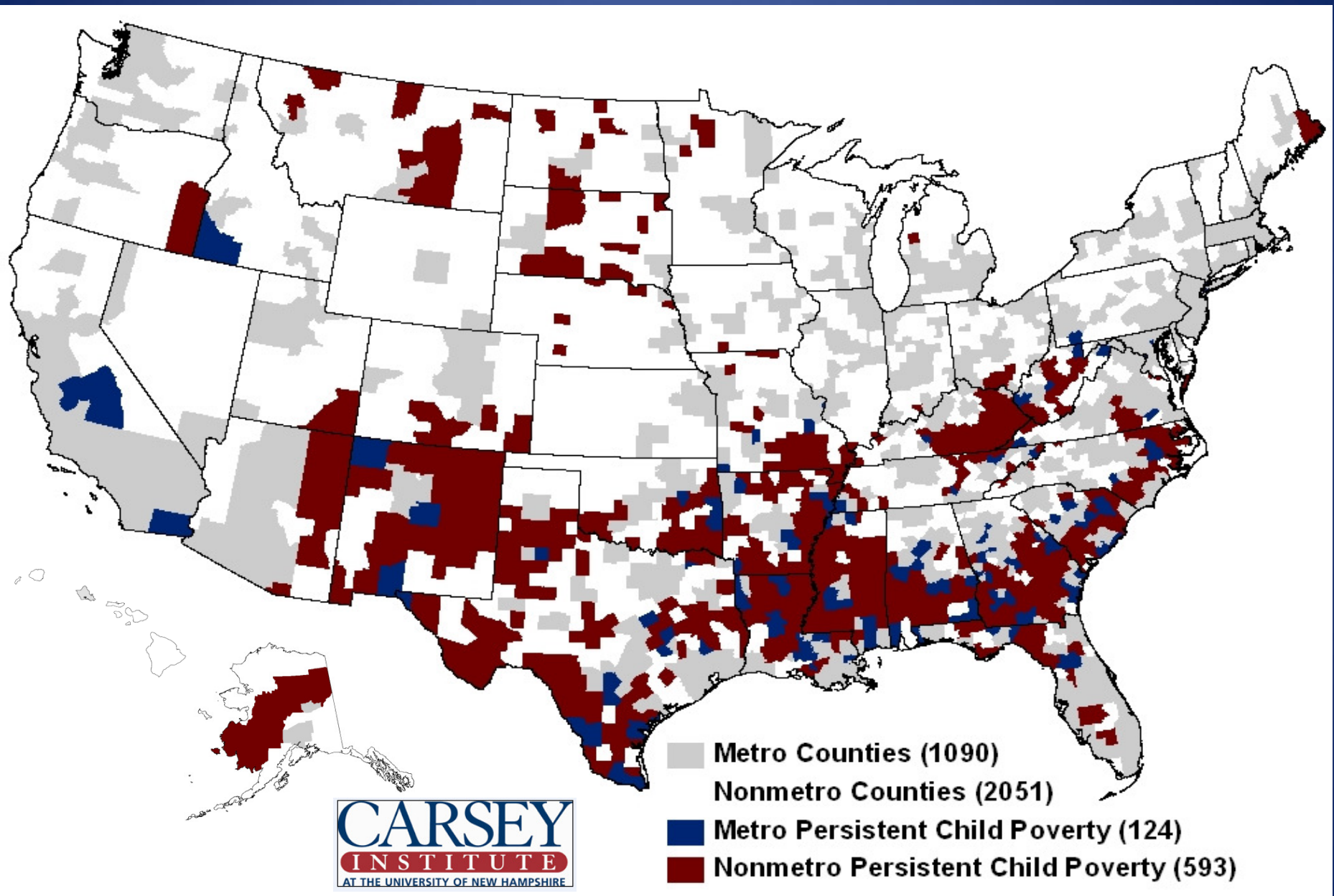
Civic Challenges

Do people trust each other?

Do people from all walks of life participate in community decisions?

Do people invest in the community – put time and money into building institutions and programs to benefit the whole community?

Persistent Child Poverty by Metropolitan Status, 1970 to 2007



Source: Analysis by K.M. Johnson, The Carsey Institute of Census data supplied by USDA-ERS and SAIPE, 2007

Tough conditions in concentrated poverty areas, rural and urban

Isolation:
Physical and
Social

Bad schools,
low levels of
education,
high dropout
rates

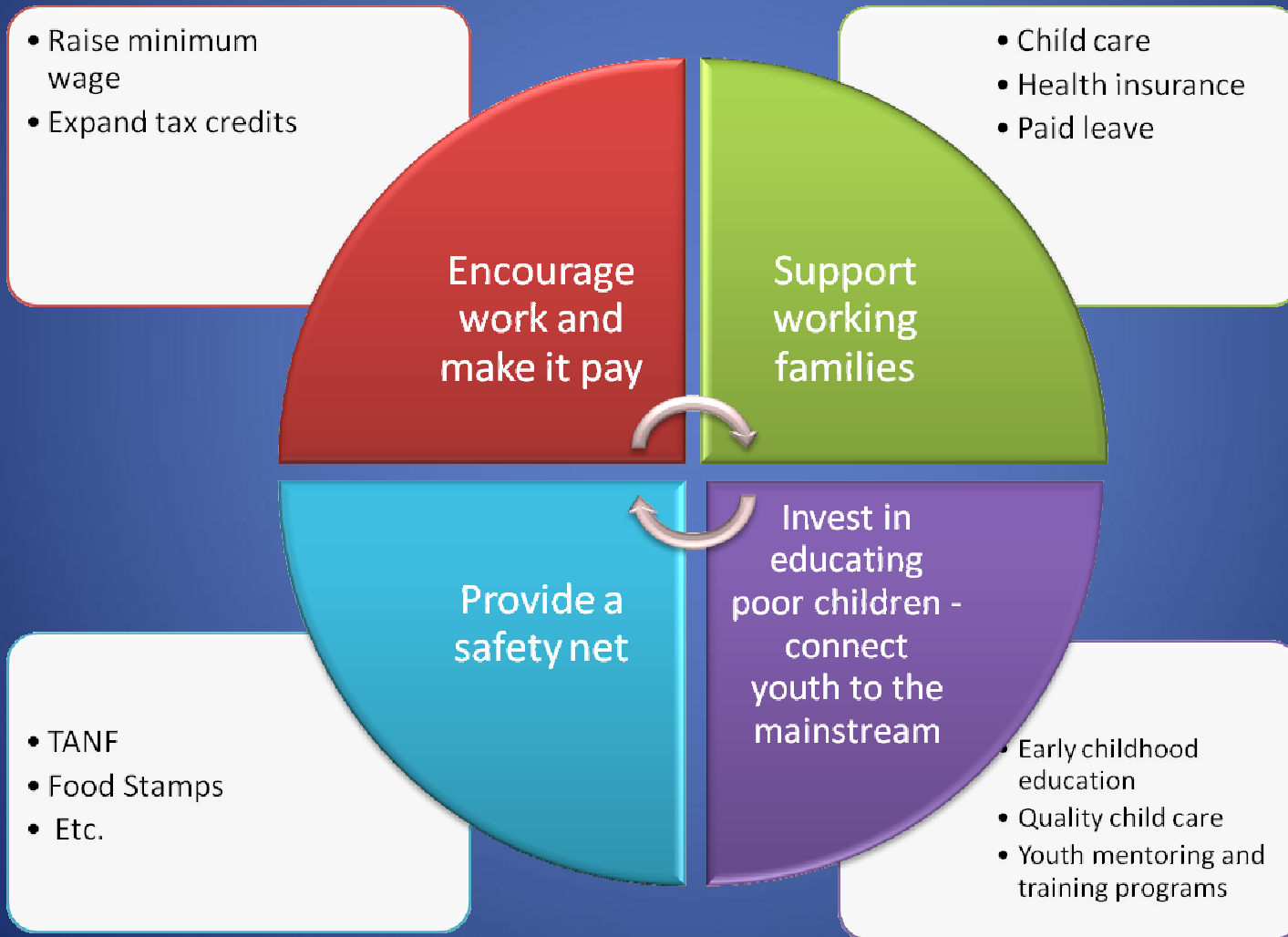
Stigma, low
expectations

Low skills,
low labor
force
attachment,
scarce jobs

Teen
pregnancy
and lone
parent
families

Lack of
public safety,
crime and
drugs

Policy Solutions to Aid Working Families... and a Safety Net



Questions, Comments?

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REPORTS ON RURAL AMERICA

New Immigrant Settlements in Rural America: Problems, Prospects, and Policies

BY KENNETH W. JOHNSON

UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

CARSEY INSTITUTE
MARCH 2007

Rural Workers Would Benefit More Than Urban Workers from an Increase in the Federal Minimum Wage

BY WILLIAM G. CLINE

Abstract: This paper examines the impact of a 10 percent increase in the federal minimum wage on rural and urban workers. It finds that rural workers would benefit more than urban workers from such an increase because rural workers are more likely to be employed in low-wage jobs. The paper also finds that the impact of a minimum wage increase on rural workers is more sensitive to the local economy than for urban workers.

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MARCH 2007

The State of Working New Hampshire 2007

Abstract: This report provides a comprehensive overview of the labor market in New Hampshire for the year 2007. It covers key indicators such as employment, unemployment, and wages. The report also discusses the challenges facing the state's workforce and offers recommendations for policy makers.

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CARSEY INSTITUTE
REPORTS ON NEW ENGLAND

The Changing Faces of New Hampshire
Recent Demographic Trends in the Granite State

BY KENNETH W. JOHNSON

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Substance Abuse in Rural and Small-Town America

BY WILLIAM G. CLINE

UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

CARSEY INSTITUTE
MARCH 2007

Challenging a Myth in the South: Religion and Politics on the Abortion Issue

BY JAMES G. HOGAN

Abstract: This article examines the relationship between religion and politics on the issue of abortion in the Southern United States. It challenges the common perception that religion is the primary driver of anti-abortion sentiment in the South, arguing that political and economic factors also play a significant role.

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MARCH 2007

New Faces at the Polls for New Hampshire Presidential Primary

BY KENNETH W. JOHNSON

Abstract: This report analyzes the demographic characteristics of voters in the New Hampshire Presidential Primary. It highlights the presence of new faces at the polls and discusses the implications for the candidates and the state's political landscape.

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MARCH 2007

A Profile of Latinos in Rural America

BY WILLIAM G. CLINE

Abstract: This report provides a detailed profile of the Latino population in rural America. It covers their demographic characteristics, economic status, and social challenges. The report also offers insights into the needs and aspirations of this growing community.

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MARCH 2007

Low Wages Prevalent in Direct Care and Child Care Workforce

Abstract: This report examines the wage structure in the direct care and child care sectors. It finds that wages are significantly lower in these sectors compared to other parts of the economy, leading to high turnover and staffing shortages. The report calls for policy interventions to improve wages and working conditions.

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CARSEY INSTITUTE
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Low-Income Families in New Hampshire

BY WILLIAM G. CLINE

Abstract: This report provides an overview of low-income families in New Hampshire. It includes data on the number of families, their geographic distribution, and their economic challenges. The report also discusses the impact of public assistance programs on these families.

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Child Care Availability in New Hampshire: An Analysis of New Hampshire Healthy Kids

BY KATHY A. WARD, SARAH A. HANDEL, AND NINA FRANCHETTI

Abstract: This report analyzes the availability of child care in New Hampshire using data from the New Hampshire Healthy Kids survey. It identifies gaps in care, particularly for low-income and rural families, and offers recommendations for expanding access.

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MARCH 2007

SEC is Vital for Working Poor Families in Rural America

BY WILLIAM G. CLINE

Abstract: This report discusses the importance of the Supplemental Earned Income Credit (SEIC) for working poor families in rural America. It highlights how this credit helps offset the effects of the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) phase-out and provides a crucial source of income for these families.

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MARCH 2007

The State of Coos County: Local Perspectives on Community and Change

BY KENNETH W. JOHNSON

Abstract: This report provides a local perspective on the state of Coos County, New Hampshire. It discusses the county's economic challenges, community strengths, and the impact of demographic changes. The report includes insights from local residents and leaders.

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U.S. Rural Soldiers Account for a Disproportionately High Share of Casualties in Iraq and Afghanistan

BY WILLIAM G. CLINE AND BILL BISHOP

Abstract: This report examines the disproportionate impact of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan on rural soldiers in the United States. It discusses the economic and social challenges these soldiers face upon returning home and offers recommendations for support.

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MARCH 2007

Rural Youth are More Likely to be Out of School, Out of Work, and Out of Home

BY WILLIAM G. CLINE

Abstract: This report compares the outcomes of rural and urban youth. It finds that rural youth are more likely to be out of school, out of work, and out of their homes, a phenomenon often referred to as the '3 O's'. The report explores the reasons for these disparities and offers suggestions for intervention.

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Rural Families Choose Home-Based Child Care for their Preschool-Aged Children

BY KATHY A. WARD, SARAH A. HANDEL, AND NINA FRANCHETTI

Abstract: This report examines the choices parents in rural areas make for their preschool-aged children's care. It finds that home-based child care is a popular choice, often due to limited availability of other options. The report discusses the implications for policy and practice.

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Child Poverty in Rural America: New Data Shows Increases in 41 States

BY WILLIAM G. CLINE

Abstract: This report presents new data on child poverty in rural America. It shows that child poverty has increased in 41 out of 50 states, with rural areas often experiencing higher rates. The report discusses the causes and consequences of this trend.

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Rural America in the 11th Century: Progress vs. Peril

BY WILLIAM G. CLINE

Abstract: This report reflects on the state of rural America in the 11th century of its existence. It compares the progress made in various areas, such as infrastructure and education, with the challenges that remain, such as economic stagnation and population loss.

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Rural Children Increasingly Rely on Medicaid and SCHIP

BY WILLIAM G. CLINE

Abstract: This report examines the increasing reliance of rural children on Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP). It discusses the reasons for this trend, including the loss of private health insurance and the challenges of providing care in rural areas.

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Employment Rates Higher Among Rural Mothers Than Urban Mothers

BY WILLIAM G. CLINE

Abstract: This report compares the employment rates of rural and urban mothers. It finds that employment rates are generally higher among rural mothers, despite the economic challenges in rural areas. The report explores the reasons for this difference.

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MARCH 2007

Rural America Depends on the Federal Farm Programs to Make Ends Meet

BY WILLIAM G. CLINE

Abstract: This report discusses the dependence of rural America on federal farm programs. It examines the impact of these programs on rural income and the challenges of maintaining them in the face of budget cuts and changing agricultural markets.

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MARCH 2007

Coos County Community Indicators: A Profile by Town

BY KENNETH W. JOHNSON

Abstract: This report provides a detailed profile of Coos County, New Hampshire, broken down by town. It includes data on various community indicators such as income, education, and health. The report also includes a landscape photograph of the county.

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Food Stamp and School Lunch Programs Alleviate Food Insecurity in Rural America

BY WILLIAM G. CLINE

Abstract: This report examines the impact of food stamp and school lunch programs on food insecurity in rural America. It finds that these programs play a crucial role in providing food for millions of rural Americans who lack access to other food sources.

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MARCH 2007

New England Has the Highest Increase in Income Inequality in the Nation

BY JOHN GUTTEL AND JAMES ALDRIDGE

Abstract: This report examines the increase in income inequality in New England. It finds that New England has the highest increase in income inequality among all regions in the United States. The report discusses the causes and consequences of this trend.

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