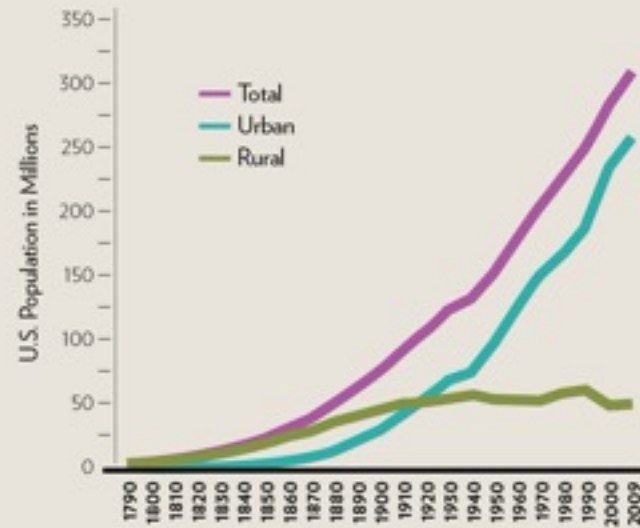


What is Rural America?

COMPILED BY CAROL KREIS

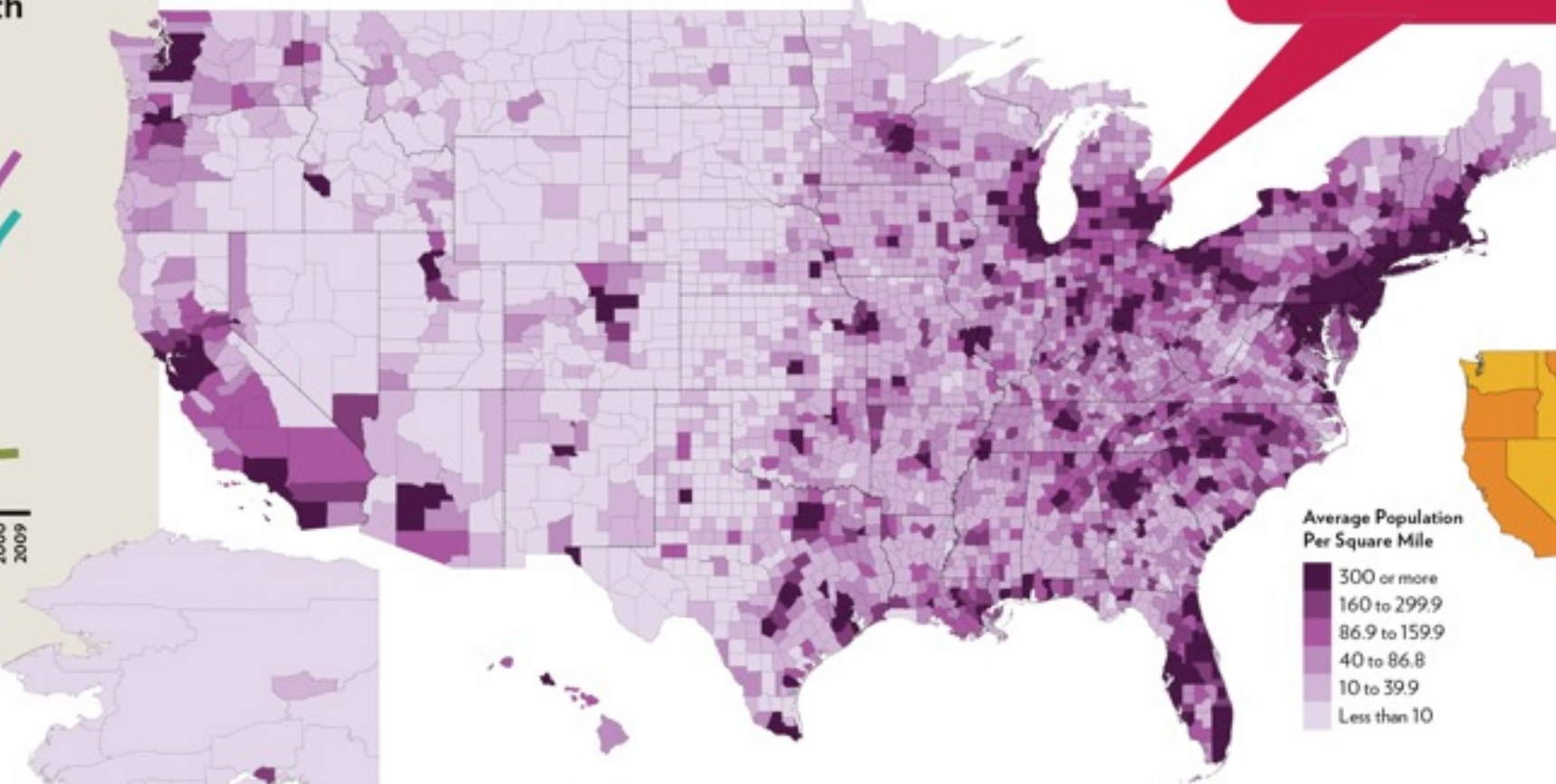
AVERAGE U.S. DENSITY
86.9
INDIVIDUALS
PER SQUARE MILE

Urban and Rural Population Growth 1790-2009



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Population per Square Mile



Average Population Per Square Mile

- 300 or more
- 160 to 299.9
- 86.9 to 159.9
- 40 to 86.8
- 10 to 39.9
- Less than 10

Children in Poverty

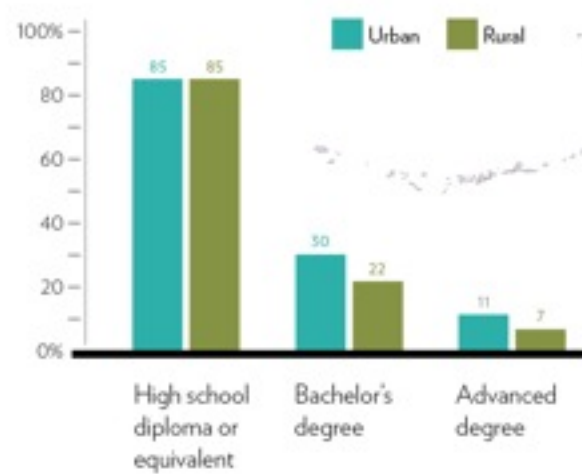
The worst child poverty occurs in 14 states within the contiguous United States. Rates tend to be highest in Appalachia, the Mississippi Delta, along the Mexican border and in states with many American Indian reservations. Four counties in South Dakota, five in Mississippi, two in Kentucky, one in Louisiana and one in North Dakota have child poverty rates of 50 percent or more. Ziebach County, South Dakota, has the highest rate of child poverty at 67 percent.



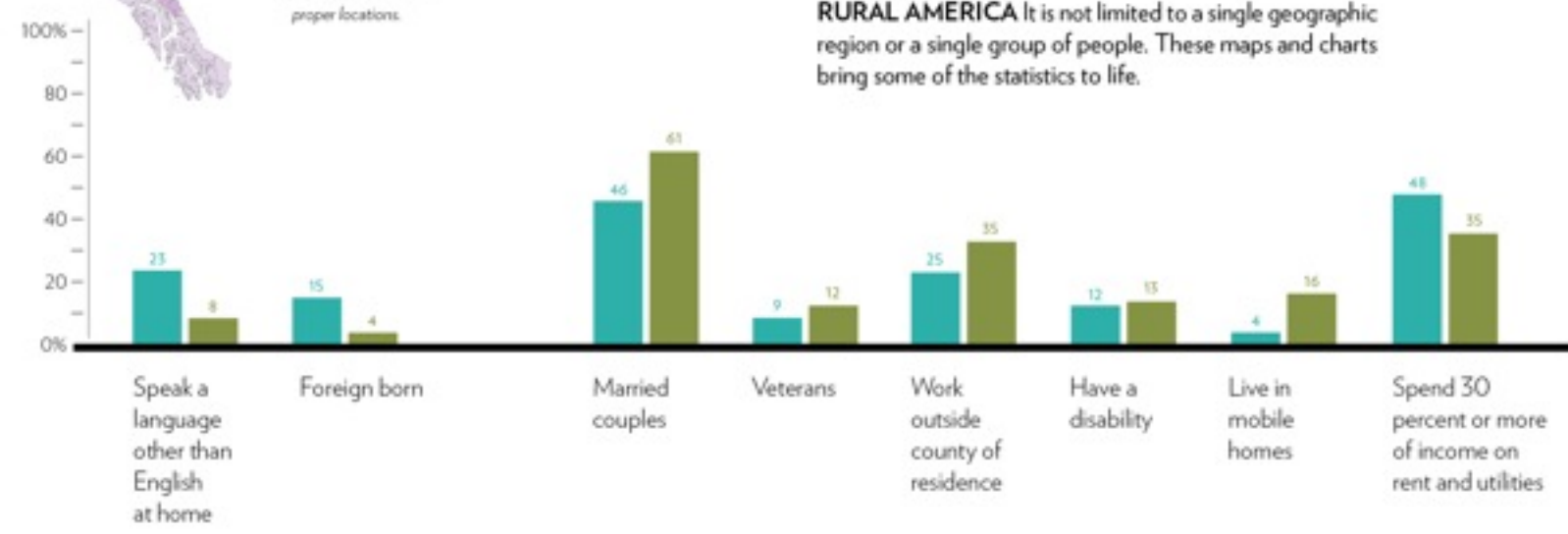
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Estimates Branch, "2008 Poverty and Median Income Estimates—Counties," November 2009

Urban and Rural America

Statistics in Percents



39 years old
36 years old
MEDIAN AGE



RURAL AMERICA It is not limited to a single geographic region or a single group of people. These maps and charts bring some of the statistics to life.

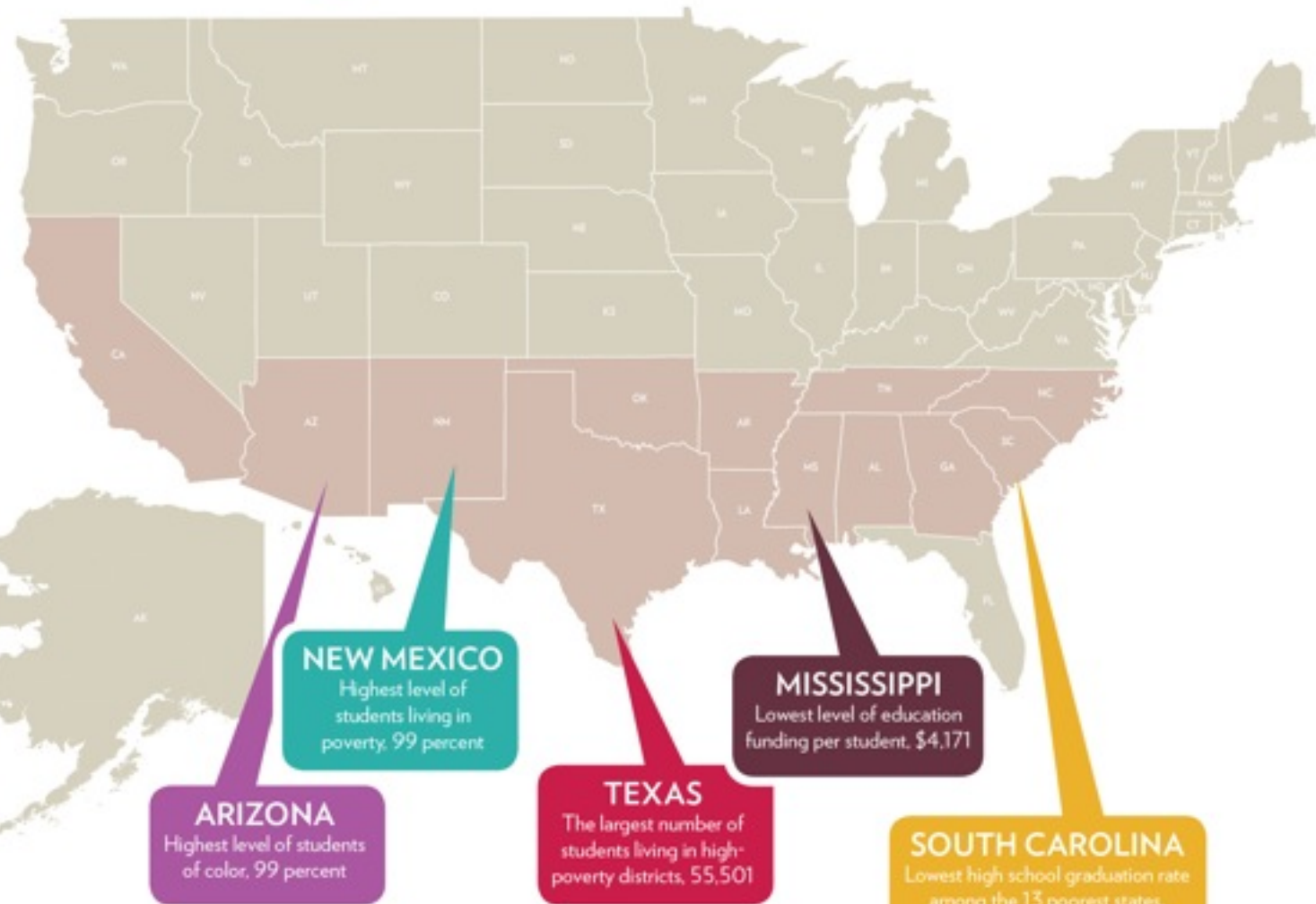
Alaska and Hawaii are not shown in their proper locations.

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The Poorest of the Poor in Rural Education

Research suggests that poverty is the biggest threat to academic achievement. With that in mind, the Rural School and Community Trust set out to identify the poorest rural school districts in every state. The group used five indicators to point toward what they termed "concentrated poverty." Those indicators are 1 number of students living in the districts, 2 percentage of those students

living in poverty, 3 percentage of students of color, 4 educational spending per student and 5 high school graduation rate. These 13 states—forming a solid band across the southern United States, from California to North Carolina—had the most concentrated poverty in rural areas.



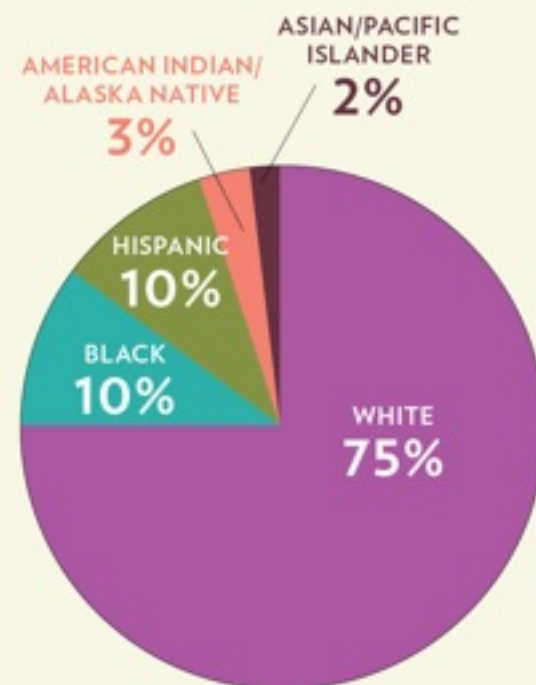
These figures are for the 10 percent of poorest rural school districts within each state, not the state as a whole.

Alaska and Hawaii are not shown in their proper locations.

Source: Johnson, J., Strange, M. "Why Rural Matters 2009: State and Regional Challenges and Opportunities." Rural School and Community Trust, November 2009. www.ruraleduc.org

Student Minorities by State

Statistics in Percents
Included are minorities that are at least 3 percent of each state's population.



STATES IN WHICH MINORITIES MAKE UP A MAJORITY OF THE STUDENT POPULATION

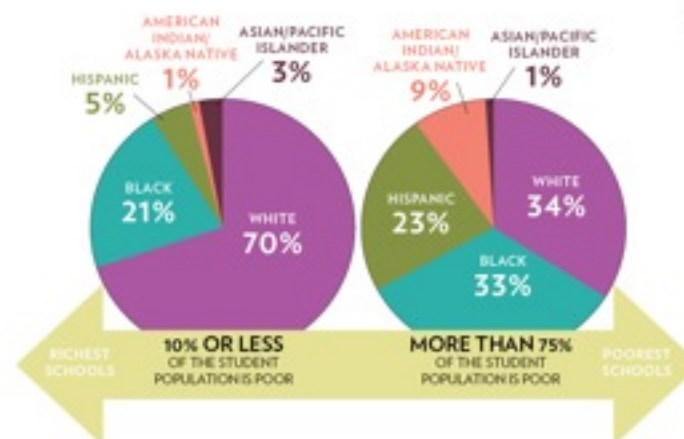
Students in Rural Schools

BY RACE

8,238,311	White
1,119,974	Black
1,071,729	Hispanic
334,640	American Indian/ Alaska Native
199,441	Asian/Pacific Islander
10,964,095	TOTAL

In 2050, the U.S. Census Bureau expects the U.S. population of minority children to be 62 percent, up from 44 percent in 2008. Thirty-nine percent are projected to be Hispanic, up from 22 percent in 2008.

Poverty in Rural Public Schools BY RACIAL OR ETHNIC GROUP



Source: Planty, M.; Hussar, W.; Snyder, T.; Kena, G.; KowalRamani, A.; Kemp, J.; Bianco, K.; Dinkes, R. "The Condition of Education 2009" (NCES 2009-081). National Center for Education Statistics, Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education, Washington, DC, June 2009. nces.ed.gov

%	HISPANIC	BLACK	AMERICAN INDIAN / ALASKA NATIVE	ASIAN / PACIFIC ISLANDER
Alabama	4	35		
Alaska	6	4	24	7
Arizona	42	6	5	3
Arkansas	8	23		
California	48	7		11
Colorado	28	6		3
Connecticut	16	13		4
Delaware	10	33		3
Florida	25	23		
Georgia	10	38		3
Hawaii	5	2		73
Idaho	14			
Illinois	20	19		4
Indiana	7	12		
Iowa	7	6		
Kansas	13	9		3
Kentucky	3	11		
Louisiana	3	46		
Maine	3			
Maryland	9	38		6
Massachusetts	14	8		5
Michigan	5	20		3
Minnesota	6	9		6
Mississippi		51		
Missouri	4	18		
Montana	3		11	
Nebraska	12	8		
Nevada	36	11		8
New Hampshire	3			
New Jersey	19	17		8
New Mexico	56	3	11	
New York	21	20		7
North Carolina	10	28		
North Dakota			9	
Ohio	3	16		
Oklahoma	10	11	19	
Oregon	16	3		5
Pennsylvania	7	16		3
Rhode Island	18	9		3
South Carolina	5	39		
South Dakota			11	
Tennessee	5	25		
Texas	47	14		3
Utah	15			3
Vermont				
Virginia	9	26		5
Washington	15	6	3	8
West Virginia		5		
Wisconsin	8	10		4
Wyoming	10			

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau; U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data, "Public Elementary/Secondary School Universe Survey," 2007-2008. nces.ed.gov