Rural Alabama

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U.S. Census Bureau

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Agenda

• Census Geography
• Urban/Rural Definitions
• County-based Demographics
• 2020 Census
• Questions
Standard Hierarchy of Census Geographic Entities

NATION

REGIONS

DIVISIONS

STATES

Counties

Census Tracts

Subminor Civil Divisions

Block Groups

Census Blocks

ZIP Code Tabulation Areas

School Districts

Congressional Districts

Voting Districts

Traffic Analysis Zones

County Subdivisions

Urban Areas

Core Based Statistical Areas

Urban Growth Areas

State Legislative Districts

Public Use Microdata Areas

Places
Urban Population as a Percentage of Total US Population, 1790-2010

1950: urbanized areas of 50,000+ adopted.
Census Bureau designated Urban Areas

• Delineated decennially

• Two types of urban areas:
  – Urbanized Areas (UAs) of 50,000 or more people
  – Urban Clusters (UCs) of at least 2,500 and less than 50,000 people

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>222,360,539</td>
<td>79.0</td>
<td>249,253,271</td>
<td>80.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urbanized Area</td>
<td>192,323,824</td>
<td>68.3</td>
<td>219,922,123</td>
<td>71.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Cluster</td>
<td>30,036,715</td>
<td>10.7</td>
<td>29,331,148</td>
<td>9.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>59,061,367</td>
<td>21.0</td>
<td>59,492,267</td>
<td>19.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Urban/Rural Population: Alabama

Percent Rural

2000: 44.6%
2010: 41.0%
Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Areas

- Defined by U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB)
- County Level
- Metropolitan Statistical Areas
  - associated with at least one urbanized area with 50,000 population
  - adjacent counties having a high degree of social and economic integration with the core as measured through commuting ties
- Micropolitan Statistical Areas
  - associated with at least one urban cluster of at least 10,000 population
  - adjacent counties having a high degree of social and economic integration with the core as measured through commuting ties
USDA Rural Classifications

- County Level
  - Rural-Urban Continuum Codes

- Sub-County Level
  - Frontier and Remote Areas Codes
Rural-Urban Continuum Codes

- 2013 (update planned for mid-2023)
- Based on OMB Metropolitan and Micropolitan categories
  - Metropolitan counties by the population size of their metro area
  - Nonmetropolitan counties by degree of urbanization and adjacency to a metro area
  - Subdivided into three metro and six nonmetro categories
  - Every county assigned one of the 9 codes
# Rural-Urban Continuum Codes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Counties in metro areas of 1 million population or more</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Urban population of 20,000 or more, adjacent to a metro area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Counties in metro areas of 250,000 to 1 million population</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Urban population of 20,000 or more, not adjacent to a metro area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Counties in metro areas of fewer than 250,000 population</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Urban population of 2,500 to 19,999, adjacent to a metro area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Urban population of 20,000 or more, adjacent to a metro area</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Urban population of 2,500 to 19,999, not adjacent to a metro area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Urban population of 20,000 or more, not adjacent to a metro area</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Completely rural or less than 2,500 urban population, adjacent to a metro area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Urban population of 2,500 to 19,999, adjacent to a metro area</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Completely rural or less than 2,500 urban population, not adjacent to a metro area</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Frontier and Remote Area Codes

**ESRI zip code area level**
- Based on different population thresholds
- Meant to reflect likely access to high order services (level one), low order services (level four), and intermediate order services (levels two and three)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Rural areas and urban areas up to 50,000 people that are 60 minutes or more from an urban area of 50,000 or more people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Rural areas and urban areas up to 25,000 people that are: 45 minutes or more from an urban area of 25,000-49,999 people; and 60 minutes or more from an urban area of 50,000 or more people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Rural areas and urban areas up to 10,000 people that are: 30 minutes or more from an urban area of 10,000-24,999; 45 minutes or more from an urban area of 25,000-49,999 people; and 60 minutes or more from an urban area of 50,000 or more people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Rural areas that are: 15 minutes or more from an urban area of 2,500-9,999 people; 30 minutes or more from an urban area of 10,000-24,999 people; 45 minutes or more from an urban area of 25,000-49,999 people; and 60 minutes or more from an urban area of 50,000 or more people</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Refined Degree of Urbanisation

Areas outside settlements

Settlements by population size

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Settlements by population size</th>
<th>Small</th>
<th>Medium</th>
<th>Large</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>500 – 5,000</td>
<td>5,000 – 50,000</td>
<td>&gt;50,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cell level criteria

Residents per sq km

- **High Density**: >1,500
- **Medium Density**: 300 – 1,500
- **Low Density**: 50 – 300
- **Very Low Density**: <50

**Areas**

- **Not Applicable**: Urban Centre
- **Village**: Village
- **Suburb & Urban Edge**: Suburb & Urban Edge
- **Rural Dispersed Areas**: Rural Dispersed Areas
- **Mostly Uninhabited Areas**: Mostly Uninhabited Areas
How long does it take to download?

- **Book (1 mb in size)**: 10.4 sec
- **Movie (6144 mb in size)**: 17 h 47 min
- **Song (4 mb in size)**: 41.7 sec

Bandwidth:
- **200 kbps**
- **10 mbps**
What is “rural?” What characterizes “rurality?”

- Low population density
- Small numbers of people
- Low levels of urbanization/urban population
- Distance from/proximity to [larger] urban centers
- Isolation and remoteness

Rural often is defined as the residual. This could be “not urban” or “not metropolitan” in a dichotomous classification, or what remains after all other categories in a multi-category classification have been defined.
Rural Alabama

- **Completely Rural**: 100% of population lives in areas that have lower population density with <1,000 people per square mile (Clarke County)
- **Mostly Rural**: 50.1% to 99.9% of the population lives in areas with lower population density (Barbour County)
- **Rural/Urbana**: Counties with populations < 50,000 people that have >50% of people in higher population density (Coffee County)
- **Mostly Urban**: Counties with Populations > 50,000 people that have >50% of people in higher population density (Shelby County)
Alabama Rural/Urban Groupings

- Green: Completely Rural
- Yellow: Mostly Rural
- Orange: Rural/Urban
- Red: Mostly Urban

Percent of Alabama Population

- 33%
- 30%
- 4%
- 33%
Median Age

- Completely Rural, Younger than 40
- Completely Rural, Older than 40
- Mostly Rural, Younger than 40
- Mostly Rural, Older than 40
- Rural/Urban, Younger than 40
- Rural/Urban, Older than 40
- Mostly Urban, Younger than 40
- Mostly Urban, Older than 40

Legend:
-完全农村，年轻于40
-完全农村，年长于40
-大部分农村，年轻于40
-大部分农村，年长于40
-半都市半农村，年轻于40
-半都市半农村，年长于40
-大部分都市，年轻于40
-大部分都市，年长于40

地图显示了阿拉巴马州的各地区的年龄中位数分布，颜色表示不同年龄段的分布情况。
Educational Attainment
HS Degree or Higher

- Completely Rural, Less than 80%
- Completely Rural, 80% - 90%
- Mostly Rural, Less than 80%
- Mostly Rural, 80% - 90%
- Rural/Urban, Less than 80%
- Rural/Urban, 80% - 90%
- Mostly Urban, 80% - 90%
- Mostly Urban, More than 90%
Owner Occupancy

- Completely Rural, Less than 70%
- Completely Rural, More than 70%
- Mostly Rural, Less than 70%
- Mostly Urban, Less than 70%
- Mostly Urban, More than 70%

Legend:
- Completely Rural, Less than 70%
- Completely Rural, More than 70%
- Mostly Rural, Less than 70%
- Mostly Urban, Less than 70%
- Mostly Urban, More than 70%

Graph:
- U.S.
- Alabama
- Completely Rural
- Mostly Rural
- Rural/Urban
- Mostly Urban

United States Census Bureau
Economics and Statistics Administration
U.S. Census Bureau
Shelby County
Alabama

Percent Below Poverty Level
- No Poverty Data
- 1 - 5%
- 6 - 10%
- 11 - 15%
- 16 - 25%
- 26 - 40%

Rural
- 0 - 5%
- 6 - 10%
- 11 - 15%
- 16 - 25%
- 26 - 40%

Urban
- 0 - 5%
- 6 - 10%
- 11 - 15%
- 16 - 25%
- 26 - 40%
2020 Urban Areas and Future

• 2020 Urban Areas Delineation Criteria

• How to define a Rural Statistical Area?
Questions? Comments?

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