Summer 2003

Rural Minority Working Age Adults

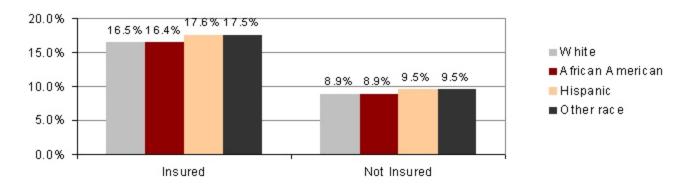
Health Insurance

- Holding demographic considerations equal, rural residents are less likely to report having health insurance than urban residents.
- African Americans, Hispanics and persons of "other" race are all less likely to be insured than whites.
- The factors placing rural minorities at risk for lacking insurance include low income and low education.

Education and Poverty

- Over half of rural working age African Americans (54%) and Hispanics (51%) are poor, as are over a third of rural residents of "other" racial / ethnic groups (38%).
- Half (50%) of rural Hispanic adults, and nearly a third of African American working age adults (31%), have not completed high school.
- All things being equal, rural African American and Hispanic women who lack a high school education and who have low family income (less than \$20,000 per year) have a less than an even chance of being insured throughout their entire working life.
- Lack of health insurance nearly halved the likelihood of a recent physician visit.

Percent of Rural Women with Recent Physician Visit*



^{*} Table standardized to: adults age 25-49 living in the West, who are married, in good health with no limitations in daily activities, with family income of \$20,000 or more, living in a 3-person family.

Source : Access to Care Among Rural Minorities : Working Age Adults. Copies Available from the South Carolina Rural Health Research Center.



