

2023 List of Distressed or Underserved Nonmetropolitan Middle-Income Geographies Source Information and Methodology

Release notes

- The U.S. Census Bureau has not yet released the County Intercensal Estimates for 2010-2020. Although they are expected later this year, they were not available at the time of release. As a result, this release will continue to use the Intercensal Estimates for 2000-2010 for population estimates.
- At the time of the release of this file, the 2020 Census summary files for the island areas (American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands) are not yet available. Therefore, this release does not contain any census tracts from these areas.

Poverty rate (changes annually)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE), 2021. Variable used was "Estimated percent of people of all ages in poverty."

Note: Due to the U.S. Census Bureau's adoption of American Community Survey (ACS) data in the estimation procedure for SAIPE, SAIPE data is available with a two-year lag from the year of the List of Distressed or Underserved Nonmetropolitan Middle-Income Geographies.

Unemployment (changes annually)

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Local Area Unemployment Statistics, Labor Force Data by County, 2022 Annual Averages.

County unemployment rate = (unemployment level) / (labor force) * 100

National unemployment rate = (total unemployment) / (total labor force) * 100

Note: BLS does not collect employment data for Kalawao County, Hawaii, and considers it to be part of Maui County. We assume unemployment data for Kalawao County is the same as that of Maui County.

Population loss (changes decennially)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau County Intercensal Estimates (for change between 2000 and 2010 populations and for change between 2005 and 2010 populations).

10-year population loss from 2000 to 2010 = (2010 population - 2000 population) / 2000 population

5-year population loss from 2005 to 2010 = (2010 population - 2005 population) / 2005 population

Note: With the newly created Chugach Census Area, Alaska (02-063) and Copper River Census Area, Alaska (02-066), the population loss for each area is assumed to be the same as the population loss for the original area, Valdez-Cordova Census Area, Alaska (02-261), from which they were derived.

Remote rural (low density)

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Economic Research Service Urban Influence Codes, 2013.
An area is considered low density if the Urban Influence Code is 7, 10, 11, or 12.

Note: At the time of the release of this file, USDA has not yet released new Urban Influence Codes. Therefore, this release continues to use the 2013 codes. Additionally, with the newly created Chugach Census Area, Alaska (02-063) and Copper River Census Area, Alaska (02-066), the Urban Influence Code for each area is assumed to be the same as the Urban Influence Code for the original area, Valdez-Cordova Census Area, Alaska (02-261), from which they were derived.