

CRPH Rural Definition Guide

All of the programs and projects managed by the SC Center for Rural and Primary Healthcare have a rural component. Since rural can be defined in various ways, use this guide to determine which rural definition you should use for any project or program related to our Center.

All Center designation are based on RUCA codes. You can determine a location's RUCA by entering the address on the "[Am I Rural](#)" tool created by the Rural Health Information Hub:

<https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/am-i-rural>

Principal definition

Unless specified, all programs and projects managed by the Center will use the RUCA code definition of rural.

- Urban: Primary RUCA 1, 2, and 3
- Rural: Primary RUCA 4+

The most recent RUCA codes (based on 2010 census) can be downloaded here:

<https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/rural-urban-commuting-area-codes.aspx#.U9IO7GPDWWho>

Mapping and Analysis

RUCA codes can be recategorized and aggregated based on the specific needs of maps and analyses. For a detailed review, please read: <https://depts.washington.edu/uwruca/ruca-uses.php>

- Urban/Rural – Categorization C
 - Urban: 1.0, 1.1, 2.0, 2.1, 3.0, 4.1, 5.1, 7.1, 8.1, and 10.1
 - Rural: 4.0, 4.2, 5.0, 5.2, 6.0, 6.1, 7.0, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4, 8.0, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, 9.0, 9.1, 9.2, 10.0, 10.2, 10.3, 10.4, 10.5, and 10.6
- Urban/Micropolitan/Rural – Categorization B
 - Urban: 1.0, 1.1, 2.0, 2.1, 3.0, 4.1, 5.1, 7.1, 8.1, and 10.1
 - Large Rural City/Town: 4.0, 4.2, 5.0, 5.2, 6.0, and 6.1
 - Small and Isolated Small Rural Town: 7.0, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4, 8.0, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, 9.0, 9.1, 9.2, 10.0, 10.2, 10.3, 10.4, 10.5, and 10.6
- Urban / Micro / Small rural / Isolated rural – Categorization A
 - Urban focused: 1.0, 1.1, 2.0, 2.1, 3.0, 4.1, 5.1, 7.1, 8.1, and 10.1.
 - Large Rural City/Town (micropolitan) focused: 4.0, 4.2, 5.0, 5.2, 6.0, and 6.1
 - Small Rural Town focused: 7.0, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4, 8.0, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, 9.0, 9.1, 9.2
 - Isolated Small Rural Town focused: 10.0, 10.2, 10.3, 10.4, 10.5, and 10.6