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Apr 7th, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Clinic Capacity to Provide Patient-centered Contraceptive Care to Adolescents in the U.S. South: Impact of Rurality and Clinic Type

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Surles, Kristen; Beatty, Kate; Ventura, Liane; de Jong, Jordan Brooke; Smith, Michael Grady; and Khoury, Amal, "Clinic Capacity to Provide Patient-centered Contraceptive Care to Adolescents in the U.S. South: Impact of Rurality and Clinic Type" (2022). *Appalachian Student Research Forum & Jay S. Boland Undergraduate Research Symposium*. 64.

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Clinic Capacity to Provide Patient-Centered Contraceptive Care to Adolescents in the U.S. South: Impact of rurality and clinic type

Approximately **32%** of FQHCs and **59%** of HDs reported capacity to provide patient-centered contraceptive care to adolescents. Fewer rural clinics compared to urban clinics reported the capacity to provide care.



Introduction

Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and Health Departments (HDs) are essential components in access to care for adolescents. Patient-centered adolescent contraceptive care empowers youth and improves method uptake and continuation. By offering adolescent-specific services and training providers, clinics can ensure they offer quality patient-centered care to adolescents.

Study Aims

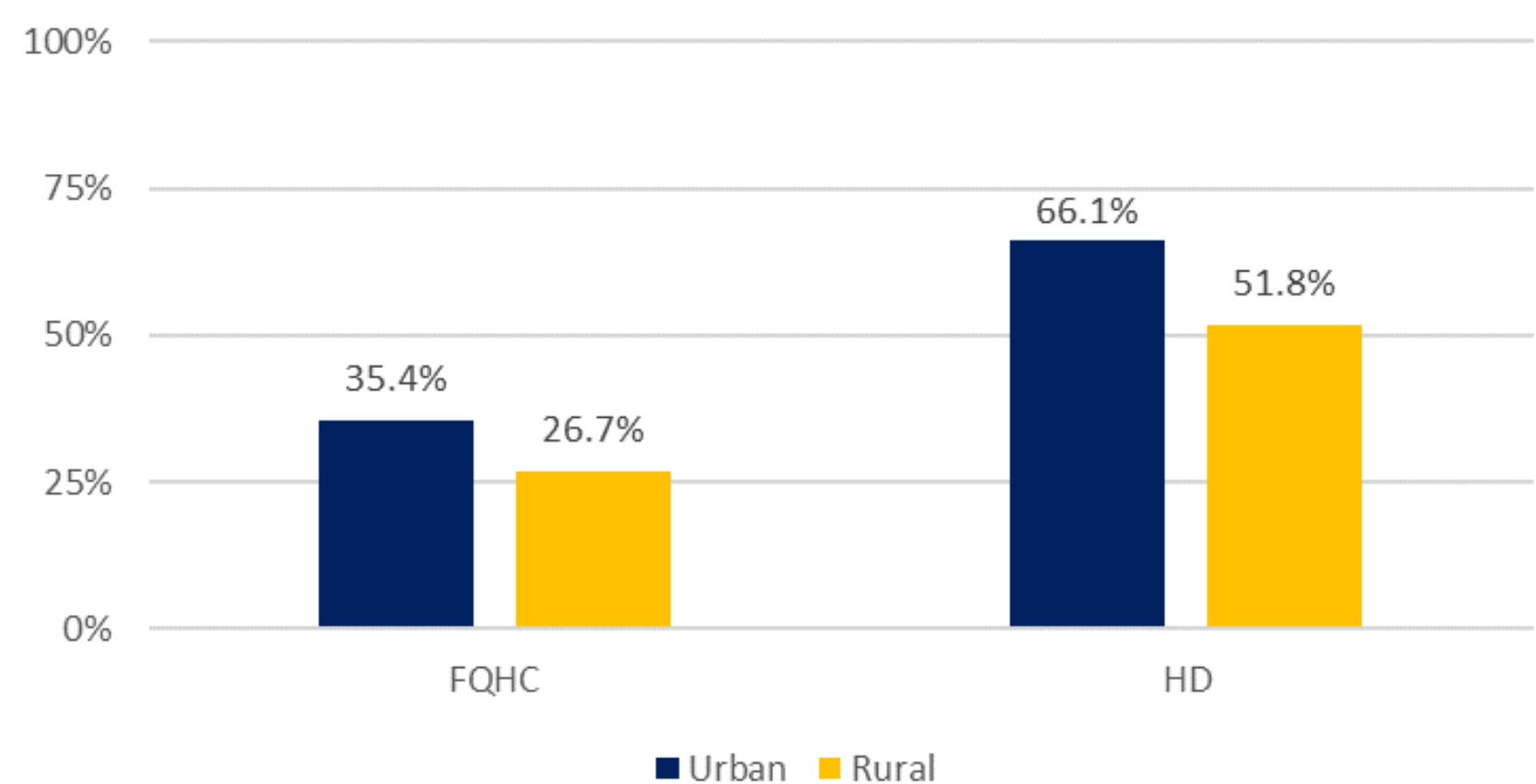
To examine clinic capacity to provide care by clinic type and by rurality in SC and AL

Methods

- Cross-sectional survey of FQHCs and HDs in SC and AL in 2020.
- Rural and urban location determined with Rural-Urban Continuum Codes.
- Capacity determined by three survey items which were dichotomized and then combined into a new variable to measure clinics who responded “Yes” to each item.
- Statistical significance of differences determined with Chi-square tests of independence.

Results

Clinic Capacity to Provide Patient-Centered Care



Conclusion

- This gap in services may contribute to higher rates of adolescent pregnancy in rural parts of SC and AL.
- To address this gap, clinics in SC and AL should develop policies and infrastructure that support adolescent-specific services and provider training.

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