



CARSEY **INSTITUTE**

UNIVERSITY *of* NEW HAMPSHIRE

Rural Children – Rural Communities

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The Carsey Institute and
the Annie E. Casey Foundation

Why Should We Care About Rural Children?

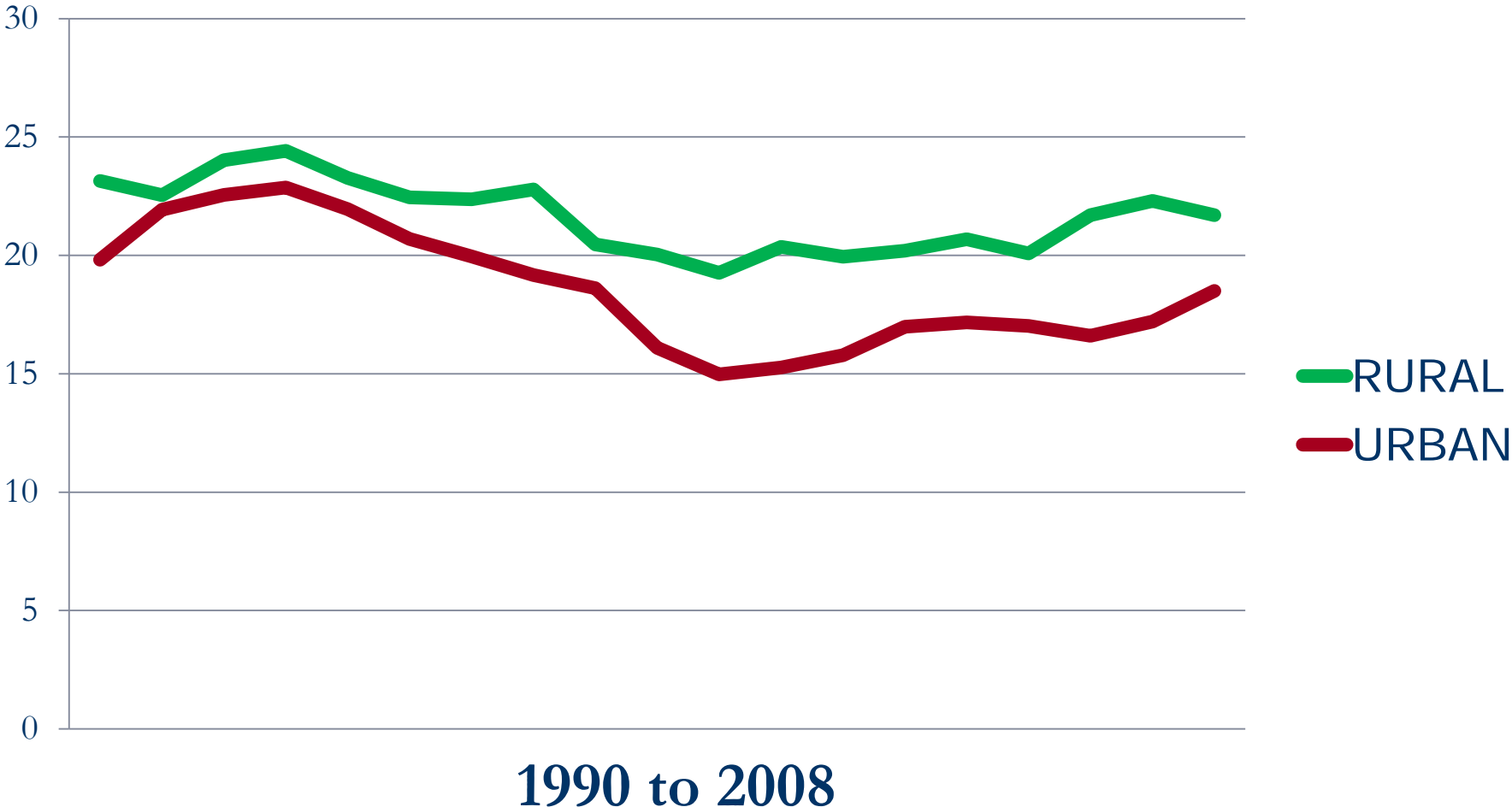
- ❑ 11.4 million children growing up in rural America
- ❑ 2.5 million poor children in rural America
- ❑ Child poverty rate in rural America is 22%

NOTE - Data presented here are from 2008 so they do not reflect the worsening economic recession in 2009 and early 2010

URBAN = CITIES AND SUBURBS

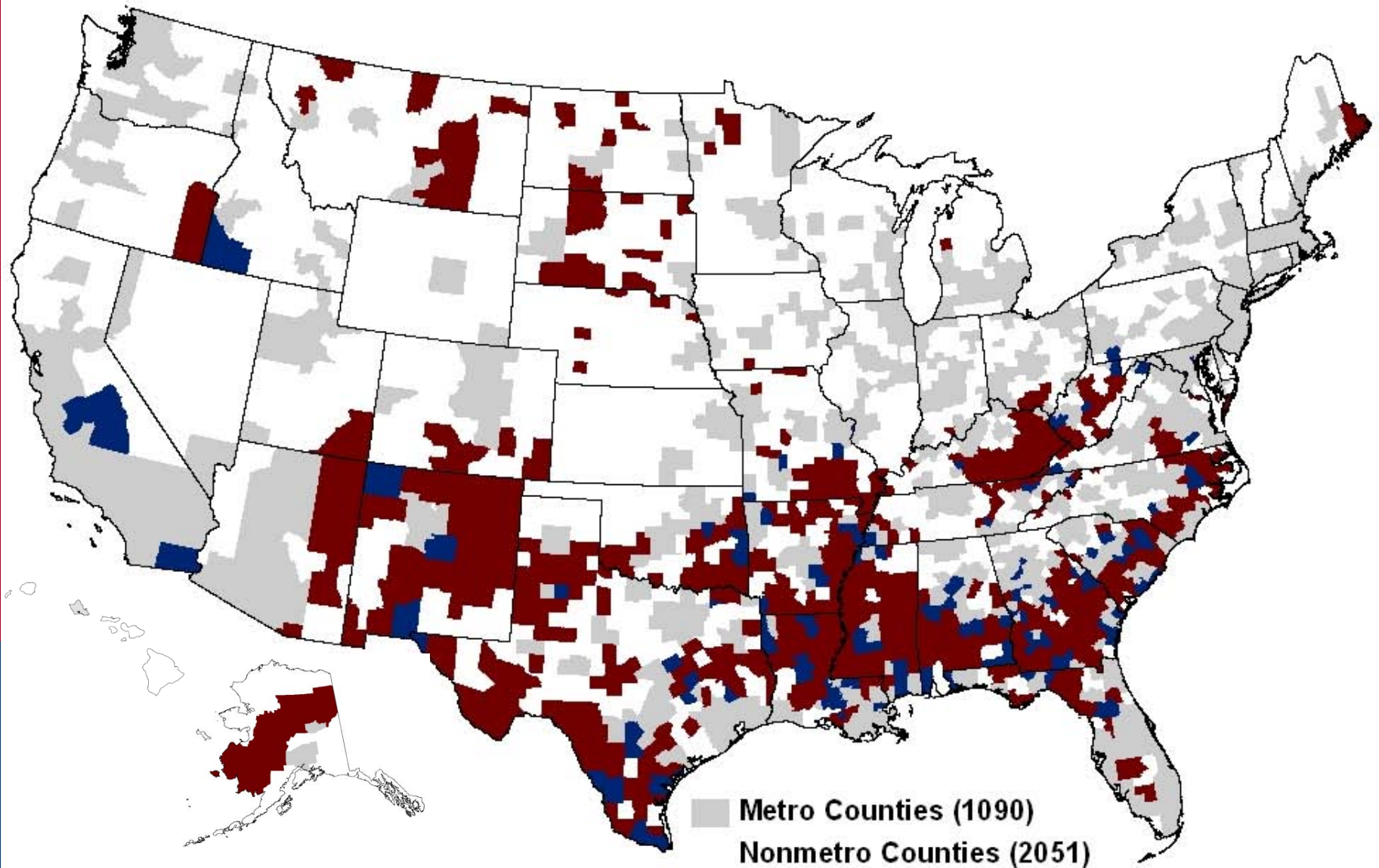
RURAL = OUTSIDE METRO AREAS

Child Poverty Rate 1990 to 2008



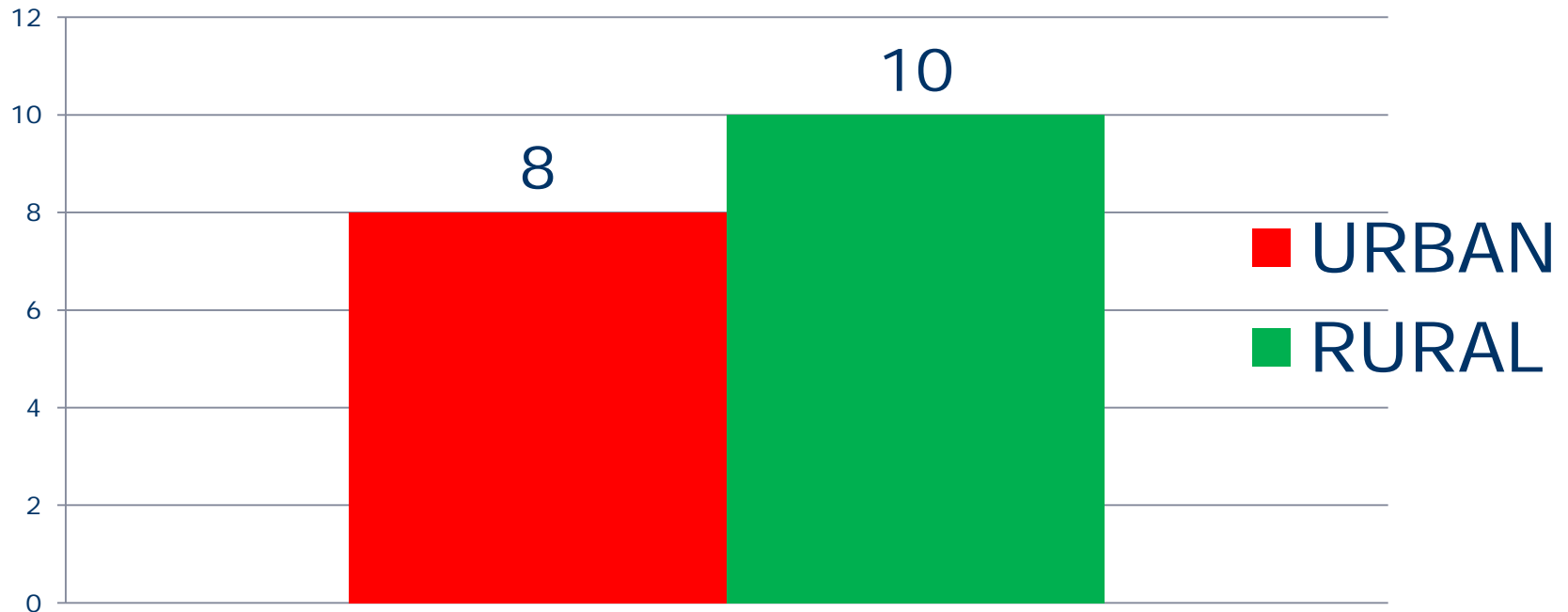
Poverty Threshold is \$22,025 a year for a family of four in 2008

Persistent Child Poverty by Metropolitan Status, 1970 to 2007



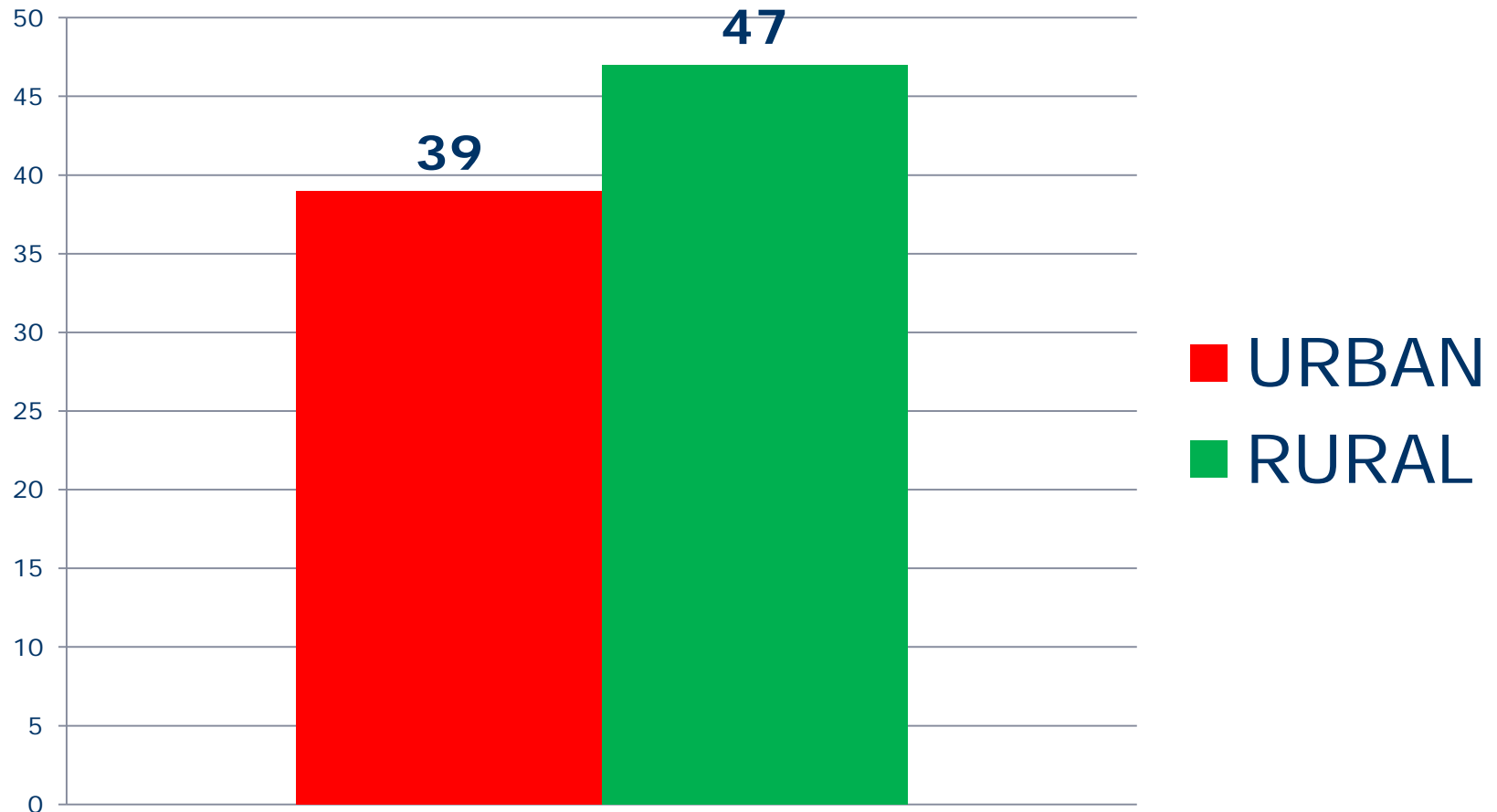
- Metro Counties (1090)
- Nonmetro Counties (2051)
- Metro Persistent Child Poverty (124)
- Nonmetro Persistent Child Poverty (593)

Percent Of Children in Deep Poverty (Income Less Than 50% of Poverty Line), 2008



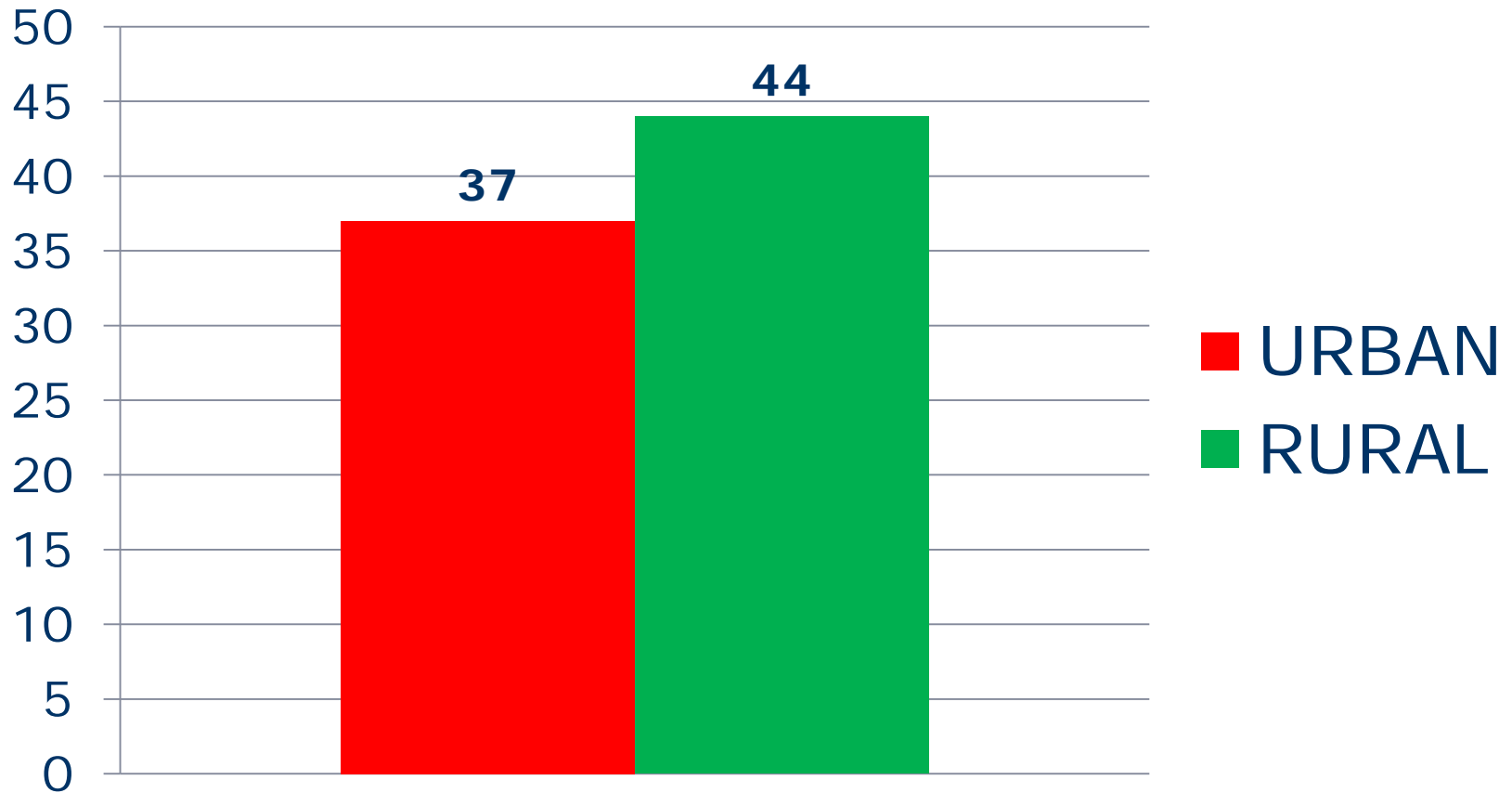
Under \$11,013 a year for a family for four

Percent Of Children in Low-Income Families (Income Less Than 200% of Poverty Line), 2008



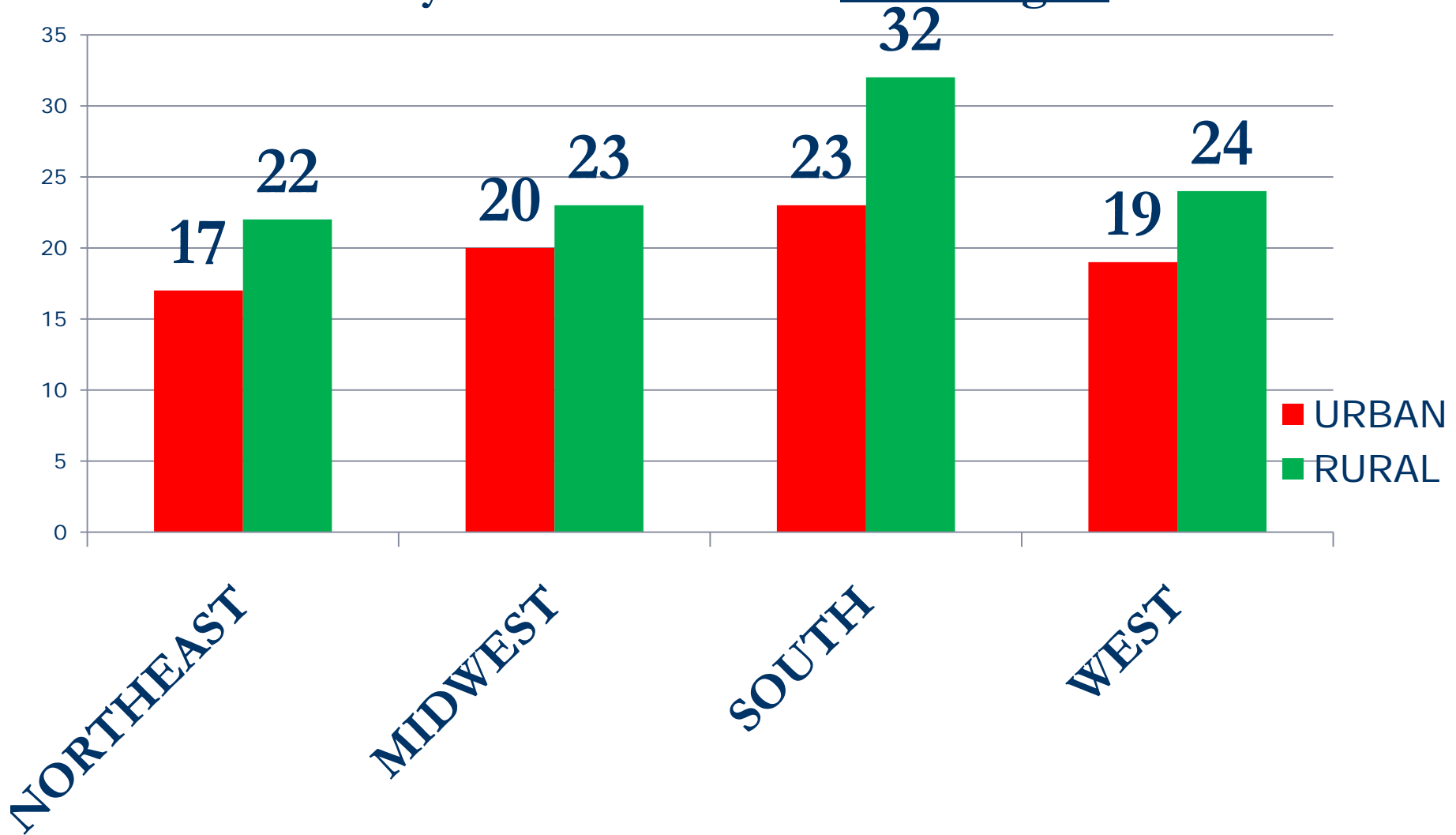
Income Under \$44,100 a year for a family of four

Percent Of Children in Families Below 185% of Poverty Line, 2008

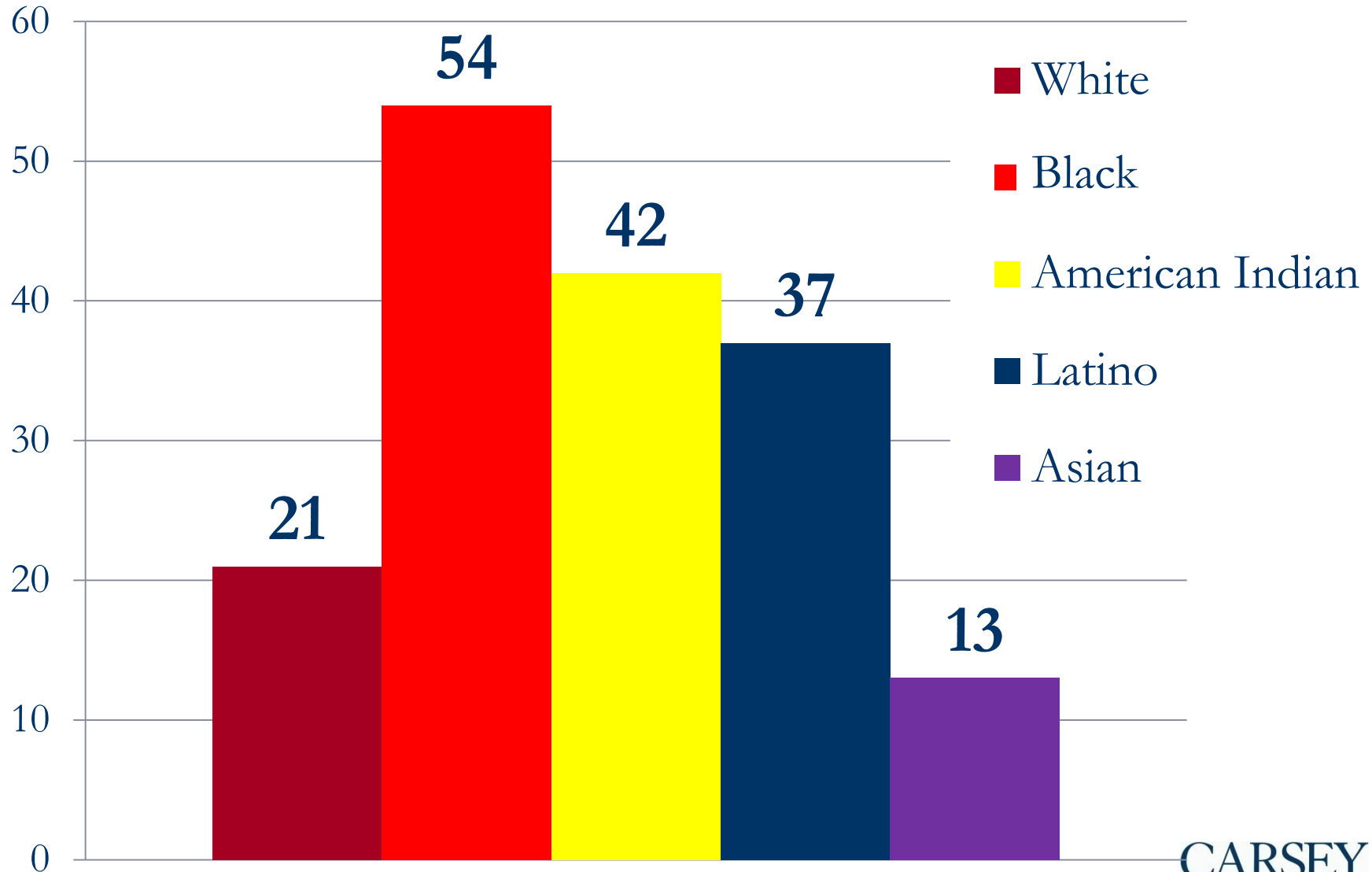


Income Under \$40,746 a year for a family of four

Poverty Rate for Children Under Age 5



Poverty Rate by Race for Rural Children Under Age 5



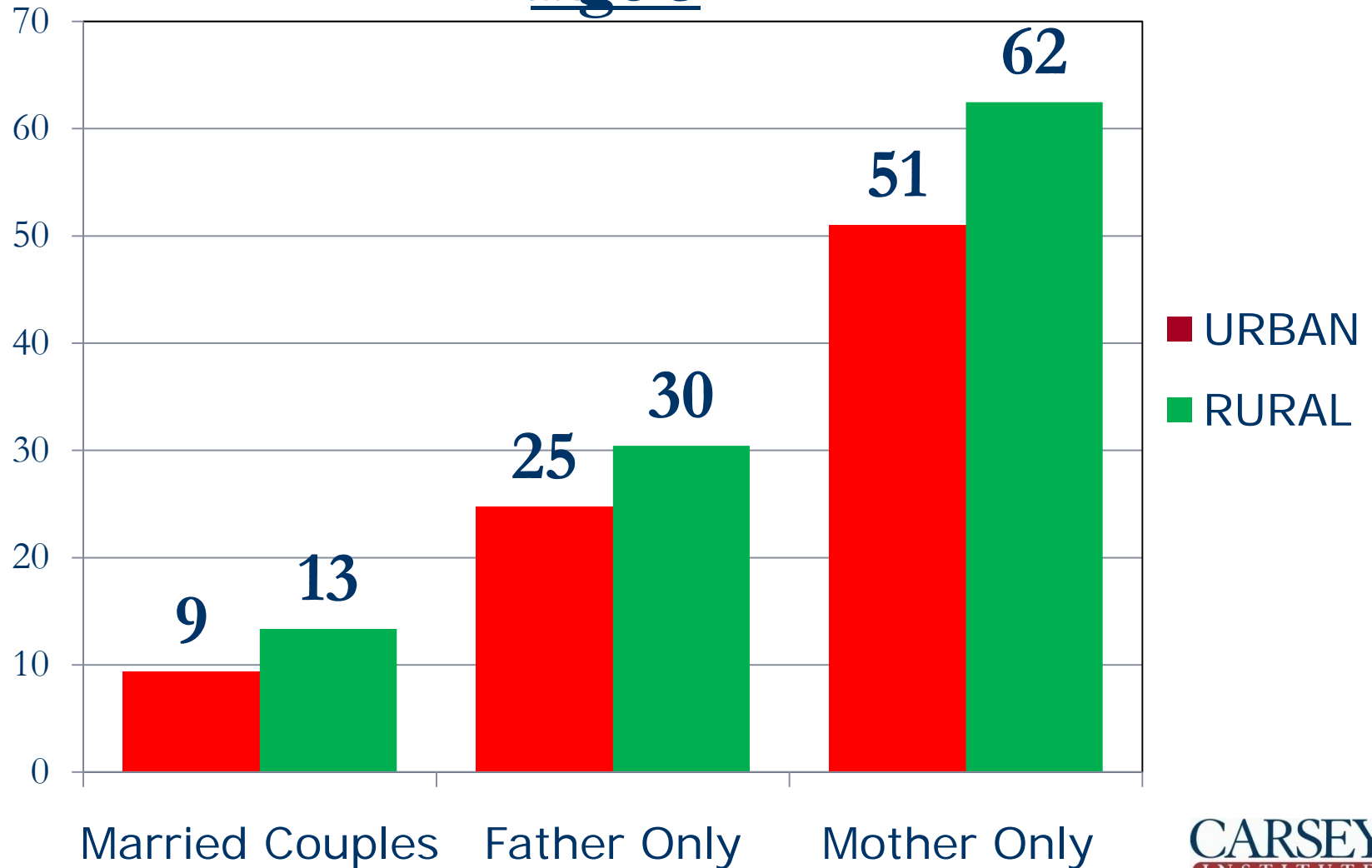
Protective factors do not work as well for children in rural America...

□ **Family Structure (Marriage)**

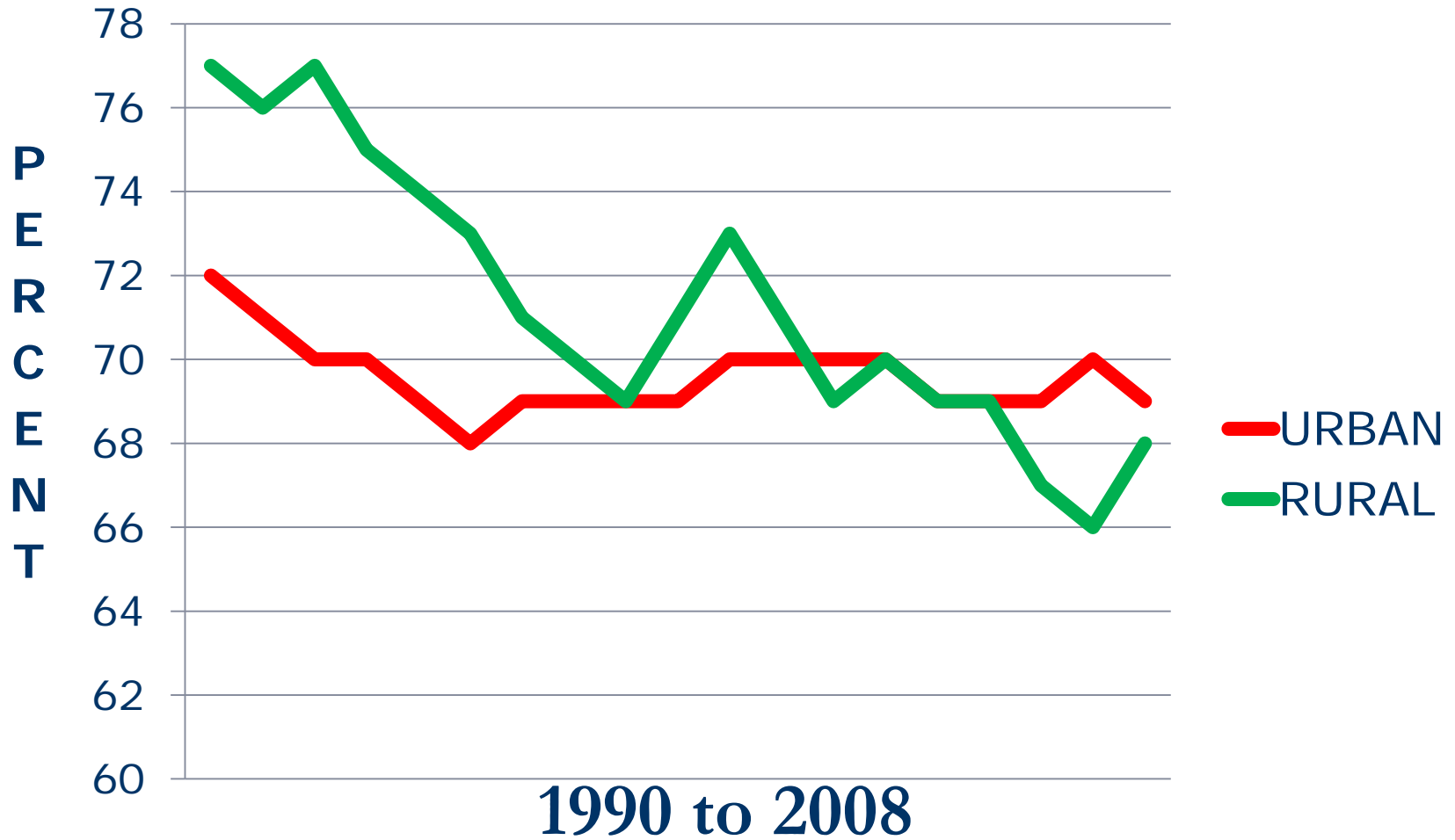
□ **Work**

□ **Education**

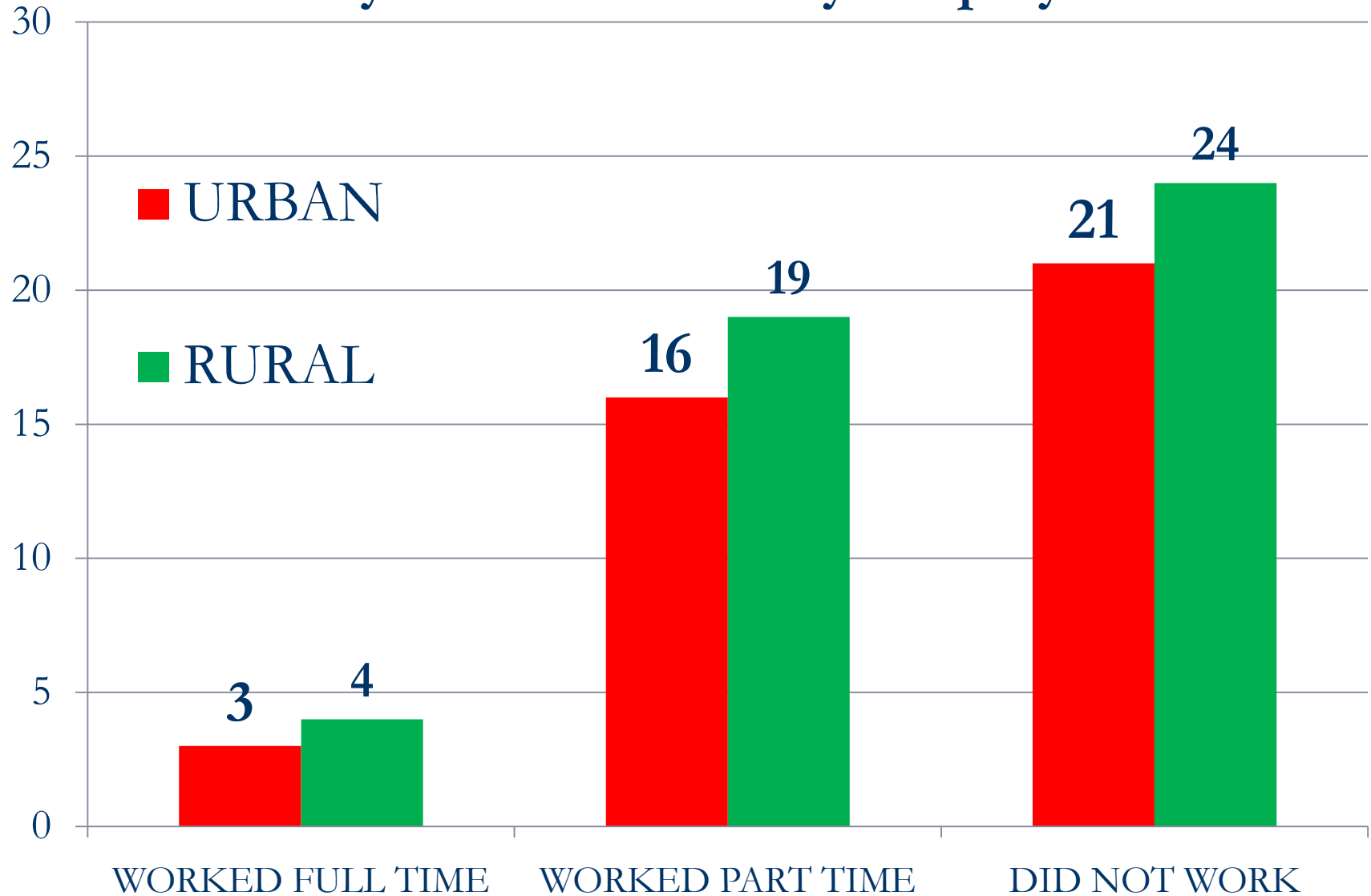
Poverty Rate for Children Under Age 5



Percent of Children in Married-Couple Families

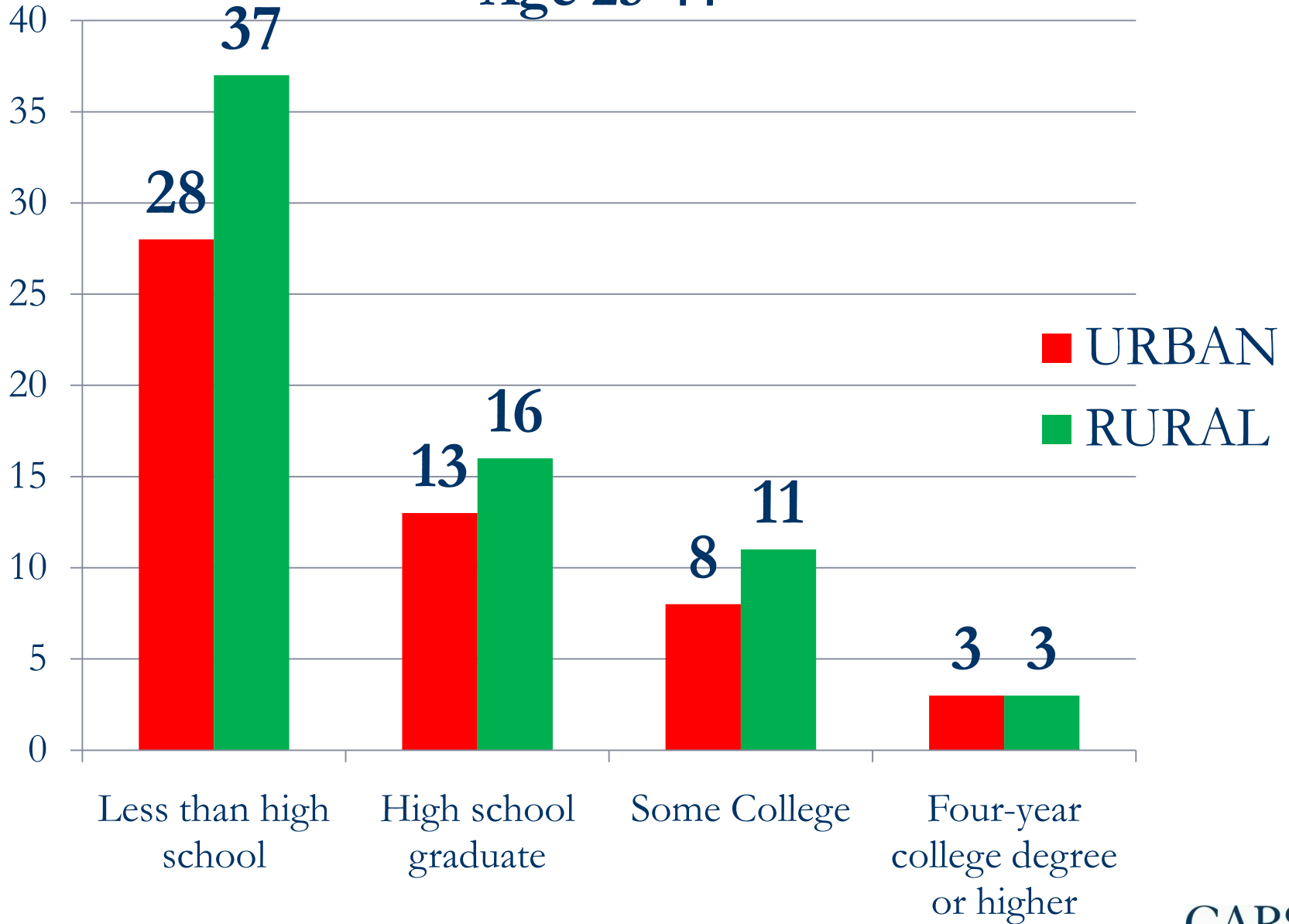


Poverty Rate of Adults by Employment



Poverty Rate by Education for All Adults

Age 25-44



Summary

- ❑ Rural children have higher poverty rates than urban children.
- ❑ The poverty rate gap between rural and urban children is growing.
- ❑ More rural than urban counties are persistently poor.
- ❑ Child poverty rates for racial minorities in rural America are especially high.
- ❑ While marriage, education, and employment are generally protective against poverty, rural children who benefit from each are still more likely to be poor than urban children.



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