



# Addressing Disparities: Rural Injury and Violence Prevention

**Monday, June 7<sup>th</sup> 1:30-3:00pm EST**

Featured Speakers Monique Sheppard, PhD

Mary E. Aitken, MD, MPH

Sally Kerschner, MSN, RN

Moderated by Erica Streit-Kaplan, MPH, MSW

On your telephone please dial:

**1-866-835-7973**

The webcast will begin shortly.

# Overview of Rural/Urban Injury Disparities

Erica Streit-Kaplan, MPH, MSW

Children's Safety Network

June 7, 2010

CSN is funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration  
(U.S. Department of Health and Human Services).

A project of the Education Development Center, Inc.

# What Is Rural?

- No consensus on definition
- Approximately 54 million people live in “rural” areas.
- Rural residents = 20% of U.S. population

# Rural Populations at Increased Risk

- Motor vehicle crashes
- ATV-related
- Fire deaths
- Drowning
- Suicide



## Scope of the Problem

- Between 1995 and 2002, 907 youth died on US farms (NIOSH)
  - 43 fatalities per 100,000 youth
  - most fatalities to 16-19 year-olds
- Rural fatal crash rate more than double urban rate (NHTSA).
  - 2.4 vs. 1.0 deaths per 100 million vehicle miles traveled

# Why?

- Rural roads
- Limited enforcement
- Distance from first responders & medical care
- Less access to medical providers
- Social norms



# Community of Practice

- Convened by CSN
- Multi-disciplinary teams from six northeastern states
- Explored data, prevention strategies, developed state action plans



# How Did the Community of Practice Work?

- Regular phone meetings
- Expert presenters
- Email contact
- Online social networking group
- State action planning

# States Focused on 4 Rural Injury Issues

- 1) teen motor vehicle crashes
- 2) teen suicides
- 3) all-terrain vehicle (ATV) injuries
- 4) farm injuries



# Benefits of Community of Practice

- Explore injury issues in a sustained way
- Learn about successes/challenges in other states
- Get feedback on your own work

# New Community of Practice

- National: 6-10 states
- Starting this fall
- 6-12 month obligation
- Applications available after this webinar

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[www.Childrensafetynetwork.org](http://www.Childrensafetynetwork.org)

# Injury Rates by Urbanization in Fatality Data

**Presented by the Children's Safety Network Economics and  
Data Analysis Resource Center (CSN-EDARC):**

**Monique A. Sheppard, PhD**

**Addressing Disparities Rural Injury and Violence Prevention Webinar  
June 7, 2010**

CSN is funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration  
(U.S. Department of Health and Human Services).

# 2006 National Center for Health Statistics Urban-Rural Classification

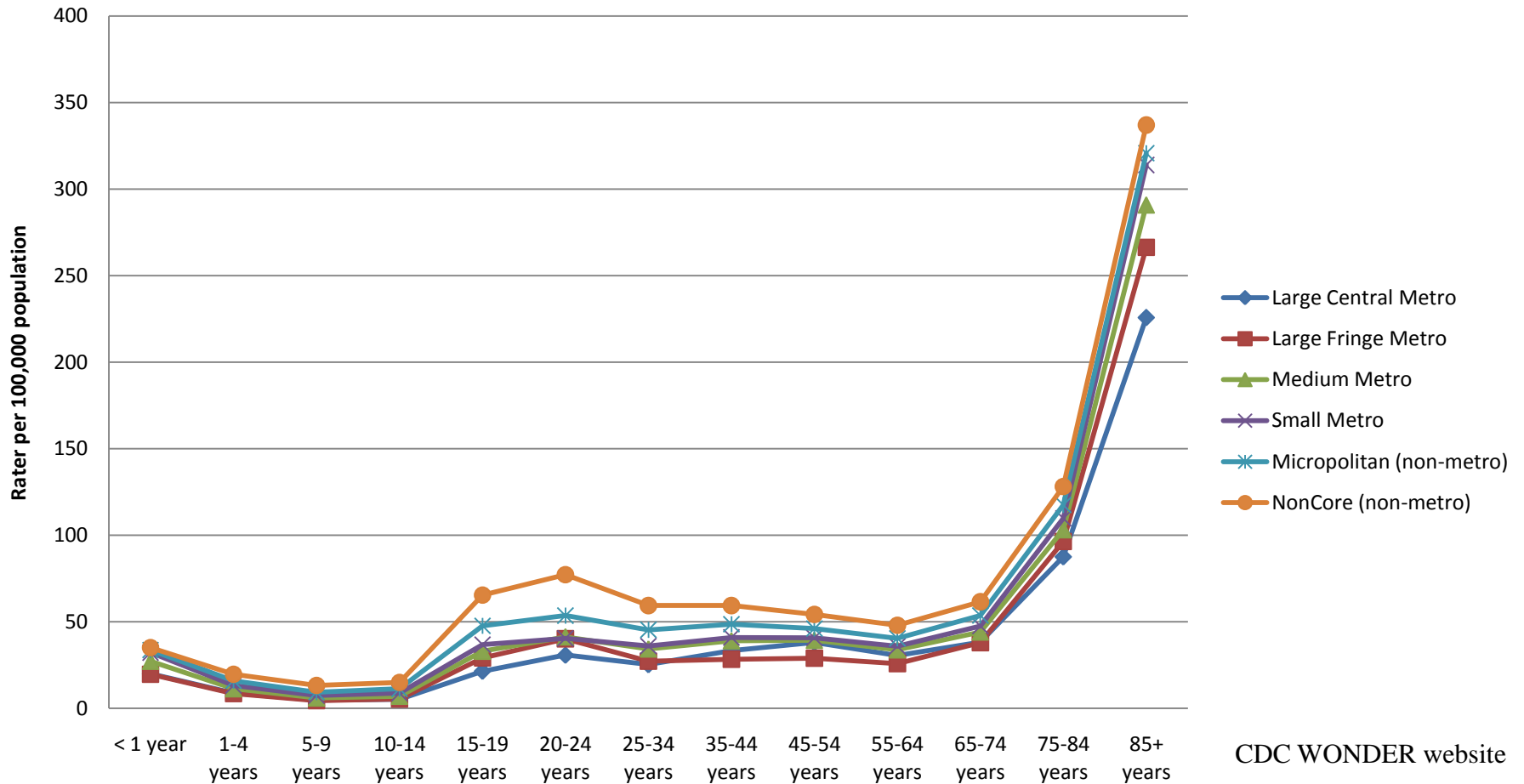
**Table 2. Classification rules used to assign counties to the six urbanization levels of the 2006 NCHS Urban-Rural Classification**

Urban-rural category	Classification rules
<b>Metropolitan</b>	
	Counties in a metropolitan statistical area of 1 million or more population:
Large central metro <sup>1</sup>	1) that contain the entire population of the largest principal city of the metropolitan statistical area, or 2) whose entire population resides in the largest principal city of the metropolitan statistical area, or 3) that contain at least 250,000 of the population of any principal city in the metropolitan statistical area
Large fringe metro	Counties in a metropolitan statistical area of 1 million or more population that do not qualify as large central
Medium metro	Counties in a metropolitan statistical area of 250,000 to 999,999 population
Small metro	Counties in a metropolitan statistical area of 50,000 to 249,999 population
<b>Nonmetropolitan</b>	
Micropolitan	*Counties in a micropolitan statistical area
Noncore	Counties that are neither metropolitan nor micropolitan

<sup>1</sup>There must be at least one large central county in each large metro area.

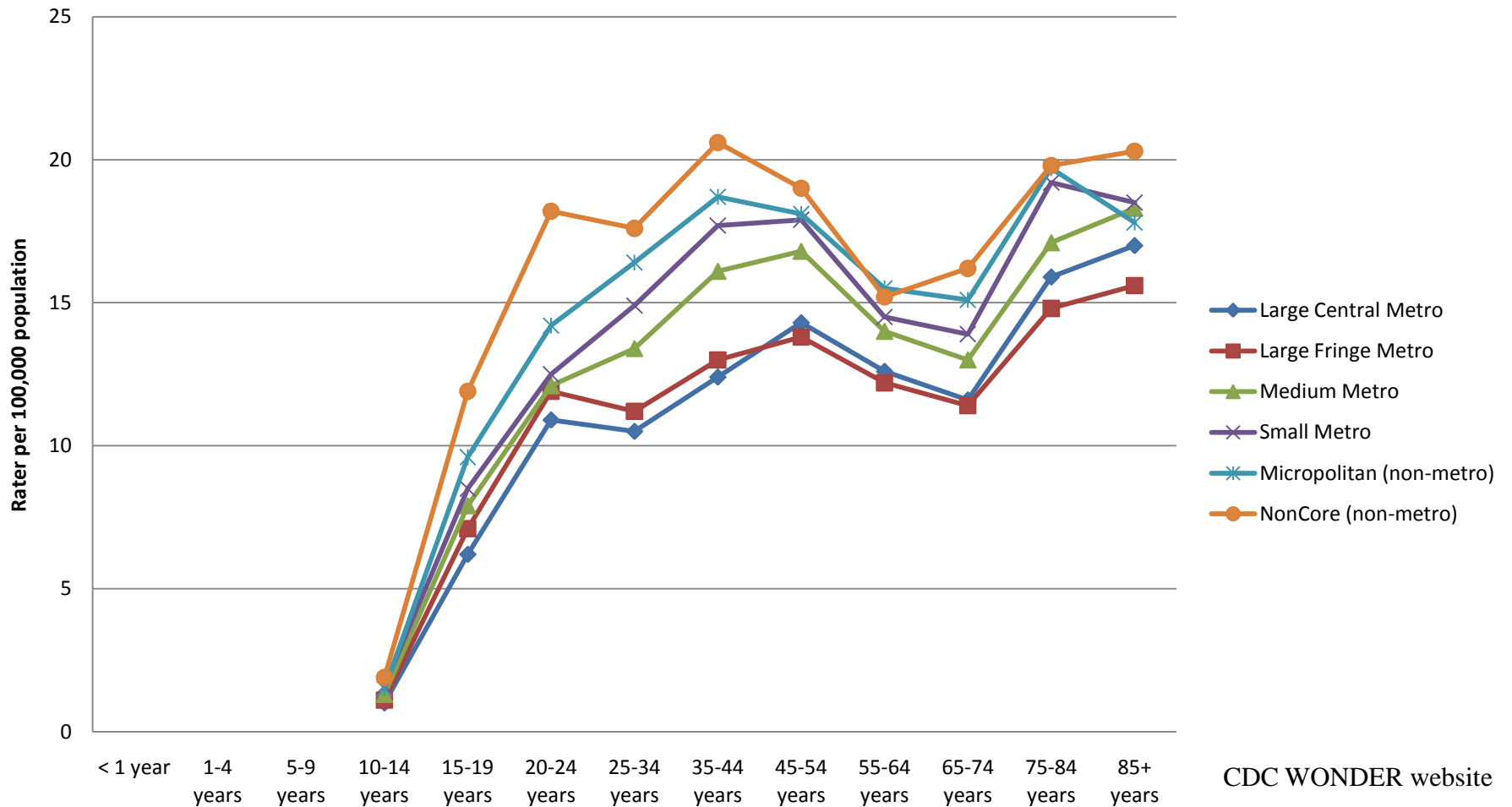
\*Micropolitan counties are defined as counties with a core city or town with a population of 10,000 to 49,999

## US Unintentional Rates of Fatal Injuries by Urbanization and Age Group 1999-2006

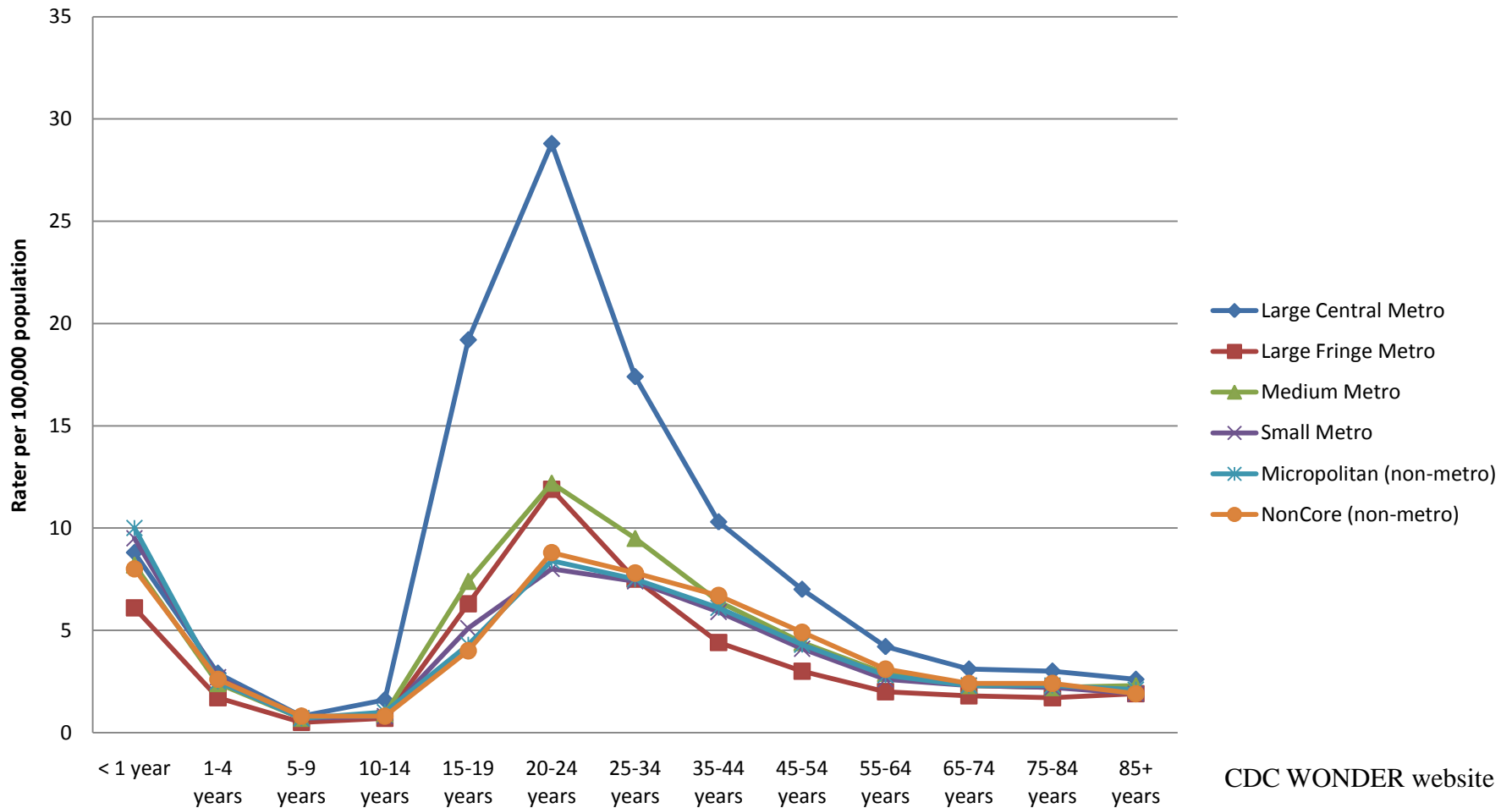




## US Suicide Rates of Fatal Injuries by Urbanization and Age Group 1999-2006

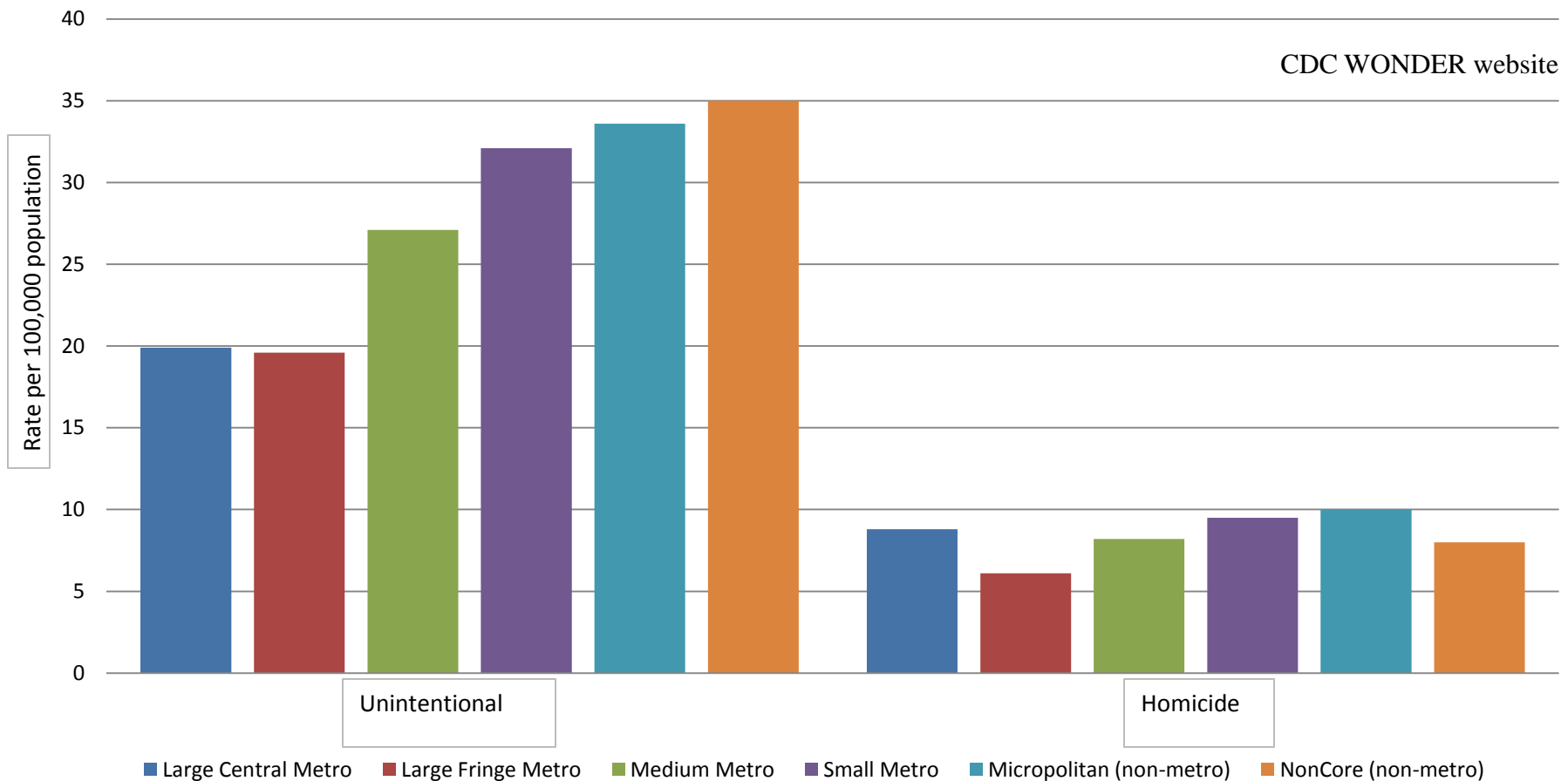


## US Homicide Rates of Fatal Injuries by Urbanization and Age Group 1999-2006

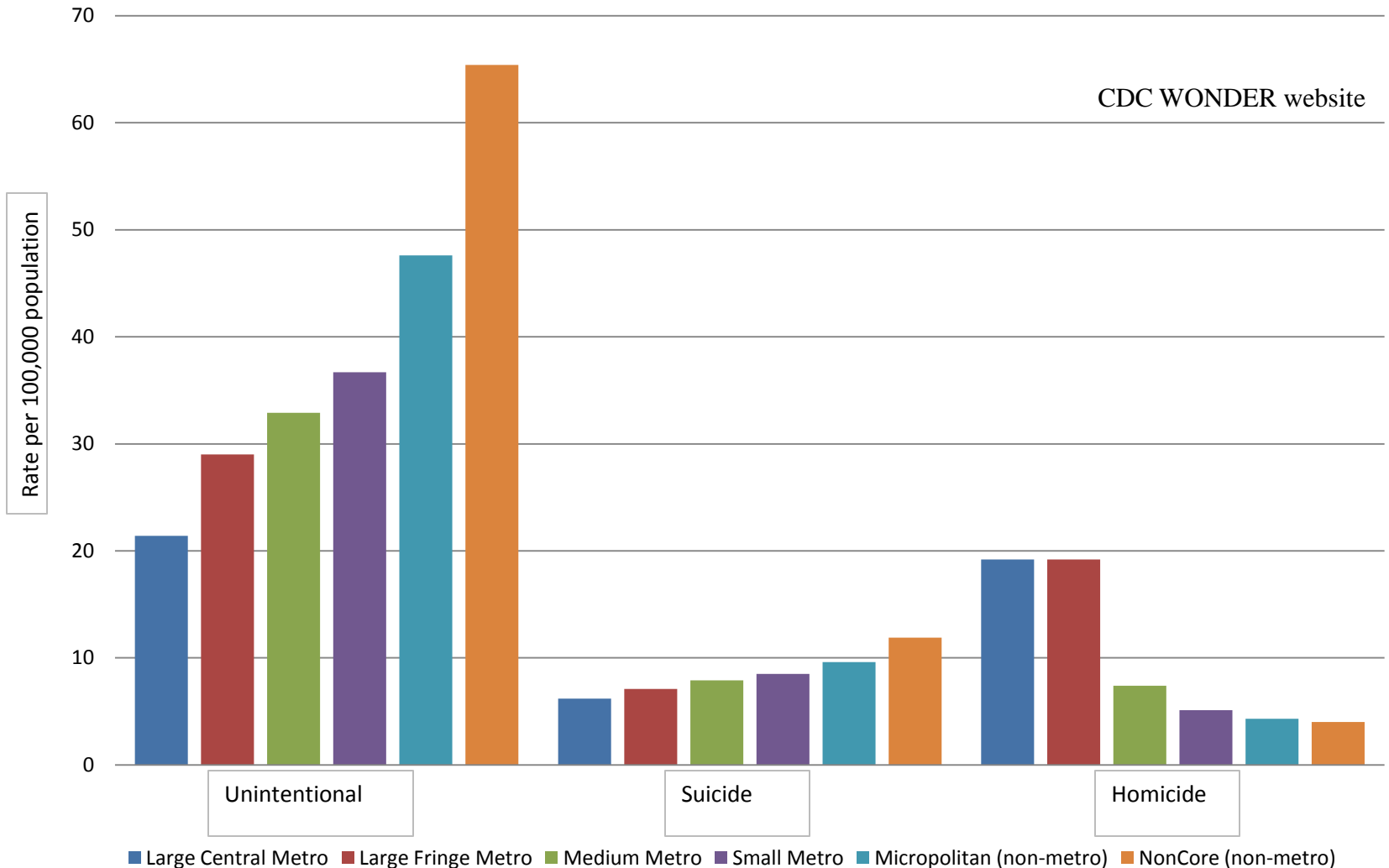


## US Rates of Fatal Injuries by Urbanization and Intent for Ages <1 Year, 1999-2006

CDC WONDER website

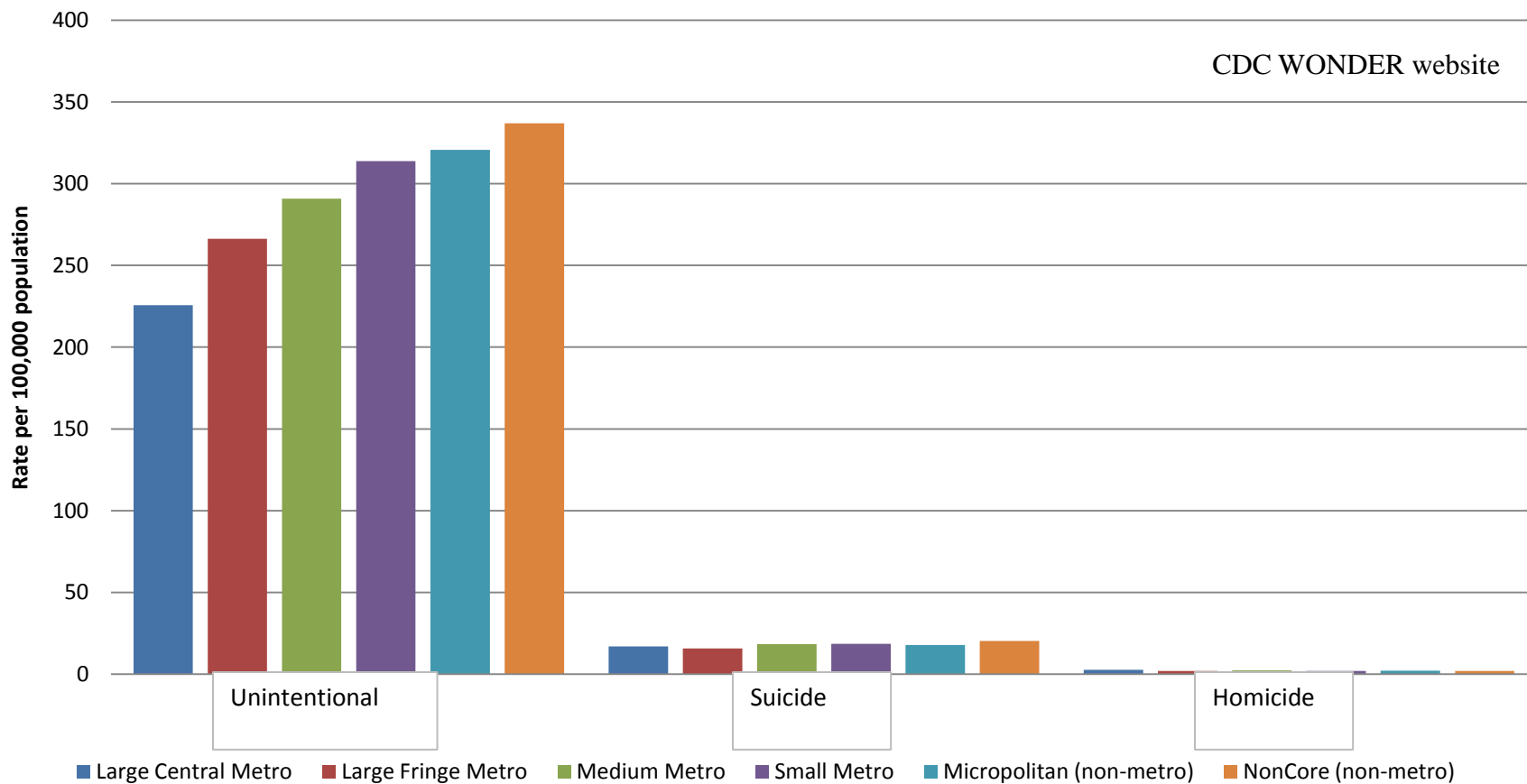


## US Rates of Fatal Injuries by Urbanization and Intent for Ages 15-19 Years, 1999-2006

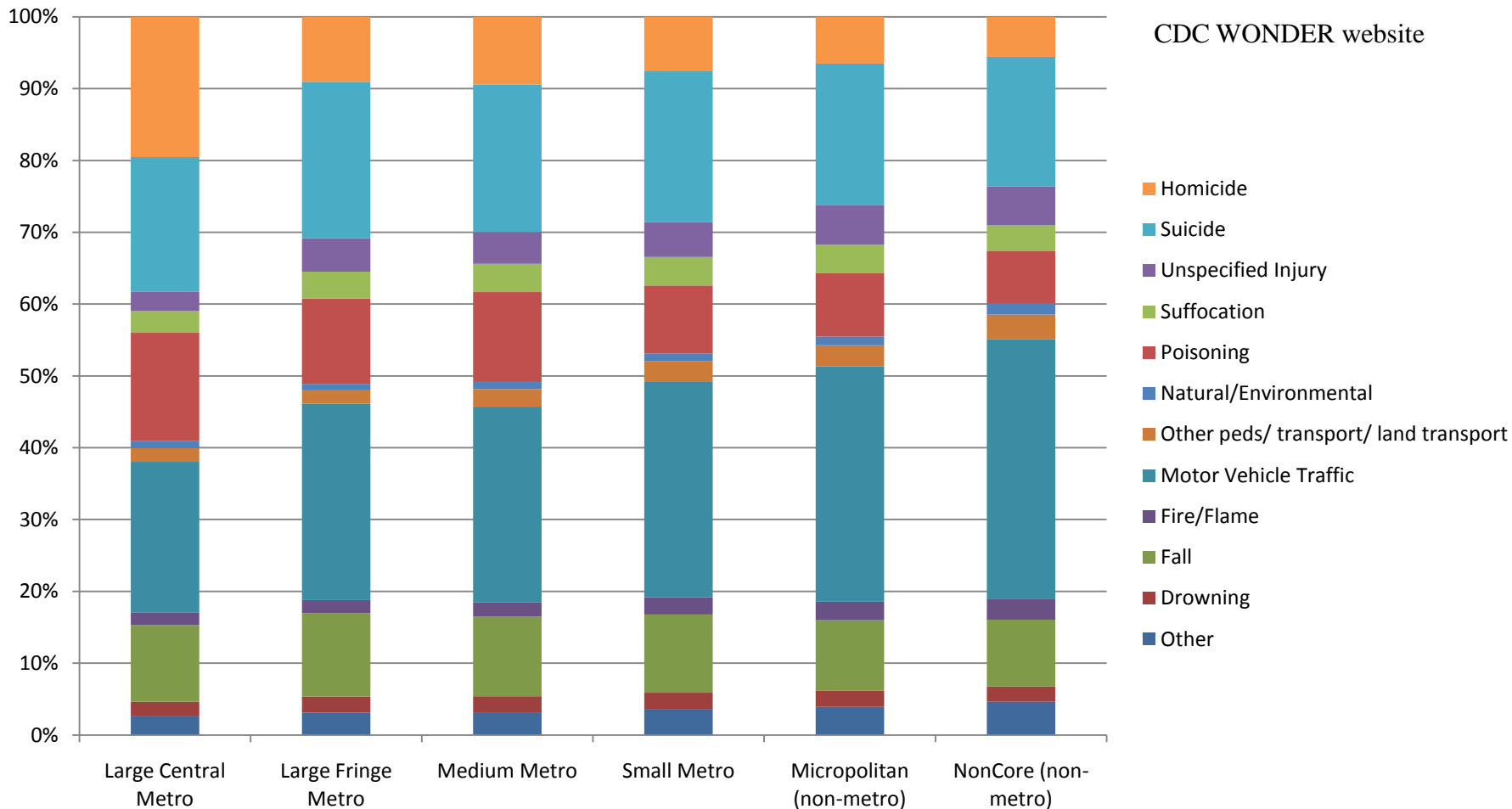


## US Rates of Fatal Injuries by Urbanization and Intent for Ages 85+ Years, 1999-2006

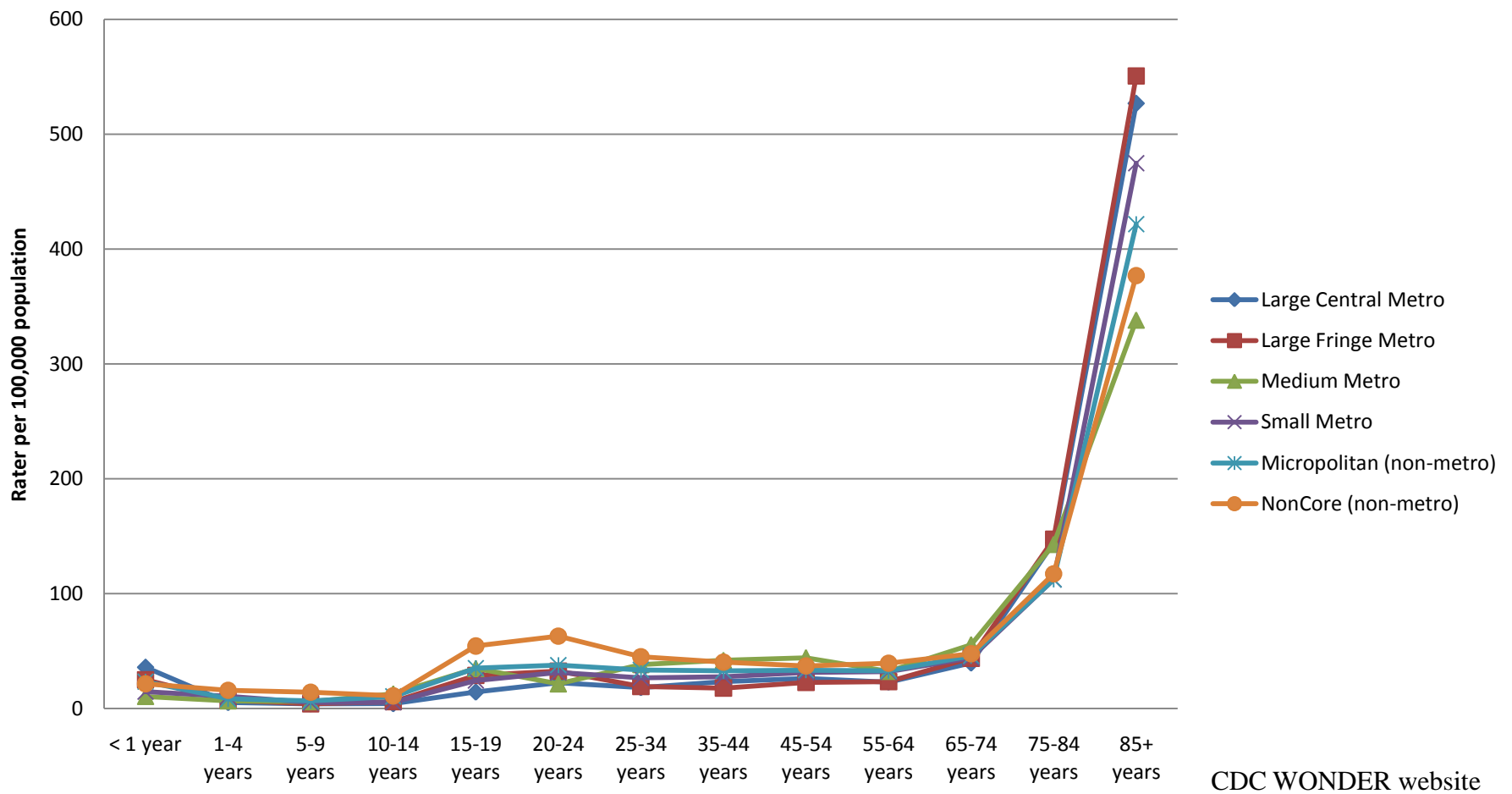
CDC WONDER website



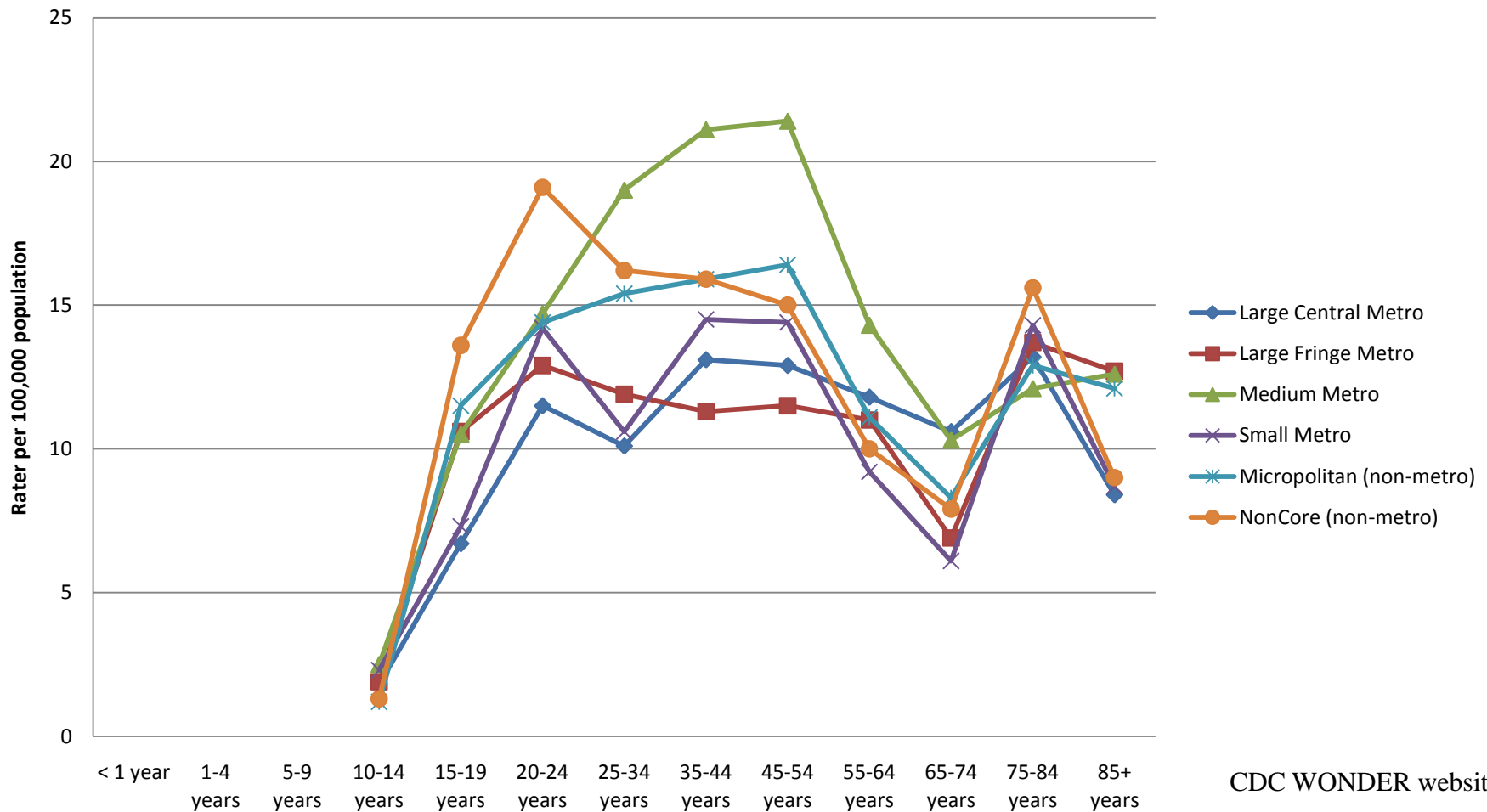
## US Fatal Injury Percentage Mechanism by Urbanization, 1999-2006



## Minnesota Unintentional Rates of Fatal Injuries by Urbanization and Age Group

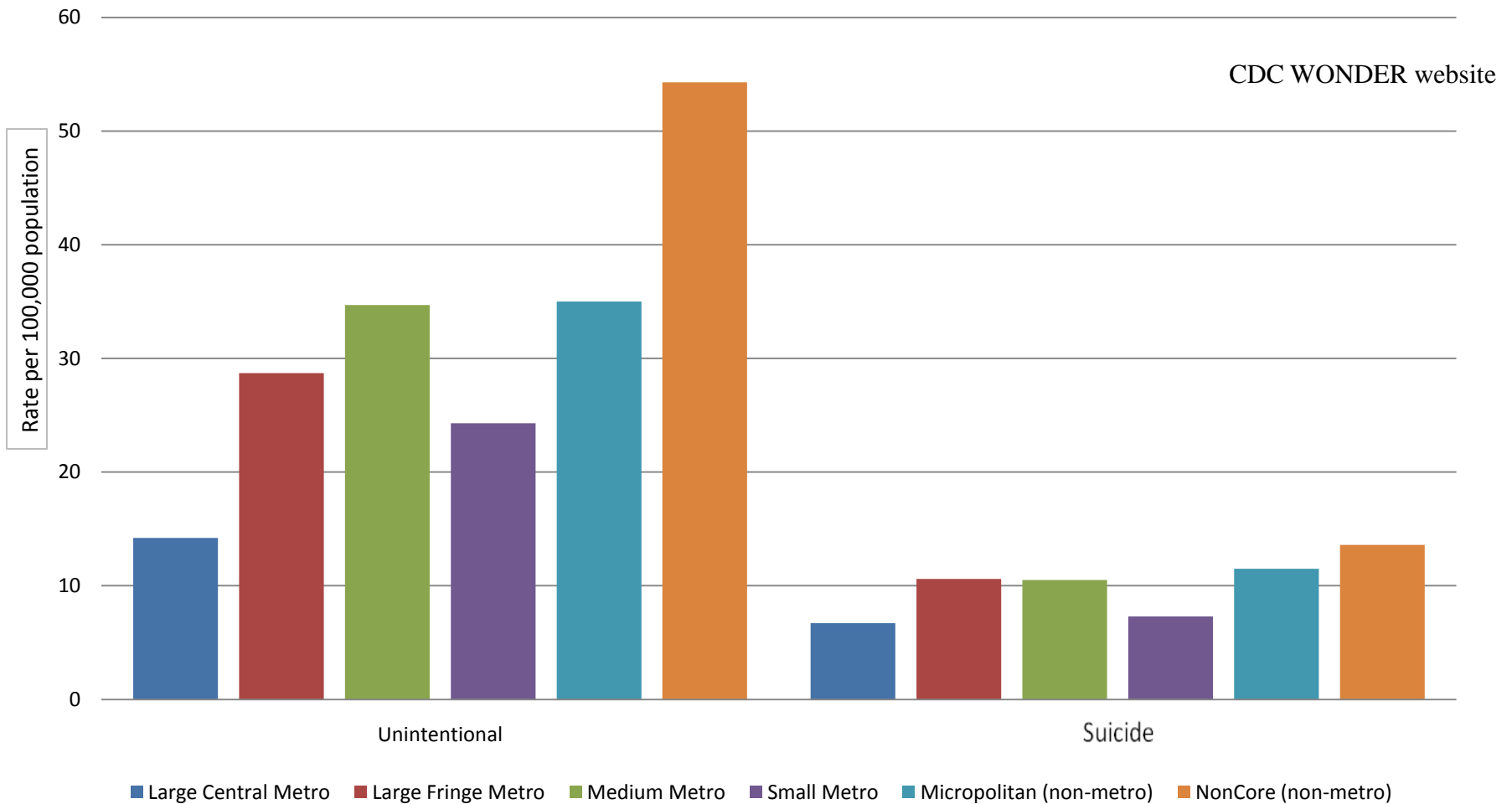


## Minnesota Suicide Rates by Urbanization and Age Group, 1999-2006

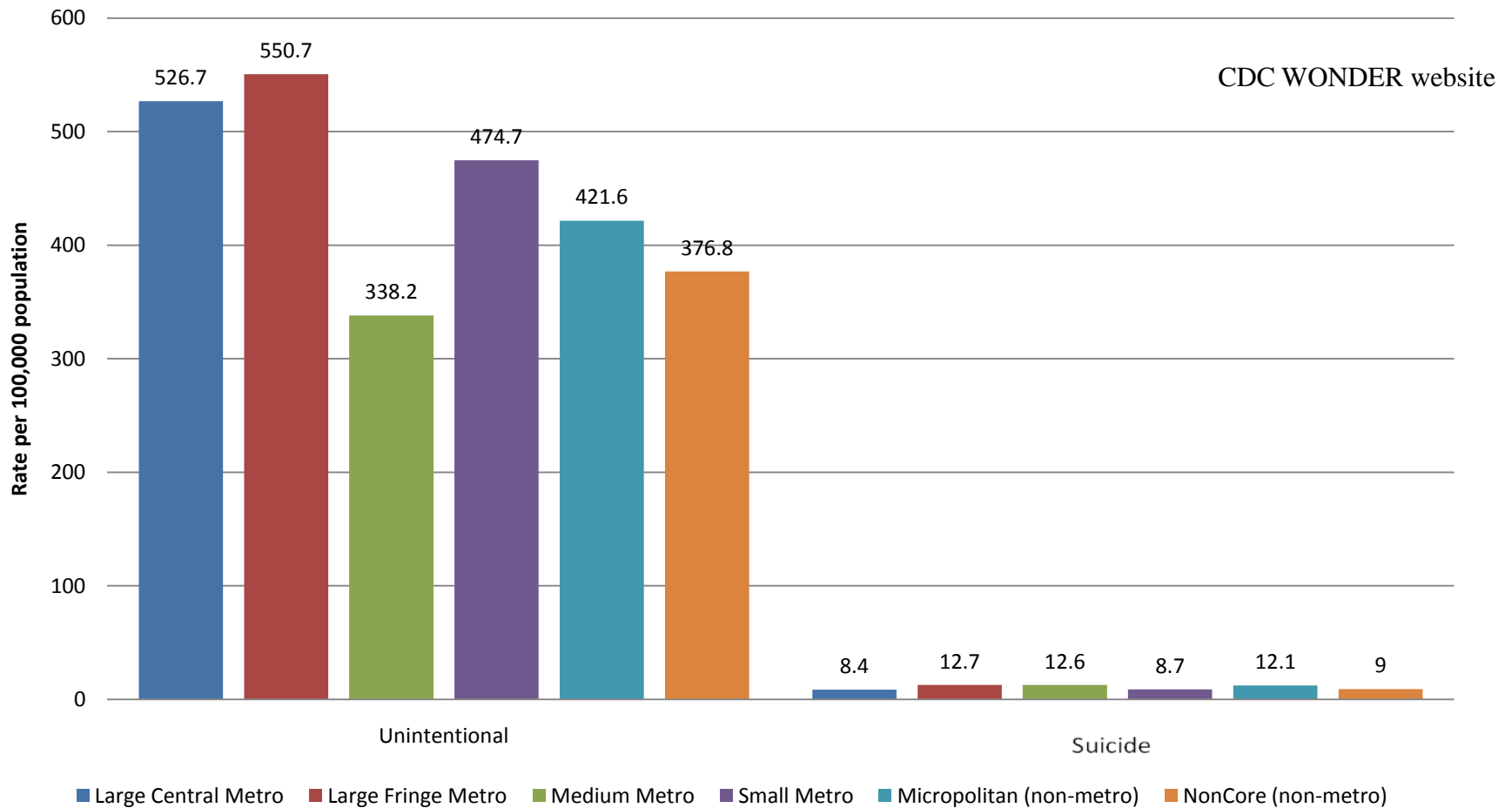




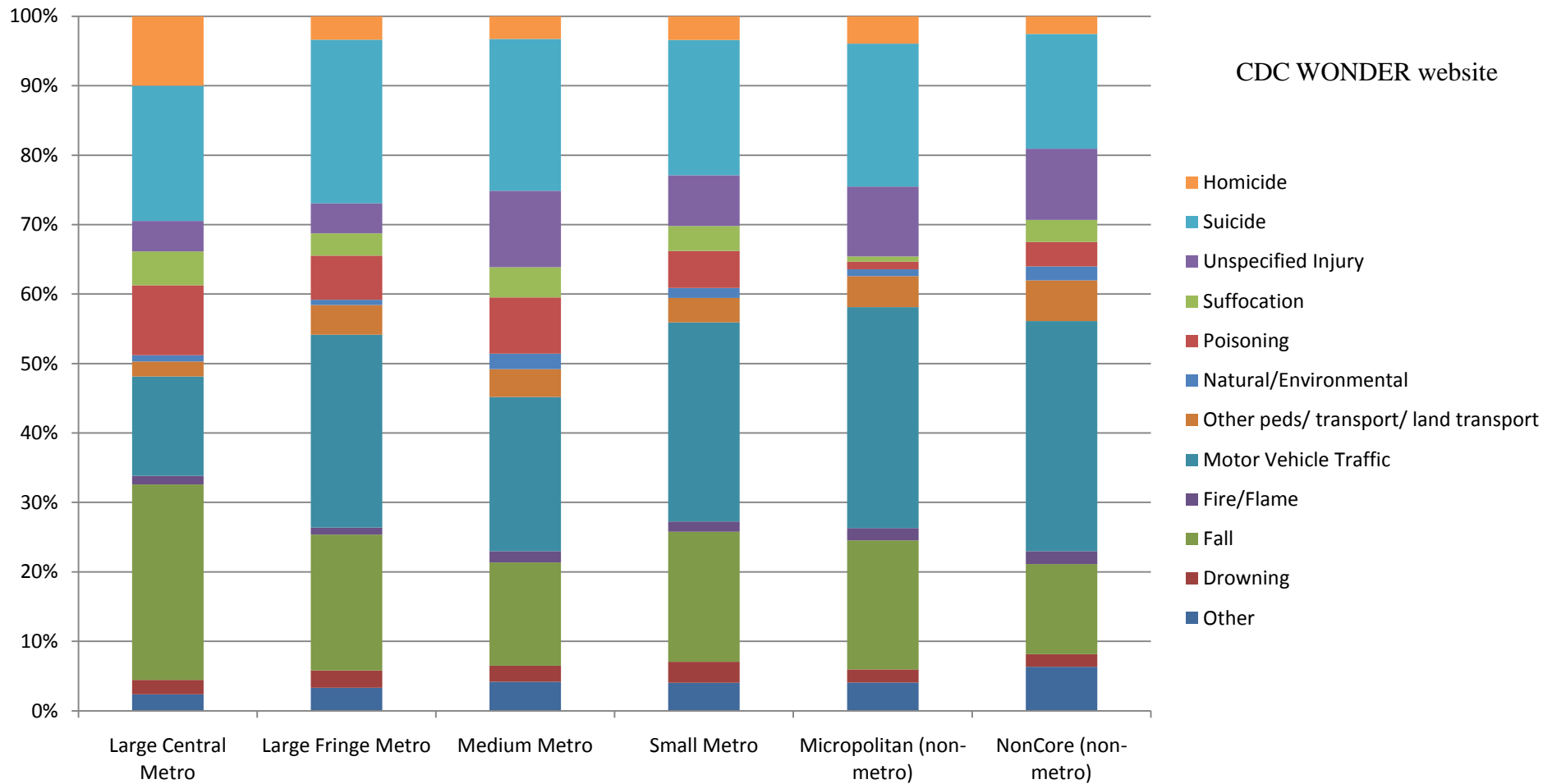
## Minnesota Rates of Fatal Injuries by Urbanization and Intent for Ages 15-19 Years, 1999-2006



## Minnesota Rates of Fatal Injuries by Urbanicity and Intent for Ages 85+ Years, 1999-2006



## Minnesota Fatal Injury Percentage Mechanism by Urbanization, 1999-2006



# Contact Information

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# Injury Risk in Rural Communities: Perception, Reality, and Prevention

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Mary E. Aitken, MD MPH

Professor of Pediatrics, UAMS College of Medicine

Arkansas Children's Hospital Injury Prevention Center

# Rural Matters

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- Institute of Medicine EMSC Report, 2006:
  - “where a child lives has an important impact on whether the child can survive a serious injury or illness”

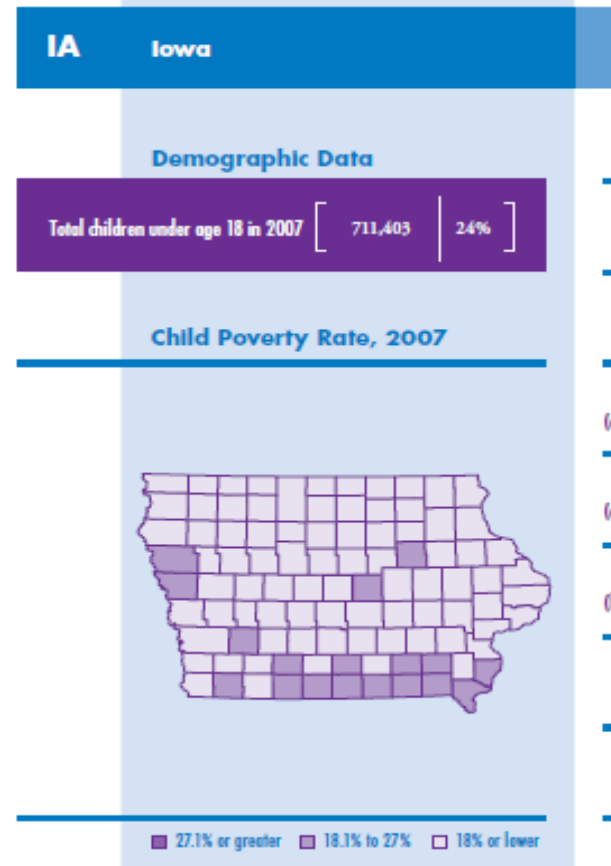
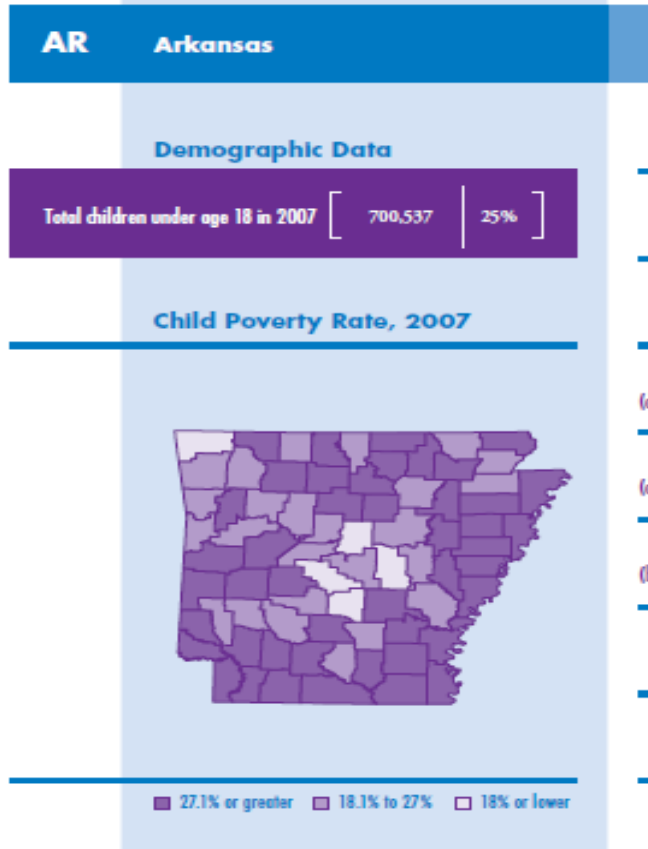
<http://www.iom.edu/Reports/2006/Emergency-Care-for-Children-Growing-Pains.aspx>

# What is Rural?

- Geography/population density not the whole story
- Cultural influences of values, beliefs, and perceptions
- Satellite/internet communication has decreased isolation but has not necessarily increased access to accurate information



# All rural is not the same...



The Annie E. Casey Foundation | [www.aecf.org](http://www.aecf.org)



# Rural Health Comparisons

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- Risks
  - Higher rates of injury, cardiovascular disease, CVA, neoplasms
  - 26% of all pediatric emergency department visits occur in rural emergency departments
  - Higher rates of emergency system use in rural settings

# Rural Health Care Access

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- Lack of physicians globally
- Lack of specialty physicians including ED physicians
  - Only 1/3 of US hospitals have a board certified ED doctor, variable staffing patterns (2005 NHAMCS survey)
  - May not have all needed equipment, especially pediatric
- Lower overall quality of care and poorer outcomes, (Dhamar, 2008; Marcin, 2007)
- High rates of preventable medical errors (Esposito)
- Geographic distance to health care services

# Rural Emergency Care

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- Longer transport distances
- Lower volumes may mean that emergency personnel have less experience caring for children
  - Maine: no paramedics performed more than two pediatric intubations in a single year and most none
  - Lower self-efficacy and decline in skills over time

# Rural vs. Urban Injury Rates

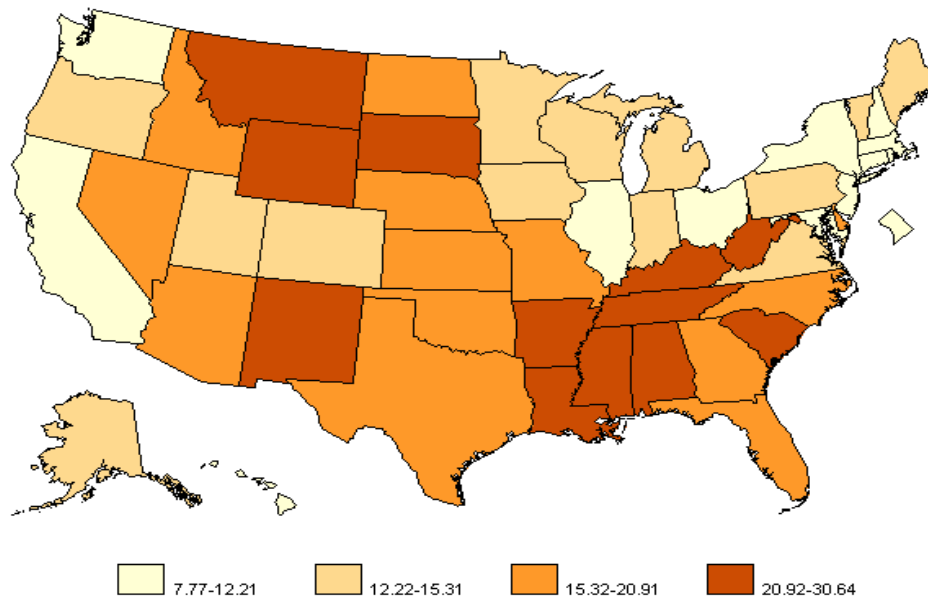
- Injury rates over several studies range from 25%-35% higher for rural children compared to urban
- 27% increased risk of hospitalization for injury and higher overall injury severity for rural children
- Mostly due to differences in unintentional injuries

Coben, AJPM, 2009



# Specific Issues: Motor Vehicle Safety

**2000-2006, United States**  
Death Rates per 100,000 Population  
Motor Vehicle, Traffic, All Intents, All Races, All Ethnicities, Both Sexes, All Ages  
Annualized Crude Rate for United States: 14.90



Reports for All Ages include those of unknown age.

\* Rates based on 20 or fewer deaths may be unstable. States with these rates are cross-hatched in the map (see legend above). Such rates have an asterisk.

Produced by: Office of Statistics & Programming, National Center for Injury Prevention & Control, CDC  
Data Sources: NCHS National Vital Statistics System for numbers of deaths; US Census Bureau for population estimates.

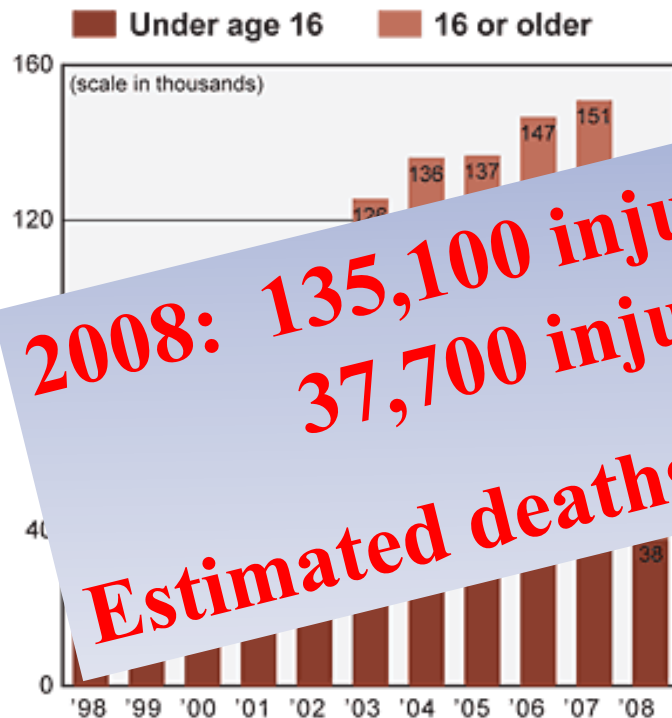
# Rural Roads: Contributing Risks

- 42% more fatal crashes in rural areas than urban
- Nearly twice as many fatalities per mile driven
- Only 21% of US population is rural; nearly 60% of road fatalities occur in rural areas
- Rural road crash characteristics:
  - Multiple fatalities
  - More trucks, more head on crashes
  - Ejection--16.7% rural; 7.5% urban
- Higher injury severity, longer retrieval times

DOT Contrasting Rural and Urban Fatal Crashes, 1994-2003

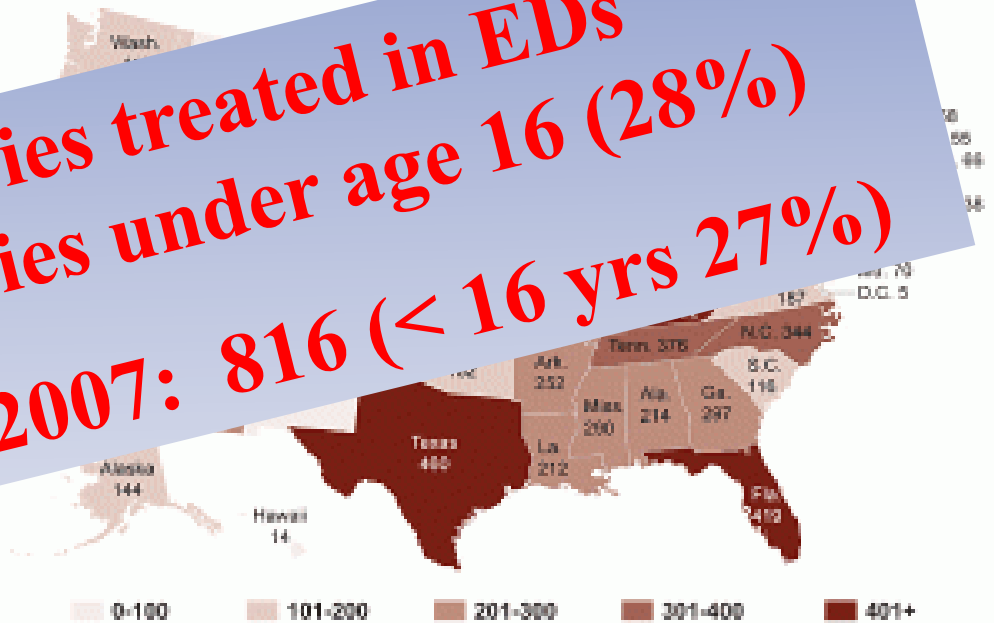
# Recreational Risk: ATV Injury

Annual Estimates of ATV-Related Injuries in the United States



**2008: 135,100 injuries treated in EDs**  
**37,700 injuries under age 16 (28%)**  
**Estimated deaths 2007: 816 (< 16 yrs 27%)**

Reported ATV-Related Fatalities by State



SOURCE: U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission  
 NOTE: Figures are for 1998-2008. Total reported deaths likely to rise because reporting for 2004-2008 is continuing.  
 © CHANDR BOUTER FOR FAIRWARNING

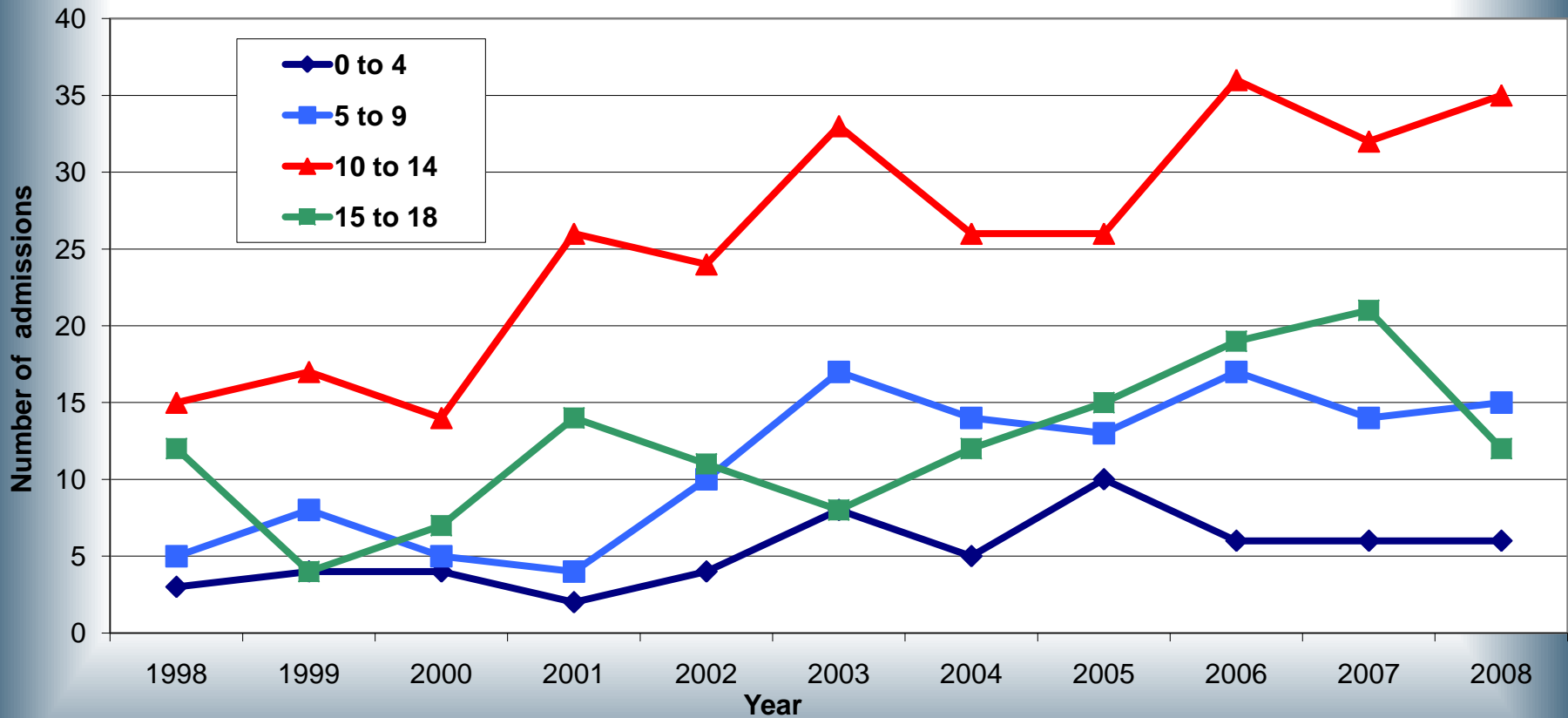
SOURCE: U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission  
 NOTE: Estimates are for injuries requiring emergency room treatment.

KHANG NGUYEN FOR FAIRWARNING



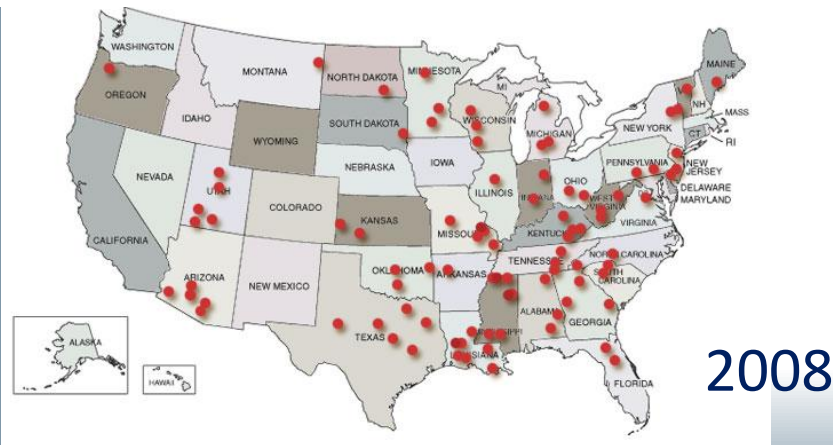
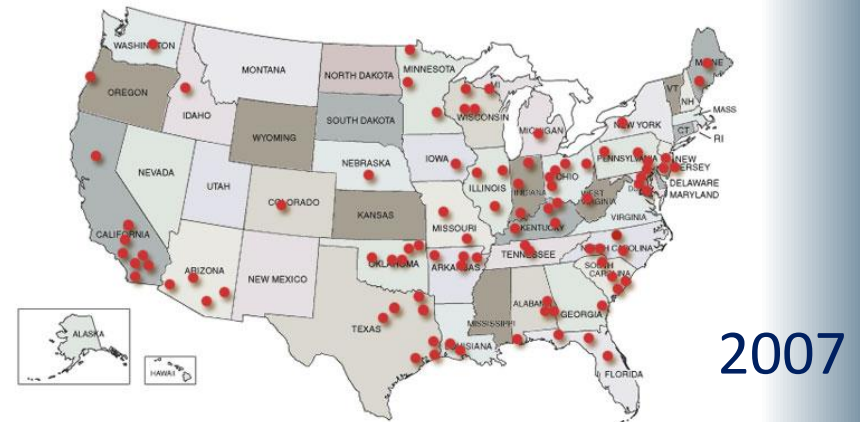
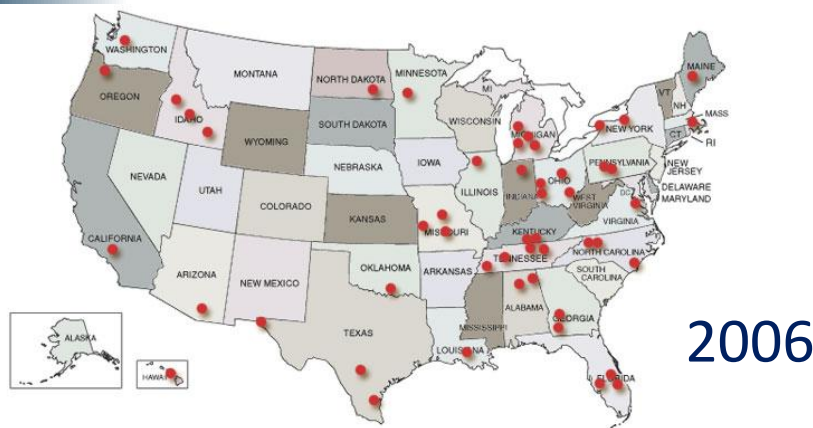
# ATV Injury at Arkansas Children's Hospital

ATV admissions by age group and year, ACH Pediatric Trauma Service  
1998-2008





# Reported ATV-related Child Deaths



Source: Concerned Families for ATV Safety



Injury Prevention  
It only takes a moment.

[archildrens.org](http://archildrens.org)



Pediatrics  
[arpediatrics.org](http://arpediatrics.org)

[uams.edu](http://uams.edu)

**UAMS**  
UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS  
FOR MEDICAL SCIENCES

# Agricultural Risk

- Farming injury risks:
  - Machinery (tractors most common)
  - Falls (ladders, hay mows)
  - Livestock
  - Asphyxiation (grain bins, silos)
  - All-terrain vehicles
- Children on farms:
  - 22,000 farm injuries in children < 20 annually
  - 50-60% not working at the time of injury
  - No OSHA or other workplace standards





# Multiple Strategies for Prevention

Less primary care  
Lower educational levels  
Less training for first responders

Greater exposure to roads  
Rural road design  
Increased use of SUVs and trucks  
Exposure to farm equipment and ATVs

EDUCATION

ENGINEERING

ECONOMICS

ENACTMENT

Lower SES  
Lower adoption of safety measures  
Vehicle selection

More conservative  
More challenging enforcement

# Haddon Matrix for Injury Prevention

Injury Phase	Points of Intervention				
	Education	Engineering	Enactment & Enforcement	Economics & Environment	Empowerment
Pre-Event					
Event					
Post-Event					

Source: Beverly Miller, IPC

# Haddon Injury Matrix in Rural Context

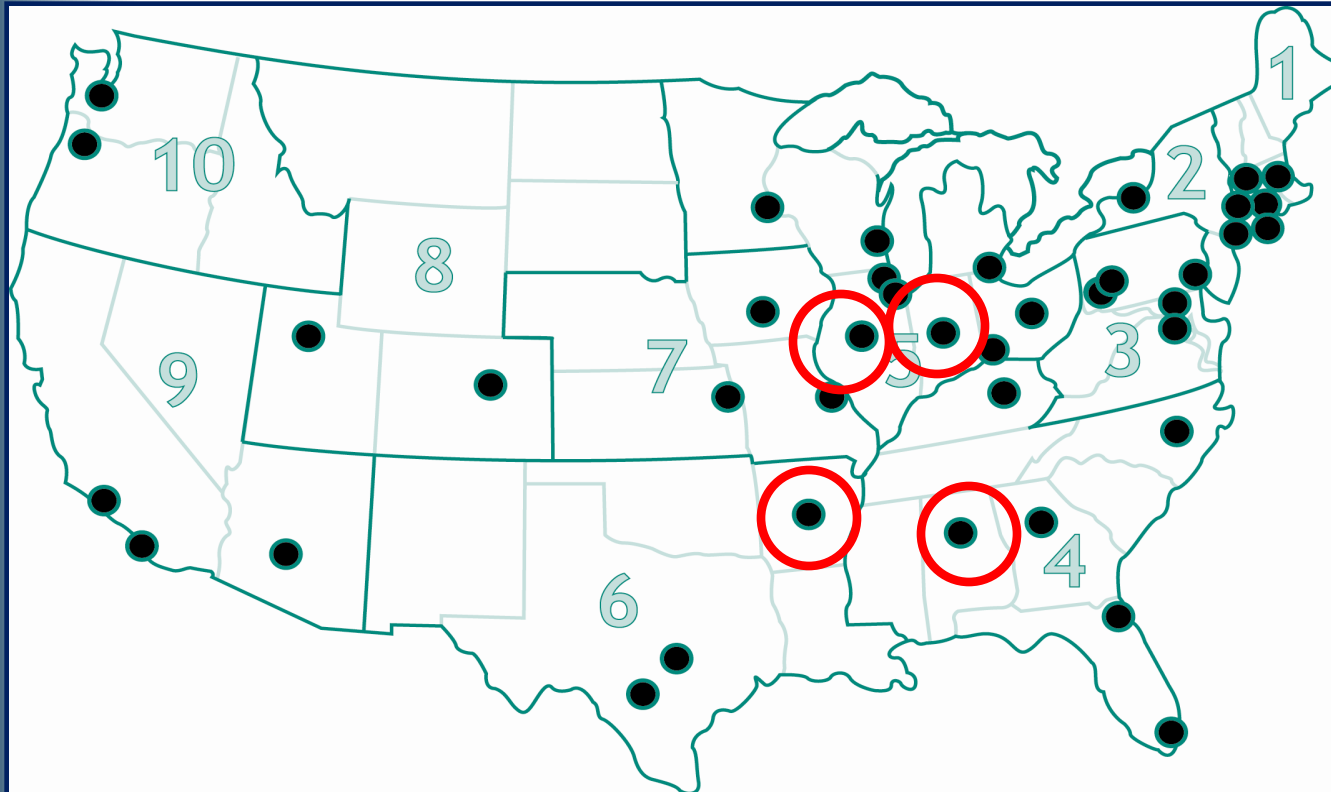
Access Points	Perception , Belief, and Behavior Influences on ATV Safety				
	Education	Engineering	Enactment & Enforcement	Economics & Environment	Empowerment
Pre-Event	Limited sources  Informal sources may be valued over Authority	Unaware of inherent risks in machines  More bang for the buck	Strong belief in personal rights	Access to safety products and training  Secondary market	Accidents will happen  We take care of our own and make our own decisions
Event	Myths re: helmet use, safety of machines	Unaware of inherent risks in physical environment	Competing priorities for enforcement officers	Choice vs. necessity of use	Lower use of safety gear  Overestimating ability
Post-Event	Training of 1 <sup>st</sup> responders	We own the reason for the crash	Value of law = penalty	Access to trauma services	What doesn't kill us will make us stronger

# Specific Issues: Program Examples

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- Motor vehicle safety
  - Booster seat dissemination
  - Statewide child seat training program with satellite program
  - Teen driving coalitions
- Recreational safety
  - ATV safety partnerships

# Strike Out Child Passenger Safety

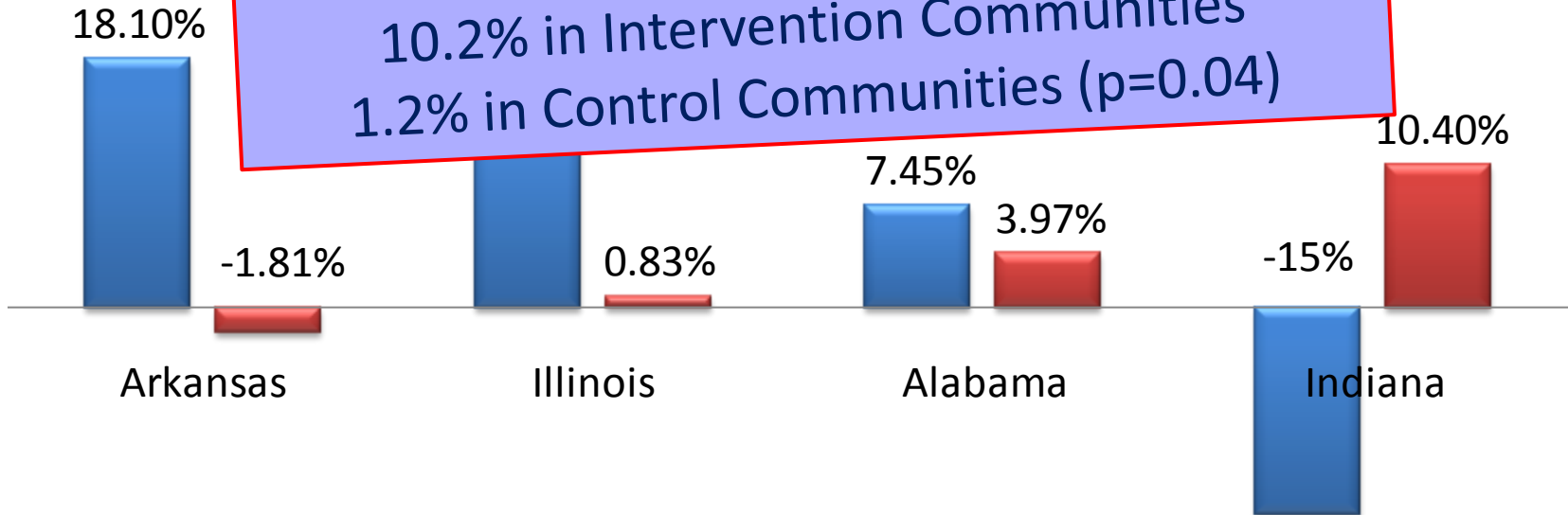




# Examples of Rural Interventions for Motor Vehicle Safety

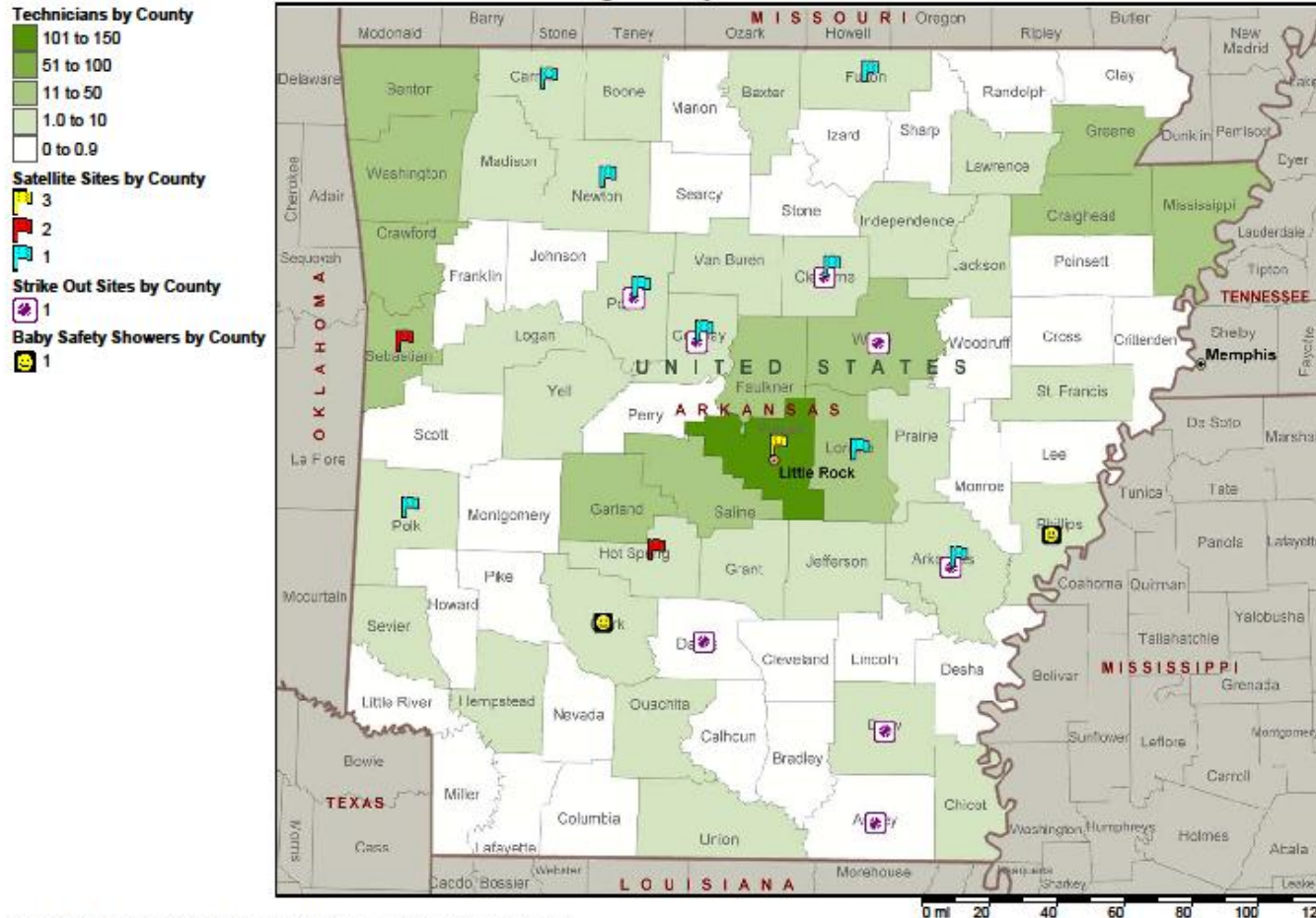
Strike Out Intervention vs. Control  
Change in AAP Recommended Appropriate Restraint Use  
Seasons 1 and 2

Overall increase in appropriate restraint use:  
10.2% in Intervention Communities  
1.2% in Control Communities (p=0.04)



# Child Passenger Safety Education

Child Passenger Safety Activities 2009



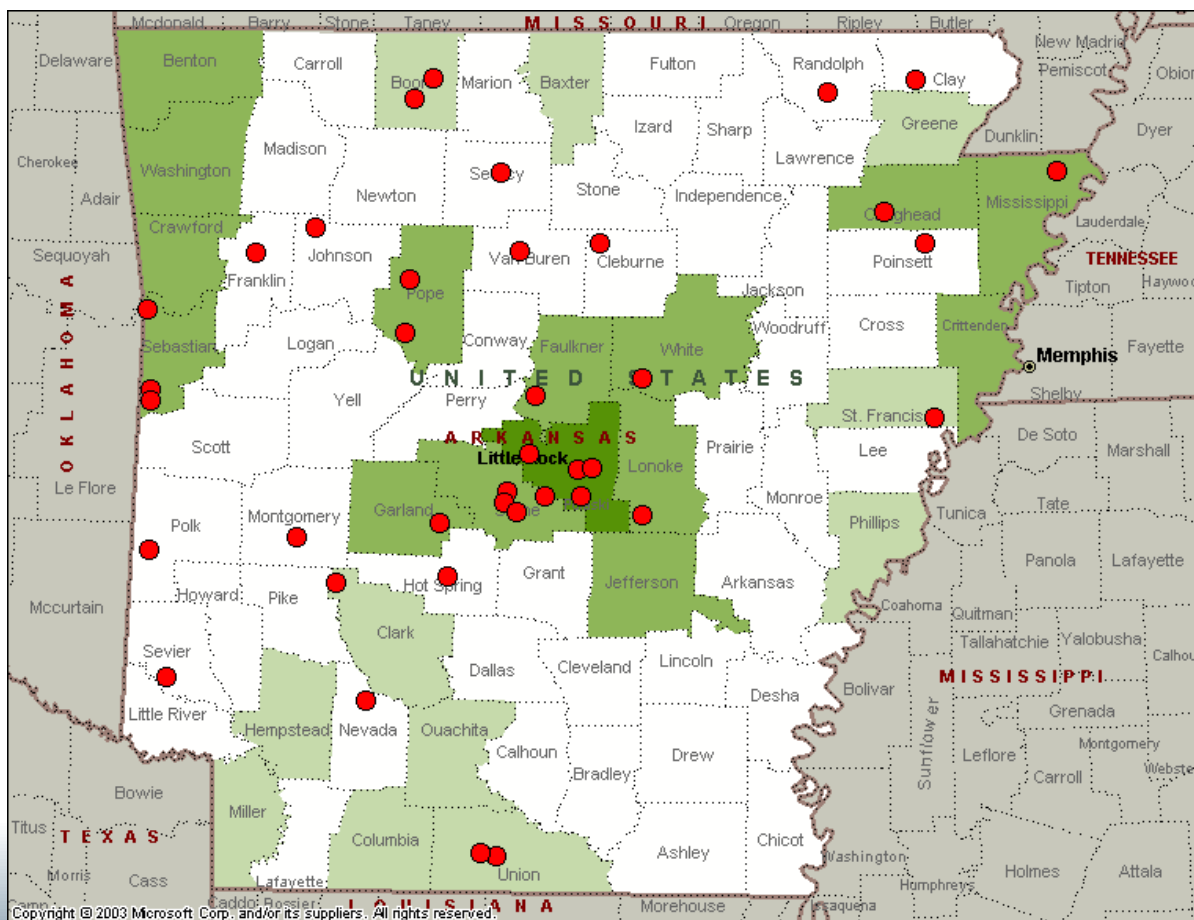
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# All-terrain Vehicle Safety Program

- Education tailored for specific target groups
- Use of expanded technologies for education delivery including video/DVD, movie theatre trailers
- Serial qualitative and quantitative evaluation of materials



# ATV Toolkit Distribution, Pilot



- Medium Metro
- Small Metro
- Micropolitan
- Small Core



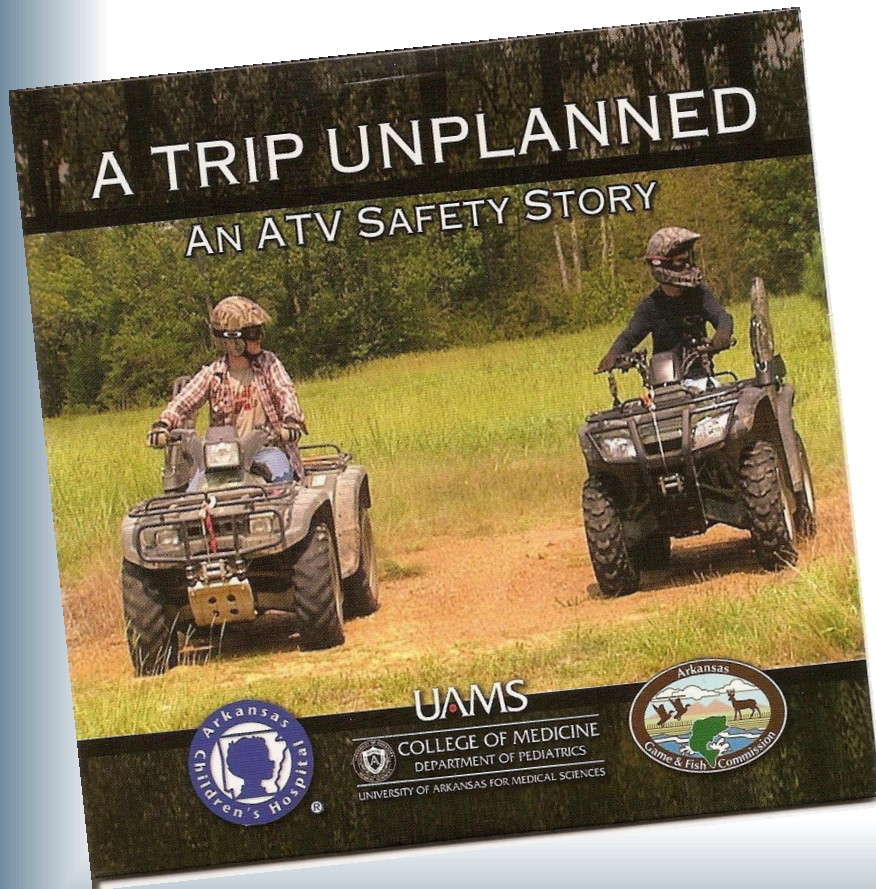


# Lessons Learned: Education

- Pragmatic approach to risk reduction
- Credible spokespersons
- Non-traditional venues
- Tailored messaging



# Tailored Messaging



# Use Educational Technology

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- Interactive internet-based education effective with both patients (prevention and rehabilitation) and with healthcare providers
- Telemedicine
  - ANGELS program reduced perinatal mortality and improved stroke care
  - Professional education
  - Medical consultation







# Lessons Learned: Enactment and Enforcement

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- Changes begin with education and engagement
- Start small with local politics
- Influence organizational policy and practice (e.g.: banning ATVs from school property)
- Flexibility is key: work with local norms when this does not weaken policies



# Lessons Learned: Empowerment

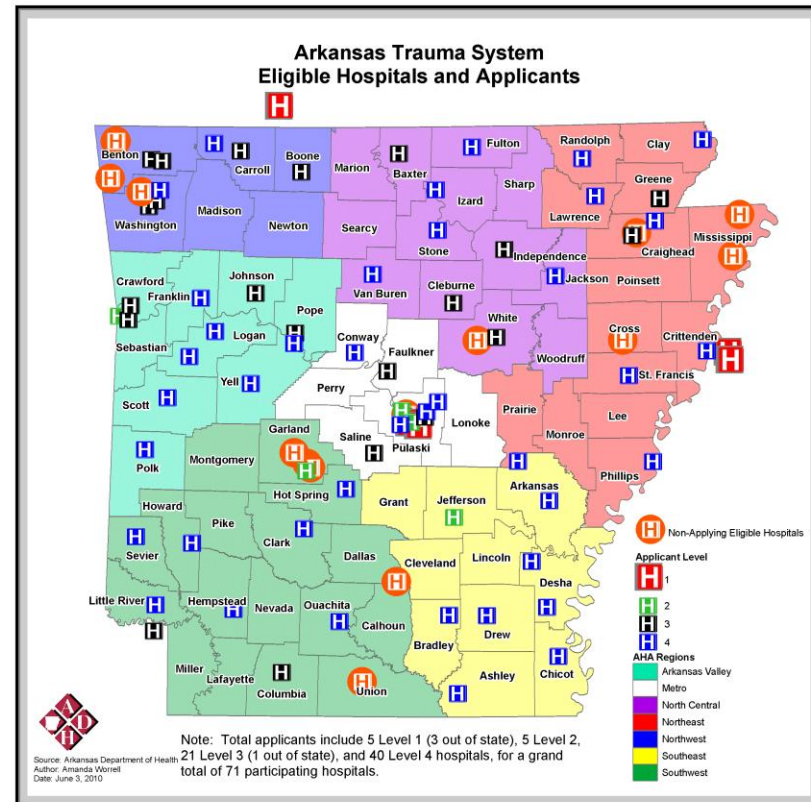
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- “Should” can sound like a value judgment when it comes from an outsider
- Work through gate keepers and champions
- Build relationships instead of completing tasks
- Stay current on important events in the community



# Lessons Learned: Systems

- Quality of care improved in rural hospitals after ATLS training (Olson, 2001)
- In-hospital death rates lower in rural hospitals that are designated trauma centers (Bowman, 2008)
- Full engagement and training are critical in rural settings
- Technical assistance to build local capacity



# Contacts

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# State Level Action on a Rural Injury Issue: Vermont's Experience

*Guidance • Support • Prevention • Protection*

*Sally Kerschner, MSN, RN*

CSN June, 2010

## **Overview of Community of Practice Process in Vermont**

- IVP/MCH realization that Vt needed to combine some efforts to advance projects
- Close relations with MCH/IVP/Rural Health
- CSN has always been seen as a resource
- Less capacity so more intense need to leverage partnerships and existing programs
- Culture of collaboration in Vermont in order to get things done

## **Overview of Process using the Public Health Model**

- Awareness of Problem
- Define the problem using data, research
- Investigate what is being done presently
- Recognize strengths of existing programs within the system
- Create/Leverage partnerships
- Plan/Implement public health interventions
- Evaluation and Modification of Programs

## **Awareness of Issues with ATV Use and Safety**

- Qualitative feedback from discussions with health care providers
- Proposed new state regulations allowing use of public land to link with private trails
- Able to access better data via newer data sets (such as ED)



## **Vermont ATV Related Deaths and Injuries**

- 28 ATV deaths in Vt for 2002-2007, all ages
- 15-20 age had the highest number of deaths
- ATV related hospitalizations for 2002-2007 was 245 (avg 41/yr)
- Hospitalization rate for males was 6X the number for females (11.5 vs. 2.0)
- ATV Related Rates of ED visits for males was 4X the female rate (108.2 vs 26.7)

## **Define the Problem**

- Why prioritize ATV?
- Data show that ATV related M&M is significant injury issue for Vermont
- Intense interest by health and safety professionals
- Existing system has strengths on which to build
- Able to easily leverage partners
- Increasing use in both recreational and occupational
- Culture of ATV use in rural areas

## **Assessment of Existing Programs Related to ATV Safety: Trainings**

- State Police - on-line
- Dept of Fish and Wildlife - on machine
- ATV Dealers
- VASA (Vt ATV association)
  - Developing classes geared to youth
- 4H
- All efforts have certain strengths, but no one program is well-funded or has sufficient capacity

## **Assessment of Existing Programs Related to ATV Safety: Education**

- Assorted ATV print materials
- No comprehensive system for production and dissemination of quality information
- Need for education of parents, youth, adult riders
- Need for education of professionals such as school personnel and health care providers
- No comprehensive or adequate funding source

## **Vermont Opportunities to Collaborate: Create/leverage Partnerships**

- UVM Extension/4H
- Farm Health task Force
- Safe Kids Vermont
- AAP/AAFP
- VDH District Offices
- VSP/Fish and Wildlife
- EMS
- VASA
- NYCAMH (New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health)

## **Vermont Opportunities to Act on ATV as a Public Health Issue**

- Injury Coordinator is coordinator for TV/MCH and participates on CDR Team
- Injury Coordinator works with Rural Health
- Injury Coordinator participates in Farm Health Task Force
- Developing relationships with NYCAMH
- Safe Kids desire to strengthen activities in injury prevention

## **Plan/Implement PH Interventions: Process**

- Community of Practice Conference Call July 2009 with Injury Prevention Team at Arkansas Children's Hospital
- Community of Practice In-Person Meeting in Massachusetts Sept 2009 with SafeKids as partner
- Included information in Injury Symposium Oct 2009
- Discussed at New England CDR Meeting Oct 2009
- Meet with Safe Kids Vt for planning Nov 2009
- First ATV-specific meeting January 2010
- Coordination via conference calls
- Meet with Safe Kids/EMS March 2010

## **Plan/Implement: Activities at Present**

- Collaboration with Safe Kids Vermont
- 4H interviews with adult ATV users
- 4H interviews with youth users
- Survey in mall at health fair March 2010
- Include in 2010 Injury Prevention Plan (identified as core focus area in 2008 application)
- Include in TV MCH Strengths and Needs Assessment
- Creating injury-related SPM for 2010 SNA
- Coordinate with New Hampshire and Maine



## **Plan/Implement: Next Steps**

- Create educational materials from focus groups and previously developed materials
- Training program system to be strengthened by VASA/VSP
- Increased role of 4H via grant support
- Dissemination of educational materials by EMS, Health Care Providers, Schools (EPSDT)
- Vermont Injury Prevention Symposium Fall 2010 on Agriculturally Related Injuries

## **Evaluation**

- Determining process measures
- Difficult to create valid population-based measures
- Consider adding ATV related question to YRBS
- Arkansas evaluation of media materials

## Contacts/Resources

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  - Hope Mullins: [mullinssamanthah@uams.edu](mailto:mullinssamanthah@uams.edu)
  - Mary Aitken: [AitkenMaryE@uams.edu](mailto:AitkenMaryE@uams.edu)
- Vermont Department of Health
  - Sally Kerschner: [skersch@ahs.state.vt.us](mailto:skersch@ahs.state.vt.us)
- Safe Kids Vermont:
  - Catherine Suiter: [Vtsafekids@vtmednet.org](mailto:Vtsafekids@vtmednet.org)
- New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health  
[www.nycamh.com/](http://www.nycamh.com/)
- CSN: [www.ChildrensSafetyNetwork.org](http://www.ChildrensSafetyNetwork.org)