

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LATINO COMMUNITY ASSET BUILDERS

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Committed to the future of rural communities.

INTRODUCTION

- **USDA Rural Development**
- **Revitalizing Rural America**
- **Hispanics in Rural America**
- **Housing and Community Facilities Programs**

RURAL AMERICA TODAY

- **Rural America faces difficult challenges today**
 - Average per capita income \$11,000 less than urban Americans
 - Significant education and health disparities
 - Aging population and outmigration challenges
 - Recession only amplified these issues

REVITALIZING RURAL AMERICA

- **At President Obama's direction, USDA is working to build a framework for a new rural economy**
- **Secretary Vilsack's vision for rural communities: that they create wealth and jobs so they can be self-sustaining, repopulating, and thriving economically**

REVITALIZING RURAL AMERICA

- **USDA Rural Revitalization Strategy focused on four elements aimed at creating wealth in Rural America:**
 - Developing new markets to provide new income opportunities for American producers at home and abroad
 - Creating new opportunities for prosperity and small business growth with investments in rural broadband access
 - Creating green jobs by promoting the production of renewable energy in communities across the country
 - Stimulating rural economies by encouraging natural resource restoration and conservation and by promoting recreational uses

RECOVERY ACT & RURAL AMERICA

- Through the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA), USDA has already begun making vital investments

- **ARRA provided \$53B for rural America through USDA:**
 - Housing loans
 - Broadband expansion
 - Essential community facilities like libraries and hospitals
 - Water and waste infrastructure
 - Small business loan guarantees

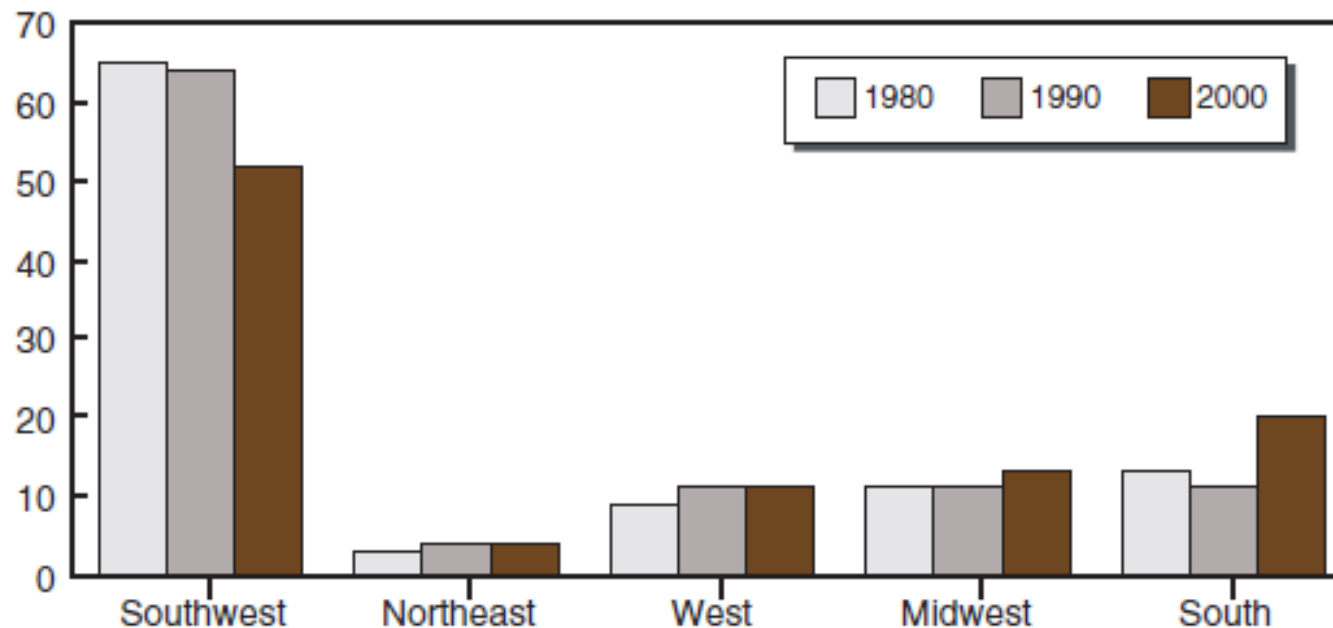
HISPANICS & RURAL AMERICA

➤ **Hispanics are an important and growing part of the fabric of Rural America**

- Nonmetropolitan Hispanic population in the United States has doubled since 1980 to over 3 million
- Hispanics are fastest growing group in rural America
- Growth not just in Southwest: half of non-metro Hispanics now reside outside the Southwest

Regional distribution of nonmetro U.S. Hispanic population, 1980-2000

Proportion of all U.S. Hispanics

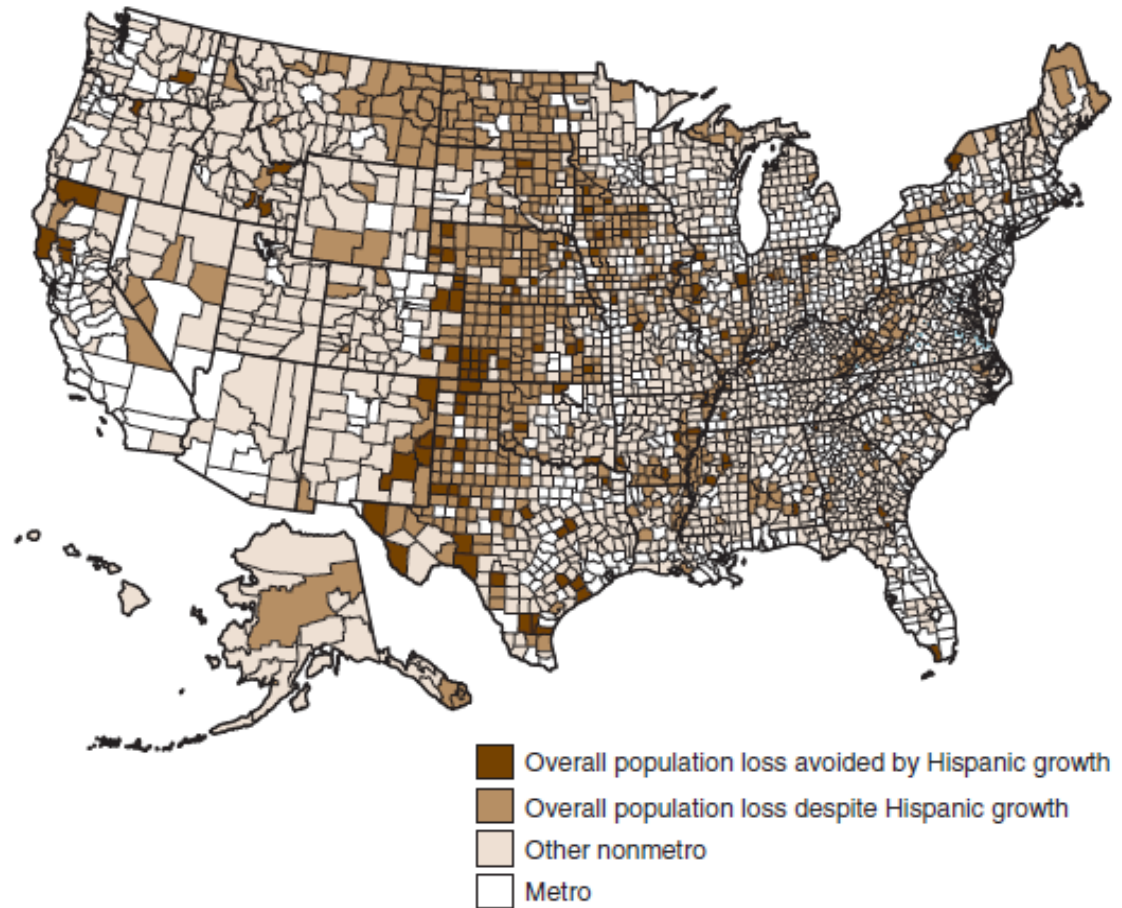


Source: Calculated by ERS using Census 1980, 1990, and 2000 data, SF1 files.

- *Proportion of rural Hispanic population living outside the Southwest steadily increasing*

Nonmetro counties with Hispanic population gain and non-Hispanic population loss, 1990-2000

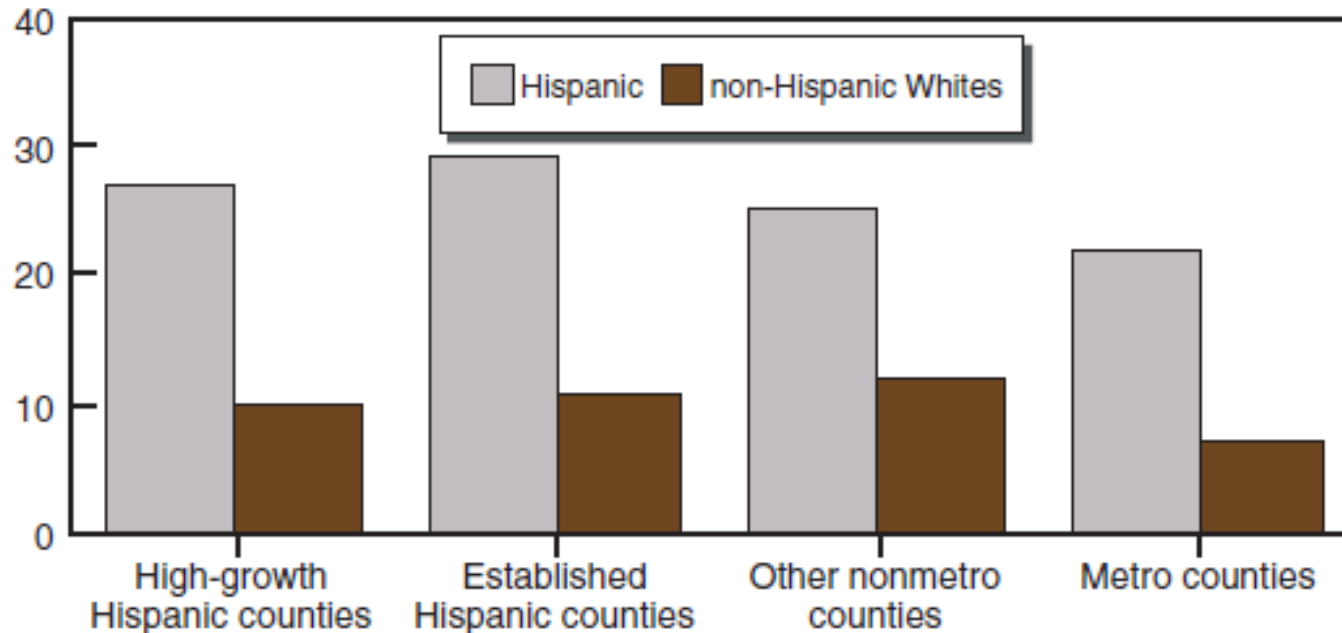
- *Hispanic population growth in some rural counties has been sufficient to neutralize population loss among other groups*



Source: Calculated by ERS using data from the U.S. Census Bureau.

Poverty rates for Hispanics and non-Hispanic Whites, by county type

Percent



Source: Calculated by ERS using data from Census 2000, SF3 files.

- *Despite population growth, Hispanics across the nation face relatively high poverty rates*

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES PROGRAMS

- **Rural Housing Service responsible for....**
 - Single Family Housing Programs
 - Multi-Family Housing Programs
 - Community Facilities Programs

- **Committed to ensuring our programs have the greatest impact possible for those we serve**

USDA HOUSING PROGRAMS

- **Safe, decent, affordable housing vital to quality of life and economic viability of a community**
- **Housing industry is a critical economic driver – especially in rural America**
 - ❑ *Creates or maintains jobs for construction workers, architects, engineers, banking professionals, real estate brokers, home inspectors, real estate appraisers, title closers, carpet layers, hardware stores, kitchen and bathroom remodelers... and on and on*

KEY PRIORITIES FOR RURAL HOUSING PROGRAMS

➤ **To meet Secretary and President's goal of strengthening our rural economy, we are focused on:**

- Dramatically expanding reach of our programs
- Developing strategic partnerships
- Streamlining/improving our internal processes
- Creating a 21st Century rural housing portfolio

SINGLE FAMILY GUARANTEED PROGRAM

- **Guaranteed Program has expanded dramatically in recent years**
 - ❑ Recovery Act
 - ❑ Program level went from \$3 billion in FY 2006 to \$13 billion in FY 2010
- Program vital for rural economy
- Improved program delivery under **Direct Endorsement Plan** in President's 2011 Budget

SINGLE FAMILY DIRECT PROGRAM

- **Single Family Outreach Initiative**
 - ❑ Focus on persistent poverty counties and *colonias*
- **Strategic Partnerships**
 - ❑ Cooperative Agreements with non-profits under Recovery Act
- **Loan Packager Certification**
 - ❑ Long-term packaging partnerships

DEEPWATER SPILL ASSISTANCE EFFORTS

- **USDA committed to providing flexible servicing options for the nearly 30,000 borrowers potentially impacted by the spill**
- **Have already approved moratoriums or payment assistance for a handful of borrowers**
- **Part of Obama Administration's comprehensive response to the disaster**

MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING INITIATIVES

➤ **Super Green NOFA**

- ❑ Goal to fund zero-net energy consumption properties

➤ **Farmworker Outreach Initiative**

- ❑ \$6 million NOFA to provide services to farmworkers

COMMUNITY FACILITIES PROGRAMS

- **Community Facilities Program provides vital financing to support the construction of essential community facilities in rural communities**
 - Facilities types include health care, education, public safety, civic infrastructure and more
 - Recovery Act expanded program significantly and has enabled us to make vital investments in rural America

COMMUNITY FACILITIES INITIATIVES

➤ **Rural Libraries Initiative**

- ❑ Secretary Vilsack made \$100 million available in FY 2010 to finance rural public libraries

➤ **Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food**

- ❑ USDA-wide initiative led by Deputy Secretary Kathleen Merrigan

➤ **Tens of millions more invested in health care and public safety facilities**

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH *NALCAB*

- **NALCAB working with local partners to submit loan/grant applications for Community Facilities funding in seven states**
- **Ten grants for over \$250,000 approved in TX, AZ and NM to purchase vital equipment for child care centers, including computers, phone systems, safety flooring, playground equipment, and infant care/preschool furniture**

VALUE OF STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

- **Under Secretary Vilsack's leadership, USDA is pursuing strategic partnerships with non-government groups to expand our capacity and strengthen our program delivery**
- **We want to work with YOU**



THANK YOU



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