Rural Health Research Centers and Analysis Initiatives

The Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) currently funds Rural Health Research Centers and Rural Health Policy Analysis Initiatives located throughout the nation. The research of these designated centers is conducted on a national scale.

FORHP-Funded Rural Health Research Center Locations

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Rural Health Research Gateway

Also funded by FORHP, the goal of Gateway is to help move new research findings of the Rural Health Research Centers to various end users as quickly and efficiently as possible. Gateway provides free access to policy briefs, chartbooks, webinars and more from 1997-present.

The Rural Health Research Gateway is a project of the University of North Dakota Center for Rural Health and funded by HRSA's Federal Office of Rural Health Policy.
The Rural Health Research Center (RHRC) Program is the only federal program that is dedicated entirely to producing policy-relevant research on healthcare in rural areas. The centers study critical issues facing rural communities in their quest to secure adequate, affordable, high-quality health services for rural residents. The centers’ research findings inform a wide audience of decision-makers concerned with rural health and have been instrumental in bridging gaps between policy and program needs.

The RHRC Program was initiated in 1988 and is administered by the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP), Health Resources and Services Administration.

Each year, specific research projects for the centers are selected jointly by the RHRC directors and FORHP. Topics are selected to have a timely impact on policy debates and decisions at both federal and state levels.

A complete list of all the centers’ current and previous research projects, as well as associated products, are available through the Rural Health Research Gateway at ruralhealthresearch.org.

### Current Rural Health Research Centers and Areas of Expertise

**Maine Rural Health Research Center**
- Emergency medical services and trauma
- Health reform
- Hospitals and clinics
- Long-term care
- Medicaid and CHIP
- Mental and behavioral health
- Rural health clinics
- Substance use and treatment
- Uninsured and underinsured

**NC Rural Health Research Program**
- Health policy
- Healthcare financing
- Medicaid and CHIP
- Medicare

**RUPRI Center for Rural Health Policy Analysis**
- Health reform, Medicaid and CHIP, Medicare payment
- Nurses and nurse practitioners
- Pharmacy and prescription drugs
- Private health insurance

**Rural & Underserved Health Research Center**
- Black lung disease
- Emergency medical services and trauma
- Mental and behavioral health
- Pharmacy and prescription drugs
- Primary care
- Substance use and treatment
- Suicide

**Southwest Rural Health Research Center**
- Border health
- Chronic diseases and conditions
- Health disparities and health equity
- Health law and ethics issues
- Opioid use disorder and treatment
- Substance use and treatment
- Women’s health
- Public health workforce

**Rural Telehealth Research Center**
- Aging
- Disabilities
- Healthcare access
- Maternal health
- Perinatal care
- Quality
- Quality measurement and improvement
- Social determinants of health
- Women’s health