

# South Carolina Center of Excellence in Rural Healthcare and Education



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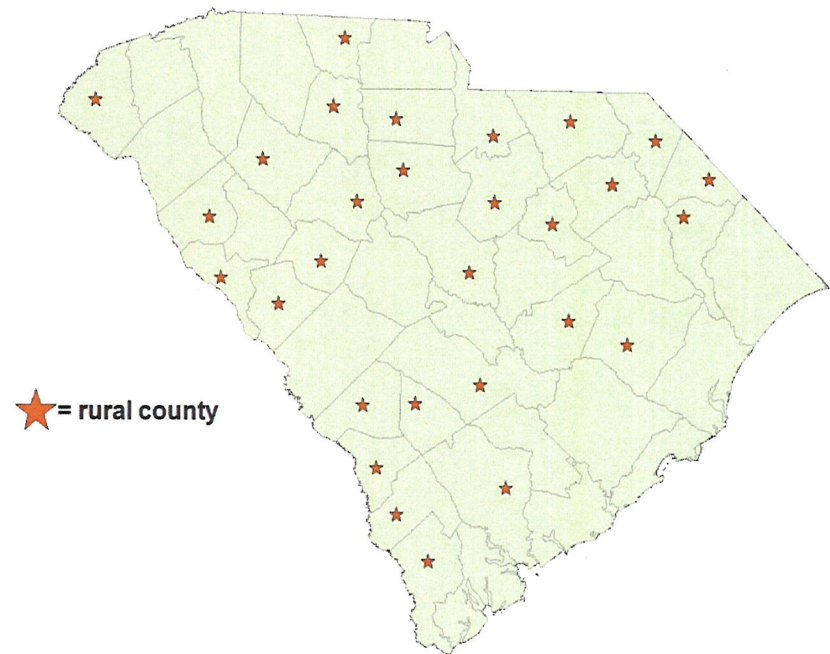
# The challenge ahead

- An aging population
- Increasing rates of chronic illness
- A rural state
- A dwindling primary care workforce



# Physicians in Rural SC

- In 29 of our 46 counties at least half of the population lives in a non-urbanized area
- 23% of our population lives in a rural county
- Only 10% of the physician workforce has their primary practice site in a rural county



*Rural is defined as any county in which 50% or more of the population lives outside of an urbanized area, based on 2010 Census population counts.*



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- SC ranks 40<sup>th</sup> in US in primary care workforce
  - 77.5 PCPs/100,000 in SC vs. 90.1/100,000 US
  - 1.2 million in SC live in primary care shortage area
  - 25% of the state vs. national average of 19%
  - 5.6 PCPs/10,000 in rural vs. 10.8/10,000 for urban
- Median cost for medical school
  - nearly 16 times the cost forty years ago
  - Increased cost may be turning students away from primary care

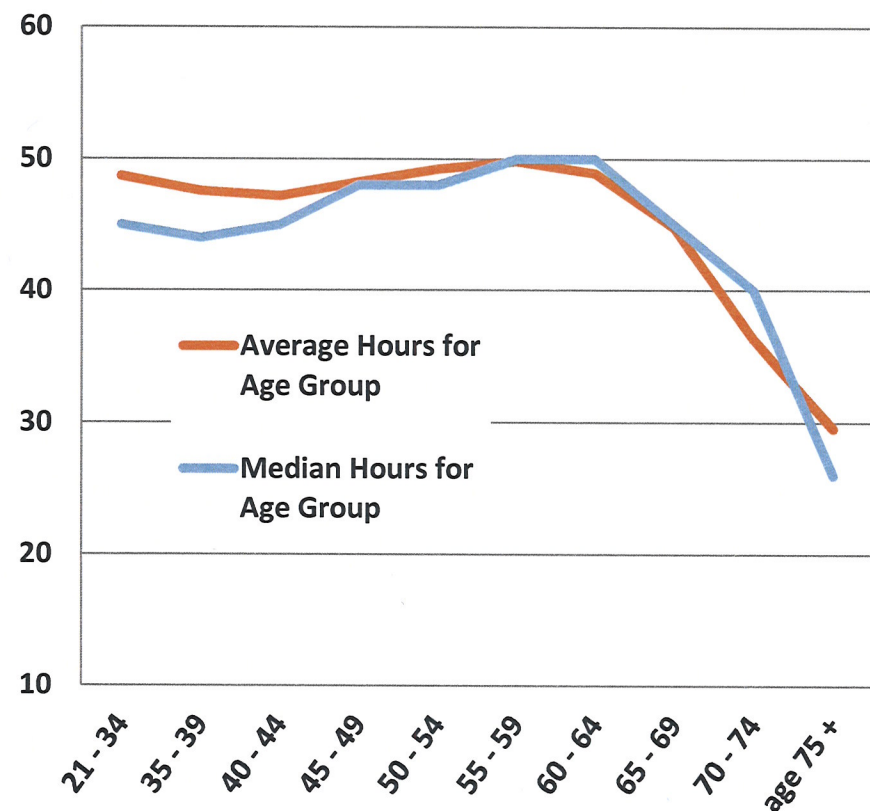




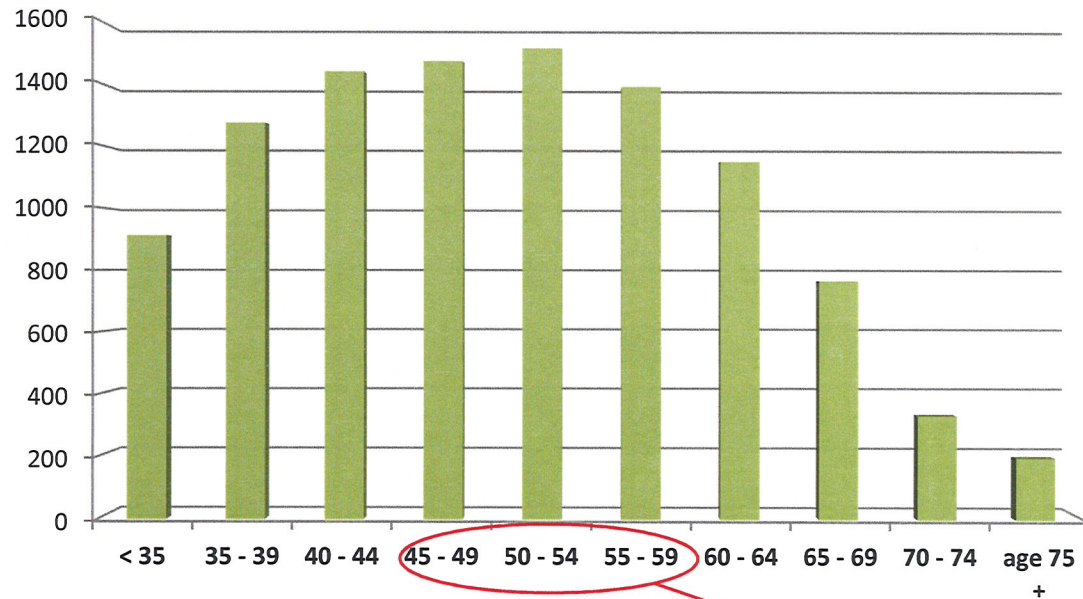
# An aging physician workforce

- 23% of the active physicians in SC are age 60 or older
- Physician's work hours decline sharply after age 65

Average and Median Hours Worked per Week by Age for SC Physicians at Primary Practice Site in 2015



## Physicians with an active license and active in the workforce by age group 2015



Only 10% of the physician workforce has their primary practice site in a rural county

■ # in the SC Workforce

2025 pre-retirement cohort



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# % of physicians age 60+ in rural SC counties

% age 60 +	County	% age 60 +	County	% age 60 +	County
27%	ABBEVILLE	27%	DARLINGTON	24%	MARION
31%	ALLENDALE	36%	DILLON	17%	MARLBORO
44%	BAMBERG	19%	EDGEFIELD	22%	MCCORMICK
24%	BARNWELL	39%	FAIRFIELD	21%	NEWBERRY
0 physicians	CALHOUN	30%	HAMPTON	21%	OCONEE
44%	CHEROKEE	28%	JASPER	22%	ORANGEBURG
28%	CHESTER	22%	KERSHAW	20%	SALUDA
19%	CHESTERFIELD	27%	LANCASTER	28%	UNION
0%	CLARENDON	27%	LAURENS	17%	WILLIAMSBURG
22%	COLLETON	50%	LEE		

This information is based on all active physicians who reported their primary practice was located in this county during their license renewal process, June 2015

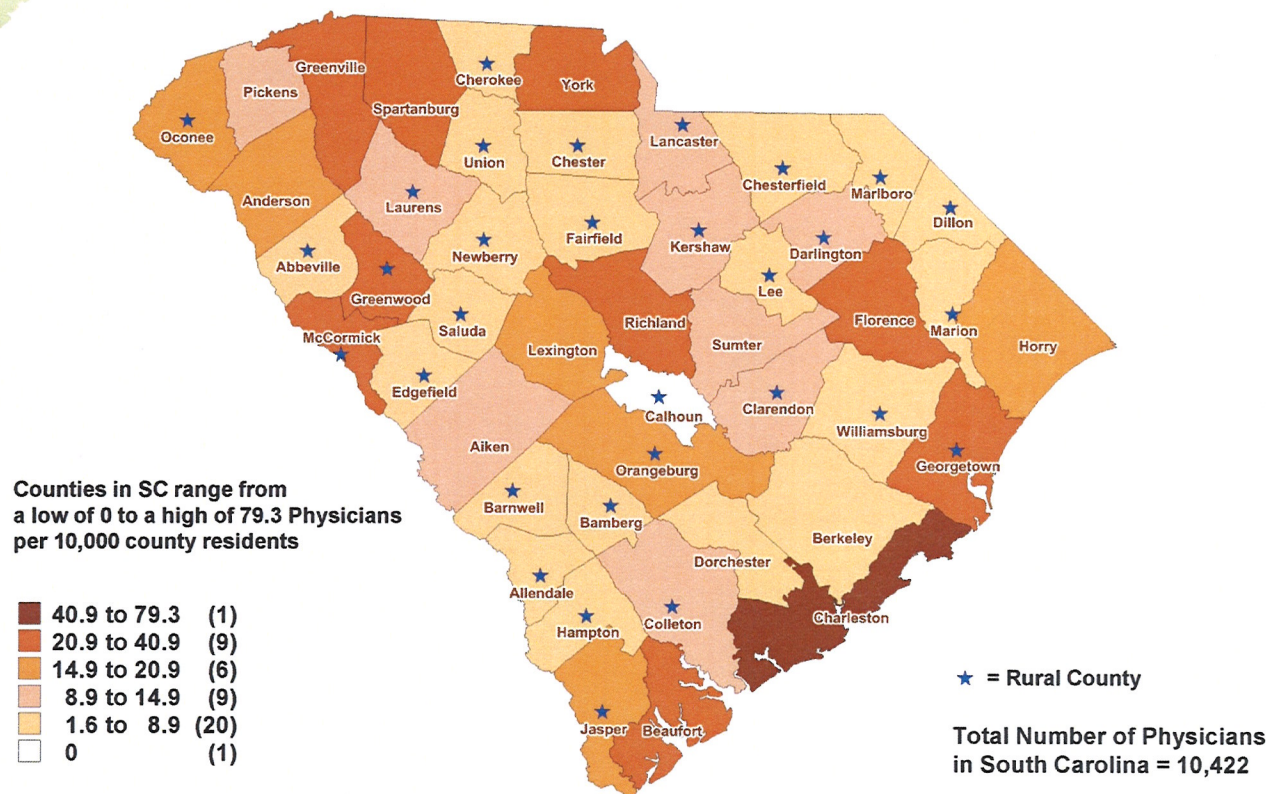


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## Concentration of Total Physicians Per 10,000 Population in 2015



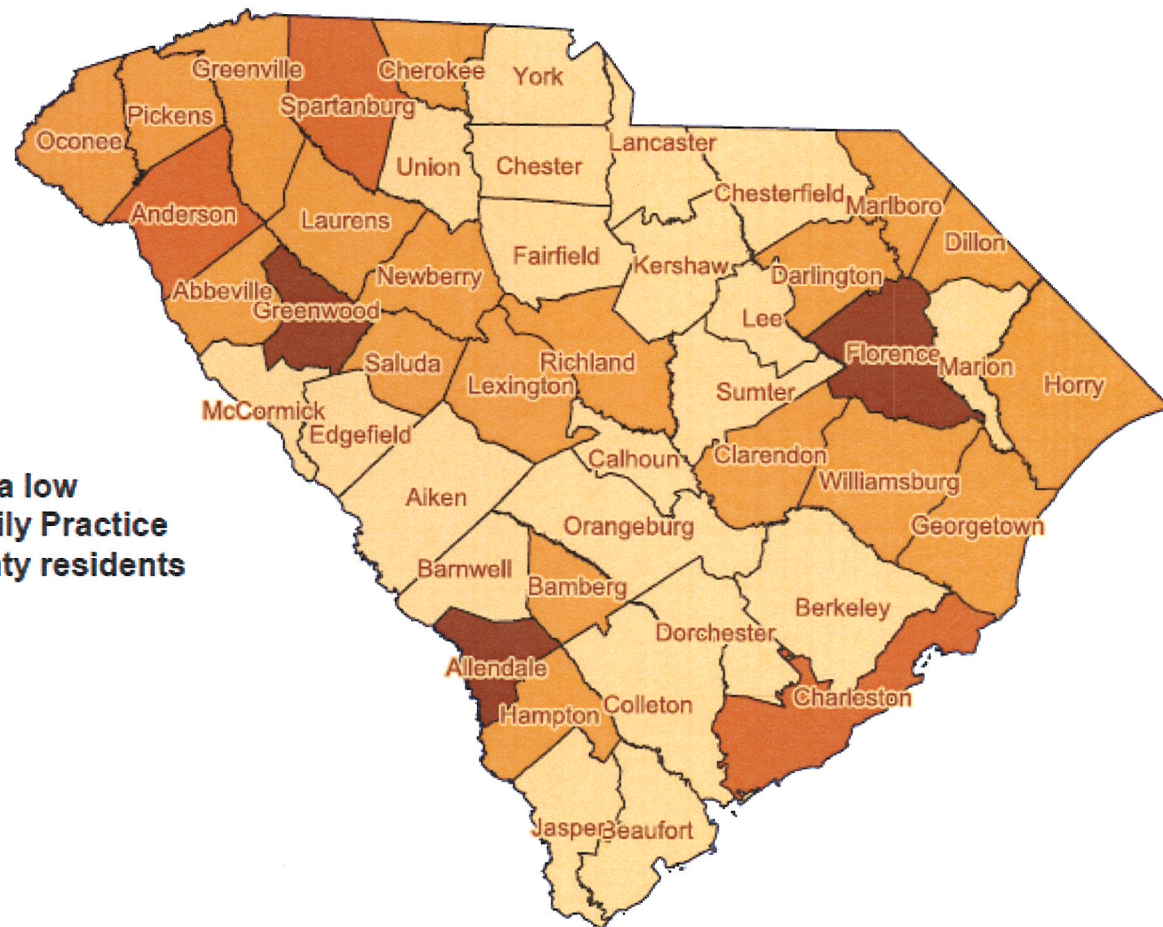
This information is based on all Physicians with an active license to practice and a practice location in South Carolina as reported during the license renewal period ending 06/30/2015. This map does not include medical residents. County practice locations are those reported as the primary practice site. Rural counties are those where 50% or more of the population lives outside an urbanized area, based on 2010 census counts.

## Concentration of Family Practice Physicians Per 10,000 Population

Counties in SC range from a low  
of 1.0 to a high of 11.5 Family Practice  
Physicians per 10,000 county residents



Note: The ( ) shows the total number  
of counties with this range



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# PROPOSED PROGRAMS



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# SC Center of Excellence in Rural Healthcare and Education

- A Center of Excellence
  - Supporting rural medical education
  - Supporting rural practice excellence
  - Enhancing collaboration among key stakeholders



- Integrated rural practice information network
- Collaboration with USC and SC AHEC on rural health and workforce research
- Collaboration with SCORH enhancing practice support
- Clinical pharmacy extension service



# Workforce Scholarships/Loan Programs

- Primary care and critical need specialties
- Diversifies methods to recruit and retain
  - MD programs
  - APRN and PA programs
  - Different points of entry
  - All SC public affiliated institutions
  - Requires rural practice





# Rural Practice Fellowships

- A rapid method to address present workforce shortages
- Tied to loan repayment and rural practice
- Family Medicine, General Surgery, Community Psychiatry



# Rural Training Enhancement Grants

- Capitalizes on existing SC training infrastructure
- Funding to expand, repurpose of enhance training toward models that produce rural care providers



# Rural Training Site Development

- Support development of multidisciplinary practices at rural sites in SC Midlands and Pee Dee for healthcare professions students
- Future funding can be targeted for affiliation with other state affiliated healthcare institutions





# ICARED Program Extension

- Continuing Medical Education support
- IT advisement/EMR use/ Quality Improvement
- Rural hotspots
- Improved specialty access
- Deploy technology – ultrasound
- Support practice management



# New Family Medicine Program

- Target area would be the underserved region of the SC Lowcountry – Beaufort/Jasper



# Rural physician recruitment

- Enhance SCORH recruitment
- Enhance SC AHEC Rural Physician Program

