Childhood Poverty in Rural America

Jason Henderson

Director of Purdue Extension
Associate Dean College of Agriculture
www.extension.purdue.edu
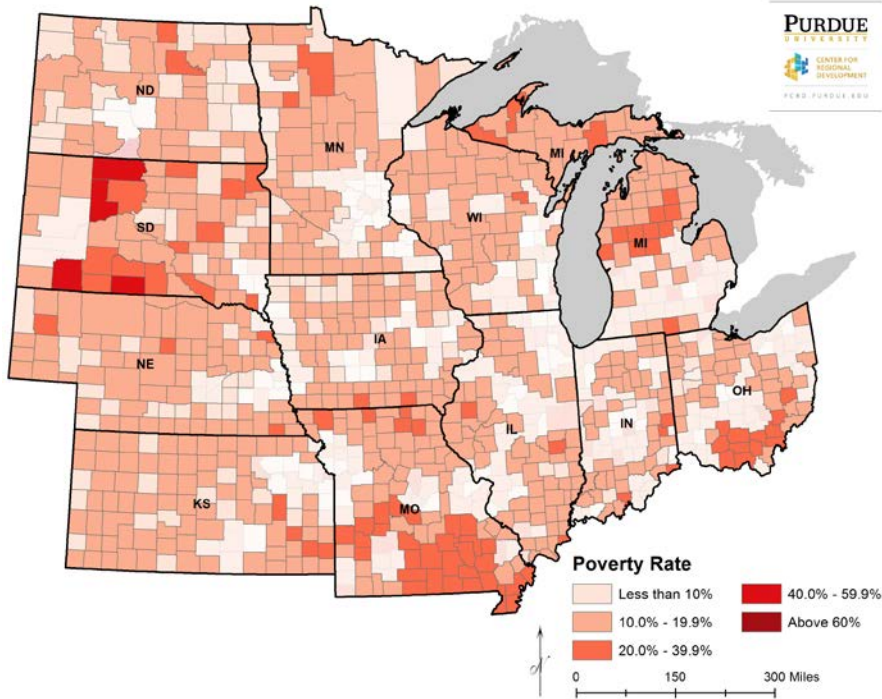
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Lasting Impacts of Child Poverty

- Childhood Disadvantage is Associated with …
  More **Health Risks** and More **Problems in Social Functions**
  - Lower educational attainment
  - Reduced friend support
  - Lower social integration
  - Higher incidence of smoking
  - Increased family strain
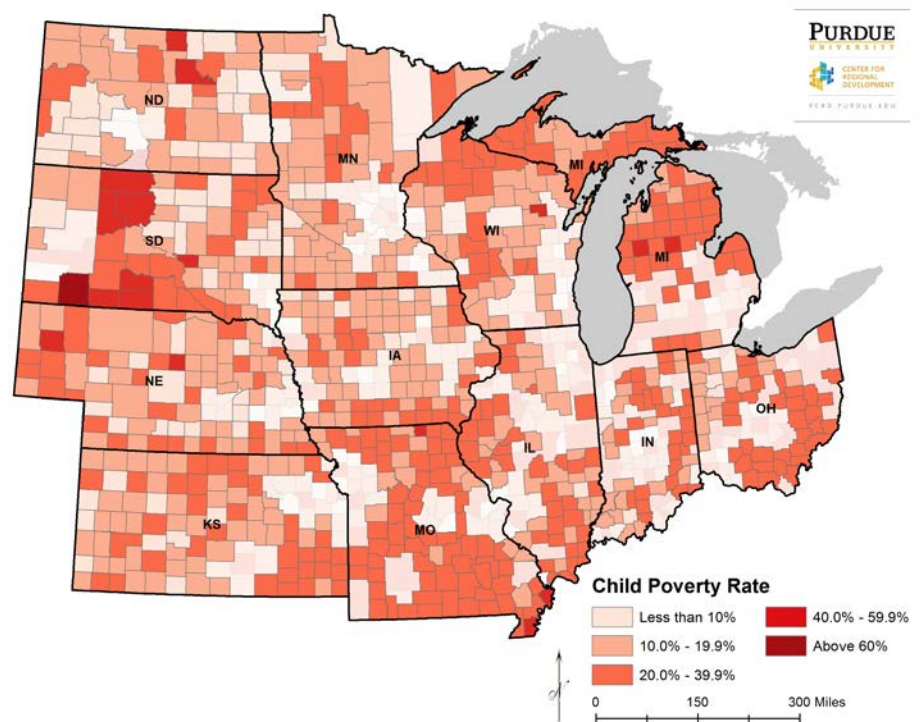 - More health problems

Source: Ferraro, Kenneth F., Markus H. Schafer, and Lindsay R. Wilkinson. 2016. "Childhood Disadvantage and Health Problems in Middle and Later Life: Early Imprints on Physical Health?" American Sociological Review 81(1):107-133.

Poverty in the North Central Region

Overall Poverty Rate, 2009-2013

Child Poverty Rate, 2009-2013

Note: Metro Counties have more color transparency
Source: ERS USDA ACS 2009-2013 5 Year Estimates

Income and Poverty, North Central Region

	2003	2008	2013
Total Population in Poverty	10.4%	12.4%	14.9%
Minors (Age 0-17) in Poverty	14.4%	16.8%	20.4%
Real Median Household Income* ($ 2013)	$55,748	$ 54,563	$51,138

* Note: Regional Median Household income is the population-weighted average of median household income values across the states.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau – Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE)

*Counties with Child Poverty Rates Above 20% (2009-2013)
Non-Metro Counties – 44%
Metro Counties – 31%

Child Poverty is Multi-Dimensional

- Studies on Intergenerational Mobility of Economic Status
  - Family (Parenting, Structure, Investments, etc.)
  - Community (Education, Safety, Jobs, etc.)

Programs Need to Be
(Holistic and Begin with Capacity Building)

Community/Region: Economic Opportunity, Support, Education, Capacity Building, etc.

Families: Parenting, Structure, Career Readiness, Life Skills, etc.

Child/Youth: Education, Career Readiness, Life Skills, Leadership, Social Integration, etc.

Example: Turning the Tide on Poverty, funded in part by the Farm Foundation