

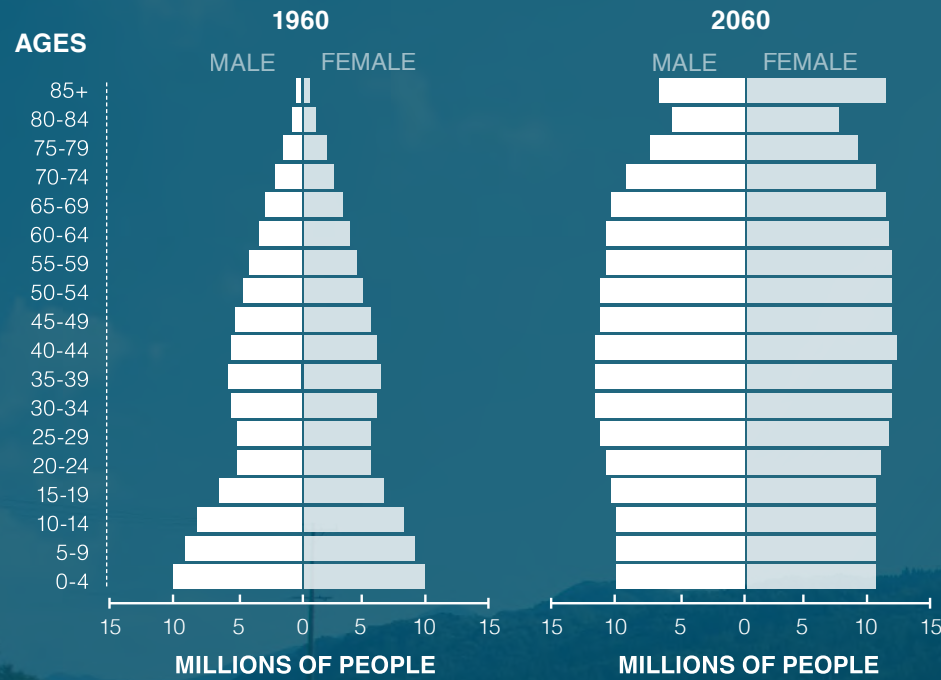
# Elder Abuse Statistics

## Population of Older Adults

Older adults age 65 or older comprise 14.9% of the total population in the USA.

Projections anticipate the percentage of the population age 65 and older to continue to grow in the coming decades.

From Pyramid to Pillar: A Century of Change  
Population of the United States



## Prevalence of Elder Abuse

At least 10% of adults age 65 and older will experience some form of elder abuse in a given year, with some older adults simultaneously experiencing more than one type of abuse.



## The Majority of Older Adults Live in the Community

As over 90% of older adults reside in the community (as opposed to various forms of congregate living situations), most elder abuse is occurring among older adults living in the community.



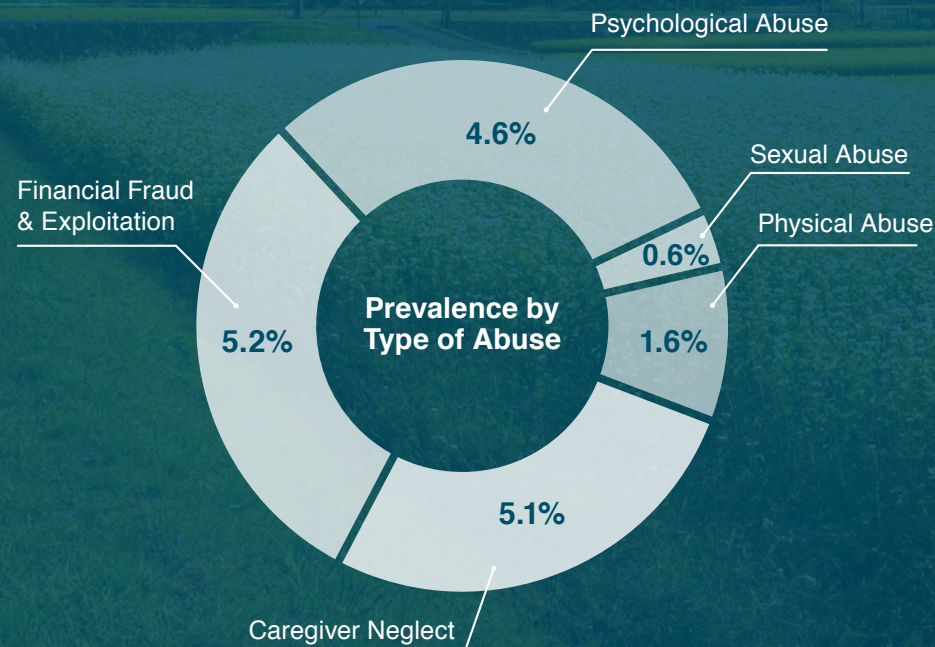
Rate of Underreported by Type of Elder Abuse

Caregiver Neglect	1:57
Financial Exploitation	1:44
Physical Abuse	1:20
Psychological Abuse	1:12

## Definition and Prevalence of Elder Abuse

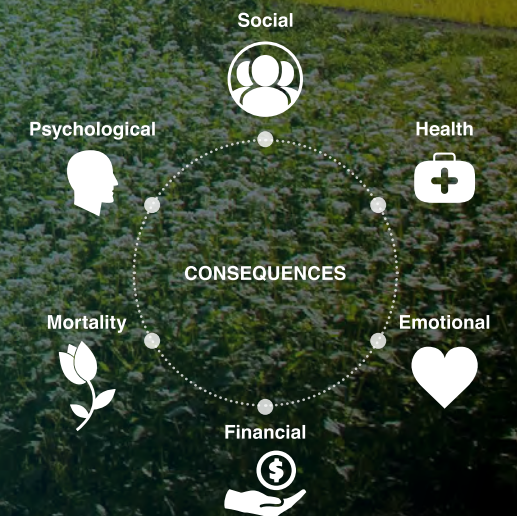
Elder abuse is "An intentional act or failure to act by a caregiver or another person in a relationship involving an expectation of trust that causes or creates a risk of harm to an older adult"[i]. It is a term under which five types of abuse are reflected[ii]:

- Caregiver Neglect
- Financial Fraud & Exploitation
- Psychological Abuse
- Sexual Abuse
- Physical Abuse



## The Consequences of Elder Abuse

The trauma of elder abuse may result in health issues such as a deterioration in health, hospitalization and increased mortality, clinical issues such as depression and suicide, social issues such as disrupted relationships, and financial loss, all leading to diminished independence and quality of life.



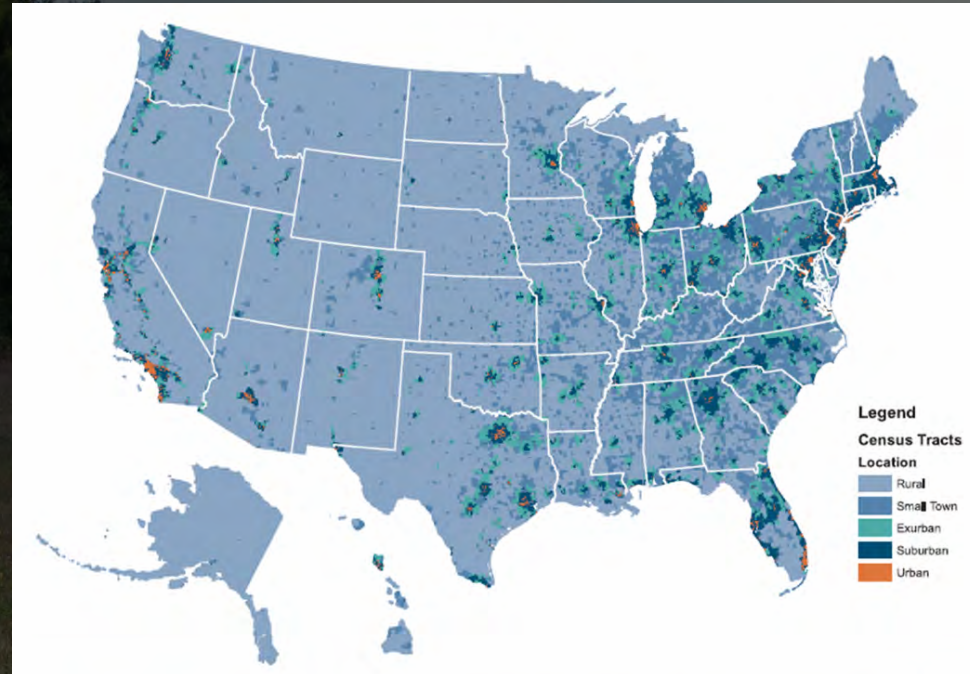


# Rural Statistics

## Most of America is Rural

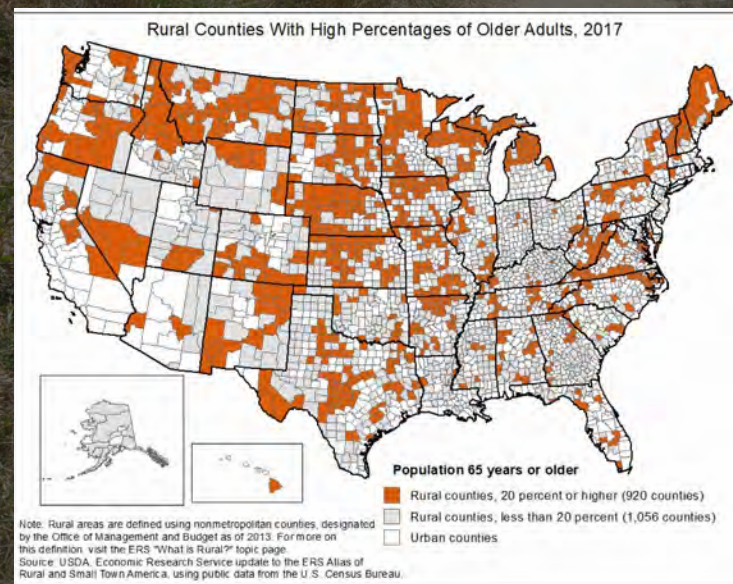
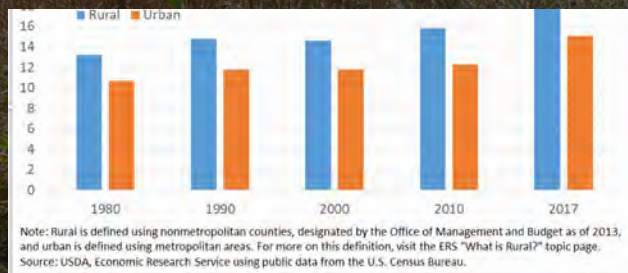
Rural areas cover 97% of the nation's land area.

Rural, Suburban, & Urban Location, 2010



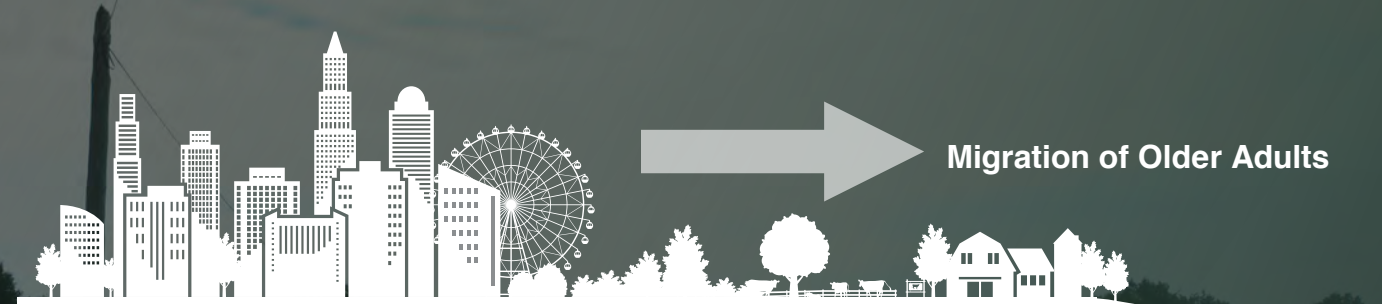
## Comparison of Older Adults in Rural vs. Urban Areas

As of July 2017, 19 percent of the rural population was 65 years or older, compared with 15 percent in urban areas.



## Baby Boomers are Migrating to Rural Communities

In the coming decade, there are projections that the number of rural older adults will continue to increase as baby boomers migrate from the big city to rural communities and small towns across America.



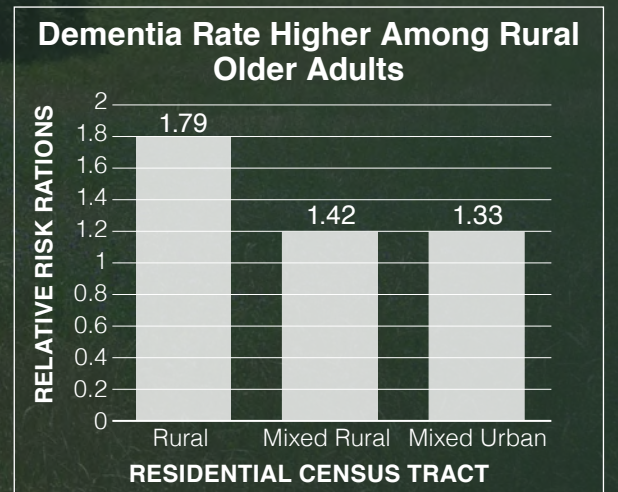
## Outmigration of Young People

There is a higher percentage of older adults in rural areas in part because of the outmigration of young people from rural to urban areas.



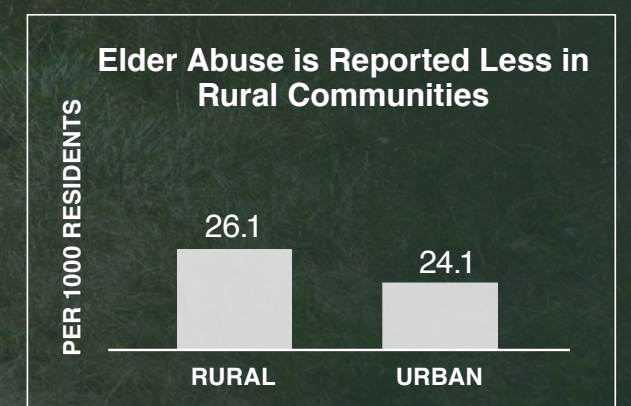
## Dementia Rate Higher Among Rural Older Adults

Rural older adults are more likely to exhibit some of the risk factors associated with elder abuse, most prominently dementia.



## Elder Abuse is Reported Less in Rural Communities

According to one report, the rate of reporting is lower in rural communities when population is factored in, with a ratio of 26:1 among rural compared to 24:1 among urban (per 1000) residents.





# Rural Elder Abuse Research

Elder abuse in rural and tribal communities within the United States is an understudied and complex issue. A multidisciplinary perspective is necessary to successfully grapple with issues of rural and tribal elder abuse which have both public health and legal implications. The following research is pulled from many overlapping disciplines, published in the United States that pertain to issues related to elder abuse among rural or tribal older adults.

## Elder Abuse in Rural America

Blundo, R., & Bullington, J. (2007). Abuse of elderly male clients: Efforts and experiences in rural and urban adult protective services. *Journal of Elder Abuse & Neglect*, 19(1-2), 173-191.  
doi:10.1300/J084v19n01\_11

Buckwalter, K. C., Campbell, J., Gerdner, L. A., & Garand, L. (1996). Elder mistreatment among rural family caregivers of persons with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders. *Journal of Family Nursing*, 2(3), 249-265.  
doi:10.1177/107484079600200303

Cornes, M., Manthorpe, J., & Haselden, N. (2010). Rural dimensions of elder abuse: Contributions to the No Secrets review from rural older people. *Journal of Adult Protection*, 12(3), 20-29.  
doi:10.5042/jap.2010.0411

Cupitt, M. (1997). Identifying and addressing the issues of elder abuse: A rural perspective. *Journal of Elder Abuse & Neglect*, 8(4), 21-30.  
doi:10.1300/J084v08n04\_02

Dimah, K. P., & Dimah, A. (2003). Elder abuse and neglect among rural and urban women. *Journal of Elder Abuse & Neglect*, 15(1), 75-93.  
[http://dx.doi.org/10.1300/J084v15n01\\_06](http://dx.doi.org/10.1300/J084v15n01_06)

Dong, X. Q., & Simon, M. A. (2013). Urban and rural variations in the characteristics associated with elder mistreatment in a community-dwelling Chinese population. *Journal of Elder Abuse & Neglect*, 25(2), 97-125.  
doi:10.1080/08946566.2013.751811

Jogerst, G. J., Daly, J. M., Galloway, L. J., Zheng, S., & Xu, Y. (2012). Substance abuse associated with elder abuse in the United States. *The American journal of drug and alcohol abuse*, 38(1), 63-69.

Perrin, N. (1993). Elder abuse: a rural perspective. In Bull, C. N. (1993). *Aging in rural America*. (pp. 161-170). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Rosenblatt, D. & Durance, P. Reporting of Possible Elder Abuse and Adult Protective Services Responses: Impact of County Socioeconomic Status. *Journal of Mental Health and Aging*; Vol. 3 (3), 277-293; 1997.

Griffin, L. W. (1994). Elder maltreatment among rural African-Americans. *Journal of Elder Abuse & Neglect*, 6(1), 1-17.  
doi:10.1300/J084v06n01\_01

Grossman, S. F., Hinkley, S., Kawalski, A., & Margrave, C. (2005). Rural versus urban victims of violence: The interplay of race and region. *Journal of Family Violence*, 20(2), 71-81.  
doi:10.1007/s10896-005-3170-y

Vandsburger, E., Curtis, V. S., & Imbody, B. A. (2012). Professional preparedness to address abuse and neglect among elders living in the rural south: Identifying resiliency where stress prevails. *Ageing International*, 37(3), 356-372.  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s12126-010-9081-0>





# Aging in Rural America Research

## Issues Intersecting with Elder Abuse

### Addiction and Opioids

Grantmakers in Aging. (2017). Heartache, pain, and hope: Rural communities, older people, and the opioid crisis. Arlington, VA: Author.

Roberto, K. A. (2017). Perpetrators of late life polyvictimization. *Journal of elder abuse & neglect*, 29(5), 313-326.

### Care Facilities

Campbell Jenkins, B. W., & Addison, C. (2017) Rural residents' attitudes towards placement of relatives in nursing homes. *Journal of Family Medicine & Community Health*, 4(7), 1130.

### Caregiving and Caregivers

Botsford, A. L. (1993). Caregiver support in rural areas: A stepping stone to case management for rural hospitals. *Journal of Gerontological Social Work*, 20(3/4), 147-165. doi:10.1300/J083v20n03\_07

Butler, S., Turner, W., Kaye, L. W., Ruffin, L., & Downey, R. (2005). Depression and caregiver burden among rural elderly caregivers. *Journal of Gerontological Social Work*, 46(1), 47-62. doi:10.1300/J083v46n01\_04

Monahan, D. J. (2013). Family caregivers for seniors in rural areas. *Journal of Family Social Work*, 16(1), 116-128. doi:10.1080/10522158.2012.747461

Scott, J. P., & Roberto, K. A. (1985). Use of informal and formal support networks by rural elderly poor. *The Gerontologist*, 25(6), 624-630. doi:10.1093/geront/25.6.624

### Domestic Violence and Interpersonal Violence

Brossoie, N., & Roberto, K. A. (2015). Community professionals' response to intimate partner violence against rural older women. *Journal of Elder Abuse & Neglect*, 27(4-5), 470-488. doi:10.1080/08946566.2015.1095664

Daly, J. M., Hartz, A., Stromquist, A., Peek-Asa, C., & Jogerst, G. J. (2007). Self-reported elder domestic partner violence in one rural Iowa county. *Journal of Emotional Abuse*, 7(4), 115-134. doi:10.1300/J135v07n04\_06

Dudgeon, A., & Evanson, T. A. (2014). Intimate partner violence in rural U.S. areas: What every nurse should know. *American Journal of Nursing*, 114(5), 26-35. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1097/01.NAJ.0000446771.02202.35>

Fitzsimons, M. M., Hagemester, A. K., & Braun, E. J. (2011). Interpersonal violence against people with disabilities: Understanding the problem from a rural perspective. *Journal of Social Work in Disability & Rehabilitation*, 10(3), 166-188. doi:10.1080/1536710X.2011.596437

Morgan Disney & Associates, Leigh Cupitt and Associates, & Council on the Ageing. (2000). Two lives - two worlds: Older people and domestic violence. Canberra, ACT: Partnerships Against Domestic Violence. <https://catalogue.nla.gov.au/Record/2546793>

Teaster, P. B., Roberto, K. A., & Dugar, T. A. (2006). Intimate partner violence of rural aging women. *Family Relations*, 55(5), 636-648. <https://search.proquest.com/docview/213933840?accountid=10382>

Vandsburger, E., & Robinson, B. I. (2013). "They could not believe that a 65-year-old man would still beat his wife": Professionals' perspectives on



addressing abuse and neglect among older adults living in rural southwest Virginia. *Ageing International*, 38(3), 245-259. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s12126-012-9180-1>

Weeks, L. E., Macquarrie, C., Begley, L., Gill, C., & Leblanc, K. D. (2016). Strengthening resources for midlife and older rural women who experience intimate partner violence. *Journal of Women and Aging*, 28(1), 46-57. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/08952841.2014.950500>

## Financial Exploitation

Mukherjee, D. (2013). Financial exploitation of older adults in rural settings: A family perspective. *Journal of Elder Abuse & Neglect*, 25(5), 425-437. doi:10.1080/08946566.2012.751828

## Food Security

Quandt, S., Arcury, T., McDonald, J. et al. Meaning and Management of Food Security Among Rural Elders *The Journal of Applied Gerontology*; Vol. 20 (3), 356-376; September 2001.

## Healthcare

Gonzalez, K. M., Shaughnessy, M. J., Kabigting, E. N. R., West, D. T., Robinson, J. C., Chen, Q., & Fahs, P. S. (2018). The healthcare of vulnerable populations within rural societies: A systematic review. *Online Journal of Rural Nursing and Health Care*, 18(1), 112-147. doi:10.14574/ojrhcv18i1.507

Gunderson, A., Tomkowiak, J., Menachemi, N., & Brooks, R. (2005). Rural physicians' attitudes toward the elderly: Evidence of ageism? *Quality Management in Health Care*, 14(3), 167-176. doi:10.1097/00019514-200507000-00006

## Memory and Cognition

Chumbler, N. R., Cody, M., Booth, B. M., & Beck, C. K. (2001). Rural-urban differences in service use for memory-related problems in older adults. *The journal of behavioral health services & research*, 28(2), 212-221. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/BF02287463>

Stewart, N. J., Morgan, D. G., Karunanayake, C. P., Wickenhauser, J. P., Cammer, A., Minish, D., O'Connell, M. E., & Hayduk, L. A. (2014). Rural caregivers for a family member with dementia. Models of burden and distress differ for women and men. *Journal of Applied Gerontology*, 35(2), 150-178. doi:10.1177/0733464813517547

Wenger, G. C., Scott, A., & Seddon, D. (2002). The experience of caring for older people with dementia in a

rural area: Using services. *Aging & Mental Health*, 6(1), 30-38. doi: 10.1080/13607860120101040

## Mental Health

Abraham, I. L., Currie, L. J., Neese, J. B., Yi, E. S., & Thompson-Heisterman, A. A. (1994). Risk profiles for nursing home placement of rural elderly: A cluster analysis of psychogeriatric indicators. *Archives of Psychiatric Nursing*, 8(4), 262-271. [https://doi.org/10.1016/0883-9417\(94\)90068-X](https://doi.org/10.1016/0883-9417(94)90068-X). [https://www.psychiatricnursing.org/article/0883-9417\(94\)90068-X/abstract](https://www.psychiatricnursing.org/article/0883-9417(94)90068-X/abstract)

Begle, A. M., Strachan, M., Cisler, J. M., Amstadter, A. B., Hernandez, M., & Acierno, R. (2011). Elder mistreatment and emotional symptoms among older adults in a largely rural population: the South Carolina elder mistreatment study. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 26(11), 2321-2332. doi:10.1177/0886260510383037

Lawrence, S., & McCulloch, B. J. (2001). Rural mental health and elders: Historical inequities. *Journal of Applied Gerontology*, 20(2), 144-169. doi:10.1177/073346480102000202

Rathbone-McCuan, E. Mental Health Care Provision for Rural Elders *The Journal of Applied Gerontology*; Vol. 20 (2), 170-183; June 2001.

Sanders, G. F., Fitzgerald, M. A., & Bratteli, M. (2008). Mental health services for older adults in rural areas: An ecological systems approach. *Journal of Gerontological Social Work*, 34(2), 23-38. doi:10.1177/0733464807311646

Weiler, K., & Buckwalter, K. C. (1992). Abuse among rural mentally ill. *Journal of Psychosocial Nursing and Mental Health Services*, 30(9), 32-36.

## Multidisciplinary and Interdisciplinary Teams

uder, L., Gairola, G., & Hamilton, C. (2001). Development of rural interdisciplinary geriatrics teams. *Gerontology and Geriatrics Education*, 21(4), 65-79. doi:10.1300/J021v21n04\_06

Teaster, P. B., & Wangmo, T. (2010). Kentucky's local elder abuse coordinating councils: A model for other states. *Journal of Elder Abuse & Neglect*, 22(1-2), 191-206. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/08946560903446063>

Interagency Task Force on Agriculture and Rural Prosperity <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/rural-prosperity-report.pdf>

## Public Health

US Department of Transportation (2017). Aging in Place in Small Urban and Rural Communities. <https://www.ugpti.org/resources/reports/downloads/surlic17-006.pdf>

Housing Assistance Council (2014).Housing a rural aging America: Rural seniors and their homes. <http://www.ruralhome.org/storage/documents/publications/rrreports/ruralseniors2014.pdf>

Skoufalos, Alexis, et al. "Rural Aging in America: Proceedings of the 2017 Connectivity Summit." *Population health management* 20.S2 (2017): S-1. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5738994/pdf/pop.2017.0177.pdf>

Bassett, S. D., & Smyer, T. (2003). Health screening practices in rural long-term care facilities. *Journal of Gerontological Nursing*, 29(4), 42-49. doi:10.3928/0098-9134-20030401-10

Harley, D. A., & Teaster, P. B. (2017). Women, older adult, and LGBTQ populations with disabilities in rural, frontier, and territory communities. In D. Harley, N. Ysasi, M. Bishop, & A. Fleming, (Eds.) *Disability and vocational rehabilitation in rural settings* (pp. 189-214). Cham: Springer. doi:10.1007/978-3-319-64786-9\_11

## Social Isolation

McCulloch, B. The Relationship of Family Proximity and Social Support to the Mental Health of Older Rural Adults: The Appalachian Context. *Journal of Aging Studies*; Vol. 9 (1), 65-81; 1995.

## Telehealth

Holland, J., hatcher, w., & meares, w. L. (2018). Understanding the implementation of telemental health in rural mississippi: an exploratory study of using technology to improve health outcomes in impoverished communities. *Journal of health & human services administration*, 41(1).

Singh, R., Mathiassen, L., Stachura, M., & Astapova, E. (2010). Sustainable rural telehealth innovation: A public health case study. *Health Research and Educational Trust*, 45(4), 985-1004. doi:10.1111/j.1475-6773.2010.01116.x

Thomas, C. R., Miller, G., Hartshorn, J. C., Speck, N. C., & Walker, G. (2005). Telepsychiatry program for rural victims of domestic violence. *Telemedicine Journal & E-Health*, 11(5), 567-573.

Brearly, T. W., Shura, R. D., Martindale, S. L., Lazowski, R. A., Luxton, D. D., Shenal, B. V., & Rowland, J. A. (2017). Neuropsychological test administration by videoconference: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *Neuropsychology review*, 27(2), 174-186.

Cullum, C. M., Hynan, L. S., Grosch, M., Parikh, M., & Weiner, M. F. (2014). Teleneuropsychology: evidence for video teleconference-based neuropsychological assessment. *Journal of the International Neuropsychological Society*, 20(10), 1028-1033.

Castanho, T. C., Sousa, N., & Santos, N. C. (2017). When New Technology is an Answer for Old Problems: The Use of Videoconferencing in Cognitive Aging Assessment. *Journal of Alzheimer's Disease Reports*, 1(1), 15-21.

Galusha-Glasscock, J. M., Horton, D. K., Weiner, M. F., & Cullum, C. M. (2015). Video teleconference administration of the repeatable battery for the assessment of neuropsychological status. *Archives of Clinical Neuropsychology*, 31(1), 8-11.

Kim, H., Hsiao, C. P., & Do, E. Y. L. (2012). Home-based computerized cognitive assessment tool for dementia screening. *Journal of Ambient Intelligence and Smart Environments*, 4(5), 429-422.

P.K. Loh, P. Ramesh, S. Maher, J. Saligari, L. Flicker, P. Goldswain (2004). Can patients with dementia be assessed at a distance? The use of Telehealth and standardised assessments. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1444-0903.2004.00531.x>

Timpano, F., Pirrotta, F., Bonanno, L., Marino, S., Marra, A., Bramanti, P., & Lanzafame, P. (2013). Videoconference-based mini mental state examination: a validation study. *Telemedicine and e-Health*, 19(12), 931-937.

Wadsworth, H. E., Dhima, K., Womack, K. B., Hart, J., Weiner, M. F., Hynan, L. S., & Cullum, C. M. (2018). Validity of Teleneuropsychological Assessment in Older Patients with Cognitive Disorders. *Archives of Clinical Neuropsychology*.



# Tribal Research

## Elder Abuse and Aging

### B

Burnette, C. E., & Sanders, S. (2014). Trust development in research with indigenous communities in the United States. *The Qualitative Report*, 19(22), 1-19.

Burnette, C. E., Sanders, S., Butcher, H. K., & Rand, J. T. (2014) A Toolkit for Ethical and Culturally Sensitive Research: An Application with Indigenous Communities, *Ethics and Social Welfare*, 8(4), 364-382. doi:10.1080/17496535.2014.885987

### C

Cribbs, J. M., Byers, L., & Moxley, D. (2009). Serving older Native Americans: Challenges facing gerontological social work in Indian country. *Journal of Ethnic & Cultural Diversity in Social Work*, 18(4), 261-275.

### H

Heart, M. Y. H. B., Chase, J., Elkins, J., Martin, M. J., Nanez, M. J. S., & Mootz, J. J. (2016). Women finding the way: American Indian women leading intervention research in Native communities. *American Indian and Alaska native mental health research (Online)*, 23(3), 24.

Holkup, P. A. (2002). Big changes in the Indian Health Service: Are nurses aware?. *Journal of Transcultural Nursing*, 13(1), 47-53. doi:10.1177/104365960201300108

Holkup, P., Rodehorst, T. K. C., & Wilhelm, S. L. (2009). Research among Tribal communities: Experiences from four academic institutions. *Journal of Transcultural Nursing*, 20, 164-175. doi:10.1177/1043659608325845

Holkup, P. A., Rodehorst, T. K., Wilhelm, S. L., Kuntz, S. W., Weinert, C., Stepans, M. B. F., Salois, E. M., & Bull, J. L. H., & Hill, W. G. (2009). Negotiating three worlds: Academia, nursing science, and tribal communities. *Journal of Transcultural Nursing : Official Journal of the Transcultural Nursing Society / Transcultural Nursing Society*, 20(2), 164-175. doi:10.1177/1043659608325845

Holkup, P. A., Tripp-Reimer, T., Salois, E. M., & Weinert, C. (2004). Community-based participatory research: An approach to intervention research with a Native American community. *Advances in Nursing Science*, 27(3), 162-175.

Holkup, P. A., Salois, E. M., Tripp-Reimer, T., & Weinert, C. (2007). Drawing on wisdom from the past: An elder abuse intervention with tribal communities. *The Gerontologist*, 47(2), 248-254. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/geront/47.2.248>

Hudson, M. F., Armachain, W. D., Beasley, C. M., & Carlson, J. R. (1998). Elder abuse: Two Native American views. *The Gerontologist*, 38(5), 538-548. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/9803642>



## J

Jervis, L. L. (2014). Native elder mistreatment. In Forum on Global Violence: Elder Abuse and Its Prevention Workshop, Washington, DC.

Jervis, L. L., Fickenscher, A., Beals, J., & Shielding American Indian Elders Project Team. (2014). Assessment of elder mistreatment in two American Indian samples: Psychometric characteristics of the HS-EAST and the Native Elder Life–Financial Exploitation and–Neglect measures. *Journal of Applied Gerontology*, 33(3), 336-356. doi:10.1177/0733464812470748

Jervis, L. L., Boland, M. E., & Fickenscher, A. (2010). American Indian family caregivers' experiences with helping elders. *Journal of cross-cultural gerontology*, 25(4), 355-369. doi:10.1007/s10823-010-9131-9

Jervis, L. L., Hamby, S., Beach, S. R., Williams, M. L., Maholmes, V., & Castille, D. M. (2016). Elder mistreatment in underserved populations: Opportunities and challenges to developing a contemporary program of research. *Journal of elder abuse & neglect*, 28(4-5), 301-319. doi:10.1080/08946566.2016.1245644

Jervis, L. L., & Manson, S. M. (2002). American Indians/Alaska natives and dementia. *Alzheimer Disease & Associated Disorders*, 16, S89-S95.

Jervis, L. L., Sconzert-Hall, W., & The Shielding American Indian Elders Project Team. (2017). The conceptualization of mistreatment by older American Indians. *Journal of elder abuse & neglect*, 29(1), 43-58. doi:10.1080/08946566.2016.1249816

Jervis, L. L., & Sconzert-Hall, W. (2013). Native elders. In J. I. Ross (Ed.), *American Indians at Risk* (vol. 2, pp. 307ff.) Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO.

Jervis, L. L., Shore, J., Hutt, E., & Manson, S. M. (2007). Suboptimal pharmacotherapy in a tribal nursing home. *Journal of the American Medical Directors Association*, 8(1), 1-7. doi:10.1016/j.jamda.2006.03.010

## L

Litton, L. J., & Ybanez, V. (2015). Reclaiming what is sacred: Addressing harm to Indigenous elders and developing a tribal response to abuse in later life. Madison, WI: National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later

Life. <https://safehousingpartnerships.org/sites/default/files/2017-01/TLS-FINAL.pdf>

## M

Miller, R. I., & Clements, P. T. (2006). Fresh tears over old griefs: Expanding the forensic nursing research agenda with Native American elders. *Journal of forensic nursing*, 2(3), 147-150.

## N

National Indian Council on Aging. (2004). Preventing and responding to abuse of elders in Indian country. Washington, DC: National Center on Elder Abuse. [http://www.ncdsv.org/images/NICA\\_PreventRespondAbuseEldersIndianCountry\\_June2004.pdf](http://www.ncdsv.org/images/NICA_PreventRespondAbuseEldersIndianCountry_June2004.pdf)

## R

Rink, E., Fourstar, K., Ricker, A., Runs-Above, W., & Meyers, A. A. (2016). Partnering with American Indian communities in strength-based collaborative health research: guiding principles from the fort peck ceremony of research project. *American Indian and Alaska native mental health research (Online)*, 23(3), 187.

## S

Salois, E. M., Holkup, P. A., Tripp-Reimer, T., & Weinert, C. (2006). Research as spiritual covenant. *Western journal of nursing research*, 28(5), 505-524.

Sapra, K. J., Jubinski, S. M., Tanaka, M. F., & Gershon, R.R. (2014). Family and partner interpersonal violence among American Indians/Alaska Natives. *Injury Epidemiology*, 1(1), 7. doi:10.1186/2197-1714-1-7. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/27747668>

Smyer, T., & Clark, M. C. (2011). A cultural paradox: Elder abuse in the native American community. *Home Health Care Management & Practice*, 23(3), 201-206. doi:10.1177/1084822310396971

