

percentage compares extremely unfavorably to the 19.3% of the population classified as rural by the 2010 census³.

We hope CMS will provide special consideration for underserved rural areas and will construct regulations that enhance institutions' ability to produce physicians who will practice in rural areas and serve underserved rural populations. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please feel free to contact Hope R. Wittenberg, CAFM Director of Government Relations, at hwittenberg@stfm.org or 202-986-3309, or Robert Bennett, AAFP Federal Regulatory Manager, at rbennett@aafp.org or 202-232-9033.

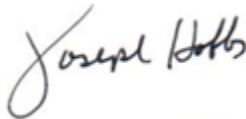
Sincerely,



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³ United States Census Bureau. FAQ: How many people reside in urban or rural areas for the 2010 Census? What percentage of the U.S. population is urban or rural? Available at: <https://ask.census.gov/faq.php?id=5000&faqId=5971>