Summer 2003

# **Rural Minority Elders**

### **Health Status**

- Rural elders are more likely than urban elders to report limitations in their ability to carry out activities of daily living (44% versus 37%).
- More than half of rural African American elders (55%) and 46% of rural Hispanic elders reported functional limitations
- Over half of rural African American elders (52%) and 44% of rural Hispanic elders describe their health as poor or fair.

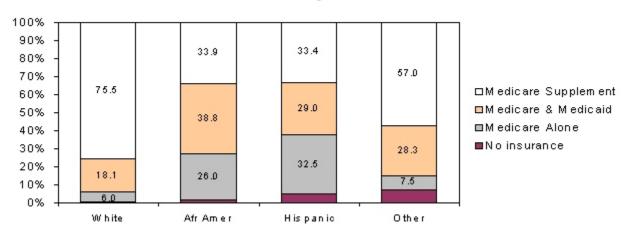
#### **Health Insurance**

- Government programs (Medicare and Medicaid) are the principal source of insurance for rural minority elders.
- While most rural white elders have private insurance to supplement Medicare, most minority elders have no other source of health insurance or supplement with Medicaid.

#### **Education and Income**

- Rural African American and Hispanic elders are severely handicapped in education, income and health status compared to white adults.
- Over three quarters of rural African Americans (76%) and Hispanic (81%) elders have less than a high school education
- Over three quarters of rural African American (77%) and Hispanic elders (76%) have a total household income of less than \$20,000.

## Insurance Among Rural Elders



Details are available from the full report, Access to Care Among Rural Minorities: Older Adults. This report is available for download at http://rhr.sph.sc.edu



