

Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: Rural America at a Glance, 2020 Edition

Type of Report
(ERR, EIB, EB,
TB, SOR,)

EIB

Agency: Economic Research Service [X] Influential Scientific Information
USDA [] Highly Influential Scientific Assessment

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Subject of Review: At the beginning of 2020 and prior to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, rural America showed modest signs of a strengthening economy, although under-performed compared with its urban counterpart. Conditions changed dramatically after the onset of the pandemic. This edition of *Rural America at a Glance* focuses on the conditions in rural America resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic and the ensuing economic recession. With 14 percent of the adult population, rural areas have had about 12 percent of total confirmed COVID-19 cases and 9 percent of deaths. However, the rural share increased markedly over time as the virus spread. In the week ending September 20, rural residents accounted for 19 percent of new cases and 20 percent of the week's deaths from COVID-19. On any given date, the impact of the pandemic on unemployment rates varied across different county types and was, in part, due to differences in economic specialization. In mid-June, nonmetro unemployment rates were highest in recreation counties (10.0 percent) and lowest in farming counties (6.0 percent).

Purpose of Review: The report is an annual publication with a calendar due date that provides public and private decision makers with a general overview description of the economic well-being of farm operator households.

Type of Review: [] Panel Review [X] Individual Reviewers
[] Alternative Process (Briefly Explain):

Timing of Review (Est.): Start: 10/13/2020 Completed: 01/15/2021 Withdrawn: XX/XX/XX

Number of Reviewers: [] 3 or fewer [x] 4 to 10 [] More than 10

Primary Disciplines/Types of Expertise Needed for Review: Economists

Reviewers selected by: [X] Agency [] Designated Outside Organization
Organization's Name:

Opportunities for Public Comment? [] Yes [X] No

If yes, briefly state how and when these opportunities will be provided:

How:

When:

Peer Reviewers Provided with Public Comments? [] Yes [X] No

Public Nominations Requested for Review Panel? [] Yes [X] No