

Alternative* Version 2.0 Rural-Urban Commuting Areas (RUCAs) Code Descriptions

1 Metropolitan area core: primary flow within an Urbanized Area (UA)

- 1.0 No additional code
- 1.1 Secondary flow 30% through 49% to a larger UA

2 Metropolitan area high commuting: primary flow 30% or more to a UA

- 2.0 No additional code
- 2.1 Secondary flow 30% through 49% to a larger UA

3 Metropolitan area low commuting: primary flow 10% through 29% to a UA

- 3.0 No additional code

4 Large rural area core: primary flow within an Urban Cluster of 10,000 through 49,999 (large UC)

- 4.0 No additional code
- 4.1 Secondary flow 30% through 49% to a UA
- 4.2 Secondary flow 10% through 29% to a UA

5 Large rural high commuting: primary flow 30% or more to a large UC

- 5.0 No additional code
- 5.1 Secondary flow 30% through 49% to a UA
- 5.2 Secondary flow 10% through 29% to a UA

6 Large rural low commuting: primary flow 10% through 29% to a large UC

- 6.0 No additional code
- 6.1 Secondary flow 10% through 29% to a UA

7 Small rural town core: primary flow within an Urban Cluster (UC) of 2,500 through 9,999 (small UC)

- 7.0 No additional code
- 7.1 Secondary flow 30% through 49% to a UA
- 7.2 Secondary flow 30% through 49% to a large UC
- 7.3 Secondary flow 10% through 29% to a UA
- 7.4 Secondary flow 10% through 29% to a large UC

8 Small rural town high commuting: primary flow 30% or more to a small UC

- 8.0 No additional code
- 8.1 Secondary flow 30% through 49% to a UA
- 8.2 Secondary flow 30% through 49% to a large UC
- 8.3 Secondary flow 10% through 29% to a UA
- 8.4 Secondary flow 10% through 29% to a large UC

9 Small rural town low commuting: primary flow 10% through 29% to a small UC

- 9.0 No additional code
- 9.1 Secondary flow 10% through 29% to a UA
- 9.2 Secondary flow 10% through 29% to a large UC

10 Isolated small rural areas: primary flow to a tract outside a UA or UC (including self)

- 10.0 No additional code
- 10.1 Secondary flow 30% through 49% to a UA
- 10.2 Secondary flow 30% through 49% to a large UC
- 10.3 Secondary flow 30% through 49% to a small UC
- 10.4 Secondary flow 10% through 29% to a UA
- 10.5 Secondary flow 10% through 29% to a large UC
- 10.6 Secondary flow 10% through 29% to a small UC

*** In this version the term “Large Rural” replaces “micropolitan” and “small town” is replaced with “small rural town”**

UA=Urbanized Area

UC=Urban Cluster

Note: When thinking about the RUCA coding scheme it is important not only to think of the stated criteria for a code but to think of what other criteria for the other codes did not apply that allowed a Census tract/ZIP code area to be coded with a specific code.

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