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June 05, 2012



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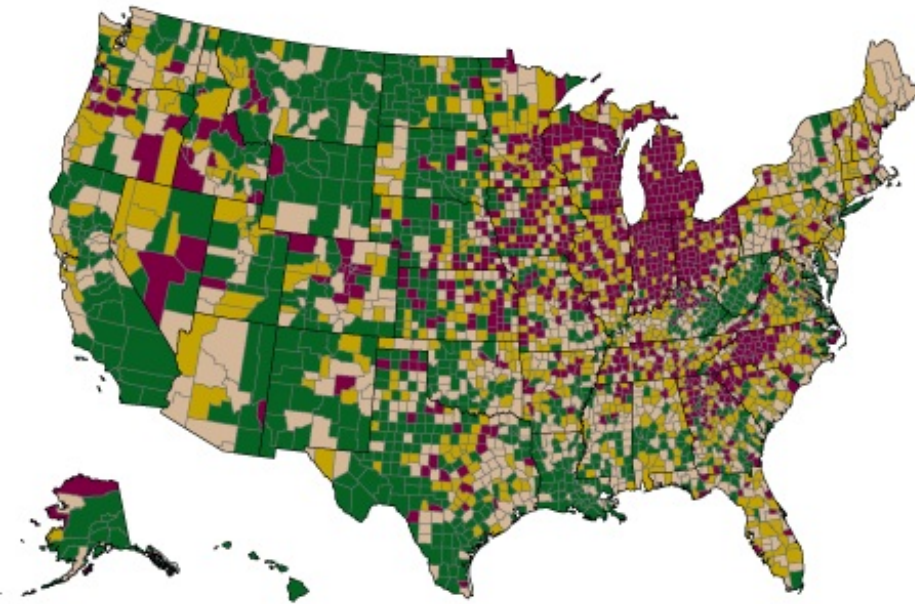
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## On the Map: Increases in U.S. Poverty Rate Were Highest in the Manufacturing Areas of the Midwest and South

by **Timothy Parker** and **Tracey Farrigan**

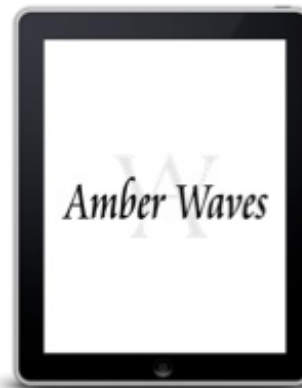
Nationally, the share of Americans living below the poverty threshold increased from 12.4 percent in 2000 to 13.8 percent in 2006-10. But in nearly one-quarter (762) of U.S. counties, the poverty rate increased by 30 percent or more, while another 878 counties saw no change or experienced declining poverty. Of the counties that had increases of 30 percent or more, 58 percent were in rural areas. Increases in the poverty rate were often highest in regions that suffered the largest increases in unemployment rates during the 2007-09 recession. Many were manufacturing-dependent counties located in the Great Lakes and Southern Highland regions.

## Percent change in the poverty rate, 2000 to 2006-10



- No change or decline
- 1- to 15-percent increase
- 15- to 30-percent increase
- Above 30 percent

Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using data from the 2000 Census of Population and the 2006-2010 American Community Survey.



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