

## **Appendix B**

### **Special Populations Receiving Mental Health Services**

#### **Defining Rural Regions in Oregon**

#### **Table 1: Geographic Distribution of Oregon and Mental Health Services Population**

#### **Table 2: Ethnic Diversity of Oregon and Public Mental Health Population**

## **Appendix B - Defining Rural Regions in Oregon**

Most of the landmass of Oregon is rural. Only nine of Oregon's 36 counties have a population of more than 96,000. The nine urban counties lie in the Willamette Valley from Portland to Eugene and in Southern Oregon and contain 75% of the State's population. Of the 96,000 square miles of land within Oregon, more than 52% is owned by the United States government (Oregon Blue Book, 1996). On average, there are only 32 persons per square mile in the State.

Definition for designating rural areas. Oregon has elected to use definitions of "urban" and "rural" based on county population density. The nine counties with a population over 96,000 are: for the purpose of the 2000-2001 plan, considered urban and contain 75% of the State population. The remaining 27 counties, with populations falling below 96,000 are considered rural.