Differences in Perceptions and Risks of Climate Change between Rural and Urban Counties in North Carolina

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Introduction
Climate change is a significant and pressing issue that affects all aspects of life, including health. Understanding the perceptions and risks associated with climate change is crucial for developing effective strategies to mitigate its impacts. This study aimed to explore differences in perceptions and risks of climate change between rural and urban counties in North Carolina.

Methods
A cross-sectional survey was conducted in North Carolina counties, with a focus on rural and urban areas. The survey included questions on knowledge, attitudes, and perceptions of climate change. Data were analyzed using descriptive statistics and statistical tests to compare rural and urban perceptions.

Results
A total of 500 respondents were surveyed, 250 from rural counties and 250 from urban counties. The results showed significant differences in the perception and risk of climate change. Rural counties had a higher percentage of respondents who believed in climate change and considered it a serious issue compared to urban counties. Rural respondents were also more likely to mention impacts on agriculture and health, while urban respondents emphasized economic risks.

Conclusions
Understanding these differences is crucial for tailoring adaptation and mitigation strategies. Rural communities may require more targeted approaches to address specific concerns related to agriculture and health, whereas urban areas might benefit from interventions focused on economic impacts. Further research is needed to explore these differences in depth and to develop effective communication strategies.

References: