

Figure 2
Oregon Counties by Classification

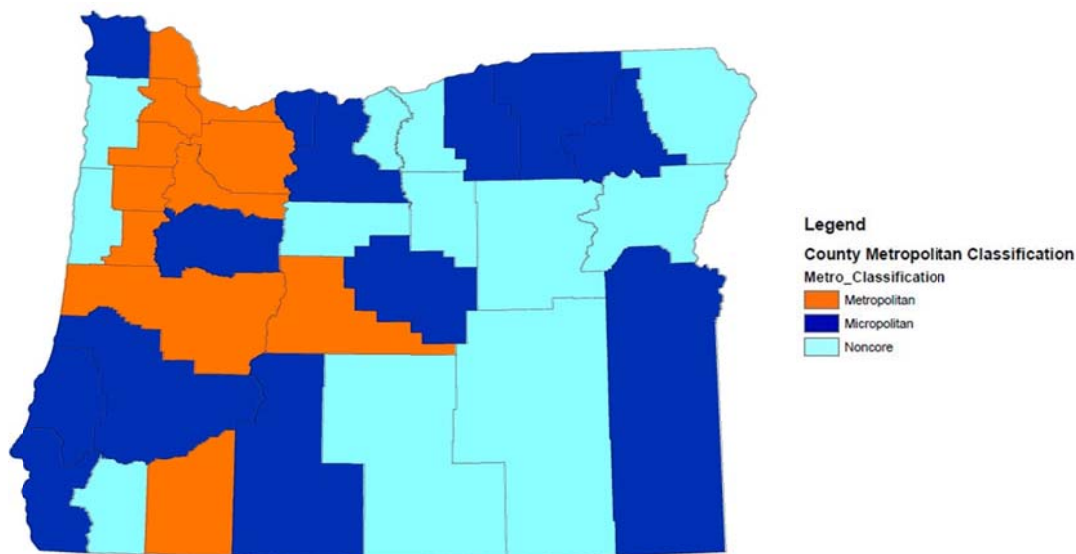


Figure 2 shows Oregon counties classified using the three types: Metropolitan, Micropolitan and Noncore. The counties in orange are the Metropolitan or urbanized areas, while the counties in dark blue and in light blue are respectively the two classes of rural areas: Micropolitan and Noncore. One might expect to find rural exchanges only in the blue areas; however, they are quite often located in orange areas as well.

While the map is suitable for identifying urban and rural areas where competitors are likely to be, it is not particularly good for identifying high-cost exchanges. Table 1 is organized by the three categories noted above and includes the OUSF supported lines, the amount of support, and the percent share each category has of lines and dollars. From this table it is clear that a significant portion of the high cost areas are located in urban counties. This suggests that the study needs to be carried out at a more granular level.

Table 1
Distribution of Lines and Support by County Classification

CLASSIFICATION TYPE	LINES	DOLLARS	PERCENT OF LINES	PERCENT OF SUPPORT
METROPOLITAN	108,022	\$16,440,921	42%	46%
MICROPOLITAN	90,589	\$9,068,618	36%	26%
NONCORE	55,511	\$9,852,789	22%	28%
TOTAL	254,122	\$35,362,328	100%	100%