

Poverty and social exclusion in urban and rural areas of Scotland

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1 Rural poverty – do we have an accurate picture?

1. Do low income measures undercount rural poverty due to hidden costs of living?

1. Low income BHC vs. AHC
2. Low income vs. deprivation

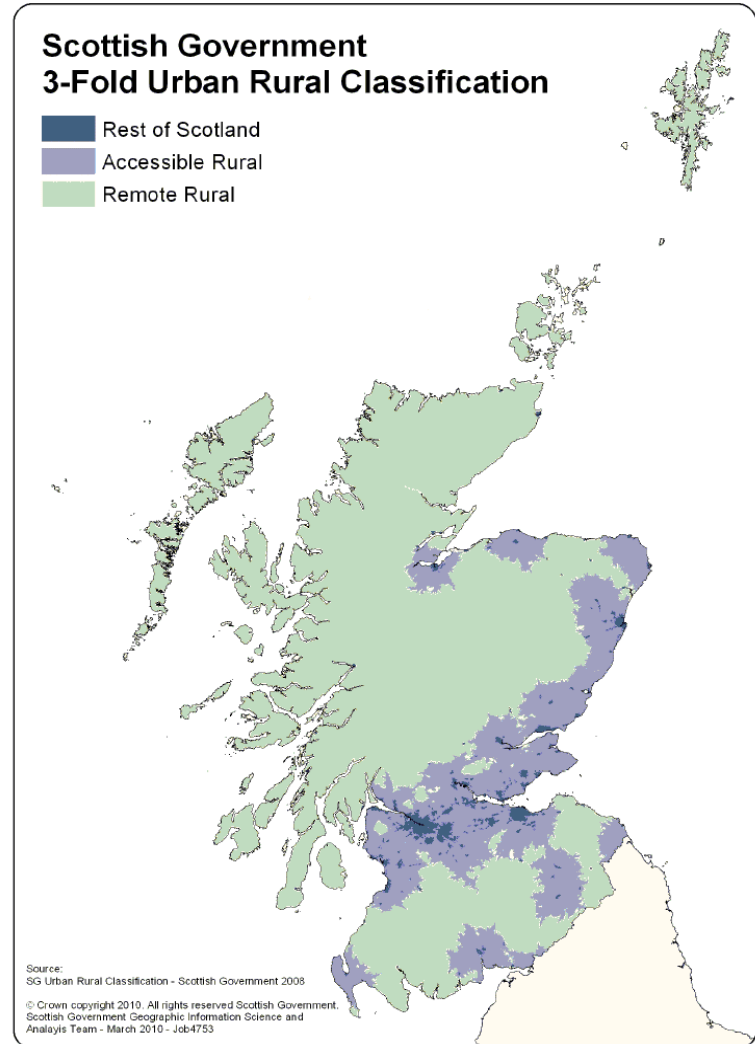
2. Do SIMD area deprivation measures based on benefits /tax credits claimed undercount rural poverty?

Low income and deprivation measures vs. SIMD Income Deprivation score

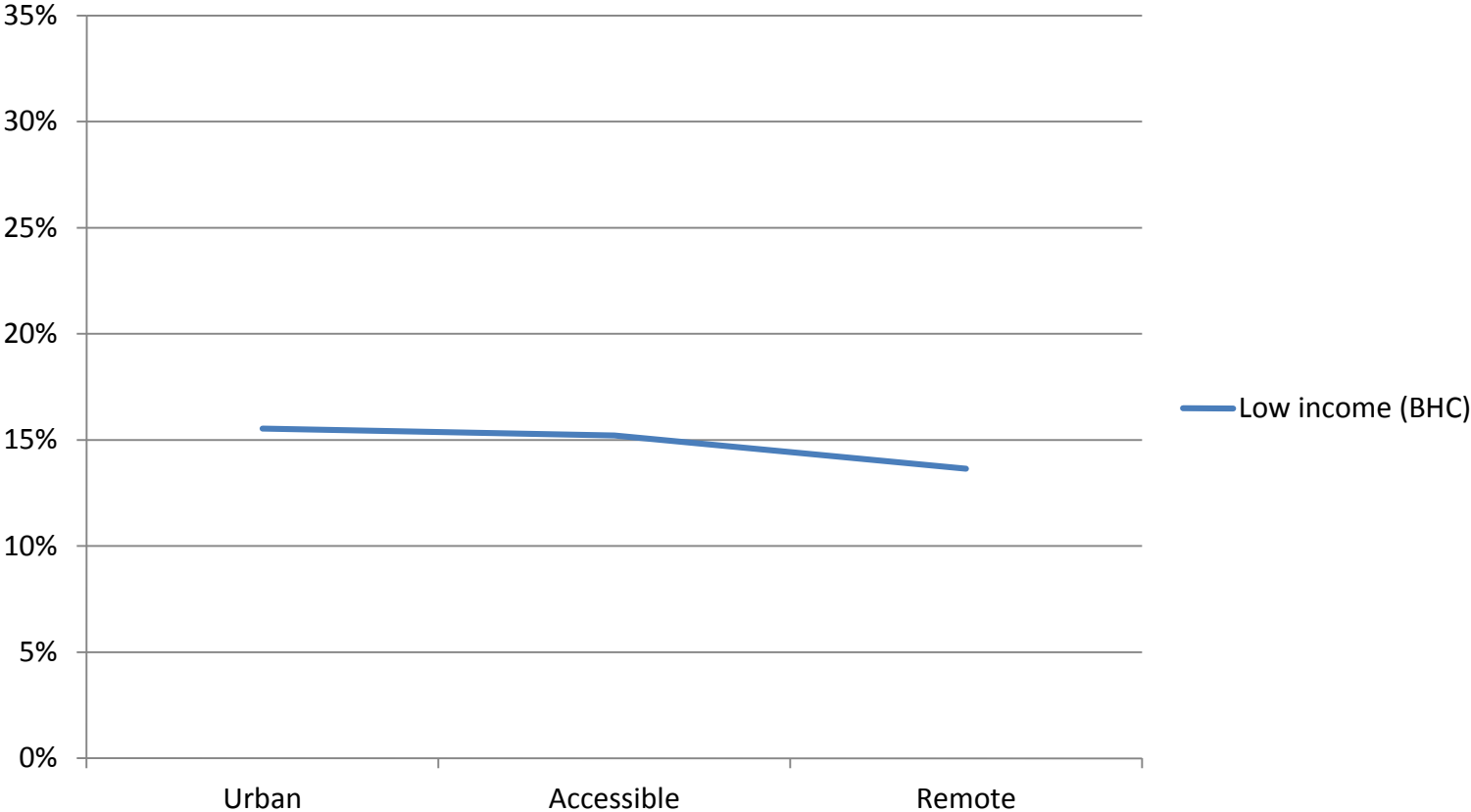


Urban-rural classification for Scotland – 3 & 6 fold

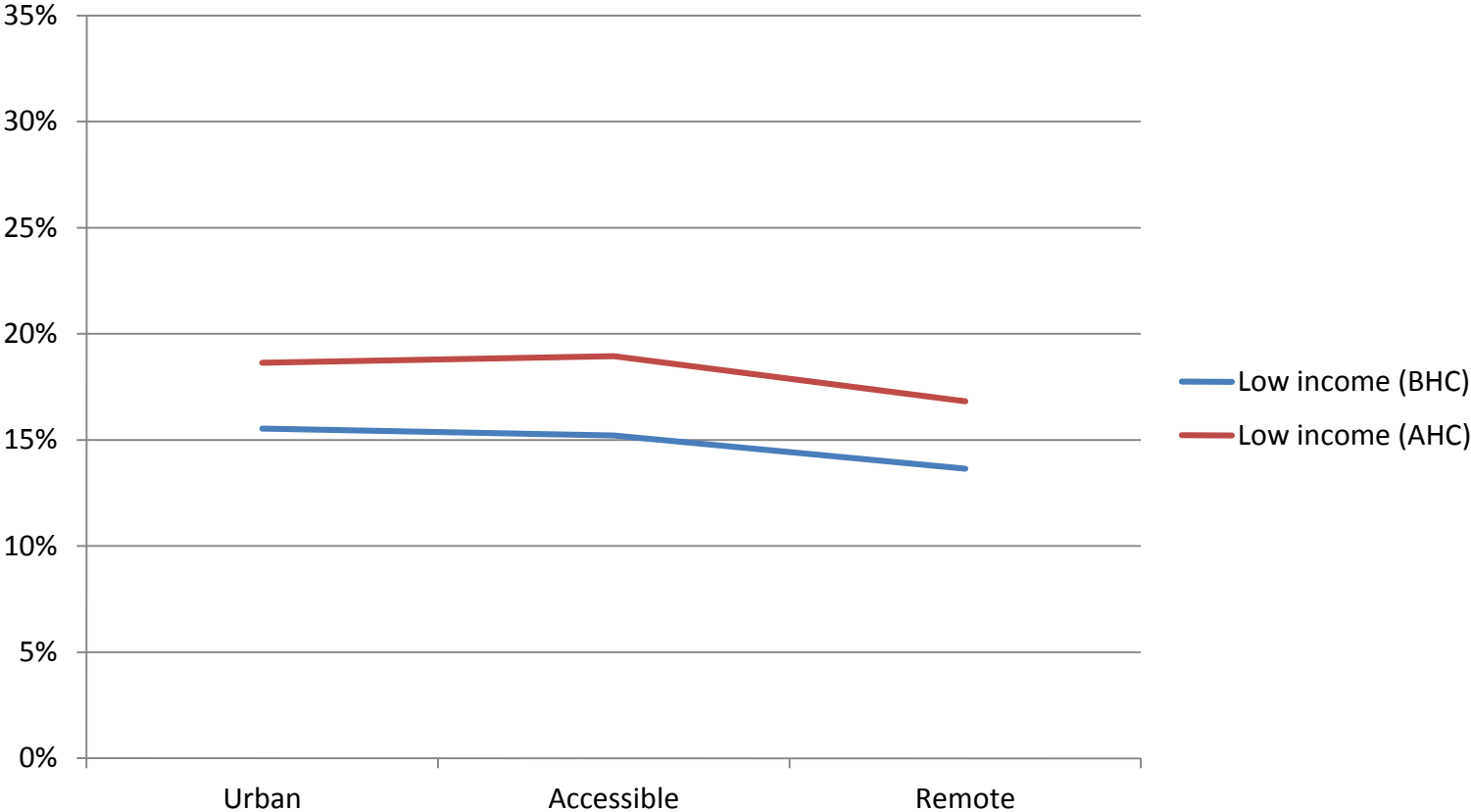
Category	Share of population	% of sample
1 Large Urban Areas	39%	27%
2 Other Urban Areas	30%	26%
3 Accessible Small Towns	9%	13%
4 Accessible Rural	12%	4%
5 Remote Small Towns	3%	18%
6 Remote Rural	7%	12%
N	5,299,900	2,047



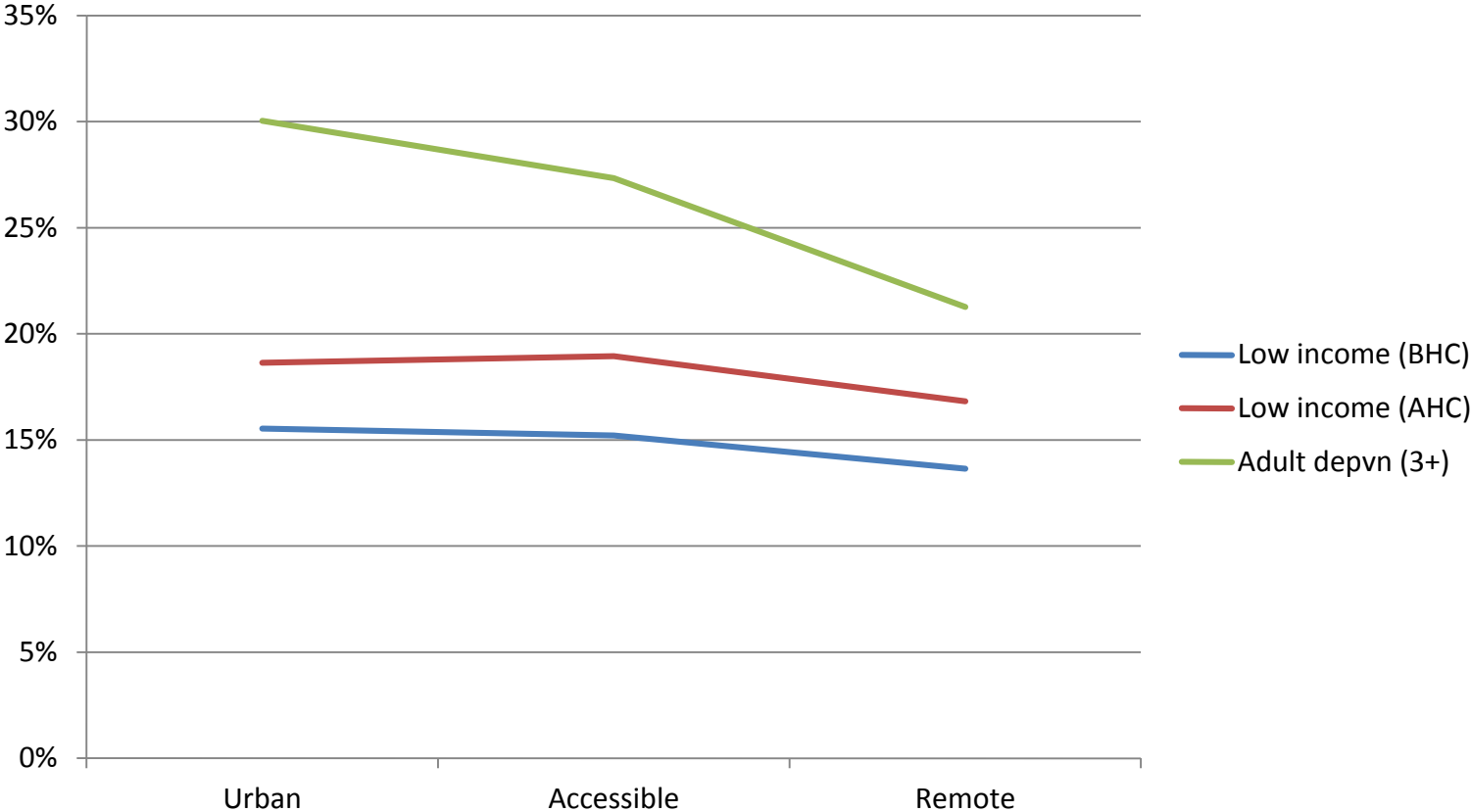
Low income poverty and deprivation rates by urban-rural classification (3-fold)



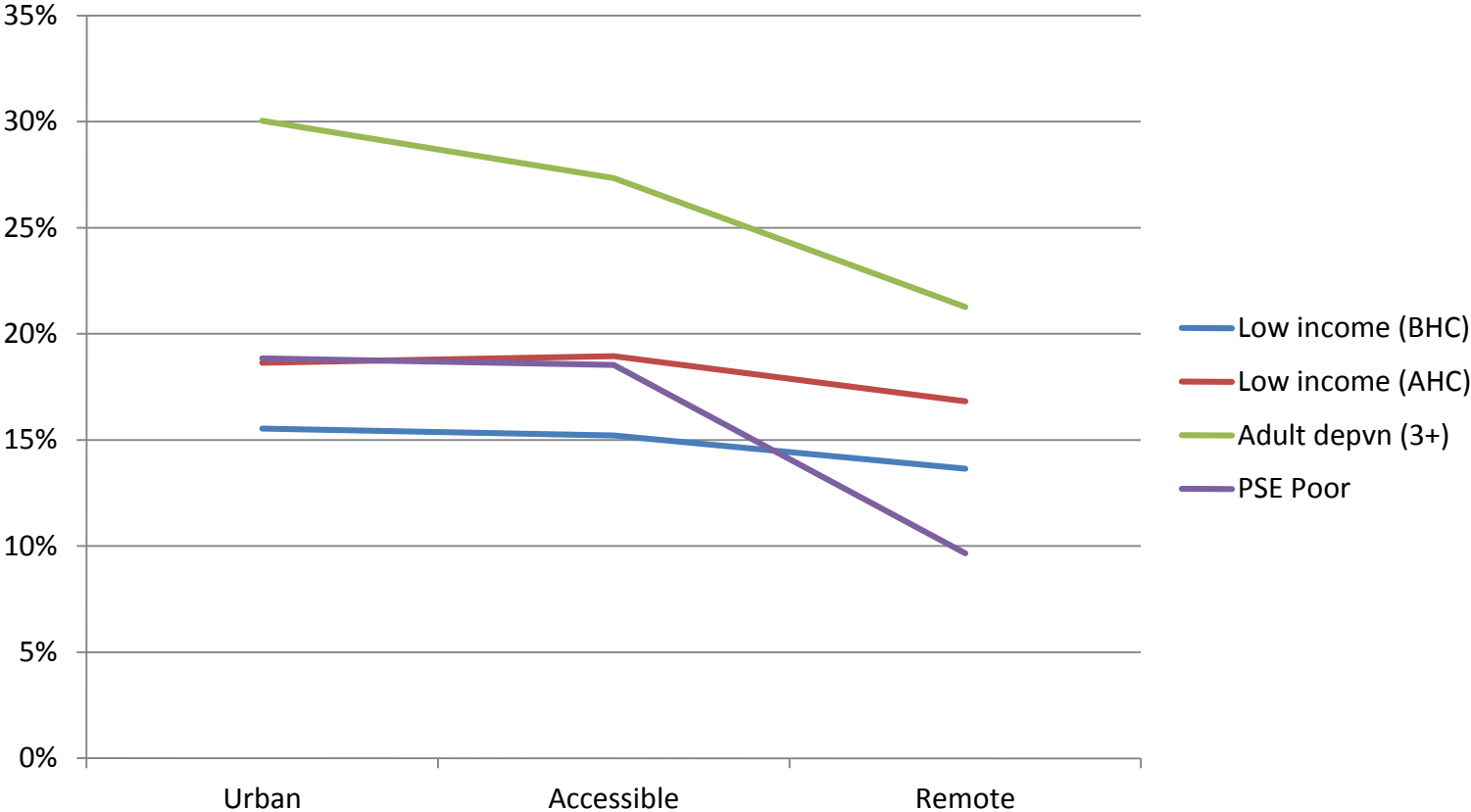
Low income poverty and deprivation rates by urban-rural classification (3-fold)



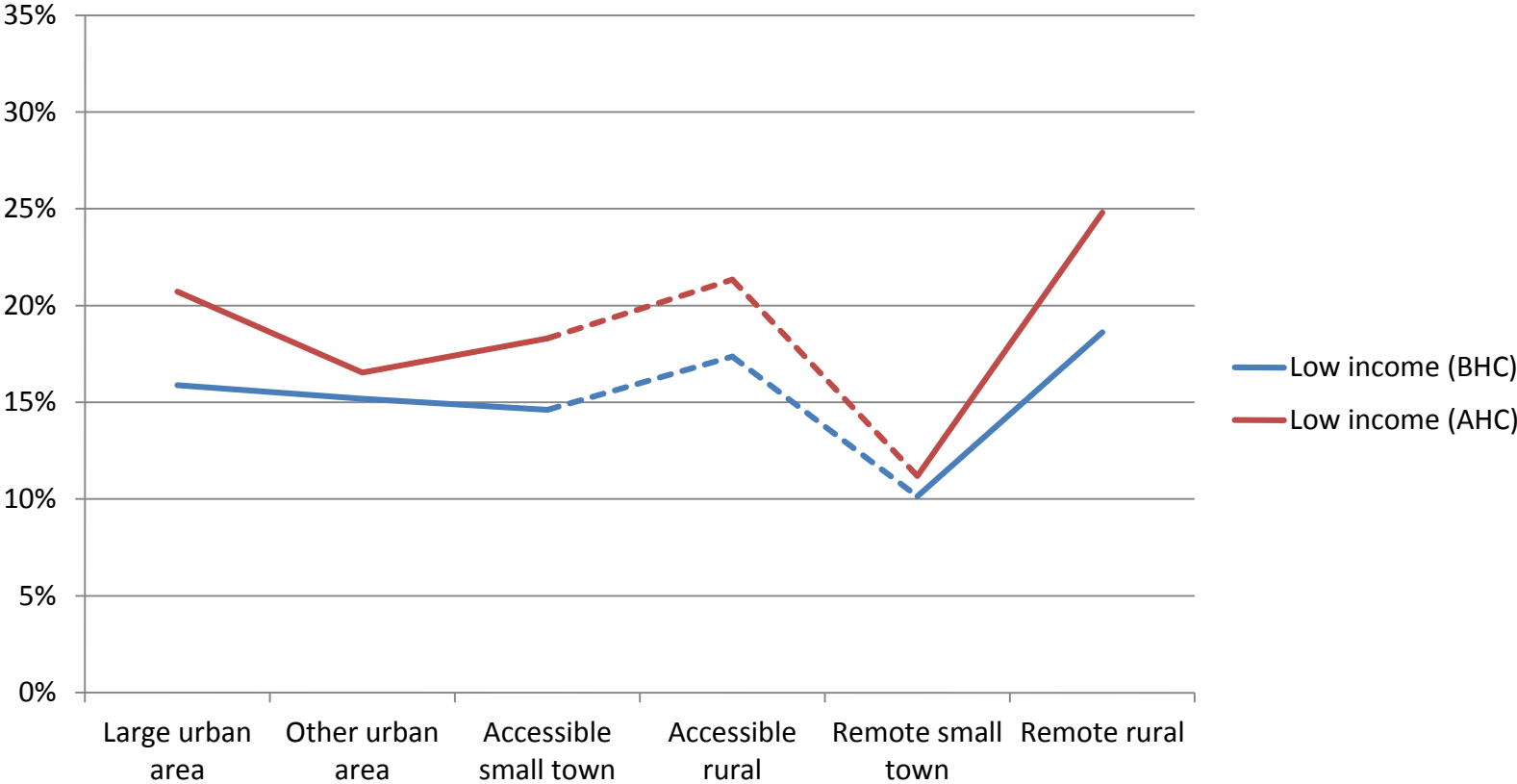
Low income poverty and deprivation rates by urban-rural classification (3-fold)



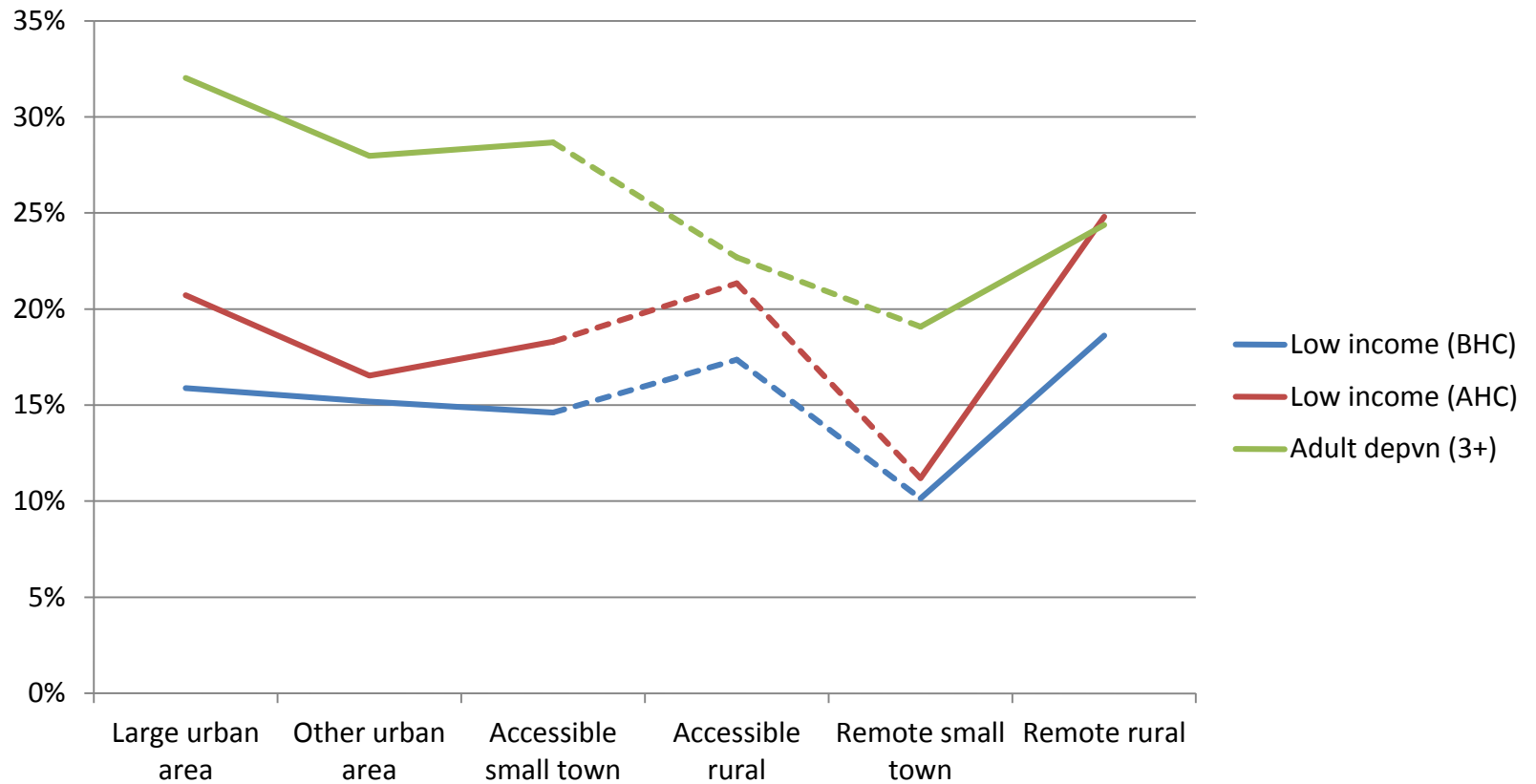
Low income poverty and deprivation rates by urban-rural classification (3-fold)



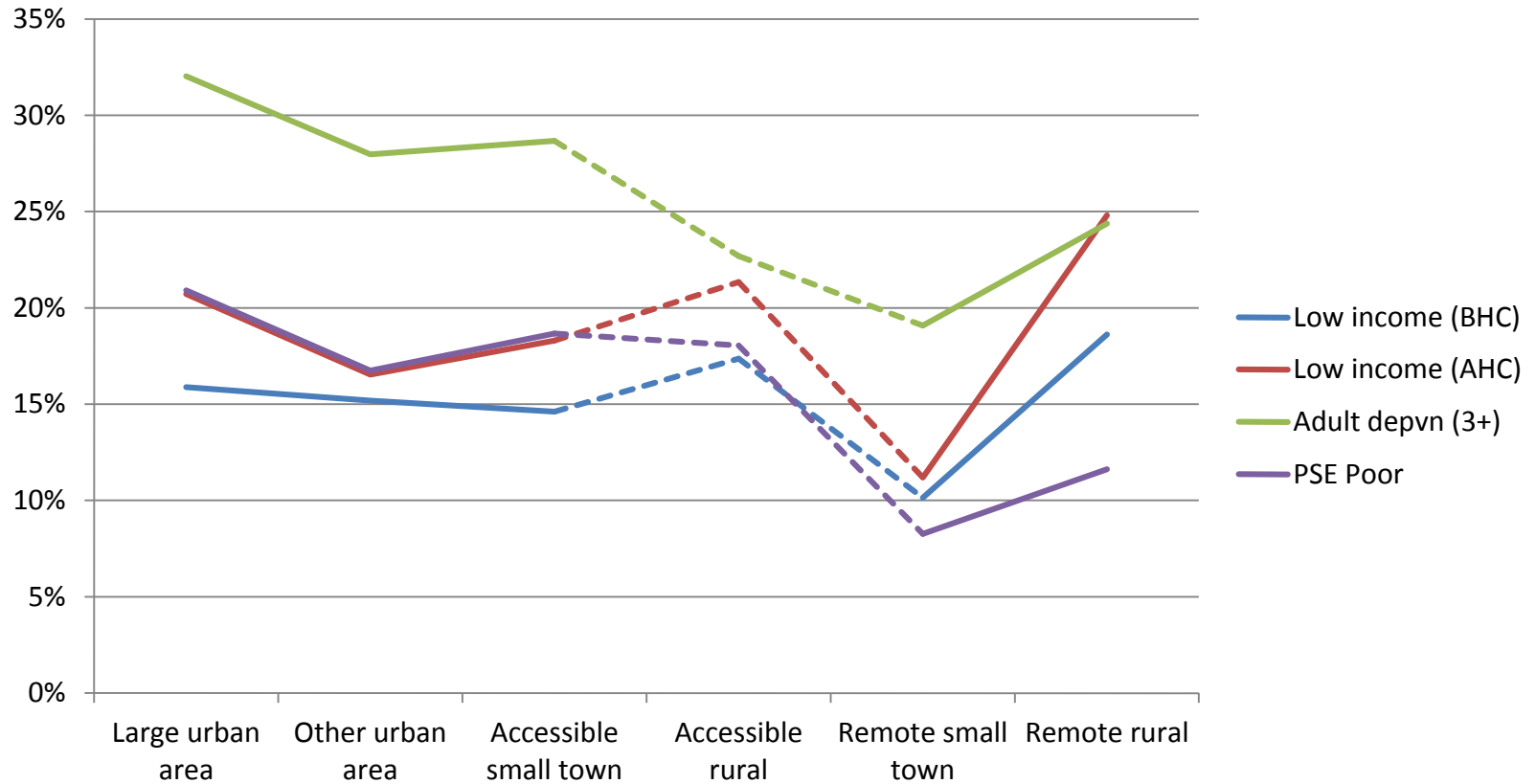
Low income poverty and deprivation rates by urban-rural classification (6-fold)



Low income poverty and deprivation rates by urban-rural classification (6-fold)



Low income poverty and deprivation rates by urban-rural classification (6-fold)



2. Urban bias in area deprivation indices?

SIMD Income Deprivation domain

- Six indicators
- Proportion in receipt of low income benefits

Lower uptake of benefits in rural areas (Naji & Griffiths 1999, Shucksmith et al 1994, 1996)

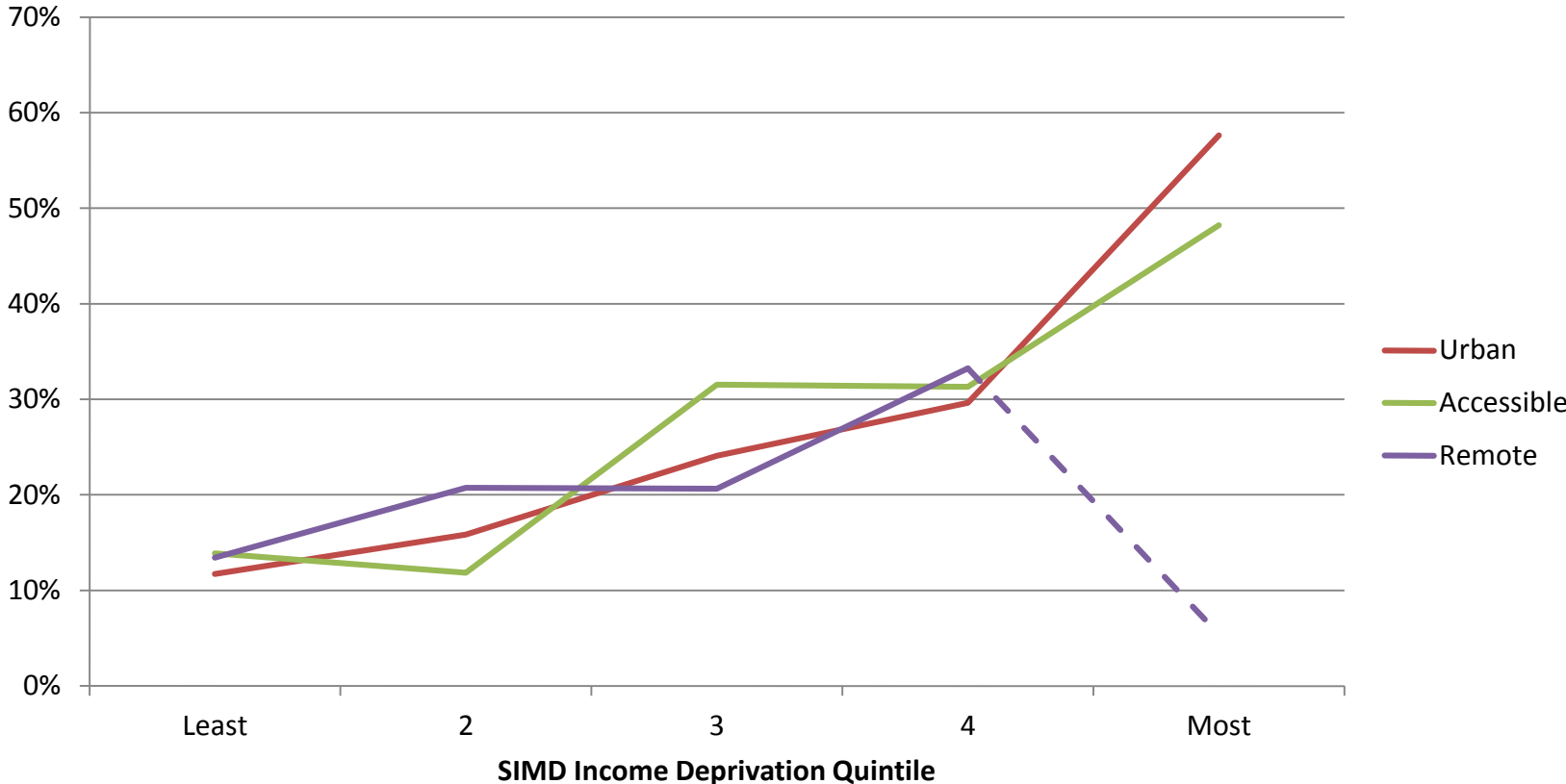
SIMD Income Deprivation score attached to each case



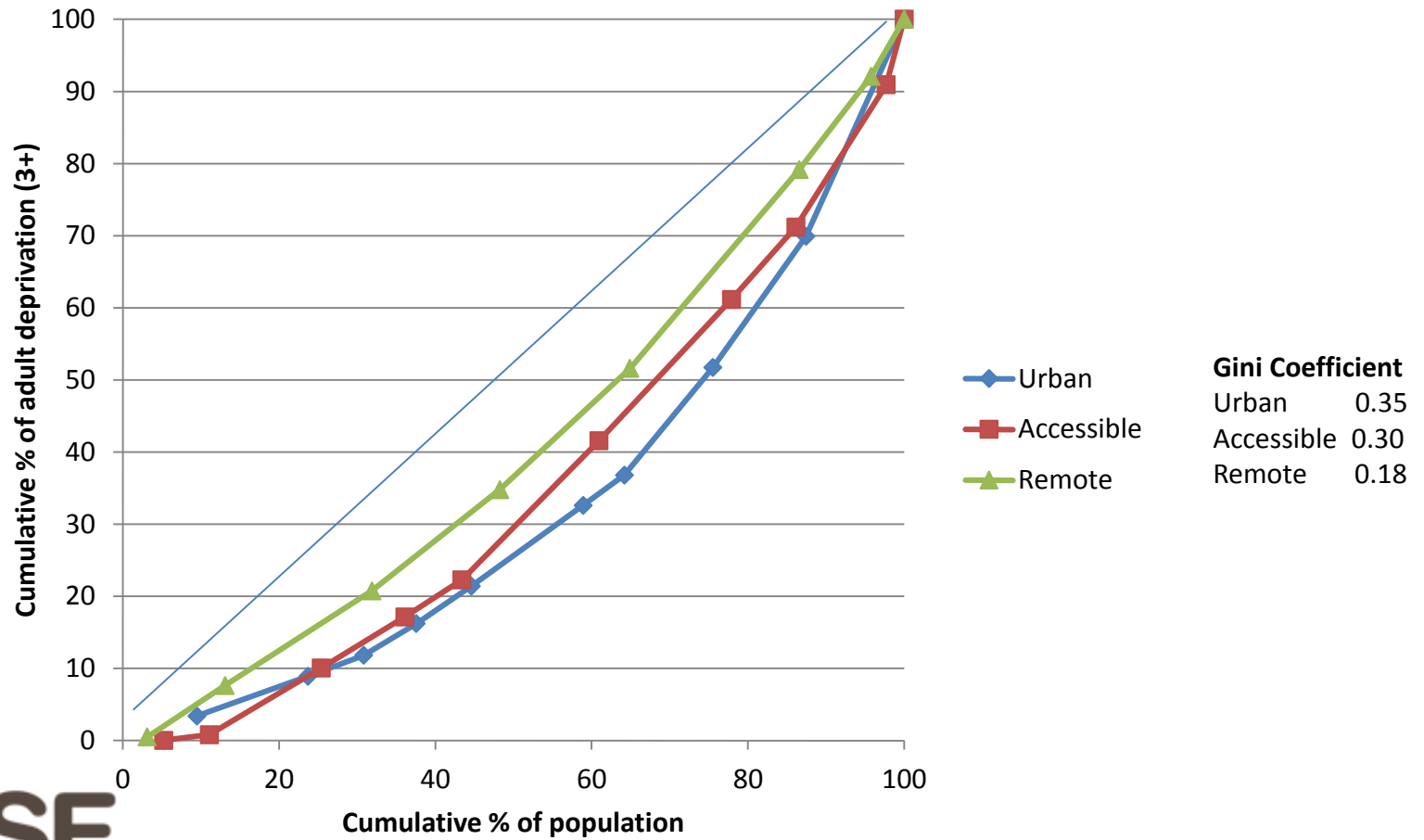
Urban bias in area deprivation indices?

SIMD low income quintile	Urban	Remote
Least deprived	24%	11%
2	14%	40%
3	12%	33%
4	26%	13%
Most deprived	25%	2%

Adult deprivation by neighbourhood deprivation and urban-rural location



Is poverty more spatially concentrated in urban than in rural areas?



Summary - Poverty

- Poverty across the urban-rural spectrum, highest in large urban areas
 - Differences in poverty levels within rural categories
- Data do not support the idea that low income poverty measures lead to undercounting of rural poverty
- Data do not support the idea of bias against rural areas in SIMD benefits claimed data
- Poverty is not as spatially concentrated in rural areas
 - Limitation on use of SIMD



Exclusion in rural areas

Family and social resources, social participation in rural areas

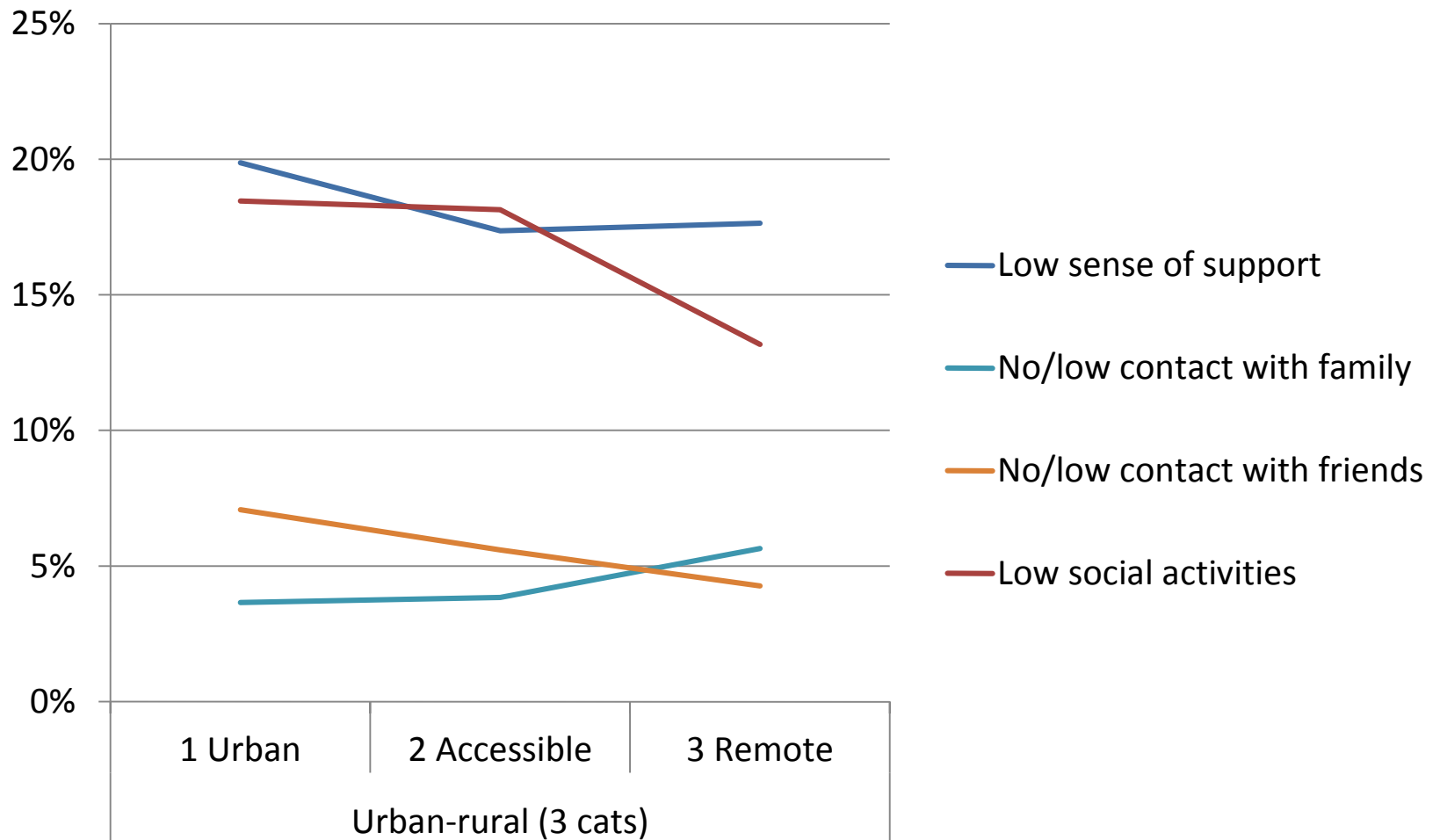
- greater stability, and stronger social connections and sense of community
- culture of 'self-reliance'

PSE measures:

- Perceived levels of social support (7 questions)
- Contact with family (2 questions)
- Contact with friends (2 questions)
- Social activities (13 activities)



Low social support, contact and participation – urban-rural classification (3-fold)



Exclusion in rural areas

Access to services and transport

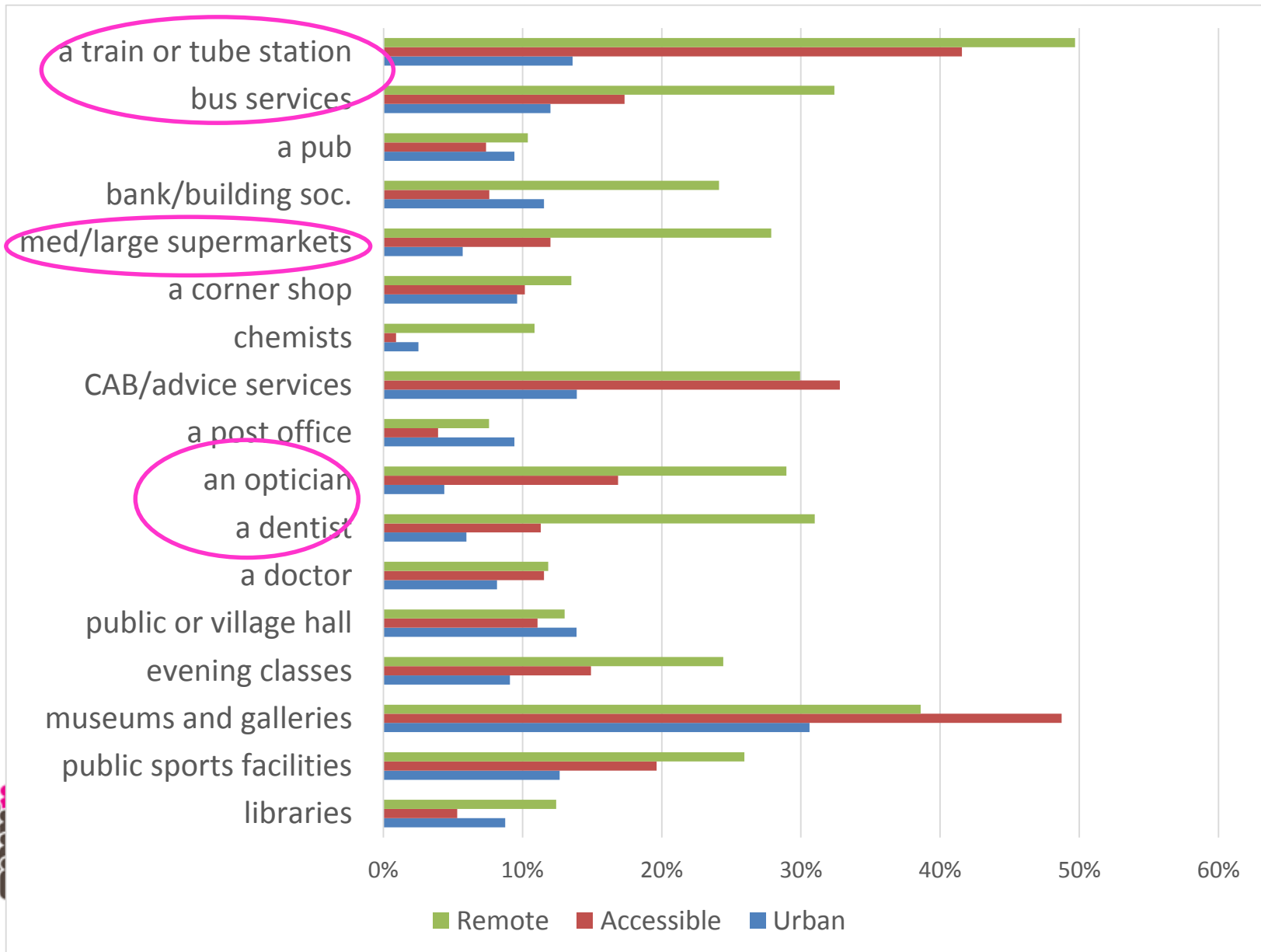
- Public transport not fit for purpose
- Access services

PSE data on seventeen general services used by the whole population, public and private, and including transport services

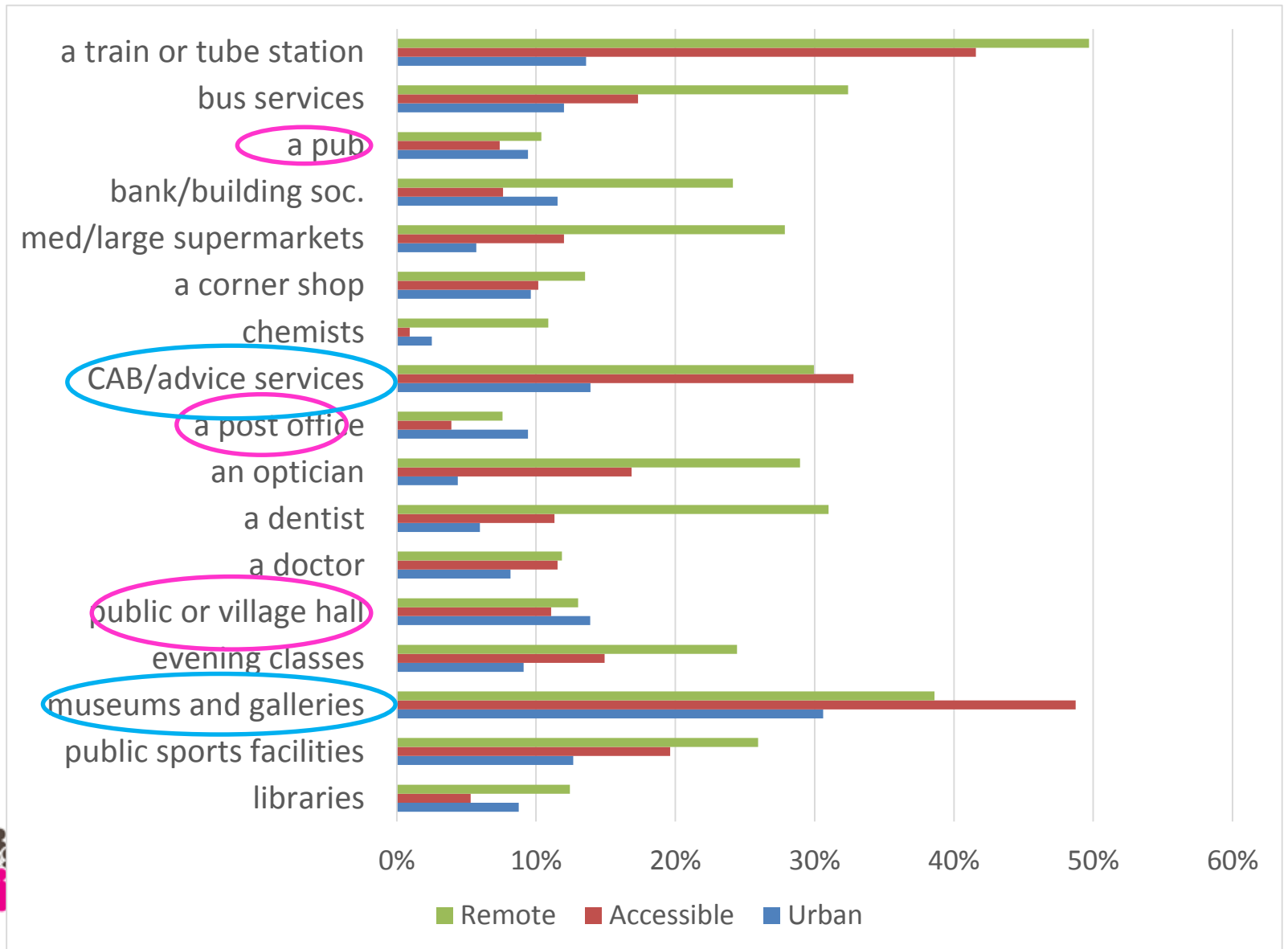
- Combined results for ‘use but inadequate’ with ‘don’t use – inadequate or inaccessible’



Inadequate or inaccessible general services by urban-rural location



Inadequate or inaccessible general services by urban-rural location



Exclusion in rural areas

Living environment

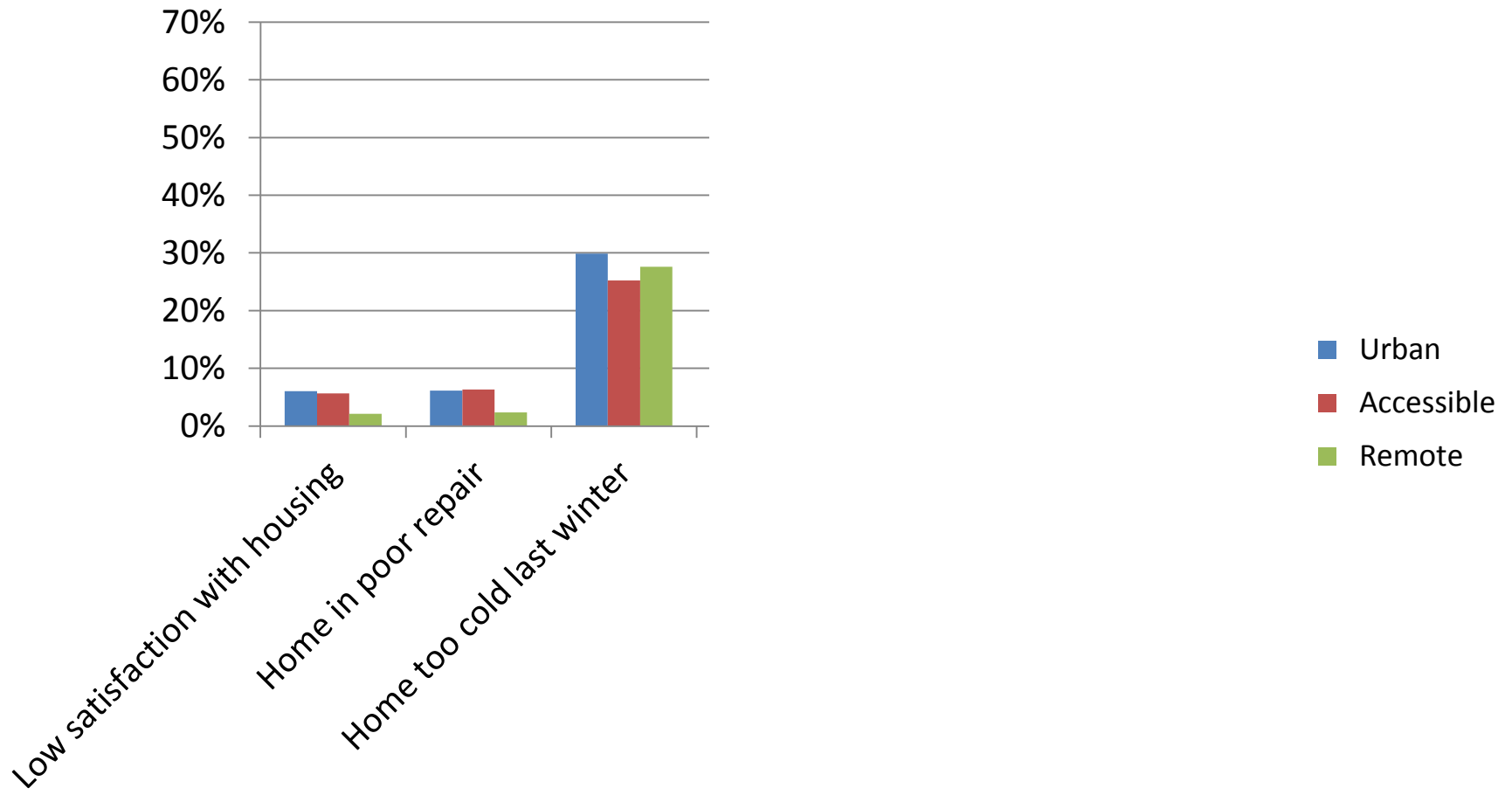
- housing (affordability, supply and quality)
- neighbourhood environment

PSE data:

- Satisfaction with housing (1 question)
- Housing quality
 - Home in poor repair (score out of 8)
 - Home too cold last winter (1 question)
- Neighbourhood environment
 - Social problems (score out of 10)
 - Noise/pollution/traffic (score out of 3)
 - Lighting, pavements, open spaces etc (score out of 3)



Housing and neighbourhood ratings by urban-rural category



Exclusion in rural areas

Health and well-being

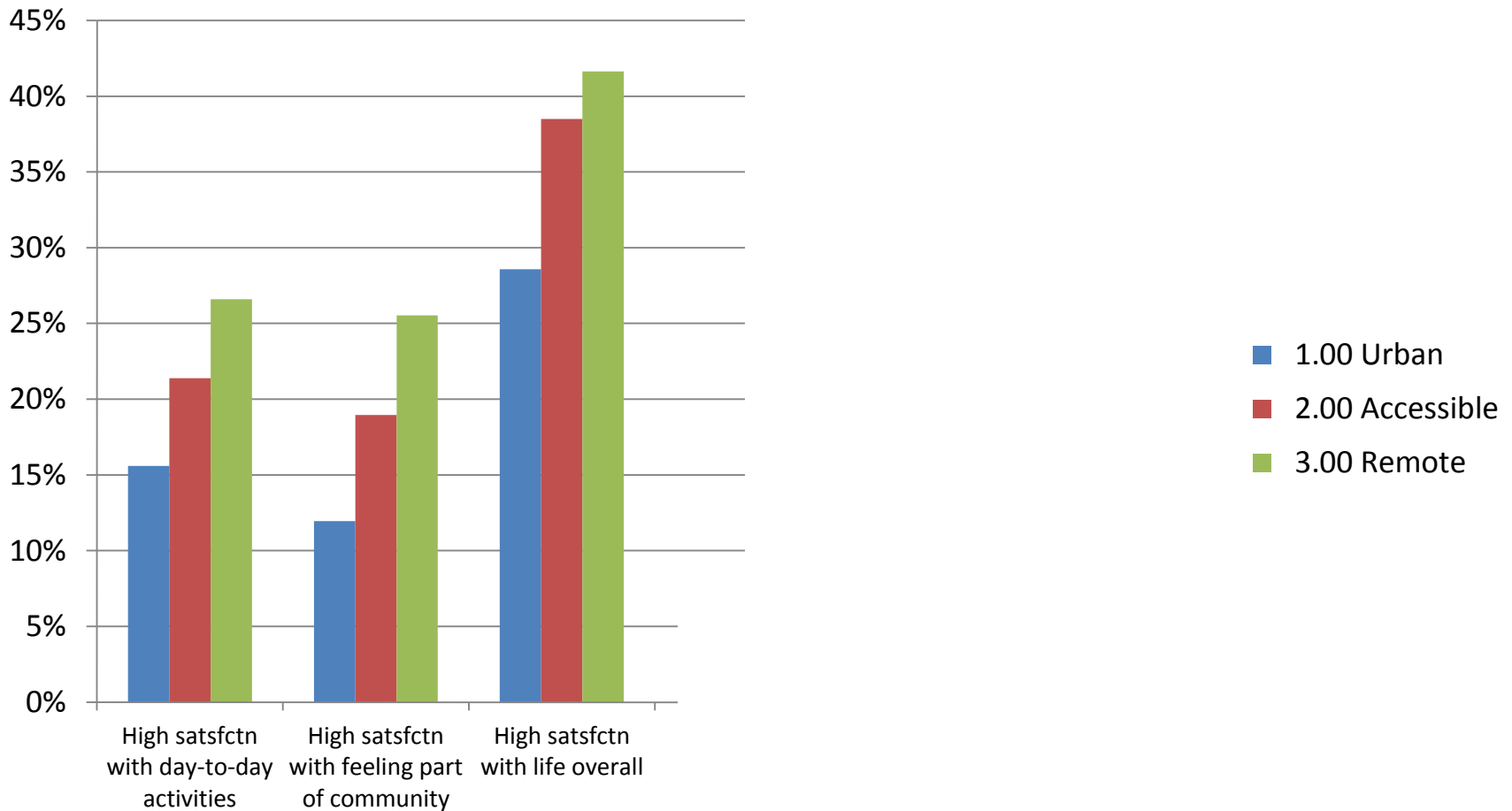
- greater sense of community and support vs. isolation
- environmental benefits (green space)

PSE measures:

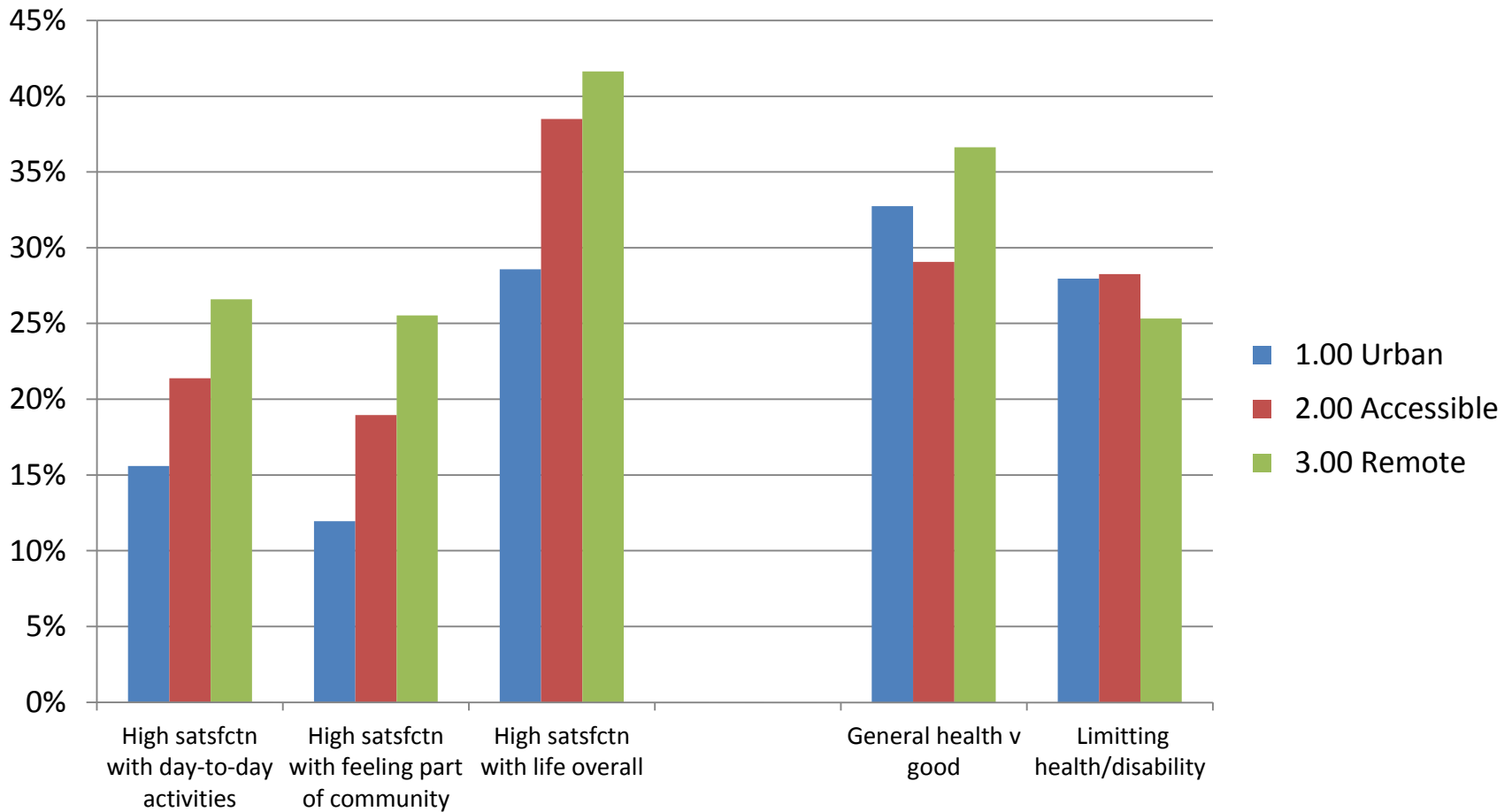
- Subjective well-being (3 questions)
- General health
- Limiting health problem or disability



Measure of health and well-being by urban-rural classification



Measure of health and well-being by urban-rural classification



Summary – Social Exclusion

Exclusion across urban-rural spectrum - similarities much greater than differences overall

In terms of difference, varied picture:

- **No difference** – Employment, social support & participation, housing
- **Better in rural areas** – Economic resources, health & well-being, nhd environment
- **Worse in rural areas** – Access to (certain) public services, public transport

Broad conclusions:

- Caution against overstating urban-rural differences
- Differences within non-urban categories, especially ‘remote rural’

