## Mapping New England Child Poverty by County



To assess family poverty, the U.S. Census Bureau compares pretax monetary incomes against one of 61 income thresholds for different family sizes and family member ages. Children living in poverty are more likely to have lower earning power and to suffer from health problems and crime when they grow up. A 2008 study in *The Journal of Children and Poverty* estimates that the costs associated with child poverty are about \$500 billion per year nationwide.

The two maps show child poverty trends in the past decade. Rural communities in northern New England states have persistent child poverty, as do some urban areas. The region as a whole experienced a declining child poverty rate between 1997 and 2007. *Communities & Banking* plans to present post-recession maps when data are available.

Map: Kai-yan Lee, Federal Reserve Bank of Boston