Rural School Definitions

NCES uses four categories, that are then broken out by local. You can look at the definitions here: https://nces.ed.gov/surveys/ruraled/definitions.asp

According to NCES definitions our school districts break out as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State or jurisdiction</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Large</th>
<th>Midsize</th>
<th>Small</th>
<th>Large</th>
<th>Midsize</th>
<th>Small</th>
<th>Fringe</th>
<th>Distant</th>
<th>Remote</th>
<th>Fringe</th>
<th>Distant</th>
<th>Remote</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>13,491</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>178</td>
<td>396</td>
<td>2,497</td>
<td>342</td>
<td>246</td>
<td>536</td>
<td>1,076</td>
<td>874</td>
<td>1,582</td>
<td>3,145</td>
<td>2,429</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Idaho</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

State Definition:
33-319. RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS — RURAL PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS. (1) A school district shall be considered a rural school district if it meets one (1) of the following two (2) criteria:
(a) There are fewer than twenty (20) enrolled students per square mile within the area encompassed by the school district’s boundaries; or
(b) The county in which a plurality of the school district’s market value for assessment purposes is located contains less than twenty-five thousand (25,000) residents, based on the most recent decennial United States census.

(2) A public charter school shall be considered a rural public charter school if the school district in which the public charter school is physically located meets the definition of a rural school district, pursuant to subsection (1) of this section. A public charter school that is also a virtual school shall be considered a rural public charter school if over fifty percent (50%) of its enrolled students reside within school districts that meet the definition of a rural school district pursuant to subsection (1) of this section.

Other State Definitions
Colorado: A Colorado school district is determined to be rural based on the size of the district, the distance from the nearest large urban/urbanized area, and having a student enrollment of approximately 6,500 students or fewer. Small rural districts are those districts having a student population of fewer than 1,000 students. Rural school districts represent critical aspects of Colorado’s education system. Colorado has 147 Rural School Districts.

Oregon: Uses NCES and USDA Definitions and then breaks it up by urbanicity and income status.
Montana: Further break out rural schools by rural and small or rural and low income (Rural Low Income Schools – Federal Program).