

Designated Health Professional Shortage Areas Statistics

First Quarter of Fiscal Year 2024
Designated HPSA Quarterly Summary

As of December 31, 2023

Bureau of Health Workforce
Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

Designated Health Professional Shortage Areas Statistics

**Table 1. Health Professional Shortage Areas: Number, Population, and Additional Practitioners
Needed for Geographic Areas, Population Groups, and Facilities as of December 31, 2023**

	Number of Designations ⁽¹⁾	Population of Designated HPSAs ⁽²⁾	Percent of Need Met ⁽³⁾	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations
Primary Medical HPSA Totals	8,544	102,278,636	47.55 %⁽⁴⁾	17,637⁽⁷⁾
Geographic Area	1,545	38,286,135	63.09 %	4,292
Population Group	2,427	62,887,078	39.81 %	12,588
Facility	4,572	1,105,423	30.34 %	757
Dental HPSA Totals	7,651	78,911,060	32.36 %⁽⁵⁾	13,354⁽⁸⁾
Geographic Area	727	16,505,264	58.02 %	1,534
Population Group	2,440	61,150,796	26.13 %	11,260
Facility	4,484	1,255,000	33.22 %	560
Mental Health HPSA Totals	6,822	168,548,660	27.11 %⁽⁶⁾	8,504⁽⁹⁾
Geographic Area	1,284	105,346,336	32.02 %	4,311
Population Group	886	61,650,847	17.49 %	3,580
Facility	4,652	1,551,477	37.94 %	613

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Table 2. Health Professional Shortage Areas: Rural/Non-Rural Classification as of December 31, 2023

	Number of Designations ⁽¹⁾	Percentage of All Designations ⁽¹⁰⁾	Population of Designated HPSAs	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations
Primary Medical HPSA Totals	8,544		102,278,636	17,637
Rural	5,598	65.52 %	32,893,434	5,307
Geographic Area	1,183	13.85 %	18,598,505	2,085
Population Group	1,411	16.51 %	13,659,984	2,775
Facility	3,004	35.16 %	634,945	447
Non-Rural	2,502	29.28 %	50,380,596	9,327
Geographic Area	214	2.50 %	12,543,420	1,424
Population Group	723	8.46 %	37,366,698	7,593
Facility	1,565	18.32 %	470,478	310
Partially Rural⁽¹¹⁾	414	4.85 %	18,273,989	2,884
Geographic Area	145	1.70 %	6,938,273	746
Population Group	269	3.15 %	11,335,716	2,138
Unknown⁽¹²⁾	30	0.35 %	730,617	119
Geographic Area	3	0.04 %	205,937	37
Population Group	24	0.28 %	524,680	82
Facility	3	0.04 %		
Dental HPSA Totals	7,651		78,911,060	13,354
Rural	5,069	66.25 %	24,985,681	4,179
Geographic Area	617	8.06 %	9,172,916	1,000
Population Group	1,500	19.61 %	15,119,792	2,867
Facility	2,952	38.58 %	692,973	312
Non-Rural	2,216	28.96 %	36,932,604	6,316
Geographic Area	65	0.85 %	4,742,195	308
Population Group	619	8.09 %	31,628,382	5,760
Facility	1,532	20.02 %	562,027	248
Partially Rural⁽¹¹⁾	318	4.16 %	14,082,117	2,294
Geographic Area	44	0.58 %	2,586,375	225
Population Group	274	3.58 %	11,495,742	2,069
Unknown⁽¹²⁾	48	0.63 %	2,910,658	565
Geographic Area	1	0.01 %	3,778	1

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	Number of Designations ⁽¹⁾	Percentage of All Designations ⁽¹⁰⁾	Population of Designated HPSAs	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations
Population Group	47	0.61 %	2,906,880	564
Mental Health HPSA Totals	6,822		168,548,660	8,504
Rural	4,119	60.38 %	39,060,970	2,284
Geographic Area	841	12.33 %	33,664,287	1,605
Population Group	249	3.65 %	4,556,404	327
Facility	3,029	44.40 %	840,279	352
Non-Rural	2,178	31.93 %	56,523,980	3,032
Geographic Area	160	2.35 %	21,768,936	837
Population Group	395	5.79 %	34,043,846	1,934
Facility	1,623	23.79 %	711,198	261
Partially Rural⁽¹¹⁾	511	7.49 %	72,458,807	3,159
Geographic Area	281	4.12 %	49,860,434	1,865
Population Group	230	3.37 %	22,598,373	1,294
Unknown⁽¹²⁾	14	0.21 %	504,903	29
Geographic Area	2	0.03 %	52,679	4
Population Group	12	0.18 %	452,224	25

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Table 3. Primary Care Health Professional Shortage Areas, by State, as of December 31, 2023

Primary Care	Total Designations ⁽¹⁾	Geographic Area	Population Group	Facility	Population of Designated HPSAs	Percent of Need Met ⁽³⁾	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations ⁽⁶⁾
HPSA Total	8,544	1,545	2,427	4,572	102,278,636	47.55 %	17,637
Region 1	267	26	75	166	1,549,669	55.45 %	233
Connecticut	56	1	35	20	573,373	60.86 %	74
Maine	83	13	17	53	123,369	41.71 %	25
Massachusetts	69	6	10	53	540,396	44.31 %	102
New Hampshire	30	3	8	19	161,596	71.23 %	17
Rhode Island	13	1	3	9	137,033	72.13 %	13
Vermont	16	2	2	12	13,902	56.53 %	2
Region 2	300	18	115	167	8,737,620	31.95 %	1,990
New Jersey	37	0	0	37	29,048	26.93 %	21
New York	204	12	86	106	6,567,043	37.28 %	1,365
Puerto Rico	51	0	29	22	1,930,211	9.82 %	584
U.S. Virgin Islands	8	6	0	2	211,318	72.18 %	20
Region 3	560	106	172	282	6,665,845	50.76 %	1,100
Delaware	11	0	4	7	253,696	16.36 %	75
District of Columbia	19	3	7	9	545,480	33.08 %	122
Maryland	76	10	47	19	1,748,349	38.81 %	354
Pennsylvania	171	16	33	122	693,534	53.40 %	138
Virginia	160	69	32	59	2,618,013	66.96 %	271
West Virginia	123	8	49	66	806,773	47.43 %	140
Region 4	1,630	312	645	673	26,771,740	48.19 %	4,636
Alabama	135	51	34	50	3,093,865	64.10 %	367
Florida	320	19	146	155	8,097,257	32.91 %	1,843
Georgia	244	59	104	81	3,369,911	39.94 %	683
Kentucky	271	64	101	106	2,154,242	47.69 %	367
Mississippi	179	54	53	72	2,058,860	51.24 %	335
North Carolina	225	22	102	101	3,303,422	51.33 %	524
South Carolina	101	15	34	52	1,989,936	69.23 %	209
Tennessee	155	28	71	56	2,704,247	65.59 %	308

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Primary Care	Total Designations ⁽¹⁾	Geographic Area	Population Group	Facility	Population of Designated HPSAs	Percent of Need Met ⁽³⁾	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations ⁽⁶⁾
Region 5	1,321	247	362	712	15,901,478	53.90 %	2,363
Illinois	273	46	91	136	3,657,588	49.82 %	586
Indiana	156	51	42	63	2,990,743	64.56 %	336
Michigan	288	23	78	187	3,594,485	50.39 %	590
Minnesota	219	56	51	112	1,527,407	55.33 %	214
Ohio	191	43	46	102	2,401,969	47.90 %	410
Wisconsin	194	28	54	112	1,729,286	58.97 %	227
Region 6	1,084	271	314	499	14,222,442	55.38 %	2,059
Arkansas	155	22	70	63	1,333,389	64.41 %	160
Louisiana	188	49	36	103	2,590,723	64.44 %	298
New Mexico	110	28	14	68	1,345,594	38.76 %	264
Oklahoma	192	17	73	102	1,461,114	39.62 %	297
Texas	439	155	121	163	7,491,622	56.71 %	1,040
Region 7	858	91	262	505	4,233,578	31.56 %	937
Iowa	186	31	60	95	934,796	41.69 %	174
Kansas	192	19	74	99	827,114	50.09 %	135
Missouri	354	17	105	232	2,294,436	20.26 %	600
Nebraska	126	24	23	79	177,232	40.02 %	28
Region 8	600	182	141	277	3,640,942	48.88 %	596
Colorado	131	28	46	57	1,233,306	44.40 %	225
Montana	151	29	40	82	514,373	42.07 %	93
North Dakota	92	46	5	41	228,741	31.00 %	50
South Dakota	109	41	24	44	309,479	37.93 %	56
Utah	75	19	21	35	1,168,421	61.59 %	148
Wyoming	42	19	5	18	186,622	55.44 %	24
Region 9	1,079	215	194	670	14,543,126	46.36 %	2,553
Arizona	244	54	56	134	3,344,046	39.21 %	667
California	704	132	119	453	8,942,205	50.29 %	1,460
Hawaii	33	4	0	29	519,572	43.55 %	87

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Primary Care	Total Designations ⁽¹⁾	Geographic Area	Population Group	Facility	Population of Designated HPSAs	Percent of Need Met ⁽³⁾	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations ⁽⁶⁾
Nevada	77	17	17	43	1,238,467	42.68 %	236
American Samoa	2	1	0	1	55,009	5.45 %	17
Federated States of Micronesia	8	3	1	4	99,673	0.00 %	34
Guam	5	1	1	3	217,199	63.06 %	24
Marshall Islands	2	1	0	1	53,158	0.00 %	18
Northern Mariana Islands	2	1	0	1	53,890	81.81 %	3
Republic of Palau	2	1	0	1	19,907	0.00 %	7
Region 10	845	77	147	621	6,012,196	40.07 %	1,170
Alaska	336	17	9	310	296,074	21.85 %	74
Idaho	102	13	34	55	565,374	45.95 %	104
Oregon	175	14	51	110	1,608,046	63.43 %	198
Washington	232	33	53	146	3,542,702	29.56 %	794

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Table 4. Dental Health Professional Shortage Areas, by State, as of December 31, 2023

Dental Health	Total Designations ⁽¹⁾	Geographic Area	Population Group	Facility	Population of Designated HPSAs	Percent of Need Met ⁽⁴⁾	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations ⁽⁷⁾
HPSA Total	7,651	727	2,440	4,484	78,911,060	32.36 %	13,354
Region 1	272	20	86	166	1,812,327	36.39 %	288
Connecticut	59	0	39	20	874,932	21.98 %	171
Maine	98	15	31	52	384,628	31.92 %	60
Massachusetts	62	3	5	54	334,131	74.31 %	22
New Hampshire	23	0	4	19	35,002	21.48 %	9
Rhode Island	14	0	5	9	147,733	35.90 %	24
Vermont	16	2	2	12	35,901	58.57 %	2
Region 2	300	6	141	153	7,861,300	26.89 %	1,452
New Jersey	37	0	1	36	85,244	29.18 %	27
New York	156	0	64	92	5,274,249	16.68 %	1,101
Puerto Rico	100	1	76	23	2,294,569	48.01 %	298
U.S. Virgin Islands	7	5	0	2	207,238	51.40 %	26
Region 3	528	64	196	268	8,182,083	38.80 %	1,218
Delaware	13	0	6	7	381,534	4.98 %	97
District of Columbia	12	0	2	10	90,280	2.90 %	22
Maryland	62	19	25	18	2,379,610	33.94 %	348
Pennsylvania	174	2	57	115	2,030,324	37.27 %	353
Virginia	147	33	59	55	2,491,672	55.85 %	253
West Virginia	120	10	47	63	808,663	28.34 %	145
Region 4	1,470	132	697	641	22,875,512	26.34 %	4,280
Alabama	140	1	91	48	2,578,122	21.85 %	511
Florida	295	5	132	158	7,113,278	16.68 %	1,536
Georgia	188	37	95	56	2,161,052	18.02 %	446
Kentucky	219	3	113	103	1,148,529	16.36 %	246
Mississippi	172	57	46	69	2,031,618	54.98 %	228
North Carolina	210	9	102	99	3,759,004	26.83 %	681
South Carolina	94	16	25	53	1,872,297	44.80 %	263
Tennessee	152	4	93	55	2,211,612	34.17 %	369

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Dental Health	Total Designations ⁽¹⁾	Geographic Area	Population Group	Facility	Population of Designated HPSAs	Percent of Need Met ⁽⁴⁾	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations ⁽⁷⁾
Region 5	1,185	36	427	722	10,567,362	30.45 %	1,875
Illinois	244	8	100	136	2,818,438	29.08 %	503
Indiana	116	2	53	61	1,296,813	33.18 %	223
Michigan	250	0	65	185	1,560,302	26.62 %	297
Minnesota	211	20	70	121	1,265,151	38.73 %	188
Ohio	178	4	75	99	2,024,341	27.61 %	385
Wisconsin	186	2	64	120	1,602,317	31.82 %	279
Region 6	911	182	232	497	8,387,630	39.74 %	1,282
Arkansas	124	6	55	63	620,722	36.78 %	108
Louisiana	176	33	39	104	2,265,236	49.94 %	282
New Mexico	113	25	21	67	1,234,886	22.81 %	235
Oklahoma	181	6	70	105	1,118,877	34.55 %	188
Texas	317	112	47	158	3,147,909	41.52 %	469
Region 7	781	58	222	501	3,298,711	27.87 %	568
Iowa	161	9	55	97	497,111	28.87 %	88
Kansas	177	25	56	96	592,913	38.69 %	81
Missouri	335	20	86	229	2,077,052	22.89 %	387
Nebraska	108	4	25	79	131,635	54.26 %	12
Region 8	494	97	124	273	2,630,940	49.42 %	315
Colorado	106	22	30	54	1,102,817	53.48 %	119
Montana	131	13	37	81	381,453	40.63 %	54
North Dakota	70	25	3	42	134,277	50.51 %	13
South Dakota	94	26	25	43	252,783	31.09 %	42
Utah	66	7	24	35	710,249	55.58 %	79
Wyoming	27	4	5	18	49,361	31.78 %	8
Region 9	915	84	186	645	7,752,667	33.25 %	1,291
Arizona	245	51	67	127	2,984,483	33.67 %	485
California	545	18	92	435	3,079,447	35.80 %	493
Hawaii	34	0	6	28	291,784	45.67 %	43

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Dental Health	Total Designations ⁽¹⁾	Geographic Area	Population Group	Facility	Population of Designated HPSAs	Percent of Need Met ⁽⁴⁾	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations ⁽⁷⁾
Nevada	71	7	20	44	1,051,708	30.11 %	191
American Samoa	2	1	0	1	55,009	0.00 %	14
Federated States of Micronesia	8	4	0	4	91,491	0.00 %	23
Guam	4	0	1	3	71,790	4.85 %	18
Marshall Islands	2	1	0	1	53,158	0.00 %	11
Northern Mariana Islands	2	1	0	1	53,890	22.26 %	8
Republic of Palau	2	1	0	1	19,907	0.00 %	5
Region 10	795	48	129	618	5,542,528	40.98 %	785
Alaska	331	19	4	308	418,728	34.98 %	60
Idaho	103	8	41	54	521,638	48.32 %	67
Oregon	160	0	50	110	1,882,324	33.27 %	314
Washington	201	21	34	146	2,719,838	46.09 %	344

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Table 5. Mental Health Care Health Professional Shortage Areas, by State, as of December 31, 2023

Mental Health Care	Total Designations ⁽¹⁾	Geographic Area	Population Group	Facility	Population of Designated HPSAs	Percent of Need Met ⁽⁵⁾	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations ⁽⁸⁾
HPSA Total	6,822	1,284	886	4,652	168,548,660	27.11 %	8,504
Region 1	234	30	29	175	3,415,848	29.32 %	176
Connecticut	54	3	19	32	1,939,436	18.01 %	109
Maine	72	17	3	52	405,967	19.45 %	31
Massachusetts	58	1	6	51	293,163	41.12 %	16
New Hampshire	24	5	0	19	182,854	51.06 %	5
Rhode Island	14	4	1	9	594,428	61.93 %	15
Vermont	12	0	0	12			
Region 2	350	18	134	198	9,717,881	18.87 %	607
New Jersey	39	2	0	37	277,571	57.79 %	25
New York	211	11	71	129	6,526,928	14.23 %	410
Puerto Rico	94	1	63	30	2,758,541	13.08 %	162
U.S. Virgin Islands	6	4	0	2	154,841	62.77 %	10
Region 3	471	66	113	292	8,450,014	31.53 %	515
Delaware	13	0	5	8	289,347	11.59 %	25
District of Columbia	11	1	1	9	278,686	39.33 %	11
Maryland	64	14	26	24	1,850,861	22.46 %	105
Pennsylvania	151	29	6	116	2,094,342	37.72 %	137
Virginia	117	12	38	67	3,148,552	41.02 %	147
West Virginia	115	10	37	68	788,226	12.99 %	90
Region 4	1,027	166	211	650	40,671,614	26.46 %	2,206
Alabama	88	26	15	47	5,744,290	25.43 %	277
Florida	237	26	50	161	10,207,269	21.80 %	587
Georgia	91	22	11	58	6,040,851	43.17 %	217
Kentucky	154	33	17	104	4,096,200	24.95 %	225
Mississippi	90	18	0	72	4,149,686	38.26 %	232
North Carolina	211	26	84	101	4,213,642	12.78 %	258
South Carolina	73	5	14	54	2,286,822	33.49 %	107
Tennessee	83	10	20	53	3,932,854	16.25 %	303

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Mental Health Care	Total Designations ⁽¹⁾	Geographic Area	Population Group	Facility	Population of Designated HPSAs	Percent of Need Met ⁽⁵⁾	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations ⁽⁸⁾
Region 5	1,058	236	91	731	33,140,650	30.17 %	1,437
Illinois	220	66	14	140	9,841,944	22.01 %	425
Indiana	105	34	3	68	6,850,084	31.20 %	292
Michigan	264	54	29	181	6,010,177	36.06 %	250
Minnesota	135	9	10	116	2,414,871	27.32 %	105
Ohio	142	25	16	101	5,110,969	30.91 %	241
Wisconsin	192	48	19	125	2,912,605	39.06 %	124
Region 6	913	296	112	505	26,061,091	29.84 %	1,216
Arkansas	80	4	14	62	1,373,044	33.67 %	75
Louisiana	175	52	18	105	3,627,424	26.15 %	166
New Mexico	97	23	6	68	1,688,116	17.88 %	90
Oklahoma	123	5	13	105	2,166,285	33.59 %	100
Texas	438	212	61	165	17,206,222	30.86 %	785
Region 7	653	102	42	509	8,005,878	24.03 %	371
Iowa	183	70	17	96	3,109,102	28.44 %	119
Kansas	124	21	3	100	1,530,318	25.42 %	66
Missouri	261	6	22	233	2,313,367	12.36 %	159
Nebraska	85	5	0	80	1,053,091	48.31 %	27
Region 8	411	102	18	291	8,542,116	38.22 %	348
Colorado	72	10	6	56	2,831,245	34.33 %	114
Montana	119	29	8	82	986,301	27.29 %	70
North Dakota	73	26	0	47	307,967	22.32 %	16
South Dakota	65	16	3	46	791,497	26.39 %	38
Utah	58	15	1	42	2,925,394	52.57 %	82
Wyoming	24	6	0	18	699,712	41.22 %	28
Region 9	960	185	97	678	22,001,534	21.51 %	1,235
Arizona	233	65	34	134	3,519,759	9.05 %	228
California	611	95	55	461	13,152,590	23.83 %	678
Hawaii	32	2	2	28	496,429	14.13 %	28

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Mental Health Care	Total Designations ⁽¹⁾	Geographic Area	Population Group	Facility	Population of Designated HPSAs	Percent of Need Met ⁽⁵⁾	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations ⁽⁸⁾
Nevada	64	15	5	44	4,377,932	27.87 %	255
American Samoa	2	1	0	1	55,009	0.00 %	12
Federated States of Micronesia	8	4	0	4	100,997	0.00 %	17
Guam	4	0	1	3	71,863	0.00 %	5
Marshall Islands	2	1	0	1	153,158	0.00 %	8
Northern Mariana Islands	2	1	0	1	53,890	0.00 %	3
Republic of Palau	2	1	0	1	19,907	0.00 %	1
Region 10	745	83	39	623	8,542,034	21.92 %	393
Alaska	335	20	5	310	420,332	11.90 %	21
Idaho	69	10	3	56	2,223,296	26.42 %	87
Oregon	139	13	17	109	2,393,434	26.98 %	117
Washington	202	40	14	148	3,504,972	16.74 %	168

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Endnotes

- (1) The number of designations includes HPSAs that are proposed for withdrawal (P) and HPSAs that have no data (N). Designations are not withdrawn until a Federal Register Notice is published, generally once a year on or around July 1.
- (2) The figure reported for the Population of Designated Facility HPSAs for both Primary Care and Dental reflects the number of internees in designated correctional facilities. The figure reported for the Population of Designated Facility HPSAs for Mental Health reflects the number of internees in designated correctional facilities, as well as the average daily inpatient census for state and county mental hospitals designated after September 1, 2015. For reports generated prior to September 1, 2015, the Population of Designated Facility HPSAs for all disciplines included populations served by other public or non-profit facilities. These are facilities that qualify for HPSA designation by demonstrating that even though they are not located in a geographic or population HPSA, they serve the populations of geographic and population HPSAs. As a result, these populations were potentially double counted.
- (3) The figure reported for Percent of Need Met for facility HPSAs includes correctional facilities and state mental hospitals. It excludes facilities not located in a HPSA that are designated based on providing services to the population of a geographic or population HPSA. It also excludes facilities automatically designated based on statute, including health center program grantees, Federally Qualified Health Center Look Alikes, Indian Health Service facilities, and rural health clinics that meet National Health Service Corps (NHSC) site requirements.
- (4) The percent of need met is computed by dividing the number of primary care physicians available to serve the population of the area, group, or facility by the number of primary care physicians that would be necessary to reduce the population to provider ratio below the threshold for designation so that it would eliminate the designation as a primary care HPSA. Federal regulations stipulate that, in order to be considered as having a shortage of providers, a designation must have a population-to-provider ratio that meets or exceeds a certain threshold. For primary care geographic designations, the population to provider ratio must be at least 3,500 to 1. For primary care population designations or geographic designations in areas with unusually high needs, the threshold is 3,000 to 1. For correctional facilities, the threshold is 1,000:1 and takes into account the average length of stay, and whether or not intake examinations are routinely performed.
- (5) The percent of need met is computed by dividing the number of dentists available to serve the population of the area, group, or facility by the number of dentists that would be necessary to reduce the population to provider ratio below the threshold for designation so that it would eliminate the designation as a dental HPSA. Federal regulations stipulate that, in order to be considered as having a shortage of providers, a designation must have a population-to-provider ratio that meets or exceeds a certain threshold. For dental geographic designations, the ratio must be at least 5,000 to 1. For dental population designations or geographic designations in areas with unusually high needs, the threshold is 4,000 to 1. For correctional facilities, the threshold is 1,500:1 and takes into account the average length of stay, and whether or not intake examinations are routinely performed.
- (6) The percent of need met is computed by dividing the number of mental health providers available to serve the population of the area, group, or facility by the number of mental health providers that would be necessary to reduce the population to provider ratio below the threshold for designation so that it would eliminate the designation as a mental health HPSA. Federal regulations stipulate that, in order to be considered as having a shortage of providers, a designation must have a population-to-provider ratio that meets or exceeds a certain threshold. Mental health designations may qualify for designation based on the population to psychiatrist ratio, the population to core mental health provider (psychiatrists, clinical psychologists, clinical social workers, psychiatric nurse specialists, and marriage and family therapists) ratio, or the population to both psychiatrist and core mental health provider ratios. For mental health geographic designations based on the ratio of population to psychiatrist ratio, the designation must have a ratio of 30,000 to 1, while for population designations or geographic designations in areas with unusually high needs, the threshold is 20,000 to 1. For mental health geographic designations based on the ratio of population to core mental health providers, the designation must have a ratio of 9,000 to 1, while for population designations or geographic designations in areas with unusually high needs, the threshold is 6,000 to 1. For mental health geographic designations based on the ratios of both population to psychiatrist and population to core mental health providers, the designation must have ratios of 20,000 to 1 (psychiatrists) and 6,000 to 1 (core mental health providers), while for population designations or geographic designations in areas with unusually high needs, the thresholds are 15,000 to 1 (psychiatrists) and 4,500 to 1 (core mental health providers). For correctional facilities, the threshold is 2,000:1 and takes into account the average length of stay, and whether or not intake examinations are routinely performed. For state mental hospitals, the calculation is based on workload units, which are a function of the average daily inpatient census and the number and type of admissions. For correctional facilities and state mental hospitals, psychiatrists are the only provider type counted.

Designated Health Professional Shortage Areas Statistics

Endnotes

- (7) The number of additional primary care physicians needed to achieve a population-to-primary care physician ratio below the thresholds necessary for designation in all designated primary care HPSAs that would result in their removal from designation. The formula used to designate primary care HPSAs does not take into account the availability of additional primary care services provided by nurse practitioners and physician assistants in an area. The figure reported for Practitioners Needed To Remove Designations for facility HPSAs includes correctional facilities. It excludes facilities not located in a HPSA that are designated based on providing services to the population of a geographic or population HPSA. It also excludes facilities automatically designated based on statute, including health center program grantees, Federally Qualified Health Center Look Alikes, Indian Health Service facilities, and rural health clinics that meet NHSC site requirements.
- (8) The number of additional dentists needed to achieve a population-to-dentist ratio below the thresholds necessary for designation in all designated dental HPSAs that would result in their removal from designation. The figure reported for Practitioners Needed To Remove Designations for facility HPSAs includes correctional facilities. It excludes facilities not located in a HPSA that are designated based on providing services to the population of a geographic or population HPSA. It also excludes facilities automatically designated based on statute, including health center program grantees, Federally Qualified Health Center Look Alikes, Indian Health Service facilities, and rural health clinics that meet NHSC site requirements.
- (9) The number of additional mental health providers needed to achieve a population-to-provider ratio below the thresholds necessary for designation in all designated mental health HPSAs that would result in their removal from designation. While the regulations allow mental health HPSA designations to be based on the psychiatrist to population ratio, the core mental health provider to population ratio, or both in conjunction, most mental health HPSA designations are currently based on the psychiatrists only to population ratio. If a HPSA designation is based on the ratio of population to psychiatrists only, it does not take into account the availability of additional mental health services provided by other mental health providers in the area, such as clinical psychologists, clinical social workers, psychiatric nurse specialists, and marriage and family therapists. The figure reported for Practitioners Needed To Remove Designations for facility HPSAs includes correctional facilities and state mental hospitals. It excludes facilities not located in a HPSA that are designated based on providing services to the population of a geographic or population HPSA. It also excludes facilities automatically designated based on statute, including health center program grantees, Federally Qualified Health Center Look Alikes, Indian Health Service facilities, and rural health clinics that meet NHSC site requirements.
- (10) Percentages of all designations classified as rural/non-rural are calculated by dividing the number of designations for the specified subcategory by the total number of designations for each discipline type and multiplying the result by 100. Due to decimal rounding, percentage totals may not equal exactly 100%.
- (11) Partially rural designations are those made up of geographic components that have a mixture of rural, non-rural, and unknown statuses.
- (12) Designations of unknown rural status may include 1) facility HPSAs whose precise location could not be located on a map (i.e. geocoded) or 2) geographic or population group HPSAs that are made up of some or all areas for which rural status is undefined. Rural status may be undefined where rural information or underlying geographic reference data for administrative boundaries is unavailable for the specified geographic area.