

Designated Health Professional Shortage Areas Statistics

First Quarter of Fiscal Year 2026
Designated HPSA Quarterly Summary

As of December 31, 2025

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, 2025**

	Number of Designations ⁽¹⁾	Population of Designated HPSAs ⁽²⁾	Percent of Need Met ⁽³⁾	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations
Primary Medical HPSA Totals	8,467	92,285,375	48.18 %⁽⁴⁾	15,604⁽⁷⁾
Geographic Area	1,361	34,810,656	63.50 %	3,787
Population Group	2,288	56,458,926	40.83 %	11,099
Facility	4,818	1,015,793	27.64 %	718
Dental HPSA Totals	7,443	63,700,964	32.93 %⁽⁵⁾	10,744⁽⁸⁾
Geographic Area	567	12,544,614	58.54 %	1,149
Population Group	2,130	49,989,807	27.38 %	9,050
Facility	4,746	1,166,543	30.77 %	545
Mental Health HPSA Totals	6,807	137,133,953	27.29 %⁽⁶⁾	6,800⁽⁹⁾
Geographic Area	1,098	85,032,851	32.61 %	3,288
Population Group	817	50,687,712	17.91 %	2,935
Facility	4,892	1,413,390	35.83 %	577

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Table 2. Health Professional Shortage Areas: Rural/Non-Rural Classification as of December 31, 2025

	Number of Designations ⁽¹⁾	Percentage of All Designations ⁽¹⁰⁾	Population of Designated HPSAs	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations
Primary Medical HPSA Totals	8,467		92,285,375	15,604
Rural	5,341	63.08 %	26,828,773	4,569
Geographic Area	893	10.55 %	14,505,763	1,601
Population Group	1,214	14.34 %	11,776,959	2,578
Facility	3,234	38.20 %	546,051	390
Non-Rural	2,280	26.93 %	35,735,038	6,758
Geographic Area	111	1.31 %	7,233,414	776
Population Group	602	7.11 %	28,041,506	5,659
Facility	1,567	18.51 %	460,118	323
Partially Rural⁽¹¹⁾	810	9.57 %	29,539,548	4,250
Geographic Area	346	4.09 %	13,007,220	1,395
Population Group	464	5.48 %	16,532,328	2,855
Unknown⁽¹²⁾	36	0.43 %	182,016	27
Geographic Area	11	0.13 %	64,259	15
Population Group	8	0.09 %	108,133	7
Facility	17	0.20 %	9,624	5
Dental HPSA Totals	7,443		63,700,964	10,744
Rural	4,885	65.63 %	19,321,630	3,342
Geographic Area	454	6.10 %	6,557,323	724
Population Group	1,248	16.77 %	12,172,450	2,348
Facility	3,183	42.77 %	591,857	270
Non-Rural	2,044	27.46 %	25,873,658	4,486
Geographic Area	23	0.31 %	2,044,891	117
Population Group	473	6.35 %	23,267,078	4,100
Facility	1,548	20.80 %	561,689	269
Partially Rural⁽¹¹⁾	467	6.27 %	16,587,343	2,531
Geographic Area	84	1.13 %	3,891,614	305
Population Group	383	5.15 %	12,695,729	2,226
Unknown⁽¹²⁾	47	0.63 %	1,918,333	385
Geographic Area	6	0.08 %	50,786	3

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	Number of Designations ⁽¹⁾	Percentage of All Designations ⁽¹⁰⁾	Population of Designated HPSAs	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations
Population Group	26	0.35 %	1,854,550	376
Facility	15	0.20 %	12,997	6
Mental Health HPSA Totals	6,807		137,133,953	6,800
Rural	4,212	61.88 %	30,508,917	1,797
Geographic Area	705	10.36 %	25,300,247	1,162
Population Group	248	3.64 %	4,460,092	316
Facility	3,259	47.88 %	748,578	319
Non-Rural	1,992	29.26 %	34,533,276	1,954
Geographic Area	86	1.26 %	12,036,540	436
Population Group	290	4.26 %	21,847,053	1,267
Facility	1,616	23.74 %	649,683	251
Partially Rural⁽¹¹⁾	583	8.56 %	72,022,374	3,040
Geographic Area	306	4.50 %	47,691,224	1,690
Population Group	277	4.07 %	24,331,150	1,350
Unknown⁽¹²⁾	20	0.29 %	69,386	9
Geographic Area	1	0.01 %	4,840	0
Population Group	2	0.03 %	49,417	2
Facility	17	0.25 %	15,129	7

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Table 3. Primary Care Health Professional Shortage Areas, by State, as of December 31, 2025

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	8,467	1,361	2,288	4,818	92,285,375	48.18 %	15,604
Region 1	264	38	62	164	2,264,597	69.34 %	218
Connecticut	52	5	27	20	961,480	74.56 %	73
Maine	87	17	16	54	209,904	60.06 %	26
Massachusetts	66	8	8	50	599,751	58.54 %	81
New Hampshire	26	4	4	18	192,273	78.87 %	14
Rhode Island	17	1	6	10	257,218	74.29 %	22
Vermont	16	3	1	12	43,971	84.15 %	2
Region 2	281	12	92	177	5,758,873	37.23 %	1,202
New Jersey	40	3	0	37	243,247	70.18 %	24
New York	194	6	72	116	4,845,088	35.41 %	1,036
Puerto Rico	42	0	20	22	574,059	28.90 %	138
U.S. Virgin Islands	5	3	0	2	96,479	88.27 %	4
Region 3	529	77	162	290	5,327,723	41.01 %	1,054
Delaware	12	0	5	7	394,684	11.17 %	122
District of Columbia	12	0	4	8	286,765	0.23 %	96
Maryland	56	7	31	18	1,170,262	28.74 %	284
Pennsylvania	142	5	30	107	461,015	51.56 %	91
Virginia	181	57	44	80	2,221,978	57.53 %	298
West Virginia	126	8	48	70	793,019	38.28 %	163
Region 4	1,607	236	639	732	23,805,340	48.80 %	4,058
Alabama	124	44	31	49	2,251,179	66.98 %	239
Florida	320	23	134	163	6,966,284	39.55 %	1,434
Georgia	233	47	98	88	2,720,812	38.99 %	563
Kentucky	257	39	87	131	1,752,671	31.40 %	388
Mississippi	159	28	56	75	1,353,860	34.93 %	303
North Carolina	234	11	120	103	3,203,805	47.77 %	559
South Carolina	111	23	33	55	2,739,889	78.54 %	189
Tennessee	169	21	80	68	2,816,840	58.76 %	383

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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	1,399	219	406	774	16,324,405	50.83 %	2,617
Illinois	304	48	89	167	3,343,128	44.39 %	597
Indiana	169	48	46	75	2,822,011	52.23 %	431
Michigan	280	8	65	207	2,629,221	47.50 %	464
Minnesota	222	59	44	119	1,503,698	54.39 %	216
Ohio	249	39	114	96	4,017,969	48.52 %	686
Wisconsin	175	17	48	110	2,008,378	66.00 %	223
Region 6	1,067	236	303	528	13,294,248	52.59 %	2,044
Arkansas	152	16	55	81	1,123,775	53.50 %	177
Louisiana	198	42	46	110	2,540,625	72.45 %	220
New Mexico	103	22	12	69	1,003,706	43.69 %	182
Oklahoma	196	15	67	114	1,279,787	30.66 %	318
Texas	418	141	123	154	7,346,355	50.98 %	1,147
Region 7	824	71	236	517	3,727,059	30.93 %	830
Iowa	180	22	59	99	979,850	37.21 %	197
Kansas	164	12	59	93	652,005	41.19 %	122
Missouri	344	15	88	241	1,837,226	21.50 %	475
Nebraska	136	22	30	84	257,978	49.17 %	36
Region 8	581	167	115	299	2,735,744	49.58 %	432
Colorado	131	26	39	66	997,473	46.72 %	171
Montana	137	27	33	77	334,449	42.26 %	57
North Dakota	93	43	4	46	195,077	37.71 %	37
South Dakota	107	35	21	51	287,405	33.20 %	59
Utah	67	15	12	40	703,027	65.44 %	79
Wyoming	46	21	6	19	218,313	53.77 %	29
Region 9	1,074	216	160	698	13,116,472	49.32 %	2,142
Arizona	284	81	61	142	4,220,172	42.21 %	776
California	661	105	84	472	6,905,819	53.62 %	1,045
Hawaii	34	5	0	29	604,780	66.58 %	58

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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	75	17	14	44	957,294	43.67 %	180
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	4	1	0	3	146,770	89.33 %	4
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	841	89	113	639	5,930,914	45.64 %	1,007
Alaska	338	16	9	313	298,176	26.58 %	68
Idaho	105	15	33	57	509,230	47.09 %	85
Oregon	160	11	40	109	1,022,377	51.28 %	169
Washington	238	47	31	160	4,101,131	45.41 %	685

Designated Health Professional Shortage Areas Statistics

Table 4. Dental Health Professional Shortage Areas, by State, as of December 31, 2025

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	7,443	567	2,130	4,746	63,700,964	32.93 %	10,744
Region 1	231	8	61	162	1,264,866	37.60 %	200
Connecticut	42	0	22	20	586,359	32.75 %	98
Maine	84	7	24	53	242,377	27.88 %	42
Massachusetts	56	1	6	49	193,909	62.09 %	20
New Hampshire	21	0	3	18	26,848	21.63 %	7
Rhode Island	15	0	5	10	208,900	38.00 %	33
Vermont	13	0	1	12	6,473	77.62 %	0
Region 2	306	5	121	180	5,394,923	32.24 %	923
New Jersey	39	1	1	37	227,009	50.83 %	32
New York	163	0	44	119	2,779,530	16.15 %	588
Puerto Rico	99	1	76	22	2,292,005	48.02 %	297
U.S. Virgin Islands	5	3	0	2	96,379	75.40 %	6
Region 3	518	70	166	282	7,398,821	40.79 %	1,059
Delaware	12	0	5	7	407,121	4.37 %	104
District of Columbia	10	0	2	8	90,280	2.90 %	22
Maryland	42	14	11	17	1,827,939	42.98 %	229
Pennsylvania	153	0	48	105	1,651,203	39.96 %	268
Virginia	178	50	50	78	2,702,376	52.96 %	296
West Virginia	123	6	50	67	719,902	22.61 %	140
Region 4	1,405	98	612	695	18,337,056	24.94 %	3,523
Alabama	92	1	48	43	755,541	24.33 %	139
Florida	283	6	111	166	5,967,522	18.74 %	1,271
Georgia	186	33	90	63	1,924,209	17.78 %	402
Kentucky	226	2	95	129	966,127	10.35 %	219
Mississippi	151	32	47	72	1,371,322	40.07 %	212
North Carolina	209	3	107	99	3,337,422	23.03 %	657
South Carolina	96	17	23	56	1,733,049	47.91 %	227
Tennessee	162	4	91	67	2,281,864	30.75 %	396

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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	1,196	38	378	780	9,528,851	33.34 %	1,617
Illinois	248	9	73	166	2,121,151	28.28 %	383
Indiana	133	4	55	74	1,127,678	27.84 %	207
Michigan	268	0	64	204	1,533,196	30.06 %	278
Minnesota	198	21	48	129	990,146	43.77 %	133
Ohio	184	2	91	91	2,621,706	39.64 %	411
Wisconsin	165	2	47	116	1,134,974	29.27 %	205
Region 6	880	123	225	532	6,386,839	35.85 %	1,069
Arkansas	138	3	54	81	568,827	33.43 %	107
Louisiana	176	25	40	111	1,903,922	45.80 %	260
New Mexico	104	16	19	69	844,643	21.44 %	165
Oklahoma	187	4	67	116	1,067,130	41.56 %	175
Texas	275	75	45	155	2,002,317	29.87 %	362
Region 7	724	35	181	508	2,752,691	24.64 %	493
Iowa	148	5	48	95	618,513	27.28 %	107
Kansas	133	8	33	92	286,460	29.47 %	49
Missouri	329	18	74	237	1,715,252	20.87 %	324
Nebraska	114	4	26	84	132,466	49.67 %	13
Region 8	491	89	105	297	1,830,796	48.45 %	219
Colorado	116	22	30	64	948,838	57.77 %	92
Montana	115	11	28	76	250,448	45.86 %	32
North Dakota	70	21	2	47	114,211	40.44 %	14
South Dakota	100	24	26	50	278,221	26.66 %	47
Utah	60	6	14	40	179,163	49.63 %	23
Wyoming	30	5	5	20	59,915	31.51 %	11
Region 9	913	52	187	674	6,668,549	32.82 %	1,130
Arizona	229	25	69	135	2,328,399	34.69 %	381
California	565	13	97	455	2,976,924	36.04 %	475
Hawaii	33	0	5	28	220,660	36.46 %	39

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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	66	6	15	45	797,321	26.18 %	156
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	779	49	94	636	4,137,572	48.72 %	511
Alaska	333	18	4	311	411,081	33.83 %	60
Idaho	98	6	36	56	452,047	37.48 %	70
Oregon	144	1	34	109	1,058,436	40.80 %	162
Washington	204	24	20	160	2,216,008	57.97 %	219

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Table 5. Mental Health Care Health Professional Shortage Areas, by State, as of December 31, 2025

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	6,807	1,098	817	4,892	137,133,953	27.29 %	6,800
Region 1	215	17	26	172	2,399,382	30.29 %	126
Connecticut	49	0	16	33	1,118,426	24.11 %	74
Maine	66	10	3	53	269,696	14.41 %	11
Massachusetts	52	1	5	46	250,535	24.65 %	16
New Hampshire	21	3	0	18	153,649	48.15 %	4
Rhode Island	15	3	2	10	607,076	48.94 %	21
Vermont	12	0	0	12			
Region 2	321	14	107	200	5,709,119	21.39 %	348
New Jersey	42	5	0	37	690,095	52.27 %	34
New York	200	6	55	139	3,773,411	15.15 %	238
Puerto Rico	74	0	52	22	1,140,925	8.31 %	70
U.S. Virgin Islands	5	3	0	2	104,688	59.64 %	6
Region 3	451	49	104	298	6,483,278	19.32 %	458
Delaware	13	0	6	7	404,336	6.95 %	47
District of Columbia	10	0	1	9	126,214	0.00 %	8
Maryland	48	10	16	22	1,515,872	22.10 %	81
Pennsylvania	128	18	5	105	1,021,339	32.05 %	70
Virginia	128	10	35	83	2,605,394	22.44 %	158
West Virginia	124	11	41	72	810,123	5.68 %	94
Region 4	1,098	167	215	716	34,623,461	25.90 %	1,802
Alabama	67	13	8	46	2,934,202	28.40 %	128
Florida	239	31	42	166	9,871,089	24.87 %	545
Georgia	92	19	8	65	5,065,892	45.31 %	174
Kentucky	213	49	34	130	2,787,237	19.54 %	150
Mississippi	86	10	1	75	2,116,907	34.90 %	96
North Carolina	218	22	89	107	4,269,267	12.52 %	256
South Carolina	86	17	12	57	4,434,925	30.72 %	201
Tennessee	97	6	21	70	3,143,942	13.25 %	252

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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	1,053	176	90	787	27,053,173	33.32 %	1,125
Illinois	228	48	10	170	6,998,099	22.93 %	301
Indiana	107	29	3	75	6,062,206	39.89 %	222
Michigan	261	35	23	203	3,671,822	39.20 %	149
Minnesota	145	10	11	124	2,604,502	24.87 %	114
Ohio	138	26	19	93	5,541,241	33.73 %	247
Wisconsin	174	28	24	122	2,175,303	41.77 %	92
Region 6	894	264	93	537	21,051,199	29.89 %	1,009
Arkansas	96	3	13	80	1,136,317	25.90 %	71
Louisiana	180	49	19	112	3,212,910	27.70 %	147
New Mexico	96	19	6	71	1,366,753	30.40 %	65
Oklahoma	129	4	10	115	1,893,666	21.39 %	120
Texas	393	189	45	159	13,441,553	32.16 %	606
Region 7	649	85	48	516	6,060,770	21.54 %	279
Iowa	181	58	27	96	1,895,311	19.52 %	83
Kansas	114	17	2	95	1,168,427	18.67 %	52
Missouri	263	5	19	239	1,928,387	15.18 %	114
Nebraska	91	5	0	86	1,068,645	44.54 %	30
Region 8	419	93	10	316	9,627,303	40.37 %	351
Colorado	83	13	5	65	4,053,458	40.94 %	138
Montana	104	24	3	77	792,299	36.96 %	36
North Dakota	78	26	0	52	497,647	34.87 %	18
South Dakota	63	10	1	52	661,583	17.98 %	37
Utah	62	12	1	49	2,655,667	50.84 %	81
Wyoming	29	8	0	21	966,649	32.25 %	41
Region 9	949	149	91	709	16,532,364	20.66 %	963
Arizona	213	38	33	142	2,072,779	10.08 %	144
California	627	93	51	483	11,542,855	23.49 %	598
Hawaii	32	2	2	28	502,865	33.11 %	22

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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	57	8	4	45	1,959,041	20.60 %	153
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	758	84	33	641	7,593,904	23.79 %	339
Alaska	338	20	5	313	420,338	12.23 %	22
Idaho	65	5	2	58	1,273,700	30.35 %	49
Oregon	129	9	12	108	1,388,620	30.02 %	68
Washington	226	50	14	162	4,511,246	20.94 %	200

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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.