

Designated Health Professional Shortage Areas Statistics

Fourth Quarter of Fiscal Year 2024
Designated HPSA Quarterly Summary

As of September 30, 2024

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 September 30, 2024**

	Number of Designations ⁽¹⁾	Population of Designated HPSAs ⁽²⁾	Percent of Need Met ⁽³⁾	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations
Primary Medical HPSA Totals	7,543	75,905,245	46.97 %⁽⁴⁾	13,282⁽⁷⁾
Geographic Area	1,107	25,405,080	62.09 %	2,892
Population Group	1,967	49,521,030	41.11 %	9,700
Facility	4,469	979,135	27.70 %	690
Dental HPSA Totals	6,888	59,230,754	32.37 %⁽⁵⁾	10,093⁽⁸⁾
Geographic Area	510	11,076,085	58.64 %	1,009
Population Group	1,978	47,033,926	26.95 %	8,563
Facility	4,400	1,120,743	31.19 %	521
Mental Health HPSA Totals	6,246	122,769,772	26.55 %⁽⁶⁾	6,204⁽⁹⁾
Geographic Area	984	73,377,433	31.52 %	2,893
Population Group	729	48,063,470	18.06 %	2,774
Facility	4,533	1,328,869	35.90 %	537

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Table 2. Health Professional Shortage Areas: Rural/Non-Rural Classification as of September 30, 2024

	Number of Designations ⁽¹⁾	Percentage of All Designations ⁽¹⁰⁾	Population of Designated HPSAs	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations
Primary Medical HPSA Totals	7,543		75,905,245	13,282
Rural	5,003	66.33 %	25,583,389	4,419
Geographic Area	889	11.79 %	13,441,182	1,597
Population Group	1,181	15.66 %	11,617,430	2,444
Facility	2,933	38.88 %	524,777	378
Non-Rural	2,192	29.06 %	36,295,060	6,723
Geographic Area	123	1.63 %	7,001,782	775
Population Group	543	7.20 %	28,845,495	5,640
Facility	1,526	20.23 %	447,783	308
Partially Rural⁽¹¹⁾	296	3.92 %	12,724,214	1,929
Geographic Area	86	1.14 %	4,519,340	453
Population Group	210	2.78 %	8,204,874	1,476
Unknown⁽¹²⁾	52	0.69 %	1,302,582	211
Geographic Area	9	0.12 %	442,776	67
Population Group	33	0.44 %	853,231	140
Facility	10	0.13 %	6,575	4
Dental HPSA Totals	6,888		59,230,754	10,093
Rural	4,594	66.70 %	19,462,238	3,338
Geographic Area	453	6.58 %	6,432,225	715
Population Group	1,247	18.10 %	12,457,422	2,360
Facility	2,894	42.02 %	572,591	263
Non-Rural	1,991	28.91 %	26,017,911	4,430
Geographic Area	35	0.51 %	2,930,518	175
Population Group	453	6.58 %	22,548,544	4,001
Facility	1,503	21.82 %	538,849	254
Partially Rural⁽¹¹⁾	234	3.40 %	10,022,394	1,607
Geographic Area	21	0.30 %	1,709,564	118
Population Group	213	3.09 %	8,312,830	1,489
Unknown⁽¹²⁾	69	1.00 %	3,728,211	718
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	65	0.94 %	3,715,130	713
Facility	3	0.04 %	9,303	4
Mental Health HPSA Totals	6,246		122,769,772	6,204
Rural	3,863	61.85 %	28,968,659	1,685
Geographic Area	682	10.92 %	24,411,242	1,119
Population Group	219	3.51 %	3,851,164	267
Facility	2,962	47.42 %	706,253	299
Non-Rural	1,982	31.73 %	39,448,410	2,186
Geographic Area	108	1.73 %	13,349,010	503
Population Group	308	4.93 %	25,487,416	1,450
Facility	1,566	25.07 %	611,984	233
Partially Rural⁽¹¹⁾	379	6.07 %	53,806,280	2,298
Geographic Area	192	3.07 %	35,564,502	1,267
Population Group	187	2.99 %	18,241,778	1,031
Unknown⁽¹²⁾	22	0.35 %	546,423	35
Geographic Area	2	0.03 %	52,679	4
Population Group	15	0.24 %	483,112	26
Facility	5	0.08 %	10,632	5

Designated Health Professional Shortage Areas Statistics

Table 3. Primary Care Health Professional Shortage Areas, by State, as of September 30, 2024

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	7,543	1,107	1,967	4,469	75,905,245	46.97 %	13,282
Region 1	229	17	56	156	1,310,436	59.17 %	177
Connecticut	46	1	25	20	501,022	71.60 %	45
Maine	76	9	15	52	90,411	46.38 %	18
Massachusetts	59	4	8	47	467,877	41.02 %	91
New Hampshire	22	2	4	16	112,513	74.85 %	10
Rhode Island	13	1	3	9	137,033	72.13 %	13
Vermont	13	0	1	12	1,580	77.83 %	0
Region 2	269	9	91	169	5,479,545	36.06 %	1,174
New Jersey	36	0	0	36	24,727	27.60 %	17
New York	185	5	71	109	4,734,034	35.45 %	1,013
Puerto Rico	42	0	20	22	574,059	28.90 %	138
U.S. Virgin Islands	6	4	0	2	146,725	88.36 %	6
Region 3	465	70	137	258	4,836,774	45.88 %	879
Delaware	11	0	4	7	332,833	14.51 %	100
District of Columbia	13	0	4	9	286,765	0.23 %	96
Maryland	56	7	31	18	1,168,871	28.76 %	282
Pennsylvania	130	4	24	102	380,454	57.37 %	70
Virginia	135	53	26	56	1,913,101	65.83 %	206
West Virginia	120	6	48	66	754,750	49.67 %	125
Region 4	1,411	204	547	660	19,832,901	47.20 %	3,525
Alabama	107	34	28	45	2,004,550	66.22 %	220
Florida	281	17	110	154	6,089,306	36.55 %	1,319
Georgia	224	47	97	80	2,781,813	38.17 %	586
Kentucky	222	39	81	102	1,564,825	38.14 %	319
Mississippi	153	28	51	74	1,379,002	46.57 %	251
North Carolina	191	8	85	98	2,252,934	47.54 %	396
South Carolina	93	11	28	54	1,395,598	66.41 %	162
Tennessee	140	20	67	53	2,364,873	64.93 %	272

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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	1,173	178	282	713	12,205,779	49.15 %	2,021
Illinois	242	37	71	134	2,997,864	46.04 %	520
Indiana	143	42	31	70	2,056,183	50.80 %	322
Michigan	254	8	65	181	2,698,029	45.96 %	490
Minnesota	200	52	37	111	1,375,437	55.03 %	193
Ohio	171	28	43	100	1,891,022	43.13 %	361
Wisconsin	163	11	35	117	1,187,244	64.82 %	135
Region 6	953	202	273	478	11,303,383	53.93 %	1,711
Arkansas	133	15	54	64	1,090,389	65.57 %	128
Louisiana	165	29	35	101	1,889,508	67.56 %	202
New Mexico	104	22	12	70	1,027,943	39.74 %	200
Oklahoma	182	9	67	106	1,225,098	33.26 %	297
Texas	369	127	105	137	6,070,445	54.50 %	884
Region 7	773	62	223	488	3,498,102	29.57 %	798
Iowa	158	15	51	92	710,083	31.51 %	157
Kansas	162	12	59	91	676,611	49.32 %	113
Missouri	332	15	90	227	1,970,967	21.21 %	507
Nebraska	121	20	23	78	140,441	41.72 %	21
Region 8	523	144	103	276	2,357,792	48.45 %	390
Colorado	114	19	37	58	836,096	43.14 %	159
Montana	131	23	29	79	297,229	44.11 %	50
North Dakota	85	40	3	42	180,872	33.24 %	39
South Dakota	96	31	19	46	243,477	34.20 %	47
Utah	57	12	11	34	617,485	65.24 %	72
Wyoming	40	19	4	17	182,633	55.98 %	23
Region 9	958	157	147	654	10,829,022	48.15 %	1,829
Arizona	212	29	51	132	2,285,336	35.42 %	493
California	620	98	82	440	6,549,786	54.48 %	971
Hawaii	32	4	0	28	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	74	18	13	43	1,045,921	42.81 %	195
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	789	64	108	617	4,251,511	43.26 %	778
Alaska	334	15	9	310	287,657	20.71 %	73
Idaho	102	12	34	56	523,423	44.14 %	99
Oregon	153	9	35	109	833,799	62.56 %	107
Washington	200	28	30	142	2,606,632	39.10 %	499

Designated Health Professional Shortage Areas Statistics

Table 4. Dental Health Professional Shortage Areas, by State, as of September 30, 2024

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	6,888	510	1,978	4,400	59,230,754	32.37 %	10,093
Region 1	219	7	56	156	1,011,795	40.36 %	151
Connecticut	40	0	20	20	480,128	39.96 %	71
Maine	81	6	24	51	234,694	27.97 %	39
Massachusetts	53	1	4	48	122,743	67.43 %	11
New Hampshire	19	0	3	16	27,417	26.51 %	7
Rhode Island	13	0	4	9	140,340	35.72 %	23
Vermont	13	0	1	12	6,473	77.62 %	0
Region 2	298	5	121	172	5,301,126	31.65 %	920
New Jersey	37	0	1	36	82,966	27.77 %	26
New York	156	0	44	112	2,779,530	16.15 %	588
Puerto Rico	99	1	76	22	2,292,005	48.02 %	297
U.S. Virgin Islands	6	4	0	2	146,625	76.33 %	9
Region 3	464	51	164	249	6,895,031	40.76 %	987
Delaware	10	0	3	7	226,759	7.41 %	59
District of Columbia	11	0	2	9	90,280	2.90 %	22
Maryland	42	14	11	17	1,827,579	41.86 %	234
Pennsylvania	148	0	48	100	1,677,370	35.93 %	290
Virginia	138	32	53	53	2,323,494	54.05 %	247
West Virginia	115	5	47	63	749,549	27.97 %	135
Region 4	1,292	91	580	621	17,383,913	25.78 %	3,304
Alabama	87	1	48	38	750,301	25.09 %	136
Florida	267	5	105	157	5,907,517	18.76 %	1,256
Georgia	178	33	90	55	1,963,457	17.26 %	411
Kentucky	193	0	93	100	945,770	13.59 %	210
Mississippi	148	32	45	71	1,401,634	50.20 %	178
North Carolina	188	3	92	93	2,916,711	22.15 %	578
South Carolina	90	13	22	55	1,557,360	44.88 %	221
Tennessee	141	4	85	52	1,941,163	35.23 %	314

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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	1,064	34	312	718	7,986,582	29.58 %	1,443
Illinois	210	8	69	133	2,128,264	24.71 %	405
Indiana	97	2	27	68	726,383	38.90 %	116
Michigan	243	0	64	179	1,582,942	27.65 %	297
Minnesota	186	20	46	120	967,413	45.21 %	128
Ohio	162	2	65	95	1,713,840	26.84 %	333
Wisconsin	166	2	41	123	867,740	26.16 %	164
Region 6	821	120	220	481	6,397,721	33.70 %	1,104
Arkansas	121	3	54	64	580,085	36.70 %	103
Louisiana	161	22	37	102	1,869,995	46.31 %	252
New Mexico	104	16	19	69	865,757	20.60 %	171
Oklahoma	179	4	67	108	1,083,631	29.55 %	211
Texas	256	75	43	138	1,998,253	29.10 %	367
Region 7	694	33	178	483	2,665,971	22.51 %	494
Iowa	141	3	46	92	483,912	16.78 %	98
Kansas	131	8	33	90	288,859	28.01 %	50
Missouri	315	18	74	223	1,761,565	20.81 %	334
Nebraska	107	4	25	78	131,635	54.26 %	12
Region 8	451	82	96	273	1,681,970	50.03 %	194
Colorado	103	20	27	56	884,783	58.12 %	85
Montana	116	10	28	78	240,970	42.56 %	31
North Dakota	66	21	2	43	118,897	51.42 %	12
South Dakota	86	22	19	45	210,312	30.63 %	35
Utah	55	6	15	34	179,846	49.09 %	24
Wyoming	25	3	5	17	47,162	33.30 %	7
Region 9	837	47	157	633	6,083,505	33.43 %	1,023
Arizona	204	21	58	125	2,046,279	34.48 %	339
California	517	12	79	426	2,698,507	37.76 %	418
Hawaii	31	0	4	27	196,213	40.34 %	33

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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	65	6	15	44	797,261	26.48 %	154
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	748	40	94	614	3,823,140	48.75 %	473
Alaska	330	18	4	308	412,013	34.20 %	60
Idaho	98	6	37	55	473,294	48.44 %	61
Oregon	142	0	33	109	1,029,367	39.49 %	158
Washington	178	16	20	142	1,908,466	57.17 %	194

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Table 5. Mental Health Care Health Professional Shortage Areas, by State, as of September 30, 2024

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	6,246	984	729	4,533	122,769,772	26.55 %	6,204
Region 1	199	15	21	163	1,888,176	29.34 %	94
Connecticut	43	0	12	31	878,564	17.78 %	58
Maine	64	10	3	51	268,713	13.93 %	11
Massachusetts	50	1	5	44	255,313	35.92 %	12
New Hampshire	18	2	0	16	91,279	52.68 %	2
Rhode Island	12	2	1	9	394,307	58.09 %	11
Vermont	12	0	0	12			
Region 2	310	11	107	192	5,307,499	20.71 %	336
New Jersey	38	2	0	36	265,826	60.05 %	21
New York	192	6	54	132	3,667,667	15.53 %	230
Puerto Rico	75	0	53	22	1,269,318	7.48 %	79
U.S. Virgin Islands	5	3	0	2	104,688	59.64 %	6
Region 3	399	40	94	265	5,824,997	23.77 %	380
Delaware	11	0	4	7	223,974	13.75 %	21
District of Columbia	11	0	1	10	126,214	0.00 %	8
Maryland	48	10	16	22	1,515,872	22.10 %	81
Pennsylvania	119	14	5	100	850,614	32.39 %	61
Virginia	97	7	32	58	2,341,723	30.58 %	120
West Virginia	113	9	36	68	766,600	11.40 %	89
Region 4	933	118	171	644	29,685,589	26.15 %	1,572
Alabama	63	13	8	42	2,943,245	27.86 %	128
Florida	211	19	35	157	7,821,755	23.79 %	450
Georgia	84	19	8	57	5,025,398	43.43 %	180
Kentucky	145	28	16	101	3,079,454	23.79 %	160
Mississippi	85	10	1	74	2,201,829	39.22 %	93
North Carolina	190	18	70	102	3,517,409	11.52 %	217
South Carolina	73	5	12	56	2,081,830	32.61 %	99
Tennessee	82	6	21	55	3,014,669	14.26 %	245

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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	964	161	79	724	23,792,540	30.39 %	1,036
Illinois	195	47	10	138	6,536,331	21.12 %	289
Indiana	95	23	3	69	5,061,480	29.91 %	215
Michigan	234	35	23	176	3,690,930	40.26 %	144
Minnesota	133	8	10	115	2,124,031	29.58 %	91
Ohio	136	23	16	97	4,829,025	30.35 %	230
Wisconsin	171	25	17	129	1,550,743	41.20 %	67
Region 6	835	261	90	484	20,915,246	29.40 %	1,013
Arkansas	79	3	13	63	1,163,274	29.68 %	69
Louisiana	165	46	16	103	3,084,511	23.91 %	151
New Mexico	94	19	6	69	1,362,121	18.99 %	73
Oklahoma	121	4	10	107	1,911,019	30.94 %	106
Texas	376	189	45	142	13,394,321	31.36 %	614
Region 7	609	82	39	488	5,595,363	21.15 %	259
Iowa	165	55	18	92	1,392,801	13.11 %	64
Kansas	111	17	2	92	1,180,423	23.01 %	51
Missouri	249	5	19	225	1,969,048	14.18 %	117
Nebraska	84	5	0	79	1,053,091	48.31 %	27
Region 8	383	85	9	289	7,456,117	39.62 %	285
Colorado	72	10	5	57	2,744,353	34.23 %	110
Montana	106	24	3	79	772,338	32.88 %	38
North Dakota	72	24	0	48	285,045	23.46 %	15
South Dakota	58	10	1	47	656,921	28.57 %	31
Utah	53	12	0	41	2,430,542	53.29 %	68
Wyoming	22	5	0	17	566,918	41.26 %	23
Region 9	894	140	89	665	15,979,339	19.51 %	936
Arizona	203	38	33	132	2,074,757	10.07 %	144
California	584	84	49	451	10,994,288	22.74 %	565
Hawaii	31	2	2	27	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	56	8	4	44	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	720	71	30	619	6,324,906	22.23 %	293
Alaska	334	19	5	310	414,742	12.01 %	21
Idaho	64	5	2	57	1,210,451	27.24 %	48
Oregon	128	8	12	108	1,388,666	30.58 %	68
Washington	194	39	11	144	3,311,047	17.81 %	156

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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.