

Designated Health Professional Shortage Areas Statistics

Second Quarter of Fiscal Year 2026
Designated HPSA Quarterly Summary

As of March 31, 2026

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 March 31, 2026

	Number of Designations ⁽¹⁾	Population of Designated HPSAs ⁽²⁾	Percent of Need Met ⁽³⁾	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations
Primary Medical HPSA Totals	8,789	101,733,016	47.74 %⁽⁴⁾	17,306⁽⁷⁾
Geographic Area	1,443	38,197,108	62.86 %	4,212
Population Group	2,514	62,483,001	40.50 %	12,347
Facility	4,832	1,052,907	27.54 %	747
Dental HPSA Totals	7,702	70,612,204	33.51 %⁽⁵⁾	11,779⁽⁸⁾
Geographic Area	606	13,871,444	59.35 %	1,249
Population Group	2,337	55,538,101	27.88 %	9,983
Facility	4,759	1,202,659	31.73 %	547
Mental Health HPSA Totals	6,959	148,559,886	26.78 %⁽⁶⁾	7,393⁽⁹⁾
Geographic Area	1,166	88,832,984	32.47 %	3,435
Population Group	893	58,248,878	17.78 %	3,354
Facility	4,900	1,478,024	35.19 %	604

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Table 2. Health Professional Shortage Areas: Rural/Non-Rural Classification as of March 31, 2026

	Number of Designations ⁽¹⁾	Percentage of All Designations ⁽¹⁰⁾	Population of Designated HPSAs	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations
Primary Medical HPSA Totals	8,789		101,733,016	17,306
Rural	5,451	62.02 %	28,186,703	4,857
Geographic Area	923	10.50 %	14,989,856	1,656
Population Group	1,283	14.60 %	12,619,239	2,794
Facility	3,245	36.92 %	577,608	407
Non-Rural	2,396	27.26 %	40,741,812	7,695
Geographic Area	124	1.41 %	8,343,794	870
Population Group	704	8.01 %	31,935,424	6,492
Facility	1,568	17.84 %	462,594	333
Partially Rural⁽¹¹⁾	902	10.26 %	32,588,523	4,720
Geographic Area	382	4.35 %	14,760,359	1,666
Population Group	520	5.92 %	17,828,164	3,054
Unknown⁽¹²⁾	40	0.46 %	215,978	34
Geographic Area	14	0.16 %	103,099	20
Population Group	7	0.08 %	100,174	7
Facility	19	0.22 %	12,705	7
Dental HPSA Totals	7,702		70,612,204	11,779
Rural	4,959	64.39 %	20,128,327	3,466
Geographic Area	467	6.06 %	6,733,742	717
Population Group	1,296	16.83 %	12,764,946	2,465
Facility	3,196	41.50 %	629,639	284
Non-Rural	2,118	27.50 %	28,642,840	4,926
Geographic Area	24	0.31 %	2,051,122	119
Population Group	546	7.09 %	26,030,284	4,548
Facility	1,548	20.10 %	561,434	259
Partially Rural⁽¹¹⁾	571	7.41 %	19,894,879	3,001
Geographic Area	106	1.38 %	5,009,700	408
Population Group	465	6.04 %	14,885,179	2,593
Unknown⁽¹²⁾	54	0.70 %	1,946,158	386
Geographic Area	9	0.12 %	76,880	5

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	Number of Designations ⁽¹⁾	Percentage of All Designations ⁽¹⁰⁾	Population of Designated HPSAs	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations
Population Group	30	0.39 %	1,857,692	377
Facility	15	0.19 %	11,586	4
Mental Health HPSA Totals	6,959		148,559,886	7,393
Rural	4,243	60.97 %	30,935,437	1,848
Geographic Area	710	10.20 %	25,315,185	1,164
Population Group	263	3.78 %	4,804,581	337
Facility	3,270	46.99 %	815,671	347
Non-Rural	2,033	29.21 %	37,207,485	2,093
Geographic Area	98	1.41 %	12,953,716	472
Population Group	321	4.61 %	23,605,901	1,370
Facility	1,614	23.19 %	647,868	251
Partially Rural⁽¹¹⁾	660	9.48 %	80,312,839	3,442
Geographic Area	352	5.06 %	50,512,559	1,796
Population Group	308	4.43 %	29,800,280	1,646
Unknown⁽¹²⁾	23	0.33 %	104,125	10
Geographic Area	6	0.09 %	51,524	3
Population Group	1	0.01 %	38,116	1
Facility	16	0.23 %	14,485	6

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Table 3. Primary Care Health Professional Shortage Areas, by State, as of March 31, 2026

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	8,789	1,443	2,514	4,832	101,733,016	47.74 %	17,306
Region 1	293	40	89	164	2,774,503	64.49 %	313
Connecticut	67	5	42	20	1,318,825	62.99 %	152
Maine	97	18	25	54	249,364	57.64 %	33
Massachusetts	68	8	10	50	702,128	61.27 %	89
New Hampshire	27	4	5	18	196,758	78.12 %	14
Rhode Island	17	1	6	10	257,218	74.29 %	22
Vermont	17	4	1	12	50,210	82.64 %	3
Region 2	294	16	100	178	6,610,051	40.35 %	1,296
New Jersey	44	7	0	37	795,788	83.35 %	39
New York	203	6	80	117	5,143,725	34.55 %	1,115
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	536	79	167	290	5,607,093	40.55 %	1,114
Delaware	13	0	6	7	518,742	9.59 %	162
District of Columbia	12	0	4	8	286,765	0.23 %	96
Maryland	57	7	32	18	1,178,186	28.56 %	287
Pennsylvania	144	5	32	107	526,759	51.79 %	99
Virginia	184	59	45	80	2,303,622	57.61 %	307
West Virginia	126	8	48	70	793,019	38.28 %	163
Region 4	1,659	241	684	734	25,147,076	48.76 %	4,291
Alabama	132	45	38	49	2,468,157	63.85 %	287
Florida	322	23	135	164	7,038,468	39.86 %	1,446
Georgia	243	51	104	88	2,778,075	39.11 %	572
Kentucky	265	39	94	132	1,842,632	30.79 %	413
Mississippi	161	28	58	75	1,389,696	34.54 %	313
North Carolina	252	11	138	103	3,777,750	47.72 %	658
South Carolina	113	23	35	55	2,924,569	79.36 %	194
Tennessee	171	21	82	68	2,927,729	57.76 %	408

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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	1,478	240	455	783	18,161,499	49.70 %	2,976
Illinois	334	54	112	168	3,900,461	42.30 %	725
Indiana	174	50	47	77	2,887,519	52.77 %	436
Michigan	292	8	77	207	3,315,162	44.85 %	614
Minnesota	243	70	54	119	1,895,121	53.87 %	272
Ohio	254	41	117	96	4,148,315	48.93 %	699
Wisconsin	181	17	48	116	2,014,921	65.36 %	230
Region 6	1,098	240	330	528	14,450,089	51.25 %	2,287
Arkansas	155	16	58	81	1,148,837	52.98 %	183
Louisiana	198	42	46	110	2,536,598	71.99 %	223
New Mexico	104	22	13	69	997,702	35.03 %	210
Oklahoma	200	15	71	114	1,351,920	29.89 %	340
Texas	441	145	142	154	8,415,032	50.42 %	1,331
Region 7	840	78	245	517	3,841,868	31.83 %	841
Iowa	187	27	61	99	1,085,543	40.51 %	206
Kansas	172	14	65	93	666,724	41.14 %	121
Missouri	344	15	88	241	1,826,146	21.00 %	477
Nebraska	137	22	31	84	263,455	49.06 %	37
Region 8	605	169	137	299	3,123,224	49.83 %	492
Colorado	146	26	54	66	1,340,894	47.89 %	227
Montana	139	27	35	77	340,302	41.88 %	58
North Dakota	94	43	5	46	199,521	36.77 %	38
South Dakota	110	35	24	51	290,506	33.25 %	58
Utah	69	16	13	40	708,536	65.10 %	81
Wyoming	47	22	6	19	243,465	56.76 %	30
Region 9	1,117	240	178	699	14,376,811	48.90 %	2,360
Arizona	302	84	76	142	4,735,060	41.26 %	889
California	682	122	87	473	7,613,682	53.45 %	1,147
Hawaii	34	5	0	29	605,759	65.99 %	59

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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	79	21	14	44	993,903	44.75 %	182
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	869	100	129	640	7,640,802	43.61 %	1,336
Alaska	338	16	9	313	300,563	27.47 %	67
Idaho	106	15	33	58	510,995	47.01 %	87
Oregon	177	14	54	109	1,664,148	44.16 %	307
Washington	248	55	33	160	5,165,096	44.07 %	875

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Table 4. Dental Health Professional Shortage Areas, by State, as of March 31, 2026

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	7,702	606	2,337	4,759	70,612,204	33.51 %	11,779
Region 1	252	10	79	163	1,591,369	37.75 %	250
Connecticut	43	0	23	20	648,822	29.61 %	114
Maine	95	7	35	53	321,817	24.90 %	58
Massachusetts	61	1	10	50	320,208	59.15 %	35
New Hampshire	23	0	5	18	42,823	23.02 %	10
Rhode Island	15	0	5	10	208,900	38.00 %	33
Vermont	15	2	1	12	48,799	90.84 %	0
Region 2	308	6	121	181	5,481,851	32.14 %	936
New Jersey	40	2	1	37	313,937	45.23 %	45
New York	164	0	44	120	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	532	70	177	285	8,287,542	39.70 %	1,213
Delaware	14	0	7	7	606,880	3.22 %	154
District of Columbia	10	0	2	8	90,280	2.90 %	22
Maryland	42	14	11	17	1,827,939	42.98 %	229
Pennsylvania	161	0	55	106	2,224,009	40.64 %	350
Virginia	182	50	52	80	2,818,532	51.65 %	318
West Virginia	123	6	50	67	719,902	22.61 %	140
Region 4	1,448	100	653	695	19,386,191	25.18 %	3,707
Alabama	92	1	48	43	755,541	24.33 %	139
Florida	288	8	114	166	6,202,983	19.16 %	1,311
Georgia	186	33	90	63	1,923,981	17.74 %	402
Kentucky	249	2	118	129	1,236,767	9.89 %	282
Mississippi	153	32	49	72	1,387,634	40.53 %	213
North Carolina	218	3	116	99	3,540,588	23.42 %	692
South Carolina	99	17	26	56	2,001,958	46.85 %	267
Tennessee	163	4	92	67	2,336,739	31.56 %	401

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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	1,238	44	410	784	10,264,172	33.80 %	1,729
Illinois	275	13	94	168	2,404,852	27.12 %	444
Indiana	135	4	55	76	1,135,293	28.74 %	208
Michigan	269	1	64	204	1,535,299	30.03 %	278
Minnesota	207	22	56	129	1,238,006	44.69 %	163
Ohio	185	2	92	91	2,648,859	39.59 %	415
Wisconsin	167	2	49	116	1,301,863	33.23 %	221
Region 6	893	122	239	532	6,906,103	34.16 %	1,175
Arkansas	138	3	54	81	568,827	33.43 %	107
Louisiana	179	25	43	111	1,910,115	44.79 %	264
New Mexico	103	15	19	69	836,179	18.09 %	170
Oklahoma	187	4	67	116	1,067,130	41.56 %	175
Texas	286	75	56	155	2,523,852	28.14 %	459
Region 7	730	38	184	508	2,765,573	25.60 %	489
Iowa	152	8	49	95	646,391	29.91 %	108
Kansas	133	8	33	92	274,739	34.17 %	43
Missouri	330	18	75	237	1,708,705	20.63 %	324
Nebraska	115	4	27	84	135,738	48.79 %	14
Region 8	505	92	116	297	2,063,226	48.87 %	247
Colorado	127	23	40	64	1,142,840	56.36 %	117
Montana	115	11	28	76	250,448	45.86 %	32
North Dakota	71	22	2	47	120,920	38.42 %	15
South Dakota	100	24	26	50	276,608	27.00 %	46
Utah	62	7	15	40	212,651	52.30 %	26
Wyoming	30	5	5	20	59,759	31.51 %	11
Region 9	992	65	249	678	8,260,275	33.25 %	1,381
Arizona	279	33	108	138	3,261,215	33.99 %	534
California	593	18	120	455	3,634,892	36.35 %	577
Hawaii	34	0	5	29	224,454	35.77 %	40

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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	794,469	27.44 %	151
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	804	59	109	636	5,605,902	52.03 %	652
Alaska	336	21	4	311	529,262	41.02 %	71
Idaho	98	6	36	56	452,047	37.48 %	70
Oregon	155	2	44	109	1,543,038	43.68 %	220
Washington	215	30	25	160	3,081,555	60.59 %	291

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Table 5. Mental Health Care Health Professional Shortage Areas, by State, as of March 31, 2026

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	6,959	1,166	893	4,900	148,559,886	26.78 %	7,393
Region 1	216	17	27	172	2,440,273	30.00 %	128
Connecticut	50	0	17	33	1,159,317	23.73 %	76
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	326	15	110	201	5,848,782	21.22 %	355
New Jersey	43	6	0	37	776,426	50.45 %	37
New York	204	6	58	140	3,826,743	14.96 %	242
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	459	51	109	299	6,901,118	18.21 %	487
Delaware	15	0	8	7	604,095	6.09 %	60
District of Columbia	10	0	1	9	126,214	0.00 %	8
Maryland	51	12	17	22	1,706,632	20.15 %	93
Pennsylvania	131	18	7	106	1,038,894	33.39 %	69
Virginia	128	10	35	83	2,615,160	20.36 %	163
West Virginia	124	11	41	72	810,123	5.68 %	94
Region 4	1,129	169	241	719	39,463,091	25.39 %	2,057
Alabama	67	13	8	46	2,934,202	28.40 %	128
Florida	249	31	50	168	13,300,145	23.15 %	740
Georgia	92	19	8	65	5,065,664	45.40 %	174
Kentucky	219	49	39	131	2,861,039	19.40 %	155
Mississippi	87	10	2	75	2,212,049	34.35 %	101
North Carolina	230	22	101	107	4,574,202	11.96 %	275
South Carolina	88	19	12	57	5,371,848	32.84 %	232
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	1,070	177	103	790	29,445,556	32.13 %	1,254
Illinois	234	48	14	172	8,603,388	21.31 %	391
Indiana	110	29	5	76	6,191,453	38.99 %	233
Michigan	265	35	27	203	3,903,627	39.45 %	158
Minnesota	149	11	14	124	3,028,393	24.97 %	132
Ohio	138	26	19	93	5,541,241	33.73 %	247
Wisconsin	174	28	24	122	2,177,454	41.77 %	93
Region 6	903	266	100	537	21,440,430	30.11 %	1,021
Arkansas	96	3	13	80	1,136,091	25.90 %	71
Louisiana	180	49	19	112	3,212,705	28.97 %	144
New Mexico	96	19	6	71	1,380,481	30.05 %	67
Oklahoma	129	4	10	115	1,892,765	20.76 %	120
Texas	402	191	52	159	13,818,388	32.31 %	619
Region 7	654	88	50	516	6,174,457	21.56 %	285
Iowa	182	58	28	96	1,902,703	19.82 %	83
Kansas	117	20	2	95	1,196,031	19.89 %	52
Missouri	264	5	20	239	2,006,487	14.62 %	120
Nebraska	91	5	0	86	1,069,236	44.79 %	30
Region 8	420	93	11	316	9,954,573	39.98 %	366
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	657,991	18.71 %	36
Utah	63	12	2	49	2,986,529	48.00 %	97
Wyoming	29	8	0	21	966,649	32.25 %	41
Region 9	1,012	196	107	709	18,298,898	20.62 %	1,052
Arizona	274	85	47	142	3,732,052	15.08 %	209
California	629	93	53	483	11,647,226	23.03 %	620
Hawaii	32	2	2	28	505,755	31.03 %	24

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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	770	94	35	641	8,592,708	23.17 %	388
Alaska	340	22	5	313	535,117	19.84 %	26
Idaho	65	5	2	58	1,273,700	30.06 %	49
Oregon	132	11	13	108	1,627,148	24.28 %	85
Washington	233	56	15	162	5,156,743	21.49 %	228

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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.