

Designated Health Professional Shortage Areas Statistics

Fourth Quarter of Fiscal Year 2023
Designated HPSA Quarterly Summary

As of September 30, 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 September 30, 2023

	Number of Designations ⁽¹⁾	Population of Designated HPSAs ⁽²⁾	Percent of Need Met ⁽³⁾	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations
Primary Medical HPSA Totals	8,352	100,985,760	47.59 %⁽⁴⁾	17,396⁽⁷⁾
Geographic Area	1,527	37,720,870	63.00 %	4,241
Population Group	2,395	62,200,072	39.96 %	12,418
Facility	4,430	1,064,818	29.75 %	737
Dental HPSA Totals	7,395	75,095,519	32.06 %⁽⁵⁾	12,757⁽⁸⁾
Geographic Area	719	16,385,519	58.30 %	1,513
Population Group	2,332	57,507,308	25.38 %	10,698
Facility	4,344	1,202,692	32.03 %	546
Mental Health HPSA Totals	6,622	165,280,642	27.19 %⁽⁶⁾	8,326⁽⁹⁾
Geographic Area	1,255	103,261,960	32.14 %	4,215
Population Group	856	60,508,720	17.50 %	3,517
Facility	4,511	1,509,962	38.20 %	594

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Table 2. Health Professional Shortage Areas: Rural/Non-Rural Classification as of September 30, 2023

	Number of Designations ⁽¹⁾	Percentage of All Designations ⁽¹⁰⁾	Population of Designated HPSAs	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations
Primary Medical HPSA Totals	8,352		100,985,760	17,396
Rural	5,467	65.46 %	32,372,215	5,233
Geographic Area	1,169	14.00 %	18,230,970	2,059
Population Group	1,400	16.76 %	13,522,139	2,739
Facility	2,898	34.70 %	619,106	435
Non-Rural	2,451	29.35 %	49,925,383	9,210
Geographic Area	212	2.54 %	12,531,950	1,420
Population Group	710	8.50 %	36,947,721	7,488
Facility	1,529	18.31 %	445,712	302
Partially Rural⁽¹¹⁾	413	4.94 %	18,230,377	2,882
Geographic Area	144	1.72 %	6,894,661	744
Population Group	269	3.22 %	11,335,716	2,138
Unknown⁽¹²⁾	21	0.25 %	457,785	71
Geographic Area	2	0.02 %	63,289	18
Population Group	16	0.19 %	394,496	53
Facility	3	0.04 %		
Dental HPSA Totals	7,395		75,095,519	12,757
Rural	4,946	66.88 %	24,761,773	4,143
Geographic Area	612	8.28 %	9,102,643	988
Population Group	1,490	20.15 %	15,000,428	2,854
Facility	2,844	38.46 %	658,702	301
Non-Rural	2,118	28.64 %	34,442,136	5,930
Geographic Area	64	0.87 %	4,736,164	306
Population Group	554	7.49 %	29,161,982	5,379
Facility	1,500	20.28 %	543,990	245
Partially Rural⁽¹¹⁾	303	4.10 %	13,584,828	2,231
Geographic Area	43	0.58 %	2,546,712	219
Population Group	260	3.52 %	11,038,116	2,012
Unknown⁽¹²⁾	28	0.38 %	2,306,782	453
Population Group	28	0.38 %	2,306,782	453

Designated Health Professional Shortage Areas Statistics

	Number of Designations ⁽¹⁾	Percentage of All Designations ⁽¹⁰⁾	Population of Designated HPSAs	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations
Mental Health HPSA Totals	6,622		165,280,642	8,326
Rural	3,988	60.22 %	38,234,756	2,224
Geographic Area	819	12.37 %	32,930,359	1,564
Population Group	246	3.71 %	4,488,406	322
Facility	2,923	44.14 %	815,991	338
Non-Rural	2,122	32.04 %	55,724,271	2,986
Geographic Area	160	2.42 %	21,768,936	837
Population Group	374	5.65 %	33,261,364	1,893
Facility	1,588	23.98 %	693,971	256
Partially Rural⁽¹¹⁾	500	7.55 %	70,871,532	3,090
Geographic Area	275	4.15 %	48,520,789	1,811
Population Group	225	3.40 %	22,350,743	1,279
Unknown⁽¹²⁾	12	0.18 %	450,083	26
Geographic Area	1	0.02 %	41,876	3
Population Group	11	0.17 %	408,207	23

Designated Health Professional Shortage Areas Statistics

Table 3. Primary Care Health Professional Shortage Areas, by State, as of September 30, 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	8,352	1,527	2,395	4,430	100,985,760	47.59 %	17,396
Region 1	262	26	71	165	1,498,584	55.46 %	224
Connecticut	52	1	31	20	521,318	61.15 %	66
Maine	82	13	17	52	124,339	43.03 %	24
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	297	17	114	166	8,705,786	32.04 %	1,981
New Jersey	37	0	0	37	29,048	26.93 %	21
New York	201	11	85	105	6,535,703	37.38 %	1,357
Puerto Rico	51	0	29	22	1,929,717	9.97 %	583
U.S. Virgin Islands	8	6	0	2	211,318	72.18 %	20
Region 3	535	106	168	261	6,573,916	50.64 %	1,076
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	153	16	31	106	621,346	52.98 %	116
Virginia	160	69	32	59	2,618,013	66.96 %	271
West Virginia	116	8	47	61	787,032	47.27 %	138
Region 4	1,584	310	636	638	26,533,028	48.45 %	4,571
Alabama	131	51	34	46	3,093,865	64.10 %	367
Florida	304	19	139	146	7,936,607	33.05 %	1,803
Georgia	241	59	104	78	3,369,911	39.94 %	683
Kentucky	255	62	101	92	2,127,939	49.36 %	350
Mississippi	175	54	52	69	2,035,170	51.49 %	330
North Carolina	224	22	102	100	3,303,422	51.33 %	524
South Carolina	106	15	34	57	1,989,936	69.23 %	209
Tennessee	148	28	70	50	2,676,178	65.59 %	305

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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	1,278	239	353	686	15,434,726	54.10 %	2,286
Illinois	268	46	91	131	3,657,588	49.82 %	586
Indiana	138	44	33	61	2,527,566	67.65 %	259
Michigan	279	23	78	178	3,594,485	50.39 %	590
Minnesota	216	55	51	110	1,523,832	55.35 %	214
Ohio	189	43	46	100	2,401,969	47.90 %	410
Wisconsin	188	28	54	106	1,729,286	58.97 %	227
Region 6	1,060	270	314	476	14,210,771	55.38 %	2,058
Arkansas	143	22	70	51	1,333,389	64.41 %	160
Louisiana	180	49	36	95	2,590,723	64.44 %	298
New Mexico	110	28	14	68	1,345,594	38.76 %	264
Oklahoma	191	17	73	101	1,461,114	39.62 %	297
Texas	436	154	121	161	7,479,951	56.71 %	1,039
Region 7	850	91	260	499	4,188,407	32.00 %	920
Iowa	178	31	59	88	889,499	43.33 %	161
Kansas	191	19	74	98	828,259	50.75 %	132
Missouri	357	17	105	235	2,294,436	20.26 %	600
Nebraska	124	24	22	78	176,213	41.98 %	27
Region 8	588	180	140	268	3,620,282	48.90 %	592
Colorado	130	28	46	56	1,233,306	44.40 %	225
Montana	149	29	40	80	514,373	42.07 %	93
North Dakota	92	46	5	41	229,048	32.05 %	49
South Dakota	106	41	24	41	309,479	37.93 %	56
Utah	69	17	20	32	1,147,454	61.70 %	145
Wyoming	42	19	5	18	186,622	55.44 %	24
Region 9	1,065	211	192	662	14,208,870	45.96 %	2,520
Arizona	244	54	56	134	3,344,046	39.21 %	667
California	694	129	117	448	8,753,533	50.38 %	1,430
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	75	17	17	41	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	4	0	1	3	71,615	14.47 %	21
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	833	77	147	609	6,011,390	40.10 %	1,168
Alaska	331	17	9	305	296,074	21.85 %	74
Idaho	102	13	34	55	565,217	46.16 %	103
Oregon	174	14	51	109	1,607,397	63.48 %	197
Washington	226	33	53	140	3,542,702	29.56 %	794

Designated Health Professional Shortage Areas Statistics

Table 4. Dental Health Professional Shortage Areas, by State, as of September 30, 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	7,395	719	2,332	4,344	75,095,519	32.06 %	12,757
Region 1	270	20	85	165	1,808,113	36.48 %	287
Connecticut	59	0	39	20	874,932	21.98 %	171
Maine	96	15	30	51	380,414	32.29 %	59
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	223	6	65	152	5,580,260	18.27 %	1,158
New Jersey	37	0	1	36	85,244	29.18 %	27
New York	155	0	64	91	5,273,552	16.68 %	1,100
Puerto Rico	24	1	0	23	14,226	14.10 %	5
U.S. Virgin Islands	7	5	0	2	207,238	51.40 %	26
Region 3	508	62	196	250	8,095,917	38.54 %	1,197
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	161	2	57	102	1,979,486	36.09 %	338
Virginia	145	31	59	55	2,456,344	56.23 %	247
West Virginia	115	10	47	58	808,663	28.34 %	145
Region 4	1,414	132	676	606	21,829,485	26.86 %	4,060
Alabama	136	1	91	44	2,578,122	21.85 %	511
Florida	266	5	112	149	6,077,025	16.95 %	1,317
Georgia	185	37	95	53	2,161,052	18.02 %	446
Kentucky	204	3	112	89	1,138,755	16.06 %	245
Mississippi	169	57	46	66	2,031,618	54.98 %	228
North Carolina	209	9	102	98	3,759,004	26.83 %	681
South Carolina	99	16	25	58	1,872,297	44.80 %	263
Tennessee	146	4	93	49	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	1,157	34	426	697	10,488,835	30.50 %	1,863
Illinois	239	8	100	131	2,818,438	29.08 %	503
Indiana	114	2	53	59	1,296,813	33.18 %	223
Michigan	241	0	65	176	1,560,302	26.62 %	297
Minnesota	208	18	70	120	1,192,862	39.90 %	176
Ohio	175	4	74	97	2,018,103	27.45 %	385
Wisconsin	180	2	64	114	1,602,317	31.82 %	279
Region 6	888	182	232	474	8,397,212	39.70 %	1,287
Arkansas	112	6	55	51	620,722	36.78 %	108
Louisiana	168	33	39	96	2,265,236	49.94 %	282
New Mexico	113	25	21	67	1,234,886	22.81 %	235
Oklahoma	180	6	70	104	1,118,877	34.55 %	188
Texas	315	112	47	156	3,157,491	41.41 %	474
Region 7	773	57	221	495	3,296,476	27.82 %	569
Iowa	154	9	55	90	497,111	28.87 %	88
Kansas	174	24	55	95	590,678	38.49 %	82
Missouri	338	20	86	232	2,077,052	22.89 %	387
Nebraska	107	4	25	78	131,635	54.26 %	12
Region 8	484	96	124	264	2,628,610	49.69 %	312
Colorado	105	22	30	53	1,102,817	53.48 %	119
Montana	129	13	37	79	381,453	40.63 %	54
North Dakota	70	25	3	42	134,663	52.48 %	12
South Dakota	91	26	25	40	252,783	31.09 %	42
Utah	62	6	24	32	707,533	56.24 %	77
Wyoming	27	4	5	18	49,361	31.78 %	8
Region 9	901	82	181	638	7,572,542	33.20 %	1,261
Arizona	245	51	67	127	2,984,483	33.67 %	485
California	535	16	88	431	2,924,378	36.14 %	465
Hawaii	32	0	5	27	266,728	43.21 %	41

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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	69	7	20	42	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	777	48	126	603	5,398,069	40.88 %	763
Alaska	325	19	3	303	415,101	34.71 %	60
Idaho	103	8	41	54	521,638	48.32 %	67
Oregon	154	0	48	106	1,741,492	32.34 %	292
Washington	195	21	34	140	2,719,838	46.09 %	344

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Table 5. Mental Health Care Health Professional Shortage Areas, by State, as of September 30, 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	6,622	1,255	856	4,511	165,280,642	27.19 %	8,326
Region 1	225	30	21	174	3,110,600	30.83 %	158
Connecticut	47	3	12	32	1,640,818	18.97 %	91
Maine	70	17	2	51	399,337	19.67 %	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	339	18	125	196	9,394,557	19.12 %	587
New Jersey	39	2	0	37	277,571	57.79 %	25
New York	207	11	69	127	6,403,776	14.44 %	401
Puerto Rico	87	1	56	30	2,558,369	12.89 %	151
U.S. Virgin Islands	6	4	0	2	154,841	62.77 %	10
Region 3	448	66	109	273	8,281,543	31.41 %	491
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	137	29	6	102	2,042,384	37.83 %	119
Virginia	113	12	34	67	3,032,039	41.57 %	141
West Virginia	110	10	37	63	788,226	12.99 %	90
Region 4	981	160	207	614	39,221,336	26.27 %	2,141
Alabama	84	26	15	43	5,744,290	25.43 %	277
Florida	228	26	50	152	10,207,269	21.80 %	587
Georgia	88	22	11	55	6,040,851	43.17 %	217
Kentucky	136	30	17	89	3,867,642	24.16 %	215
Mississippi	85	16	0	69	3,188,003	39.51 %	188
North Carolina	205	25	80	100	3,953,605	12.14 %	247
South Carolina	78	5	14	59	2,286,822	33.49 %	107
Tennessee	77	10	20	47	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	1,029	236	87	706	32,911,013	30.07 %	1,429
Illinois	215	66	14	135	9,841,944	22.01 %	425
Indiana	101	34	1	66	6,695,685	31.06 %	286
Michigan	254	54	28	172	5,993,065	36.13 %	249
Minnesota	134	9	10	115	2,414,871	27.32 %	105
Ohio	140	25	16	99	5,110,969	30.91 %	241
Wisconsin	185	48	18	119	2,854,479	38.44 %	123
Region 6	890	296	112	482	26,070,673	29.88 %	1,218
Arkansas	68	4	14	50	1,373,044	33.67 %	75
Louisiana	167	52	18	97	3,627,424	26.15 %	166
New Mexico	97	23	6	68	1,688,116	17.88 %	90
Oklahoma	122	5	13	104	2,166,285	33.59 %	100
Texas	436	212	61	163	17,215,804	30.90 %	787
Region 7	627	84	41	502	7,717,615	24.50 %	358
Iowa	157	52	16	89	2,819,795	30.63 %	106
Kansas	123	21	3	99	1,532,562	25.39 %	66
Missouri	264	6	22	236	2,313,367	12.36 %	159
Nebraska	83	5	0	78	1,051,891	47.91 %	27
Region 8	402	102	18	282	8,540,601	38.76 %	345
Colorado	71	10	6	55	2,831,245	34.33 %	114
Montana	117	29	8	80	986,301	27.29 %	70
North Dakota	73	26	0	47	307,967	22.32 %	16
South Dakota	62	16	3	43	791,497	26.39 %	38
Utah	55	15	1	39	2,923,879	54.34 %	79
Wyoming	24	6	0	18	699,712	41.22 %	28
Region 9	951	183	97	671	21,640,682	21.67 %	1,214
Arizona	233	65	34	134	3,519,759	9.05 %	228
California	607	95	55	457	13,156,852	24.00 %	677
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	60	13	5	42	4,012,818	28.62 %	235
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	730	80	39	611	8,392,022	22.28 %	385
Alaska	330	20	5	305	420,332	11.90 %	21
Idaho	69	10	3	56	2,223,296	26.42 %	87
Oregon	138	13	17	108	2,393,087	27.75 %	116
Washington	193	37	14	142	3,355,307	16.87 %	161

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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.