

Designated Health Professional Shortage Areas Statistics

As of January 1, 2017

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 January 1, 2017

	Number of Designations ⁽¹⁾	Population of Designated HPSAs ⁽²⁾	Percent of Need Met ⁽³⁾	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations
Primary Medical HPSA Totals	6,626	65,898,964	56.77 %⁽⁴⁾	9,376⁽⁷⁾
Geographic Area	1,401	32,248,285	66.51 %	3,286
Population Group	1,485	32,432,174	50.59 %	5,297
Facility	3,740	1,218,505	31.99 %	793
Dental HPSA Totals	5,493	51,648,901	38.44 %⁽⁵⁾	8,118⁽⁸⁾
Geographic Area	699	14,973,209	57.83 %	1,447
Population Group	1,582	35,066,376	32.18 %	5,888
Facility	3,212	1,609,316	26.54 %	783
Mental Health HPSA Totals	4,627	106,389,368	44.20 %⁽⁶⁾	3,397⁽⁹⁾
Geographic Area	1,025	86,067,293	54.00 %	1,728
Population Group	234	18,192,228	38.37 %	570
Facility	3,368	2,129,847	21.27 %	1,099

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Table 2. Health Professional Shortage Areas: Rural/Non-Rural Classification as of January 1, 2017

	Number of Designations ⁽¹⁾	Percentage of All Designations ⁽¹⁰⁾	Population of Designated HPSAs	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations
Primary Medical HPSA Totals	6,626		65,898,964	9,376
Rural	3,822	57.68 %	19,374,968	2,626
Geographic Area	812	12.25 %	11,300,639	1,149
Population Group	804	12.13 %	7,502,260	1,116
Facility	2,206	33.29 %	572,069	361
Non-Rural	2,346	35.41 %	32,284,751	5,045
Geographic Area	344	5.19 %	13,324,990	1,414
Population Group	474	7.15 %	18,314,758	3,200
Facility	1,528	23.06 %	645,003	431
Partially Rural⁽¹¹⁾	450	6.79 %	14,197,978	1,695
Geographic Area	243	3.67 %	7,582,822	714
Population Group	207	3.12 %	6,615,156	981
Unknown⁽¹²⁾	8	0.12 %	41,267	10
Geographic Area	2	0.03 %	39,834	9
Facility	6	0.09 %	1,433	1
Dental HPSA Totals	5,493		51,648,901	8,118
Rural	3,163	57.58 %	16,735,438	2,549
Geographic Area	472	8.59 %	6,750,898	650
Population Group	898	16.35 %	9,219,202	1,536
Facility	1,793	32.64 %	765,338	363
Non-Rural	1,994	36.30 %	23,487,933	3,881
Geographic Area	136	2.48 %	5,456,112	573
Population Group	445	8.10 %	17,191,840	2,890
Facility	1,413	25.72 %	839,981	418
Partially Rural	328	5.97 %	11,381,699	1,682
Geographic Area	89	1.62 %	2,726,365	220
Population Group	239	4.35 %	8,655,334	1,462
Unknown	8	0.15 %	43,831	6
Geographic Area	2	0.04 %	39,834	4
Facility	6	0.11 %	3,997	2

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Mental Health HPSA Totals	4,627		106,389,368	3,397
Rural	2,451	52.97 %	24,850,861	948
Geographic Area	591	12.77 %	23,096,150	548
Population Group	34	0.73 %	835,555	24
Facility	1,826	39.46 %	919,156	376
Non-Rural	1,755	37.93 %	25,272,213	1,231
Geographic Area	114	2.46 %	15,080,093	261
Population Group	112	2.42 %	8,996,340	251
Facility	1,529	33.05 %	1,195,780	719
Partially Rural	406	8.77 %	56,205,567	1,212
Geographic Area	318	6.87 %	47,845,234	917
Population Group	88	1.90 %	8,360,333	295
Unknown	15	0.32 %	60,727	6
Geographic Area	2	0.04 %	45,816	2
Facility	13	0.28 %	14,911	4

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Table 3. Primary Care Health Professional Shortage Areas, by State, as of January 1, 2017

Primary Care	Total Designations ⁽¹⁾	Geographic Area	Population Group	Facility	Population of Designated HPSAs	Percent of Need Met ⁽³⁾	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designation ⁽⁶⁾
HPSA Total	6,626	1,401	1,485	3,740	65,898,964	56.77 %	9,376
Region I	251	21	51	179	1,234,173	41.55 %	247
Connecticut	39	0	23	16	403,248	12.50 %	121
Maine	68	13	9	46	91,782	46.29 %	16
Massachusetts	68	4	9	55	487,390	65.34 %	58
New Hampshire	30	1	7	22	88,347	52.11 %	14
Rhode Island	14	1	3	10	152,771	32.75 %	37
Vermont	32	2	0	30	10,635	56.34 %	1
Region II	258	26	88	144	5,051,173	37.47 %	1,044
New Jersey	33	0	0	33	28,823	54.90 %	13
New York	187	23	76	88	3,951,083	38.74 %	786
Puerto Rico	33	0	12	21	958,466	32.37 %	217
U.S. Virgin Islands	5	3	0	2	112,801	24.20 %	28
Region III	456	93	87	276	3,974,419	62.92 %	510
Delaware	9	2	4	3	203,525	93.84 %	4
District of Columbia	15	3	3	9	241,638	50.40 %	43
Maryland	51	9	18	24	981,412	54.89 %	169
Pennsylvania	159	17	27	115	636,095	63.62 %	88
Virginia	107	45	17	45	1,362,052	66.52 %	143
West Virginia	115	17	18	80	549,697	64.73 %	63
Region IV	1,198	260	416	522	16,472,612	56.43 %	2,398
Alabama	92	31	27	34	1,785,257	73.87 %	158
Florida	258	17	112	129	5,034,021	41.25 %	1,010
Georgia	221	59	79	83	2,473,412	54.58 %	370
Kentucky	151	50	25	76	1,000,922	67.59 %	106

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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 Designation ⁽⁶⁾
Mississippi	111	53	25	33	1,715,873	59.03 %	236
North Carolina	147	18	59	70	1,463,773	53.08 %	223
South Carolina	93	16	30	47	1,512,768	69.40 %	156
Tennessee	125	16	59	50	1,486,586	70.99 %	139
Region V	1,080	210	205	665	10,146,294	64.95 %	1,150
Illinois	229	47	72	110	3,441,097	58.66 %	454
Indiana	122	35	33	54	1,908,814	72.25 %	166
Michigan	336	28	45	263	2,055,475	65.22 %	233
Minnesota	121	29	22	70	421,665	54.41 %	64
Ohio	141	41	12	88	1,360,727	68.96 %	145
Wisconsin	131	30	21	80	958,516	71.12 %	88
Region VI	928	268	173	487	10,035,350	63.77 %	1,191
Arkansas	86	22	38	26	452,614	62.93 %	57
Louisiana	126	40	20	66	1,939,843	77.82 %	143
New Mexico	104	29	10	65	1,015,590	34.02 %	216
Oklahoma	180	10	64	106	1,204,308	54.85 %	188
Texas	432	167	41	224	5,422,995	66.40 %	587
Region VII	613	93	183	337	3,049,877	44.71 %	520
Iowa	123	33	25	65	664,587	63.47 %	77
Kansas	161	19	73	69	660,131	64.33 %	71
Missouri	219	30	85	104	1,696,174	29.53 %	367
Nebraska	110	11	0	99	28,985	41.79 %	5
Region VIII	494	158	99	237	2,313,082	54.89 %	328
Colorado	120	21	38	61	933,956	50.76 %	154
Montana	112	23	28	61	261,129	52.06 %	38
North Dakota	78	45	5	28	182,916	37.52 %	30
South Dakota	87	36	11	40	194,924	44.29 %	31
Utah	58	14	15	29	594,577	67.43 %	64
Wyoming	39	19	2	18	145,580	69.76 %	11

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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 Designation ⁽⁶⁾
Region IX	891	201	96	594	10,751,154	56.87 %	1,524
Arizona	163	57	8	98	2,829,699	52.47 %	422
California	607	111	77	419	6,702,002	61.99 %	851
Hawaii	26	7	1	18	139,278	52.22 %	19
Nevada	79	18	9	52	590,149	50.43 %	99
American Samoa	2	1	0	1	57,291	10.47 %	17
Federated States of Micronesia	6	3	1	2	106,632	0.00 %	36
Guam	2	1	0	1	186,337	29.79 %	44
Marshall Islands	2	1	0	1	50,638	0.00 %	17
Northern Mariana Islands	2	1	0	1	69,221	43.48 %	13
Republic of Palau	2	1	0	1	19,907	15.06 %	6
Region X	457	71	87	299	2,870,830	50.98 %	464
Alaska	84	16	0	68	136,156	27.25 %	35
Idaho	98	14	29	55	481,772	61.95 %	57
Oregon	120	14	28	78	961,240	56.47 %	141
Washington	155	27	30	98	1,291,662	45.42 %	231

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Table 4. Dental Health Health Professional Shortage Areas, by State, as of January 1, 2017

Dental Health	Total Designations ⁽¹⁾	Geographic Area	Population Group	Facility	Population of Designated HPSAs	Percent of Need Met ⁽⁴⁾	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designation ⁽⁷⁾
HPSA Total	5,493	699	1,582	3,212	51,648,901	38.44 %	8,118
Region I	240	23	56	161	1,514,786	37.90 %	247
Connecticut	36	0	21	15	373,887	10.75 %	83
Maine	75	14	21	40	303,187	34.17 %	48
Massachusetts	61	7	4	50	536,399	52.30 %	70
New Hampshire	23	0	3	20	30,449	62.23 %	4
Rhode Island	17	0	7	10	242,875	41.17 %	40
Vermont	28	2	0	26	27,989	70.56 %	2
Region II	205	7	38	160	2,350,344	42.11 %	374
New Jersey	38	0	0	38	45,705	25.96 %	23
New York	139	3	38	98	2,178,679	44.38 %	324
Puerto Rico	23	1	0	22	13,159	16.13 %	4
U.S. Virgin Islands	5	3	0	2	112,801	17.16 %	23
Region III	411	52	125	234	4,479,231	43.69 %	625
Delaware	8	2	3	3	381,733	33.28 %	56
District of Columbia	11	0	2	9	75,252	12.75 %	17
Maryland	42	8	15	19	507,828	55.08 %	58
Pennsylvania	164	4	56	104	1,997,447	38.98 %	310
Virginia	87	21	35	31	1,074,667	45.39 %	138
West Virginia	99	17	14	68	442,304	60.02 %	46
Region IV	1,062	142	451	469	16,759,532	31.23 %	2,930
Alabama	63	0	43	20	1,668,274	27.04 %	303
Florida	232	0	115	117	5,516,371	15.90 %	1,203
Georgia	189	44	76	69	1,869,471	27.03 %	356

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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 Designation ⁽⁷⁾
Kentucky	100	13	16	71	479,580	61.24 %	41
Mississippi	110	56	23	31	1,773,030	55.61 %	201
North Carolina	140	2	71	67	2,062,101	41.75 %	305
South Carolina	83	21	17	45	1,526,622	52.77 %	180
Tennessee	145	6	90	49	1,864,083	26.08 %	341
Region V	875	29	314	532	6,909,595	37.80 %	1,100
Illinois	166	8	75	83	2,263,991	30.07 %	403
Indiana	55	6	12	37	545,408	49.81 %	73
Michigan	270	1	60	209	903,749	40.04 %	134
Minnesota	126	9	64	53	718,368	43.59 %	102
Ohio	134	5	59	70	1,622,436	38.24 %	254
Wisconsin	124	0	44	80	855,643	41.89 %	134
Region VI	747	183	150	414	8,366,794	54.15 %	969
Arkansas	82	10	50	22	651,536	46.88 %	88
Louisiana	112	36	18	58	1,857,113	59.00 %	191
New Mexico	82	21	16	45	852,391	33.36 %	138
Oklahoma	162	6	59	97	890,441	38.87 %	150
Texas	309	110	7	192	4,115,313	61.08 %	402
Region VII	517	65	195	257	2,664,290	32.67 %	430
Iowa	120	11	54	55	461,127	53.14 %	54
Kansas	133	25	62	46	608,847	41.61 %	79
Missouri	184	28	77	79	1,588,121	22.81 %	297
Nebraska	80	1	2	77	6,195	84.62 %	0
Region VIII	363	75	90	198	1,665,789	44.31 %	225
Colorado	97	19	29	49	595,506	35.56 %	99
Montana	85	11	18	56	189,971	34.12 %	27
North Dakota	36	15	2	19	70,466	31.17 %	9
South Dakota	64	21	12	31	146,346	26.39 %	25
Utah	52	4	23	25	593,221	59.86 %	59

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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 Designation ⁽⁷⁾
Wyoming	29	5	6	18	70,279	62.51 %	6
Region IX	700	92	69	539	4,324,917	32.19 %	803
Arizona	177	61	19	97	2,361,621	31.01 %	432
California	424	13	40	371	1,182,592	35.95 %	230
Hawaii	19	1	1	17	35,776	33.88 %	7
Nevada	65	9	9	47	463,692	42.44 %	67
American Samoa	2	1	0	1	57,291	8.38 %	13
Federated States of Micronesia	6	4	0	2	107,020	0.00 %	27
Guam	1	0	0	1		---	
Marshall Islands	2	1	0	1	27,797	0.00 %	7
Northern Mariana Islands	2	1	0	1	69,221	15.61 %	15
Republic of Palau	2	1	0	1	19,907	0.00 %	5
Region X	373	31	94	248	2,613,623	37.30 %	415
Alaska	62	13	0	49	139,786	44.48 %	19
Idaho	95	6	37	52	454,896	50.53 %	56
Oregon	102	3	33	66	1,015,311	37.40 %	161
Washington	114	9	24	81	1,003,630	30.30 %	179

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Table 5. Mental Health Care Health Professional Shortage Areas, by State, as of January 1, 2017

Mental Health Care	Total Designations ⁽¹⁾	Geographic Area	Population Group	Facility	Population of Designated HPSAs	Percent of Need Met ⁽⁵⁾	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designation ⁽⁸⁾
HPSA Total	4,627	1,025	234	3,368	106,389,368	44.20 %	3,397
Region I	195	26	8	161	4,032,108	44.26 %	135
Connecticut	30	7	3	20	2,709,490	34.26 %	95
Maine	52	13	0	39	289,899	34.71 %	8
Massachusetts	56	1	4	51	497,676	51.89 %	20
New Hampshire	20	3	0	17	92,770	94.92 %	0
Rhode Island	13	2	1	10	442,273	61.17 %	12
Vermont	24	0	0	24		---	
Region II	235	20	48	167	4,544,338	42.47 %	163
New Jersey	36	0	0	36	32,755	71.51 %	4
New York	162	16	46	100	4,105,222	40.97 %	147
Puerto Rico	32	1	2	29	293,560	45.14 %	6
U.S. Virgin Islands	5	3	0	2	112,801	16.49 %	6
Region III	357	61	18	278	6,307,229	58.86 %	165
Delaware	10	0	1	9	72,651	8.12 %	9
District of Columbia	10	1	0	9	129,762	49.31 %	3
Maryland	51	11	9	31	1,431,003	63.34 %	30
Pennsylvania	122	25	1	96	1,832,032	60.84 %	44
Virginia	74	16	5	53	1,922,845	57.75 %	57
West Virginia	90	8	2	80	918,936	60.28 %	22
Region IV	683	141	74	468	24,330,329	45.74 %	751
Alabama	52	14	7	31	2,787,269	46.23 %	82
Florida	165	23	31	111	5,425,381	25.75 %	254
Georgia	103	21	4	78	5,055,810	42.95 %	137

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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 Designation ⁽⁸⁾
Kentucky	100	30	2	68	1,988,983	56.45 %	48
Mississippi	44	13	0	31	2,342,728	74.66 %	59
North Carolina	103	19	8	76	1,546,672	38.19 %	45
South Carolina	48	10	8	30	1,800,029	55.05 %	42
Tennessee	68	11	14	43	3,383,457	39.42 %	84
Region V	747	176	20	551	17,705,963	43.40 %	635
Illinois	126	32	5	89	4,993,948	68.39 %	71
Indiana	66	19	5	42	2,526,300	39.86 %	119
Minnesota	62	9	0	53	2,014,037	29.86 %	69
Michigan	252	48	3	201	3,826,298	44.54 %	106
Ohio	107	18	7	82	2,096,001	53.23 %	55
Wisconsin	134	50	0	84	2,249,379	25.22 %	215
Region VI	762	297	21	444	15,657,841	41.87 %	517
Arkansas	44	13	0	31	1,733,004	62.01 %	32
Louisiana	118	52	7	59	2,866,661	40.61 %	84
New Mexico	72	16	2	54	1,211,555	23.09 %	45
Oklahoma	116	4	9	103	1,536,823	23.87 %	85
Texas	412	212	3	197	8,309,798	45.25 %	271
Region VII	329	51	9	269	6,767,281	45.09 %	176
Iowa	71	16	0	55	1,694,314	59.98 %	30
Kansas	68	20	1	47	1,245,491	34.69 %	38
Missouri	107	10	8	89	2,810,768	35.79 %	100
Nebraska	83	5	0	78	1,016,708	75.57 %	8
Region VIII	328	93	7	228	6,216,965	54.27 %	139
Colorado	88	11	2	75	1,941,571	62.95 %	35
Montana	80	23	4	53	528,561	25.21 %	18
North Dakota	51	27	0	24	267,910	44.79 %	12
South Dakota	49	15	0	34	459,320	15.25 %	22
Utah	38	12	1	25	2,496,750	61.74 %	45

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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 Designation ⁽⁸⁾
Wyoming	22	5	0	17	522,853	71.69 %	7
Region IX	652	87	21	544	15,075,866	34.06 %	566
Arizona	102	6	0	96	6,364,642	20.99 %	241
California	453	59	20	374	6,563,273	37.39 %	252
Hawaii	27	8	1	18	295,813	54.17 %	7
Nevada	55	6	0	49	1,439,340	54.00 %	53
American Samoa	2	1	0	1	57,292	0.00 %	3
Federated States of Micronesia	6	4	0	2	107,020	0.00 %	6
Guam	2	1	0	1	159,358	58.97 %	3
Marshall Islands	1	0	0	1		---	
Northern Mariana Islands	2	1	0	1	69,221	86.96 %	0
Republic of Palau	2	1	0	1	19,907	0.00 %	1
Region X	339	73	8	258	5,751,448	46.26 %	150
Alaska	68	18	0	50	330,781	18.91 %	13
Idaho	61	7	0	54	1,532,205	55.16 %	27
Oregon	90	17	4	69	1,661,514	51.24 %	45
Washington	120	31	4	85	2,226,948	42.37 %	65

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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.

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Endnotes

- (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.
- (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.

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Endnotes

- (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.