

Designated Health Professional Shortage Areas Statistics

Indicator 13: Needs met in Dental Health Provider Shortage areas

Table 1. Health Professional Shortage Areas: Number, Population, and Additional Practitioners Needed for Geographic Areas, Population Groups, and Facilities as of March 31, 2023

	Number of Designations ⁽¹⁾	Population of Designated HPSAs ⁽²⁾	Percent of Need Met ⁽³⁾	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations
Primary Medical HPSA Totals	8,333	98,827,276	47.38 %⁽⁴⁾	17,097⁽⁷⁾
Geographic Area	1,501	37,270,910	62.98 %	4,195
Population Group	2,292	60,500,617	39.47 %	12,184
Facility	4,540	1,055,749	30.60 %	718
Dental HPSA Totals	7,354	70,096,184	31.94 %⁽⁵⁾	11,964⁽⁸⁾
Geographic Area	700	15,205,926	56.71 %	1,468
Population Group	2,197	53,711,421	25.64 %	9,960
Facility	4,457	1,178,837	31.89 %	536
Mental Health HPSA Totals	6,635	159,792,634	27.43 %⁽⁶⁾	8,041⁽⁹⁾
Geographic Area	1,214	100,498,034	32.12 %	4,102
Population Group	804	57,792,045	17.39 %	3,355
Facility	4,617	1,502,555	40.06 %	584

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Table 4. Dental Health Professional Shortage Areas, by State, as of March 31, 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	7,354	700	2,197	4,457	70,096,184	31.94 %	11,964
Region 1	262	20	77	165	1,710,557	35.64 %	276
Connecticut	53	0	33	20	790,442	18.85 %	161
Maine	96	15	30	51	380,414	32.29 %	59
Massachusetts	61	3	4	54	327,538	75.20 %	21
New Hampshire	23	0	4	19	35,002	21.48 %	9
Rhode Island	14	0	5	9	147,733	35.90 %	24
Vermont	15	2	1	12	29,428	53.66 %	2
Region 2	204	6	46	152	3,437,886	19.91 %	707
New Jersey	37	0	0	37	40,411	37.63 %	17
New York	136	0	46	90	3,176,011	17.31 %	659
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	501	51	196	254	7,083,686	32.81 %	1,169
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	163	2	57	104	1,980,988	36.33 %	337
Virginia	132	20	59	53	1,442,611	38.44 %	220
West Virginia	119	10	47	62	808,663	28.34 %	145
Region 4	1,373	131	609	633	20,782,917	26.96 %	3,858
Alabama	88	0	44	44	1,835,974	20.47 %	378
Florida	277	5	110	162	5,996,488	16.64 %	1,305
Georgia	190	37	94	59	2,157,754	18.04 %	445
Kentucky	192	3	95	94	940,530	16.66 %	199
Mississippi	175	57	46	72	2,031,618	54.98 %	228
North Carolina	205	9	102	94	3,736,644	26.66 %	671
South Carolina	99	16	25	58	1,872,297	44.80 %	263
Tennessee	147	4	93	50	2,211,612	34.17 %	369

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Region 5	1,178	32	426	720	10,427,952	30.60 %	1,853
Illinois	247	8	100	139	2,818,438	29.08 %	503
Indiana	115	2	53	60	1,298,280	33.14 %	224
Michigan	248	0	65	183	1,563,157	26.02 %	300
Minnesota	208	16	70	122	1,126,338	41.16 %	165
Ohio	175	4	74	97	2,018,103	27.45 %	385
Wisconsin	185	2	64	119	1,603,636	32.51 %	276
Region 6	894	182	228	484	8,304,537	39.96 %	1,268
Arkansas	113	6	55	52	620,722	36.78 %	108
Louisiana	172	33	39	100	2,265,236	49.94 %	282
New Mexico	113	25	20	68	1,187,842	23.72 %	223
Oklahoma	177	6	67	104	1,073,200	34.75 %	180
Texas	319	112	47	160	3,157,537	41.36 %	475
Region 7	757	53	196	508	3,121,021	27.15 %	545
Iowa	154	9	54	91	451,729	31.99 %	76
Kansas	178	24	55	99	590,678	38.49 %	82
Missouri	345	20	86	239	2,077,052	22.89 %	387
Nebraska	80	0	1	79	1,562	0.00 %	0
Region 8	492	96	122	274	2,621,953	49.88 %	311
Colorado	107	22	30	55	1,102,817	53.48 %	119
Montana	134	13	37	84	381,453	40.63 %	54
North Dakota	71	25	3	43	134,663	52.48 %	12
South Dakota	87	26	23	38	246,126	32.56 %	41
Utah	64	6	24	34	707,533	56.24 %	77
Wyoming	29	4	5	20	49,361	31.78 %	8
Region 9	911	81	171	659	7,205,558	32.71 %	1,209
Arizona	249	51	67	131	2,984,483	33.67 %	485
California	538	15	78	445	2,557,394	35.18 %	413
Hawaii	33	0	5	28	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	71	7	20	44	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	782	48	126	608	5,400,117	40.63 %	768
Alaska	323	19	3	301	415,101	34.71 %	60
Idaho	106	8	41	57	523,077	47.46 %	69
Oregon	157	0	48	109	1,742,101	31.83 %	295
Washington	196	21	34	141	2,719,838	46.09 %	344

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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.

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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.