

Health Professional Shortage Area
Designations
for Mental Health
in Iowa

Presentation Goals

- Discuss Health Professional Shortage Area analysis and designation process.
- Describe Mental Health Professional Shortage Area criteria.
- Provide Mental Health Professional Shortage Area status for Iowa areas.
- List programs using HPSA status as a criterion for participation.

Health Professional Shortage Area Designations

- US Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Office of Shortage Designation, provides guidelines for determining federally qualified health professional shortage areas (HPSAs) (“HIP-suh”). (Codified at 42 CFR Part 5.)
 - State Primary Care Offices (PCOs) analyze and submit requests for shortage designations to HRSA.
- Shortage designations indicate geographic areas with a shortage of primary care physicians, psychiatrists, or dentists for a given population, according to the HRSA guidelines.
- 3 Types of HPSAs: Primary Care HPSA, Mental Health HPSA, Dental HPSA.
- HPSAs are required to be re-analyzed every 4th year and re-designated if they still qualify.

Mental Health HPSAs

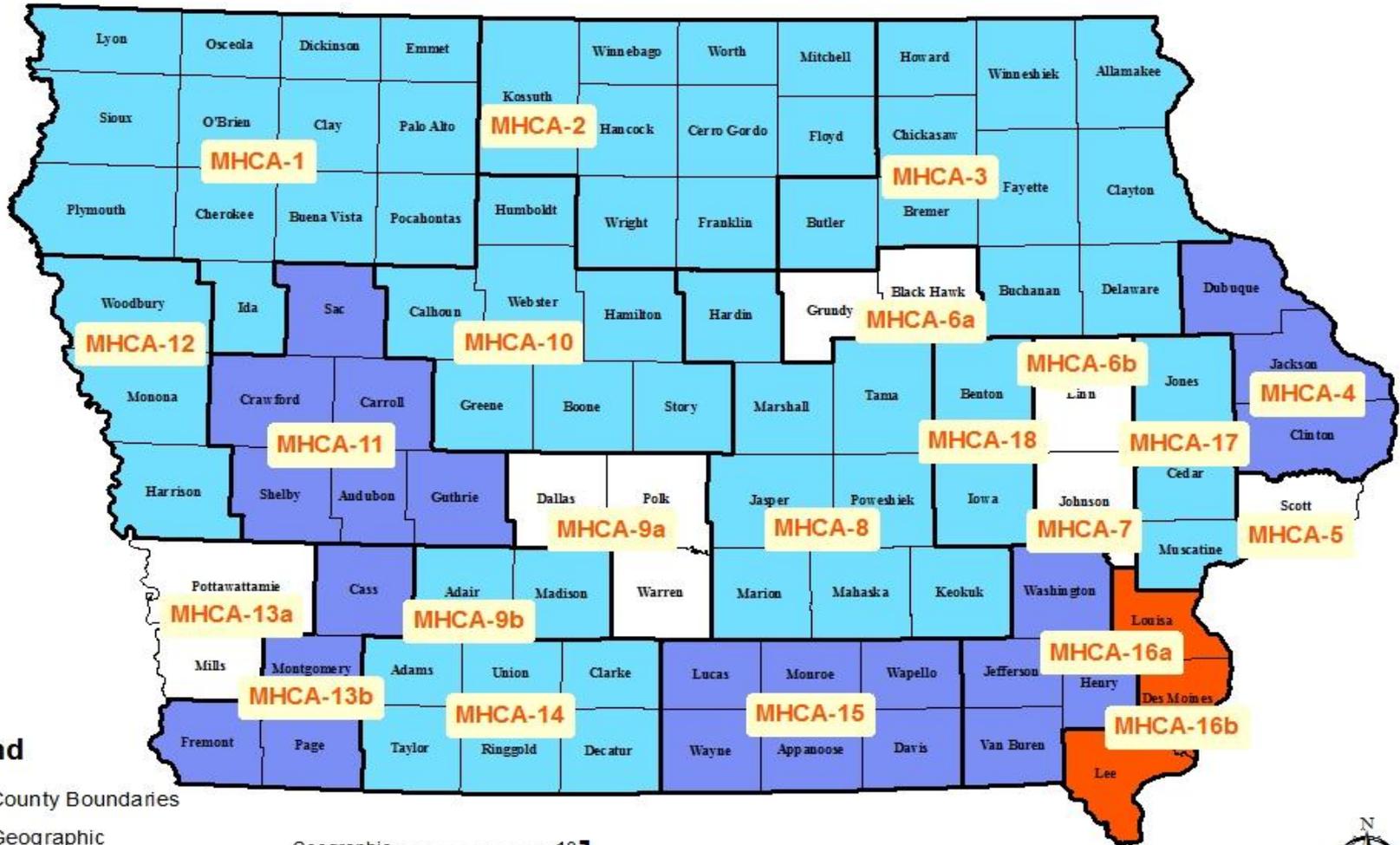
- Geographic HPSA = population-to-psychiatrist ratio greater than 30,000 residents to 1 psychiatrist.
- Geographic High Need = population to psychiatrist ratio of 20,000:1 plus one high need indicator (high poverty OR high youth ratio OR high elderly ratio OR high substance abuse prevalence).
- Population Group = If at least 30% of the population is at or below 200% of poverty, the population becomes the number of people in poverty and the FTE count becomes FTEs that served people on Medicaid or sliding fee. The ratio required is 20:000:1.
- Iowa's mental health HPSAs are comprised of groupings of counties referred to as "mental health catchment areas"; groupings seek population of at least 30,000.

HPSAs are Data-Driven

- U.S. Census Bureau
 - Population (most recent Census)
 - % of Population in Poverty (American Community Survey)
- Number of psychiatrists – Iowa's source – Office of Statewide Clinical Education Programs, University of Iowa, Carver College of Medicine
 - Contact with community to verify, if needed

Federal Mental Health Care Shortage Designations July 2012

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Legend

- County Boundaries
- Geographic
- Geographic-High Need
- Population-Low Income

Geographic ----- 10
 Geographic High Need ----- 5
 Population Low-Income ----- 1
 } - 16 Catchment Area Designations in 89 Counties



Disclaimer: This map is a snapshot of the Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) designations for Iowa as of 8/6/2012 and should not be used for the determination or approval of programs requiring a shortage designation. The official site for determination of shortages is: <http://hpsafind.hrsa.gov>.

Shortage Designation “Issues”

- HPSAs are required to be re-analyzed every 4 years for re-designation or de-designation – some areas may be receiving a benefit from the HPSA and then have a successful recruitment effort and the HPSA goes away.
- HPSA “score” from HRSA indicates the severity of the shortage. Scores play into the ability to access some state and federal resources. Scores can drop upon 4 year review due to change in population to provider ratio, poverty level, or nearest source of care.
- Need cooperation and timely feedback from sites to determine FTE for accurate HPSA designations. Designations require feedback from 2/3 of all providers surveyed in the service area.
- The designation occurs as a snapshot in time, every four years, although FTE is constantly changing.
- Ongoing pressure on federal government to reconsider this 30-year-old process – what happens if criteria change?

Programs that Use HPSA as a Criterion/Scoring Consideration

- National Health Service Corps (NHSC)
 - HPSA status is a requirement for site applications
 - HPSA score is used for scholar and loan repayer applications
- PRIMECARRE
 - HPSA is a requirement & score is used as a consideration
- Conrad 30/J-1 Visa Waiver Program
 - HPSA is one measure of qualifying and may factor into scoring
- Mental Health Professional Shortage Area Program
 - HPSA is a requirement & score is used as a consideration

HPSA Resources

- <http://bhpr.hrsa.gov/shortage/hpsas/designationcriteria/>
- <http://hpsafind.hrsa.gov>
- Iowa Primary Care Office
 - Lloyd Burnside, (515)242-6879,
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