

SHORTAGE DESIGNATIONS

HPSAs, MUAs, MUPs

Help!

What do they mean?

Why do I need one?

How do I get one?

Overview of Shortage Designations

- Shortage designations are based on criteria established through federal regulations to identify geographic areas or population groups with a shortage of primary health care services.
- Purpose: to identify areas of greatest need so that limited resources can be prioritized and directed to the people in those areas.

Overview (cont' d)

- Types of Shortage Designations
 - Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA)
 - Medically Underserved Area/Population (MUA/P)
 - Designations do not belong to the organization submitting the application, they are for an area and can be used by any organization in that area. Exception: Facility HPSA.



Primary Care

Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs)

Map Prepared By:

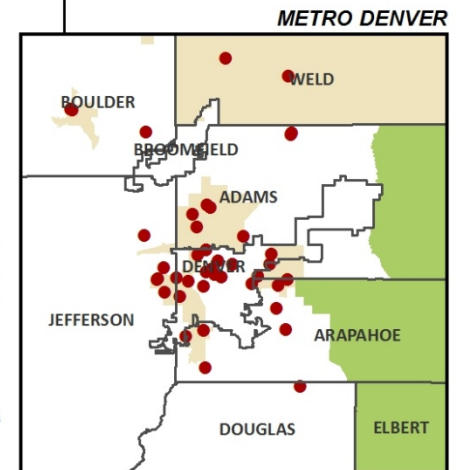
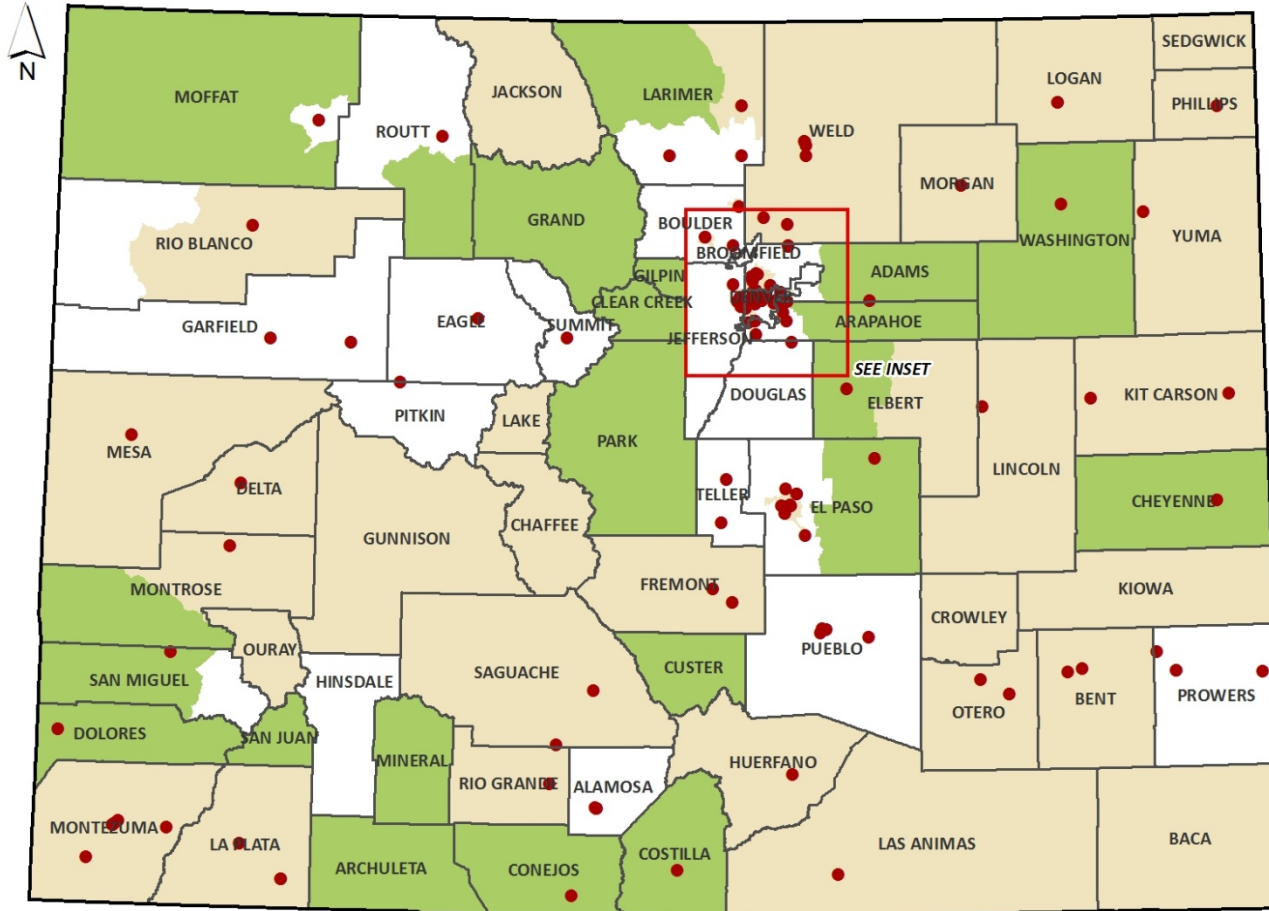
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment GIS

Primary Care HPSA types

- Facility Designation
- Geographic
- Low-Income
- Not Designated

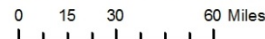
Data Current as of September 2015

For information on how to develop a Health Professional Shortage Area Application for your community, call 303-692-2466, or visit the Primary Care Office website at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment



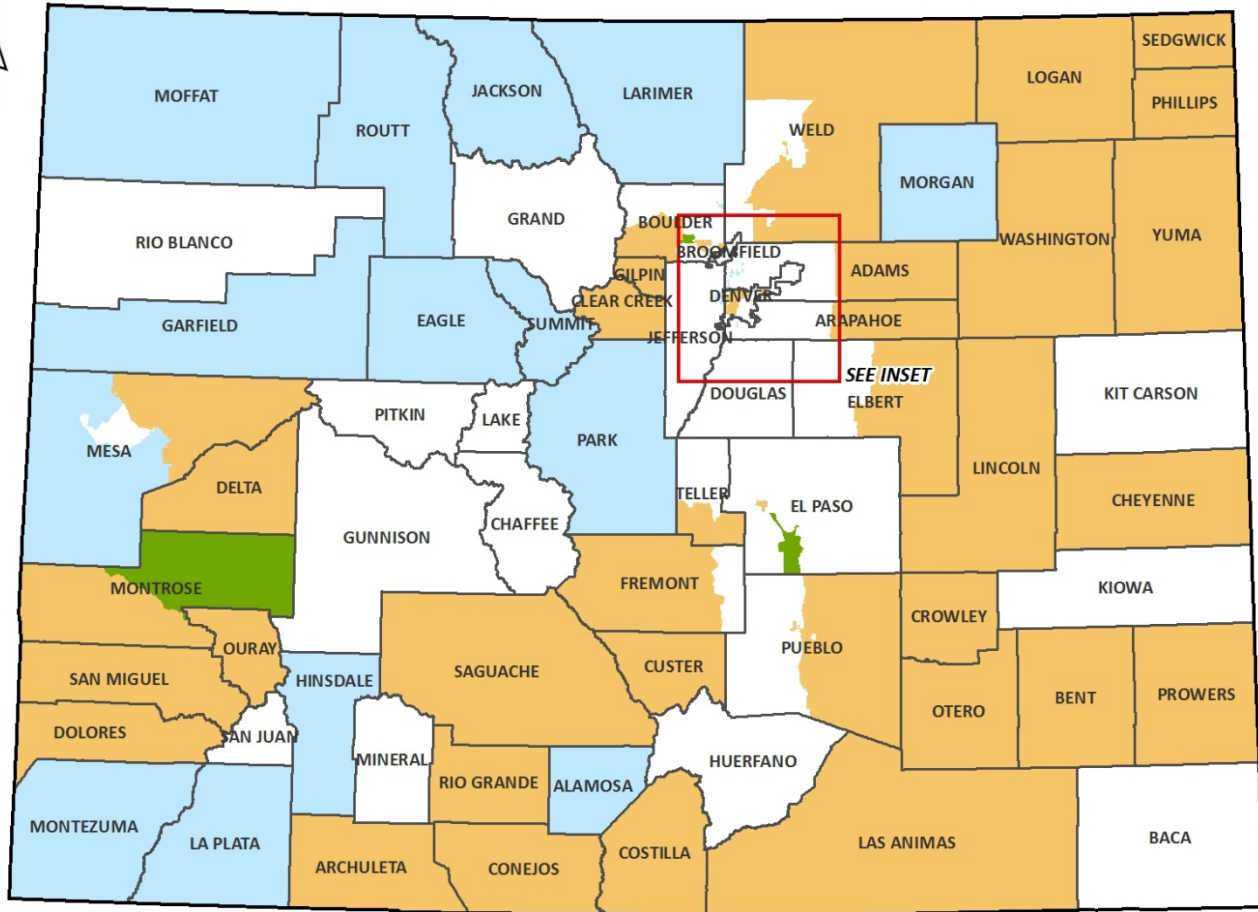
Map Created October 1, 2015

Source: Shortage Designation Branch, HRSA, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services





Medically Underserved Areas (MUAs) and Populations (MUPs)

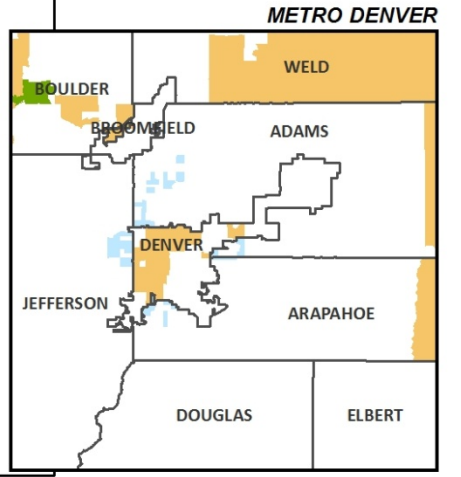


MUA/MUP Types

- Not Designated
- Medically Underserved Area (MUA)
- Medically Underserved Population (MUP)
- Governors Exception (MUP)

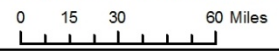
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Source: Shortage Designation Branch, HRSA, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services



Rural Health Clinics

- Shortage Designation and RHCs
 - Public Law 95-210 a.k.a. Rural Health Clinics Act, 1977
 - PHS Act §332(a)(1)(A)
 - 42 CFR 491.5
 - HPSA four-year rule

RHCs (cont'd)

- RHCs must be located in a non-urbanized area that is designated as a health professional shortage area (HPSA) or (MUA).
 - primary care geographic HPSA
 - primary care population-group HPSA
 - Medically Underserved Area (MUA)
 - Governor designated and Secretary certified shortage area

HPSAs

- Types of HPSAs
 - Primary Care
 - Mental Health
 - Dental Health

- Geographic
- Population
- Facility

MUA/P

- Types of MUA/Ps
 - Geographic Area (MUA)
 - Low-Income Population (MUP) – *cannot be used for RHC Certification*



Benefits - Community

- 37 federal programs use designations as a criteria for their programs
 - **National Health Service Corps**
 - **Colorado Health Service Corps**
 - **Community Health Centers**
 - **Certified Rural Health Clinics**
 - **J-1 Visa Waiver and National Interest Waiver Programs**
 - **Medicare Bonus Payments**



Designation Process

- Applicant/Community
- Primary Care Office (PCO)
- Shortage Designation Branch

Designation Process (cont' d)

- Application for HPSA/MUA can be initiated by a community or the Primary Care Office (PCO)
- Collaborative process between communities and the PCO (survey, analysis, and submission of the application)



Designation Process (cont.)

- Community Role:

- A community partner (person or agency) is asked to complete the provider surveys.

Designation Process (cont' d)

- PCO Role:
 - Validate the survey and population data
 - Submit the application through the on-line application system (SDMS) to the Shortage Designation Branch

Designation Process (cont' d)

- Shortage Designation Branch (SDB)
 - The SDB reviews the application and determines the status of the request
 - If approved, the designation is posted on the HRSA website (www.hpsafind.hrsa.gov)
 - SDB no longer notifies the PCO or other partners of approval.

Health Professional Shortage Area

- Basic Components of a HPSA Application
 1. Rational Service Area
 2. Population to Provider Ratio
 3. Contiguous Area Resources
 4. Nearest Source of Non-designated Care

1. Rational Service Areas

- Determine the area where services will be provided.
- Justify the service area if not a whole county
- Characteristics that make an area rational: physical barriers, similar socio-economic characteristics, health care service delivery area, a self-defined neighborhood

2. Population to Provider Ratio

- Purpose – To determine how many providers are available in the service area to serve the target population (resident civilian population or low-income population)
- Target population is divided by physician FTE to arrive at a ratio



Population to Provider Ratio (cont' d)

- Required ratios (PC):
 - Geographic Areas 3,500:1
 - Geographic areas with unusually high needs 3,000:1
 - Population group 3,000:1
 - Must have 30% of population at or below 200% FPL

3. Contiguous Area Analysis

- Demonstrates that the health resources in the areas surrounding the Rational Service Area are not available to the population in the service area.
- Determine contiguous areas in all directions within 30 minutes (primary care).

Evaluate Available Resources

- Demonstrate that the contiguous areas are unavailable because:
 - The area is an HPSA
 - There are significant demographic disparities or physical barriers between the two areas
 - The providers are over-utilized (>2,000:1 ratio for primary care)

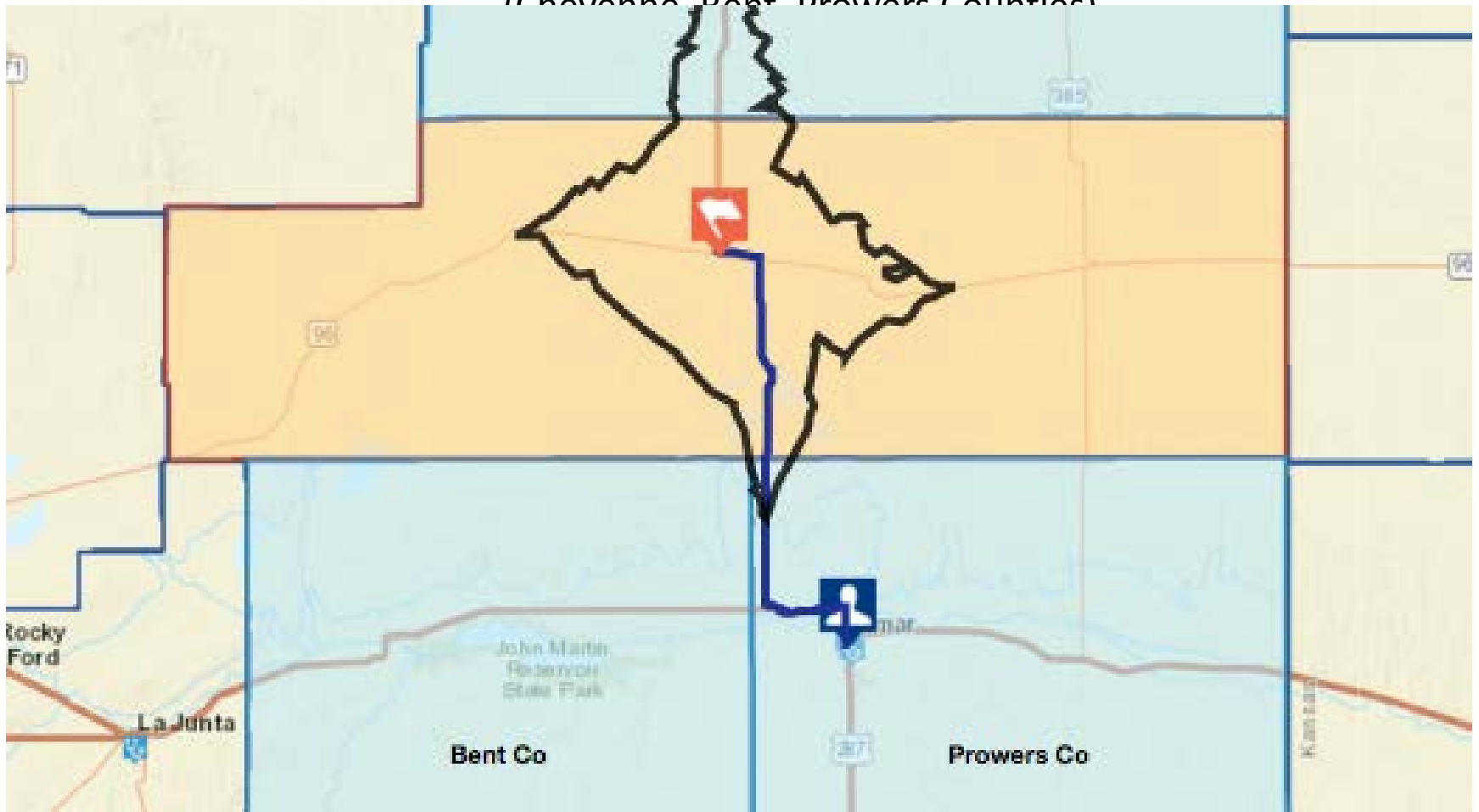


4. Determine the Nearest Source of Accessible Care

- Cannot be in a HPSA of any type or have socio-economic or physical barriers.
- Can be excessively distant and over-utilized.
- For a low-income HPSA - provider must accept Medicaid and offer a sliding fee scale.

Contiguous Areas - Kiowa County

(Cheyenne, Bent, Prowers Counties)



HPSA Scoring (PC)

- Four factors, each worth 1-5 points.
 - Population to Provider Ratio (weight =2)
 - Percent population below poverty
 - Infant Health Index (Infant Mortality or Low-Birth Weight Rate)
 - Travel time to nearest source of
 - Maximum Score is 25 for primary care
 - Higher score indicates more need

How is the Score Used?

- Used by National Health Service Corps to place providers in areas of highest need
 - Higher scores indicate more need
- Colorado Health Service Corps
 - Uses HPSA as criteria but not the score
- J-1 Visa Waiver Program
 - Uses HPSA as criteria but not the score

Medically Underserved Areas and Populations

- Basic Components of a MUA/P Application
 - Rational Service Area
 - Scoring Components
 - Elderly Population
 - Poverty Data
 - Population to Provider Ratio
 - Infant Mortality Rate

MUA/P Scoring

- Determine the weighted value for each component and total
- Maximum score to qualify is 62
- Lower scores indicate more need

Facility HPSAs

- Types

- Federal and State Correctional Facilities and Youth Detention Facilities
- State and County Mental Hospitals
- **Public or Non-profit Private Facilities**

Public or Non-profit Private Facility

- Only available if the area won't qualify as a HPSA
- Must confirm provision of services to a HPSA
 - SES similar
 - Within 30 minutes or 50% patients from HPSA
- Must have insufficient capacity
 - Population to provider ratio
 - ER usage
 - Wait times

Rural Health Clinics – Auto HPSA

- As part of the Health Care Safety Net Amendments of 2002, RHCs may become eligible for an automatic HPSA if they meet the following requirements:
 - Provide services to Medicaid, Medicare, CHP+
 - Establish fees based on local prevailing rates
 - Provide services based on a posted SFS
 - Establish relationships with the State agencies that administer Medicaid and CHP+
 - Make reasonable effort to collect all payments due

Shortage Designation and Loan Repayment Assistance

Colorado Primary Care Office

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THANK YOU!