

COLORADO SENATOR

- Michael Bennet -



Rural Health Clinics

- Rural Health Clinics (RHCs) are federally certified facilities located in non-urban healthcare professional shortage areas.
- RHCs must be staffed by at least one nurse practitioner, physician assistant or certified nurse midwife, who must be on-site to see patients at least 50% of the time.
- Often the only medical facility in rural communities, RHCs depend on sound business practices, Medicare, Medicaid, private insurance, and minimal grant funding to keep their doors open.
- The 49 RHCs across Colorado provide primary care services to an estimated 130,000 adults and children annually.

Critical Access Hospitals

- Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs) are small, rural hospitals that have a maximum of 25 beds.
- The CAH Program was created by Congress in 1997 to support the fragile rural healthcare system.
- The 29 CAHs across Colorado provide local integrated health delivery systems including acute, primary, emergency and long-term care.

Rural Health Clinics & Critical Access Hospitals

49

clinics

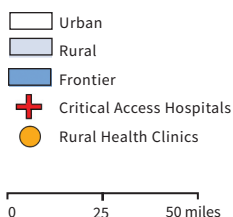
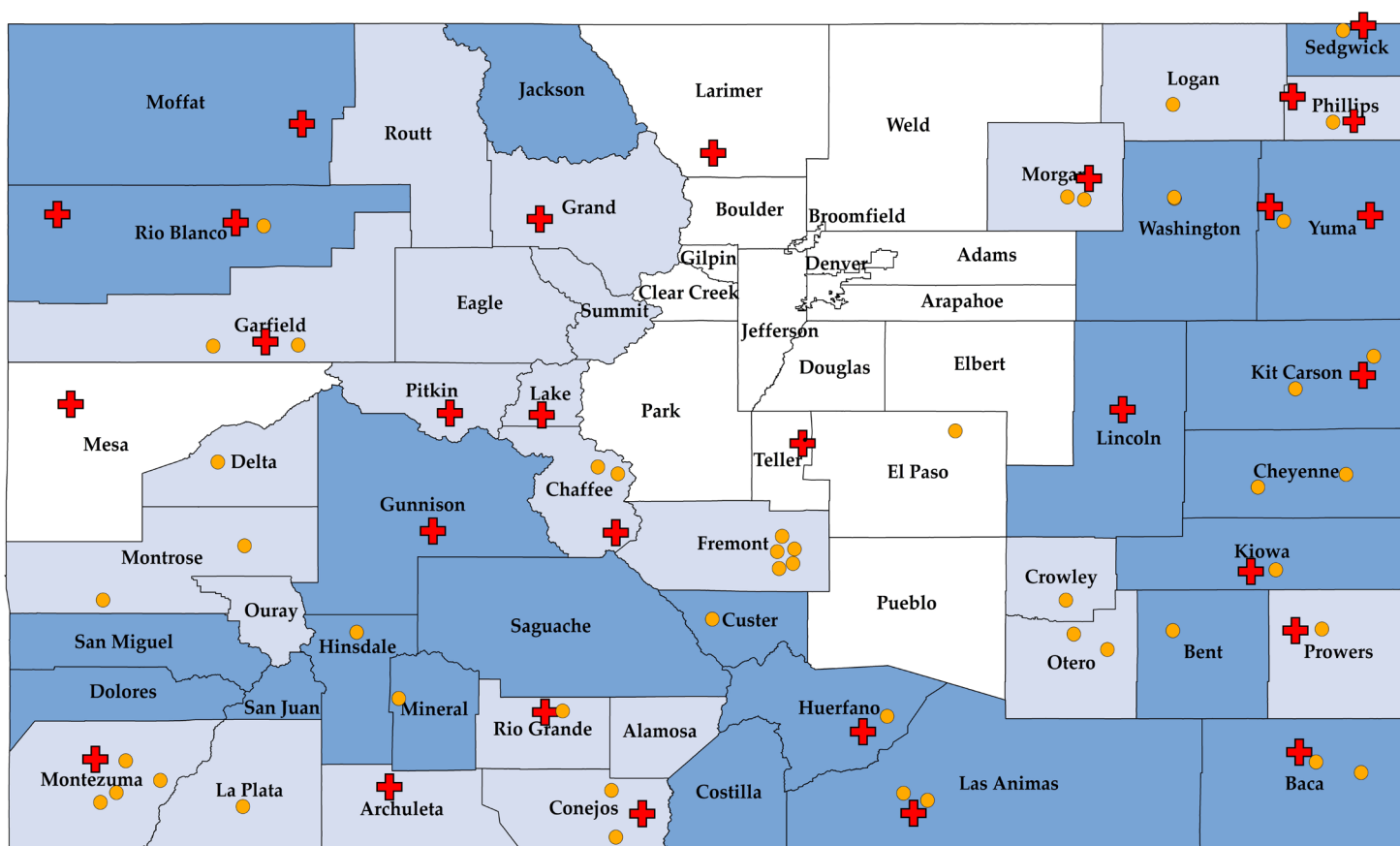
29

hospitals



COLORADO: RURAL HEALTH FACILITIES

County Designations, 2016



The definition of rural and frontier varies depending on the purpose of the program or policy in which they are used. Therefore, these are referred to as programmatic designations, rather than definitions. One designation commonly used to determine geographic eligibility for federal grant programs is based on information obtained through the Office of Management and Budget: *All counties that are not designated as parts of Metropolitan Areas (MAs) are considered rural.* The Colorado Rural Health Center frequently assumes this designation, as well as further classifies frontier counties as those counties with a population density of six or fewer persons per square mile. You may visit the Rural Health Grants Eligibility Advisor to determine if a county or address is designated rural, or contact the Office of Rural Health Policy at (301) 443-0835.

The information in this map was collected and geocoded by the State Office of Rural Health, current as of January 2016.