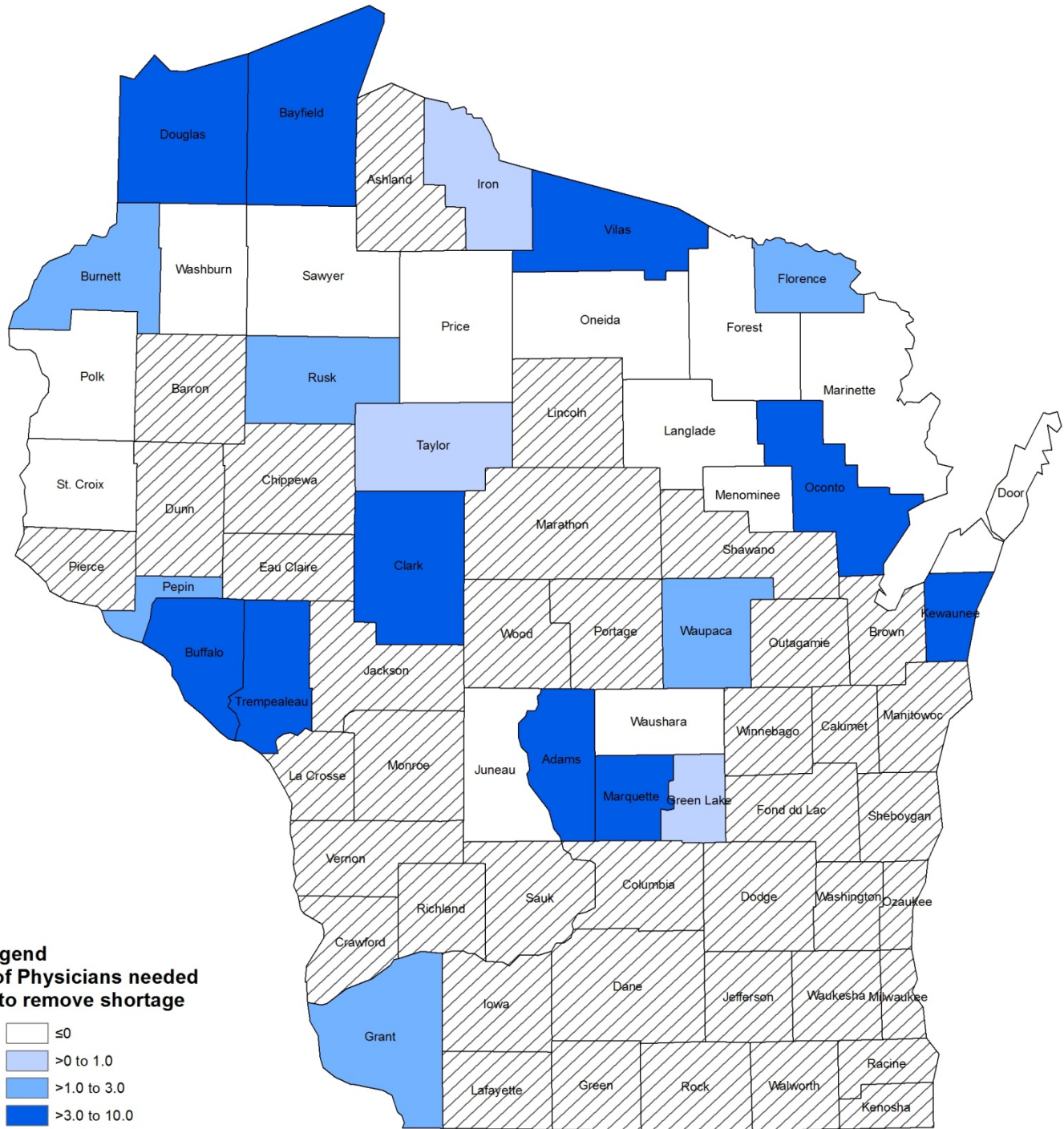


# Number of Primary Care Physician FTEs Needed to Remove Shortages for the Resident Population

February, 2013



\* Data definitions and limitations in notes/table.



## Primary Care Physician FTEs Needed to Remove Shortages by County

### Map Notes:

- This map and data show the number of full-time equivalent primary care physicians (physician FTEs) that are needed to remove a shortage of primary care physicians for the general population (resident civilians) for 32 counties in the state. See data definitions below.
- Removing the primary care physician shortage means getting to a ratio of 2,000 population to 1.0 FTE primary care physician or lower, as defined by the federal Office of Shortage Designation. Note: This is not an optimal ratio to meet the need for primary care for the general population.
- The threshold for federal designation of a primary care Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA – see data table) is a ratio of 3,500 population to 1.0 FTE primary care physician or greater. Physicians completing a service obligation (e.g., federal loan repayment or J-1 visa waiver) are not counted for this ratio. A HPSA designation reflects a severe shortage and not just a shortage of physicians.
- Specific data limitations:
  - Complete, detailed physician FTE data are only available for 32 counties of the state, based on areas where the Wisconsin Department of Health Services - Primary Care Office has completed clinic surveys for annual HPSA reviews.
  - Cross-hatched areas on the map indicate data are not complete for these 40 counties, which includes 9 counties with no data and 31 counties with data on some areas in the county.
  - Data are not reported on the number of primary care physician FTEs by county, because the numbers are small in rural counties and do not allow for the protection of provider privacy.
  - Data are not available to describe shortages of other primary care providers (e.g., advanced practice nurses or physician assistants).
- The map and data are intended to help identify areas of the state where safety net clinic expansion can most efficiently help improve access to primary care for low-income and uninsured populations.
- This data report and map were prepared by the Department of Health Services - Primary Care Office and contracted staff at the Wisconsin Primary Health Care Association, with funding from the HRSA State Primary Care Office grant.
- More information on federally designated primary care HPSAs and HPSA-linked benefits is available on the Wisconsin Primary Care Office web site.

<http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/health/primarycare/ShortageDesignation.htm>

### Data Definitions & Sources:

#### Primary Care Physician FTEs needed to remove shortages:

- The number of primary care physician FTEs needed to remove a shortage for the resident civilian population is calculated by using the same formula used by the federal Office of Shortage Designation to calculate the number of primary care physicians needed to meet a population's need for primary care: <http://bhpr.hrsa.gov/shortage/index.html>

# physician FTEs to meet needs for resident civilians - # physician FTEs providing care  
= FTEs needed to remove a shortage (see map and data table)

#### Resident Civilian Population:

The total number of people who are “usually resident” in an area, and does not include Armed Forces personnel who are outside the U.S. or inmates of institutions (2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-year estimates Table B17001).

#### Primary Care Physician FTEs providing outpatient care:

This is the number of full-time equivalent physicians (MDs and DOs in the following specialties: family practice, general pediatrics, general internal medicine, obstetrics/gynecology, general gynecology, and general practice) who provided outpatient primary care and associated hospital rounds, and does not include inpatient care, administration, teaching or research time. Physicians completing a service obligation (federal loan repayment or J-1 visa waiver) are counted. This physician FTE data was collected by the Wisconsin Primary Care Office from 2010 – 2012 using a telephone survey of clinics.

Primary Care Physician FTEs Needed to Remove Shortages by County

**Number of Primary Care Physicians Needed to Remove Shortages**

(notes on last page)

County	# Physicians needed to remove shortage *	Resident Civilian Population	Primary Care HPSA status (January 2013)
Adams	5.32	19,646	County
Ashland		15,541	part
Barron		45,396	part
Bayfield	5.63	14,655	County
Brown		236,714	Not elig - # MDs
Buffalo	4.03	13,657	part
Burnett	1.52	15,380	County
Calumet		47,493	part
Chippewa		60,292	part
Clark	6.79	33,933	County
Columbia		54,387	Not elig - # MDs
Crawford		16,056	Not elig - # MDs
Dane		464,510	Not elig - # MDs
Dodge		81,526	Not elig - # MDs
Door	(5.31)	27,724	part
Douglas	9.97	42,189	part
Dunn		39,849	part
Eau Claire		92,416	Not elig - # MDs
Florence	1.26	4,511	County
Fond du Lac		98,347	part
Forest	(1.64)	9,215	County
Grant	2.76	46,753	part
Green		35,984	Not elig - # MDs
Green Lake	0.07	19,036	part
Iowa		23,449	part
Iron	0.42	5,840	part
Jackson		18,871	part
Jefferson		80,253	Not elig - # MDs
Juneau	(3.94)	26,600	part
Kenosha		160,047	Inner City
Kewaunee	4.93	20,369	County
La Crosse		107,543	Not elig - # MDs
Lafayette		16,577	part
Langlade	(1.36)	19,775	part
Lincoln		28,553	Not elig - # MDs
Manitowoc		80,370	part
Marinette	(1.32)	40,112	County
Marquette	6.66	15,324	County
Menominee	(3.67)	4,251	County
Milwaukee Inner City **	56.91	314,410	Inner City

Primary Care Physician FTEs Needed to Remove Shortages by County

County	# Physicians needed to remove shortage *	Resident Civilian Population	Primary Care HPSA status (January 2013)
Monroe		43,524	part
Oconto	6.99	37,280	part
Oneida	(22.12)	35,415	part
Outagamie		171,629	part
Ozaukee		84,941	Not elig - # MDs
Pepin	2.17	7,336	County
Pierce		37,791	part
Polk	(6.16)	43,821	part
Portage		65,720	Not elig - # MDs
Price	(3.35)	14,156	County
Racine		189,296	Inner City
Richland		18,002	part
Rock		156,695	Not elig - # MDs
Rusk	1.67	14,531	County
Saint Croix	(4.67)	81,763	part
Sauk		60,179	part
Sawyer	(2.81)	16,277	Not elig - # MDs
Shawano		40,957	part
Sheboygan		111,879	Inner City
Taylor	0.69	20,333	County
Trempealeau	4.61	27,869	part
Vernon		28,969	part
Vilas	3.43	21,553	part
Walworth		98,813	Not elig - # MDs
Washburn	(5.35)	15,042	County
Washington		129,170	Not elig - # MDs
Waukesha		381,495	Not elig - # MDs
Waupaca	2.58	50,725	part
Waushara	(1.50)	23,248	County
Winnebago		155,133	Not elig - # MDs
Wood		73,782	Not elig - # MDs

## Primary Care Physician FTEs Needed to Remove Shortages by County

### Table Notes:

#### \* # Primary Care Physician FTEs needed to remove a shortage

##### *Negative number FTEs:*

There is a negative number of FTEs for 13 out of the 32 counties for which there are complete data (see map and table). This indicates that the population to primary care physician ratio for these areas is lower (better) than the threshold which HRSA uses to define a shortage ( $\geq 2,000$  population : 1.0 FTE physician). As noted previously, getting to a ratio of 2,000 : 1.0 FTE or lower is used to indicate a shortage has been removed, but is not an optimal ratio to meet a population's need for primary care. Although the data for these areas do not show a primary care physician shortage, physicians in these areas very likely serve patients from surrounding areas. Thus, the reported negative number of physicians needed is likely to overstate the availability of primary care physician services in these areas and understate the availability of physician services in surrounding areas.

##### *Blank FTEs:*

The number of primary care physicians needed to remove a shortage for the county cannot be calculated because detailed data are not available for the entire county. Because collecting clinic and physician data is very labor-intensive, the Primary Care Office only collects data for those areas needed to complete HPSA reviews or for applications for new HPSAs.

##### *\*\*Milwaukee Inner City data limitations:*

Data are not available for the entire Milwaukee County or City of Milwaukee. The population and physician data reported for "Milwaukee Inner City" are for the census tracts included in the "Milwaukee North" and Milwaukee Inner City South" primary care HPSA service areas. For a complete listing of these census tracts use HRSA's on-line HPSA database available at: <http://hpsafind.hrsa.gov/> and select Wisconsin, Milwaukee County, and Primary Care.

##### *Rural areas & Physician FTEs needed to remove a shortage:*

Rural areas have smaller numbers of physician FTEs, their physicians tend to be older, and it takes longer to recruit physician replacements. The sudden and unexpected loss (e.g., retirement, death, re-location) or addition of one physician can dramatically affect a rural community's primary care physician shortage or availability.

#### **Primary Care HPSA status:**

To be eligible for federal designation as a primary care HPSA, an area must have a population to primary care physician ratio of 3,500 population to 1.0 FTE or higher and must lack access to primary care physicians in contiguous (surrounding) areas. Areas with high need (high poverty or overutilization of existing providers) can be designated with a ratio of 3,000 to 1.0 FTE.

##### Table key:

- County - indicates the entire county is included in a primary care HPSA designation(s).
- Part - indicates that a portion of the county is located within a designated HPSA, usually a group of rural minor civil divisions (towns, villages).
- Inner City - indicates that a group of census tracts in the inner city of the county is located within a designated HPSA.
- Not elig - # MDs - indicates the area is not eligible for a HPSA because the area's population to primary care physician ratio is less than 3,500 to 1.0 FTE physician (HPSA threshold).

For information on provider recruitment and retention benefits which are linked with HPSA designation, see the Primary Care Office web page.

<http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/health/primarycare/ShortageDesignation3.htm>