




Health Professional Shortage Areas






Topics for Today

- HPSA Overview
- Discuss Rational Service Areas
- Discuss the Statewide Rational Service Area (SRSA) plan
- Maternity Care Target Areas (MCTA)



Federal Programs that use HPSSA Designations

- National Health Service Corps Scholarship Program
- NHSC Federal Loan Repayment Program
- NHSC State Loan Repayment Program
- NHSC Grants to States for Community Scholarships
- NHSC Section 330 Health Center Grants
- FQHC Look-Alike Certification
- Medicare Incentive Payment Program
- Rural Health Clinics Eligible Area
- J-1 Visa Waivers
- Conrad "State-30" Program (42 states)
- National Interest Visa Waiver
- Residency Training in Family Medicine
- Graduate Training in Family Medicine
- Faculty Development in Family Medicine
- Pre-Doctoral Training in Family Medicine
- Faculty Development in General Internal Medicine and/or General Practice
- Faculty Training Projects in Geriatric Medicine and Dentistry
- Residency Training in General Internal Medicine and/or Family Medicine
- Residency Training and Advanced Education in General Practice of Dentistry
- Preventive Medicine and Dental Public Health
- Physician Assistant Training Program



Federal Programs that use HPSSA Designations

- Podiatric Primary Care Residency Program
- Allied Health Project Grants
- Area Health Education Centers
- Area Health Education Centers - Model Programs
- Health Education and Training Programs
- Interdisciplinary Training for Health Care in Rural Areas
- Health Administration Traineeships and Special Projects
- Special Project Grants to Schools of Public Health
- Nurse Practitioner and Nurse Midwifery Education Program
- Disadvantaged Health Professional Faculty LR and Fellowship Program
- Programs of Excellence in Health Professions Education for Minorities
- Cooperative Agreements to Improve the Health Status of Minority Populations
- Emergency Medical Services for Children
- Professional Nurse Traineeship
- Nurse Anesthetist Traineeship
- Nurse Training Improvement: Special Projects
- Mental Health Clinical and AIDS Service-Related Training Grants



Health Professional Shortage Areas

A HPSA is a designation given to an area that is considered underserved with health providers compared to the population. They are approved by the federal Office of Shortage Designation (OSD) in the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) located in Rockville, Maryland.

- A Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) can be a:
 - Geographic area designation
 - Population group designation
 - Facility designation
 - Automatic HPSA designation



Geographic Area Designation

- This designation type takes into account the entire resident civilian population of the requested area compared to all available primary care physicians, dentists or psychiatrists full time equivalencies (FTEs).
- Well-Ahead Louisiana's Primary Care Office (PCO) tries to designate all HPSAs with this type of designation, as it covers everyone in the area.
 - If this is not possible, PCO attempts to use a population HPSA.
 - If the area is still not eligible, PCO will attempt to designate cut-out areas using similar census tracts.
- This designation type is eligible to receive the 10% Medicare Bonus payment from Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).



Population Group Designation

- In order to be eligible for this designation type, the area being considered must have a minimum 200% Federal Poverty Level (FPL) of 30%.
- Louisiana utilizes the Low-Income Population Group designations, which use a ratio built upon the low-income population of the area (those in the 200% FPL or lower) and the physicians providing services to this population.



Facility Designation

- Facility designations are determined by a facility's outpatient census, wait times, patients' residences located in a HPSA (50% must reside in a HPSA).
- Sites are only eligible for facility designations if their location is not designated as a geographic or population HPSA.
 - If a geographic or population HPSA covering this site becomes active, the facility designation is removed.
- Correctional Facility HPSAs use unique qualifiers based on their specific populations.
 - Their facility designations are not removed even if they are located in a geographic area or population group HPSA.



Automatic HPSA Designation

- Auto-HPSAs are designations automatically assigned to certain types of facilities
- These include:
 - Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC)
 - FQHC Look-A-Likes
 - CMS-certified Rural Health Clinics (RHCs) meeting NHSC Site Requirements
 - Indian Health Facilities
 - Section 330 Health Center Program grantees



Automatic HPSCA Designation

- These designations stand alone and have no affiliation to a parish score.
- Uniform Data System (UDS) data is used to determine the scores.
- Well-Ahead Louisiana's Primary Care Office (PCO) and the facilities are able to update the designations utilizing HRSA's Shortage Designation Management System (SDMS).



HPSA Categories

- There are three HPSA Categories:
 - **Primary Care** (shortage of primary health care providers)
 - **Dental Health** (shortage of dental health professionals)
 - **Mental Health** (shortage of psychiatrists)
- The provider data is gathered from National Provider Identifiers (NPI), which is provided by HRSA, Louisiana Board of Medical Examiners (LSBME) and Louisiana Dental Board (LDB).
- Surveys are sent to eligible providers to ensure PCO is depicting the designation's shortage as accurately as possible.

Primary Care Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) Review Form

East Baton Rouge Parish

Please read the guidelines for completing this form on the back side prior to answering the questions. We appreciate your time in helping us to assist your parish/area in continuing to receive this designation. *If you are not a physician, please fax this back with your name so we can correct our records.*

Date Completed: _____ Completed by: _____

1a. Physician Name (First, Last, Suffix, MD or DO): _____

1b. EMAIL: _____

1c. Person to Contact and PHONE NUMBER: _____

2. Specialty (% of practice): _____

Subspecialty (% of practice): _____

3. Primary Practice Location (Street, City, State, Zip): _____

Other Practice Location(s)(Street, City, State, Zip): _____

4a. How many hours per week does the physician spend seeing patients in an outpatient setting? (This counts only time the physician is actually with the patient-not lunch, administrative or down time) _____

4b. How many hours per week completing Hospital Rounds? _____

4c. On an average day, how many outpatients does the physician see? _____

5a. How many patients are in the physician's practice? _____

5b. How many of those patients use Medicaid? _____

5c. How many of these patients use the sliding fee scale? _____

6. Is the physician:

❖ A National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment Recipient or Scholar? YES ☐ NO ☐

❖ Participating in the J-1 Visa Waiver/H-1B Visa program? YES ☐ NO ☐

Thank you for your cooperation. Please return to:

Beth Butler
HPSA/SLRP Manager
Well-Ahead Louisiana
Louisiana Department of Health
Beth.butler@la.gov or 225.342.5839 (FAX)



Primary Care Designations

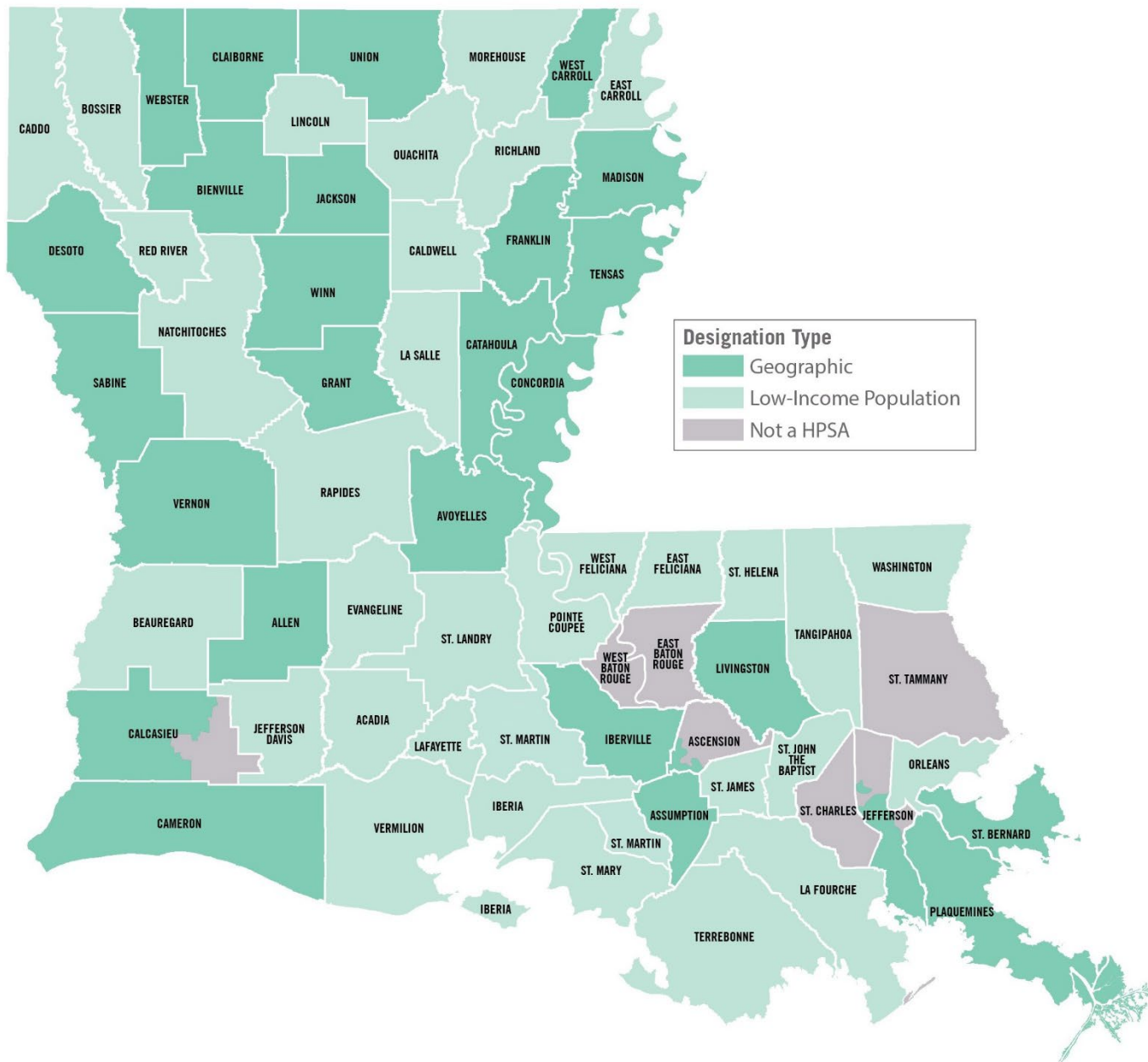
- Primary Care providers include:
 - Family practice
 - General practice
 - Internal medicine
 - Pediatrics
 - OB/GYN
- The Geographic ratio for primary care is $\geq 3,500:1$.
- High Needs use a ratio of $\geq 3000:1$.



Primary Care Designations

- High Needs Requirements

- More than 20% of the population is at or below 100% FPL
- More than 100 births per year per 1,000 women ages 15-44
- More than 20 infant deaths per 1,000 live births
- Meets two criteria for insufficient capacity





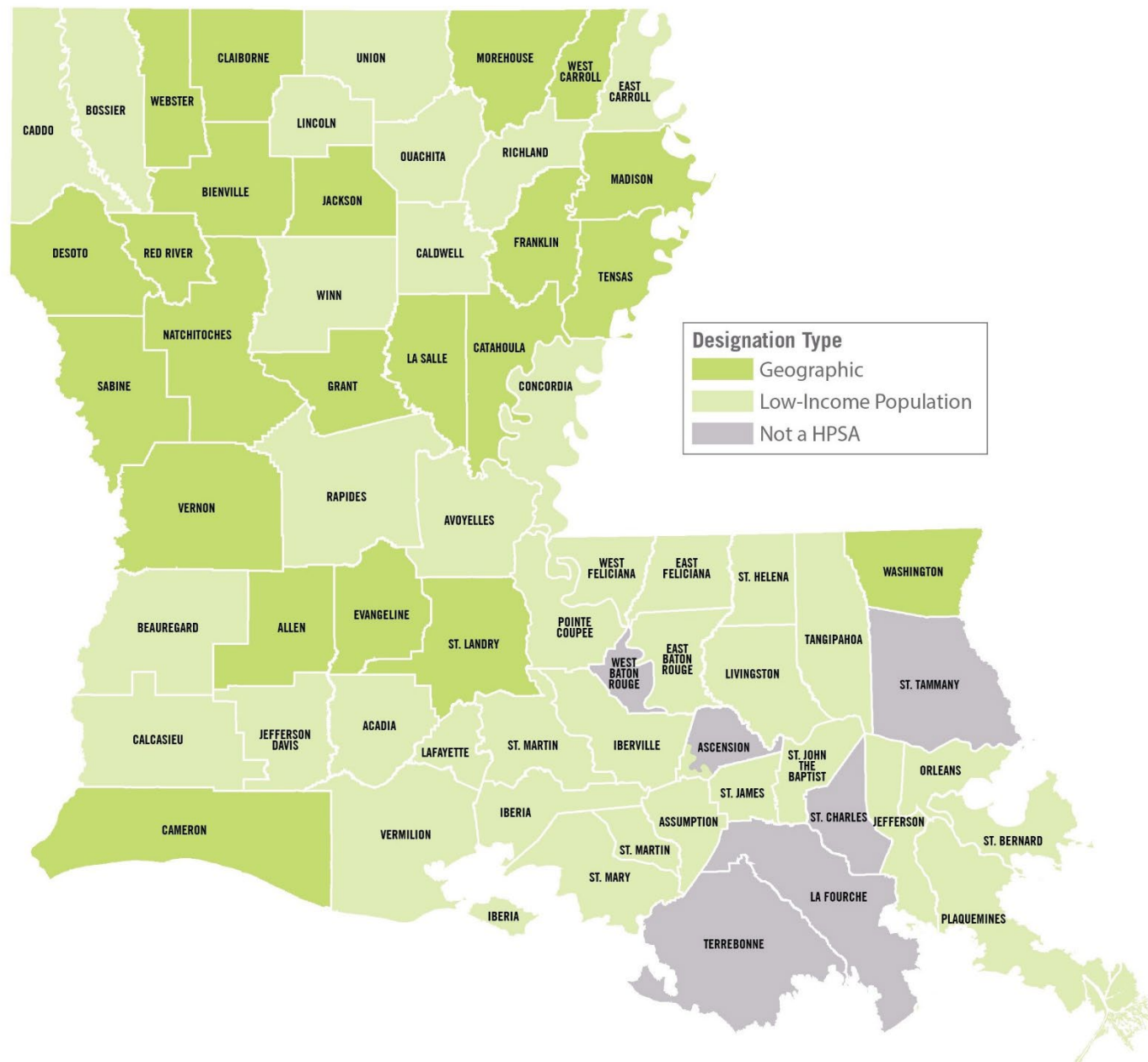
Dental Health Designations

- Dental Providers include:
 - General dentists
 - Pediatric dentists
- Dental FTEs are calculated by starting with the number of hours of patient care provided by the dentist per week.
- The FTE is then weighted according to:
 - The dentist's age
 - The number of auxiliaries (dental assistants and hygienists)



Dental Health Designations

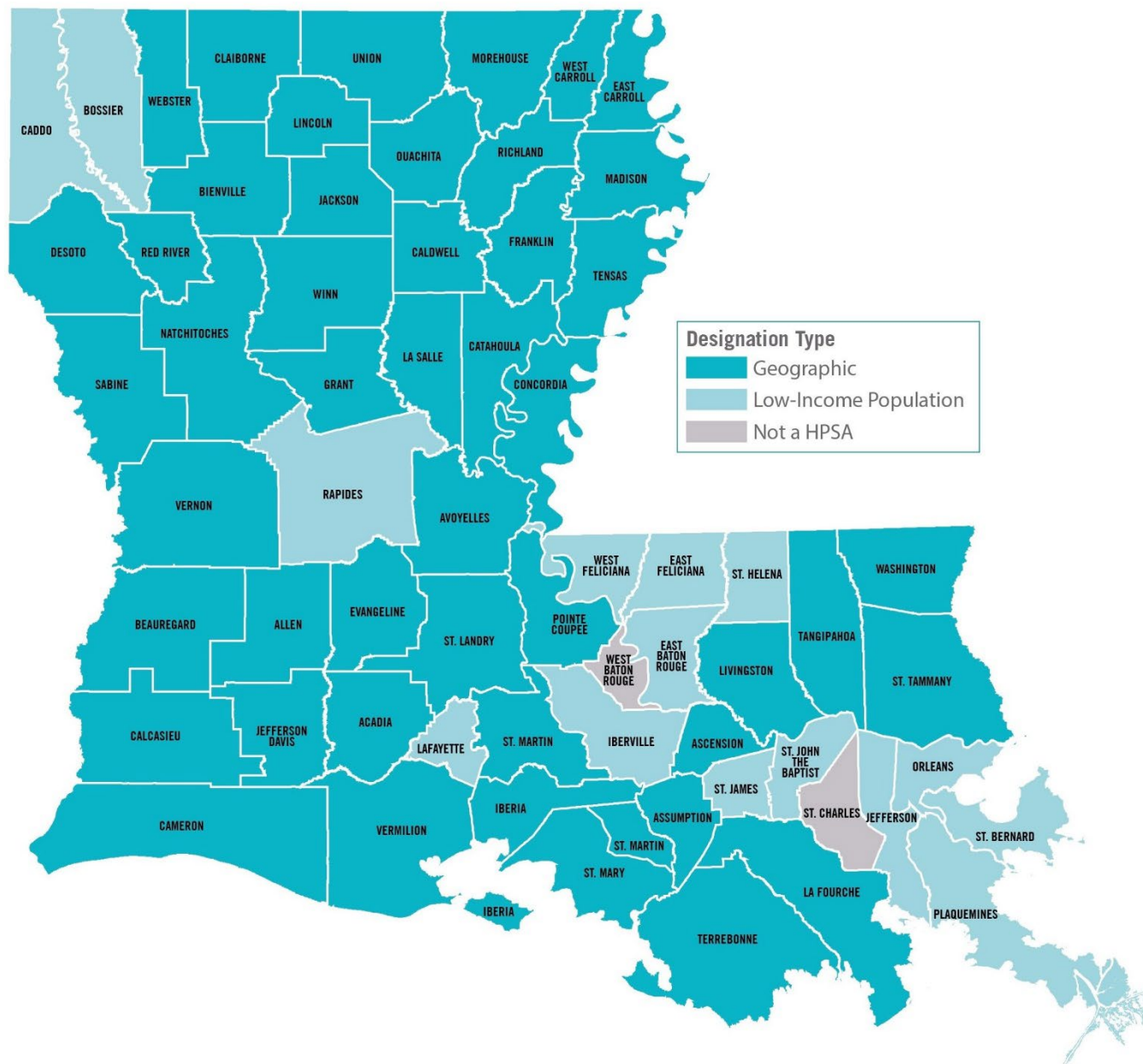
- The Geographic ratio is $\geq 5,000:1$.
- High Needs use a ratio of $\geq 4,000:1$.
- High Needs Requirements
 - More than 20% of the population has incomes at or below 100% FPL
 - More than 50% of the population has no fluoridated water
 - Meets two criteria for insufficient capacity





Mental Health Designations

- Louisiana only considers psychiatrists to determine Mental Health designations
- For Mental Health the ratio for Geographic is $\geq 30,000:1$
- High Needs use a ratio $\geq 20,000:1$
- High Needs Requirements
 - More than 20% of the population has incomes at or below 100% FPL
 - The Youth Ratio (# of persons under 18 divided by the number of adults 18-64) is greater than 0.6:1
 - The Elderly Ratio (# of persons age 65 and older divided by the total # of adults 18-64) is greater than 0.25:1
 - Alcohol or substance abuse prevalence data shows the area to be among the worst quartile in the nation, state, or region





Rational Service Areas and Statewide Rational Service Area Plans





What is a Rational Service Area?

A Rational Service Area (RSA) is an area chosen to be designated as a HPSA and is the first step in creating the designation. In Louisiana RSAs are mainly established by parish borders.

If the entire parish is not eligible, it can be reviewed down to the census tract (CT) level.

- These designations are called cut-out areas
- Cut-out areas must not be smaller than a CT, cannot make an interior gap, also known as a donut hole, and cannot consist of CTs already designated.
- The Primary Care Office (PCO) must provide an explanation of how the CTs are alike using distinctive travel patterns, physical barriers, strong self-identity of a neighborhood (with a minimum population of 20,000) or similar demographics.



What is a SRSA Plan?

- A SRSA plan details Rational Service Areas (RSA) for the entire State, that reasonably reflect effective primary care, dental, and mental health access patterns.
- This plan can utilize data gathered from the pre-determined RSAs to measure fluctuations in health outcomes (i.e. provider shortages, unmet need, barriers to healthcare etc.)
- The purpose is to create pre-determined Rational Service Areas using parameters and priorities identified in the Primary Care Community Needs Assessment.



What data will be used?

Asset Limited, Income Constrained,
Employed (ALICE) percentages



What costs do ALICE percentages consider?

- Housing
- Food
- Childcare
- Healthcare
- Transportation
- Technology
- Taxes

48% of Louisiana Residents are Alice Families



SRSA Requirements

- Cannot be smaller than a single census tract
- Components must physically connect without a break
- Cannot contain interior gaps (no donut holes)
- Cannot include components that are part of another SRSA
- Must have population centers within 30 minutes of each other for primary care and 40 minutes of each other for dental and mental health



Maternity Care Target Areas (MCTA)





Maternity Care Target Areas (MCTA)

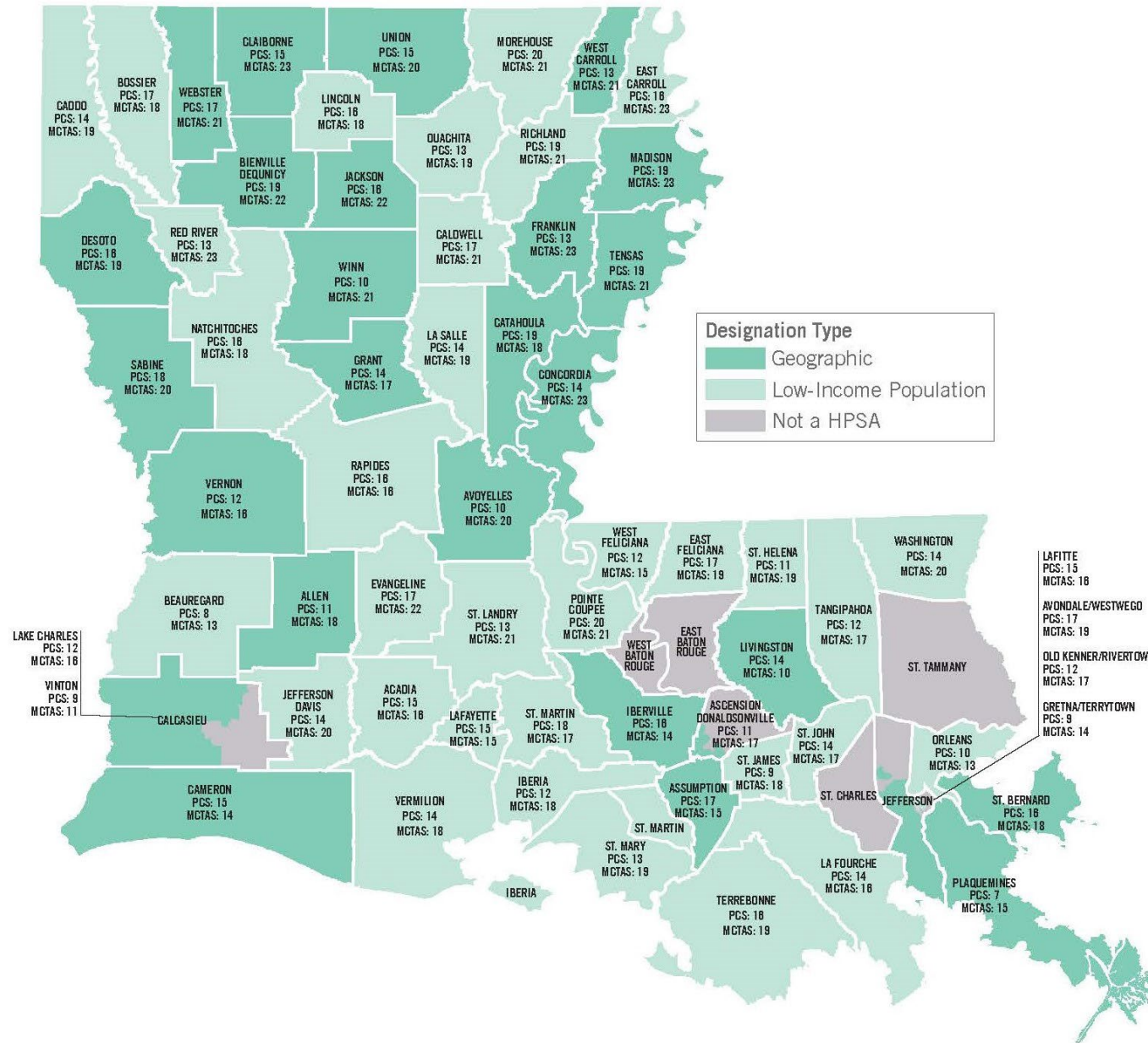
MCTAs are areas within existing Primary Care Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA) that are experiencing a shortage of maternity health care professionals. MCTAs are a supplementary score, not a separate designation, given to Primary Care HPSAs only.

MCTAs will better assess the needs/shortages of maternity health.

Data Used to Determine MCTAs

Scoring Criteria

- Ratio of females ages 15-44 to full time equivalent maternity care health professional ratio which includes only OB/GYN and certified nursing midwives;
- Percentage of females 15-44 with income at or below 200% FPL;
- Travel time and distance to the nearest provider trained and licensed to provide the necessary care;
- Fertility rate;
- The Social Vulnerability Index (SVI);
- Maternal Health Index which contains the following six indicators: Pre-pregnancy obesity, pre-pregnancy diabetes, pre-pregnancy hypertension, prenatal care initiation in the first trimester, cigarette smoking, and the behavioral health factor.





HPSAs Updates

- HRSA's Shortage Designation Branch uses their Shortage Designation Management System (SDMS) for designation submissions.
- One goal of HRSA's Shortage Designation Modernization Project is to begin completing National Shortage Designation Updates (NSDU) annually.
- The first NDSU occurred in September 2021.
- The second NDSU is scheduled to take place about September 2024.
- The HPSA designations must be updated every three years for RHC development.
- PCO is proactively working on updating HPSA designations to ensure all designations are submitted prior to their expiration date.



Questions?





Contact Information

Dr. Darmyra Perry: Primary Care Manager

- Darmyra.Perry@la.gov

Beth Butler: HPSA Manager and NHSC Liaison

- Beth.Butler@la.gov