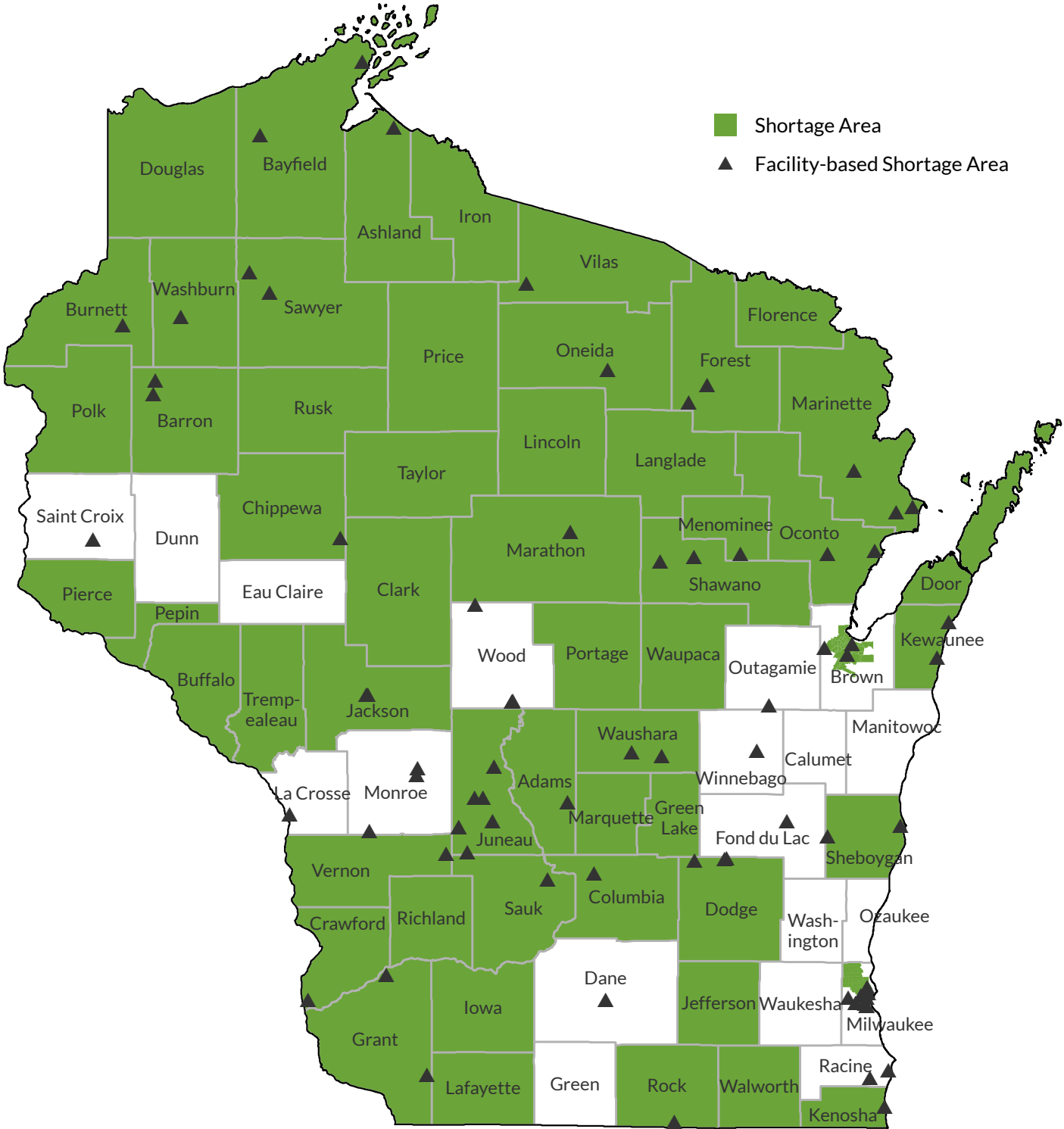


# Health Professional Shortage Areas

## *Mental Health Care*



To determine if a specific location has a HPSA designation, visit <https://data.hrsa.gov/tools/shortage-area/hpsa-find>



WISCONSIN OFFICE OF  
**Rural Health**

# About Health Professional Shortage Areas

## Shortage designations:

- Document a significant shortage of primary care, dental, or mental health providers in a rural or urban service area and are measured by a population to provider ratio.
- Service areas can be based on geographic areas, a population, or a facility (community health centers, rural health clinics, tribal health centers, and correctional facilities).
- Are associated with difficulty or delays in getting basic health care (e.g., long travel distances to providers, long wait times for appointments, or no providers who can serve uninsured or underinsured patients).
- Each HPSA must be reviewed for re-designation every three years.

## Responsibilities:

- HRSA's Bureau of Health Workforce is responsible for reviewing and making final decisions on shortage designation applications per federal regulations, and maintaining a web-searchable database of designations.
- State health departments are responsible for coordinating with clinics that request shortage designations, collecting and analyzing provider FTE and other designation data, and submitting state applications for federal designation of shortage areas. The Wisconsin Primary Care Office is responsible for shortage designation applications in Wisconsin.

Visit the Wisconsin Primary Care Office website for more information:  
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/primarycare/shortage-designation.htm>