

HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES

DIVISION OF FAMILY HEALTH SERVICES

New Jersey Medically Underserved Index

N.J.A.C. 9:16-1

Public Notice

Take notice that in accordance with N.J.A.C. 9:16-1 Primary Care Physician and Dentist Loan Redemption Program adopted by the Department of Education June 10, 1992, a list of medically underserved areas shall be specified annually by the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services. A medically underserved area means an urban or rural area or population group within the State of New Jersey which has a medical or dental manpower shortage as determined by the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services, or a public or not-for-profit private health care facility or other facility which is so designated. The state designated medically underserved areas are used to place primary care physicians and dentists participating in the New Jersey Primary Care Physician and Dentist Loan Redemption Program. The Loan Redemption Program is intended to promote access to primary care services by improving the distribution of primary health care personnel.

The following geographic areas have been designated as medically underserved by the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services based on the New Jersey Medically Underserved Index (NJMUI). The Index was developed to rank New Jersey's municipalities with populations of 5,000 or more according to indicators that are potentially indicative of a lack of access to comprehensive and timely primary health care services. Municipalities with populations of 30,000 or more were evaluated according to eight economic and health status indicators. Municipalities with populations of 5,000 to 29,999 were evaluated according to four economic indicators; the

values for health status indicators were generally too small to provide valid statistics. The indicators may change from year to year as more appropriate indicators are identified for use in the Index.

The economic and health status indicators in the 1999 Index include:

Percent of Population below 100 Percent of Poverty Level -1996

Percent of Population below 200 Percent of Poverty Level - 1996

Percent of Population Unemployed - 1997

Per capita Personal Income - 1996

Teenage Fertility Rate per 1,000 Population - 1993-1995

Hospital Discharges for Preventable Diabetes Conditions per 100,000 Population - 1994

Age Adjusted Death Rates per 100,000 Population - 1993-1995

Years of Potential Life Lost per 100,000 Population - 1994

The geographic areas listed below are arranged according to relative rank, from highest to lowest.

Municipalities with Populations of 30,000 or more

Newark City

Atlantic City City

Camden City

East Orange City

Trenton City

Paterson City

Jersey City City

Perth Amboy City

Passaic City

Irvington Township

New Brunswick City

Elizabeth City

Union City City

Lakewood Township

Plainfield City

West New York Town

Vineland City

Municipalities with Populations of 5,000 to 29,999

Bridgeton City
Fairfield Township (Cumberland County)
Paulsboro Borough
Asbury Park City
Salem City
Buena Vista Township
Pleasantville City
Lower Township
City of Orange Township
Phillipsburg Town
Egg Harbor City City
Keansburg Borough
Woodbury City
Mullica Township
Middle Township
Gloucester City City (Camden County)
Maurice River Township
Millville City
Glassboro Borough
Hammonton Town
Fairview Borough
Mount Holly Township
Long Branch City
Burlington City
Clementon Borough
Clayton Borough
Harrison Town
Egg Harbor Township
Garfield City
North Hanover Township
Upper Deerfield Township
Ocean Township (Ocean County)
Lodi Borough
Riverside Township
Pine Hill Borough
Union Beach Borough
Franklin Borough

Geographic areas that are not designated on the Index can be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services, if adequate documentation can be

provided to support the designation.

Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) as designated by the federal Division of Shortage Designation within the Department of Health and Human Services are eligible for the placement of physicians and dentists participating in the New Jersey Primary Care Physician and Dentist Loan Redemption program.

To receive additional information on the Index, call Ms. Linda D. Anderson at 609-292-1495.