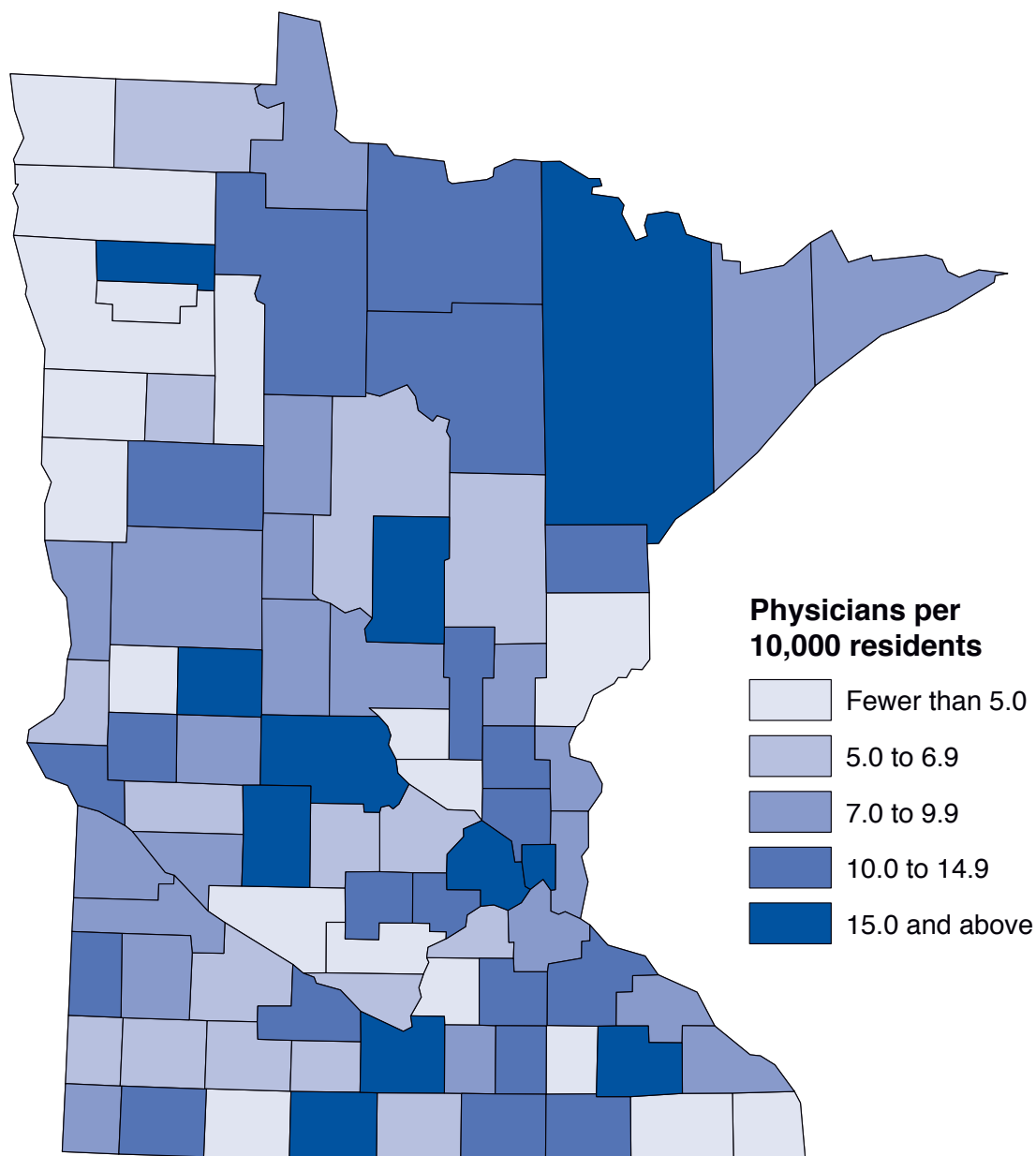


Physicians, 2003

As the map shows, physicians are concentrated in counties with large hospitals, but not necessarily large cities. Hennepin and Ramsey rank high, along with St. Louis, Stearns, and Blue Earth counties. Counties with smaller cities like Brainerd, Willmar and Alexandria also have high ratios, as does Martin County.

On the other hand, the shortage of physicians in some areas is apparent. Some are explainable, such as counties adjacent to a county with a large facility (Sherburne and Benton next to St. Cloud, Dodge and Fillmore adjacent to Rochester, and Clay, adjacent to Fargo). Moving farther west and north, however, there is a distinct drop off in many rural counties.



Data source: Minnesota Department of Health,
Office of Rural Health and Primary Care
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