

CHAPTER ONE

The Geography of Health Care in Michigan

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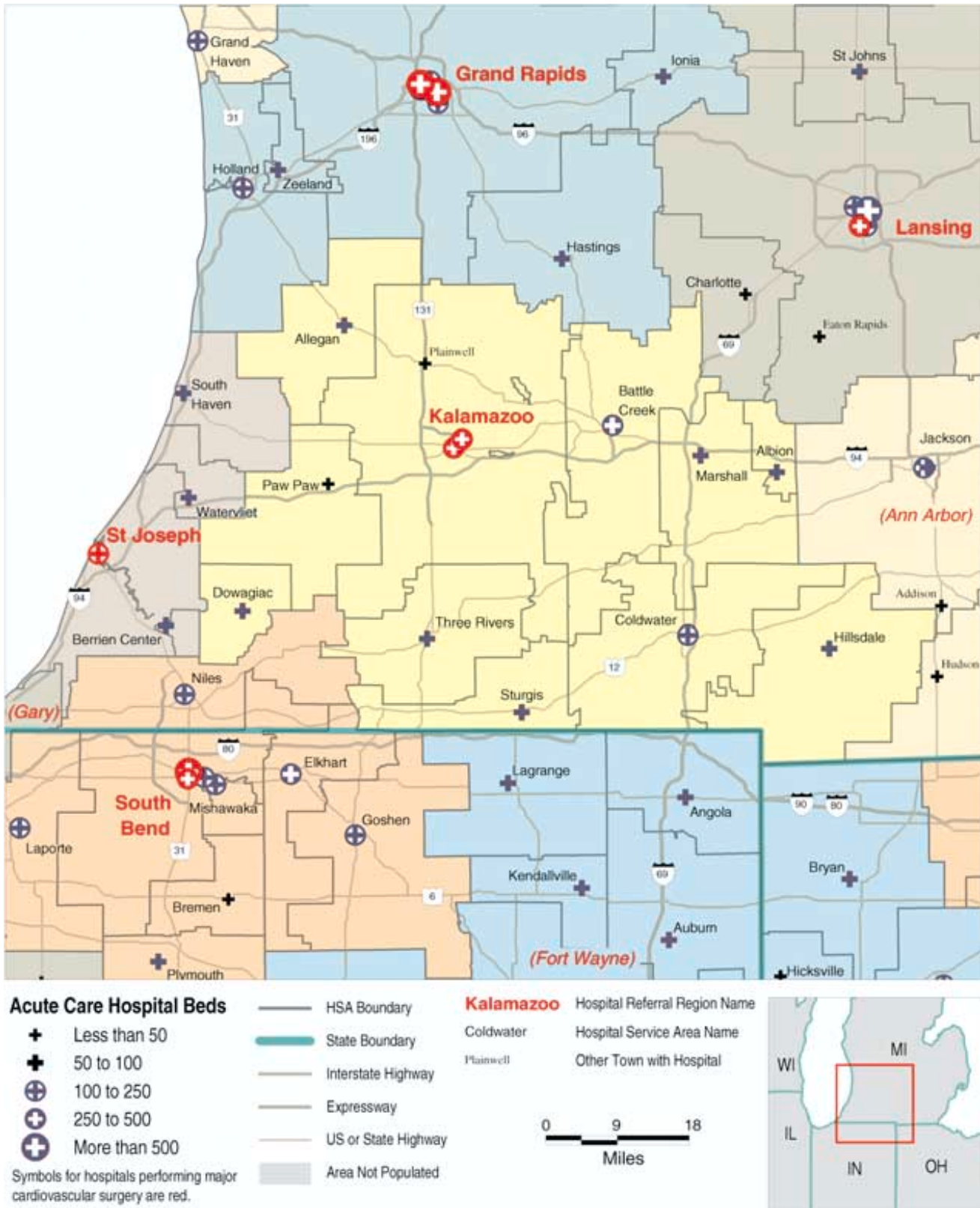
The use of health care services in Michigan, like their use in the United States as a whole, is highly localized. Most Americans use the services of physicians whose practices are nearby. Physicians, in turn, are usually affiliated with hospitals that are near their practices. As a result, when patients are admitted to hospitals, the admission generally takes place within a relatively short distance of where the patient lives. Although the distances from homes to hospitals vary with geography — people who live in rural areas travel farther than those who live in cities — in general most patients are admitted to a hospital which provides an appropriate level of care close to where they live.

The Medicare program maintains exhaustive records of hospitalizations, which makes it possible to define the patterns of use of hospital care. When Medicare enrollees are admitted to hospitals, the program's records identify both the patients' places of residence (by ZIP Code) and the hospitals where the admissions took place (by a unique numerical identifier). These files provide a reliable basis for determining the geographic pattern of health care use, because research shows that the migration patterns of patients in the Medicare program are similar to those for younger patients.

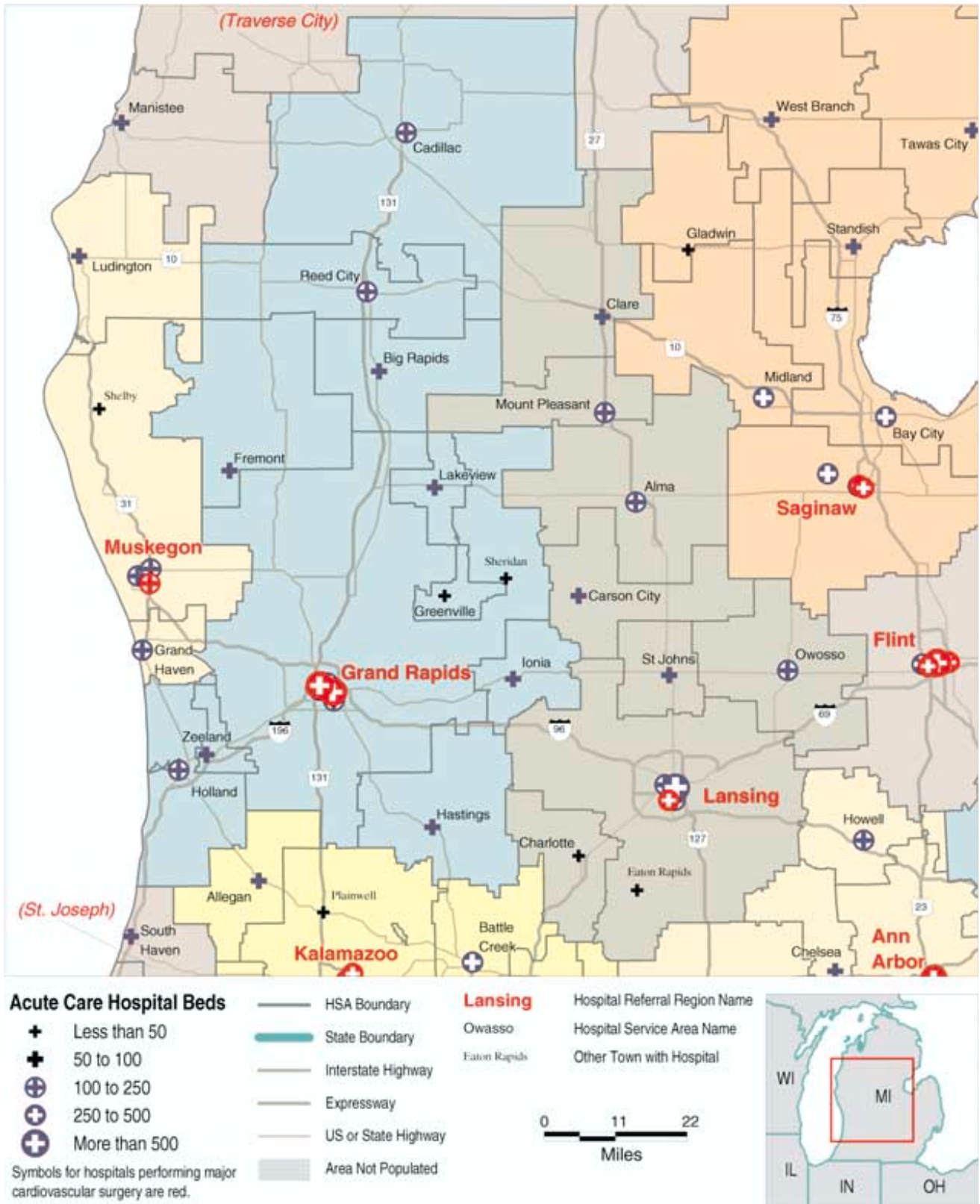
Medicare records of hospitalizations were used to define 3,436 geographically distinct hospital service areas in the United States. In each hospital service area, most of the care received by Medicare patients is provided by hospitals within the area. There are 109 of these hospital service areas in Michigan. The maps in this section show the location of each of these areas. Hospital service areas have been further aggregated into hospital referral regions, based on the pattern of use of cardiac surgery and neurosurgery. The maps also show the hospital referral regions to which the hospital service areas belong. There are 15 hospital referral regions in Michigan.

A detailed description of how hospital service areas and hospital referral regions were defined, and of the methodologies used to create the Dartmouth Atlas of Health Care in Michigan, is included in the Appendix on Methods.

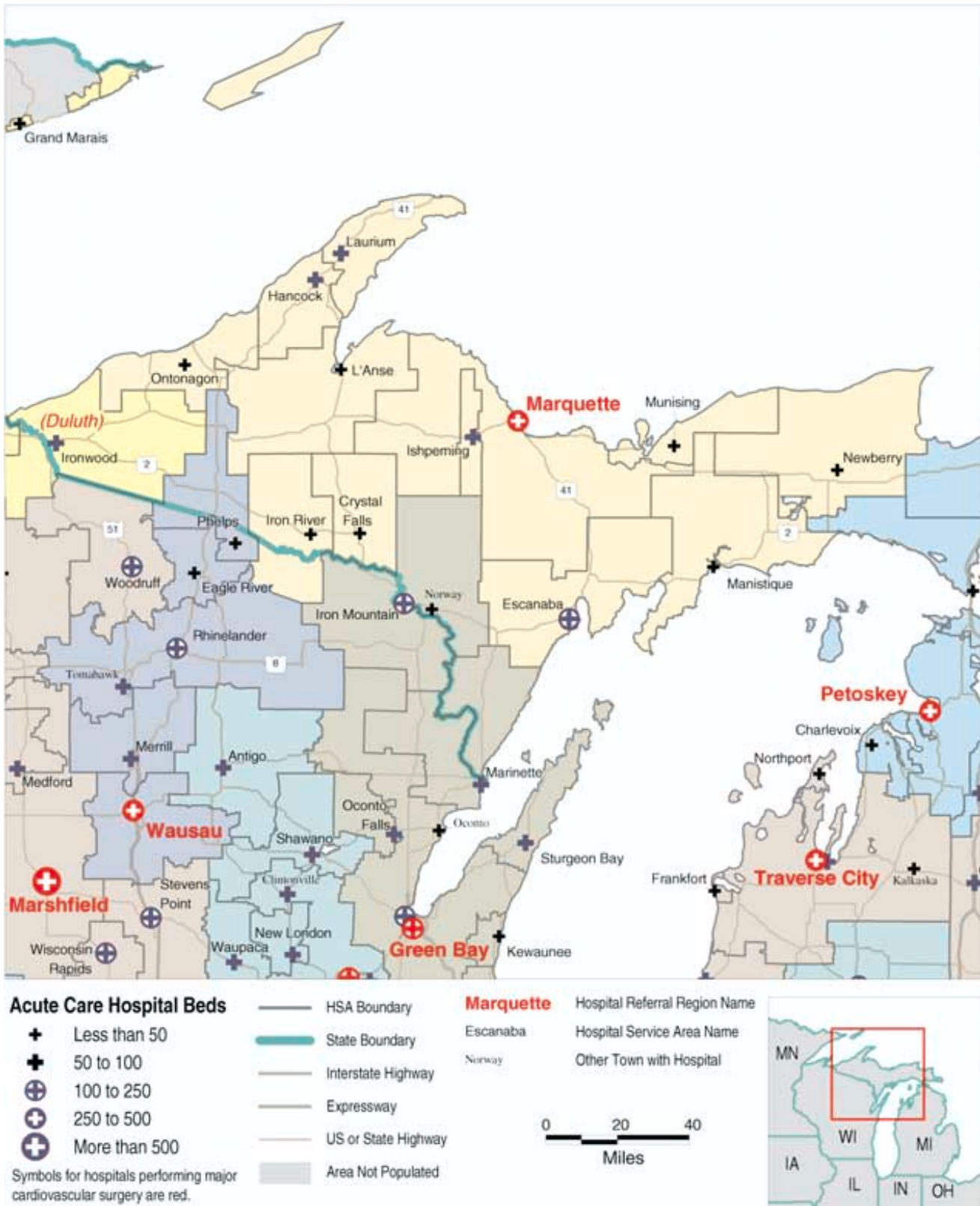
Hospital Service Areas Assigned to the Kalamazoo and St. Joseph, MI Hospital Referral Regions



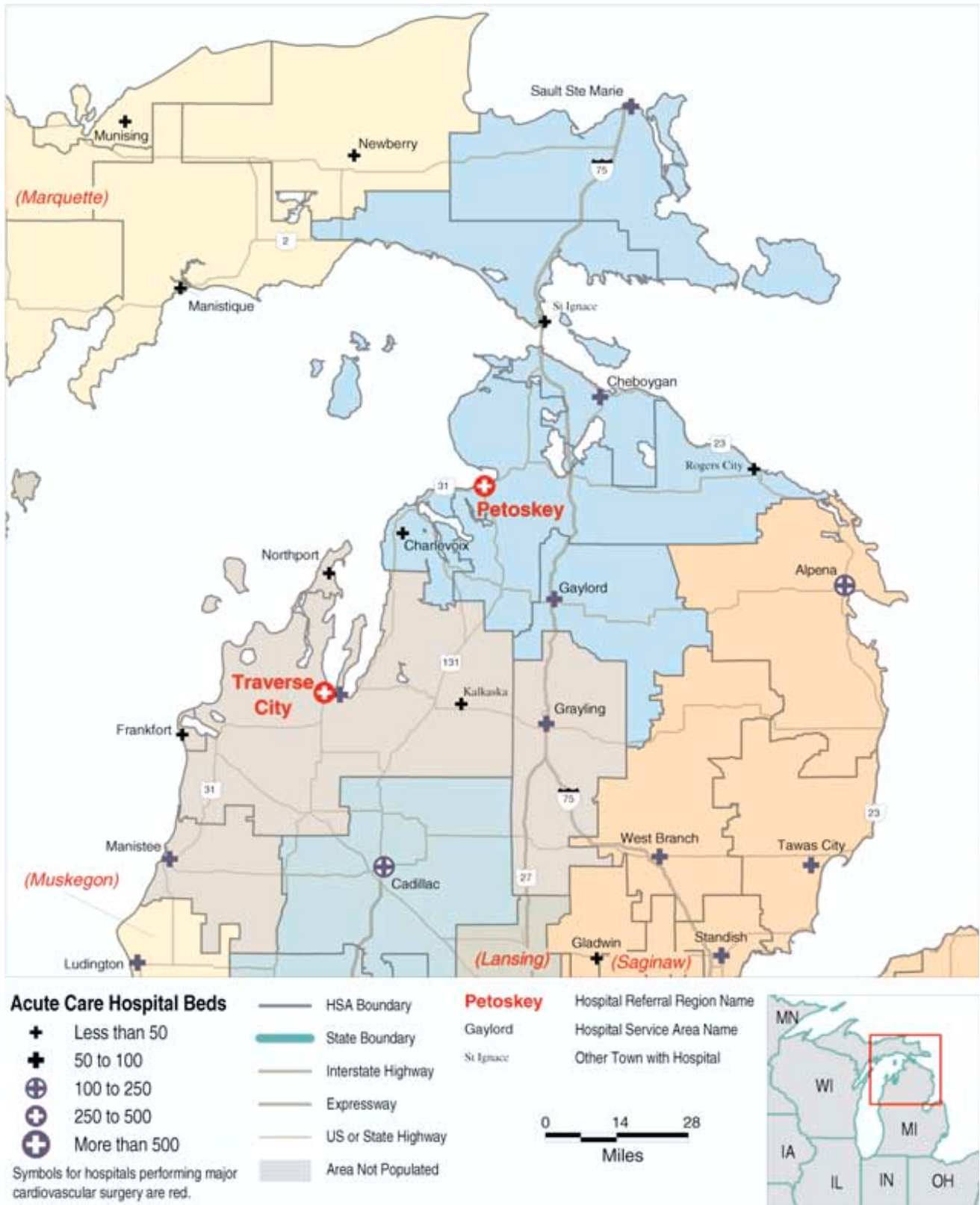
Hospital Service Areas Assigned to the Grand Rapids, Lansing and Muskegon, MI Hospital Referral Regions



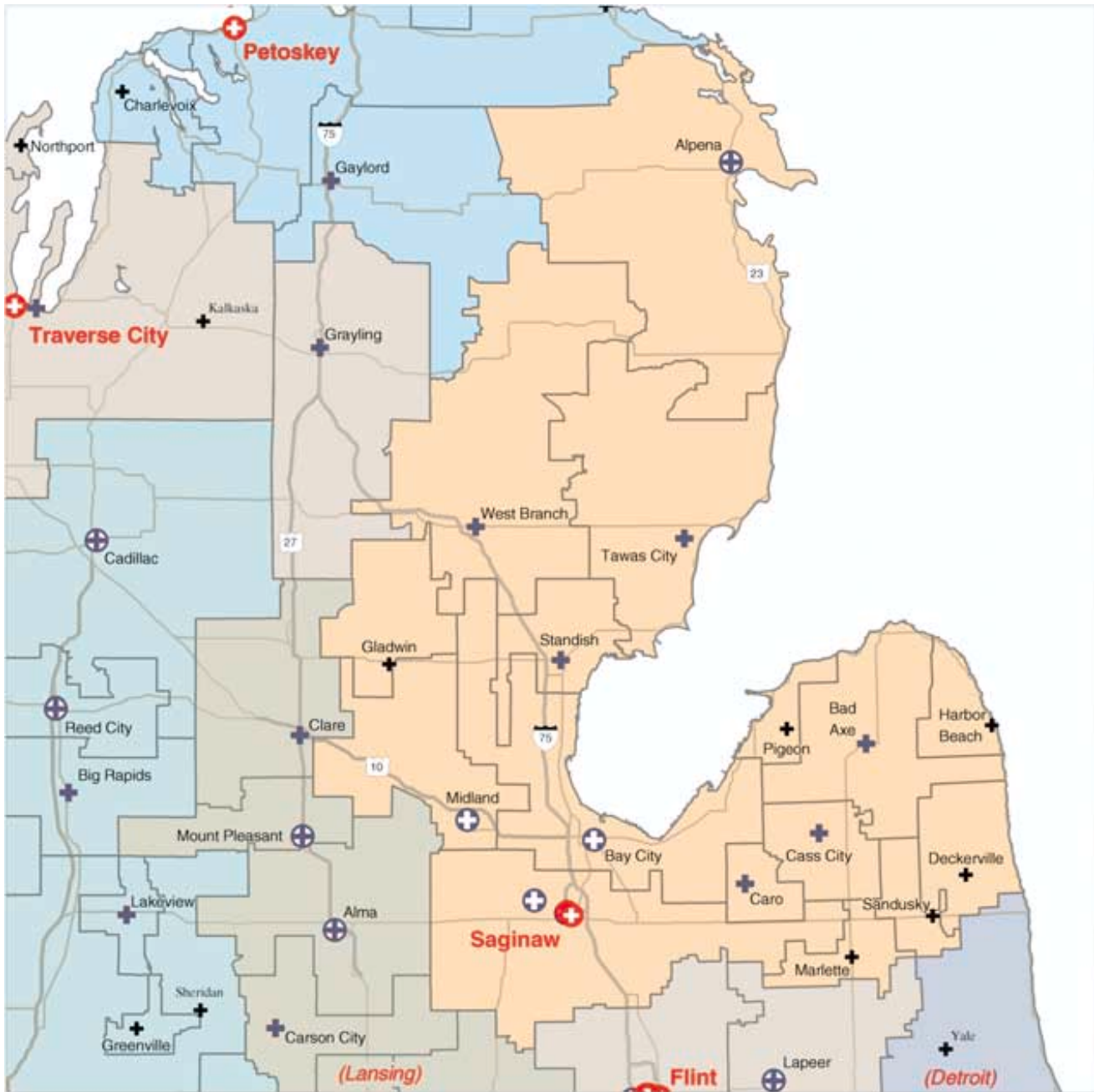
Hospital Service Areas Assigned to the Marquette, MI Hospital Referral Region



Hospital Service Areas Assigned to the Traverse City and Petoskey, MI Hospital Referral Regions



Hospital Service Areas Assigned to the Saginaw, MI Hospital Referral Region



Acute Care Hospital Beds

- + Less than 50
- ⊕ 50 to 100
- ⊕ 100 to 250
- ⊕ 250 to 500
- ⊕ More than 500

Symbols for hospitals performing major cardiovascular surgery are red.

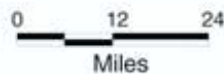
- HSA Boundary
- State Boundary
- Interstate Highway
- Expressway
- US or State Highway
- Area Not Populated

Saginaw

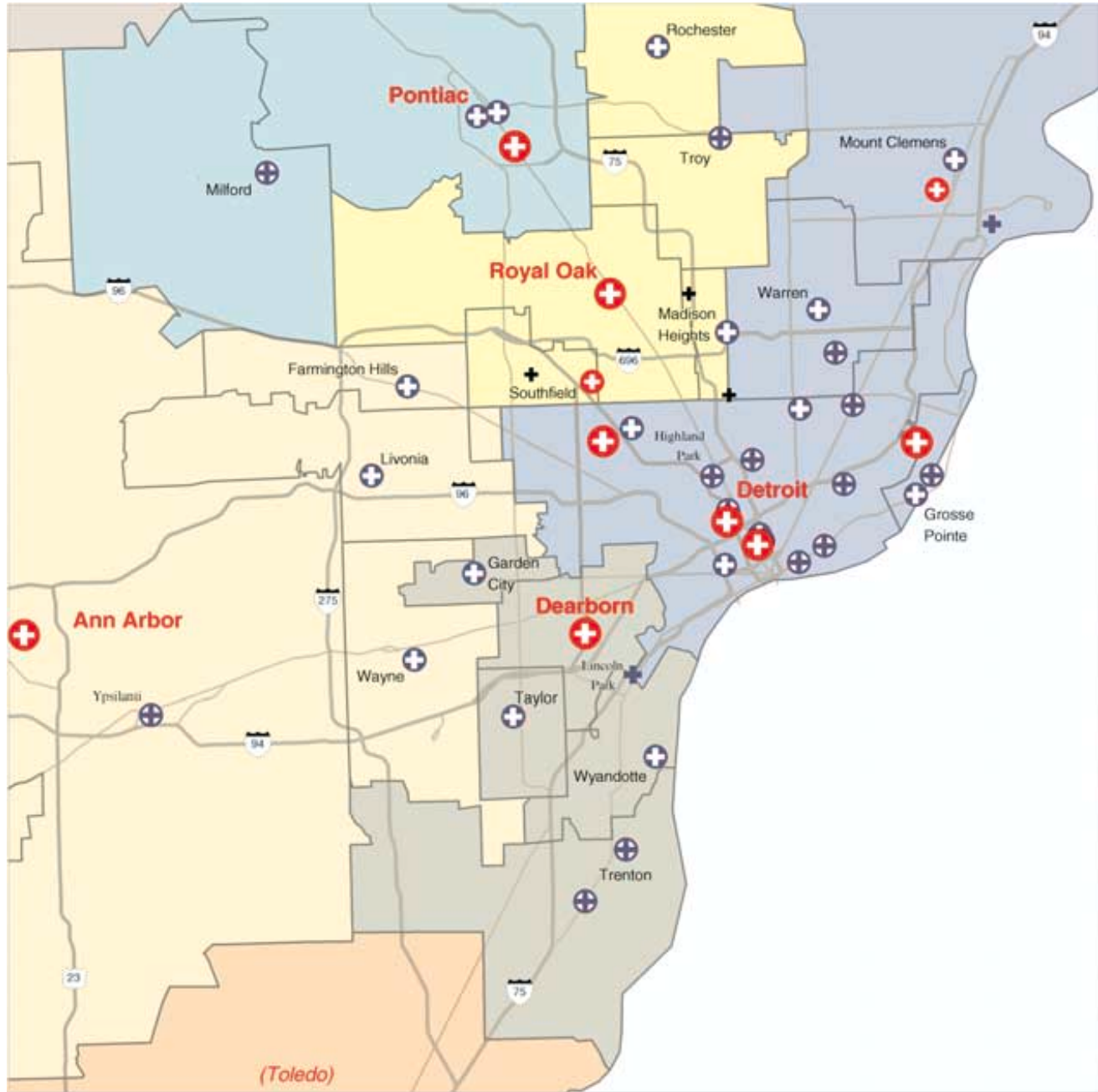
- Alma
- Sheridan

Hospital Referral Region Name

- Hospital Service Area Name
- Other Town with Hospital



Hospital Service Areas Assigned to the Dearborn, MI Hospital Referral Region



Acute Care Hospital Beds

- + Less than 50
- + 50 to 100
- + 100 to 250
- + 250 to 500
- + More than 500

Symbols for hospitals performing major cardiovascular surgery are red.

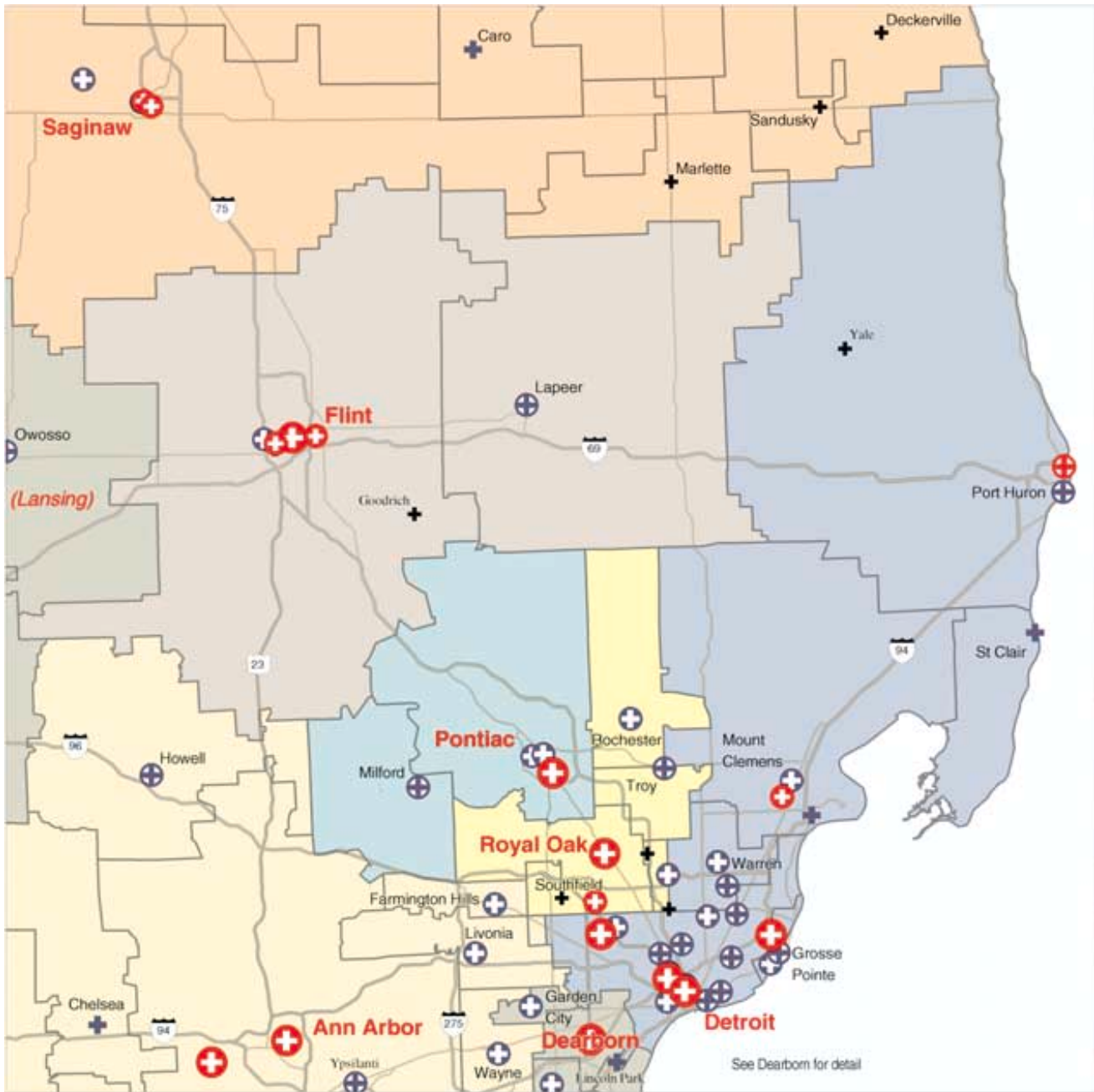
- HSA Boundary
- State Boundary
- Interstate Highway
- Expressway
- US or State Highway
- Area Not Populated

- Dearborn**
- Taylor
- Lincoln Park

- Hospital Referral Region Name
- Hospital Service Area Name
- Other Town with Hospital



Hospital Service Areas Assigned to the Detroit, Flint, Pontiac and Royal Oak, MI Hospital Referral Regions



Acute Care Hospital Beds

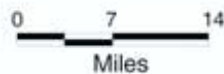
- + Less than 50
- ⊕ 50 to 100
- ⊕ 100 to 250
- ⊕ 250 to 500
- ⊕ More than 500

Symbols for hospitals performing major cardiovascular surgery are red.

- HSA Boundary
- State Boundary
- Interstate Highway
- Expressway
- US or State Highway
- Area Not Populated

Detroit
Warren
Lincoln Park

Hospital Referral Region Name
Hospital Service Area Name
Other Town with Hospital



Hospital Service Areas Assigned to the Ann Arbor, MI Hospital Referral Region

