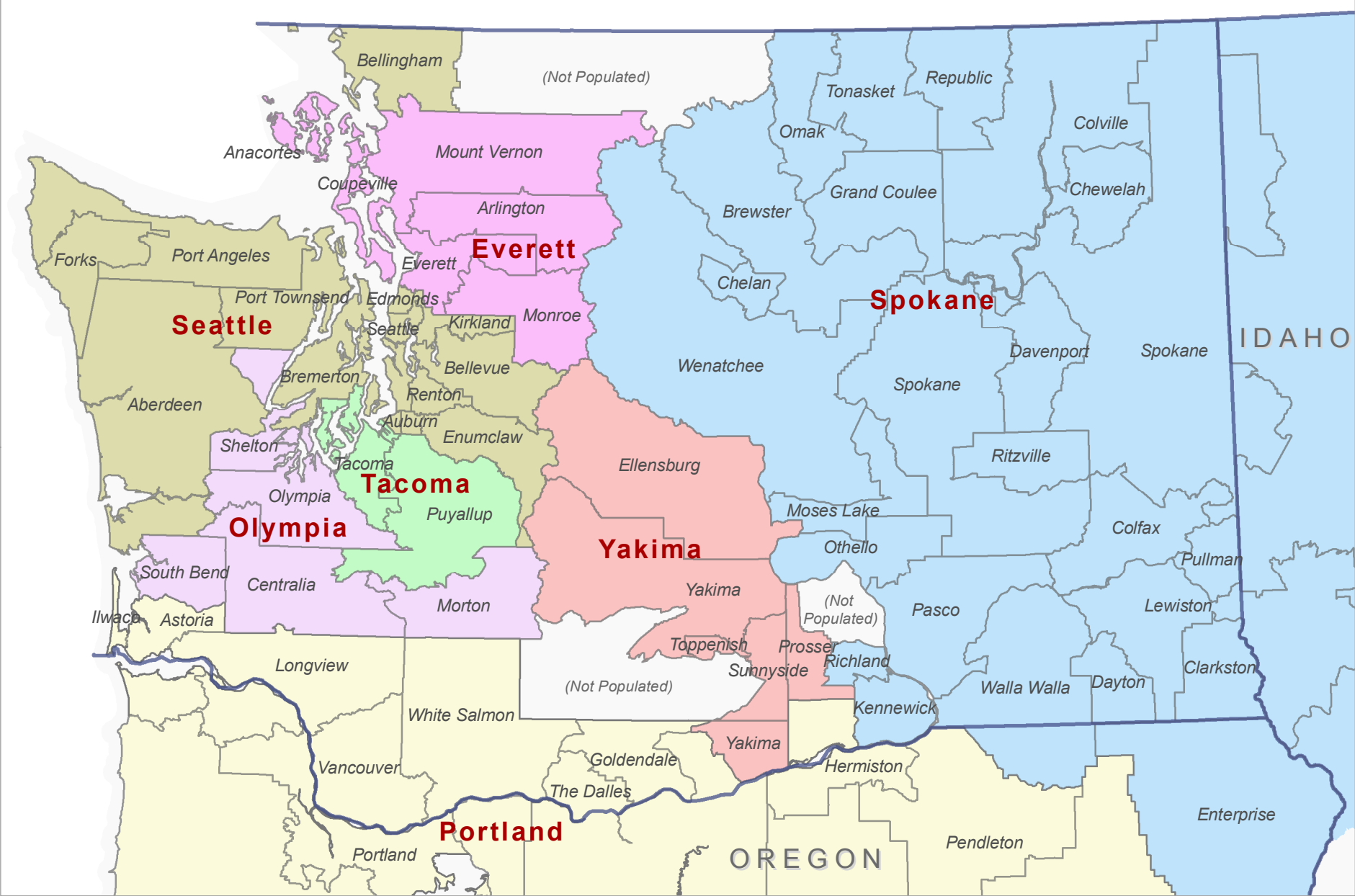


Hospital Service Areas and Hospital Referral Regions in Washington



Hospital Service Area:



Hospital Service Areas represent local markets for community-based inpatient care. HSAs were defined by the Dartmouth Atlas Project based on the utilization patterns of local hospitals by Medicare patients at the zip code level.

Hospital Referral Region:



Hospital Referral Regions represent larger tertiary care markets, and are aggregations of HSAs. HRRs have at least one HSA where major cardiovascular and neurosurgical procedures are performed and have populations of at least 120,000.