

17. THE VOLK FIELD REGION'S HEALTH CARE SYSTEM



Hess Memorial Hospital, a 40-bed acute care facility offering Urgent Care (evenings and weekends) and Emergency Services (24 hours), is located in Mauston approximately ten minutes from Volk Field.

The hospital has 14 family practitioners, an obstetrics/gynecologist, a podiatrist, 2 surgeons, and a pathologist. In 1999, according to the County City Data Book, there were 71 physicians per 100,000 of population in Juneau County but the county's close proximity to the health care providers in La Crosse, Monroe, and Jackson county multiplies this physician coverage by almost four times, and their hospital bed coverage by almost ten times, Table 17.1. As mentioned earlier, Juneau County orientation toward western Wisconsin and the three counties of the Fort McCoy Region makes these health care resources a very viable option for Volk Field personnel and their families.

There are several medical clinics located in the communities surrounding Volk Field. The closest is the New Lisbon Clinic, which is only five minutes away to the southeast along State Highway 12. Mauston and Elroy are slightly further away but each offers two and three clinics respectively.



Hess Memorial Hospital and Mile Bluff Clinic in Mauston

The number of physicians and hospital beds in the four county region of Juneau, Jackson, La Crosse and Monroe exceeds many states with major military installations.

U.S. census figures show that when Juneau County is included with the nearby counties of Monroe, La Crosse and Jackson the number of physicians and hospital beds per 100,000 population is higher than many other states with major military installations, Table 17.1.

TABLE 17.1
Volk Field Region's Healthcare Resources

Jurisdiction	1999 # of Physicians per 100,000 Population	1998 # of Hospital Beds per 100,000 Population
Juneau, Monroe, La Crosse and Jackson counties	273	397
Wisconsin	232	263
United States	284	311
California	248	228
Texas	205	287
Florida	243	330
Georgia	211	330

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, County and City Data Book