

North Dakota's Capacity Building Sentinel Site

North Dakota's population of roughly 642,000 people is spread throughout the state, shown by a relatively low average population density of 9.3 people per square mile. The map shows the highest levels of population density denoted by red tones. North Dakota has 53 counties; five federally recognized Tribes and one Indian community.

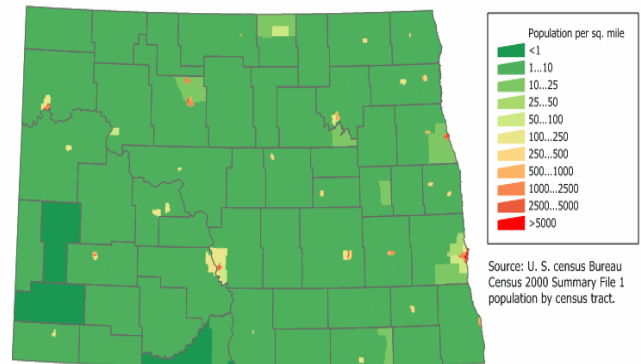


Figure 1-U.S. Census Bureau - Census 2000 Summary File 1

State Demographics

The racial and ethnic estimates for the sentinel area are: 91.9% white, 0.8% Black, 5.4% American Indian or Alaskan Native, 1.1% two or more races, 0.7% Asian and 1.7% are of Hispanic or Latino origin. Children under the age of five make up 6.2% of the population. According to the 2006 National Immunization Survey, North Dakota children ages 19 – 35 months have an immunization rate of 80.1% for the 4:3:1:3:3:1 series.

Brief Overview of the North Dakota Immunization Information System (NDIIS)

The NDIIS is a confidential, population-based, computerized information system that attempts to collect vaccination data about all North Dakotans. The NDIIS is an important tool to increase and sustain high vaccination coverage by consolidating vaccination records of children from multiple providers, generating reminder and recall vaccination notices for each child, and providing official vaccination forms and vaccination coverage assessments. Childhood immunization providers in North Dakota have a 99% participation rate with this system.

Children are entered into the NDIIS at birth, through a linkage with electronic birth records. An NDIIS vaccination record can also be initiated by a health care provider at the time of a child's first immunization. As of July 2007, it is North Dakota State law that all childhood vaccinations be entered into the NDIIS. The NDIIS has the capability of collecting vaccination data on adult patients, as well as children. As of February 2008, there were 320,555 individuals over the age

of 19 and 220,939 children under the age of 18 who are considered active clients in NDIIS. As of February 27, 2008, there have been 4,630,599 vaccinations added to NDIIS.

Currently there are 957 active users in the web-based system. The average time for an infant to be entered after birth is 18 days. Once a vaccination is received by a child, it takes an average of six days before it is entered into NDIIS. Overall 96% of vaccinations were entered into NDIIS within 30 days of the vaccination event.

The North Dakota Immunization Program contracted with Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Dakota (BCBSND) in 1996 to develop upgrades from the original system. In November 2001, the existing registry was converted into a web based application. BCBSND continues to perform maintenance and upgrades on the NDIIS today.

The vision of the NDIIS is for all North Dakotans to be included and for all providers in North Dakota to report immunization information, so the system can provide a single data source for statewide immunization partners. The vision to maintain a statewide database of immunization information is in an effort to increase immunization rates in order to prevent vaccine-preventable diseases in North Dakota.

This document can be found on the CDC website at:

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/programs/iis/activities/downloads/ND-sentinel-508.pdf>