

# DEFINITIONS AND DATA SOURCES

## PROFILE HEADERS

### Location

**DEFINITION:** This indicator in the county profiles, refers to the North Dakota state planning region in which the county is located. In 1969, North Dakota established eight planning regions for the purposes of standardizing the regions being served by state agencies. Each planning region comprises of a group of counties and a regional council that provides a broad array of services and programs to communities in their service area including economic development planning, business lending, resource conservation, and community development. For more information, visit <http://www.business.nd.gov/data/regional/>.  
**SOURCE:** North Dakota Department of Commerce.

### State Capital and County Seat

**DEFINITION:** This indicator reflects the designated locations for state and county governmental functions.  
**SOURCE:** North Dakota Supreme Court.

### Total Population

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents the most current number of people residing in respective geographic areas.  
**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect place of residence.  
**TIME FRAME:** July 1 of referenced year.  
**LIMITATIONS:** Age, race, and Hispanic origin characteristics for the current year's estimate were not available at the time of publishing. Thus, the characteristic data presented in the Demographics component reflect one year prior.  
**SOURCE:** U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division.

### Population Rank

**DEFINITION:** This indicator is based on the ordering of respective geographies by population; the geography with the largest population is ranked first (i.e., rank = 1). Counties are ranked from 1 through 53. Regions are ranked from 1 through 8. The state of North Dakota is ranked according to its position among all 50 states.  
**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect place of residence.  
**TIME FRAME:** July 1 of referenced year.  
**SOURCE:** U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division.

### Land Area

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents the size of respective North Dakota geographies in square miles.  
**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect the respective geographic boundaries.  
**TIME FRAME:** April 1 of referenced year.  
**SOURCE:** U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010, Redistricting Data SF (PL 94-171).

### Population Per Square Mile

**DEFINITION:** This indicator, which represents population density, is the number of people residing in respective North Dakota geographies per square mile.  
**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect place of residence.  
**TIME FRAME:** July 1 of referenced year.  
**SOURCE:** U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division.

## DEMOGRAPHICS

### Total Population

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents the total number of people residing in respective North Dakota geographic areas. It reflects the most current number available for substate characteristic data (i.e., age, race, and Hispanic origin).  
**PERCENTAGE:** The denominator is the total resident population of North Dakota.  
**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect place of residence.  
**TIME FRAME:** July 1 of referenced year.  
**SOURCE:** U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division.

### Median Age

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents the central age point of the total population in respective North Dakota geographic areas. It is reflected in years and divides the population into two equal parts: half of the population is older than the median age and half is younger than the median age.  
**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect place of residence.  
**TIME FRAME:** July 1 of referenced year.  
**SOURCE:** U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division.

### Population of Children Ages 0-17

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents the child population under the age of 18. *Ages 0-2, Age 3, Ages 4-5, Ages 6-12, Age 13,*

*and Ages 14-17* indicate the total number of children in these respective age groups.  
**PERCENTAGE:** The denominator for each age group is the total population in respective geographic areas.  
**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect place of residence.  
**TIME FRAME:** July 1 of referenced year.  
**SOURCE:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, "U.S. Census Populations With Bridged Race Categories," [http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/bridged\\_race.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/bridged_race.htm).

### Population of Children Ages 0-4

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents the child population under the age of 5.  
**PERCENTAGE:** The denominator is the total population in respective geographic areas.  
**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect place of residence.  
**TIME FRAME:** July 1 of referenced year.  
**SOURCE:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, "U.S. Census Populations With Bridged Race Categories," [http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/bridged\\_race.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/bridged_race.htm).

### Population of Children Ages 0-5

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents the child population under the age of 6.  
**PERCENTAGE:** The denominator is the total population in respective geographic areas.  
**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect place of residence.  
**TIME FRAME:** July 1 of referenced year.  
**SOURCE:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, "U.S. Census Populations With Bridged Race Categories," [http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/bridged\\_race.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/bridged_race.htm).

### Population of Children Ages 0-13

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents the child population under the age of 14.  
**PERCENTAGE:** The denominator is the total population in respective geographic areas.  
**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect place of residence.  
**TIME FRAME:** July 1 of referenced year.  
**SOURCE:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, "U.S. Census Populations With Bridged Race Categories," [http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/bridged\\_race.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/bridged_race.htm).

# DEFINITIONS AND DATA SOURCES

## Population of Children Ages 0-18

**DEFINITION:** This indicator reflects the child population under the age of 19 by racial composition. Racial categories include: *White; Black or African American; American Indian and Alaska Native; and Asian, Native Hawaiian, and Other Pacific Islander.*

**PERCENTAGE:** The denominator for the main indicator is the total population in respective geographic areas. For racial subcategories, the denominator is the total child population ages 0 through 18 in respective geographic areas.

**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect place of residence.

**TIME FRAME:** July 1 of referenced year.

**SOURCE:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, "U.S. Census Populations With Bridged Race Categories," [http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/bridged\\_race.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/bridged_race.htm).

## Population of Children Ages 0-18 of Hispanic Origin

**DEFINITION:** This indicator reflects the child population under the age of 19 who are of Hispanic origin. Children of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Hispanic origin is considered a separate ethnic category that includes children of different racial backgrounds.

**PERCENTAGE:** The denominator is the total population ages 0 through 18 in respective geographic areas.

**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect place of residence.

**TIME FRAME:** July 1 of referenced year.

**SOURCE:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, "U.S. Census Populations With Bridged Race Categories," [http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/bridged\\_race.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/bridged_race.htm).

## Total Births

**DEFINITION:** This indicator reflects the total number of resident live births in respective North Dakota geographic areas.

**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect mother's place of residence rather than the location of the hospital where the birth occurred.

**TIME FRAME:** Calendar Year (January 1 through December 31).

**LIMITATIONS:** Data are not reported for geographies where the number of births is one through five. In these cases '<6' is indicated.

**SOURCE:** North Dakota Department of Health, Division of Vital Records.

## Total Births to All Teens Ages 12-19

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents resident live births occurring to mothers ages 12 through 19.

**PERCENTAGE:** The denominator is total resident live births in respective geographic areas.

**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect the mother's place of residence rather than the location of the hospital where the birth occurred.

**TIME FRAME:** Calendar Year (January 1 through December 31).

**LIMITATIONS:** Data are not reported for geographies where the number of teenage births is one through five. In these cases '<6' is indicated.

**SOURCE:** North Dakota Department of Health, Division of Vital Records.

## FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

### Children Ages 0-17 Living in Single-Parent Families

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents the number of children ages 0 through 17 who live in families headed by one person – male or female – with no spouse present at home. Children in this category include children ages 0 through 17 who have never been married and are related to the family by birth, marriage, or adoption.

**PERCENTAGE:** The denominator is the total number of children 0 through 17 in respective geographic areas.

**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect place of residence.

**TIME FRAME:** Data represent a 5-year period estimate. For example, 2015 estimates reflect data collected over a 60-month period from 2011 to 2015.

**LIMITATIONS:** Data are based on a sample and are subject to sampling variability. Characteristics for geographic areas experiencing dynamic change due to such things as an environmental catastrophe (e.g., flood) or a plant closing will be mitigated since these estimates cover five calendar years of data. Also, caution is needed when using the multi-year estimates for estimating year-to-year change in a particular characteristic. This is because four of the five years in the 5-year estimate overlap with the next year's estimate. Ideally, trend

analysis with multi-year estimates should be done using estimates from non-overlapping periods (i.e., 2006-2010 and 2011-2015).

**SOURCE:** U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates, Tables B09001 and B09002.

### Children Ages 0-17 Living with Grandparents

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents the number of children ages 0 through 17 who live in families headed by a grandparent (the parent may or may not live in the same household). Children in this category include children ages 0 through 17 who have never been married and are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption.

**PERCENTAGE:** The denominator is the total number of children 0 through 17 in respective geographic areas.

**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect place of residence.

**TIME FRAME:** Data represent a 5-year period estimate. For example, 2015 estimates reflect data collected over a 60-month period from 2011 to 2015.

**LIMITATIONS:** Data are based on a sample and are subject to sampling variability. Characteristics for geographic areas experiencing dynamic change due to such things as an environmental catastrophe (e.g., flood) or a plant closing will be mitigated since these estimates cover five calendar years of data. Also, caution is needed when using the multi-year estimates for estimating year-to-year change in a particular characteristic. This is because four of the five years in the 5-year estimate overlap with the next year's estimate. Ideally, trend analysis with multi-year estimates should be done using estimates from non-overlapping periods (i.e., 2006-2010 and 2011-2015).

**SOURCE:** U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates, Tables B09001 and B09006.

### Children in Foster Care

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents the number of children under the age of 18 placed in living situations outside their family home as a result of Juvenile Court intervention. In most cases custody is given to either a County Social Service Board, a Tribal Social Service office, the Division of Juvenile Services, or the Executive Director of the North Dakota Department of Human Services (e.g., in cases where parental

# DEFINITIONS AND DATA SOURCES

rights have been terminated). Numbers are unduplicated cases, exclude subsidized adoption, and reflect the number of children receiving foster care services during the reference year.

**PERCENTAGE:** The denominator is the total number of children 0 through 18 in respective geographic areas.

**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect place of residence.

**TIME FRAME:** Federal Fiscal Year (October 1 through September 30).

**LIMITATIONS:** Data are not reported for geographies where the number of foster care placements is one through five. In these cases '<6' is indicated.

**NOTE:** In editions prior to the 2005 *Fact Book*, county level data reflected only those children for whom the County Social Service Board in question was responsible. Thus, the county numbers did not include children in the custody of a division other than a County Social Service Board; children in the custody of organizations other than County Social Service Boards were included in the statewide total. Beginning with the 2005 *Fact Book*, all children being served by foster care, regardless of the custodian, are reported for each county and region where they are being served.

**SOURCE:** North Dakota Department of Human Services, Children and Family Services.

## **Total Births to All Unmarried Women**

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents resident live births occurring to a mother who is not married at the time of conception, at the time of birth, or at any time between conception and birth, as recorded by birth certificates.

**PERCENTAGE:** The denominator is total resident live births in respective geographic areas.

**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect the mother's place of residence rather than the location of the hospital where the birth occurred.

**TIME FRAME:** Calendar Year (January 1 through December 31).

**LIMITATIONS:** Data are not reported for geographies where the number of births to unmarried women is one through five. In these cases '<6' is indicated.

**SOURCE:** North Dakota Department of Health, Division of Vital Records.

## **Total Births to Unmarried Teens Ages 12-19**

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents resident live births occurring to a mother ages 12 through 19 who is not married at the time of conception, at the time of birth, or at any time between conception and birth, as recorded by birth certificates.

**PERCENTAGE:** The denominator is total resident live births in respective geographic areas.

**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect the mother's place of residence rather than the location of the hospital where the birth occurred.

**TIME FRAME:** Calendar Year (January 1 through December 31).

**LIMITATIONS:** Data are not reported for geographies where the number of births to unmarried teens is one through five. In these cases '<6' is indicated.

**SOURCE:** North Dakota Department of Health, Division of Vital Records.

## **Women in the Labor Force with Children Ages 0-17**

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents the total number of women ages 16 and older in the labor force who have children ages 0 through 17 (i.e., working moms). *With Children Ages 0-5* includes women in the labor force who have children ages 0 through 5 (they may also have older children). *With Children Ages 6-17 Only* includes women in the labor force who have children ages 6 through 17 only (i.e., no children less than age 6). The labor force is defined as persons ages 16 and older who are employed (part-time or full-time) or unemployed (not working, but actively looking and available to accept a job). People not in the labor force include persons 16 and older who are not employed and not actively seeking employment, such as students, retirees, homemakers, and institutionalized persons.

**PERCENTAGE:** The denominator is the total number of women ages 16 and older who have children in each age group in respective geographic areas.

**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect place of residence.

**TIME FRAME:** Data represent a 5-year period estimate. For example, 2015 estimates reflect data collected over a 60-month period from 2011 to 2015.

**LIMITATIONS:** Data are based on a sample and are subject to sampling variability.

Characteristics for geographic areas experiencing dynamic change due to such things as an environmental catastrophe (e.g., flood) or a plant closing will be mitigated since these estimates cover five calendar years of data. Also, caution is needed when using the multi-year estimates for estimating year-to-year change in a particular characteristic. This is because four of the five years in the 5-year estimate overlap with the next year's estimate. Ideally, trend analysis with multi-year estimates should be done using estimates from non-overlapping periods (i.e., 2006-2010 and 2011-2015). **SOURCE:** U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates, Table B23003.

## **Children Ages 0-13 with All Parents in Labor Force**

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents the total number of children ages 0 through 13 with parents (all parents living in the household) who are in the labor force.

Age categories provided for this indicator include *Ages 0-5* and *Ages 6-13*. The labor force is defined as persons ages 16 and older who are employed (part-time or full-time) or unemployed (not working, but actively looking and available to accept a job). People not in the labor force include persons 16 and older who are not employed and not actively seeking employment, such as students, retirees, homemakers, and institutionalized persons.

**PERCENTAGE:** The denominator is the total number of children in each age group in respective geographic areas.

**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect place of residence.

**TIME FRAME:** Data represent a 5-year period estimate. For example, 2015 estimates reflect data collected over a 60-month period from 2011 to 2015.

**LIMITATIONS:** Data are based on a sample and are subject to sampling variability.

Characteristics for geographic areas experiencing dynamic change due to such things as an environmental catastrophe (e.g., flood) or a plant closing will be mitigated since these estimates cover five calendar years of data. Also, caution is needed when using the multi-year estimates for estimating year-to-year change in a particular characteristic. This is because four of the five years in the 5-year estimate overlap with the next year's estimate. Ideally, trend

# DEFINITIONS AND DATA SOURCES

analysis with multi-year estimates should be done using estimates from non-overlapping periods (i.e., 2006-2010 and 2011-2015). SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates, Table B23008, and calculations by North Dakota KIDS COUNT.

The data source identified for this indicator provides data for two age groups: 0 through 5 and 6 through 17; however, the typical age range for children needing child care is 0 through 13. The number of children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force was derived by applying the proportion of children ages 6 through 17 with working parents to the number of children ages 6 through 13 (i.e., an age group more applicable to needing child care). The assumption in this estimation process is that children ages 6 through 13 have the same likelihood of having working parents as children in the larger age group (i.e., ages 6 through 17).

## **Employed Youth Ages 16-24**

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents the number of youth ages 16 through 24 who are employed in the labor force. Age categories provided for this indicator include *Ages 16-19* and *Ages 20-24*.

**PERCENTAGE:** The denominator is the total number of youth in each age group in respective geographic areas.

**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect place of residence.

**TIME FRAME:** Data represent a 5-year period estimate. For example, 2015 estimates reflect data collected over a 60-month period from 2011 to 2015.

**LIMITATIONS:** Data are based on a sample and are subject to sampling variability. Characteristics for geographic areas experiencing dynamic change due to such things as an environmental catastrophe (e.g., flood) or a plant closing will be mitigated since these estimates cover five calendar years of data. Also, caution is needed when using the multi-year estimates for estimating year-to-year change in a particular characteristic. This is because four of the five years in the 5-year estimate overlap with the next year's estimate. Ideally, trend analysis with multi-year estimates should be done using estimates from non-overlapping periods (i.e., 2006-2010 and 2011-2015). SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates,

Table B23001.

## **ECONOMIC WELL-BEING**

### **Children Ages 0-17 Living in Low Income Families**

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents the number of children ages 0 through 17 living in families with incomes below 200% of the federal poverty threshold (i.e., with incomes up to twice the level of poverty). The federal poverty thresholds are updated each year by the U.S. Census Bureau and were established in 1964 using guidelines set by the Social Security Administration. Income cutoffs are based on a formula utilizing family and individual income, family size, and age of family members. The formula is based on three times a family's food costs, according to the USDA's most economical food plans. The cost of this food plan is adjusted each year to reflect current economic guidelines. The 2014 poverty thresholds are presented on the next page.

**PERCENTAGE:** The denominator is the total number of children ages 0 through 17 for whom poverty status is determined in respective geographic areas. Children for whom poverty status is determined include children living in households where they are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. Thus, children living in foster care or in a group/institutional setting are excluded from this indicator. **GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect place of residence.

**TIME FRAME:** Data represent a 5-year period estimate. For example, 2015 estimates reflect data collected over a 60-month period from 2011 to 2015. **LIMITATIONS:** Data are based on a sample and are subject to sampling variability. Characteristics for geographic areas experiencing dynamic change due to such things as an environmental catastrophe (e.g., flood) or a plant closing will be mitigated since these estimates cover five calendar years of data. Also, caution is needed when using the multi-year estimates for estimating year-to-year change in a particular characteristic. This is because four of the five years in the 5-year estimate overlap with the next year's estimate. Ideally, trend analysis with multi-year estimates should be done using estimates from non-overlapping periods (i.e., 2006-2010 and 2011-2015).

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates, Table B17024.

### **Children Ages 0-17 Living in Poverty**

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents the number of children ages 0 through 17 living in families with incomes below the federal poverty threshold. Age categories for this indicator include *Ages 0-4* and *Ages 5-17*. The federal poverty thresholds are updated each year by the U.S. Census Bureau and were established in 1964 using guidelines set by the Social Security Administration. Income cutoffs are based on a formula utilizing family and individual income, family size, and age of family members. The formula is based on three times a family's food costs, according to the USDA's most economical food plans. The cost of this food plan is adjusted each year to reflect current economic guidelines. The 2014 poverty thresholds are presented on the next page.

**PERCENTAGE:** The denominator is the total child population in each age group for whom poverty status is determined in respective geographic areas. Children for whom poverty status is determined include children living in households where they are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. Thus, children living in foster care or in a group/institutional setting are excluded from this indicator. **GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect place of residence.

**TIME FRAME:** Data represent a 5-year period estimate. For example, 2015 estimates reflect data collected over a 60-month period from 2011 to 2015. **LIMITATIONS:** Data are based on a sample and are subject to sampling variability. Characteristics for geographic areas experiencing dynamic change due to such things as an environmental catastrophe (e.g., flood) or a plant closing will be mitigated since these estimates cover five calendar years of data. Also, caution is needed when using the multi-year estimates for estimating year-to-year change in a particular characteristic. This is because four of the five years in the 5-year estimate overlap with the next year's estimate. Ideally, trend analysis with multi-year estimates should be done using estimates from non-overlapping periods (i.e., 2006-2010 and 2011-2015). SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates,

# DEFINITIONS AND DATA SOURCES

Table B17001.

*The 2015 Federal Poverty Thresholds  
(Weighted Average Thresholds):*

Family Size	Annual Family Income
1	\$12,082
2	\$15,391
3	\$18,871
4	\$24,257
5	\$28,741
6	\$32,542

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, <http://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/income-poverty/historical-poverty-thresholds.html>.

## Children Ages 0-17 Living in Extreme Poverty

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents the number of children ages 0 through 17 who are living in families with incomes below 50% of the federal poverty threshold. The federal poverty thresholds are updated each year by the U.S. Census Bureau and were established in 1964 using guidelines set by the Social Security Administration. Income cutoffs are based on a formula utilizing family and individual income, family size, and age of family members. The formula is based on three times a family's food costs, according to the USDA's most economical food plans. The cost of this food plan is adjusted each year to reflect current economic guidelines. The 2014 poverty thresholds are included above.

**PERCENTAGE:** The denominator is the total number of children ages 0 through 17 for whom poverty status is determined in respective geographic areas. Children for whom poverty status is determined include children living in households where they are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. Thus, children living in foster care or in a group/institutional setting are excluded from this indicator. **GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect place of residence.

**TIME FRAME:** Data represent a 5-year period estimate. For example, 2015 estimates reflect data collected over a 60-month period from 2011 to 2015.

**LIMITATIONS:** Data are based on a sample and are subject to sampling variability.

Characteristics for geographic areas experiencing dynamic change due to such things as an environmental catastrophe (e.g., flood) or a plant closing will be mitigated since these estimates cover five calendar years of data. Also, caution is needed when using the multi-year estimates for estimating year-to-year change in a particular characteristic. This is because four of the five years in the 5-year estimate overlap with the next year's estimate. Ideally, trend analysis with multi-year estimates should be done using estimates from non-overlapping periods (i.e., 2006-2010 and 2011-2015). **SOURCE:** U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates, Table B17024.

## Median Income of Families with Children Ages 0-17

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents the central income point of the total number of families with children ages 0 through 17, including those with no income. The median is reflected in dollars and divides the number of families into two equal parts: half of families with children have incomes above the median and half have incomes below the median.

**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect place of residence.

**TIME FRAME:** Data represent a 5-year period estimate. For example, 2015 estimates reflect data collected over a 60-month period from 2011 to 2015.

**LIMITATIONS:** Data are based on a sample and are subject to sampling variability. Characteristics for geographic areas experiencing dynamic change due to such things as an environmental catastrophe (e.g., flood) or a plant closing will be mitigated since these estimates cover five calendar years of data. Also, caution is needed when using the multi-year estimates for estimating year-to-year change in a particular characteristic. This is because four of the five years in the 5-year estimate overlap with the next year's estimate. Ideally, trend analysis with multi-year estimates should be done using estimates from non-overlapping periods (i.e., 2006-2010 and 2011-2015). **SOURCE:** U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates, Table B19125.

## TANF Recipients Ages 0-19

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents

the number of persons ages 0 through 19 who are recipients of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and thus automatically eligible for Medicaid (see the *Medicaid Recipients Ages 0-20* indicator in the Health component for a complete definition of the Medicaid program). TANF is a need-based income assistance program for families with children who need financial support (e.g., a parent is absent from the home, a parent is incapacitated, family income is within the program standards, or countable assets are within the program limits). TANF is not an entitlement program, and adult TANF recipients are limited to a lifetime total of benefits of no more than 60 months; however, the 60 months do not have to be consecutive months. Children who have received TANF benefits for 60 months may receive benefits when they are adults. **PERCENTAGE:** The denominator is the total population ages 0 through 19 in respective geographic areas.

**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect place of residence.

**TIME FRAME:** Fiscal Year (July 1 through June 30).

**NOTE:** Beginning July 1, 1997, TANF replaced Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC). AFDC was an entitlement program that provided a monthly payment to parents or guardians on behalf of children who were defined as "dependent." AFDC was funded by both the federal and state governments and was administered by the state. Children must have been found eligible to receive such assistance by criteria laid down in federal and state law. Eligible children included needy children who had been deprived of support or care because of death to a caregiver, continued absence of a caregiver from the home, underemployment or unemployment of the principal wage earner, or physical or mental handicap of a caregiver.

**SOURCE:** North Dakota Department of Human Services.

## Eligible Recipients of Free or Reduced Price Lunch

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents the number of children eligible to receive free or reduced price lunch at school. Children may also receive free or reduced price breakfast and/or milk. To receive a free or reduced price meal, household income must meet income eligibility requirements. Children in

# DEFINITIONS AND DATA SOURCES

SNAP or TANF families are automatically eligible for free school meals. Families who receive commodity assistance through food distribution programs in American Indian tribal areas are also automatically eligible for free meals.

PERCENTAGE: The denominator is total school enrollment in respective geographic areas.

GEOGRAPHY: Data reflect the school location, not the student's place of residence.

TIME FRAME: October of referenced year.

SOURCE: North Dakota Department of Public Instruction, Child Nutrition and Food Distribution.

## SNAP Recipients Ages 0-18

DEFINITION: This indicator represents the number of children ages 0 through 18 who are recipients of SNAP. The 2008 Farm Bill renamed the Food Stamp Program into the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). SNAP is a uniform, nationwide entitlement program to supplement the nutritional needs of people whose income is at or below the poverty level. Households must meet eligibility requirements.

PERCENTAGE: The denominator is the total population ages 0 through 18 in respective geographic areas.

GEOGRAPHY: Data reflect place of residence.

TIME FRAME: Fiscal Year (July 1 through June 30).

SOURCE: North Dakota Department of Human Services.

## Child Care Assistance Recipients Ages 0-13

DEFINITION: This indicator represents the number of children ages 0 through 13 whose families receive North Dakota Child Care Assistance. The purpose of the Child Care Assistance Program is to help low-income families with child care costs while they are working or participating in allowable training or allowable education programs. For eligible families, the North Dakota Department of Human Services pays a percentage of their child care bill determined by using a sliding fee scale. Payment is made directly to the child care provider.

PERCENTAGE: The denominator is the total population ages 0 through 13 in respective geographic areas.

GEOGRAPHY: Data reflect place of residence.

TIME FRAME: Fiscal Year (July 1 through June 30).

SOURCE: North Dakota Department of Human Services.

## EDUCATION AND EARLY CARE

### Average Expenditures Per Student in Public Schools

DEFINITION: This indicator represents the average per student expenditures (in dollars) for instruction, administration, operation, and maintenance for public schools in respective geographic areas during a given school year.

GEOGRAPHY: Data reflect the location of the public school, not the student's place of residence.

TIME FRAME: Academic Year (Fall through Spring).

SOURCE: North Dakota Department of Public Instruction.

### Average Daily Membership of Public Schools

DEFINITION: This indicator represents the average number of students enrolled per day in public schools for respective geographic areas during a given school year.

GEOGRAPHY: Data reflect the location of the public school, not the student's place of residence.

TIME FRAME: Academic Year (Fall through Spring).

SOURCE: North Dakota Department of Public Instruction.

### Special Education Enrollment in Public Schools

DEFINITION: This indicator represents the number of public school children ages 3 through 21 enrolled in special education by age categories and in the following selected special education subcategories: *Emotionally Disturbed*, *Speech or Language Impaired*, *Specific Learning Disability*, *Intellectual Disability*, and *Autism Spectrum Disorder*. Age categories provided for this indicator include *Ages 3-5*, *Ages 6-11*, *Ages 12-17*, and *Ages 18-21*. *Emotionally Disturbed* refers to a condition exhibiting one or more of the following characteristics over a long period of time and to a marked degree that adversely affects a child's educational performance: 1) inability

to learn what cannot be explained by intellectual, sensory, or health factors; 2) inability to build or maintain satisfactory interpersonal relationships with peers and teachers; 3) inappropriate types of behavior or feelings under normal circumstances; 4) a general pervasive mood of unhappiness or depression; 5) a tendency to develop physical symptoms or fears associated with personal or school problems. The term also includes schizophrenia. The term does not apply to children who are socially maladjusted unless it is determined they have a serious emotional disturbance. *Speech or Language Impaired* refers to a communication disorder such as stuttering, impaired articulation, language impairment, or a voice impairment that adversely affects a child's educational performance.

*Specific Learning Disability* refers to a disorder in one or more of the basic psychological processes involved in understanding or using language, spoken or written, that may manifest itself in an imperfect ability to listen, think, speak, read, write, spell, or do mathematical calculations. The term includes such conditions as perceptual disabilities, brain injury, minimal brain dysfunction, dyslexia, and developmental aphasia. The term does not apply to children who have learning problems that are primarily the result of visual, hearing, or motor disabilities; intellectual disability; emotional disturbance; or environmental, cultural, or economic disadvantage.

*Intellectual Disability* refers to significantly sub-average general intellectual functioning, existing concurrently with deficits in adaptive behavior and manifested during the developmental period, that adversely affects a child's educational performance. *Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)*, often used synonymously with Autism, is a developmental disability significantly affecting verbal and nonverbal communication and social interaction, generally evident before age three, that adversely affects a child's educational performance. The term autism does not apply if the child's educational performance is adversely affected primarily because the child has an emotional disturbance, as defined by *Emotionally Disturbed* category. ASD includes a spectrum of characteristics and levels of severity seen in individuals with the disorder and includes autistic

# DEFINITIONS AND DATA SOURCES

disorders, Asperger's disorder, childhood disintegrative disorder, Rett's disorder, and pervasive developmental disorder.

**PERCENTAGE:** The denominator for the main indicator is total public school enrollment in respective geographic areas. The denominator for the subcategories (by each age group and type) is the total child population enrolled in special education in respective geographic areas.

**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect the school location, not the student's place of residence.

**TIME FRAME:** December of referenced year.

**NOTE:** Amendments to federal law removed the word "Seriously" from the subcategory *Emotionally Disturbed*. This name change was first reflected in the 2001 *Fact Book*.

The definition of this special education subcategory was not affected. Beginning with the 2012 *Fact Book*, the subcategory *Mentally Handicapped* was changed, based on 2011 state legislation, to *Intellectual Disability*. The definition of this special education subcategory was not affected.

**SOURCE:** North Dakota Department of Public Instruction, Special Education.

## **Children Ages 3 and 4 Enrolled in Early Education**

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents the number of children ages 3 and 4 enrolled in early education. Early education includes any group providing educational experiences for children during the years preceding kindergarten. Places where instruction is an integral part of the program are included, but private homes that primarily provide custodial care are not included. Children enrolled in programs sponsored by federal, state or local agencies to provide preschool education to young children, including Head Start programs, are considered as enrolled in early education. Children enrolled in kindergarten are excluded from this analysis.

**PERCENTAGE:** The denominator is the total number of children ages 3 and 4 in respective geographic areas.

**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect place of residence.

**TIME FRAME:** Data represent a 5-year period estimate. For example, 2015 estimates reflect data collected over a 60-month period from 2011 to 2015.

**LIMITATIONS:** Data are based on a sample and are subject to sampling variability. Characteristics for geographic areas

experiencing dynamic change due to such things as an environmental catastrophe (e.g., flood) or a plant closing will be mitigated since these estimates cover five calendar years of data. Also, caution is needed when using the multi-year estimates for estimating year-to-year change in a particular characteristic. This is because four of the five years in the 5-year estimate overlap with the next year's estimate. Ideally, trend analysis with multi-year estimates should be done using estimates from non-overlapping periods (i.e., 2006-2010 and 2011-2015).

**SOURCE:** U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates, Table B14003.

## **Four-Year High School Cohort Graduation Rate**

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents students in a cohort who graduate high school with a standard diploma in four years - as a percent of the entire graduating class cohort. Adjustments are made for transfers into and out of the school, district, or state.

**PERCENTAGE:** The denominator for the percentage is the cohort for that graduating class in respective geographic areas. A cohort includes the number of first-time 9th graders in the fall of a particular school year plus students who transfer in, minus students who transfer out, emigrate, or die during the next four school years. The percentage is referred to as the cohort graduation rate.

**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect the school location, not the student's place of residence.

**TIME FRAME:** Academic Year (Fall through Spring).

**SOURCE:** North Dakota Department of Public Instruction.

## **Average ACT Composite Scores**

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents average American College Testing (ACT) Program scores of graduating public high school seniors in respective geographic areas. ACT scores are designed to predict a student's potential for success in college. The highest possible score one can obtain on the ACT exam is 36.

**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect the location of the high school, not the student's place of residence.

**TIME FRAME:** Reference year of high school graduating class.

**NOTE:** A law passed by the 2009 North Dakota Legislative Assembly requires

high school students to take the ACT or the WorkKeys assessment (i.e., a job skills assessment system measuring "real-world" skills that employers believe are critical to job success). The first test under the mandate was in April 2010.

**LIMITATIONS:** Data are suppressed in planning regions and counties where there are fewer than two public high schools.

**SOURCE:** ACT, Inc., Department of Program Evaluation and Institutional Research Services, Research Division.

## **Percent of Public High School Graduates Ready for College English**

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents the proportion of all ACT-tested public high school graduates who scored 18 or better on the English portion of the ACT exam.

The highest possible score one can obtain is 36. The ACT program has developed benchmarks to measure what it takes to be successful in standard first-year college courses in the areas of English, math, reading, and science. A score of 18 or better is the minimum score needed on the English portion of the ACT to indicate a 50 percent chance of obtaining a B or higher, or about a 75 percent chance of obtaining a C or higher in the corresponding credit-bearing college course of English composition.

**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect the location of the high school, not the student's place of residence.

**TIME FRAME:** Reference year of high school graduating class.

**NOTE:** A law passed by the 2009 North Dakota Legislative Assembly requires high school students to take the ACT or the WorkKeys assessment (i.e., a job skills assessment system measuring "real-world" skills that employers believe are critical to job success). The first test under the mandate was in April 2010.

**LIMITATIONS:** Data are suppressed in planning regions and counties where there are fewer than two public high schools.

**SOURCE:** ACT, Inc., Department of Program Evaluation and Institutional Research Services, Research Division.

## **Percent of Public High School Graduates Ready for College Math**

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents the proportion of all ACT-tested public high school graduates who scored 22 or better on the math portion of the ACT exam.

# DEFINITIONS AND DATA SOURCES

The highest possible score one can obtain is 36. The ACT program has developed benchmarks to measure what it takes to be successful in standard first-year college courses in the areas of English, math, reading, and science. A score of 22 or better is the minimum score needed on the math portion of the ACT to indicate a 50 percent chance of obtaining a B or higher, or about a 75 percent chance of obtaining a C or higher in the corresponding credit-bearing college course of algebra.

**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect the location of the high school, not the student's place of residence.

**TIME FRAME:** Reference year of high school graduating class.

**NOTE:** A law passed by the 2009 North Dakota Legislative Assembly requires high school students to take the ACT or the WorkKeys assessment (i.e., a job skills assessment system measuring "real-world" skills that employers believe are critical to job success). The first test under the mandate was in April 2010.

**LIMITATIONS:** Data are suppressed in planning regions and counties where there are fewer than two public high schools.

**SOURCE:** ACT, Inc., Department of Program Evaluation and Institutional Research Services, Research Division.

## **Percent of Public High School Graduates Ready for College Reading**

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents the proportion of all ACT-tested public high school graduates who scored 22 or better on the reading portion of the ACT exam. The highest possible score one can obtain is 36. The ACT program has developed benchmarks to measure what it takes to be successful in standard first-year college courses in the areas of English, math, reading, and science. A score of 22 or better is the minimum score needed on the reading portion of the ACT to indicate a 50 percent chance of obtaining a B or higher, or about a 75 percent chance of obtaining a C or higher in the corresponding credit-bearing college course of social science.

**GEOGRAPHY:** County and regional data reflect the location of the high school, not the student's place of residence.

**TIME FRAME:** Reference year of high school graduating class.

**NOTE:** A law passed by the 2009 North Dakota Legislative Assembly requires

high school students to take the ACT or the WorkKeys assessment (i.e., a job skills assessment system measuring "real-world" skills that employers believe are critical to job success). The first test under the mandate was in April 2010.

**LIMITATIONS:** Data are suppressed in planning regions and counties where there are fewer than two public high schools.

**SOURCE:** ACT, Inc., Department of Program Evaluation and Institutional Research Services, Research Division.

## **Percent of Public High School Graduates Ready for College Science**

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents the proportion of all ACT-tested public high school graduates who scored 23 or better on the science portion of the ACT exam. The highest possible score one can obtain is 36. The ACT program has developed benchmarks to measure what it takes to be successful in standard first-year college courses in the areas of English, math, reading, and science. A score of 23 or better is the minimum score needed on the science portion of the ACT to indicate a 50 percent chance of obtaining a B or higher, or about a 75 percent chance of obtaining a C or higher in the corresponding credit-bearing college course of biology.

**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect the location of the high school, not the student's place of residence.

**TIME FRAME:** Reference year of high school graduating class.

**NOTE:** A law passed by the 2009 North Dakota Legislative Assembly requires high school students to take the ACT or the WorkKeys assessment (i.e., a job skills assessment system measuring "real-world" skills that employers believe are critical to job success). The first test under the mandate was in April 2010.

**LIMITATIONS:** Data are suppressed in planning regions and counties where there are fewer than two public high schools.

**SOURCE:** ACT, Inc., Department of Program Evaluation and Institutional Research Services, Research Division.

## **Percent of Public High School Graduates Ready for College in All Four Subject Areas**

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents the proportion of all ACT-tested public high school graduates who scored all of

the following: 18 or better on the English portion, 22 or better on the math portion, 22 or better on the reading portion, and 23 or better on the science portion of the ACT exam. The highest possible score one can obtain is 36. The ACT program has developed benchmarks to measure what it takes to be successful in standard first-year college courses in the areas of English, math, reading, and science. A benchmark score is the minimum score needed on an ACT subject-area test to indicate a 50 percent chance of obtaining a B or higher, or about a 75 percent chance of obtaining a C or higher in the corresponding credit-bearing college courses, which include English composition, algebra, social science, and biology.

**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect the location of the high school, not the student's place of residence.

**TIME FRAME:** Reference year of high school graduating class.

**NOTE:** A law passed by the 2009 North Dakota Legislative Assembly requires high school students to take the ACT or the WorkKeys assessment (i.e., a job skills assessment system measuring "real-world" skills that employers believe are critical to job success). The first test under the mandate was in April 2010.

**LIMITATIONS:** Data are suppressed in planning regions and counties where there are fewer than two public high schools.

**SOURCE:** ACT, Inc., Department of Program Evaluation and Institutional Research Services, Research Division.

## **Licensed Child Care Providers**

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents individuals or facilities to whom the right, authority, or permission has been granted by the North Dakota Department of Human Services to operate a family child care home, group child care home or facility, child care center, preschool educational facility, school-age program, or multiple license facility. Child care providers who are licensed by the state and located on tribal lands are included in this category. *Licensed Child Care Capacity* is the number of children who can be served by licensed child care providers (i.e., child care supply). **PERCENTAGE:** There is no percentage calculated for the number of providers. The denominator for capacity is the total child population ages 0 through 13 where



# DEFINITIONS AND DATA SOURCES

all parents in the household are in the labor force (i.e., potential child care demand) in respective geographic areas.

**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect the location of the child care program. A total of 49 licensed, out-of-state providers cared for North Dakota children in February 2017 and are included in the state total. These out-of-state licensed providers had the capacity to care for 1,113 children.

**TIME FRAME:** February of referenced year.

**SOURCE:** Child care numbers are obtained from the North Dakota Department of Human Services. The proportions are calculated based on an estimation of the number of children with working parents, derived from data obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

## **Standard Compliance Certification (SCC) and In-Home Child Care Providers**

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents two types of non-licensed child care providers. Standard Compliance Certification, also referred to as 'Self-Certified', refers to child care providers who have completed an Affidavit of Standard Compliance and Child Care Provider Contract. This is a voluntary self-certification process for child care providers who are not licensed. Registered In-Home child care providers offer child care services in the child's home. This title reflects a voluntary registration process for child care providers who are not licensed. Child care providers meeting these criteria and located on tribal lands are included in this category. *Standard Compliance Certification (SCC) and In-Home Child Care Capacity* is the number of children who can be served by standard compliance and registered in-home child care providers (i.e., child care supply).

**PERCENTAGE:** There is no percentage calculated for the number of providers. The denominator for capacity is the total child population ages 0 through 13 where all parents in the household are in the labor force (i.e., potential child care demand) in respective geographic areas.

**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect the location of the child care program. A total of three out-of-state, standard compliance and registered in-home providers cared for North Dakota children in February 2017 and are included in the state total. These out-of-state providers had the capacity to care for 15

children.

**TIME FRAME:** February of referenced year.

**SOURCE:** Child care numbers are obtained from the North Dakota Department of Human Services. The proportions are calculated based on an estimation of the number of children with working parents, derived from data obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

## **Registered Tribal Child Care Providers**

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents tribal child care providers who are registered with the state of North Dakota, but are not licensed, self-certified, or approved relatives. Authority to provide child care is provided by the Tribal Council or designated Tribal Agency. *Registered Tribal Child Care Capacity* is the number of children who can be served by tribal child care providers who are registered with the state (i.e., child care supply).

**PERCENTAGE:** There is no percentage calculated for the number of providers.

The denominator for capacity is the total child population ages 0 through 13 where all parents in the household are in the labor force (i.e., potential child care demand) in respective geographic areas.

**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect the location of the child care program.

**TIME FRAME:** February of referenced year.

**SOURCE:** Child care numbers are obtained from the North Dakota Department of Human Services. The proportions are calculated based on an estimation of the number of children with working parents, derived from data obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

## **Approved Relative Child Care Providers**

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents a type of non-licensed child care provider. By federal law, the approved relatives must be related by marriage, blood relationship, or appointed by court order. Approved relative providers include grandparents, aunts, and uncles. A sibling who is age 18 or older and who does not live in the same home as the child for whom care is being provided can also become an approved relative. Approved relative child care providers located on tribal lands are included in this category. *Approved Relative Child Care Capacity* is the number of children who can be served by approved

relative child care providers (i.e., child care supply).

**PERCENTAGE:** There is no percentage calculated for the number of providers.

The denominator for capacity is the total child population ages 0 through 13 where all parents in the household are in the labor force (i.e., potential child care demand) in respective geographic areas.

**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect the location of the child care program. A total of seven out-of-state, approved relative providers cared for North Dakota children in February 2017 and are included in the state total. These out-of-state providers had the capacity to care for 12 children.

**TIME FRAME:** February of referenced year.

**SOURCE:** Child care numbers are obtained from the North Dakota Department of Human Services. The proportions are calculated based on an estimation of the number of children with working parents, derived from data obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

## HEALTH

### **Births with Prenatal Care Beginning After the First Trimester or Not at All**

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents births to mothers who receive no prenatal care at all, or receive prenatal care beginning after the first trimester. The first trimester is calculated, based on elements obtained from the birth certificate, as the date of LMP (last menstrual period) through day 88 of the pregnancy.

**PERCENTAGE:** The denominator is total resident live births in respective geographic areas.

**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect the mother's place of residence rather than the location of the hospital where the birth occurred.

**TIME FRAME:** Calendar Year (January 1 through December 31).

**LIMITATIONS:** Data are not reported for geographies where the number of births to mothers receiving late or no prenatal care is one through five. In these cases '<6' is indicated.

**NOTE:** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention uses a different method than the North Dakota Department of Health to calculate days in a trimester. Thus, numbers

# DEFINITIONS AND DATA SOURCES

released by the CDC will differ from those published here.

SOURCE: North Dakota Department of Health, Division of Vital Records.

## Low Birth Weight Births

DEFINITION: This indicator represents the number of babies who weigh less than 2,500 grams (5 pounds, 8 ounces) at birth, as recorded by birth certificates.

PERCENTAGE: The denominator is total resident live births in respective geographic areas.

GEOGRAPHY: Data reflect the mother's place of residence rather than the location of the hospital where the birth occurred.

TIME FRAME: Calendar Year (January 1 through December 31).

LIMITATIONS: Data are not reported for geographies where the number of low weight births is one through five. In these cases '<6' is indicated.

SOURCE: North Dakota Department of Health, Division of Vital Records.

## Deaths of Infants Less Than 1 Year of Age

DEFINITION: This indicator represents the number of deaths occurring to infants less than 1 year of age, as recorded on death certificates.

PERCENTAGE: The denominator is total resident live births in respective geographic areas.

GEOGRAPHY: Data reflect the infant's place of residence rather than the location of death.

TIME FRAME: Calendar Year (January 1 through December 31).

LIMITATIONS: Data are not reported for geographies where the number of infant deaths is one through five. In these cases '<6' is indicated.

SOURCE: North Dakota Department of Health, Division of Vital Records.

## Deaths of Children Ages 1-19

DEFINITION: This indicator represents the number of deaths of children ages 1 through 19, as recorded on death certificates.

PERCENTAGE: The denominator is total resident deaths in respective geographic areas.

GEOGRAPHY: Data reflect the child's place of residence rather than the location of death.

TIME FRAME: Calendar Year (January 1 through December 31).

LIMITATIONS: Data are not reported for geographies where the number of child deaths is one through five. In these cases '<6' is indicated.

SOURCE: North Dakota Department of Health, Division of Vital Records.

## Newborns Born at a Medical Facility Receiving a Hearing Screening

DEFINITION: This indicator represents the number of newborns born in North Dakota medical facilities who received a hearing screening prior to hospital discharge. There are three possible outcomes for a birth hearing screening: Pass Both, Bilateral Referral, and Unilateral Referral.

A Pass Both indicates an infant had the birth hearing screen and passed in both ears indicating normal hearing. A Bilateral Referral indicates an infant failed the birth hearing screen in both ears and is recommended to have an outpatient re-screen completed by one month of age. A Unilateral Referral indicates an infant failed one ear during the birth hearing screen but passed the other ear, and is recommended to have an outpatient re-screen completed by one month of age. Infants with a Bilateral and Unilateral Referral birth screen outcome should be offered an Early Intervention services referral. *Did Not Pass the Initial Hearing Screening* represents the number of resident newborns who were screened for hearing loss and identified as having some form of hearing impairment, and were referred for further testing (i.e., a Bilateral or Unilateral Referral).

PERCENTAGE: The denominator for the main indicator is total resident live births in respective geographic areas. The denominator for the subcategory is the number of screened births in respective geographic areas.

GEOGRAPHY: Data include hospital births to North Dakota residents and are presented based on the mother's/guardian's county of residence. Out-of-state births to North Dakota residents are excluded.

TIME FRAME: Calendar Year (January 1 through December 31).

LIMITATIONS: Data are not reported for geographies where the number of screened births is one through five. In these cases '<6' is indicated.

NOTE: Situations for which a screening did not take place include those in which the infant died before a screening could

take place and those for which the parents refused consent to have their child's hearing screened. It is currently unknown if hearing screenings are performed on the home birth population.

SOURCE: North Dakota Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI), North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities, Minot State University.

## Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program Participants

DEFINITION: This indicator represents persons who are eligible for and receive a food voucher and nutrition education contract through the WIC Program. To be eligible for WIC, low-income women, infants, and children must be found to be at nutritional risk for medical or dietary reasons. WIC is a prevention program targeted to provide nutrition education, nutritious food, and access to health care. WIC is not an entitlement program.

GEOGRAPHY: Data reflect the participant's place of residence.

TIME FRAME: Fiscal Year (July 1 through June 30).

LIMITATIONS: Fort Berthold and Standing Rock Indian reservations administer their own programs. Thus, data for these two reservations are not included in the state WIC numbers. North Dakota WIC data do cover the Spirit Lake and Turtle Mountain reservations as well as the Trenton Indian Service Area.

SOURCE: North Dakota Department of Health, Division of Nutrition and Physical Activity, WIC Program.

## Medicaid Recipients Ages 0-20

DEFINITION: This indicator represents the number of persons ages 0 through 20 who are recipients of Medicaid. Medicaid is a federally funded entitlement program available to eligible persons based upon need. It is designed to assist individuals and families who do not have enough income to obtain health care. Medicaid is authorized by Title XIX, a 1965 amendment to the federal Social Security Act. Medicaid differs from Medicare, which is a federally funded program for the elderly and disabled.

PERCENTAGE: The denominator is the total population ages 0 through 20 in respective geographic areas.

GEOGRAPHY: Data reflect place of residence.

# DEFINITIONS AND DATA SOURCES

**TIME FRAME:** Fiscal Year (July 1 through June 30).

**SOURCE:** North Dakota Department of Human Services.

## **Uninsured Children Ages 0-18**

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents the number of children under the age of 19 who are not covered by health insurance.

*At or Below 200% of Poverty* represents the number of children under the age of 19 who are not covered by health insurance and are living in families with incomes at or below 200% of the federal poverty level (i.e., families with incomes less than twice the federal poverty level).

**PERCENTAGE:** The denominator for the main indicator is the total child population ages 0 through 18 in respective geographic areas. The denominator for the subcategory is all uninsured children ages 0 through 18.

**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect place of residence.

**TIME FRAME:** Calendar Year (January 1 through December 31).

**LIMITATIONS:** The estimates are based on statistical models combining survey data with population estimates and administrative records. As such, they are subject to modeling error. For the 90% confidence intervals associated with state and county-level data, visit <http://www.census.gov/did/www/sahie/>.

**SOURCE:** U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Health Insurance Estimates, <http://www.census.gov/did/www/sahie/>.

include striking, kicking, burning, or biting the child, or any action that results in a physical impairment of the child. Sexual abuse involves sexual contact between a child and an adult or a significantly older, more powerful person. Sexual abuse may include other exploitative behaviors such as inappropriate sexual comments made to a child, taking or showing sexually explicit photographs or exposing a child to pornography or adult sexual activity. Emotional harm refers to injury to the psychological capacity or emotional stability of the child as evidenced by an observable or substantial change in behavior, emotional response or cognition, or as evidenced by anxiety, depression, withdrawal, or aggressive behavior. A neglected child, also referred to as a deprived child, refers to a child who 1) is without proper parental care or control, subsistence, education, or other care or control necessary for the child's physical, mental, and emotional health, or morals, and the deprivation is not due primarily to the lack of financial means of the child's parents, guardian, or other custodian; 2) has been placed for care or adoption in violation of law; 3) is without proper parental care, control, education, or other care and control necessary for the child's well-being because of the physical, mental, emotional, or other illness or disability of the child's parent or parents, and that such lack of care is not due to a willful act of commission or act of omission by the child's parents, and care is requested by a parent; 4) is in need of treatment, and whose parents, guardian, or other custodian have refused to participate in treatment as ordered by the juvenile court; 5) was subject to prenatal exposure to chronic and severe use of alcohol or any controlled substance in a manner not lawfully prescribed by a practitioner; 6) is present in an environment subjecting the child to exposure to a controlled substance or drug paraphernalia. Abandonment of a child refers to a situation in which 1) the parent's identity or whereabouts are unknown, 2) the child has been left by the parent in circumstances where the child suffers serious harm, or 3) the parent has failed to maintain contact with the child or to provide reasonable support for a specified period of time.

The North Dakota Century Code mandates certain persons (those who have contact with children as a part of their professional

duties) to report incidents of suspected child abuse or neglect. Any person may report an incident. The NDDHS or its designated agent, a regional or county Child Protection Service (CPS) social worker, will respond to the report by conducting an assessment of the family being reported. This process allows for the assessment of present safety of the child(ren) and the risk of future maltreatment, while simultaneously noting family strengths and needs. These strengths, along with any necessary service interventions, may lead to the amelioration of child maltreatment within a particular family. The CPS social workers use a risk assessment tool to help direct the intervention and assessment process. CPS teams determine if 1) services are required or 2) services are not required. Services are required if a high level of risk is determined to exist for the child(ren), and/or the family's needs are such that immediate service is required in order to lessen the safety risk. When it is determined that services are required, North Dakota Century Code requires a referral to Juvenile Court and a social worker (case manager) must be assigned to coordinate services. If no services are required, it has been determined that 1) no to low risk for the child(ren) exists, and/or 2) the CPS team suggests a discussion with the family on the availability of services, which are unrelated to any specific risk factors, or 3) the family's service need is nonexistent. Services may be offered or recommended to the family even though no services are required for the protection of a child.

**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect the location of the assessment.

**TIME FRAME:** Federal Fiscal Year (October 1 through September 30).

**LIMITATIONS:** Reports of child abuse and neglect from tribal lands are processed separately and are not included in these numbers. Data are not reported for geographies where the number of child abuse and neglect reports is five or less. In these cases '<6' is indicated.

**NOTE:** In an effort to coordinate with federal reporting procedures, data regarding child abuse and neglect are presented for the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) (October-September) rather than for the Calendar Year (CY) (January-December). While trends are consistent between the two reporting procedures, please use caution when

## SAFETY AND RISKY BEHAVIOR

### **Child Abuse and Neglect Reports**

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents the total number of official assessments made to the North Dakota Department of Human Services (NDDHS) on behalf of a child where there is the suspicion of child abuse or neglect. Child abuse and neglect refers to any recent act or failure to act on the part of a parent or caregiver which results in death, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse or exploitation, or an act or failure to act which presents an imminent risk of serious harm.

Physical harm refers to any non-accidental physical injury to the child, and can

# DEFINITIONS AND DATA SOURCES

comparing FFY data (first reported in the 2007 *Fact Book*) with CY data which were reported prior to the 2007 *Fact Book*.

SOURCE: North Dakota Department of Human Services, Children and Family Services.

## **Suspected Victims of Child Abuse and Neglect**

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents the number of children involved in assessments made to the North Dakota Department of Human Services (NDDHS) where there is the suspicion of child abuse or neglect (see the *Child Abuse and Neglect Reports* indicator definition for detailed definitions of abuse and neglect, and a description of the assessment process). Child Protection Service (CPS) social workers use a risk assessment tool to help direct the intervention and assessment process. CPS teams determine if 1) services are required or 2) services are not required. When there are *Victims in Cases Where Services Are Required*, a high level of risk is determined to exist for the child(ren), and/or the family's needs are such that immediate service is required in order to lessen the safety risk. When it is determined that services are required, North Dakota Century Code requires a referral to Juvenile Court and a social worker (case manager) must be assigned to coordinate services (see the *Child Abuse and Neglect Reports* indicator definition for detailed definitions of other CPS determinations).

**PERCENTAGE:** The denominator for the main indicator is the total child population ages 0 through 17 in respective geographic areas. The denominator for the subcategory is the number of suspected child victims in respective geographic areas.

**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect the location of the assessment.

**TIME FRAME:** Federal Fiscal Year (October 1 through September 30).

**LIMITATIONS:** Reports of child abuse and neglect from tribal lands are processed separately and are not included in these numbers. Data are not reported for geographies where the number of child abuse and neglect victims is five or less. In these cases '<6' is indicated.

**NOTE:** In an effort to coordinate with federal reporting procedures, data regarding child abuse and neglect are presented for the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) (October-

September) rather than for the Calendar Year (CY) (January-December). While trends are consistent between the two reporting procedures, please use caution when comparing FFY data (first reported in the 2007 *Fact Book*) with CY data which were reported prior to the 2007 *Fact Book*.

SOURCE: North Dakota Department of Human Services, Children and Family Services.

## **Children Ages 10-17 Referred to Juvenile Court**

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents the number of youth ages 10 through 17 referred to juvenile court for delinquent and unruly behavior offenses. It excludes children in cases involving abandonment, abuse/neglect, deprivation, educational neglect, other or no fault deprivation, termination of parental rights, or other special proceedings.

**PERCENTAGE:** The denominator is the total child population ages 10 through 17 in respective geographic areas.

**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect the offense location, not the juvenile's place of residence. In addition, the number of juveniles is unduplicated only at the county level of geography. Approximately 5% of juvenile offenders were referred to court in multiple counties in 2016. In these cases, each juvenile is counted once for each county in which they are referred. Because the regional and state level data are a sum of the counties, these multi-county offenders are duplicated at the regional and state levels of geography.

**TIME FRAME:** Calendar Year (January 1 through December 31).

**LIMITATIONS:** Referrals made to the four tribal courts in North Dakota are not included in this indicator.

**NOTE:** A new reporting procedure for juvenile court referrals and offenses was implemented by the North Dakota Supreme Court beginning with 2003 data. In this new reporting procedure, the data reflect the year in which the case was referred to court, not the year when the case was settled (disposition date). This reporting procedure affects data that were first reported by North Dakota KIDS COUNT in the 2005 *Fact Book*. Thus, caution should be used when making comparisons to data presented in *Fact Books* prior to the 2005 publication.

SOURCE: North Dakota Supreme Court, State Court Administrator's Office.

## **Children Ages 16-19 Not Enrolled in High School, Not High School Graduates, and Not in the Labor Force**

**DEFINITION:** This indicator represents the number of children ages 16 through 19 who have not completed high school, are not enrolled in school, and are not in the labor force.

**PERCENTAGE:** The denominator is the total child population ages 16 through 19 in respective geographic areas.

**GEOGRAPHY:** Data reflect the child's place of residence.

**TIME FRAME:** Data represent a 5-year period estimate. For example, 2015 estimates reflect data collected over a 60-month period from 2011 to 2015.

**LIMITATIONS:** Data are based on a sample and are subject to sampling variability.

Characteristics for geographic areas experiencing dynamic change due to such things as an environmental catastrophe (e.g., flood) or a plant closing will be mitigated since these estimates cover five calendar years of data. Also, caution is needed when using the multi-year estimates for estimating year-to-year change in a particular characteristic. This is because four of the five years in the 5-year estimate overlap with the next year's estimate. Ideally, trend analysis with multi-year estimates should be done using estimates from non-overlapping periods (i.e., 2006-2010 and 2011-2015).

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates, Table B14005.