



June 2014

NEWS & NOTES

from ND COMPASS

A monthly newsletter to keep you informed.

Making Connections!

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's Population Estimates for 2012, [Native Americans \(reporting one race only\) comprised 5.5% of the total population](#) in North Dakota (38,283 people), which makes up the largest minority population in the state. Specifically, when looking at Native American reservations, we see that from 2000 to 2010, [three of the five reservations saw population growth](#). In 2010, 31,618 people lived on the five Native American reservations located within North Dakota. When exploring the data associated with reservations, we see many differences when comparing to North Dakota data as a whole. Compared to the state overall, Native Americans who live on reservations have a [younger median age](#), [smaller proportions of people with a bachelors's degree or higher](#), a [lower median household income](#), and [higher proportions of people who experience poverty](#). Thus, Native American policies and programs have great potential for an impact within the state.

One exciting example of potential impact for Native American reservations in North Dakota is through a Presidential visit. Though the White House has not yet released any

details, officials have stated that President Barack Obama has made plans to visit one of North Dakota's Native American reservations in June of this year.

Creating impact and reaching out to the community can be accomplished in a number of ways. This month's [ND Compass For Discussion](#) column features Lorraine Shepherd-Davis, founder and executive director of the Bismarck-Mandan Native American Development Center. The Bismarck-Mandan Native American Development Center will provide resources to the community, such as options for those seeking employment, housing, services, etc. Shepherd-Davis stated that the Center will be open to everyone, not only Native Americans, saying "We are not going to turn anybody away." In addition to providing services, the development center will organize cultural events and provide educational opportunities for those who would like to learn more about Native American culture

Do you feel like we have been experiencing an abundance of extreme temperatures lately?

Take a look at our [Ask A Researcher](#) column regarding North Dakota's climate.

For Discussion

Filling a Need in the Community

Lorraine Shepherd-Davis is the founder and executive director of the Bismarck-Mandan Native American Development Center and is an enrolled member of the [Sisseton-Wahpeton Dakota Oyate Tribe of South Dakota](#). She has a Master's of Business of Administration and is currently pursuing a master's of Accounting and Financial Management. Previously, Lorraine also has served as a [Bush Foundation Native Nations Rebuilder](#) and was a [Mandan Public School Board](#) member. In the article, she highlights the developments and future plans regarding the Bismarck-Mandan Native American Development Center.



[Read more.](#)

Ask a Researcher

Extreme Weather Patterns - North Dakota Has It All

Michael Noone was born in Melbourne, Australia, and grew up in Alaska. In North Dakota, he received his B.S. and M.S. in Ecology and eventually gainful employment. Since 2002, he has worked for the [North Dakota State Water Commission](#) as a Planner and Natural Resource Economist. He has also served as an adjunct professor of Geographic Information Systems at [Bismarck State College](#) since 2009. In the article, he discusses North Dakota's climate today and historical trends.



[Read more.](#)

ND COMPASS: New Data Available

A number of charts have been updated, revised, or added within the following key measures:

All New [Median Income for 65+ Heads of Households](#) charts under the topic Aging

All [High School Graduation](#) charts under the topic Education

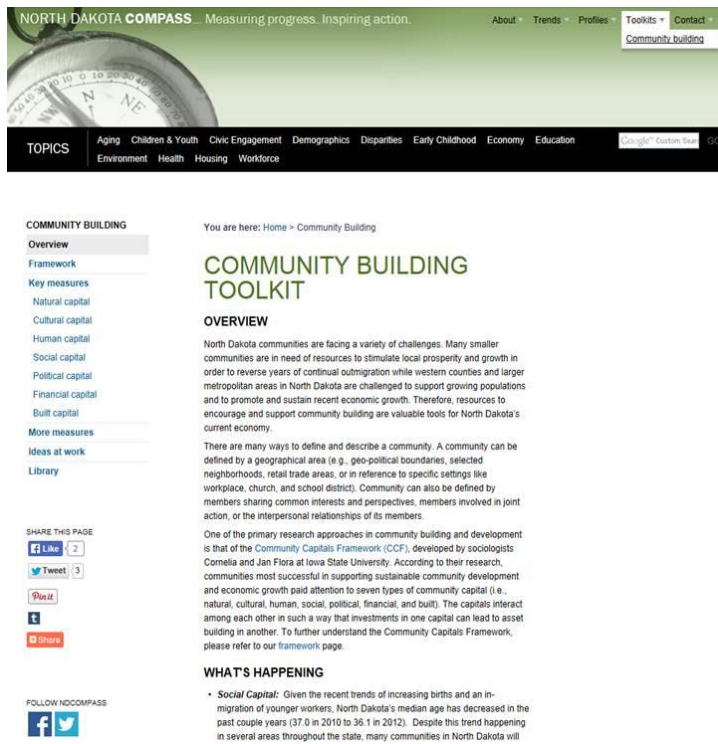
[Farm Industry](#) and [Yearly Change in Jobs](#) charts under the topic Economy

All [Air Quality](#) charts under the topic Environment

[Preschool Enrollment](#) charts under the topic Early Childhood

Check out our new Community Building Toolkit!

If you haven't already, make sure and check out our [Community Building Toolkit](#) (new last month!), which builds upon the information provided on [ND Compass](#) and is meant to aid communities that want to become more vibrant and have healthy, sustainable economies.



The screenshot shows the North Dakota Compass website interface. At the top, the header reads "NORTH DAKOTA COMPASS - Measuring progress. Inspiring action." with navigation links for "About", "Trends", "Profiles", "Tools", and "Contact". A "Community building" dropdown menu is visible. Below the header is a "TOPICS" section with a grid of categories: Aging, Children & Youth, Civic Engagement, Demographics, Disparities, Early Childhood, Economy, Education, Environment, Health, Housing, and Workforce. The main content area is titled "COMMUNITY BUILDING TOOLKIT" and includes an "OVERVIEW" section. The overview text discusses challenges North Dakota communities face, such as outmigration, and introduces the Community Capitals Framework (CCF). It lists seven types of community capital: natural, cultural, human, social, political, financial, and built. A "WHAT'S HAPPENING" section highlights a trend in social capital, noting a decrease in median age among younger workers from 37.0 in 2010 to 36.1 in 2012. On the left side of the page, there is a sidebar with a "COMMUNITY BUILDING" menu, social sharing options (Facebook Like, Tweet, Print, Share), and a "FOLLOW NDCOMPASS" section with Facebook and Twitter icons.

By tracking and analyzing trends in areas that affect our quality of life, North Dakota Compass gives everyone in our state--policymakers, business and community leaders, and concerned individuals who live and work here--a common foundation to act on issues to improve our communities.

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