

State Profile for

NORTH DAKOTA

Home- and Community-based Services for Older Adults and Adults with Physical Disabilities

Background

- North Dakota's 60+ population was 125,521 in 2008 (19.6% of the state's total population), with 12.2% below the federal poverty level.¹
- The 60+ population is projected to be 182,122 in 2025 (29.3% of the state's total population).²
- About 22.9% of all households in 2007 had one or more persons age 65 years and older, and 39.9% of persons age 65 years and older had a disability.³
- Of the 76,754 Medicaid beneficiaries in the state in 2003, 11.1% were aged, 11.7% were blind and disabled, 19.8% were Dual Eligible, and 5.2% were HCBS waiver beneficiaries.⁴
- Medicaid expenditures for institutional long-term care were 74.4% of total long-term-care expenditures, compared to 25.6% for HCBS in fiscal year 2007.⁵

Abbreviations

AAA	Area Agency on Aging
ADL	Activities of Daily Living
AoA	Administration on Aging
CMS	Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
HCBS	Home- and Community-based Services
IADL	Instrumental Activities of Daily Living
MRDD	Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities
OAA	Older Americans Act
PACE	Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly
SUA	State Unit on Aging

¹ Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Aging. (2009). *AGing Integrated Database (AGID): American Community Survey (ACS) demographic data 2004-2007 and state-level population estimates data 2000-2008* [Data files]. Available from <http://198.136.163.234/default.asp>

² Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Aging. (2009). *AGing statistics: Projected future growth of the Older population; By state: 2005-2030; Aged 60 and above* [Data files]. Available from http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Aging_Statistics/future_growth/future_growth.aspx.

³ Reimbursement and Research Department, American Health Care Association. (2006, August 29). *The state long-term health care sector 2005: Characteristics, utilization, and government funding*. Washington, DC: Author.

⁴ U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 American Community Survey, United States and States. *Percent of households with one or more people 65 years and over (R1104) and Percent of people 65 years and over with a disability (R1803)*.

⁵ Burwell, B., Sredl, K., & Eiken, S. (2008, September 26). *Medicaid long term care expenditures FY 2007*. Eagan, MN: Thomson Reuters.

Government Structure to Manage HCBS

- **SUA:** Aging Services Division of the North Dakota Department of Human Services.
www.nd.gov/dhs/services/adultsaging/
- **State Medicaid Agency:** Medical Services Division of the North Dakota Department of Human Services.
www.nd.gov/dhs/services/medicalserv/medicaid/
- The director of North Dakota's SUA reports to the director of the Department of Human Services, who reports to the Governor.
- North Dakota does not have Area Agencies on Aging; it is a single planning and service area.

Single Point of Entry (SPE)/Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC)

- North Dakota has an ADRC that is not statewide.
- The ADRC site does not have a physical (bricks and mortar) infrastructure; it operates under a virtual model.
- In addition to serving older adults, North Dakota's ADRC serves those with MRDD; those with physical disabilities; those with cognitive impairments, Alzheimer's disease and related conditions; and veterans.
- North Dakota's ADRC is a local initiative, covering only Cass County. It is referred to as Disability and Resource Link, which utilizes a pre-intake form that a number of service providers have agreed to use. Anyone can call the ADRC for information, referral and advice.

Assessment Process

Medicaid

- For Medicaid applicants, in determining functional eligibility for nursing home pre-admission, North Dakota does not require an in-person assessment by someone other than nursing home staff. An assessment is conducted by a private entity (i.e., Dual Diag-

nosis) but it does not have to occur prior to admission to a nursing home.

Non-Medicaid

- For non-Medicaid applicants in North Dakota, nursing home pre-admission assessment is not performed by someone other than nursing home staff.

State Medicaid Plan

- North Dakota provides HCBS through the state Medicaid plan.
- Refer to Table 1 for specific services provided.
- **PACE:** North Dakota has three PACE sites. The Bismarck and Dickinson sites are operational and the Garrison site is in the planning stage.

Medicaid Waivers

- North Dakota has two waivers that provide HCBS to older adults and/or adults with physical disabilities. These are: HCBS and Technology Dependent.
- **HCBS:** This program serves those age 16 and older; those with physical disabilities; those with Alzheimer's, dementia, and related conditions; those with traumatic brain injury; and the older adult population. Consumer direction in this program is limited to provider choice.
- **Technology Dependent:** This program serves those age 18 and older who are on a ventilator 20 hours a day or more. The program offers 24-hour care and only has three slots.
- Refer to Table 2 for an overview of selected HCBS programs. Table 1 shows the types of services offered under each program.

CMS-funded Programs and Grants

- North Dakota has one CMS-funded program and grant that provides HCBS to older adults and/or adults with physical disabilities. This is: Money Follows the Person.

- **Money Follows the Person:** Eligibility for this program is not based on age; it also serves those with MRDD and physical disabilities. A qualified applicant is one who is Medicaid-eligible and who wishes to transition from a nursing home or institution into the community. The program provides support throughout the participant's lifetime. The program only has four slots. The asset limit for an individual is \$3,000.
- Refer to Table 2 for an overview of selected HCBS programs. Table 1 shows the types of services offered.

State-funded HCBS Programs

- North Dakota has two state-funded programs that provide HCBS to older adults and/or adults with physical disabilities. These are: Expanded Service Payment for the Elderly and Disabled and Service Payments for Elderly and Disabled.
- **Expanded Service Payment for the Elderly and Disabled:** This program is for those age 18 and older and provides the same services as the Service Payments for the Elderly and Disabled (described below); however, functional assessment scoring for this program is less rigid.
- **Service Payments for Elderly and Disabled:** This program serves those with physical disabilities; the disability cannot be related to mental illness or any related condition. The program mostly serves those age 18 and older, but respite care and family home care can be provided to those under the age of 18. A level-of-care determination is not a requirement for this program. Payment for services applies in some cases via a sliding fee scale. A married couple cannot have more than \$50,000 in income to qualify. Counties provide a match rate (5-10%) for the program and the remainder is state-funded.
- Refer to Table 2 for an overview of selected HCBS programs. Table 1 shows the types of services offered.

Locally Funded HCBS Programs

- North Dakota uses local funds for HCBS for older adults and/or adults with physical disabilities.
- Some counties provide local services, and it is up to those counties to decide how they are implemented and what they will provide.
- North Dakota uses local funds for the state portion of Medicaid match through the use of a mill levy.

OAA-funded Programs and Grants

- Refer to Table 1 for services provided through Title III of the OAA.
- North Dakota does not use cost-sharing mechanisms or sliding fee scales in the delivery of Title III services.
- North Dakota has one other OAA-funded program and grant that provides HCBS to older adults and/or adults with physical disabilities. This is: Alzheimer's Disease Demonstration Grant.
- **Alzheimer's Disease Demonstration Grant:** This program has contracted with two medical facilities in the state to train medical professionals to conduct early-onset dementia screening and to provide referrals for services. The program is also contracting with the Alzheimer's Association to provide assessment and educational training to caregivers and others who want to attend.

Social Service Block Grants (SSBG) and Community Service Block Grants (CSBG) for HCBS

- North Dakota uses SSBG to provide HCBS for older adults and/or adults with physical disabilities.
- SSBG funds are used by the county Social Service Offices to provide HCBS.
- North Dakota does not use CSBG to provide HCBS for older adults and/or adults with physical disabilities.

Consumer Direction

- North Dakota offers consumer-directed options. The HCBS program in the state that offers consumer direction is Money Follows the Person.
- The model of consumer direction available in the state is provider choice.
- Those permitted to provide services under consumer direction in North Dakota are: provider agencies, spouses, adult children of the consumer, other family members, and friends.
- Individuals can be personal care providers; they are required to be screened for competency and to determine whether a care complaint was ever filed against them.
- North Dakota does not use fiscal intermediary services in connection with consumer direction.
- Consumers in North Dakota do not have any budgetary control; they can choose services and the service providers.

Managed Care

- *Information not reported.*

Major Accomplishments and Initiatives

- Recent accomplishments in North Dakota have been the implementation of the Technology Dependent Waiver, approval for new services under the HCBS Waiver, and implementation of the National Family Caregiver Support program.
- Future initiatives in North Dakota are plans to change the Medicaid income need level. It is currently \$500 for an individual and \$520 for a couple.
- North Dakota also hopes to obtain an ADRC grant.

Table 1: Types of Home- and Community-based Services Provided Under North Dakota’s Programs for Older Adults and Adults with Physical Disabilities

Types of Services	Program Type / Funding Source						
	Medicaid Waivers		CMS-funded Programs and Grants	State-funded Programs		State Medicaid Plan	OAA Title III
	HCBS	Technology Dependent		Expanded Service Payment for the Elderly and Disabled	Service Payments for Elderly and Disabled		
Adult Day Care / Adult Day Health	X						
Assisted Living							
Caregiver Services / Respite / Education	X		X				X
Case Management / Care Coordination	X	X	X				
Chore / Homemaking	X		X				
Companion Services / Socialization Activities							X
Employment	X						
Equipment / Supplies / Modifications / Assistive Technology	X					X	
Health Promotion Activities							
Home Health / Personal Care	X	X	X		X	X	
Information / Assistance / Referral			X				X
Legal Assistance / Financial Advice							X
Medical / Dental / Medication Care						X	
Mental and Behavioral Health Services							
Nursing						X	X
Nutrition / Meals	X		X				X
Personal Supports for Community Living / Transitioning	X		X				
Rehabilitation / Therapy							
Residential Services	X						
Transportation	X		X				
Other/Unspecified HCBS						X	X

Table 2: Selected HCBS Programs for Older Adults and Adults with Physical Disabilities in North Dakota

Program Type / Funding Source	Program Name	Ages Served	Nursing Home Level of Care Required	Entity Responsible for Functional Assessment	Entity Responsible for Financial Assessment	Entity Responsible for Case Management	Waiting List (Number)	Consumer Direction Option
Medicaid Waivers	HCBS	16+	Yes	County	County	County	No	No
	Technology Dependent	18+	Yes	County	County	County	No	No
CMS-funded Programs and Grants	Money Follows the Person	Not based on age	Yes	Center for Independent Living	County	County	No	Yes
State-funded Programs	Expanded Service Payment for the Elderly and Disabled	18+	No	County	County	County	No	No
	Service Payments for Elderly and Disabled	Varies	No	County	County	County	No	No