



February 2014

NEWS & NOTES

from ND COMPASS

A monthly newsletter to keep you informed.

Geographic Profiles: A new feature on the ND Compass website

A different way to look at your community

ND Compass is proud to present a new feature to the website--[Geographic Profiles!](#)

What is a Geographic Profile, you ask? [Geographic Profiles](#) give a snapshot of useful data across a range of ND Compass topics. The profiles, which pull data from the social indicators present on the ND Compass website and insert them in one table, make it easy to see information about a location of interest in the state. Geographic Profiles present the most recent available data and the 2000 data for a quick and easy comparison where possible.

February's Ask a Researcher with Gretchen Dobervich reviews what [Geographic Profiles](#) are, how to access them, how the data are chosen, and goes into detail about possible ways the profiles can be used to help you.

As a counter point to looking at places in ND by the numbers, ND Compass's For Discussion column offers another way of viewing places within our state. Jacob Sowers discusses place identity and how it is the connections people create that make place important.

[Check out these three new resources!](#)

For Discussion

Places and their story: More than just a spot on the map

Jacob Sowers is currently an assistant professor and coordinator of the geography program at [Minot State University](#). Dr. Sowers is introducing the concept of place identity and how this can be preserved in areas that are undergoing major changes like those experienced by communities on the edge of the oil boom in Western North Dakota, especially in the Minot area.



[Read more.](#)

Ask a Researcher

New Geographic Profiles: How they can work for you

The new North Dakota Compass Project Director introduces all-new Geographic Profiles for a variety of state geographic levels (e.g., county, metropolitan areas, and Native American reservation areas) and Gretchen Dobervich, the North Dakota director for the [Alzheimer's Association Minnesota-North Dakota Chapter](#), a website user, gives her perspective on how to utilize the Profiles.



[Read more.](#)

ND COMPASS: New Data Available

New data is available on [ND Compass](#).
Check out the updated charts on the following key measures!

[MEDIAN INCOME](#)

[VOLUNTEERISM in AGING](#)

[VOLUNTEERISM in CIVIC ENGAGEMENT](#)

[DISABILITY in AGING](#)

[DISABILITY in DEMOGRAPHICS](#)

Did you know that ND Compass is part of a great partnership?

[ND Compass](#) [MN Compass](#)



[Black Hills Knowledge Network](#)

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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