



March 2014

# NEWS & NOTES

from ND COMPASS

A monthly newsletter to keep you informed.

**Access to healthy food: A new Key measure on the ND Compass website**

*Another way to look at North Dakota's built [Environment](#)*

ND Compass is proud to present a brand new Key Measure on the website--[Access to Healthy Food!](#)

[Access to healthy food](#) can be a challenge especially in low income neighborhoods or rural areas. There are communities with limited access to stores that sell healthy food, especially high quality fruits and vegetables. It is important to see where these communities are and find ways to improve access through grocery stores, farmers' markets, and community gardens. This new [key measure](#) provides data on population with access to a grocery store in North Dakota's geographic areas and compares the access to [other states](#). In addition, links have been included under "[More Measures](#)," "[Ideas at Work](#)," and "[Library](#)," with data and information on food deserts, community gardens, food banks, and nutrition for those who are interested in these issues in North Dakota.

To accompany the new [Key measure](#), as well as highlight March as National Nutrition Month, [ND Compass](#) has posted two new articles presenting issues pertaining to access to food in the state.

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

## For Discussion

### End hunger through community partnerships

Melissa Sobolik is the Director of Agency and Client Services at the [Great Plains Food Bank](#). Melissa highlights the role the Great Plains Food Bank plays in finding creative and innovative solutions to hunger and its underlying causes.



[Read more.](#)

---

## Ask a Researcher

### Food Deserts and how they impact North Dakota

Karen K. Ehrens, RD, LRD, is the Coordinator for [Healthy North Dakota](#) and the [Creating a Hunger Free North Dakota Coalition](#), and Consultant to the [North Dakota Department of Agriculture Local Foods Project](#). Karen defines the concept of a food desert, and shares her views on how North Dakota is uniquely impacted by the lack of access to healthy food.



[Read more.](#)

---

## ND COMPASS: New Data Available

New data is available on [ND Compass](#).

Explore the NEW graphs and tables on residents under age 65 without health insurance:

[By metropolitan and micropolitan areas](#)

[By cities](#)

[By Native American reservation areas](#)

Check out the updated graphs and tables on the following key measures:

[Educational Attainment](#)

[Health Care Coverage](#)

[Population](#)

[Preschool Enrollment](#)

---

## ***Have you checked out North Dakota KIDS COUNT?***

[North Dakota KIDS COUNT](#) measures the educational, social, economic, and physical well-being of children in North Dakota. In addition to data and publications, tips on locating, using and interpreting data and statistics are available on their website under the [Resource tab](#).



Join ND KIDS COUNT on [Facebook](#) or sign up for their monthly [e-newsletter](#)!

---

***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.***

---

**Stay Connected and [Join our Newsletter!](#)**



[Visit the ND Compass Website](#)

ND Compass at North Dakota State University · PO Box 6050, Dept. 2362, Fargo, ND · 701.231.9496

[Email us!](#)