

### **Presentation Objectives**

By the end of the session, participants will be able to:

- Describe current conditions and health disparities of tribal communities in North Dakota
- Explain a Native-focused approach to engaging and working with tribes
- List 3 strategies to engaging Native communities in public health efforts



### Health Disparities

Infant Mortality in North Dakota

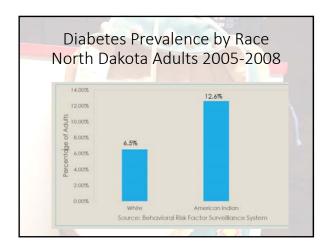
- North Dakota had a 3 year average infant mortality rate of 6.0 deaths per 1,000 live births for 2010-2012
  - The total US rate according to CDC was 5.98 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2012.
- American Indian infant mortality rate in North Dakota was 17.1 deaths per 1,000 live births for the 3-year period of 2010-2012.

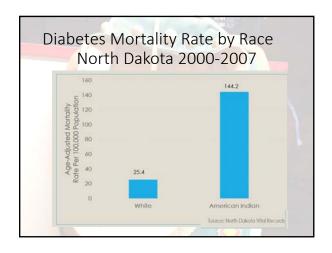
# Average Age at Death in ND (2005-2010)

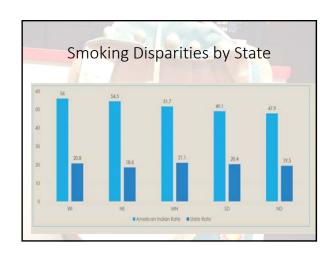
- 75.7 years in the White population
- 54.7 years in the American Indian population

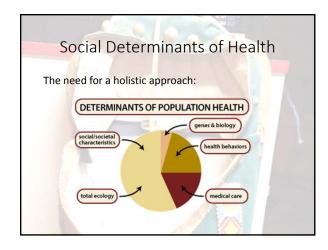
# State Suicide Mortality rates by Race 1990-2002

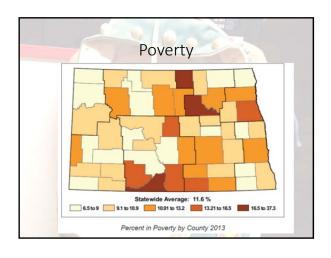
State	Race	Rate
North Dakota	White	11.3
1	American Indian	26.0
South Dakota	White	12.8
	American Indian	27.0

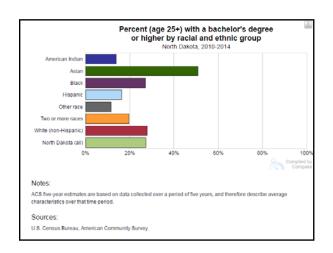




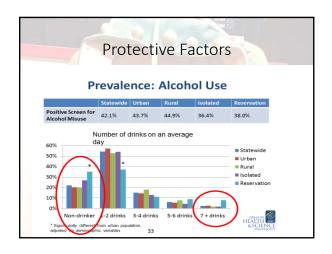
















## Strategies

- Draw upon cultural strengths for health
- Look at interventions that are holistic
  - Best Babies Zone
  - Language and Cultural Immersion efforts
  - Lakňóľiyapi Wahóňpi (Lakota Language Nest)
  - Cradle Boards
    - Healthy Native Babies Toolkits
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  - Equine Therapy Tribal Programs
  - Breast Cancer Prevention and Education
    - Ribbon Shirt making, digital stories and keychain beads
  - Restorative Justice

### Strategies

- Conduct walkability assessments
- Create GIS Mapping of health statistics, such as access to healthy foods, playgrounds, fitness centers
- Partner with existing programs, such as parenting classes, diabetes program, fitness center, NDSU extension, nutrition, WIC, elders, Boys and Girls Club, Circle of Life
- Stay connected by forming coalitions with community champions to generate interest and buy in, and to continue building capacity and engagement
- When conducting an assessment, include community strengths and assets and not just health disparities







