



Adjacent Border Analysis for Direct Patient Care Physicians

This fact sheet is Number 25 in a series of analyses regarding physicians in North Dakota. This document is an updated version of Fact Sheet Number 15 in this series.

North Dakota patients can easily cross the South Dakota, Montana, and Minnesota borders to receive healthcare. Direct patient care physicians practicing in zip code areas that are adjacent to the North Dakota border or that are within 15 miles of the border are treating North Dakota patients. There are 67 bordering physicians that treat North Dakota patients.

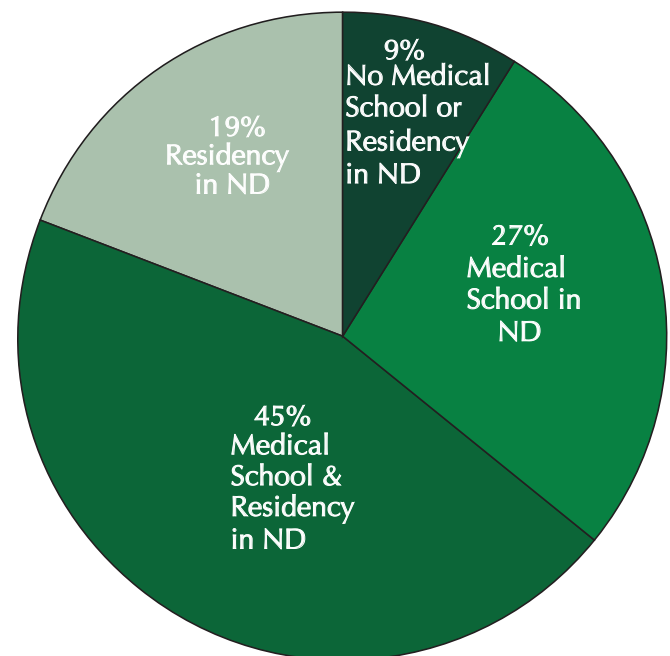
Direct patient care physicians are defined as those who have regular contact with patients. They do not include physicians who predominantly teach or do research. They do include those working in hospitals and clinics and those who are semi-retired.

Based on estimations by the American Association of Family Practice, a provider can manage a panel (number of patients for whom a provider can be accountable) of 1,400 to 1,750 patients per year. This means that with 67 bordering physicians and a possible panel size of 1,400 patients this could potentially be 93,800 patients served every year. Assuming that bordering physicians might only treat 25% to 50% of patients from North Dakota, that would approximately be 23,450 to 46,900 North Dakota patients served.

There are 67 Bordering Direct Patient Care Physicians:

- In 2013, there were 67 bordering direct patient care physicians treating some North Dakota patients.
- 45 physicians reside in Minnesota, 21 reside in South Dakota and 1 resides in Montana.
- Adding bordering physicians to all North Dakota direct patient care physicians of 1,548, brings the total to 1,615.
- The bordering physicians would make up 11% of the direct patient care physicians treating North Dakota patients.

Figure 1. Location of Medical School and Residency for Bordering Physicians



- 45% of bordering physicians practicing direct patient care received either medical school or residency training or both in North Dakota.
- Of the bordering physicians, 27% went to medical school in North Dakota, and 19% did their residency in North Dakota.
- 9% of the bordering physicians neither went to medical school nor did their residency in North Dakota.

Table 1: Demographics of Bordering Physicians

State	Total		Male		Female		Average Age
	N	%	N	%	N	%	
MN	45	67%	34	76%	11	24%	52
MT	1	1.5%	1	100%	0	0%	51
SD	21	31%	13	62%	8	38%	55
All	67	100%	48	72%	19	28%	52.7

- Over two-thirds of North Dakota’s bordering direct patient care physicians practice in Minnesota (67%).
- Nearly three-fourths of bordering physicians are male (72%), with physicians in Minnesota and South Dakota having the highest proportion of males (76% and 62%).
- The mean age of bordering physicians was 52.7 years. The mean age is higher in South Dakota (Minnesota to South Dakota, 52.0 to 55.0).

Table 2: Specialties of Bordering Physicians

State	Primary Care		Surgery		Internal Medicine		Psychiatry		Other	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
MN	22	49%	2	4%	4	9%	3	7%	14	31%
MT	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	100%
SD	17	81%	2	10%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
All	39	58%	4	6%	4	6%	3	4%	17	25%

- Nearly two-thirds of North Dakota’s bordering direct patient care physicians practice primary care (58%).
- South Dakota has the highest percentage of primary care practicing physicians, 81%, followed by Minnesota at 49%.

Conclusions

- The bordering direct patient care physicians have a big impact on healthcare delivery within North Dakota, as they represent 11% of direct patient care physicians in North Dakota (67).
- The majority of bordering direct patient care physicians reside in Minnesota, thereby increasing healthcare access to North Dakotans that live in the eastern part of the state.
- Nearly half of bordering physicians practicing direct patient care received either medical school, or residency training, or both in North Dakota.

Data

The physician data are from the 2013 American Medical Association physician master file.

The panel size estimation is from the American Association of Family Practice

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