

Sakakawea Medical Center Service Area

2022 Community Health Needs Assessment

June 2022

Each Critical Access Hospital must conduct a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) once every three years, as mandated by law. Local public health units seeking to gain/maintain accreditation conduct an assessment every five years. CHNAs completed by the Center for Rural Health (CRH) include secondary data review, community focus groups, key informant interviews, and a community survey. This fact sheet presents key community strengths and opportunities from the Sakakawea Medical Center (SMC) service area 2022 CHNA.

SMC primarily serves the counties of Mercer, Oliver, and Dunn. With regard to demographics, Dunn County's population from 2010 to 2019 increased by over 25%, while Mercer County's population decreased 2.8% and Oliver County had a population increase of 6%. The median household income in all three counties is much higher than the state average for North Dakota (\$64,894), with Dunn County at \$76,719, Mercer County at \$82,181, and Oliver County at \$78,929.

Community Strengths

The top three assets identified in the community survey included it being family friendly, a safe place to live, and people are friendly, helpful, supportive. Other community assets include a feeling of being connected to people who live here and recreational and sports activities.

Health Outcomes and Factors

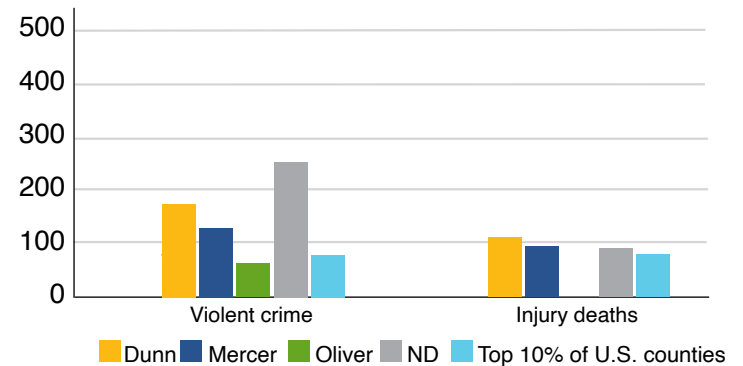
This service area had a greater percentage of residents reporting excessive drinking, physical inactivity, adult smoking, and obesity than the top 10% of U.S. counties. See Table 1 for more data.

Table 1. Health Factors by % of Population, 2022

	Hazen Service Area	ND	Top 10% U.S.
Uninsured	9%	8%	6%
Excessive drinking	25%	24%	15%
Access to exercise opportunities	51%	74%	91%
Physical inactivity	26%	23%	19%
Adult obesity	35%	34%	26%
Adult smokers	20%	20%	16%

Injury deaths were more prevalent in the service area of SMC (three county average of 90 deaths per 100,000 residents) than in the state overall (71 per 100,000 residents) and the top 10% of U.S. counties (59 per 100,000 residents. See Figure 1.

Figure 1. Cases per 100,000 Population, 2021



*No data for Oliver County (Injury Deaths) in 2021.

In 2019, data shows children that victims of child abuse and neglect requiring services (ages 0-17) was 27.5 in Dunn County (data for Oliver and Mercer County data was not available), while North Dakota was 9.98. Medicaid recipients were 24.6% which is lower than the North Dakota average of 26.0%. See Table 2 for more information on children's health factors.

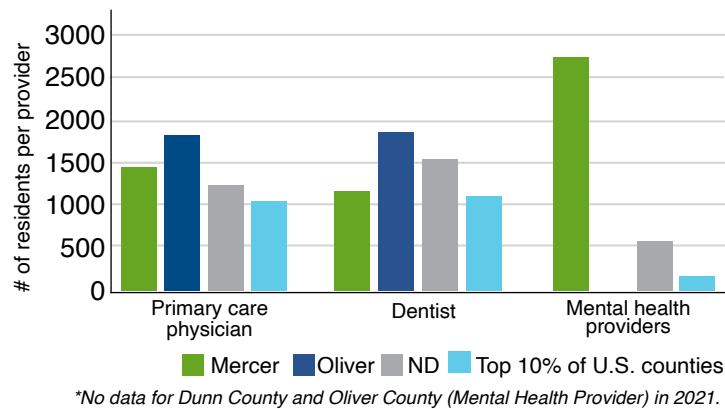
Table 2. Children's Health Factors by % of Population

	Hazen Service Area	ND
Child food insecurity, 2019	7.16%	9.6%
Victims of child abuse and neglect requiring services (rate per 1,000 children ages 0-17), 2019	27.51	9.98
Medicaid recipients (2020)	24.6%	26.0%
Children enrolled in Healthy Steps (2020)	1.0%	1.7%
Receiving SNAP (2020)	12.6%	17.0%

Healthcare Access

Based on the provider to population ratio*, SMC service area has more residents per single primary care, dentist, and mental health providers than the state's average and the top 10% of U.S. counties (Dunn County did not report data, while Oliver County did not report data for Mental Health provider). See Figure 2.

Figure 2. Provider to Population Ratios, 2021



Community Concerns

In a survey conducted by CRH, residents identified up to three primary community concerns. The top two concerns were attracting and retaining young families and drug use and abuse in youth. Depression/anxiety in youth, drug use and abuse in adults, and smoking and tobacco use in youth made the top five. See Table 3.

Table 3. Community Concerns, 2021

Community Concerns	%
Attracting and retaining young families	43%
Drug use and abuse – youth	41%
Depression/anxiety – youth	38%
Drug use and abuse – adult	38%
Smoking and tobacco use – youth	36%
Availability of resources to help the elderly stay in their homes	38%
Alcohol use and abuse – adult	33%
Alcohol use and abuse – youth	33%

In January 2022, a community focus group identified their top concerns as:

1. Depression/anxiety
2. Attracting and retaining young families
3. Availability of mental health services
4. Having enough child daycare services

In the survey, community members also identified perceived barriers (up to three) specifically related to accessing local healthcare. The top five barriers were:

1. Don't know about local services (26% of respondents)
2. Concerns about confidentiality (24%)
3. Distance from health facility (22%)
4. Not enough evening or weekend hours (22%)
5. Not able to see same provider over time (25%)

Individuals also indicated which specific healthcare services, if any, they felt should be added locally. The most often cited service was more availability of specialty services.

Steps Undertaken Since 2019 CHNA

In response to the needs identified in the 2019 CHNA process, some actions were taken. For the lack of behavioral health services (mental health and substance abuse/treatment), a full-time licensed master social worker was hired in April 2021, as a direct result of the challenges encompassed by the global SARS-CoV-2 pandemic. The IMPACT (Integrating Mental Health, Physical Health, and Continuity of Care Together) Program is currently available at all four school districts in Beulah, Hazen, Center, and Killdeer, North Dakota. The mission of the IMPACT program is to enhance and improve the overall wellness of children through collaboration of Coal County Community Health Center, local school districts, and the community. In regard to availability of resources to help the elderly stay in their homes, a comprehensive care coordination committee with representatives from the healthcare community meets monthly to review repeat admissions and repeat emergency department visits with a goal of implementing care coordination interventions.

Implementation Strategies

Hospitals and local public health units prepare implementation strategies as a blueprint for meeting needs identified in a CHNA. Access the complete and community-specific CHNA Reports and Implementation Strategies at, ruralhealth.und.edu/projects/community-health-needs-assessment/report.

Full Report

Nissen, K., Long, H. & Breigenzer, A. Hazen Service Area: Community Health Needs Assessment, 2022.

For More Information

Visit the website, ruralhealth.und.edu/projects/community-health-needs-assessment or contact:

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