

Snapshot of health system climate  
vulnerability and performance in...

# North Dakota

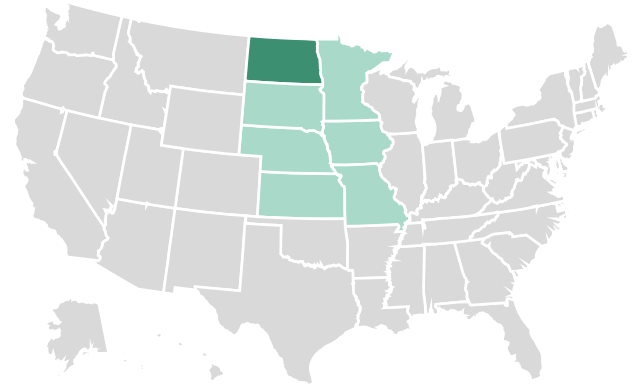


The  
Commonwealth  
Fund

North Dakota ranks #41 overall.

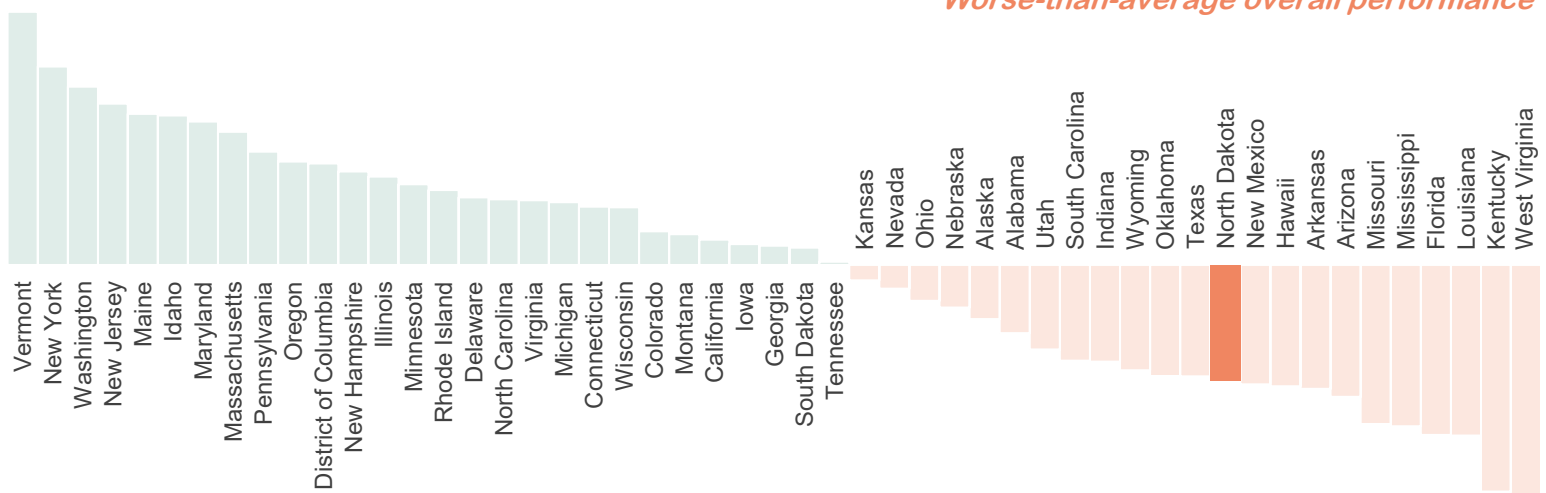
North Dakota ranks #6 in the Plains region.

	National Rank	Rank Among Plains States*
Average Annual Air Quality Index	31 of 51	7 of 7
Health Risk from Extreme Heat	16	3
Health Care Facility Risk from Natural Hazards	47	6
Health Care Facility Flood Risk	33	7
State Energy Efficiency Policy	43	5
State Electricity Emissions and Their Health Impact	44	6
Health Care Sector Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions	49	7
Health Care Worker Commuting Emissions	14	2



\*Note: Plains region includes IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD.

## How North Dakota Compares to All States



**Table 1. Indicators of State Health System Climate Vulnerability and Performance**


Indicator	Data year	State rate	U.S. average	State rank
<b>Average Annual Air Quality Index</b> Scale of 0–500, with values below 100 generally considered good/moderate air quality	2022	42	42	31
<b>Health Risk from Extreme Heat</b> CDC/ATSDR <sup>a</sup> Heat and Health Index (0–1), with 1 indicating greatest risk	2024	0.48	0.51	16
<b>Health Care Facility Risk from Natural Hazards</b> FEMA <sup>b</sup> National Risk Index (0–100), with 100 indicating greatest risk	2023	76	54	47
<b>Health Care Facility Flood Risk</b> Percent of inpatient facility beds in high-hazard flood zones	2023	2.4%	2.5%	33
<b>State Energy Efficiency Policy</b> ACEEE <sup>c</sup> Energy Efficiency Scorecard (0–50), with 50 indicating best performance	2022	4.5	17	43
<b>State Electricity Emissions and Their Health Impact</b> Health impact per unit of electricity generated, <sup>d</sup> where lower values indicate less health impact from emissions	2021	0.779	0.464	44
<b>Health Care Sector Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions</b> Kilograms of carbon dioxide equivalent (kg CO <sub>2</sub> e) <sup>e</sup>	2020	1,926	1,362	49
<b>Health Care Worker Commuting Emissions</b> Transportation-related GHG emissions from health care facility employee commuting (kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per employee)	2022	1,915	2,169	14



**North Dakota ranked best on:**

**Health Care Worker Commuting Emissions**

On average, health care facilities in North Dakota have lower annual commuting emissions per employee than in other states. Health care facilities in the state are more often located in higher-density areas with public transit and pedestrian access, minimizing the need for longer trips.



**North Dakota ranked worst on:**

**Health Care Sector Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions**

The North Dakota health sector produces more greenhouse gas emissions per capita than in other states. This indicator helps gauge the sector's role in driving climate change at the state level.

**Notes:** (–) Indicates missing data. (a) Centers for Disease Control/Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (CDC/ATSDR). (b) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). (c) American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE). (d) Measured in Disability-Adjusted Life Years (DALYs) per gigawatt-hour (GWh) of electricity generated; DALYs are a common measure of the burden of disease, representing years of healthy life lost. (e) Kilograms of CO<sub>2</sub>e stands for “carbon dioxide equivalent,” a standard measure of the warming effect of greenhouse gases.