

## Medicare Beneficiaries Enrolled in North Dakota: 2006

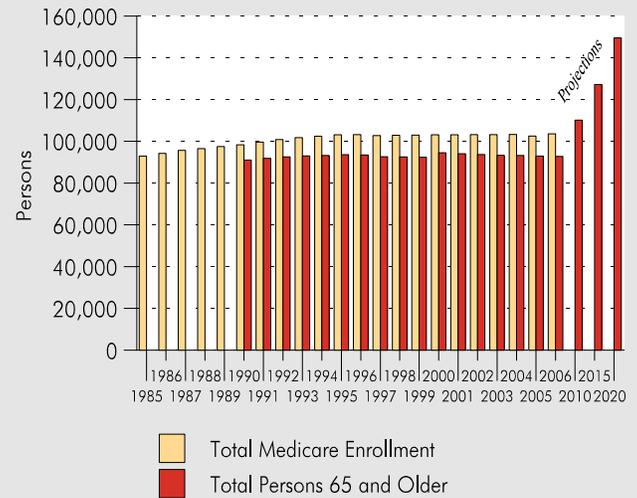
Medicare is a federal program that provides health insurance to most Americans age 65 and older. Some Americans younger than 65 with certain disabilities and those of all ages with permanent kidney failure are also eligible for coverage.

In 2006, a total of 103,654 people received Medicare benefits in North Dakota (16 percent of the total population statewide). This number has remained relatively unchanged for the past 10 years (Table 1). However, this trend will soon change as baby boomers (those born between 1946 and 1964) begin turning 65 in 2011. Since Medicare is largely focused on assisting the elderly, the impact of the baby boom on Medicare enrollments will be significant throughout the nation. Population projections for North Dakota indicate that the number of people age 65 and older will grow to nearly 150,000 by 2020 (Figure 1).

Approximately 88 percent of those receiving Medicare benefits in North Dakota were age 65 or older in 2006, the second highest proportion nationwide (Figure 2). Hawaii was first at 89 percent.

For additional information on the Medicare program, visit the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/> and the Medicare website at <http://www.medicare.gov/>.

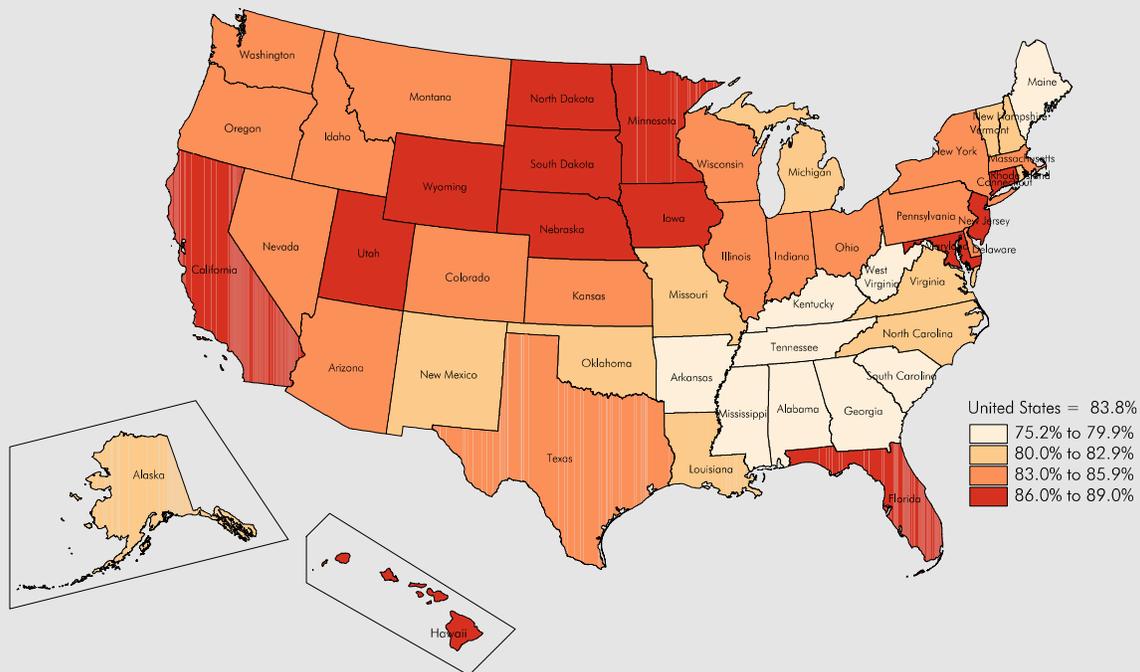
Figure 1. Medicare Beneficiaries in North Dakota: 1985 to 2006 & Persons Age 65 Plus: 1990 to 2006, Projections 2010 to 2020



Sources: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareEnrpts/>; U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, Population Estimates Program, <http://www.census.gov/popest/estimates.php>; North Dakota State Data Center, "North Dakota Population Projections: 2005 to 2020"

Figure 2. Persons Age 65 and Older Enrolled in Medicare as a Percent of Total Medicare Enrollment by State: 2006

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareEnrpts/>



**Table 1. Medicare Beneficiaries Enrolled by State: 1985 to 2006**

Note: \*This total includes beneficiaries in outlying areas and in foreign countries.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareEnrpts/>

Area	Medicare Beneficiaries									
	1985	1990	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
United States and Other Areas*	31,082,801	34,203,383	37,535,024	39,619,986	40,025,724	40,488,878	41,086,981	41,728,804	42,394,926	43,313,626
United States	30,436,635	33,498,127	36,758,101	38,761,628	39,149,152	39,594,404	40,172,605	40,792,298	41,003,057	42,020,086
Alabama	533,390	582,062	642,398	685,443	695,195	705,555	719,246	733,147	740,214	765,618
Alaska	17,885	24,958	33,528	42,015	43,815	45,788	47,749	50,350	51,149	53,897
Arizona	406,590	498,116	601,782	675,430	690,628	708,210	728,885	754,642	776,637	805,398
Arkansas	367,435	390,738	422,956	439,371	441,863	446,152	452,676	459,866	463,957	480,392
California	2,927,103	3,279,233	3,633,225	3,901,323	3,954,996	4,009,429	4,078,426	4,149,690	4,157,832	4,241,144
Colorado	303,427	357,826	420,991	467,455	475,616	483,706	493,454	505,578	512,523	532,633
Connecticut	435,622	468,975	502,035	515,288	516,359	518,344	522,403	524,127	519,977	526,910
Delaware	76,602	88,278	100,665	112,090	113,967	116,363	119,302	122,792	124,992	130,092
Dist. of Col.	78,534	77,866	77,991	75,325	74,701	74,175	73,794	73,305	72,102	73,322
Florida	2,000,246	2,339,154	2,627,511	2,803,961	2,838,345	2,876,168	2,920,971	2,982,095	3,008,193	3,063,638
Georgia	652,770	731,969	833,445	916,067	932,965	951,439	973,794	998,428	1,015,752	1,063,239
Hawaii	102,269	126,934	149,475	165,265	168,296	171,259	174,633	177,884	179,649	184,344
Idaho	117,285	132,110	149,556	165,021	168,550	172,787	177,700	183,850	188,414	196,478
Illinois	1,440,767	1,533,653	1,617,479	1,635,047	1,639,986	1,645,851	1,661,454	1,676,404	1,674,114	1,701,984
Indiana	696,000	761,946	823,403	852,228	858,150	865,366	877,954	889,318	892,803	914,943
Iowa	435,392	456,800	474,262	476,719	478,063	479,455	482,340	485,519	483,575	491,147
Kansas	342,311	363,496	383,386	390,423	391,076	391,782	394,206	397,271	396,527	403,239
Kentucky	493,303	533,604	586,321	622,908	629,709	637,212	648,400	660,160	667,911	689,226
Louisiana	474,034	531,018	580,509	601,516	605,395	611,863	620,196	627,207	630,267	615,631
Maine	169,058	182,941	201,473	216,459	219,310	222,917	226,696	231,132	233,217	238,296
Maryland	479,972	541,481	601,977	645,450	654,607	663,739	674,448	684,795	686,746	704,289
Massachusetts	824,360	866,869	933,027	960,722	961,409	963,270	965,943	967,587	960,688	975,973
Michigan	1,129,776	1,232,672	1,346,651	1,403,325	1,414,054	1,426,169	1,444,987	1,464,338	1,468,341	1,501,655
Minnesota	548,792	588,204	630,521	654,405	660,399	667,407	676,156	686,155	690,792	708,081
Mississippi	343,578	365,704	397,129	418,527	423,436	429,046	436,677	445,704	449,495	458,556
Missouri	736,544	781,126	832,965	860,558	866,815	873,816	884,449	895,964	900,828	922,364
Montana	105,539	117,381	130,074	136,726	138,266	140,156	142,457	145,166	146,145	150,483
Nebraska	227,098	237,334	249,131	253,639	254,680	255,862	257,171	258,873	258,613	262,576
Nevada	99,640	140,948	193,931	239,746	250,543	261,371	273,724	286,491	293,711	303,653
New Hampshire	124,287	137,215	156,104	170,070	172,704	175,828	179,564	183,080	185,337	190,961
New Jersey	1,024,367	1,092,067	1,168,083	1,203,231	1,207,663	1,212,966	1,219,935	1,225,011	1,215,354	1,236,113
New Mexico	150,354	179,433	210,843	234,319	238,418	243,922	250,113	256,542	260,947	272,594
New York	2,424,710	2,508,901	2,629,884	2,714,837	2,728,967	2,746,660	2,763,299	2,775,189	2,757,934	2,796,399
North Carolina	773,611	892,183	1,027,027	1,133,419	1,154,864	1,178,169	1,205,466	1,234,909	1,254,732	1,300,408
<b>North Dakota</b>	<b>92,963</b>	<b>98,396</b>	<b>103,115</b>	<b>103,196</b>	<b>103,126</b>	<b>103,208</b>	<b>103,220</b>	<b>103,316</b>	<b>102,591</b>	<b>103,654</b>
Ohio	1,408,305	1,543,122	1,666,054	1,701,227	1,705,333	1,712,918	1,727,096	1,738,876	1,731,215	1,766,243
Oklahoma	420,247	451,115	487,752	507,849	510,582	514,542	521,286	529,320	531,147	548,759
Oregon	373,763	423,578	468,732	489,312	495,704	503,783	513,253	526,506	531,608	547,344
Pennsylvania	1,821,573	1,955,931	2,071,162	2,095,479	2,095,453	2,100,640	2,110,470	2,118,271	2,108,470	2,144,311
Rhode Island	149,335	158,843	168,061	171,595	171,822	172,106	172,474	172,709	170,581	173,078
South Carolina	380,011	441,923	508,690	567,854	579,597	592,039	606,323	624,139	636,971	664,399
South Dakota	103,708	110,159	116,694	119,437	120,019	120,720	121,777	122,928	123,333	125,616
Tennessee	628,591	691,803	771,335	829,246	842,264	855,278	871,938	890,768	902,876	937,856
Texas	1,600,402	1,823,921	2,080,465	2,265,325	2,299,599	2,338,394	2,390,053	2,451,234	2,490,766	2,597,780
Utah	136,091	159,793	187,039	206,056	210,400	214,881	220,221	226,749	231,263	242,228
Vermont	69,308	74,552	82,806	89,028	90,049	91,382	92,724	94,347	95,245	98,315
Virginia	634,420	721,796	818,256	893,048	909,536	926,579	946,470	967,086	981,026	1,011,347
Washington	534,573	615,148	687,789	735,648	745,859	759,088	775,358	798,549	807,208	837,483
West Virginia	290,036	307,766	329,504	337,811	339,853	343,210	347,459	350,858	351,432	359,393
Wisconsin	663,536	713,581	761,575	783,003	787,442	794,181	803,678	814,493	817,762	834,677
Wyoming	44,951	51,847	60,163	65,437	66,439	67,356	68,590	69,580	70,095	71,927

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## Aging Baby Boomers Will Have Significant Impact on Medicare Enrollment

In 2006, a total of 103,654 people received Medicare benefits in North Dakota (16 percent of the total population statewide). This number has remained relatively unchanged for the past 10 years. However, this trend will soon change as baby boomers (those born between 1946 and 1964) begin turning 65 in 2011. "It is difficult to imagine the impact of this big wave of new seniors who will be tapping into Medicare over the next few years," said Richard Rathge, Director of the State Data Center. "Nationwide, we will see more than 1.8 million people turn 65, each year, beginning in 2011. This translates into more than 5,000 a day, a substantial number," said Rathge.

This month's "Economic Brief," a monthly publication from the North Dakota State Data Center at North Dakota State University, focuses on the number of people enrolled in Medicare by state. Medicare is a federal program that provides health insurance to most Americans age 65 and older. Some Americans younger than 65 with certain disabilities and those of all ages with permanent kidney failure are also eligible for coverage.

Population projections for North Dakota indicate that the number of people age 65 and older will grow significantly by 2020, due mostly to the aging baby boomers. "Our best estimates indicate that the proportion of North Dakota's population age 65 and older will grow from 15 percent in 2000 to 17 percent by 2010 and to 23 percent by 2020," said Rathge. Since the majority of Medicare beneficiaries in North Dakota are age 65 and older (88 percent in 2006), the impact of the baby boom on Medicare enrollments will be significant throughout North Dakota and the nation in the very near future.

For additional information on the Medicare program, visit the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/> and the Medicare website at <http://www.medicare.gov/>.

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