



Center for
Rural Health



<http://ruralhealth.und.edu>

Health Disparities of American Indian Elders in North Dakota

Kim Ruliffson, Rick Ludtke, Ph.D., Bridget Hanson, Leander McDonald, Ph.D.
June 6, 2008

Connecting resources and knowledge to strengthen the health of people in rural communities.



Center for Rural Health

- Established in 1980, at the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences in Grand Forks, ND
- Focuses on:
 - Education, Training, & Resource Awareness
 - Community Development & Technical Assistance
 - Native American Health
 - Rural Health Workforce
 - Rural Health Research
 - Rural Health Policy
- Web site: <http://ruralhealth.und.edu>



National Resource Center on Native American Aging



- Established in 1994, at the Center for Rural Health, University of North Dakota
- Focuses on:
 - Education, Training, and Research
 - Community Development & Technical Assistance
 - Native Elder Health, Workforce, & Policy
- Website: www.nrcnaa.org
- Funded by Administration on Aging, Cooperative Agreement: 90-AM-3080



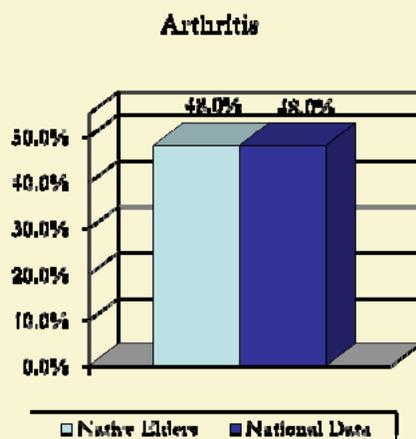
NRCNAA 2008 3



Data Collection of Native Elders

- 402 elders from North Dakota (ages 55 and older)
- Used national-wide survey: Identifying Our Needs: A Survey of Elders III
- Collected data from April 2007- March 2008
- Survey Information available on: www.nrcnaa.org

Chronic Diseases – Arthritis (N=402)

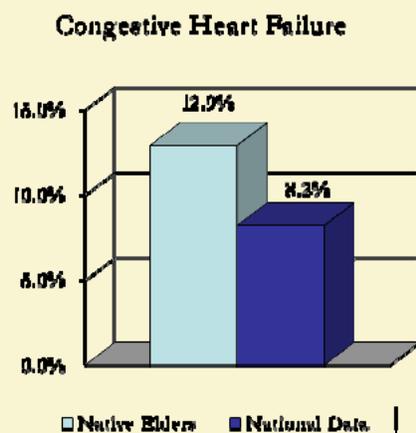


NRCNAA 2008

5

- Native elders in ND had equal experience of arthritis compared to the U.S. general population.

Chronic Diseases – Congestive Heart Failure (N=402)

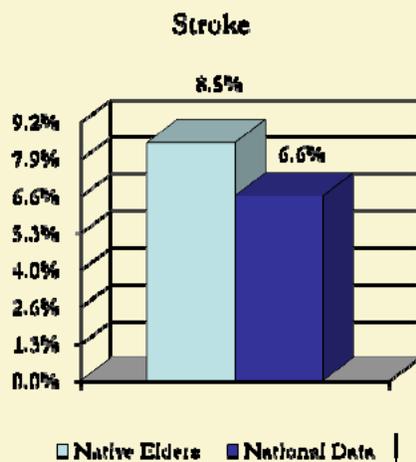


NRCNAA 2008

6

- North Dakota Native elders were 57% more likely to experience congestive heart failure than the general U.S. population.

Chronic Diseases – Stroke (N=402)

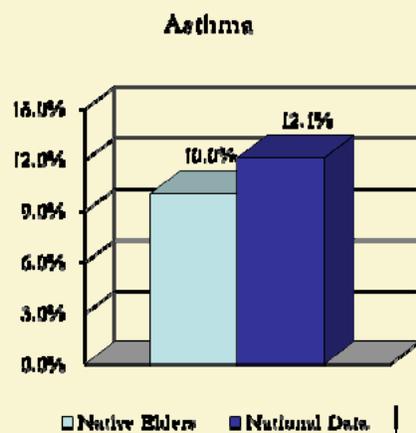


NRCNAA 2008

7

- Native elders were 29% more likely to experience a stroke than the general population. good

Chronic Diseases – Asthma (N=402)



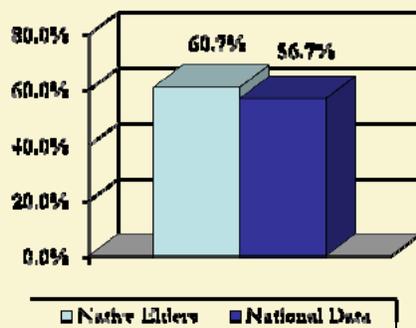
NRCNAA 2008

8

- Native elders were 17% less likely to experience asthma than the U.S. general population.

Chronic Diseases – High Blood Pressure (N=402)

High Blood Pressure



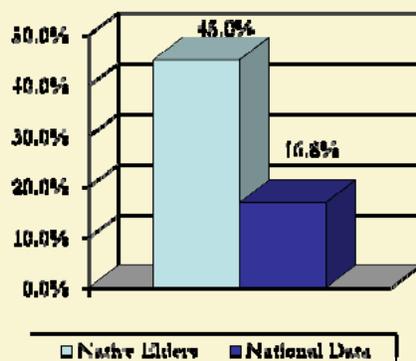
NRCNAA 2008

9

- Native elders were 7% more likely to experience high blood pressure as the U.S. general population.

Chronic Diseases – Diabetes (N=402)

Diabetes

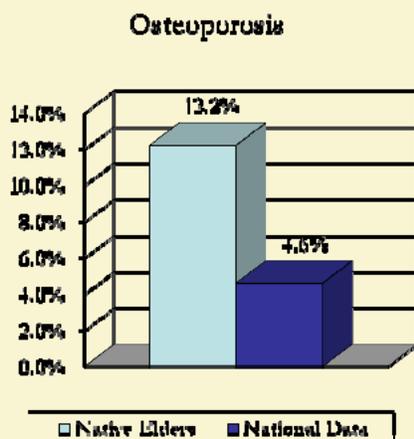


NRCNAA 2008

10

- Native elders were 168% more likely to experience diabetes than the U.S. general population.

Chronic Diseases – Osteoporosis (N=402)

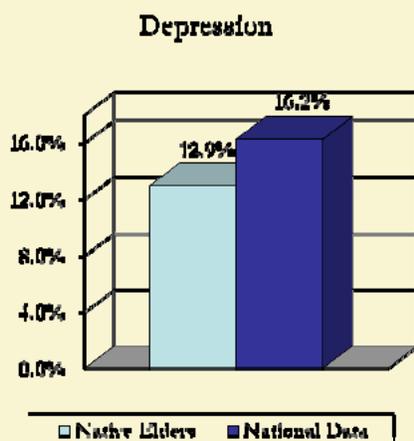


NRCNAA 2008

- Native elders were 165% more likely to experience osteoporosis than the U.S. general population.

11

Chronic Diseases – Depression (N=402)

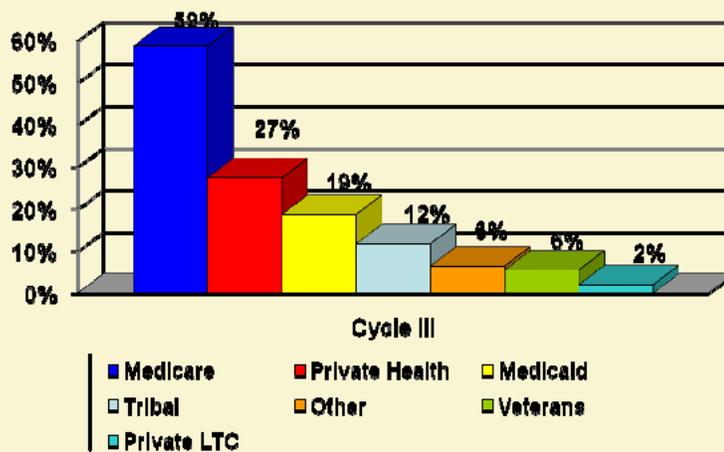


NRCNAA 2008

- Native elders indicated 20% less depression than the U.S. general population.

12

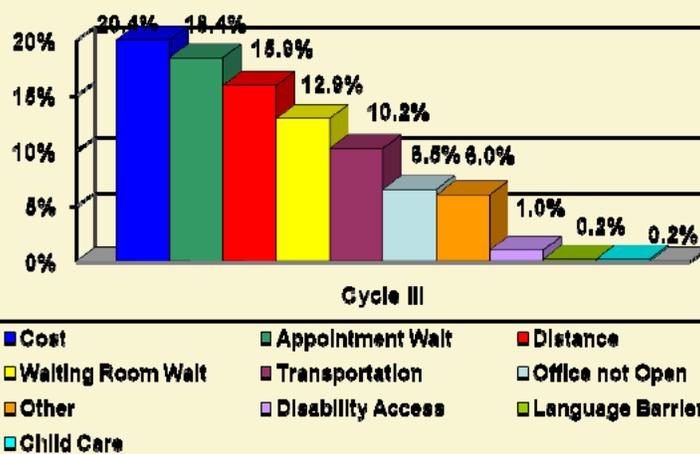
ND Health Care Coverage: Cycle III



McDonald et al. 45.3% report using IHS for health care (IHS is not health insurance)

13

ND Barriers to Medical Care: Cycle III



McDonald et al.

14

ND Vs. U.S. General Population Barriers to Health Care

	ND Native Elders*	U.S. General**
Cost	20.4%	46.0%
Appointment	18.4%	13.8%
Distance	15.9%	2.8%
Waiting Room Wait	12.9%	3.5%
Transportation	10.2%	.6%
Office Closed	6.5%	6.7%
Other	6.0%	.2%
Disability Inaccess	1.0%	24.8%
Language Barrier	.2%	1.4%
Child Care	.2%	.1%

*Cycle III (2007-2008), **2002 CDC Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), filtered by age 55 and older.

Do you have a personal doctor?

	Native Elders*	U.S. General**
Yes, only 1	46.8%	81.8%
More than 1	25.6%	10.0%
No	23.8%	7.9%
Don't know	3.7%	0.2%

* Cycle III Survey (2007-2008), **2006 CDC –BRFSS



ND vs. US General Medical Appts.

Within past year	ND Native Elders*	U.S. General**
Dental Visit	44.5%	65.5%
Eye Dr.	66.2%	70.0%
Check-up	81.3%	79.0%
Hearing Test	13.4%	13.9%

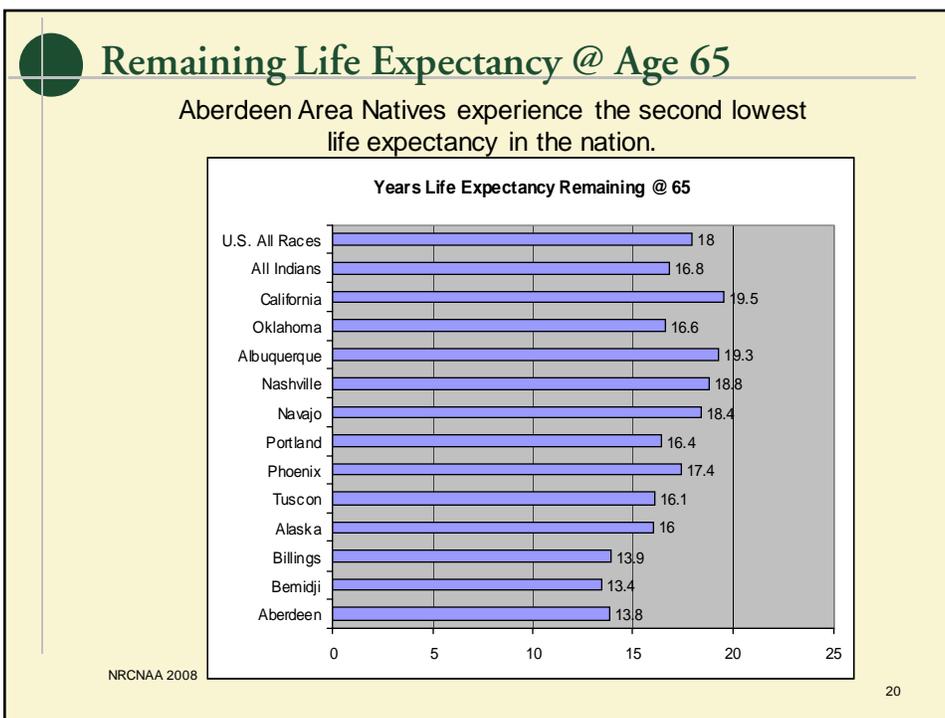
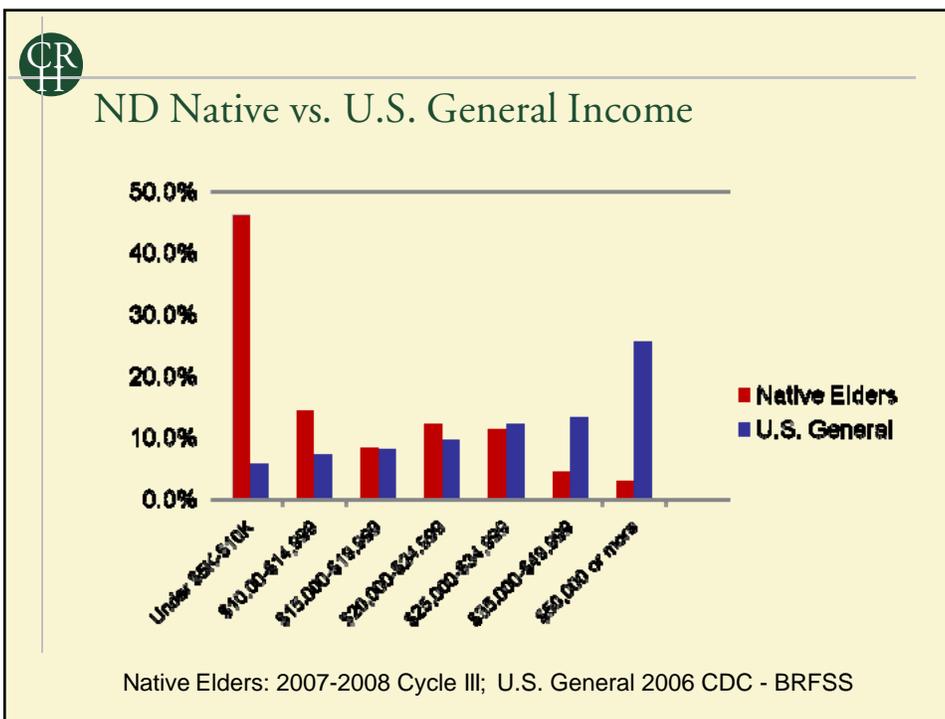
*Cycle III (2007-2008), 2006 CDC BRFSS & 2003-2006 CDC - NHANES



ND vs. US General: Screenings

	ND Native Elders*	U.S. General**
Mammogram (Woman Only)		
No	8.7%	5.8%
Within past 12 months	52.8%	63.5%
Beyond 12 months ago	38.6%	29.7%
PSA (Men only)		
No	32.5%	18.5%
Within past 12 months	39.8%	59.8%
Beyond 12 months ago	27.7%	20.5%

*2007-2008 Cycle III, **2006 CDC-BRFSS





Center for
Rural Health



<http://ruralhealth.und.edu>

For more information contact:
**National Resource Center on
Native American Aging**
Leander McDonald, Ph.D., Director
rmcdonald@medicine.nodak.edu

Tel: (800) 896-7628
Fax: (701) 777-6779



<http://ruralhealth.und.edu>
www.nrcnaa.org



*Connecting resources and knowledge to strengthen
the health of people in rural communities.*