

Testimony on HB 1290
House Human Services Committee
January 18, 2023

Good morning, Chairman Weisz and members of the House Human Services Committee. My name is Shelly Peterson, President of the North Dakota Long Term Care Association. We represent 192 assisted living, basic care, and skilled nursing facilities in North Dakota. I am here to testify in support of HB 1290 and ask you for a Do Pass.

HB 1290 does one thing, it extends the moratorium on increasing the number of nursing homes or basic care facilities in North Dakota. Why would we want a law that prevents any expansion of nursing homes or basic care facilities in our state? Because we do not need any more facilities and we want to prevent any expansion of institutional capacity. Most North Dakotans want to stay at home as they age and need care, they hope to have their final days at home with their family.

North Dakota is very different from the rest of the country, well over 100 years ago we developed "homes for the aged". They were developed by churches and non-profit organizations. The model of care was to have a nursing home in every community to care for our beloved elders. Today over 90 percent of North Dakota nursing homes are non-profit, many are still affiliated with a church. North Dakota did such a good job in developing and building facilities that in the mid-90's we had one of the highest nursing facilities beds per 1000 elderly in the nation. More recently it was felt that North Dakota's development of in-home services was seriously lagging. In 2015 the Department of Justice began an

The other exception to adding basic care beds is a nursing facility can take some of their existing nursing facility beds and convert them to basic care. This generally has occurred in small rural nursing homes where they wanted to provide a lower level of care for those not needing 24 hour skilled nursing care, but 24 hour supervision, housing and services.

North Dakota has had a moratorium on nursing facility beds since 1996. It was adopted way back then because our institutional capacity was high. The highest nursing facility bed count was 7,124. Today we have 5,226 nursing facility beds, 1,898 less beds.

In summary, I ask you to support the bill before you. It has helped to transform the continuum of care, serving those who need 24 hour skilled nursing care and freeing up funding to provide services at home. Today the Medicaid budget supports 55% of all individuals living in a nursing home. I would be happy to answer any question you have.

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Nursing Facilities

Number of Facilities



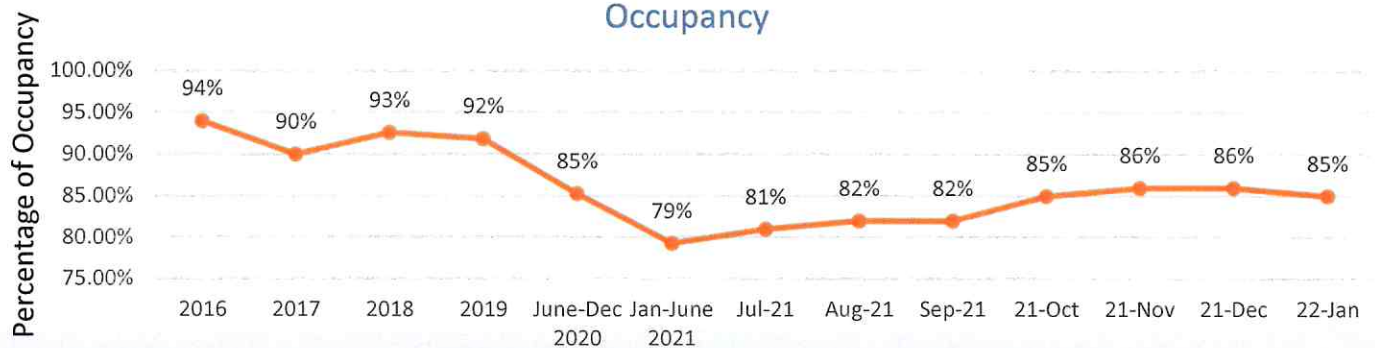
Nursing Facilities

Licensed Beds



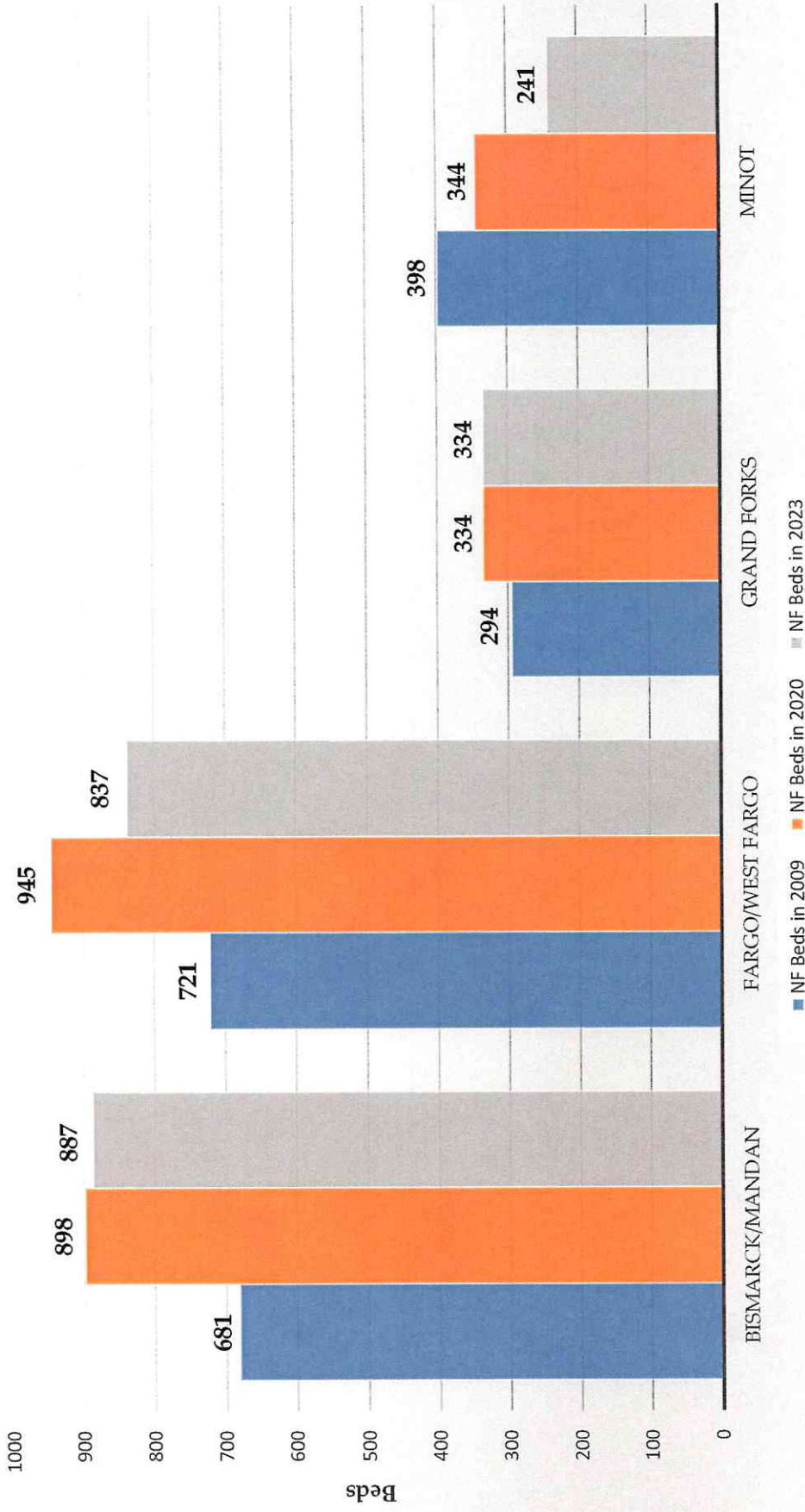
Nursing Facilities

Occupancy

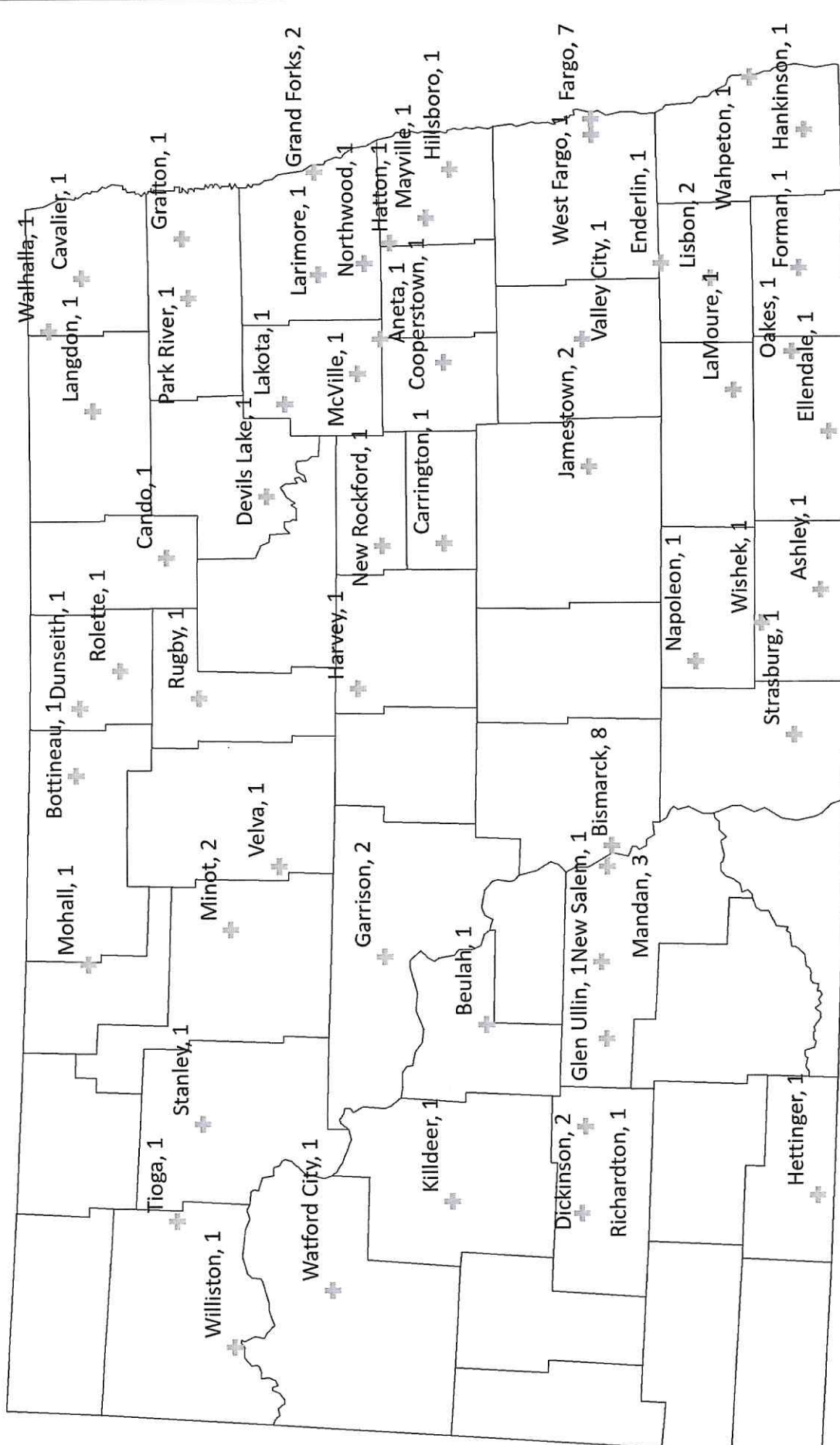


The occupancy for 2020 and 2021 is based upon HC Standard/COVID Reporting.
The Occupancy for 2016-2019 is from NDLTCA Survey.

Licensed Nursing Facility Beds for the 4 Major Cities 2009, 2020 & 2023 Comparative



North Dakota Nursing Facilities, 2022



City (Number of Nursing Facilities)

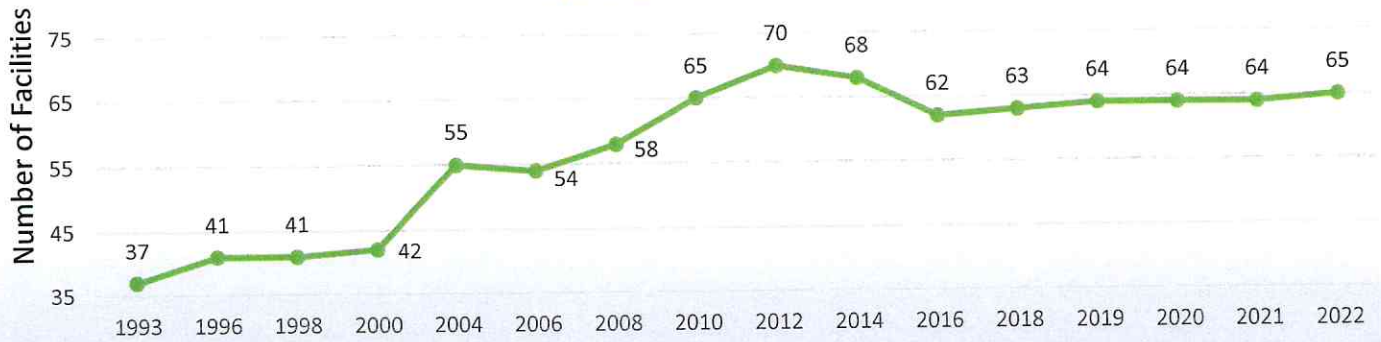
Source: ESRI, North Dakota Long Term Care Association

 Created by the North Dakota Healthcare Workforce Group

 on 12/1/2022

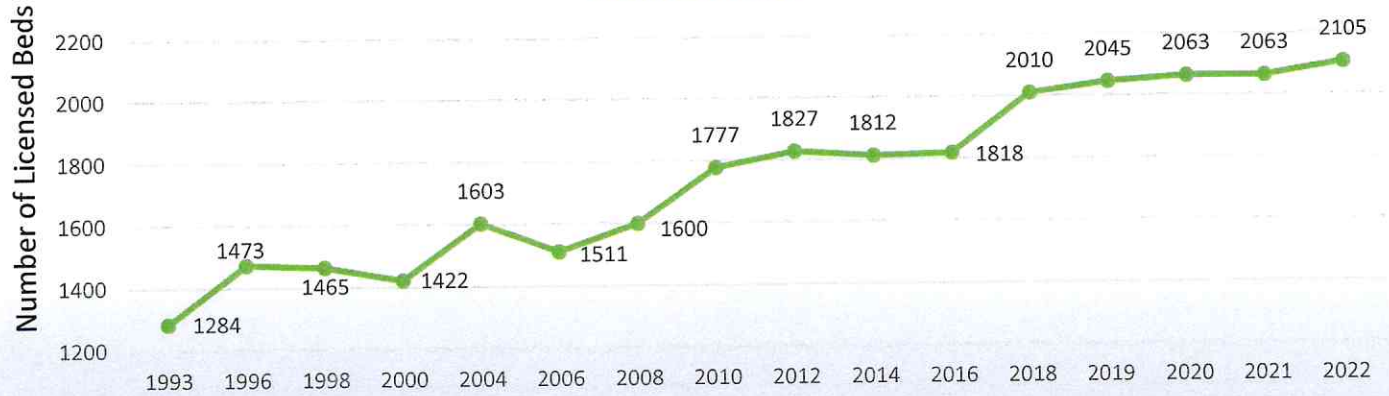
Basic Care

Number of Facilities



Basic Care

Licensed Beds



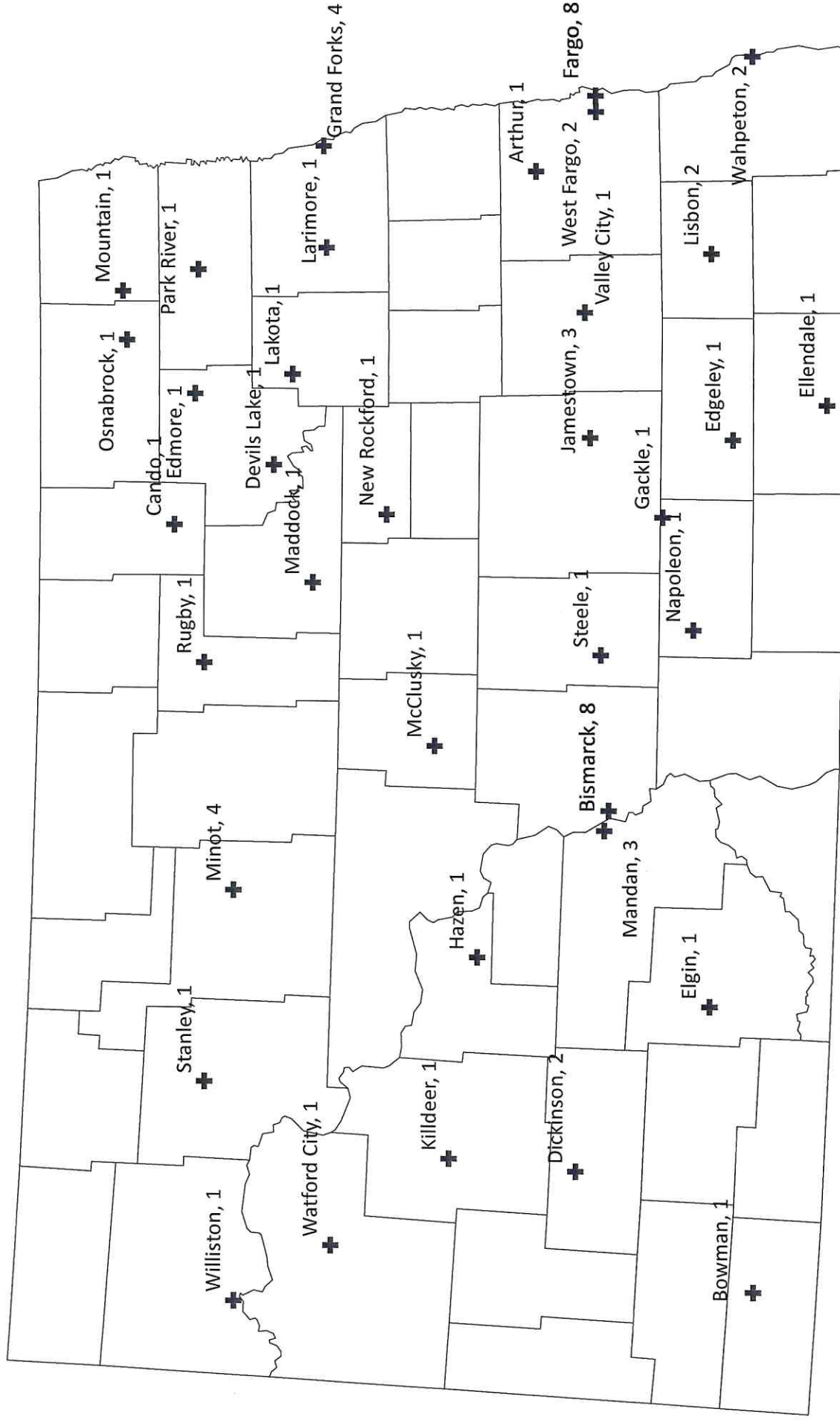
Basic Care

Occupancy



The occupancy for 2020 and 2021 is based upon HC Standard/COVID Reporting.
The Occupancy for 2010-2019 is from NDLTCA Survey.

North Dakota Basic Care Facilities, 2022



+ City (Number of Basic Care Facilities)

