NORTH DAKOTA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

NDACo BUDGET MEMO
For CY2027 Budgets

To help counties in their budgeting efforts, we at NDACo have compiled county-specific analyses of projected State Aid, State Highway Funding, and a variety of other revenues along with some anticipated expenditures. We have sent this one-page, county-specific analysis to each county; however, it is most effective if it is used in conjunction with the narrative below.

This Budget Memo includes brief notes about the assumptions and qualifications of various budget items. We have also identified other budget issues that we think may warrant consideration.

As always, please remember that these are estimates and relative changes in valuation, taxable sales, population, staffing levels, gas prices, motor vehicles, etc., may affect some of the actual revenues and costs in the next year. While we use the latest and best data available, everything must be tempered with your own judgement. We welcome your input if we can make this annual communication more useful.

REVENUES

STATE AID DISTRIBUTION FUND

North Dakota Century Code Section 57-39.2-26.1 provides for the deposit of a portion of sales, use, and motor vehicle excise tax collections into the State Aid Distribution Fund. The amount deposited into the State Aid Distribution Fund is equal to 43.5 percent of an amount determined by multiplying 1.0 percent, divided by the general sales tax rate, times the net sales, use, and motor vehicle excise tax collections. The calculation results in 8.7 percent of all sales and motor vehicle excise taxes being distributed through the State Aid Distribution Fund to cities and counties. Revenues deposited in the State Aid Distribution Fund are allocated to political subdivisions pursuant to the formula provided in Section 57-39.2-26.1.

This year, we are using OMB forecasting and actual year-to-date collections as the foundation for this projection. The results, therefore, are only as accurate as those assumptions used by OMB and the state’s economic advisor. (Note that State Aid funds are distributed monthly.) In the Revised 2025-2027 Executive Budget Summary, OMB anticipates a 7.4% increase over the entire biennium in sales and use tax collections, reflecting inflationary pressures and the potential for economic slowdown at some point during the biennium.

HIGHWAY TAX DISTRIBUTION FUND

The Highway Tax Distribution Fund is a statutory fund established by NDCC Section 54-27-19. The fund receives money from motor vehicle registrations and fees, fuels taxes, special fuels taxes, use taxes, and special fuels excise taxes. The first $5.5 million deposited in the fund is transferred to the highway fund to provide administrative assistance to transferees.

The 69th Legislature revised the political subdivision allocation formula in SB2012, reducing the share going to DOT's highway fund and increasing the share that goes to political subdivisions. The city and county allocation was increased from 34.5% to 35% (see updated formula below). SB2012 also provided for a transfer of 25% of the motor vehicle excise tax to the Highway Tax Distribution Fund, estimated at $87.5 million. Appropriations for the Highway Patrol, ethanol production incentives, motorboat safety, and state snowmobile fund are deducted before remaining moneys are allocated pursuant to the following formula:

- 60% to the highway fund for use by the state DOT.
- 3.4% to the township highway fund for allocation to townships pursuant to Section 54-27-19.1.
- 1.6% to the public transportation fund to be allocated pursuant to Section 39-04.2-04.
- 35% to cities and counties, allocated pursuant to the distribution formula provided in Section 54-27-19.

With the change in formula and the addition of motor vehicle excise tax into the Highway Tax Distribution Fund, our projections on the individual county-specific data sheets reflect **a 1.5% increase in Highway Tax Distribution revenue from 2026 to 2027.** This is very much an estimate, so please use your own best judgment as well. Questions on these projections can also be directed to Linda Svihovec.

FLEXIBLE TRANSPORTATION FUND (FTF)

The 2025 Legislature created a NEW monthly distribution fund for counties, cities and townships from the Flexible Transportation Fund in SB2012. Non-oil counties and cities will receive 19.5% ($44.85 million/biennium) of the revenues that flow into FTF ($230 million total) to be direct distributions that will mirror the Highway Tax Distribution Fund allocation formula. The first distribution of the biennium was a large distribution in August 2025 because of a one-time July 2025 transfer of $142 million from the Strategic Investment and Improvement Fund (SIIF) to the Flexible Transportation Fund. Smaller monthly distributions will continue throughout the biennium. The 2026 estimate uses January – June actual payments plus 6 months times the average monthly payment for each county. The estimate for 2027 is calculated using the average monthly payment times 12 months. The 2027 estimate also assumes the legislature does not change the funding and monthly distributions will continue through the end of the year. The definition of non-oil producing county for FTF means a county that had annual oil production of fewer than ten million barrels on average over the last three years.

(An additional $165 million in FTF grants were made available for political subdivisions, including $40.25 million designated specifically for political subdivision bridge projects for all counties.)

PLEASE REFER TO COUNTY SPECIFIC DATA SHEETS FOR MONTHLY FTF DISTRIBUTIONS.

COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING (PRAIRIE DOG)

The 69th Legislature amended several items related to the County Infrastructure Fund (aka Prairie Dog).

- Reduced the amount of funds to be distributed from $115 million for non-oil counties and townships to $80 million. (87% to counties, 13% to townships)
    - $40 million will be directly distributed to non-oil counties and townships.
        - $34.8 million counties; $5.2 million townships
    - $40 million will be available for grants through NDDOT.
- Removed SIIF bucket that was ahead of Prairie Dog bucket so nearly 100% certainty that the bucket will fill this biennium. (Anticipated to fill in fall 2026).
- Organized townships must levy at least 18 mills in their general fund and have a general fund balance of less than $100,000.
- Counties **must** levy 18 mills for the Unorganized Township levy.
- County distributions will be based on the Upper Great Plains Transportation Needs Study.
- Township distributions will be based on certified miles reported to the State Treasurer.

The definition of non-oil producing county for County Infrastructure Fund (Prairie Dog) means a county that received less than $5 million in gross production tax revenue in the most recently completed even-numbered year. The estimates on the county-specific data sheets are based off of the latest report from Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute released in October 2024. Note that amounts may vary depending on when bucket fills and whether a new study has been released. **The Prairie Dog bucket is anticipated to fill this fall with distribution to counties and townships toward the end of this year or early in 2027.**

GROSS PRODUCTION TAX

From April 2026 ND Director's Cut & Production Report:

Crude Oil Production

- Average output: 1.137 million bpd (barrels per day)
- Total barrels for April: 34,114,664 bbl (barrels)
- Monthly change: Down 0.48% from March's 1.142 million bpd
- Forecast gap: About 1.12% below the state's revenue forecast of 1.15 million
- Wellhead activity:
    - 11,676 wells lost ~159,337 bpd combined
    - 8,188 wells gained ~153,832 bpd combined

TOWNSHIP ROAD FUNDING

Flexible Transportation Fund: Non-oil townships are eligible for both direct distributions and discretionary grants through the Flexible Transportation Fund.

Non-oil townships will receive 9.5% in direct distributions from FTF ($20.7m/biennium) in quarterly distributions beginning in 2026 with the first distribution in April 2026. Another $31 million will be available through NDDOT grants.

For townships to be eligible for FTF funding:

- Organized Townships **must** levy at least 18 mills in their general fund and have a general fund balance of less than $100,000.
- Counties **must** levy 18 mills for the Unorganized Township levy.

SENIOR MILL LEVY MATCH

The 2015 Legislature readjusted the formula for this program, increasing the amount of state funding distributed from 85% of a mill to 87.5%. They also amended the language of this statute, providing a match equal to the amount appropriated by the county for this purpose, up to the value of one mill. Therefore, a county is no longer required to levy the mill if they have other revenues available to demonstrate the match.

CLERK OF COURT FUNDING

For those counties that contract with the Supreme Court to provide clerk of court services, the new contract amounts take effect July 1, 2027, for the 2027-2029 biennium. Therefore, the monthly reimbursements for CY2027 are calculated using the old contract amounts for the last six months of FY2026 and the new contract amounts for the first six months of FY2027. The amounts are based on the updated time-study and salary information finalized and reported to the clerks.

COURT FACILITIES GRANTS

State law governing court fees and costs associated with criminal convictions includes a provision dedicating a significant share of those revenues to the county grant program for court facilities improvement and maintenance. Grant applications will be due no later than December 31, 2026, with awards in January or February 2027. The rules adopted for this grant program require that the funds be for an "*improvement or maintenance project that is a necessary improvement to court facilities or essential to remodel or maintain existing court facilities*." The grant program requires a 25% local match and must be used for a future project. An exception may be considered for complex or extended projects that are to be completed in phases or installments.

STATE RADIO 9-1-1 DISPATCH/TELETYPE FEES

For Teletype access and for counties that contract with State Radio for 9-1-1 dispatch, the agency analyzes their actual costs and addresses rates as part of their biennial budget-setting process in the legislature.

911 Dispatch Service Rate:

Effective July 1, 2027 – June 30, 2029: **$1.59/line/month**

NDCC 37-17.3-08 establishes a cost sharing fee for the ND teletype system (LETS) on a per terminal basis based on county population as follows:

	July 1, 2025-June 30, 2027	July 1, 2027-June 30, 2029
• Less than 5,000	$40.00/month	$55.29/month
• 5,000 – 9,999	$80.00/month	$110.59/month
• 10,000 – 14,999	$120.00/month	$165.88/month
• 15,000 – 24,999	$160.00/month	$221.18/month
• Over 25,000	$200.00/month	$272.79/month

PERSONNEL COST ISSUES

DRUG & ALCOHOL TESTING

This section is for counties participating as part of the NDACo "testing pool" for the random drug and alcohol testing - required of commercial driver's license (CDL) holders employed in "safety sensitive" positions. Universal Background Screening is anticipating a **3-6% increase on rates** for 2027.

Adjustments may be made if the county has changes in staffing levels. The "no show" fee, initiated for situations where the sampler is not informed ahead of time that an individual selected for a random drug or alcohol test will be absent or otherwise unavailable for testing, is still in effect.

Contract testers can no longer draw an "alternate name" for an individual who is unavailable to test. The individual must be tested when they return to work; they may be tested by the contractor or the county's local clinic. Also, it is very important for counties that have a "no-show" to document why the situation occurred (i.e. vacation, illness, work location, etc.). Otherwise, it may become an exception if the federal DOT should audit your testing program. In addition to "no-show" fees, if the collector has a wait time (for shy bladder), or a county requests to be tested outside regular business hours (contractor travels before 8:00am - after 5:00pm), additional fees may apply. Drive time and mileage costs charged by the collectors will be a direct pass-through expense to the counties, which is the same billing format as this year.

Remember, if new full-time, part-time, or temporary employees that meet the testing requirement are added to the county payroll, a "pre-employment" drug test is required by federal regulation. Our testing contractor will complete pre-employment testing, as well as post-accident and reasonable suspicion/cause at the same per-test rate; however, that is in addition to the annual fee for the random testing. Testing fees will remain the same for 2027, so budget numbers should be similar to this year's amount, if there are no anticipated staffing level changes.

If any counties with CDL holders are not currently involved in a random testing program, we strongly encourage participation. An employer found to be out of compliance could face stiff fines and penalties. Contact Genny Dienstmann with questions.

WORKER'S COMPENSATION (CEG) PREMIUM ESTIMATES

NDACo's County Employer Group (CEG) continues to work to provide efficient risk and claims management services that have maintained the group's excellent loss history and relatively low premiums. To assist with the budgeting process, WSI and NDACo have accelerated their calculation of the 2027 estimated premium to provide each county with its 2027 estimated premium early. The calculated **2027 estimated premiums should be available and emailed in early August 2026**. Your county-specific data sheet, at this time, includes the CY2026 premiums so that you can begin the process. You should consider budgeting an increase due to an increase in WSI's payroll cap each year and potential changes to your experience rate until you receive your actual 2027 estimated premium calculation. Although we have always indicated that CEG dividend credits should not be used for budgeting, we wanted to make sure that you were also aware that depending upon incurred claim costs, we are never certain if CEG dividend credits will be provided each year.

NDPERS HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUMS

The 2027 Legislature will set the rates for the next biennium starting July 1, 2027. **We won't have any estimates for second half of 2027 premiums until after the next legislative session.**

For counties that purchase employee health insurance through the ND Public Employees Retirement System (NDPERS), the premiums negotiated by the state for the 2025-2027 biennium are important to your next year's budget. Please note that employers who participate in the Wellness Program will be assessed the "A" Rate and those who do not participate in the Wellness Program will be assessed the "B" Rate. The below monthly health insurance rates in effect through 6/30/27 are as follows:

NOTE that the premiums below are effective beginning July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2027

Grandfathered Plan 7/1/2025-6/30/2027

Pro/Basic Option		
	"A" Rate	"B" Rate
Single	$ 973.64	$ 983.36
Family	$ 2,353.58	$ 2,377.10

COBRA Pro Basic		
	"A" Rate	"B" Rate
Single	$ 993.06	$ 993.06
Family	$ 2,400.62	$ 2,400.62

Non-Grandfathered Plan 7/1/2025-6/30/2027

Pro/Basic Option		
	"A" Rate	"B" Rate
Single	$ 985.46	$ 995.28
Family	$ 2,382.24	$ 2,406.04

COBRA Pro Basic		
	"A" Rate	"B" Rate
Single	$ 1,005.16	$ 1,005.16
Family	$ 2,429.88	$ 2,429.88

For more information on these rates, refer to the NDPERS website here: Memorandum

NDPHIT EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE OPTION

The North Dakota Insurance Reserve Fund, in partnership with the Southeast Education Cooperative (SEEC), began offering an employee health insurance option to ND political subdivisions in 2021 – the North Dakota Public Health Insurance Trust (NDPHIT). NDPHIT, which includes 97 local government groups, provides the opportunity to join together to create stable group health insurance and employee wellness benefits and efficiency while also providing local governments with more control over their health insurance and other employee benefit programs. A number of counties have chosen to participate in the NDPHIT insurance program, and it is available to any county if they find it advantageous. NDPHIT recently determined rates for the 2027 plan year, and the **rate increases range between 5.76% to 11.76%,** depending on loss ratios. Detailed information on individual member group rates will be provided to members in mid-July.

NDPERS RETIREMENT

The 69th Legislature expanded the eligibility for participation in the Public Safety Defined Benefit Plan to include correctional officers, including state dispatchers as well as political subdivision dispatchers and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel. Public Safety Plan employer contributions increased starting with the January 2026 reporting month, per the rate chart on Page

8. For more detailed information on these changes to the Public Safety Plan see NDPERS MEMO 2025-9. This LINK will take you to the NDPERS “Employer Memos and Webinars” page.

HB1040 was passed by the 68th Legislature and as a result beginning January 1, 2025, counties have two PERS retirement plans to administer for employees: 1) Defined Benefit Plan (DB) for existing employees and 2) New Defined Contribution Plan (DC) for all new hires beginning 1/1/2025. **Rates for both plans can be found on Pages 8 and 9.**

Differences in Types of Plans - NDPERS

1) Defined Benefit (DB) Plan:

- Provides a guaranteed lifetime income for vested members upon retirement in the form of monthly payments
- Monthly benefit payment calculated based upon formula in NDCC 54-52
- Final Average Salary x Benefit Multiplier x Years of Service
- State pools the investment risk for all members; therefore, members are not responsible for selecting investments
- NDPERS offers PEP with the 457 plan to vest in additional employer contributions

2) Defined Contribution (DC) Plan:

- Member has access to plan account balance upon termination/retirement
- Member selects investment options
- Account balance subject to gains and losses
- Terminated members have more flexibility in withdrawing account, changing benefit payment amounts and frequency
- Funds are managed by a Trust Company, retained by NDPERS
- No PEP is necessary as the employee gets the full employer contribution (subject to vesting)

Defined Contribution Plan

The Defined Contribution Plan has a **mandatory 4% employee/5.26% employer** contribution. Employees can **elect up to an additional 3%** contribution with a corresponding employer increase.

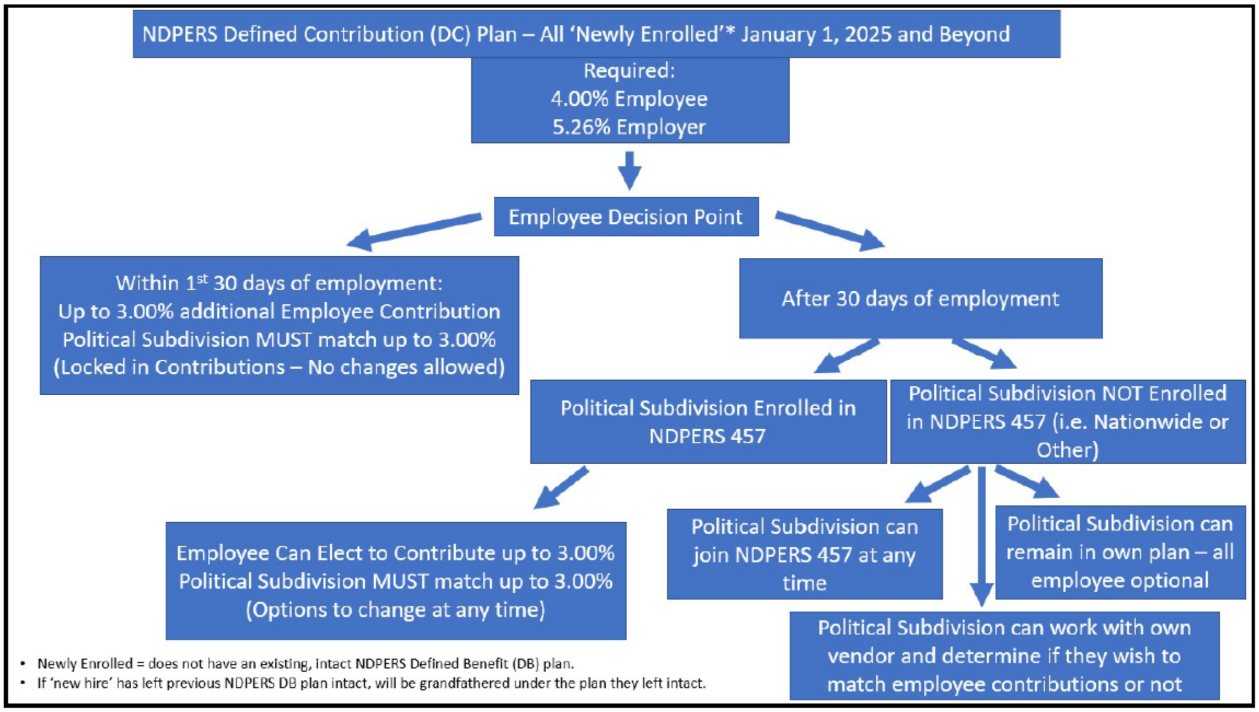
- Initial opportunity to designate additional contribution into the Defined Contribution Plan.
- Due to IRS regulations, employees **will only have 30 days from the date of hire** to make election under this plan.
- After an initial 30-day election, additional contribution goes into the NDPERS 457 Deferred Compensation Plan if elected by employee.
- Only applies if a political subdivision participates in NDPERS 457 Deferred Compensation Plan.

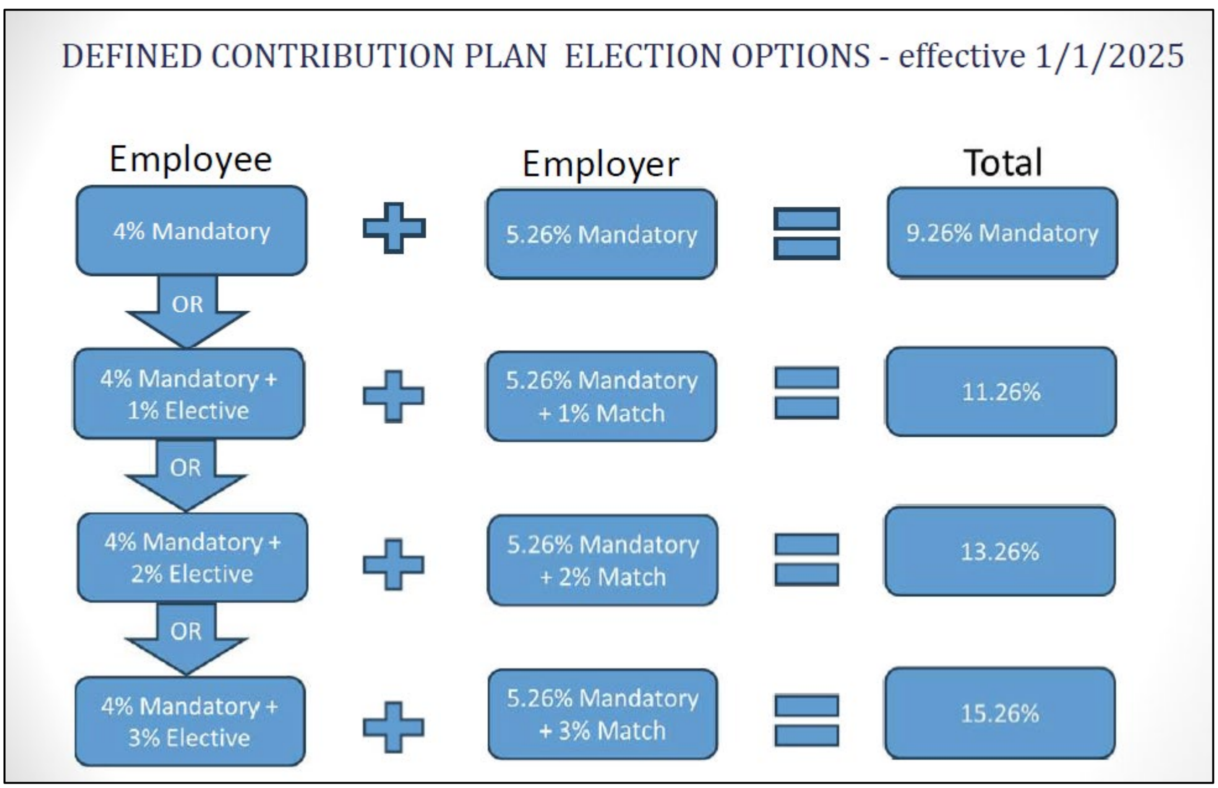
- Political subdivisions not offering the NDPERS 457 Deferred Compensation plan can contact NDPERS if they are interested in joining and offering the plan to their employees. **(See DC Plan contribution rate options on Page 9).**

NDPERS Retirement Contribution Levels	Current	Effective 1/1/2026
Employer Share (Employer MUST Pay)	8.12%	NO
Employee Share (Employer MAY Pay)	7.00%	CHANGES
Post Retirement Health-Employee (Employer MUST Pay)	1.14%	
TOTAL	**16.26%**	

NDPERS Public Safety Plan (with prior service):	Current	Effective 1/1/2026
Employer Share (Employer MUST Pay)	11.40%	12.63%
Employee Share (Employer MAY Pay)	5.50%	5.50%
Post Retirement Health-Employee (Employer MUST Pay)	1.14%	1.14%
TOTAL	**18.04%**	**19.27%**

NDPERS Public Safety Plan (without prior service):	Current	Effective 1/1/2026
Employer Share (Employer MUST Pay)	9.16%	8.81%
Employee Share (Employer MAY Pay)	5.50%	5.50%
Post Retirement Health-Employee (Employer MUST Pay)	1.14%	1.14%
TOTAL	**15.80%**	**15.45%**


NDPERS Defined Contribution (DC) Plan – All 'Newly Enrolled'* January 1, 2025 and Beyond
Required:
4.00% Employee
5.26% Employer
Employee Decision Point
Within 1st 30 days of employment:
Up to 3.00% additional Employee Contribution
Political Subdivision MUST match up to 3.00%
(Locked in Contributions – No changes allowed)
After 30 days of employment
Political Subdivision Enrolled in NDPERS 457
Political Subdivision NOT Enrolled in NDPERS 457 (i.e. Nationwide or Other)
Employee Can Elect to Contribute up to 3.00%
Political Subdivision MUST match up to 3.00%
(Options to change at any time)
Political Subdivision can join NDPERS 457 at any time
Political Subdivision can remain in own plan – all employee optional
Political Subdivision can work with own vendor and determine if they wish to match employee contributions or not
• Newly Enrolled = does not have an existing, intact NDPERS Defined Benefit (DB) plan.
• If 'new hire' has left previous NDPERS DB plan intact, will be grandfathered under the plan they left intact.


DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLAN ELECTION OPTIONS - effective 1/1/2025
Employee
Employer
Total
4% Mandatory
5.26% Mandatory
9.26% Mandatory
OR
4% Mandatory + 1% Elective
5.26% Mandatory + 1% Match
11.26%
OR
4% Mandatory + 2% Elective
5.26% Mandatory + 2% Match
13.26%
OR
4% Mandatory + 3% Elective
5.26% Mandatory + 3% Match
15.26%

NDIRF INSURANCE & LIABLITY

NDIRF continues to actively manage risk and has been very successful in keeping insurance rates in check and is **not anticipating any general rate increases for 2027. Individual county rates, however, are ultimately dependent upon your loss history, so that is key to the future.**

A gradual increase in the "tort caps" or liability limits for all of government was enacted in 2021. This is expected to increase premiums overall by 5% for renewals over a five-year period.

STATE TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT RATES

Mileage: NDCC 54-06-09 regarding use of an employee's vehicle states: "*The director of the Office of Management and Budget shall adopt rules…to set reimbursement at the same rate as established by the United States general services administration for privately owned vehicles*."

While a county board can establish a higher mileage reimbursement rate (pursuant to 11-10-15), the state rate is the minimum that counties may reimburse. The OMB personnel reimbursement website can be found at In-State Travel Reimbursement Rates and can be monitored for this "state rate;" however, NDACo will also work with OMB to track any changes and will continue to inform counties of changes as they occur. **The current federal GSA rate (effective January 1, 2026 is $.72.5 per mile;** however, changes have been implemented each January 1st for the last several years. Because this rate is driven largely by the price of gasoline, it would not be surprising if the rate changed in 2027.

Lodging: Effective August 1, 2025, NDCC 44-08-04 was amended by the 69th Legislature for in-state lodging rate to be equal to the Unites States general services administration lodging rate for the North Dakota city for which the lodging rate is claimed. Therefore, the OMB website, https://www.omb.nd.gov/fiscal-and-administrative-policy will need to be monitored for any updates. NDACo will continue to work with OMB to inform counties as changes are made.

Effective August 1, 2025, the GSA rate for in-state lodging is $110/night.

Meals: NDCC 44-08-04 which governs meal reimbursement rates as follows have been in effect since August 1, 2023:

Meal Allowance	Effective 8/1/2023	Out of State
1. First quarter, 6 a.m. to 12 noon	$ 9.00	20% of GSA M&IE rate
2. Second quarter, 12 noon to 6 p.m.	$14.00	30% of GSA M&IE rate
3. Third quarter, 6 p.m. to 12 midnight	$22.00	50% of GSA M&IE rate
4. Fourth quarter, 12 midnight to 6 a.m.		

TECHNOLOGY COSTS

STAGEnet WIDE AREA NETWORK ACCESS COSTS

Endpoint network rates for fiber and non-fiber locations increased 16% for the 2025-27 biennium. Base connectivity for state agencies with non-fiber endpoints on STAGEnet will be 250 Mbps. There are additional bandwidth options available for additional cost. Agencies that have any broadband connectivity (DSL, cable, wireless, satellite, cellular) are reminded that all connectivity should be purchased through NDIT and there is an associated broadband add-on charge in addition to vendor cost of the broadband connection. The add-on rates increased to $210 per circuit for the 2025-2027 biennium.

ND.GOV EMAIL

All non-State users (users with nd.gov email addresses) are required to purchase the Office 365 Basic package, at a minimum, for **continued access to email services at $28.90 per month.**

SYSTEM SECURITY

Cortex XDR - NDIT will continue to provide Cortex XDR, antivirus, at no cost to counties. Counties who are not using Cortex XDR for antivirus should contact their IT provider or NDIT. We have noticed a significant decrease in Malware and virus activity since implementation.

Security Awareness Training is available through NDIT utilizing the KnowBe4 product. This is a free service providing end users with security awareness training in the hopes of reducing the human component affecting security breaches. Licenses are limited. Counties who are not using KnowBe4 for security awareness training should contact their IT provider or NDIT.

Tenable's Cyber Exposure Management through NDIT is also provided to counties at no cost. This platform gives you all the insight, research, and data you need to uncover weaknesses across your entire attack surface, including in the cloud and "on-prem." Contact your IT provider or NDIT for more information.

VIRTUAL PRIVATE NETWORK (Global Protect)

VPN is required to create a secure link to the State network from remote locations.

For law enforcement using Netmotion, the price is $11.15.

ADOBE ACROBAT PRO

NDIT offers government agencies access to their Adobe Acrobat Pro subscription service. **The price will remain $7.60.**

TECHNOLOGY PLANNING & SUPPORT

While not a fixed cost for counties, we continue to encourage each county to carefully consider their technology planning and support needs for the coming year. NDIT, with some assistance from NDACo Resources Group (NRG), will continue to manage the network to the "courthouse door." Technology within the courthouse will continue to be a local responsibility. NRG encourages each county to budget funds necessary to ensure adequate technical support, whether it's through various offerings from NRG Technology Services, another vendor, a staff person, or a combination of these. Hardware may include wireless access equipment, hard-wired networking equipment, and printers or copiers. Software may include DocuPro, Tyler Technologies and other third-party vendors. Please include support agreements for software and hardware. The technology industry is moving to subscription-based usage. NRG recommends replacing desktops on a four to five-year rotation, and laptops every four years. Most counties replace their machines every four to five years, with an average cost (labor, hardware, perpetual software) estimated at $3000 per desktop and $3600 per laptop for regular office use. On July 1, 2026, NDIT extended the replacement cycle to 48 months for laptops and 60 months for desktops, and monitors as failures occur. This change allowed the rate increase to remain below 15% for the standard desktop and laptop offering for the 2025-2027 biennium.

AS400

NDIT will partner with the remaining two agencies with applications running on the AS400 platform in an effort to help guide the journey towards the platform's retirement. This effort is now aligning to the change in chargeback from individual CPU usage to a flat fee for the two remaining agencies. This fee will be split evenly between the two remaining agencies. NDIT will work with each agency to align chargeback with necessary programs or funding sources within the paying agency. If new hardware is needed before the retirement of this platform, current estimates are about $200,000.

PHONES

Something several entities with multiple county offices are considering is an IP phone system to communicate among offices more easily. Many counties have chosen to upgrade their systems not only for the human service zone office but the rest of their county as well. NRG has partnered with BEK who has a proven quality system that works well in the counties. NRG and NDACo use their phones in their offices and could not be happier. BEK can provide this anywhere in the state. If you would like pricing, contact NRG at (701) 250-9400 and they will schedule a walkthrough for your county to get a price quote together for budgeting. Some Human Service Zones have been moving some of their staff to Teams Voice through NDIT.

ASSOCIATION SUPPORT/ILG TRAINING FEES

NDCCA DUES (County Commissioner)

The County Commissioners Association Board of Directors operates on a two-year budget cycle recognizing the budget fluctuations that occur due to legislative sessions. As a result, the Board addresses their dues before even-numbered years. The NDCCA Board of Directors dues will be the same for two years, 2026 and 2027. The amounts are included in the county-specific data sheet. The total includes the county's dues to the Western Interstate Region (WIR) of the National Association of Counties.

NDACo COUNTY DUES/CORE SERVICE SUPPORT

As detailed in previous years, the Association-support formula is based 50% on valuation and 50% on average county revenues. (Both use a 10-year running average with the highest and lowest years thrown out.) To provide greater equity among the various county sizes, a minimum of one-third of the average paid by all the counties and a maximum of five times the average were established. However, the NDACo Board approved **a flat increase of $275 per county for 2027** with the plan to consider revisions to the dues formula in the next year.

NACo (National Association) MEMBERSHIP

The NACo membership dues will remain the same in 2027. The NACo Board of Directors approved the framework of the 2020 census population adjustments were approved to be implemented in 2026. As you may know, North Dakota counties have maintained 100% NACo membership for several years giving our counties two seats on the NACo Board of Directors, which helps keep them aware of our state's needs. North Dakota also has several county members serving on national committees making an impact on national policy.

OTHER COUNTY ASSOCIATION DUES

The following are the other County Official Associations that have members in the NDACo governance structure and their CY2027 annual dues amounts.

ND County Recorders Association (includes annual mtg registration)	$500/Member
ND Clerk of Courts Association	$100/Member
(Dual Membership with NACM reduces annual membership fee to $80)	
Sheriffs & Deputies Association	Tiered by Population
>50,000	$950
15,000-50,000	$650
7,500-15,000	$500
<7,500	$400
ND County Auditor/Treasurer Assoc. (Auditors)	Tiered by Population
>50,000	$750
15,000-50,000	$500
7,500-15,000	$250
<7,500	$200
ND County Auditor/Treasurer Assoc. (Treasurers)	Tiered by Population
>50,000	$750
15,000-50,000	$500
7,500-15,000	$250
<7,500	$200
ND Association of Assessing Officers	$50/Member
North Dakota County Engineers Association State Dues	$50/Member
National Engineers Association Dues (by County)	Tiered by Population
<50,000	$485
50,000-150,000	$970
150,000-250,000	$1,455
250,001-500,000	$1,940
More than 500,00	$2,425
North Dakota State's Attorneys Association Dues	State's Attorney/Assistant
1. State's Attorney	$1,000
2. Assistant State's Attorney (each)	$350

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FEES

In your budgeting efforts, we urge you to consider the benefits of continuing professional development for all county officials and employees, especially newly elected or appointed officials. Currently, ILG offers a variety of training webinars that provide all participants with valuable educational experiences. These professional development sessions are tailored specifically for local government. Members enjoy the high-quality, interactive webinars that allow them to conveniently participate from the privacy of their office, in addition to saving travel time and cost. ILG offers training webinars throughout the year, as well as on-site training at various member conventions, the NDACo Annual Conference and by county request. In addition, ILG records the webinars, which are available upon request. Members are recognized at the NDACo Annual Conference once they achieve various ILG training hour levels (Hour Levels: 30 hours, 100 hours, 150 hours, 200 hours, 300 hours and 400 hours).

We encourage each county to set aside funds in its budget to allow county personnel to take part in ILG professional development. By doing so, constituents will benefit from the training their county officials receive. Fortunately, due to our successful partnerships, most trainings are free of charge. In the occasion there is a charge, ILG training will remain $30 per hour in 2027.

NDACo EVENT REGISTRATIONS

The 2027 Annual Conference is tentatively set for October 10-12.

2027 Conference Rates

- Full Registration $270
- One Day Registration (Monday or Tuesday) $195
- First Time Attendees $165

Other major professional development opportunities to plan for in your 2027 budget:

- NACo Conferences (Legislative, WIR or Annual): $600 + travel and lodging
- The County Commissioners Association will provide a reimbursement of 50% of the travel costs (up to $1500) for each region to send one commissioner representative to attend one of the NACo Annual Conferences. More information can be found at www.ndcca.org/board/matching
- The North Dakota Association of Counties will provide a reimbursement of 50% of the travel costs (up to $1500) for each region to send one non-commissioner department head to attend one of the NACo Annual Conferences. More information can be found at www.ndaco.org/matching
- The NACo High Performance Leadership Academy is an innovative, completely online 10-week program created to equip frontline county government professionals with practical leadership skills to deliver results for counties and communities. As an incentive for paying their dues, each county will get one $500 discount from the regular fee of $1,995. Other incentives are frequently offered. An additional discount applies for any county that has not yet enrolled anyone in the academy. Contact NACo for more details.