

2012

Community Assessment



Valley City,
North Dakota

A Community Assessment of Valley City, North Dakota: 2012

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Executive Summary

The students and Dr. Gary Goreham of NDSU (SOC 404/604, Fall Semester 2012) would like to give special thanks and extend our appreciation to the Valley City Advisory Committee for volunteering their time and leadership to complete this project.

Valley City Advisory Committee

- Robert Werkoven, Mayor
- Dave Schelkoph, City Administrator
- Jennifer Feist, Valley Development Group
- Mary Lee Nielson, Rosebud Visitor Center
- Dawn Riley, North Dakota Winter Show
- Dean Koppelman, Superintendent
- Kristi Brandt, Principal
- Troy Miller, Principal
- Wayne Denault, Principal
- Dan Larson, Principal
- Paul Riemerman, Valley City Times Record
- Jeffrey Bopp, Sheyenne Valley Area Career and Technology Center

The goals of the community assessment done on Valley City were to capture the assets, resources, and possible challenges within the community itself. The research method used was based on the Community Capitals Framework (CCP) as studied with Community Assessment coursework and guided within Flora and Flora's text, *Rural Communities Legacy + Change*. The framework consisted of the following categories.

- Cultural Capital
- Natural Capital
- Human Capital
- Social Capital
- Political Capital
- Financial Capital
- Built Capital
- Governments
- Local Development Organizations

The highlight of the research was to see the intensive and strong social capital involved within Valley City. Social capital is the foundation of increasing all other capitals, and when all capitals are being used to their strengths the following outcomes occur.

- Healthy Ecosystems
- Vibrant Regional Economies
- Social Equity and Empowerment (Social Inclusion)

This study has also been extremely enriching to the students of Dr. Goreham's Community Assessment class. There is a new found respect for the community of Valley City, and other communities will never be observed the same again.

2012

Community Assessment Valley City, North Dakota



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Defining Community

Chapter 1: Defining the Community of Valley City

The purpose of this research project aims to gather information and define an asset-based assessment of Valley City, North Dakota. We will analyze the community of Valley City with specific methods to identify cultural, natural, human, social, political, financial, and built capital as well as governments and local development organizations. The research will be conducted in Fall 2012 by both undergraduate and graduate students of Soc: 404/604 Community Assessment class at North Dakota State University with Dr. Gary Goreham.



Photograph 1.1. Downtown Valley City, ND, 2013.

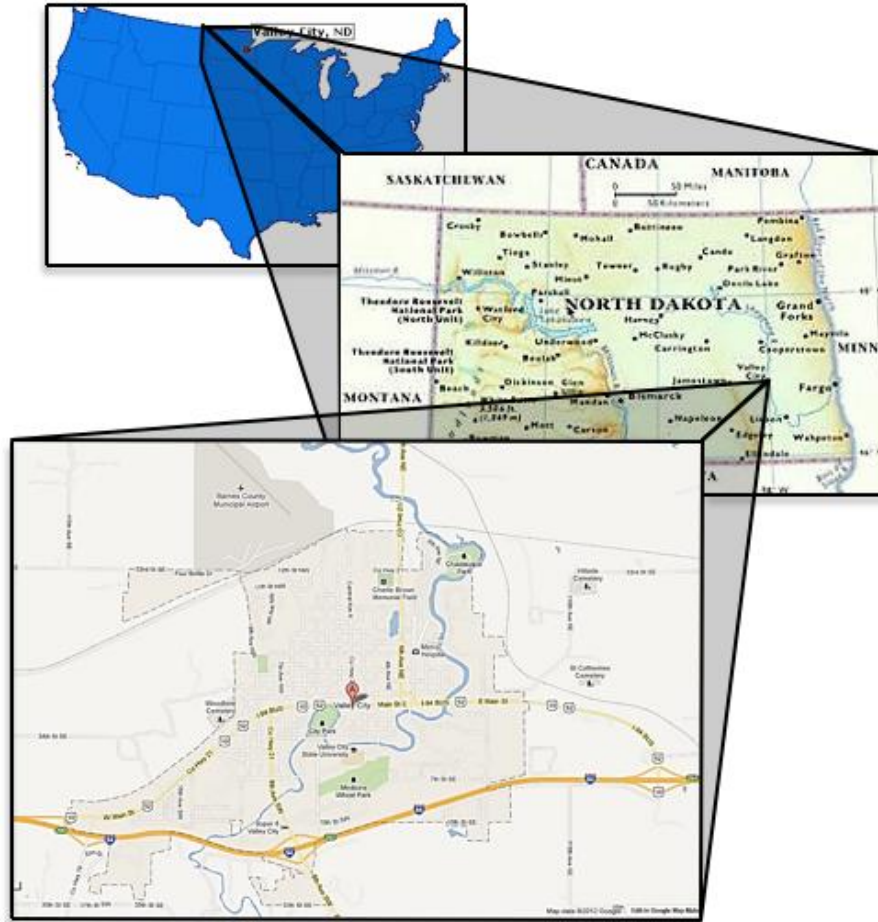
Source: Muhabbat Yakubova, 2013.

Community

To understand a community, it is significant to define what a “community” means. A community can and has been defined in many different and broad understanding. A community may be defined in several ways but they all focus on groups of people. Flora and Flora (2013) defines the concept of community as based on a shared sense of place; the shared sense of place involves relationships with people, cultures, and environment, whether natural or built. It is thus associated with a particular area. We are defining Valley City by the geopolitical boundaries of the city for our primary analysis (see Map 1.1). Additionally, we analyze the trade area of Valley City, as defined by the county in which it is located, Barnes County. Photograph 1.1 displays the downtown area of Valley City, central to the city’s retail trade.

Valley City

Valley City is a city in Barnes County, North Dakota. It is the county seat of Barnes County with a population of 6,585. Valley City is the twelfth largest city in North Dakota (valleycity.govoffice.com). According to the City department of Valley City, the city is known for its many bridges over the Sheyenne River, including the Hi-Line Railroad Bridge. These bridges have earned Valley City the distinction of being called the "City of Bridges," however residents of Valley City refer to it as “A place to call home” (Photograph 1.2).



Map 1.1. Valley City Located in East Central North Dakota.
 Sources: www.epodunk.com/cgi-bin/genInfo.php?locIndex=52927
www.google.com/imgres?q=valley+city+north+dakota
maps.google.com/maps



Photograph 1.2. One of Several Bridges over the Sheyenne River in Valley City, ND, 2013.
 Source: Muhabbat Yakubova, 2013.

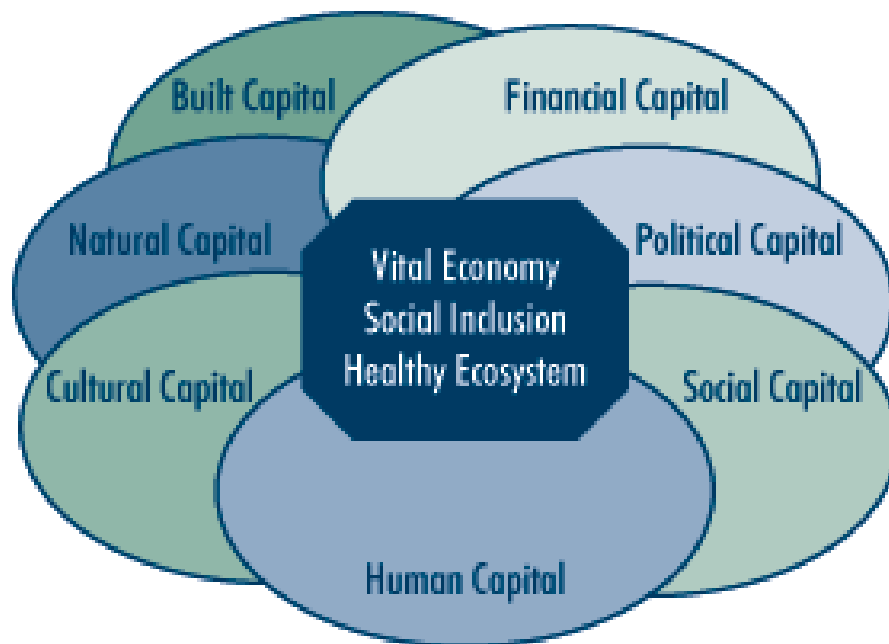


Figure 1.1. Seven Capitals in the Community Capitals Framework.
 Source: Flora and Flora (2013).

Chapter Summary

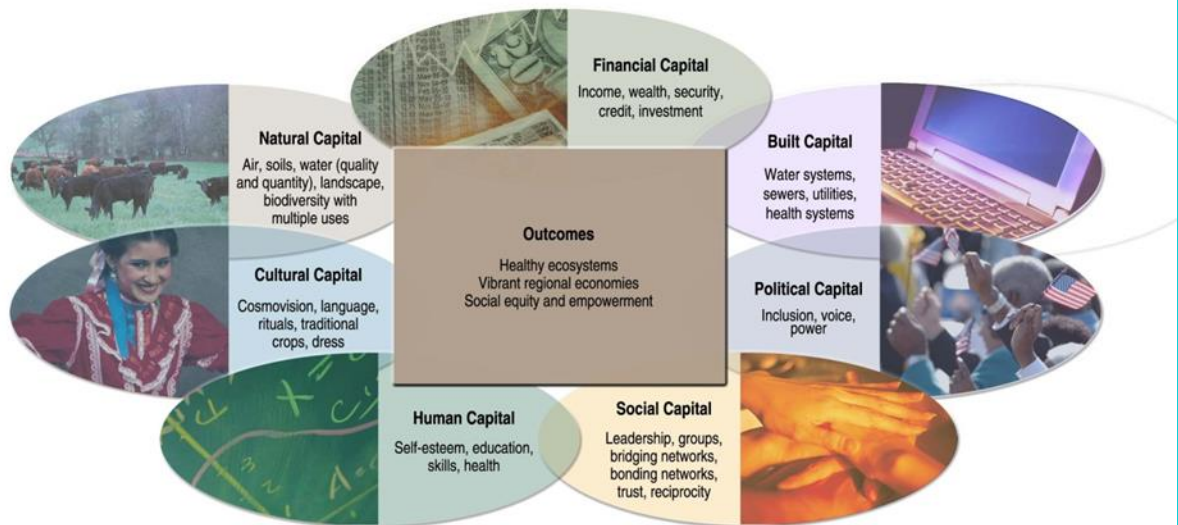
We will be using the Community Capitals Framework to systematically assess Valley City's assets. Figure 1.1 shows the seven categories put forth by Flora and Flora (2013), the chapters of this document will reflect on each section of the framework.

Chapter 2: Methods and Ethics. This chapter identifies the methods used to assess the community of Valley City's, North Dakota's capitals, as well as the ethical issues that arise. Chapter 3: Cultural Capital examines the unique community history, values, beliefs, race, ethnicity, spiritual, and cultural identity of the Valley City community. Chapter 4: Natural Capital examines Valley City's geographical location and its relevance to natural capital, the climate, water, topography and recreation. Chapter 5: Human Capital examines the unique attributes of the individuals of Valley City that contribute to their ability to earn a living, strength the community, contribute to organizations, their families and self- improvement. Chapter 6: Social Capital will look at the norms, networks, and mutual trust among and between by examining the voluntary community, and social organizations available to residents. Chapter 7: Political Capital identifies the city's organizations, connections, voice, and power; political capital is the ability of a group to influence the distribution of resources within a social unit, including helping set the agenda of what resources are available. Chapter 8: Financial Capital translates resources into monetary instruments that make them highly liquid, or easily converted into other assets. Chapter 9: Built Capital provides a supporting foundation that facilitates human activity, the permanent physical installations and facilities supporting productive activities in a community. Chapter 10: Government has three major components: collaboration, sustained citizen engagement, and regional resource leveraging. These are very important in rural areas, where governments are small, elected government officials serve part time with small budgets, and staffing are small. Finally, Chapter 11: Community development organizations describe the programs that offer support and engage in other activities that promote and support community development. Some areas may include economic development, education, community organizing and real estate development.

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Community Capitals



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Research Methods

Chapter Two: Methods and Ethics of the Community Capitals Assessment Approach

This chapter primarily looks at the types of datum that were used, where they were found, and how it was analyzed for Valley City. A mixed method approach was used in this assessment and included the following: Direct Observation, Interviews, Secondary Data, Documentary Data, and Photographic Data. These methods accumulated both qualitative and quantitative data, which were then, analyzed using the Community Capitals Framework (Flora and Flora 2013). The Community Capitals Framework has unique properties to keep in mind when conducting research and analyzing the results. The final sections of this chapter address the methodological and ethical issues faced in this project.

Direct Observation

As a method of research, direct observation is an “underused and valuable” way to collect information (Taylor-Powell & Steele 1996). Data are observed through unobtrusive means and without the awareness or explicit willingness to participate in the research. Direct observation works best when a physical presence is required, when an ongoing process or behavior can be observed, or when the information from official or other publications fail to explain the full reality of a situation.

The main advantage to direct observation is that a group can be studied in its natural settings. A researcher can see things that the studied population cannot see or will not state in a survey or through other methods. And if the studied group is not aware that it is being studied, this can avoid the “Hawthorne Effect,” in which the group alters its behavior due to the researcher’s presence (USAID 1996).

The disadvantages of direct observation include its relative subjectivity. It is up to the researcher’s judgment and adherence to professional standards that guide how they will code and measure social facts. However, before data collection, establishing a system on how and what to measure should limit this issue.

Overall, observations work best when used in conjunction with other methods, such as surveys and interviews. What one says to an interviewer of what they do can be very much different than what they actually do in the field (Chambliss & Schutt, 2012).

Interview Data

Interviews are a crucial source of information that can help gain an understanding of the community. Important city officials will play a major role in the interviewing process because of their knowledge and leadership within the community. Some of these officials include: the Mayor, City Administrator, Director of Development, Resource Development Specialist, as well as many others. Although these key figures will be important during the interviewing process, it is also important to keep in mind the entire diversity of the community. By including various voices throughout Valley City, we will give an overall understanding of life and the sense of community as a whole.

To better understand the cultural identity of Valley City our group devised a series of questions to be used in random interviews with individuals. Eight questions were developed with the focus being put on the cultural events and identities of Valley City. The questions were broad based and general so as not to direct the interviewee in any way other than the questions related to Valley City. The questionnaires were then used in face-to-face discussions with individuals encountered while in Valley City; the topic was primarily about Valley City’s cultural capital.

The individuals selected for questioning were random. Primarily individuals were approached at public spaces and asked if they would like to participate in a brief questionnaire interview. These public places generally were located in and around the center or business areas of Valley City to afford the interviewers a higher probability of contact with Valley City residents. Upon completion of the interviews, the data provided were not the type of quantifiable data that may be used to create graphs or charts or raw numbers. Instead the answers to the questions gave our group direction and a better understanding of the community through a culturally pointed lens. Issues with the methodology were that we would have preferred a larger sampling of the population, due to time and area constraints there may be groups of the population that are not represented in the sampling.

Secondary Data

Secondary data are from people or organizations that conducted research pertaining to a different topic, yet the results were useful to the community assessment that is being conducted. Most of the secondary data collection came from government websites, such as U.S. Census Bureau, Housing and Urban Development, and North Dakota State Historical Society.

Documentary Data

Documentary data are good sources of information to use when trying to understand the foundation of Valley City. Some of the documents that were used included items such as newspapers, promotional pamphlets, city records, and many others. Another type of pamphlet that was beneficial for this study, as well as the city itself, came from Valley City State University. This institution provided numerous artifacts that were crucial in studying and understanding Valley City. Documentary data allowed the researchers to look at the history and helped give richer description and gain a better understanding of Valley City.

Photographic Data

Photographic data are the visual presence of the community being researched. It incorporates all aspects of the area into an observational approach that allows further understanding of the community. It is used to capture the different points of interest, highlights of the community, and the overall essence of the community. Examples of photographic data for Valley City include images of signs, businesses, houses, infrastructure, churches, schools, hospitals, parks, people, natural resources, government buildings, etc. These types of data are critical to bringing life to the all the different types of research that is being done.

Data Analysis

Data analysis is the review of all the research compiled through the different methods. This creates the foundation to the understanding of the different types of capital: human, social, financial, built, political, cultural, and natural. The reason for a mixed methods approach for obtaining data is triangulation, which validates data through cross verification from more than two sources. Interview data is analyzed using interview analysis methods, direct observation is analyzed using direct observation analysis methods, and so on. After the analyses are completed, then we can determine if there are consistent and quality conclusions to be drawn from the data.

Methodological Issues

Since the community capital framework takes a comprehensive view of multiple facets of a community, all of the methods described above were employed in the research process. Each type of data was not by itself able to paint a full picture. Being aware of the advantages and limitations of each data collection method helped us to determine how to go about collecting the information necessary to provide a quality assessment of the community.

One issue that we had to deal with was maintaining objectivity. Most students are from North Dakota or Minnesota, and have visited or at least know about Valley City. Our conclusions can be swayed by this fact, and can vary from those who are not from the region.

Attempting to contact businesses, non-profits, and other local institutions was problematic. This project was perhaps viewed as only for the benefit of students, who weren't seen as professionals. However, in our code of ethics we set the goal of having this community assessment counting for more than a grade. It is our hope that local leaders can use this document in their community development efforts.

Ethical Issues

The entire Community Assessment class completed training through the NDSU Institutional Review Board (IRB). This certification process made students aware of the ethical challenges in research. Topics covered included the regulations surrounding research, assessing risk to human subjects, privacy and confidentiality, and obtaining informed consent.

Confidentiality and privacy needed to be maintained throughout this project. Interviews with those in some official capacity are named, however interviews with the average citizen remained anonymous. This allows for citizens to feel free to express their opinion, but for officials they are constricted by their office and the rhetoric that they need to employ.

This community assessment is guided by the principles of beneficence and non-maleficence. The former is defined as actions that are meant to help the subject being studied; the latter is defined as methods that intend to cause no harm. Justice in the terms of this assessment includes assessing who benefits from this research and who bears the cost of this research.

The Community Assessment class also found it pertinent to develop a Code of Ethics that each student contributed to. This document is in the appendix of the chapter.

References

Printed Materials.

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Cultural Capital

Chapter 3: Cultural Capital in Valley City

Culture is defined as the way people in society think, act, feel, what they own, and how they view the world (Flora and Flora, 2013). Flora and Flora (2013) “go on to say that culture is the practices, objects, beliefs, and values that constitute a way of life” (pg. 56). In other words it can be anything from the festivals the community is involved in every year to the types of foods Valley City eats based on our ethnicities, or even the arts and crafts they take part in. Culture is just simply put, everything. Valley City has many groups and organizations representing culture in athletics, religious events, music, arts and crafts, and the list goes on and on. Another important aspect to look at is the cultural hegemony. Cultural hegemony allows one group to impose its symbols and reward systems on other groups (Flora and Flora, 2012).

The cultural capital chapter of this assessment looks generally at what makes Valley City the unique city it has become. In this chapter we examine Valley City through a historical perspective and try to understand all of the aspects that aided in making Valley City the community that it is today. A crucial element to culture is the individuals themselves and the views, beliefs, and ideas they bring with them to the community. As a result this chapter will look at the racial, ethnic, and gender compositions of Valley City and attempt to understand all of the ways that those dynamics may influence the community. Religious and social institutions will be looked at as well along with any other factors that may affect the community of Valley City and how it is viewed by its residents.

History of Valley City

Similar to many of the communities in North Dakota and throughout the Midwest, Valley City originally was nothing more than an area of speculation along the railroad tracks aiding in the westward expansion of the United States in the late 1800s. Originally known as the Second Crossing by the Sheyenne River, the Northern Pacific Railroad first reached the Sheyenne in 1872, also referred to as the fifth siding by the railroad. The second crossing received its first mail in 1873 addressed to Paddy Dolein, a railroad worker helping to establish the early buildings. Shortly after, the site was renamed Wahpeton until 1876 when the growing village established its first Post Office and was renamed Worthington. This was not the only Worthington in the region however and much of the mail was delivered incorrectly between the two cities. Eventually Worthington, at the second crossing, was renamed Valley City and incorporated as a city in 1883. The early 1880s saw a time of rapid growth and development for the young city as immigration from the east increased the population dramatically. Between 1880 and 1882 Valley city experienced a period



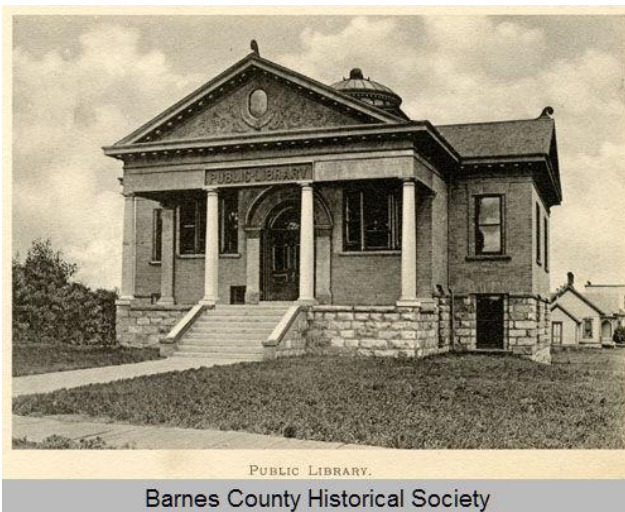
Photograph 3.1 Russell Miller Milling Company
Source: Used by Permission, digitalhorizonsonline.org

of rapid growth and building booms. As the trains moved west though, so did the immigrants and the relatively easy prosperity. By the mid 1880s Valley City had settled into a period of stable growth and development partially spurred on by the continual railroad traffic and the burgeoning agricultural industry. Above in Photograph 3.1 is an example of history within Valley City

displaying the Russell Miller Milling Company. By 1890, the city's growth warranted the building of the Normal School, expansion of the Russell-Miller Milling Company, development of the Valley City Fire Department in 1895, and improvements to the Opera House. The early 1900s saw continued growth with the addition of a Carnegie Library in 1903 as well as the High School which still serves as a Junior High School today. The High Line Bridge was completed in 1908

Around the turn of the century Valley City began to see a shift in economic drivers. Whereas agriculture had always been prevalent (the first produce was 500 bushels of potatoes in 1882), the railroad had been the primary driver of growth and development. Although trains were still part of the scene, it was now to haul grains and agricultural products east and west to the growing industrial and population centers. With the ever-growing importance of agriculture, the Winter Show, an event highlighting agricultural practices and techniques while honoring pioneer culture and heritage, started in 1937 and has come to be one of the largest events in Valley City.

Throughout all of the growth and decline, trials and tribulations, prosperity and hardship, Valley City has always been concerned with education and held its advancement in high regard.



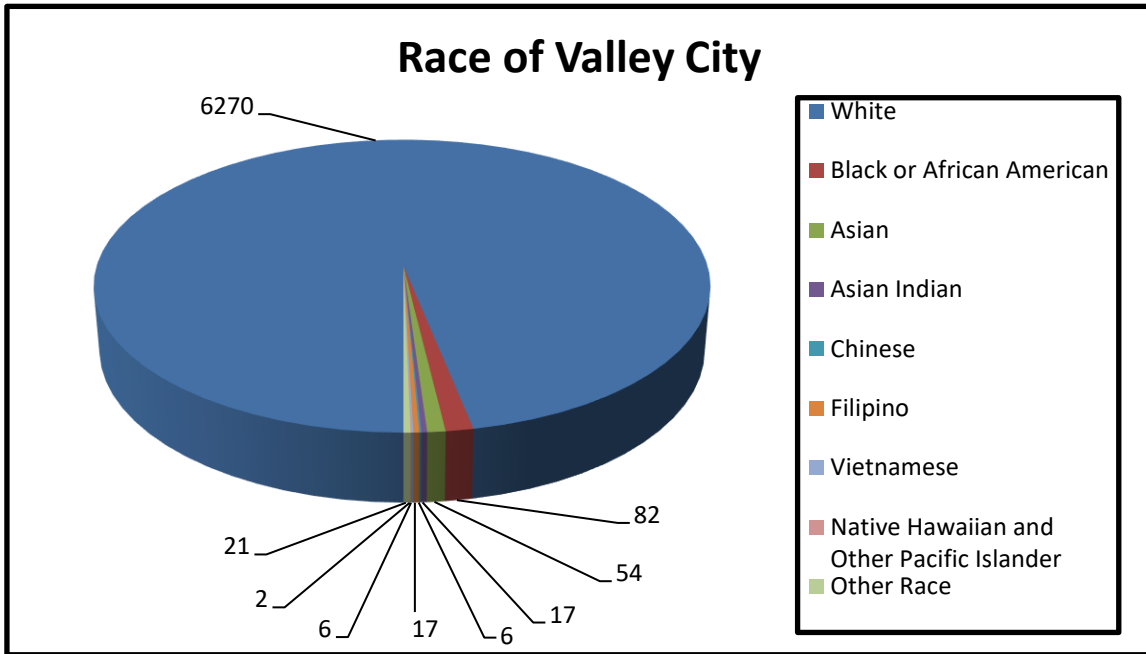
As early as 1878 the community had a school in place upgrading to a 40 seat school house for the nearly 100 students by 1881. Constantly improving and expanding the school system of Valley City has been a core concern of the community. Perhaps the crown jewel of the community's education system however is the Valley City State University. Founded in 1890 as the State Normal School, it became the State Teachers College in 1921, then Valley City State College in 1963 before becoming the present day VCSU in 1987. Throughout its history VCSU has experienced much growth and is constantly supported by the community.

Photograph 3.2 Valley City Carnegie Library
Source: Used by Permission, digitalhorizonsonline.org

Race, Ethnicity, and Gender

The most recent data on the composition of the general population comes from the 2010 U.S. Census (www.census.gov). Although these numbers may reflect the current racial and ethnic numbers of Valley City, immigration and emigration have affected the cultural and racial identity of the community and will continue to do so. Another factor that may not be well represented in the census data that would certainly be a vital component of the racial and ethnic identity of Valley City would be the constant flux of students entering and graduating from VCSU.

Current Racial and Ethnic Statistics: As of 2010 Valley City had a total population of 6,585 individuals. Of the total population, 98.3% identified as one race. The overwhelming majority, identified themselves as White (6,270) whereas 82 identified themselves as Black or African American. Figure 3.1 displays the number of individuals by race in Valley City as of the 2010 census. The remaining categories had 48 individuals who identified themselves as American Indian and Alaska Native, 54 identify as Asian, two identified as Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander and 16 Identified as Other.



Leadership Roles: Due to the small percentage of minorities in the community, their representation in leadership roles is not as prevalent. Valley City residents elected Riley H. Rogers III who was the first African American Mayor of Valley City and tied for first African American Mayor of any North Dakota community (Congregational Church of Christ, 2012).

Racial and Ethnic Relations: There are no blatant or obvious racial or ethnic tensions that are readily observable to someone not from the community. Given the homogeneous nature of the community, there is less opportunity for tensions to arise. There have historically been instances of racial and ethnic tensions; the most recent was a brief stop by members of the Aryan Nation in 2007. Much like any community, there are whispers and talk by some against others; there may even be a general bias against certain groups of people conducted by the community as a whole. However, there was not any evidence to suggest that the community has any hostility or are adversarial towards a particular racial or ethnic group.

Spiritual Capital

According to spiritualcapital.org, “spiritual capital” is defined as a concept that involves the quantification of the value to individuals, groups, and society of spiritual inspiration and practice.

Valley City Faith Groups: Valley City takes pride in their faith. Churches that are represented in this town vary in their rituals, but the majority is all Christianity based. Although their rituals differ they all share the same common mission. The mission they hope to share is to spread the faith onto the youth of Valley City in hopes to obtain a clean environment and safe streets for future generations; not by preaching but by coming together in praise.

The researchers found several interesting facts concerning the spiritual capital of Valley City. First of all the religious groups of Valley City participate in what is called a Ministerial association which gathers participating leaders of the church in so that they can come together and share each other’s faith. When interviewing the leaders of the churches they all mentioned that they wanted to come together and experience each other’s ways. The way in which they do this is by community activities that benefit their community and surrounding areas.

By providing unity throughout the churches they share a certain peaceful commodity that unites the town. The amazing thing the researchers found was that when speaking to one church the spokesperson for that church had at least one great thing to say about another church down the street and what they saw that church do for the community. Attached in Appendix 3.1 will be the list of churches and faith groups throughout the community as well as the contact information and some unique facts.

Cultural Capital and Challenges

When asked to define the community of Valley City, given the two descriptors of “rural” or “urban,” most individuals leaned towards describing it as “rural,” yet many people said it leans towards an “urban” feel. Longtime residents held the more urban sentiment whereas newer residents view the community as more rural. There seemed to be no end however to the positive adjectives that often accompanied their urban/rural decisions. Friendly, helpful, close knit,



Photograph 3.3. Quilted Ceiling, Valley City, 2012

Source: Gary Goreham, 2012.

peaceful, and fun were only a few of the explanations used to expand on their views of Valley City. According to most interviewees there is a strong religious current that underlies the City of Bridges. This combined with the VCSU and the school systems were most commonly referred to as the community’s assets or strengths.

One other important aspect to look at within Valley City is how the community’s cultural legacy is being transmitted intergenerationally. Photograph 3.3 is an example of how culture is displayed throughout Valley City. The Quilted Ceiling takes part in many festivals with the community each year including the Americana Festival in August. To those who are unsure of the term legacy, Flora and Flora (2013) define it as, “the money or

property left to someone through a will, typically what parents leave their children; legacy is what families, communities, groups, and nations pass on to the next generation” (pg. 55). One legacy that Valley City brings on each year, which many of us are familiar with is the ND Winter Show. As stated earlier it started in March of 1938 and its main purpose then was to highlight the role of agriculture and ranching in the state as well as introduce some of the main products and equipment (Valley City 125th Anniversary Book Committee, 2008). Today the ND Winter Show is full of events, games, food; in short it is full of culture. Some of the popular events that take place each year include the following:

- Chili Cook-off
- Agricultural Challenge Machinery Show
- Purebred junior and open livestock shows
- Antique Show and Sale
- Arts and Crafts Exhibits
- Tasting Bee
- Steer shows
- PRCA rodeos
- Horse pulls
- Old time tractor pull
- Nation’s largest crop show
- Farm toy show

According to Valleycitynd.com, some other important events that occur in Valley City are the development of fine arts and humanities such as the Bridges Art Council who promote local artists in the community, VCSU Community School of the Arts which helps citizens in Valley City to gain access to different programs within the area, and lastly the Valley City Area Community Theatre which puts on many productions throughout the year.

Although culture is what brings the community together and provides important assets to the community, we do tend to see one cultural conflict impacting Valley City each year. That conflict would be the reoccurring floods that the Sheyenne River brings. Within the last three years, Valley City experienced two catastrophic floods that brought an overwhelming amount of devastation along with emotional and physical stress. Although floods are viewed primarily as negative events due to the damage and strain they cause there are positives aspects that come from the flood as well. Through combined efforts to save the city residents feel more connected and a shared sense of unity brought on by these events. Through the planning and implementation stages, such as buy outs and levee construction, the community has a common issue that can spur discussion and bring in new ideas. Whereas most residents would rather not have to deal with flooding, the response to and results of past floods have made the community of Valley City stronger.

Conclusion

Overall, culture is an important asset to any type of community because of the values and beliefs that constitute a way of life. Valley City has numerous cultural assets, some of which are being fully utilized while others have yet to see their full potential. Valley City appears to be open to people of all ethnicities and backgrounds, yet the demographics indicate otherwise. There are numerous religious institutions throughout the valley however not all denominations are fully represented. There are grand historic buildings and cultural heritage throughout the community that may be being under-utilized or not displayed as prominently as an outside observer may expect. Ultimately there are many things that Valley City has to offer in terms of cultural capital, built on a century plus of history and shared experience. How Valley City continues to transmit that legacy is dependent upon current and future residents.

Strengths/ Resources/ and Assets

Below is a list of the strengths, resources, and assets highlighted throughout Valley City. While cultural capital may be a difficult term to grasp, it is evident throughout the community.

- Barnes County Historical Site, 315 Central Ave. N., 701-845-0966
- Detailed website: www.valleycitynd.com
- 23 Active Churches
- Geographic location
- Topographical variance from the rest of the region
- The Valley
- North Dakota Winter Show Event
- Community Days
- Street dance
- Street Sales
- Ralley in the Valley
- School/Youth Athletics
- Booster events
- 2009 and 2011 Floods
- Brings community together
- Sense of accomplishment

Challenges

- Difficult to develop an analysis of churches and faith groups within the community
- Homogenized
- Geographic Location

2012

Community Assessment Valley City, North
Dakota



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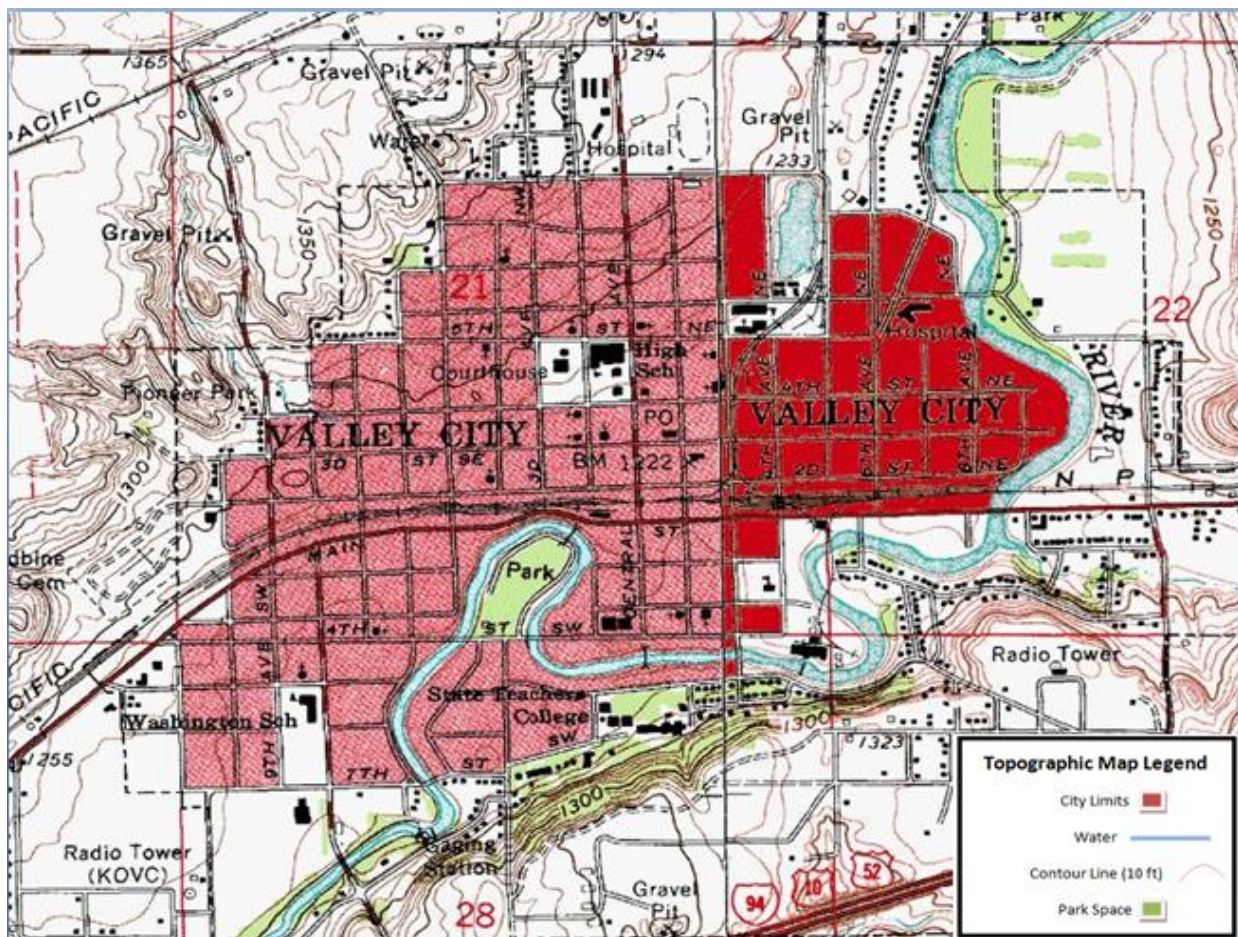
Natural
Capital

Chapter 4: Natural Capital

Flora and Flora (2012) define natural capital as the landscape, climate, air, water, soil, plants, and animals and state that the natural capital is the base on which all other capitals depend on. Natural capital can be consumed and extinct and it influences and is influenced by human activities. This chapter examines Valley City's location, soil, topography, climate, water resources, parks and recreation centers, wildlife along with assets they create, and the challenges that exist in the region regarding natural capital

Topography

Valley City is located in Barnes County at latitude 46.9233 and longitude 98.0032. The elevation is 1,220 feet. Valley City appears on the Valley City West U.S. Geological Survey Map (Map 4.1) (City-Data.com).



Map 4.1. Valley City Topography Map, 2012.
Source: www.topoquest.com/map.php

Climate

The weather in Valley City varies greatly by season and is defined humid continental. This climate refers to weather conditions that are sometimes severely cold, winters and warm to hot summers. This can be demonstrated by the data on Table 1 below. The table has a variety of numbers referencing temperature and precipitation. Valley City is cold in winter and is quite warm in summer. July is considered as the warmest month. The highest average temperature in Valley City is in July at 69.9 degrees. The coldest average temperature in Valley City occurs in January at 8.8 degrees. The most monthly precipitation in Valley City occurs in June with 5.41 inches; with the largest snowfall occurring in February at 14.5 inches. The highest recorded temperature was 104°F in 1988. The lowest recorded temperature was -44°F in 1994 (Belsoft, 2012).

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg
Avg Max Temperature	19.9	12.5	37.8	52.6	67.5	75.9	81.7	75.8	69.1	57.1	37.6	18.9	50.50
Avg Min Temperature	-2.3	-7.4	19.1	27.7	44.7	55.2	58.0	51.5	44.7	35.3	19.1	-1.6	28.70
Avg Temperature	8.8	2.6	28.4	40.2	56.1	65.5	69.9	63.7	56.9	46.2	28.4	8.6	39.60
Avg Precipitation	0.03	0.82	1.90	0.85	4.97	5.41	1.86	1.10	1.93	2.15	0.14	0.85	22.01
Avg Snowfall	1.6	14.5	3.5	4.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	12.2	36.60

Table 4.1. Climate Characteristic Averages Table, Valley City.
Source: Belsoft, 2012

Water Resources

Lake Ashtabula: Lake Ashtabula is located 12 miles north of the Valley City in the most beautiful river valleys in the region (Photograph 4.1). It covers 5,234 acres with 27 miles length and 42 feet depth. The lake is formed by Baldhill Dam on the Sheyenne River. The lake serves as an outdoor recreation area and offers a range of activities for every season of the year. During winter visitors can enjoy the snow by participating in cross-country or downhill skiing. Spring bring out opportunities to view migrating waterfowl and the start of the fishing season. Summer kicks the area into full gear as fishing hits its peak visitors can enjoy camping, boating, and swimming on the lake. The name “Ashtabula” means “Fish River” from a Native American word, which truly suits its fish population. The lake provides excellent fishing opportunities and is known for its wide species of fish such as northern pike, perch, walleye and white bass. Also, the lake includes other type of small fish like small mouth bass, crappie and bullhead. Seven boat ramps, two accessible fishing piers and four automated fish cleaning stations can be found on the lake. Licenses and bait can be purchased from concessionaires around the lake. The lake also serves as a resort area offering the visitors a wide range of activities such as camping and recreational sports (Hallovally.com).

Sheyenne River: The Sheyenne River is the longest river in North Dakota (Photograph 4.1). It is about 295 miles long and drains the area of 24,240 square miles. The river originates in Sheridan County in central North Dakota and flows to the south – central North Dakota. Finally it is drained into the Red River just north of Fargo. On its way, the Sheyenne River passes through a variety of North Dakota territories, including flat plains, rolling sand hills, wide bottomland, tall grass prairie, and hardwood forests. Several small dams and reservoirs are built on the Sheyenne River to regulate the flows of the river. The Baldhill Dam, which is just north of Valley City, is one such structure. These dams provide flood control and can be used to supplement downstream release during low flow.



Photograph 4.1. Sheyenne River, October 4, 2012
Source: Cody Mattson, 2012

The Sheyenne River also serves as a source of many water-based recreation activities in North Dakota. Lake Ashtabula is one of such places used for fishing and boating. Particularly, the south part of the river is an especially popular and scenic canoeing route, as it crosses Fort Ransom State Park, Sheyenne State Forest and the Sheyenne National Grasslands.

Many recreational opportunities are offered along this lengthy, peaceful river system. The diversity of natural features along its meandering path is an

attraction to many, as visitors can see terrain seldom associated with North Dakota. Sand hills, abrupt river banks, and noble stands of forest invite photographers, hikers, and sightseers to spend a day marveling at the innate beauty of the river valley (Hallovalley.com).

Baldhill Dam: The Baldhill Dam is located at Lake Ashtabula in Barnes County, about 10 miles north-northwest of Valley City, North Dakota. The dam is named for the hills surrounding it and the alternative name of it is Lake Ashtabula Dam. It was constructed as a multiple purpose reservoir project on the Sheyenne River. The dam was built as a water supply for things like irrigation and as a flood control structure on Sheyenne River by the United States Corps of Engineers. The dam has three spillways that are 60 feet tall and 1,800 feet length. Maximum discharge of the dam is 126,000 cubic feet per second. The capacity of the dam is 1,567,000 acre feet which is a large scale measurement for vast areas of water. Normal storage is 69,500 acre feet. The dam drains an area of 8,078 square miles. All the water in the reservoir cannot be released instantly after spring runoff as some must preserved for release during low-flow periods in summer, late fall, and throughout the winter to assure sufficient water supply for the downstream communities. Visitors can participate in activities such as boating, fishing, hiking, hunting, water sports, winter sports, and wildlife viewing (Hallovalley.com).

Wildlife

Valley City has a variety of different wildlife. Notably is the wide variety of fish. Valley City is home to one of two National Fish Hatcheries in North Dakota, (National Fish Hatchery website) The hatchery currently breeds several species of fish that find home to Valley City rivers, ponds, and lakes, such as Northern Pike, Walleye, Yellow Perch, Tiger Muskie, Smallmouth Bass, Largemouth Bass, and Bluegill. The hatchery is used to help control the fish population rather than increase and diversify.

Valley City also is rich with mammal species. Valley City is home to a wide variety of animals, such as whitetail deer, coyote, duck, geese, pheasant, hawk, eagle, owl, grouse, partridge, fox, raccoon, skunk, dove, and cotton tail rabbit.



Figure 4.1. Varieties of Natural Capital of Valley City Area.
Source: Source: Cody Mattson and Muhabbat Yakubova, 2012

Valley City Parks

Valley City has a very intricate and prominent Parks and Recreation Department. There are activities and athletic programs provided by the city itself. These include softball, basketball, golf, swimming, walking, open gym, aerobics, etc. The parks of Valley City include the following: Chautauqua Park, Dacotah Pavilion, City Park, City Disc Golf 9-hole Course,

Granger Hill Park, Hi-Line Park, Hinchberger Park, Pioneer Park, Valley City Skate Park, and Veterans Memorial Park (vcparks.com).

There is variety of parks in the city, which range from the Skate Park, Disc Golf Course, Chautauqua Park, to the Dacotah Pavilion. The parks board is a group of individuals that look over and access what needs the facilities are lacking. They also make managerial decisions over funds for the department. Each of these facilities are described below.

West City Park Bridge was built in 1929 and was named to the National Register of Historic Places in 1997. A new, wider arch bridge was built in 2007(hellovalley.com).

Fort Ransom State Park is a public land/park holds a list of features picnic areas, a North Country Trail hiking segment, camping, mountain biking, horse facilities, plus canoe and kayak rentals. (hellovalley.com)

Dead Colt Creek Park is a more outdoors orientated park and is located farther out from the city on Highway 32. It lists attractions such as camping, fishing and water sports (hellovalley.com).

Following are natural capital Strengths/ Resources/ and Assets of Valley City:

- Water/ Conservation
- Dam
- Parks/Recreation
- Wildlife and Game

Below are natural capital challenges of Valley City:

- Flooding
- Harsh Winter

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Community Assessment Valley City, North
Dakota



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Human
Capital

Chapter 5: Human Capital of Valley City

Human Capital is defined, for the purposes of the assessment of Valley City, ND, as “those attributes of individuals that contribute to their ability to earn a living, strengthen community, and otherwise contribute to community organizations, their families, and self-improvement” (Flora, 2013, p. 84). Identifying the human capital of a community is critical as economic growth. Places with higher population of skilled and educated persons are more productive and attract population at a faster rate (Simon, 1998).

The goal of this chapter is to discover the strengths, resources, and assets of Valley City’s current human capital. Covered in this chapter will contain the current and historic population of Valley City, ND as well as identifying the stability of the population. Also analyzed will be the birth and death rates, migration rates, racial/ethnic backgrounds, religious backgrounds, level of education, and the primary occupations with Valley City, ND.

Historic Population of Valley City

Shown in Figure 5.1 (Appendix Table 5.1) is the population trend from 1900 to 2010. There had been population growth through 1960s when the growth level reached is plateau. Since the late 1970s, early 1980s Valley City has experienced a steady population decline and is projected to continue this trend into 2020 and beyond. Valley City is experiencing a common trend throughout North Dakota and the Great Plains. Based on the North Dakota Data Center most rural counties are experiences rural depopulation as young adults and families move out of rural towns and cities. This trend has been increasing since the early 1970s and is causing an imbalance in population age structure (Center, 2012).

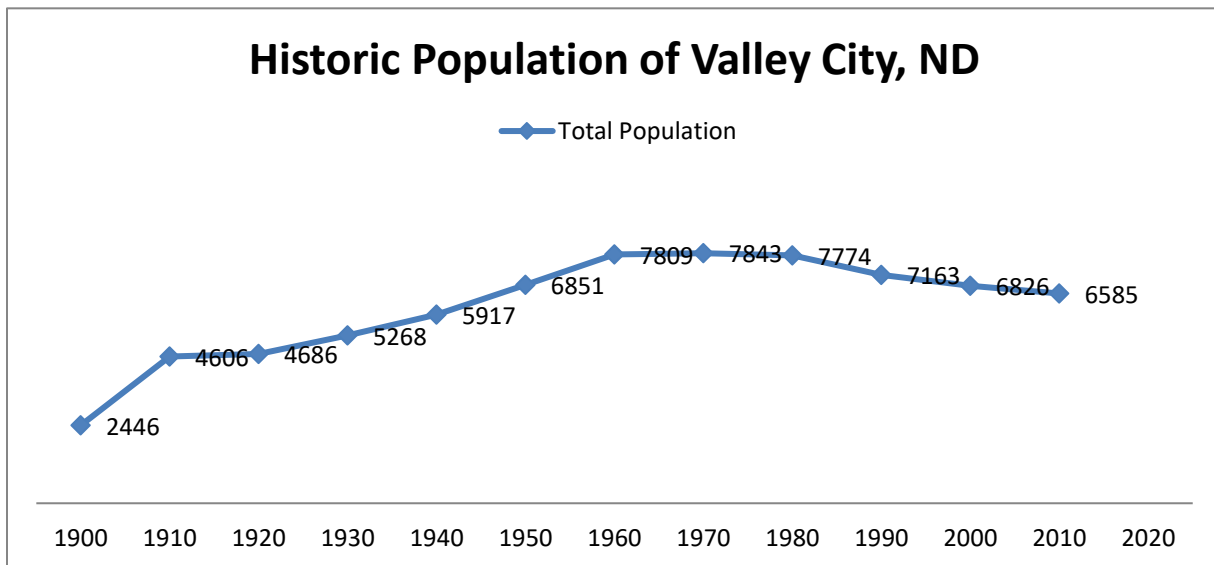


Figure 5.1 Historic Population of Valley City, ND, 1900-2010.

Source: www.census.gov, Appendix Table 5.1

Age Demographic of Valley City

In order to look at the overall stability of the population is important to look at the various population levels by age and sex. As seen in Figure 5.2 (Appendix Table 5.2), from 1990 to 2010 the predominant population is over 18, but more importantly is the steady decline of those under 18. The decrease in children may be an indicator that year after year the median age of the population is older and outside the general child bearing years.

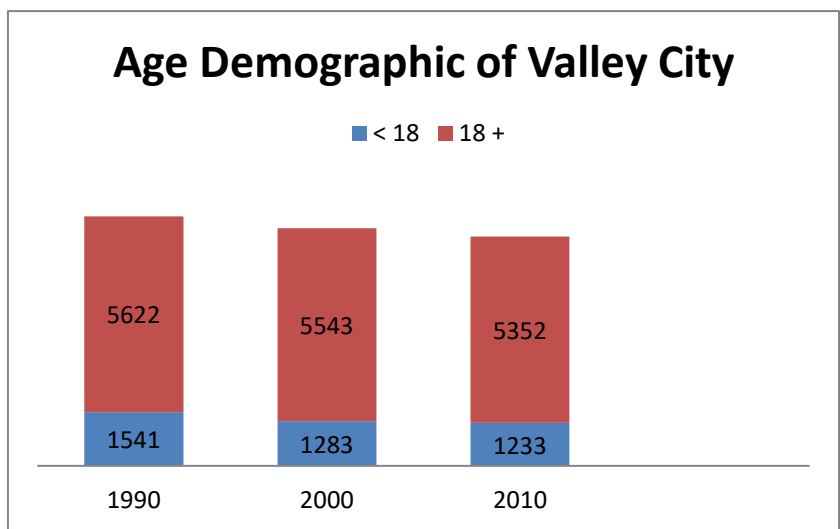


Figure 5.2 Number of Individuals Less than Age 18 and Age 18+, Valley City, ND, 2010. Source: www.census.gov,

In Table 5.1 the population is broken down further to help determine the migration levels. There is a decrease of those individuals 65 and older, an increase of 311 in the age range between 35 and 64, and a decrease in age brackets of 20 to 24 and those who are minors.

2010		2000	
Age	Population	Age	Population
< 18	1233	<18	1283
18+	5352	18+	5543
20 -24	614	20-24	703
25 – 34	762	25 -34	653
35 – 49	997	35 – 44	807
50 – 64	1275	45 – 54	841
65+	1447	60 – 64	313
		65+	1576
TOTAL	6585		6826

Table 5.1 Population by Age for Valley City, ND 2000 and 2010. Source: www.census.gov

There was limited data based on age and sex for Valley City as defined in this project, but data were available for Barnes County found on North Dakota State Data Center. In figure 5.3 age and sex are taken into consideration based on 2000 data, and projections for 2020. The data for Barnes County tends to mirror the information found in Figure 5.4 (Appendix Table 5.4) with an increasing older population. The overall male to female ratio does slightly favor female sex although fairly even throughout the age categories with one exception. The women in Valley City tend to outlive men.

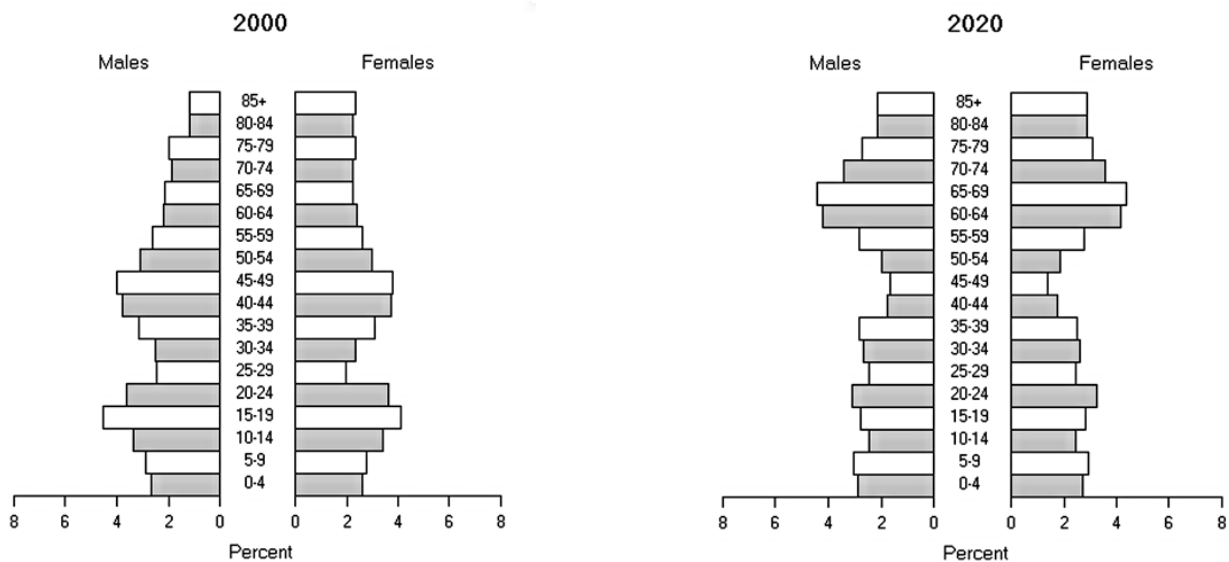
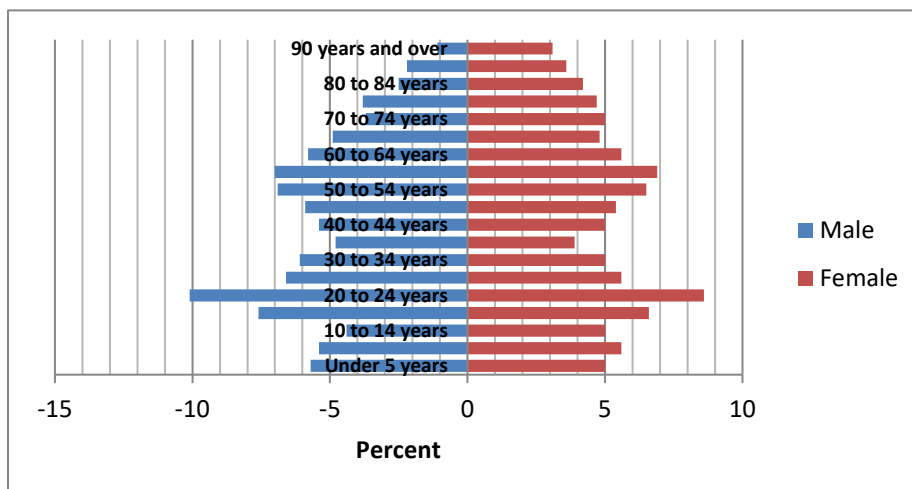


Figure 5.3 Age and Sex Demographic of the population of Barnes County, 2000 and 2020.
 Source: www.ndsu.edu/sdc/,

An aging population carries both benefits and risks for community vitality. For instance, retired residents seek opportunities for meaningful challenging volunteer service and they often hire community residents for assistance with home and yard maintenance. Elderly people spend money in their communities without requiring paid employment, resulting in a net gain to their community’s economy. These residents do require a broader range of mobility/ transit and health care options than working age or younger residents and often require affordable and/ or universally accessible housing options to permit them to age in place.



The data reflected in Figure 5.4 (Appendix Table 5.4), follows the age and sex demographic specific to Valley City, ND. The age group from age 20 to 24 is surely a product of the university in town,

Figure 5.4 2010 Age and Sex Demographic of the population of Valley City, ND, 2010.
 Source: www.census.gov, Appendix Table 5.4

Valley City State University. The next most populous segment of the population is the age group 15 to 19 which may also be the direct result of student enrollment into the university because it includes university students in their first one and a half years of study. The population tends to decrease between ages 30 to 49 before seeing another spike. The post World War II Baby Boom is represented by the second spike in the population pyramid.

Births

Although Valley City does not have a birthing unit at the hospital, the US Census records births by the residency of the mother. According to the US Census, nearly 4.6% of the total number of women of childbearing age in Valley City gave birth between January 2010 and December 2010, which represents a birthrate shy of 1.4 children per woman. We contrast this with a replacement rate of 2.1 children per woman. If 2010 were a typical year, Valley City would experience Genteel Decay of its population absent immigration into the community. Of the women who did give birth in 2010, approximately a sixth of them were not married (Appendix 5.5).

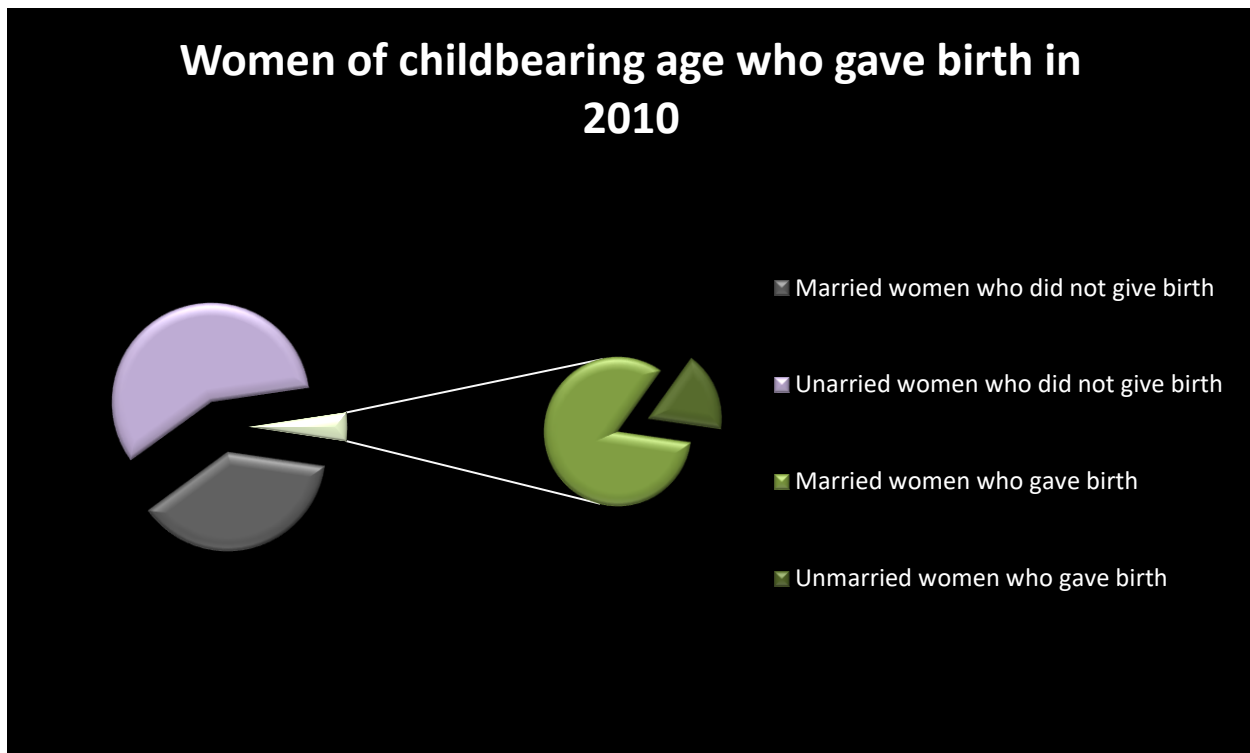


Figure 5.5 Women of childbearing age who gave birth in 2010.

Source: www.census.gov

Deaths

There is limited data to be found on the actual death information on Valley City alone, however, North Dakota keeps records based on counties. The number of deaths in Barnes County in 2012 is approximately 167 and the number of infant deaths is 2. The death rate for Barnes County is 15 per 1000 people (pubrecords.com).

Migration

Valley City experienced a 3.5% decrease in population between the years 2000 to 2010. Population in Valley City has been decreasing over the past 30 years partly due to the slowly increasing out migration rate. It goes along with migration seen throughout North Dakota in that there is a vast majority of rural dwellers moving from small towns to larger urban cities. That is a depiction of what is taking place in Valley City today (Center, 2012).

Racial and Religious Background

Valley City is a predominantly White community. Figure 5.6 (Appendix Table 5.6) shows the percent of population for several races and ethnic backgrounds. The only ethnic groups mentioned were Hispanic and Non-Hispanic. Ninety-six percent of the population is White which is also reflective to the state of North Dakota (www.census.gov).

Another important group to review is the Hispanic community of Valley City. Ninety-six residents listed themselves as Hispanic decent making up 1% of the community (www.census.gov). See Appendix Table 5.6 for the data for the races and ethnicities within Valley City, ND.

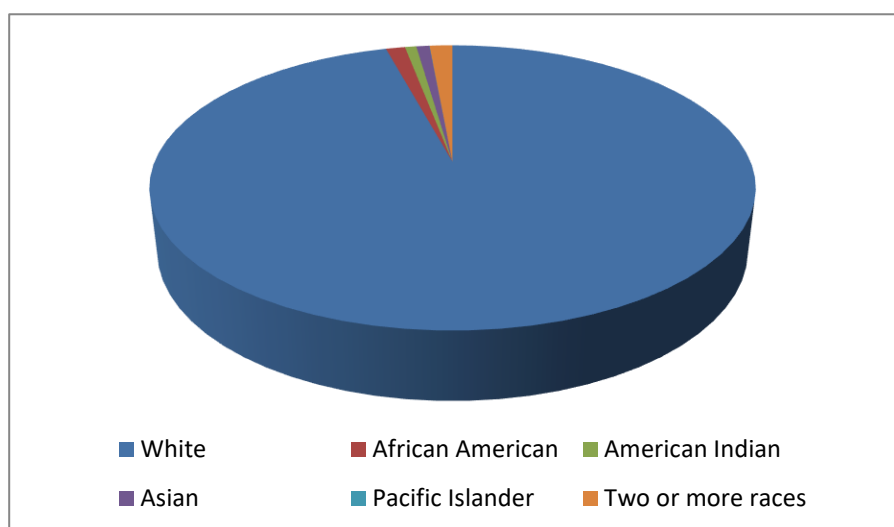


Figure 5.6 Races of Valley City, 2010.
Source: 2010 Census, Appendix Table 5.6.

Valley City has a wide variety and large number of churches and religious backgrounds, each offering residents a slightly different way of serving community. These congregations include Lutheran, Catholic, Methodist, Baptist, and on Jehovah's Witness. There are twenty-three churches/worship buildings throughout Valley City. As part of their mission, every church in Valley City provides community education in the many facets of the Christian faith, including biblical history, self-discipline, service, and values based on Bible scripture. Participants in the fellowship groups of the churches learn heritage skills including quilting and cooking. Churches also provide a venue for expanding the world view of their congregations through their ministries and opportunities for volunteering. Nearly every church in the city contributes labor in terms of meal preparation for and/ or donations to the local food pantry and Salvation Army. Blankets are made by and donated by the Dorcus groups part of many congregations. The churches and their members include a high degree of participation from Valley City's community and act as a building block within it. Although the churches may not share the same views on holiness and salvation, it is synonymous amongst them that they serve a purpose in molding together to embrace Valley City. See the Cultural and Social Capital chapters for more in depth information and membership numbers for these churches.

Levels of Education

Valley City has a strong education foundation throughout the town. They have an active Head Start and Pre-school program with 1,100 students enrolled in Kindergarten through 12th grade. Valley City State University, with a student population of 1,190 (VCSU 2011) is located in the town. Valley City residents are more educated than the average US citizen, with 86.6% of residents high school graduates, and 32.3% of those above the age of 25, have a university Bachelor's degree. Below is a list of educational institutions within Valley City, ND.

Public Elementary Schools

Jefferson Elementary and Washington schools provide preschool through sixth grade with its dedicated teaching and support staff. Administration and staff encourage student self-responsibility through the implementation of Respect and Responsibility and Choice Theory programs. An education grounded in the basics—reading, writing, science, mathematics and the arts—is enhanced with instruction on conflict resolution, problem solving and decision-making skills.

St. Catherine School

St. Catherine School is a nonprofit, state accredited Catholic Christian School for K-6 students. Moral reinforcement is provided through regular and varied spiritual experiences. Academic offerings include all the basics such as mathematics, reading, science, and computer technology, as well as religious instruction.

Valley City Junior High

Valley City Junior High is a 7th and 8th grade school dedicated to providing a quality education and integrating technology into the curriculum. Valley City Junior High also, providing preparedness for the next level of Senior High.

Valley City Senior High

Valley City Senior High School is a 9-12 school with a staff committed to providing the best education possible to Valley City students. Students excel academically and in a wide variety of co-curricular activities. The school features up-to-date technology with an excellent student to computer ratio. VCSHS partners with VCSU and its Jump Start Program for students interested in advancing their education early.

The Sheyenne Valley Area Career and Technology Center (SVACTC)

The SVACTC provides innovative, high quality career and technology education programs that maximize the opportunities for students and the community by providing both in situ technical training and distance learning broadcast throughout Barnes County. Programs include instruction on construction careers, business and office technology, health careers, automotive technology, graphic arts, marketing, entrepreneurship, welding technology, Cisco networking and aspects of computer technology.

Valley City State University

Valley City State University (VCSU) was recognized by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of the top 5 public comprehensive colleges in the Midwest ten years in a row, VCSU offers over 80 undergraduate programs in Business, Information Technology, Communication Arts, Social Science, Education, Psychology, Fine Arts, Health, Physical Education, Math, and Science. A Master of Education degree program is also available (Photograph 5.1).

VCSU is one of only 36 laptop universities in the United States. This encourages students to stay ahead of technology through constant computer engagement. VCSU enhances students learning experience with yearly upgrades in advanced multimedia technology, high-speed wireless networking, and classrooms equipped with current educational technology. A student-



faculty ratio of about 13:1 gives students one-to-one access to faculty in ways that are impossible at universities using large lecture halls.

At VCSU, students can explore their interests, interact with community leaders, and learn more than they have ever imagined. The experience beyond the classroom better prepares graduates for a rewarding career or furthering their education (<http://www.valleycitynd.com>).

Photograph 5.1 Valley City State University, 2012.

Source: Joe Rizzo October 10, 2012

Health Care

Table 5.2 displays a list of the healthcare facilities in Valley City, ND. This list gives a detailed availability of healthcare facilities to build stronger human capital.

Mercy Hospital 570 Chautauqua Blvd 701-845-6400	Wellness in the Valley 570 Chautauqua Blvd 701-845-6504
MeritCare Clinic 520 Chautauqua Blvd 701-845-6000	Hospice of the Red River Valley 202 Central Ave N 701-845-1781
Innovis Health 132 4th Ave NE 701-845-8060	Sheyenne Care Center 979 Central Ave N 701-845-8222
City-County Health Department 230 4th St NW #102 701-845-8518	Open Door Center 209 2nd St SE 701-845-1124

Table 5.2 List of Healthcare Facilities in Valley City, ND, 2010.

Source: <http://www.valleycitynd.com>

Primary Occupations

Valley City holds a few main businesses where a majority of the population holds employment. John Deere, Eagle Creek, and Valley City State University are three of the main employers in Valley City. Although these are the largest businesses in town in terms of total employment, Valley City has a variety of small, locally owned businesses as well, owned and operated by a variety of different community members.

Major Employers

The following is a list of the largest employers in Valley City, ND. Table 5.3 provides a view of the type of human capital is available or that is needed.

Company	Product/Service	# of Employees
John Deere Seeding Group Valley City	Air Seeders	300
Alliance Pipeline	Natural Gas	8
Barnes Co. Courthouse	Government	125
Blue Cross Blue Shield	Customer Service Center	11
Vansco Electronics Corporation	Circuit Boards	52
City of Valley City	Government	65
Drug Plastics & Glass	Plastic Bottles	70
Fertilizer Equipment Inc.	Fertilizer Equipment & Service Center	20
Eagle Creek Software Services	CRM Software Services	100
Heartland Products/Dietrichs	Lawn & Garden Products Transportation	70
Kadmas Lee & Jackson, P.E.	Engineering	38
Lafarge Dakota, Inc.	Cement	70
Mercy Hospital	Health Care	160
MeritCare—Valley City Clinic	Health Care	37
Malach USA	Metal Fabrication & Laser Cutting	30
Forte USA	Tool & Die, Production Lathe & Milling	3
Open Door Center	Special needs care	230
Pizza Corner Factory	Frozen Pizza	125
Sheyenne Care Center	Health Care	209
Town & Country R & D	Tillage & Soil Conservation Equipment	10
Tri W-G Inc.	Therapeutic Equipment	15
Valley City Public Schools	Education	150
Valley City State University	Education	125

Table 5.3 List of largest employers in Valley City, ND, 2010.

Source: <http://www.valleycitynd.com>

Training and Continuing Education Provided by Employers Enterprise University

Enterprise University is a state Center of Excellence that produces industry-ready

enterprise software consultants for jobs in North Dakota. Enterprise University creates customized coursework and training programs, targeted at the specific needs of their business partners and connects graduates with career opportunities (www.vcsu.edu).

Corporate Adventures

Corporate Adventures facilitates experiences that help employees transform how they work with one another by engaging participants in a process that stretches their perceptions of creative problem solving. Focusing on creating the behavioral changes that matter most to your organizational success, Corporate Adventures helps individuals capture valuable lessons and develop organizational strategies to implement learning. Emphasis is placed on delivering and measuring the most valuable outcomes (<http://www.valleycitynd.com>).

Programs are used by corporate leaders that view optimized collaboration as an essential component of their business strategy. Clients who engage the full breadth of services see results in the areas of improved productivity, increased revenue, better employee retention and lowered business costs.

Inventory of Human Capital

Below is an inventory of the human capital found within Valley City, ND. This list is to be inclusive of the entire community as residents have resources, skills, capacities or talents. Identifying these individuals and their abilities is the first step. Once these individuals and their capacities are identified, it can be used to partner with other capitals within the community of Valley City (McKnight, 1993).

Inventory Item	Nature of Capital
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Residents • Youth • People with Disabilities • Seniors • Welfare Recipients • Artists • Educators • Labor Force • Entrepreneurs • Clergy/ Ministries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic building block of community • Energy, time • Cultural change • Time, experience, small job creation • Potential labor force • Create beauty, inspire thought • Share knowledge with residents • Strong economy • Financial and job creation • Counseling, Social services

Human Capital Resources

Resources	Resource Contact
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Valley City State University • Open Door Center • Job Service North Dakota 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marcia Foss, Career Services/Internships • 701-845-1124 • Bobbie Jo Miller, Senior Consultant

Human Capital Resources Continued

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Valley City Adult Learning Center • Motivation, Education, and Training, Inc (MET) • Community Action Region VI – 0-5 Head Start • Health Facilities • Boy Scouts • 4 H Club • SkillsUSA ND • Barnes County Senior Citizens Council, Inc. • Historic Alderman School assoc • Mercy healthcare foundation • Prairie Inn Corporation • South Central Adult Services Council, Inc. • Walk away Joe- safe ride 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chad Thiel, Adult Education Instructor • Based in Fargo 701-241-8442 • 701-845-0388 headstartvc@daktel.com • See Table 5.5 • Northern Lights Council 701-293-5011 • Courthouse, 230 4th St., N.W., Rm. 204 701-845-8549 • Bismarck 701-328-1255 • 139 2nd Ave SE PO Box 298 Valley City ND 58072 phone: (701)845-4300 • 940 6th St SW phone: (701)845-3617 Valley city ND 58072-3723 email: dbheise@msn.com • 570 Chautauqua Blvd Valley City ND 58072-3145 web: mercyhospital.biz phone: (701)845-6400 • 129 3rd Ave NE Valley City ND 58072-3057 phone: (701)845-1124 email: msimonson@odcvc.com • 139 2nd Ave SE Valley City ND 58072-0298 phone: (701)845-4300 email: pat@southcentralseniors.org web: southcentralseniors.org • 452 5th St NW Valley City ND 58072-2942 phone: (701)490-2495 Kari Lindemann
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2012

Community Assessment Valley City, North
Dakota



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Social
Capital

Chapter 6. Social Capital of Valley City

Social capital is an aspect of community which establishes norms and trust between its members (Flora and Flora, 2013). Most simply, it is networks of social interaction between two or more individuals. This definition begs further dissection. Pierre Bourdieu asserted that access to resources is not only motivation for social interaction but a factor that drives the continuity of cooperation won through social capital (Portes, 2000). Inferred within Bourdieu's claim is a reward versus loss rational basis of social interaction that follows perfectly with social exchange theory. In other words, Bourdieu's assertion says that we create social networks to gain access to what we want and based on the fruitfulness of those interactions we will persist, or alternatively refuse further investment of energy into those relationships.

Separating social capital from its physical manifestations is difficult. For that reason this section will describe those forums within Valley City that serve as evidence of social interaction and as indicators of social capital. As evidence of social capital, this section will identify examples of individuals accessing resources in fashions unique to each of the forums.

Schools

Valley City's first example of evidence of social capital is educational institutions. A foundation for many other types of capital and a priority of local government, education is very important in the culture of this community's citizens. Children begin their course of education in Valley City at Jefferson Elementary school where they progress to the third grade. Upon graduation at Jefferson, students are welcomed to Washington Elementary where they will graduate the sixth grade. Grades 7-12 are spent at Valley City Junior and Senior High Schools where after completion of the twelfth grade students are awarded a high school diploma. Alternative education arrangements exist within Valley City at St. Catherine School, a pre-kindergarten to twelfth grade school offering religious based education. Secondary education options include The Sheyenne Valley Career and Technology Center and Valley City State University.

In the context of Social Capital, the roles of Valley City public schools vary greatly depending on level of education. At the lower levels social capital is developed through basic socialization. During pre-kindergarten and kindergarten to the second and third grade students develop social skills that will regulate their behavior for the rest of their lives and serve as "glue" for social interaction. During this time they are taught the customs of society and to some extent a code of ethics or morals to conduct themselves by. Bonding relationships form the primary type of social capital for K-12 school children. Continuing into K-12 education social capital develops further with, for example, sports teams, scouting and 4H. Teams begin to value winning, competitiveness, and success over individual contribution. This sense of competition will lead, for some, to scholarships and opportunities with in the sports world for economic and/or recreational gain. Yet others will take relationships developed through sports into life as networking connections in their careers or as friendly acquaintances. School sporting, theatre, and other events also serve as social capital development venues for adults. Parents come to

watch children compete or perform in a variety of ways at schools, where they forge relationships with other parents. Schools in Valley City serve as an important social regulator; they create a foundation for successful social relationships in the future.

Newspaper

The newspaper is an excellent example of social capital through print. This type of social interaction is unique because information is recorded and as a result, is more accurate. Looking back to Bourdieu's statement we can immediately see the importance of newspapers in social capital through their connective power. The *Valley City Times Record* disseminates large amounts of information that is available to virtually every citizen in the community. That information is valuable in connecting people with similar interests or with mutually desirable situations to gain from each other. Newspapers are evidence of Bourdieu's definition of social capital as seen in the organization of community meetings, bartering, or voting issues that are recorded and communicated through the *Valley City Times Record*. Announcements for community meetings, fundraisers and events facilitate both community bonding and in bridging in instances of invited experts, and speakers from outside the community. Classic evidence of social capital newspapers can provide is the classifieds section. Through this section, people are connected socially either through phone, email, or local and satisfy their needs (primarily) through economic transactions. Although interactions spurred by the classifieds section of a newspaper satisfy temporary needs they do not typically establish longer, more beneficial relationships found in other forums in the community.

Businesses, Hospitals, Churches, and Voluntary Organizations

Examples of community venues that may initiate long lasting social relationships are businesses, hospitals, churches, and voluntary organizations. Those social relationships that stem from a meeting at any one of these locations may certainly serve as a catalyst for needs satisfaction and resource acquisition over an extended period of time. For example, many spouses meet at work or through social functions at churches. Business connections may also be created at a meeting for a voluntary organization. It is not hard to imagine how any of these may create strong social capital (Mandell, 1996).

Valley City is has 22 churches, and multiple voluntary organizations. Strong social capital seems to be evident in Valley City as indicated by the number and membership sizes of these organizations.

Venues for Bonding and Bridging Social Capital

Bonding social capital consists of connections among individuals with similar backgrounds or within groups. Bridging social capital connects diverse people or groups within the community to each other and to groups outside the community (Flora and Flora, 2013). These are the two means by which social capital is built.

Because Valley City is a small town, residents commonly see other residents that they know. Social bonding can happen when residents are walking down the street and exchange

conversation in passing. Venues for social bonding can happen in any place where two people meet and have common objectives, such as the dog park, while building flood levees or watching their children in a school play. Additionally, social organizations, plentiful in Valley City, play an important role in social bonding in particular and social bridging by extension.

There are many organizations in Valley City that contribute to the social capital of the town. Some clubs or organizations in Valley City are gender and age oriented such as the Elks Club or the Red Hats. Others are geared more towards the youth such as the Boy/Girl Scouts, 4-H, school sporting events/organizations, and church groups such as bible school. Adults in Valley City are involved in school organizations, church groups, civic organizations, sports clubs, and K-12 school extra-curricular events. Although many adults involved in school and church groups have children, these groups are not limited to parents alone.

Valley City has high bonding social capital if measured by the high inclusion in membership in bonding capital organization per population. Organizations and volunteer venues provide bonding opportunities between their members and bridging primarily happens when members of each organization share news with other organizations with which they are also members. In this way, news spreads very quickly through the community. These organizations are as follows.

Senior Centers: The South Central Adult Services Council is a not-for-profit organization that has been in operation since May of 1983. This organization creates public awareness of the elderly and their needs and coordinates existing services and agencies. The South Central Adult Services Council provides its services to elderly residents not only in Barnes County but also LaMoure, Foster, Logan, McIntosh, and Griggs Counties. The senior centers supported by this council in Valley City are the Valley City Senior Center and Barnes County Senior Center.

Scouting: Girls and boys have the opportunity to take part in scouting in North Dakota. The Northern Lights Council, formed in 1974, services all of North Dakota, and parts of South Dakota, Northwestern Minnesota, and Northeast Montana. Valley City is part of the Flickertail District. There is a Girl Scout camp called Camp Tonweya in Valley City as well.

Hi-liner Booster Club: The Hi-Liner Booster Club is a voluntary organization that is open to anyone. Their main purpose is to support Hi-Liner athletic teams and activities. This organization was founded on February 18, 1982 as a non-profit corporation. Their website lists activities, meetings and upcoming events for community members to take part in.

Food Pantry: The Barnes County Food Pantry provides food to individuals and families needing assistance. Food, money, and peoples' time and excess garden produce can be donated to this organization.

Care Center: The Sheyenne Care Center provides many services to those in needs such as: Thielges Therapy Inc, Special Care Unit, Alzheimer's Unit and a "Lifeline". Volunteers staff the Coffee Shop, Gift Shop, and run activities for residents such as Bingo, Crafts and Laundry.

American Legion: The American Legion is a national wartime veteran’s social organization with an office in Valley City. The American Legionnaires mentor youth and sponsor programs in the community that advocate patriotism and honor. They also lobby government bodies on behalf of the interests of veterans and active service members.

Civic organizations for Valley City residents support the community with activities throughout the year and catalyze community giving from businesses. These include the Kiwanis club, the Optimist Club, the Lions Club, and the Fraternal Order of Eagles. Valley City State University student organizations also serve as venues for bonding between their student members, and the university has similar clubs for VCSU alumni. There are also retiree clubs in town for teachers and government workers.

Valley Development Group: This group leads job creation and economic strength through business preservation and expansion, entrepreneurial development and attracting new and expanding businesses to Valley City and Barnes County.

Valley City Area Chamber of Commerce: This organization is currently working with the community partners in the business, non-profit and government sectors to continue the community’s success. Their purpose is to advance the commercial, industrial, civic and general interests of Valley City, Barnes County and the general trade area. A major undertaking at the Chamber is the North Dakota Winter Show.

The North Dakota Winter Show is hosted in Valley City each year to provide youth education in agri-business and promote agriculture through improved agriculture practices and techniques. Agriculture celebrated in this way is to honor North Dakota’s pioneer culture and heritages and the show enjoys a lot of volunteers from Valley City for its events.

Churches: in Valley City provide fellowship- literally a translation from a Greek word that means “living in community together” or social bonding- between members and guests. See Appendix Table 6.1 for community churches, membership and attendance. The team was able to collect membership and regular attendance data from approximately half of the city’s churches. Officials in these churches estimate cumulative weekly attendance at approximately 2,000 people. If we double this estimate to account for the half of churches that we were unable to survey, it would mean that roughly half of the people- including residents and visitors- in Valley City on any given Sunday morning are at church. This suggests an extremely high amount of bonding capital in the community. Because church attendance includes members and visitors from a 30 mile vicinity of Valley City, from which some congregations pull up to half of its members, the churches provide important venues for connecting people from the town of Valley City with the people in the surrounding rural landscape.

Church fellowship includes far more than cookies and coffee after Sunday worship. Every church in Valley City hosts bible study groups for adults, sometimes separated by age and/ or gender, in addition to youth bible school and youth confirmation classes. Some have

additional themed groups, such as evangelism, mission work, cooking, prayer breakfasts, quilting, Dorcus (providing clothes to or making blankets for the poor), and all of them participate in fundraising and donations to the local food pantry. At least four churches in Valley City participate in AWANA, an interdenominational program for K-12 students to learn about Christianity, engage in athletic games and socialize with Christian peers.

Christianity lends itself to high community bridging by its own mandate which commands followers to share their faith, (Mathew 28:19 New Revised Standard Version). In Valley City, this sharing takes the form of both local and international community bridging. All Churches support the missionary work of their national denominations and several churches conduct their own independent missionary work. For example, the First Baptist Church has adopted a Christian Community of Fobay people in Nigeria, which involves mission trips to their village and sending clothes, blankets and other resources to the community in addition to teaching words from the Fobay language to the Valley City congregation on Sundays.

Many of the churches also host regular and/ or seasonal community events as part of their mission. For instance, the First Church of the Nazarene hosts bimonthly mother's meetings where moms bring their very young children to play for a couple of hours with free babysitting while they can socialize with other mothers. The same church hosts "Trunk-or-Treat" for community children, in which kids go trick-or-treating from decorated car trunks in the church's parking lot. And during Advent, the church decorates residential lawns in the neighborhood near the church with a progression of scenes from Christ's life. The Sheyenne Care Center reports that they receive regular visitation from church groups throughout the year and at Christmas time, every church in the community comes with a program in December to engage the long term care residents through social activities, such as lefse making or crafts.

Church participation in Valley City is estimated to be high, with two thirds of the churches reporting that regular attendees amount to the equivalent of 33% of the town's population. If we could extrapolate their regular attendance to all the non-reporting churches, we would estimate weekly attendance at all churches to be around 3,780, or equivalent to 57% of Valley City's population (Appendix 6.1) It should be noted, however, that up to 50% of a few congregations can be from the region outside of Valley City, so these numbers reflect the people in Valley City at the time of church services, rather than just residents per se. Many churches report that their members also participate in other social organizations throughout the community. Members of St. Catherine's Catholic Church are active in the Knights of Columbus and Catholic Daughters while members of Trinity Lutheran Church are active in the Eagles Club and act as board members at Valley City State University.

The University: Valley City State University hosts many student organizations and local community members participate in both administrative and alumni boards. There are different types of organizations that cover everything from sports to fine arts. See Appendix Table 6.2 for the list of organizations and the number of members involved.

Valley City on “Outsiders”

Valley city has a population of 6,579 people according to the 2011 U.S. Census, and according to the census 95% of the population is White. So not only is Valley city a smaller community, but it also is a dominantly White community. Interviewed were two students from Valley City State University, both from Minneapolis, Minnesota. They were asked how they were received in to the community.

The white student, Pat, said that the people of Valley City seemed to be very friendly and helpful when he was moving in to the community.

“A lot of people asked if I needed help moving in to my house, It seemed a little weird coming from a bigger city where everyone seems to mind their own business.”

Pat was also asked if any of the people he encountered were curious of him or asked any questions about what he was doing in Valley City

“Oh yeah, I remember the first time I went out on the town, I ran in to this group of older guys and they seemed to keep looking at me weird. One of the men asked me where I was from and when I told him I was from Minneapolis all three of them bombarded me with questions. Some asked what I came to Valley for, where in Minneapolis I was from; one guy even asked me if I had a mom and a dad which I found a little bit odd.”

The last question Pat was asked was overall did you feel like the community accepted you?

“Yeah I did. Everyone that I met seemed to be very interested in me and wanted to get to know me when I first got there which was nice since I was new there, but yes everyone that I have met has been very friendly.

Sean, the black student interviewed, had a different first experience when he moved to Valley City.

“When I first got to Valley City everyone kind of looked at me like who the heck is this guy? I got sort of strange looks from people at the grocery store and if I asked anyone a question they seemed surprised or scared that I was talking to them.”

Sean was asked if people ever were curious of him or asked him why he was in Valley City and he said, “Some people would come up to me and just ask where I was from, not a hello or nothing, but I understood why. I mean I’m black and this is pretty much a white town. After a

while though, when I had got to know people and they got to know me, everyone was really nice to me.

Sean was also asked if he felt he was welcomed by the community, to which he responded with a bit of a chuckle, “Not right away that’s for sure, but like I said after meeting people and being here for a while, yeah, I feel welcome.”

From what was gathered from talking to Sean and Pat is that it seems that Valley City seems to be cautious of outsiders or people not born in their community. It is almost like a type of “social defensism” where the community is very wary of outsiders and an outsider must prove they will fit in to the community before they will be accepted.

Assets

Valley City has both High Bonding and High Bridging Social capital which helps to ensure that its residents are well connected and well informed about each other and about local events.

- Churches and Church Groups
- Schools and School Organizations
- Valley City State University and its Organizations
- Local Events (The Winter Show)
- Valley Development Group
- The Chamber of Commerce
- Care Centers
- Senior Centers
- Voluntary Organizations
- Food Pantry
- Scouting
- Businesses
- Hospitals
- Newspaper

Challenges

The interviews conducted suggest that there is a warming period of residents to new residents or outsiders. This seems minor in contrast to the social challenging presenting many other communities. That said, it is the feeling of the team that the Social Capital of is possibly one of the greatest strengths of Valley City.

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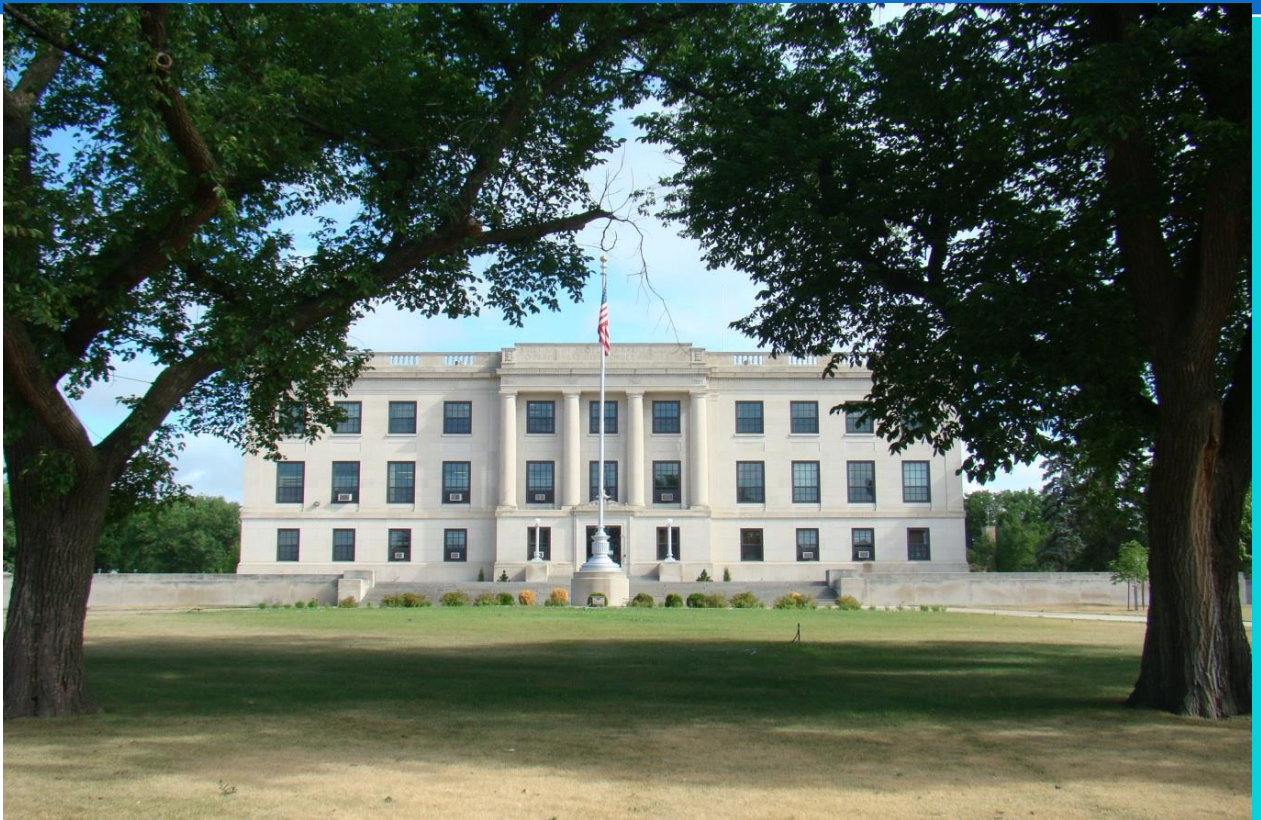
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Interviews:

Pat and Sean, Valley City State University Students interviewed October, 2012

2012

Community Assessment Valley City, North Dakota



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Stepaniak

Political Capital

Chapter 7: Political Capital

Valley City illustrates a significant characteristic of political capital because of its demographic composition. According to Flora and Flora (2013), political capitals may be defined as, “The ability of a group to influence the distribution of resources within a social unit, including setting agendas of what resources are available” (p.144). There is always a tendency to support the status quo because generally the political capitals reflect the dominant cultural capitals (Flora and Flora, 2013). Valley City has a variety of political capital which is distributed all over the community even though it is a small community. We observed this through visiting the community two times and found some examples that include churches, schools, different community based organizations, unions, neighborhood associations, businesses, hospitals etc. All this make up important influences in the political capitals of Valley City.

Because political capitals consists of organizations, connections, voice, and power as citizens turn norms and values into standards that are codified into rules, regulations, and resource distributions have to also be enforced (Flora and Flora, 2008). Like in most if not all communities there has to be a leader who influences other people’s decisions, while at the same time the community needs to feel a sense of inclusion. Many of the times a community would feel a sense of inclusion if they are able to participate and voice their concerns. Voice and inclusion may also be expressed through voting.

The Influences of Political Capitals in Valley City

Political capital covers various demographics of the community, including ethnic population, education, occupation, age, gender, and socioeconomic status. Like other capitals, political capital is verily related to them. For example, political capital is related to social capital because of the human interaction found within the communities. Valley City provides activities, such as recreations for children, sports, and games at the Valley City State University, which has created bonds that the people enjoy with each other and networks within groups and various organizations found within the city in addition to political aspect. According to Flora and Flora (2013), social capital is interactive. There are norms of reciprocity and mutual trust. Therefore people need to reinforce norms through collaborations among groups, a common view of shared future, collective identity, and engaging in collective action (p.199).

The Population of Valley City

The demographic population in Valley City can provide key understandings to the political capital of the city. The ethnic and racial population of Valley City is not very diverse; the city is widely dominated by White people. A breakdown of the Valley City population is illustrated in Table 7.1 and Figure 7.1.

Population by Race, 2010 Census	Number	Percentages	Color
American Indian and Alaska native alone	48	0.73%	■
Asian alone	54	0.82%	■
Black or African American alone	82	1.25%	■
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific native alone	2	0.03%	■
Some other race alone	16	0.24%	■
Two or more races	113	1.72%	■
White alone	6,270	95.22%	■
TOTAL			■

Table 7.1. Number and Percentage of Individuals, by Race, Valley City, Source: Census Viewer Summary 2010

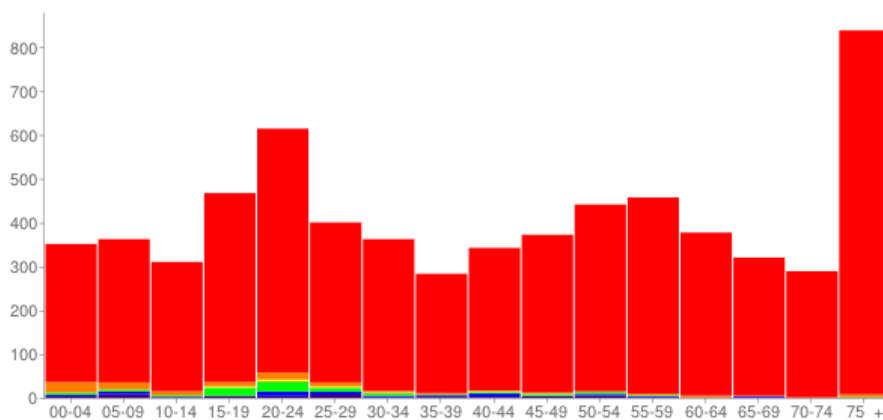


Figure 7.1. Number of Individuals, by Race, Valley City, 2010.
Population by Age and Race Valley City, North Dakota 2010
 Source: Census Viewer Summary 2010

Wide differences can be seen in demographics by race and ethnicity in Valley City. Based on the above illustrations, it may give a clear view of how political capital is reflected in Valley City in terms of voice, power, and inclusion. Figure 7.1 shows that the white population in Valley City, shown in red, is the vast majority. Figure 7.1 also shows the age of population on the X axis. One can see that there are far greater elderly than youth in valley city, this information is valuable when considering political, especially when talking about voting. Voting history in the United States shows that 61 % of people over the age of 65 vote (highest percentage), and only 37% of people under the age of 44 Vote. So in a town like Valley City the elderly have control of the vote (Brandon, 2012).

Political Structure

Valley City runs under a Commission form of government. The city votes for five city commissioners who serve four- year terms. The election is held every four years on even numbered years during June of the election year. As it stands today Valley city has 60 full-time employees, 1 of those working for the Valley City Fire Department, and additional 38 volunteering. Then there are 12 full-time police officers which keep the city safe.

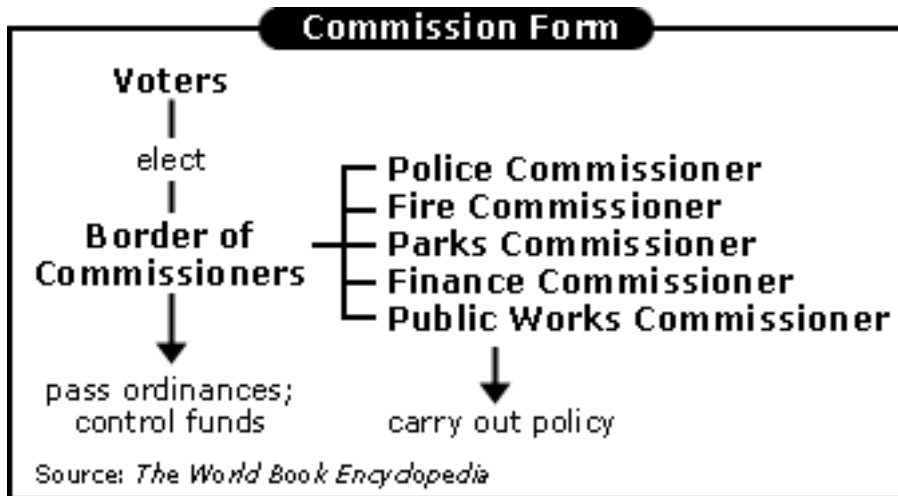


Figure 7.2 commission form, source: The World Book Encyclopedia

Voting History

The voting history in Barnes County has been similar to the North Dakota voting history in past elections by leaning Republican. The 2000 and the 2004 elections saw the Republican candidate winning by a wide margin with over 60% of the vote. The 2008 election had the republican candidate winning by slight margins in Barnes County only by about 1.5% while the state of North Dakota was won more convincingly. Not shown on the table below is the results of the 2012 elections, but the results in Barnes county are 53% of the vote for (R) Mitt Romney and 43% for (D) Barack Obama(Leip, 2012). Table 7.2 below shows this data (Census Viewer Summary 2010).

Year	Presidential Candidate	Vice Presidential Candidate	Political Party	Popular Vote	
				Number	Percent
2008	John S. McCain, III	Sarah Palin	Republican	2,826	49.63%
	Barack H. Obama	Joseph R. Biden, Jr.	Democratic-N.P.L.	2,741	48.14%
2004	George W. Bush	Richard Cheney	Republican	3,541	60.92%
	John Kerry	John Edwards	Democratic-N.P.L.	2,186	37.61%
2000	George W. Bush	Richard Cheney	Republican	3,452	60.06%
	Albert Gore Jr.	Joseph Lieberman	Democratic-N.P.L.	1,933	33.63%

Table 7.2. Valley City Voting History Source: Census Viewer Summary 2010

Stratification

Valley City has a large middle class with 40% of households earning between \$35,000 and \$75,000 a year. Only 15% of Valley City residents earn more than \$75,000 a year; 45% of people earn less than \$35,000 a year. The median income per household is \$36,818. The voting power rests on the middle and lower classes in Valley City. This is mainly because the upper class is much smaller population wise. Figure 7.2 (Appendix Table 7.2) illustrates this information.

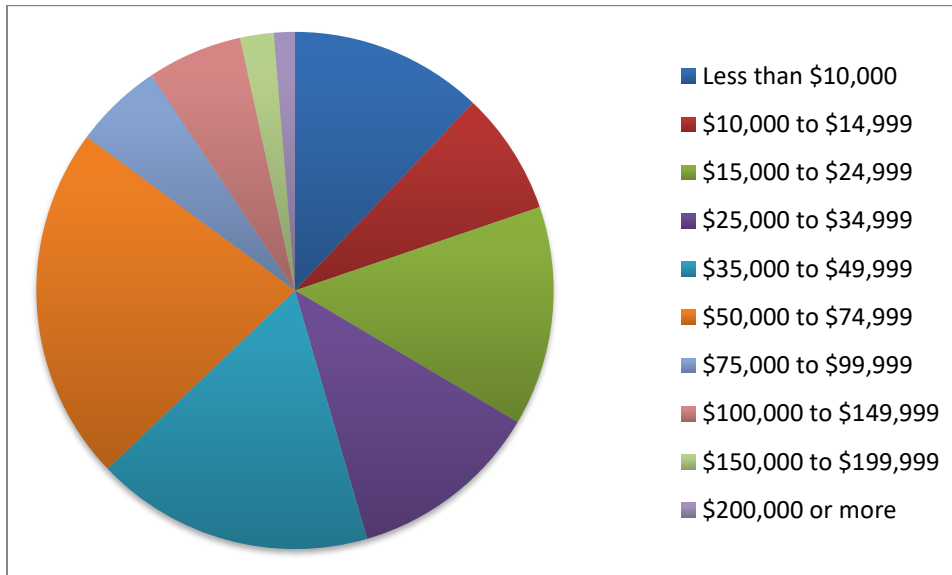


Figure 7.2. Income and Benefits (in 2010 inflation-adjusted dollars).

Valley City's Political Assets

Politically Valley City has a strong Political presence in the state of North Dakota due to its control of Barnes County. When it comes to voice and power Valley City is dominated by the “old white vote”. Minority groups have very little power when it comes to voting, but research does not show this to be a problem, in the sense that there are no injustices being committed.

- High levels of bonding and bridging.
- Large involvement of citizens, especially in volunteer programs.
- Strong and powerful leadership due to good understanding of government system
- High levels of attendance in schools.

Challenges

The main Challenge Valley city has in the political capital section is its low level of diversity. This is at this point only a challenge that could become a problem. A problem would be if minority groups were not being heard and were unhappy about it, which does not seem to be happening yet. If it were to happen it would be very hard to grow a diverse population because minorities would feel unwelcomed because their voice would not be heard.

- Low levels of diversity.
- Large majority

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2012

Community Assessment Valley City, North Dakota



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Financial Capital

Chapter 8. Financial Capital of Valley City

Financial Capital is defined in Flora and Flora (2012, pg. 175) as, “resources that are translated into monetary instruments that make them highly liquid, that is, able to be easily converted into other assets.”

Current Economic Base

The economic base is how a community earns its living. It correlates employment and income to determine the ability a community has to produce outputs. The economic base is a significant factor to the prosperity and success of a community. Within Valley City, the economic base is reliant upon two main industries: *Health Care and Social Assistance* and *Manufacturing*. Health Care and Social Assistance has the highest annual payroll for Valley City. This is due to the large amount of transfer payments that the citizens receive, such as, Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid. The second industry that is predominant is manufacturing. This is due to the high reliance upon businesses such as John Deere.

Table 8.1, Figure 8.1 (Appendix Table 8.1), and Figure 8.2 (Appendix Table 8.2) below illustrate the diversity of industries and their impact on income within Valley City. Figure 8.1 is a bar chart of the specific number of establishments in the sectors, and Figure 8.2 shows the annual payroll of the sectors in a bar chart. The number behind the sectors in the table relate to the numbers on the vertical axis of both figures (U.S. Census Bureau).

Sectors	Total Establishments	Annual Payroll (\$1,000)
Total for all sectors	377	\$181,551
(1) Utilities	2	-
(2) Construction	50	\$9,570
(3) Manufacturing	14	\$28,672
(4) Wholesale Trade	22	\$5,971
(5) Retail Trade	55	\$11,201
(6) Transportation and Warehousing	25	\$3,321
(7) Information	6	-
(8) Finance and Insurance	28	\$7,803
(9) Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	8	\$1,533
(10) Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	19	\$3,431
(11) Management of Companies and Enterprises	1	-
(12) Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	12	\$1,116
(13) Educational Services	3	\$343
(14) Health Care and Social Assistance	38	\$97,779
(15) Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	9	\$476
(16) Accommodation and Food	36	\$3,514
(17) Other Service (Except Public Administration)	47	\$3,301
(18) Industries not classified	2	-

Table 8.1 Establishments and Payroll for Each Industry, Barnes County, 2009.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009 County Business Patterns

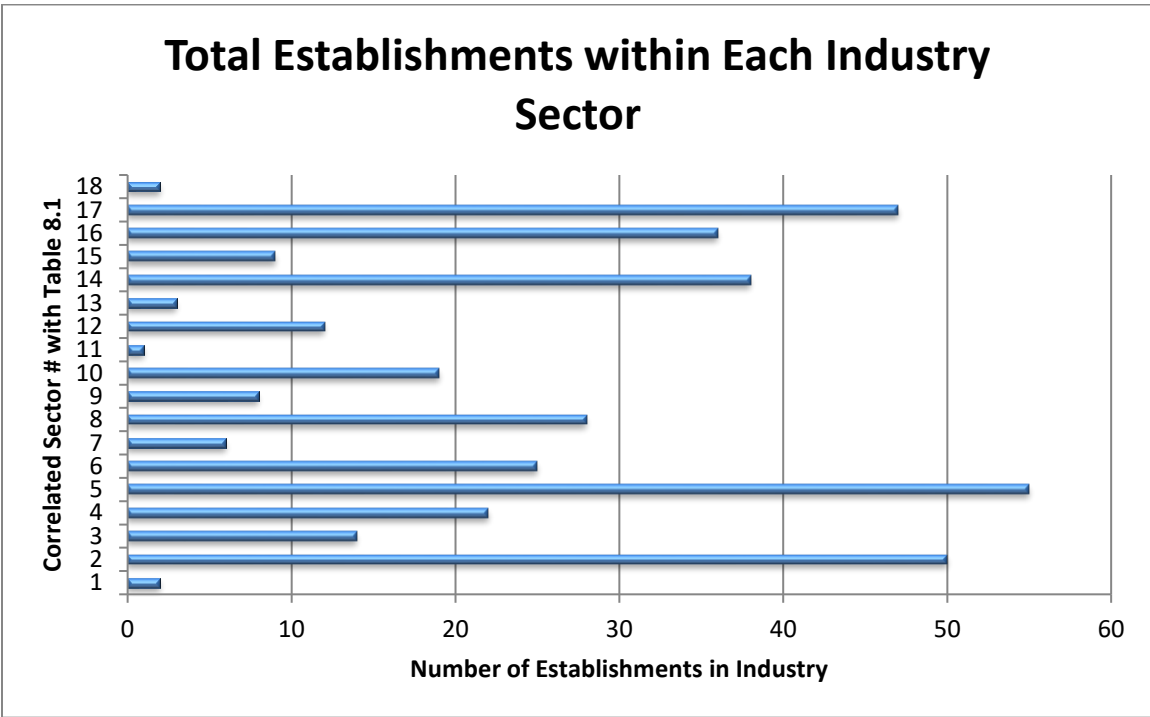


Figure 8.1. Total Establishments within Each Industry Sector, Valley City, 2009.
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009 County Business Patterns

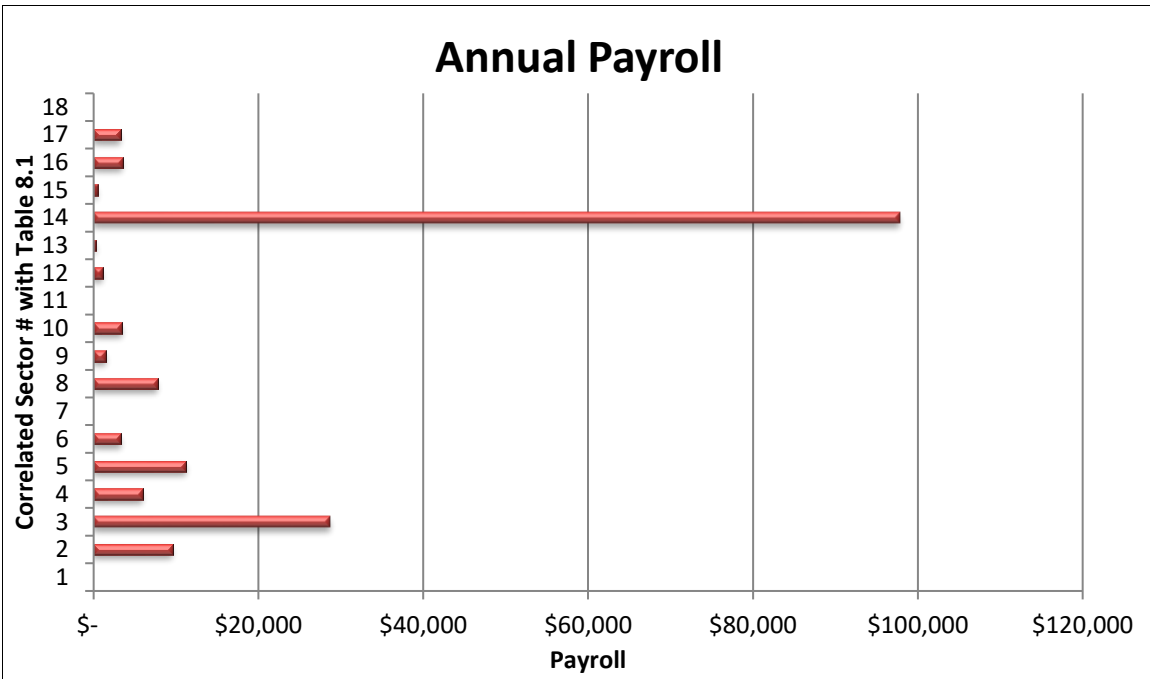


Figure 8.2 Annual Payroll, Valley City, 2010. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009 County Business Patterns

Businesses

With Valley City’s economic base being built mostly of Health Care and Manufacturing, the businesses that play a major role within the community fall into those industries. Below is Table 8.2 which is a list of major businesses in Valley City, ND. The impact that John Deere Seeding Group has on the city is undoubtedly huge, considering that they employ 300 employees. Also, the different businesses that offer health care services employ many citizens in the community and provide huge economic impact. Another large place of employment is in the education field, with both the Valley City Public Schools and Valley City State University employing over 125 personnel each. The role of each of the businesses in Valley City is interrelated within the community, with many of their products and services being provided between each other (Valley Development Group).

Company	Product/Service	# of Employees
John Deere Seeding Group Valley City	Air Seeders	300
Alliance Pipeline	Natural Gas	8
Barnes Co. Courthouse	Government	125
Blue Cross Blue Shield	Customer Service Center	11
Vansco Electronics Corporation	Circuit Boards	52
City of Valley City	Government	65
Drug Plastics & Glass	Plastic Bottles	70
Fertilizer Equipment Inc.	Fertilizer Equipment & Service Center	20
Eagle Creek Software Services	Customer Relationship Management Software Services	100
Heartland Productions/Dietrichs	Lawn & Garden Products Transportation	70
Kadmas Lee & Jackson, P.E.	Engineering	38
Lafarge Dakota, Inc.	Cement	70
Mercy Hospital	Health Care	160
MeritCare –Valley City Clinic	Health Care	37
Malach USA	Metal Fabrication & Laser Cutting	30
Forte USA	Tool & Die, Production Lathe & Milling	3
Open Door Center	Special Needs Care	230
Pizza Corner Factory	Frozen Pizza	125
Sheyenne Care Center	Health Care	209
Town & Country R & D	Tillage & Soil Conservation Equipment	10
Tri W-G Inc.	Therapeutic Equipment	15
Valley City Public schools	Education	150
Valley City State University	Education	125

Table 8.2 Company Employment Numbers, Valley City, 2010. Source: Valley Development Group, 2012

	Locations	Products/Services
Dacotah Bank	240 3rd Street NW	Banking Insurance Mortgage Investments & Wealth Management } Personal, Business, & Agricultural
Bank Forward	430 West Main Street	Banking Insurance Mortgage Investments & Wealth Management Tax Preparation Business Accounting } Personal, Business, & Agricultural
Wells Fargo	201 Central Ave N	Banking: Business and Personal Investments: Personal
US Bank	220 4th St NE	Banking: Personal and Small Business
First Community Credit Union	149 4th St NE # 104	Banking: Personal and Business Loans: Small Business Mortgages

Table 8.3. Banks with Branches in Valley City, 2010. Source: www.dacotahbank.com; www.bankforward.com; www.wellsfargo.com/locator; www.usbank.com/locations; www.myfcu.com

Community Reinvestment Act (Selected Ratings)

A landmark piece of legislation, the Community Reinvestment Act of 1977 is intended to encourage banks and credit unions to satisfy the credit demands in their communities in which they operate in. This act requires that banks record the amount of financing they provided to low- and middle- income neighborhoods. This required disclosure hopes to provide the public with more information and hold banks accountable if they discriminate in their lending practices (Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, n.d.).

The Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council (FFIEC) is an interagency effort to compile data required by the CRA. On their website, one can access the reports of banking institutions that rate their lending. The following table is a sample of those reports, consisting of banks that serve Valley City. Not all banks have evaluation reports published online, and certain types of institutions are not accessible (such as large multistate banks with branches in Valley City or credit unions).

Name	Examination Date	Lending Test	Investment Test	Service Test	Asset Size (x\$1000)
Ratings for Valley City/Barnes Co. Only					
Dacotah Bank	August 16, 2010	Very Good	Excellent	Excellent	1,761,757
CRA Rating Ratings for bank as whole entity					
Bank Forward	March 1, 2010		Satisfactory		512,510
US Bank N.A. ND	December 31, 2005		Satisfactory		4,762,781

Table 8.4 Report on Banks that Serve Valley City Source: Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, 2012

Primary and Secondary Industry Jobs

Primary and secondary jobs are very different in their nature. The primary sector is production of raw materials. This would include agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting, mining, construction, manufacturing, etc. As stated earlier, manufacturing is a main contributor to the economic base of Valley City, thus, primary industry jobs are 44.7% of employment. The secondary industry jobs are made up of mostly service. This includes educational services, professional services, etc. This sector makes up 55.3% of employment. The small gap between the amount of primary and secondary jobs within Valley City is a sign of stability. The community isn't heavily reliant upon one industry and this is critical for times of recession. Figure 8.3 (Appendix Table 8.3) breaks down the different industries by the number of people employed (U.S. Census Bureau).

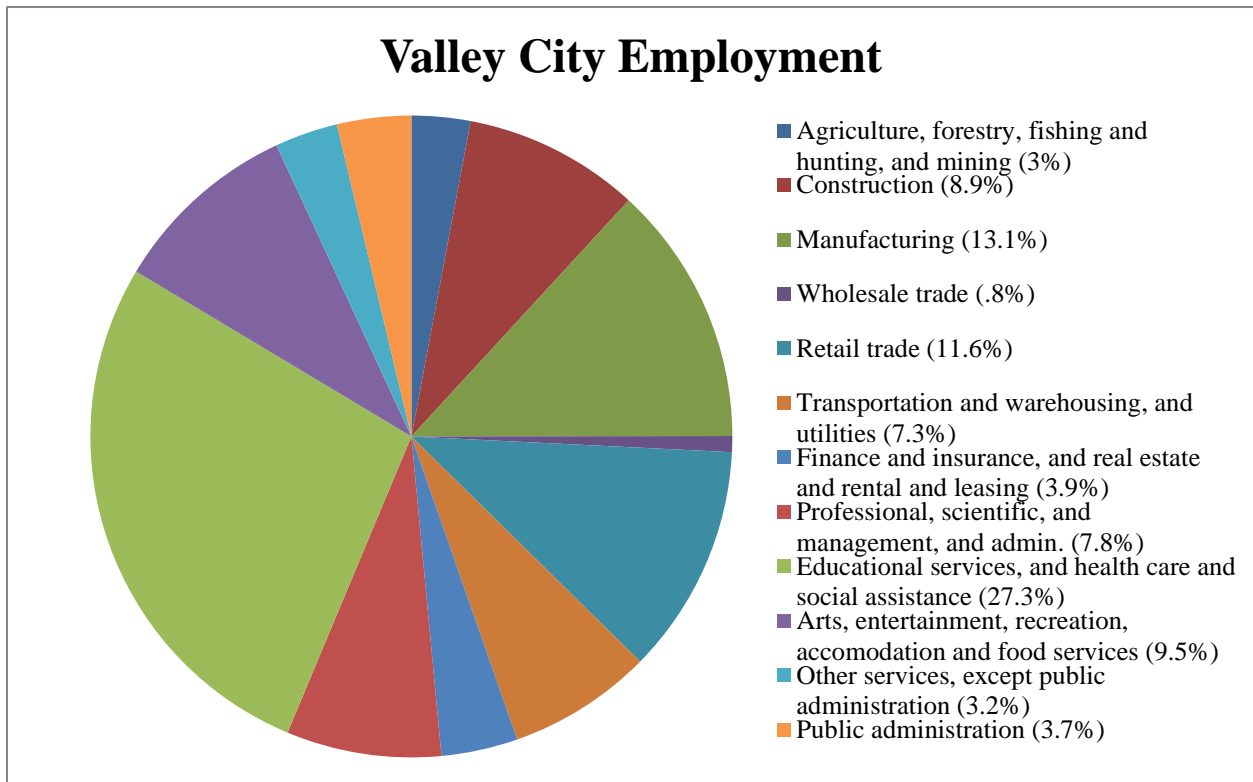


Figure 8.3 Valley City Employment, 2010. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey

Commuting Patterns

Being able to commute is a big part of daily life. In order to have a job and earn a living, it is important to be able to get to that job. The table on the next page depicts the different modes of transportation for going to work. An important note to take at the bottom of the table is the average time for a commute in Valley City, which is 10.6 minutes. Valley City does not appear to have any type of public transportation available for its residence. The majority of commuters drive alone to work via car, truck, or van. This pattern suggests that a majority of the community is not able to walk to their job or do not live directly in the Valley City limits (Table 8.5).

COMMUTING TO WORK		
Workers 16 years and over	3,212	3,212
Car, truck, or van -- drove alone	2,401	74.8%
Car, truck, or van -- carpoled	300	9.3%
Public transportation (excluding taxicab)	0	0.0%
Walked	172	5.4%
Other means	101	3.1%
Worked at home	238	7.4%
<i>Mean travel time to work (minutes)</i>	10.6	

Table 8.5 Commuting to Work, Valley City, 2010.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2006-2010 American Community Survey

Levels of Income, Per Capita, and Poverty

Income is simply the amount of money that is earned by an individual during a time period. Per capita income is the total amount of income earned in a community, divided by the total population. This method of figuring income can be misleading because some individuals' income may be drastically different from others. Table 8.6, Figure 8.4 (Appendix Table 8.4), Figure 8.5 (Appendix Table 8.5) give statistical data on the categories of levels of income, per capita income, and poverty levels. Table 8.6 highlights the median income and poverty levels of Valley City compared to the state and nation levels. The analysis of this data shows that Valley City does have a lower median income and per capita income than the state and nation, however the location of Valley City must be considered along with the cost of living. Shown in Figure 8.4 (Appendix Table 8.4) and Figure 8.5 (Appendix Table 8.5) are the distribution levels of income based on households and families (U.S. Census Bureau).

Median Income and Poverty			
	United States	North Dakota	Valley City
Household	\$51,914	\$46,781	\$36,818
Family	\$62,982	\$62,920	\$54,985
Per Capita	\$27,334	\$25,803	\$24,176
Percent of Families Below Poverty Line	10.1%	7.2%	8.0%

Table 8.6 Median Income and Poverty, Valley City, 2010.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey

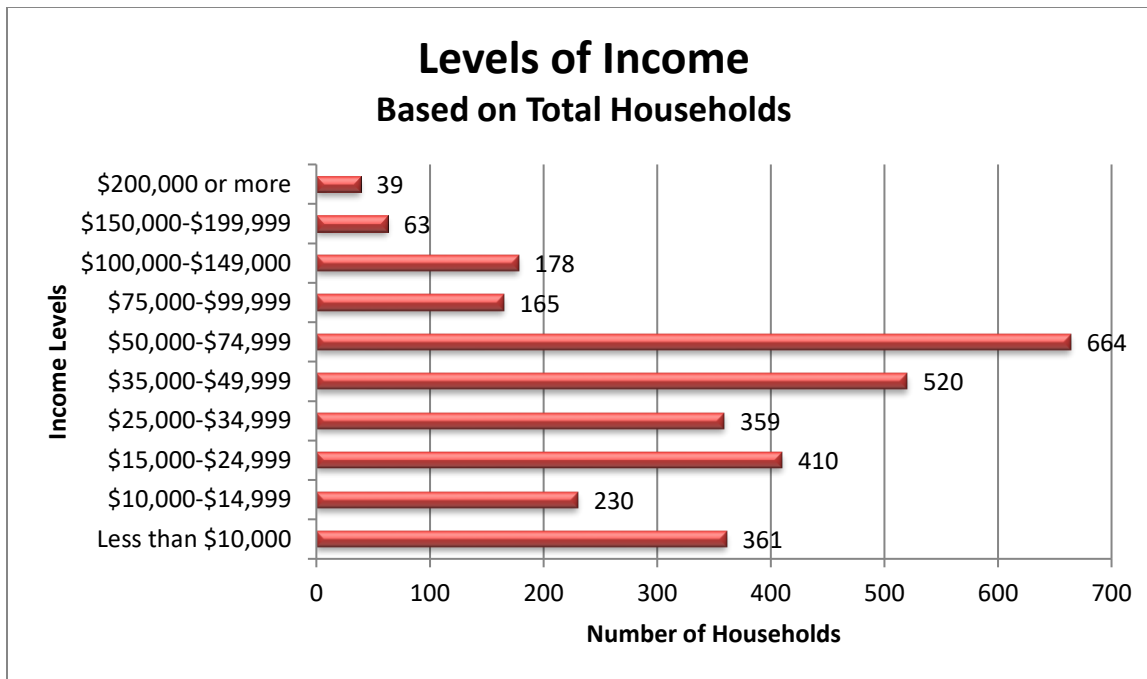


Figure 8.4 Levels of Income Based on Total Households, Valley City, 2010.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey

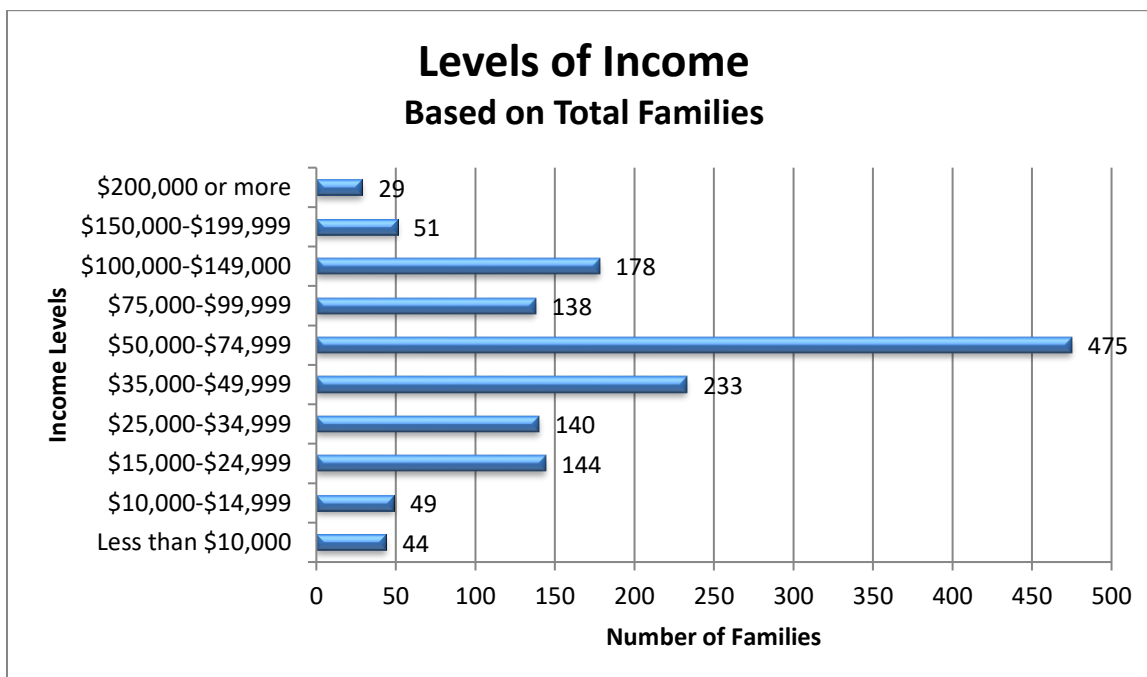


Figure 8.5 Levels of Income Based on Total Families, Valley City, 2010.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey

Economic Structure over Time

According to the U.S. Census, the population of Valley City has declined about 3.5% since 2000. Considering this drop in the population, there has been a substantial increase in the median income per household rising from \$28,050 to \$39,342. This increase may be due to the solid employment rates and the productive retail and manufacturing establishments.

Since 2000 retail sales in Valley city have risen almost 7.3% and with a solid agricultural network in Valley City it seems that farming and wholesale good sales have helped the community survive during the recession.

With retail sales on the rise so are the manufacturing numbers in Valley City. Manufacturing numbers in Valley City are up 5% since 2010, with 14 successful manufacturing establishments in Valley City they account for a majority of the employment in the community. With this information you can start to see the economic shift from a smaller farming community to more of a retail and manufacturing community.

Public Sources of Financial Capital

The distribution, retention, and attraction of business activity is of paramount concern to local governments. A strong economy prevents many problems that can plague a city, such as insufficient tax revenue to pay for services, a higher crime rate, and declining population. There is a tendency for companies to locate or expand their operations in cities with already well-off economies, rather than depressed areas. To push themselves out of slumps, cities have to employ multiple methods. These methods are both granted and limited by state legislative and regulatory decisions. Tax forgiveness, tax increment finance authorities, industrial development bonds, municipal land acquisition, and establishment of development authorities are some examples. At least three techniques are being used by Valley City (Valley Development Group):

Direct Lending

City sales taxes or county mill levies provide the funding for the following loan initiatives, administered by the Valley Development Group:

South Central Revolving Loan Fund: Gap financing of between \$2,500 to \$130,000. It is limited to one-third of the total project investment. Interest rates hover around 6%.

Intermediary Relending Program: Direct and indirect loans are available. These loans can fund up to 100% of project costs contingent upon availability of funds.

Community Development Loan Fund: Favorable terms include lower interest rates (4% - 6%) and deferment of principal payments. Loan funds can be utilized for 50% of the total project investment

Tax Increment Financing

The State of North Dakota has granted municipalities, through Century Code § 40-58-20, the option of utilizing tax increment financing to promote economic development. This tool allows cities to capture the increased property taxes that result from a specific project within a defined geographical boundary to be used to pay off bonds and obligations for that project. In theory, the development would increase assessment evaluations and the now larger tax revenue will pay off the bonds by itself, however there is the risk that non-TIF district taxes will have to be used to make debt payments. This mechanism is illustrated in Figure 8.6).

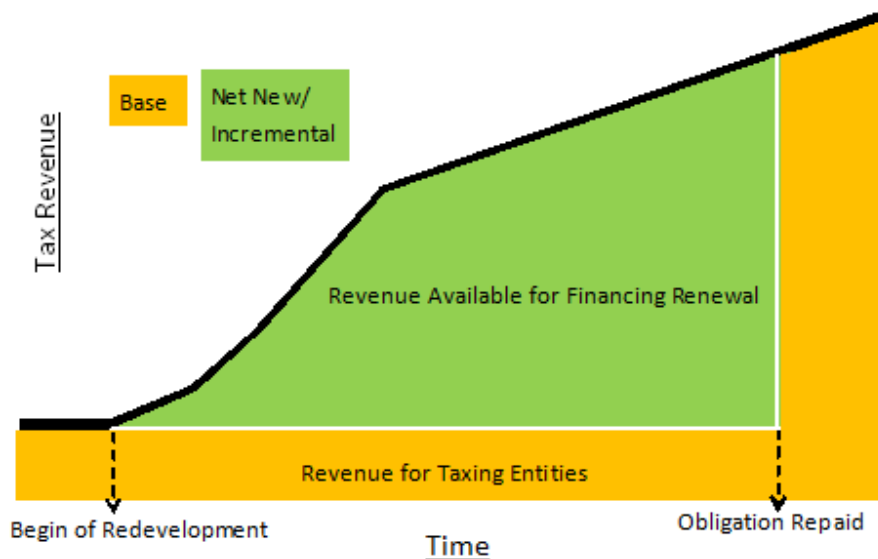


Figure 8.6 Tax Increment Financing Source: Mitch Calkins

State Sources of Financial Capital

The State, especially through its publically owned Bank of North Dakota, also provides financing for economic development. This unique institution provides a strong incentive to open or expand businesses in North Dakota. The following are some of the programs they offer (Bank of North Dakota, 2009):

North Dakota Small Business Investment Company

A statewide venture capital fund, the SBIC invests private originated funds to be used as equity, loans, and guarantees

North Dakota Development Fund

Administered by the ND Department of Commerce, this fund provides gap financing for firms within primary sectors of the economy, with the exception of agricultural production.

North Dakota Tourism Grants

Qualified applicants can receive grant money for expansion of tourism services, marketing, and holding events.

Business Development Loan Program

Intended to help with those investments with a higher degree of risk, the Bank of North Dakota can enter up to \$1,000,000 as party to loans. This can only be used towards purchasing real estate, machinery, or other capital improvements.

Beginning Entrepreneur Loan Guarantee Program

The Bank of North Dakota will guarantee 75%-85% (no more than \$200,000) of loans for starting up costs.

Strengths/Resources/Assets

Valley City has a strong financial capital that includes many strengths, resources, and assets. The investments that the city makes in financial capital are shown through the positive impact in other capitals. Through the research conducted, the following list was compiled as a conclusion of these assets.

- Expansion efforts at specific companies, such as John Deere Seeding Group.
- Well-balanced between primary and secondary industry jobs.
- Healthy economic base.
- Well-established funding mechanisms from local to state to federal levels.
- Increasing median income per household.

Challenges

The challenges that Valley City faces are mainly due to the comparison with the state and nation-wide level, which are not in the realm of the city's control. These challenges are not meant to be negative but made to be looked at as a basis for goal setting in the future.

- Level of income compared on a state-wide basis.
- National economy and recession affecting financial markets.

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2012

Community Assessment Valley City, North
Dakota



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Built
Capital

Chapter 9: Built Capital

Built capital, according to Rural Communities Legacy + Change: by Flora Flora (2008), is described as providing a basic foundation that supports and facilitates the flow of human activity. Built capital is also defined as a measure of traditional infrastructure, which includes roads, the electricity grid, goods and services traded in markets, and all other human constructed elements that make up a community. Some of the things in Built Capital that makes Valley City unique are that it's truly a good ole fashioned community that works together that makes them successful. From where Valley City is located it is no surprise that they have been a huge contribution to the success of North Dakota as a State.

The "City of Bridges" is known to be the twelfth largest city in North Dakota with a population: 6,579. Valley City is nicknamed the "City of Bridges" because of its eighteen major bridges that are incorporated within and around the city. Valley City's built capital is an essential asset of the city because it deals with the foundation of how the city operates in an effective manner.

The people of Valley City work together to develop a constantly growing infrastructure. The city's infrastructure includes everything from roads and waterlines; to bridges and buildings. Built capital also refers to the city's plans for land use. Land use is the currently developed land as well as the vacant land to be annexed or to be developed for business districts or residential expansion in the future. (City Hall Interview)

The built capital of Valley City refers to the community's physical being of where they stand in society, and where they would like to lay brick for more foundation in the future. Valley City's bridges give Valley City a unique feel in the structure of the town as a whole, but that's not the only thing keeping Valley City in the Spotlight for the future.

There are many things contributing to Valley City's Built Capital that will be discussed throughout this particular chapter involving different aspects of rural life in Valley City. Valley City also contributes to the environmental side of built capital with their fish hatchery.

The Fish Hatchery was established in 1940, and after that was made successful they've since added a smaller subunit at the Baldhill Dam in 1952 (FCNFH, 2011). This particular fish Hatchery includes 20 rearing ponds in Valley City and 13 at Baldhill Dam offsite this makes Valley City dedicated to preserving the natural wildlife habitat for generations to come. As people continue to consume Fish products throughout the world the fish population continues to decline faster than nature can produce it. So it's comforting to know that Valley City is contributing to the healthy reproduction of our aquatic life, and this is critical to the foundation of keeping recreational sports such as fishing enrolled in the community as both a natural capital and built.

The city is also known for its local restaurants, public works, recreational hotspots, historical sites, educational systems, law enforcement, medical services, spiritual services, environmental services, and community outreach that absorb the fascination with what makes Valley City, ND such a great place to live.

Public Works

Electricity: Valley city owns and maintains its electric distribution system. The electrical power is purchased from the Western Area Power Administration and Missouri River Energy Services. There are two electric substations in the area that have a 25 megawatt capacity. The monthly rate for residential areas is \$14.97 per month (based off a single-phase). For commercial services the cost is \$19.98 per month per single-phase (www.valleycitynd.com).

Water: The water for valley city is sourced from an aquifer and the Sheyenne River. The total storage capacity for the city is over 2 million gallon with a clear well capacity of 1.5 million gallons. The city also has a water treatment plant capacity being able to treat 4 million gallons per day. The pumping capacity of the plant is 3.5 million gallons per day with excess capacity of 3 million gallons a day (www.valleycitynd.com).

Sanitation: Valley city owns and operates its own sanitation and sewer services. †The facility can hold over 192 million gallons of holding capacity over 6 months, and its present load is one million gallons per day. It has an excess capacity of 10 to 12 million gallons per day (www.valleycitynd.com).



Photograph 9.1 City Hall

Source: www.valleycity.govoffice.com

Telephone service/Internet: The local service provider for Valley City is Qwest Communications. Some other services that are provided are McLeod USA, AT&T, MCI, Sprint, and TDS Metrocom. Internet services in Valley City include Dakota Carrier Network, Cable Service, Inc., and Inter-Community Telephone Company (www.valleycitynd.com).

Police Department

The city of Valley city has two types of law enforcement; local police and sheriff's office. Along with providing protection to the city the police stations also offers the ability to purchase a dog license, accident report, and a bicycle license. The police department also offers tours to school groups, Boy and Girl Scout groups, etc.

Fire Department

The fire department has one full time fire fighter and a volunteer force of 30 men to serve the emergencies of valley city. The men of the department also spend a lot of time doing community work. They have a facility (photograph 9.2 shown below) at 241 3rd avenue NE. V

Valley City Fire Dept: lead by Chief; Gary Retterath; po box 390, Valley City, nd 58072-0390 (nd. Gov., 2012)



Photograph 9.2 Fire Department

Source: www.valleycity.govoffice.com

Recreational Facilities

Valley City has multiple recreational facilities that serve as venues for a wide variety of extracurricular activities.

- City Auditorium & Recreation center
 - (Currently being remodeled to meet the ADA compliance)
- Youth sports complex:
 - Hockey rink and gymnastics center
- Valley City parks, recreation, and community pool
- Barnes County Historical Society museum
 - Houses two floors of permanent & temporary exhibits
 - Hosts traveling exhibits
 - Sponsors Valley City State University's annual lecture seminars.

- Medicine wheel park
 - The rock sculpture reflects earth's journey around the sun. The park also has a walk of the solar system, along five interpretive ponds.



Photograph 9.3 Medicine Wheel Park
Source: csinewsnow.com

- Rosebud visitor center
 - Showcases are presented at the history of rail transportation
 - Home of the ND Agricultural hall of fame.
- North Country trail of Sheyenne River Valley National scenic by way.



Photograph 9.4 North Dakota Winter Show
Source: www.northdakotawintershow.com

- The North Dakota Winter Show
 - The North Dakota Winter Show was first established in 1937 and remains North Dakota's oldest and longest running agriculture show in the state of North Dakota. This year they will be celebrating their 76th year this upcoming year in March, and will begin March 5th and end the 10th (northdakotawintershow.com). Here are some historical facts about the winter show in Valley City.
 - 1937 North Dakota Winter Show was established.
 - 1963 North Dakota Winter Show Event Center opens.
 - 1964 First PRCA Rodeo held.

- 1976 First Miss Rodeo North Dakota Winter Show.
- 1985 Valley City was designated by the Legislature as the official site for the North Dakota Winter Show.
- 1987 50th Anniversary celebrated.
- 1997 North Dakota Agriculture Hall of Fame begins. Displays are currently available at the North Dakota Winter Show Event Center & the Rosebud Visitor Center.
- 2000 North Star Classic established.

Parks

The parks in Valley City have proven to be true tourist destinations and are of great importance to the town. Valley City has a wide variety of parks that appeal to people of all ages. The skate parks are designate to keep the youth entertained as well as giving an alternative option to the youth. That’s not the only recreation available to the citizens of Valley City as they also have two 9-hole Golf Courses, Ball Parks, and Many other parks designated for outdoor pass-time.

- Municipal tourist park
- Pioneer park
- City park
- Ball Parks
- Choutougua park
- Two 9-Hole Golf Courses
- Veterans park
- Hi-line of centennial park
- Valley City Skate Park
- Luna Park



Photograph 9.5 Valley City Skate Park
 Source: /www.valleycity.govoffice.com/

Bridges

The first railroad was introduced to Valley City in 1891 (Gavett, Joseph, 2012). Thus kicking Valley City into the industrial market. This Railroad was known as the St. Paul and Sault Ste. Marie Railroad (Gavett, Joseph, 2009). This introduction broke way for Valley City connecting its rural heritage to the Twin Cities' of Minnesota. Valley City's bridges give Valley City a unique feel in the structure of the town as a whole. Valley City is known for its historical and modern bridges that encompass the city. Here's a list of the major ones:

- East City Park bridge
- West City Park bridge
- City Park footbridge
- Valley City State University footbridge
- Mill Dam bridge
- Rainbow arch bridge
- Hospital bridge
- Hi-line bridge

Housing

Housing is an important asset to any community because people need to be able to find safe and affordable housing in order live in an area. Valley City has lower rates of occupants owning their own home than the rest of the state and significantly higher rates of people renting a residence than in the rest of the State of North Dakota. This deviation is possibly due to Valley City having a university present that attracts a lot of temporary residents that would not potentially want to live on campus in a dorm or have the means or desire to buy a residence.

2000 Residential Statistics:

	State	State %	Valley City	Valley City %
Total Population	672,591		6,585	
Residential Units	317,498		3,307	
Occupied Residences	281,192	88.60%	2,986	90.20%
Owner Occupied	193,943	61.10%	1,714	51.80%
Renter-Occupied	97,249	38.90%	1,272	48.20%
Total Vacant	36,306	11.40%	321	9.80%
Vacant for rent	7,422	20.40%	157	4.70%
Vacant for sale	2,734	7.50%	22	0.60%

Table 9.1 2010 Valley City Residential Statistics

Source: www.census.gov/prod/cen2000

These statistics also demonstrate that the vacancy rate in Valley City is very low. This means that the city has a very low growth potential right now, but as demonstrated in Chapter 4 (Human Capital) Valley City likely has little reason to worry about an impending housing shortage because the population projections do not predict a growing population but instead a slightly declining population. However if the city did grow more in the future a larger margin of

the number of residencies that are vacant for sale/rent would help to minimize any price shocks experienced in the housing sector as the sector adjusted to the market conditions. Further developing excess capacity would help make Valley City more livable for those with low

incomes. The Brooke Amendment to the Housing and Urban Development Act established a threshold for what is considered affordable housing at 25% of earnings. This law was later reformed during the Reagan administration raising the threshold to 30% of income. It here that Valley City really lags in meeting the needs of the community as significant portions of the population pays more than maximum threshold of income for a residence. This particularly true for those only renting a property

2000 Gross Rent as a Percent of Household Income:

	Number of Households	% of Households
Less than 15%	266	23.3
15-19%	177	15.5
20-24%	203	17.7
25-29%	76	6.60%
30-34%	124	10.80%
35-or more	223	20.4
Not Computed	65	5.7

Table 9.2 Gross Rent as a Percent of Household Income in the Year 2000

Source: www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/

If Valley City is going to grow it will either have to attract higher paying jobs or find a way to lower housing costs because right now more than 31% of Valley City renters have been above what the government recommends as the maximum percent of earnings being used to pay for housing. This may come as a surprise though given that the costs of renting were not generally high in an absolute sense but certainly are relative to what people are making. The costs owning a home however are cheaper in percentage terms for the homeowners of Valley City. This indicates that homeowners in Valley City are better off than renters because the costs of renting tend to be lower in absolute terms.

Selected Monthly Owner Costs as a Percentage of Household Income in the Year 1999:

Less than 15 percent	801	52.1
15 to 19 percent	240	15.6
20 to 24 percent	209	13.6
25 to 29 percent	109	7.1
30 to 34 percent	22	1.4
35 percent or more	157	10.2
Not computed	0	0

Table 9.4 Selected Monthly Owner Costs as a % of Household Income in the Year 1999

Source: www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/

Gross Rent:

	Number of Households	Percent of Households
Less than \$200	227	19.8
\$200 to \$299	254	22.2
\$300 to \$499	435	38
\$500 to \$749	149	13
v\$750 to \$999	13	1.1
\$1,000 to \$1,499	13	1.1
\$1,500 or more	0	0
No cash rent	53	4.6
Median (Dollars)	\$323	(X)

Table 9.4 Gross Rent in the Year 2000Source: www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/**Gross Mortgage:**

	Number of Households	Percent of Households
With a mortgage	718	46.7
Less than \$300	14	0.9
\$300 to \$499	155	10.1
\$500 to \$699	191	12.4
\$700 to \$999	188	12.2
\$1,000 to \$1,499	146	9.5
\$1,500 to \$1,999	12	0.8
\$2,000 or more	12	0.8
Median (Dollars)	\$699	(x)
Not Mortgaged	820	53.3
Median (Dollars)	\$267	(x)

Table 9.5 Gross Mortgage in the Year 2000Source: www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/

Despite the median mortgage being twice the median rent, the percentage of income spent on housing was less for owners than it was for renters. It can also be extrapolated that home owners in Valley City tend to be long term residents of the community as over half of the houses do not have a mortgage, implying that the owners have held the property long enough to fully pay it off.

Medical Services

Valley City has a strong foundation of healthcare systems accounting for 12.5% of the workforce (405 people.) There are two well-established medical clinics; Sanford and Essential Health. A Catholic Hospital, several dentists, eye doctors and chiropractors, as well as a long term care facility and disability service center. However, Valley City does not have an urgent care or general hospital facility.

Sanford Healthcare Clinic

- Open M-F 8am-5pm; Sa 9:30am-12pm
- 20 medical professionals
- Services include: Dermatology, Family Medicine, Geriatric Medicine, Hematology, Internal Medicine, Mammography, Medical Oncology, Nephrology, Orthopedic Surgery, Pediatrics, Podiatry, Radiology, Sleep Medicine, Surgery, Urology, and Vascular Surgery.

Essential Health Clinic

- Open M-F 8am-5pm
- 10 medical professionals
- Services include: Cardiology, Chiropractic, Diabetes Care, Diabetes Dietitian, Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Orthopedics, Pediatrics, Podiatry, Sports Medicine, and General Surgery.

Mercy Catholic Hospital

- Open 24/7; visiting hours 7 days a week 8am-8pm
- 22 medical professionals
- Services include: Emergency Medicine, Family Medicine, General Surgery, Hematology/Oncology, Internal Medicine, and Ophthalmology/Cataract Surgery.
- Will provide services even if there is no form of payment.
- Wellness in the Valley – Mental Health Service

Hospice of the Red River Valley

- A hospice is a care provider for terminally ill patients.
- Care is given by both registered nurses and certified nursing assistants.
- Services include: Medical care, Personal Care, Emotional Support, Spiritual Care, Volunteer Support, and Grief Support.
- Will provide services even if there is no form of payment.

Sheyenne Care Center

- A Christian long-term care center.
- Professional staff exceeds 240 employees, capacity of 170 residents
- Services Provided: In-house comprehensive rehabilitation, a special care unit, an Alzheimer's unit, and Lifeline.

Open Door Center

- Provides residential and vocational services for individuals with disabilities.
- Valley City has four Intermediate Care Facilities that provide a comprehensive program of active treatment in an atmosphere that allows the individual to pursue normal living experiences in a homelike environment. One facility in Valley City serves children.
- Valley City is also the home to an Independent Living Program, and Children's Program.

Hospitals close to Valley City

- Jamestown Hospital (Jamestown, ND)
 - Approximately 35 miles away
 - Provides Emergency Services
- Sanford Medical Center Fargo (Fargo, ND)
 - Approximately 37 miles away
 - Provides Emergency Services

South Central Adult Services

- Creates awareness of the elderly and their needs
- Barnes County Senior Center Located in Valley City
- Barnes County Food Pantry
- Provides Prescription assistance
- Provides transportation assistance

Other health connections:

- City-County Health District
 - Offers WIC program
 - Helps pay for necessary food for young mothers.

Strengths/Resources/Assets

- Strong recreational and park district
- Strong public works facility with room to produce more
- Room for growth, if needed
- Strong medical foundation – many different options and plenty of specialty assistance care available.

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2012

Community Assessment Valley City, North Dakota



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Government

Chapter 10: Governments in Valley City

History is filled with quotations regarding government. A quick Google search will provide more than enough quotations to fill a chapter with witty and insightful analogies regarding the pros and cons of government. There is an underlying theme throughout all of those quotations however, and that is people will attempt to govern themselves. The need for rural communities to govern themselves is vital due to their often remote location and smaller populations from which to pool resources. According to Flora and Flora (2013), “In theory, local governments are the mechanisms by which participation, needs, and responsibility are linked. They can allow for direct citizen participation in government, or they can provide representative government, in which local citizens elect officials to act on their behalf” (p. 342-343).

Chapter 10 will discuss some of the components that are involved in governing the community of Valley City. The extent and composition of the city government will be examined as well as community participation rates in elections and governance. The chapter will also look at policies and programs that affect community and economic development. Services provided by the government such as police and parks and recreation will be dissected in this chapter to understand how those services play a role in community development. Finally this chapter looks to discuss Valley City’s emergency management plans and identify the assets available to the community in emergency response capacities. Although all of the components in governing a community are fluid and constantly evolving, we will try to look at the foundation of Valley City’s government and how they are positioned for the future.

Local Government

According to the Valley City Development Group, “Valley City is a home rule city which operates under a city commission form of government.” Although this statement may be the most straight forward explanation of the communities government, when it comes to government, it is often more complex. State and Federal governments can supersede city laws and regulations as well as influence decisions within the government itself. Local groups and National organizations can play a role in the decisions of the city government. There are many moving parts when it comes to government. Valley City has a city commission composed of five commissioners serving four year alternating terms; they also have a city administrator responsible for facilitating some of the day to day operations of the city. As it stands Valley City’s government, while primarily a commission form, utilizes aspects of the council manager form of government. Valley City being a home rule city has a certain degree of autonomy yet still has a solid relationship with the state and Barnes County although conflicts can arise over shared services (see community police services). According to Mayor Werkhoven “the biggest link with these entities is their open line of communication” and their primary interaction with governmental organizations outside of Valley City is with the State Water Commission.

Participation in local government can vary in size and scope. A look at election participation results can give an indication as to how broad community participation in various election cycles. Listed below in Table 10.1 are the number of voters who cast ballots in election years 2004, 2006, 2008, and 2010. As can be expected, there is a higher turnout for Presidential elections than for primary or general elections.

Year/Election	Ballots Cast Valley City	Ballots Cast Barnes County
2010 Primary	1,612	2,436
2006 General	2,615	4,664
2004 Presidential	3,342	5,879
2008 Presidential	3,271	5,694

Table 10.1 Valley City Election Participation

Source: Barnes County Commissioners, November 19, 2012

As with the voting for elected officials, participation can be measured in the types of issues the community support. Recently, residents of Valley City voted 1,537 to 824 in favor of extending their 1 cent sales tax (Urness, 2012) The general public has the opportunity to attend any of the city commission meetings. Dates and times are posted on the city government web page and are readily accessible. A crucial element in participation is the dissemination of information to the general public. Agendas and minutes from all commission meetings are available online for reference to past issues and decisions but there is not as much information regarding upcoming events or topics.

One of the largest and most controversial aspects of government can be the financial aspect of running a city. Valley City has a working budget with a total appropriations and cash reserve of \$3,486,582.64. Below in Figure 10.1 (Appendix Table 10.1) are the 2013 Valley City revenues. The city carries a minimal debt load in the form of bonds and general obligations, however at this time those debts are not adversely affecting the ability of the city to meet its fiscal requirements. The majority of Valley City’s revenues are generated through utilities fees and the city sales tax mentioned earlier. Public safety, such as police and fire protection, is the largest expenditure. Assets of the city government are their fiscal reserves which are reinvested into local banks returning interest, property owned by the city including recent flood related buyouts, and any property other than land or buildings owned by the city.

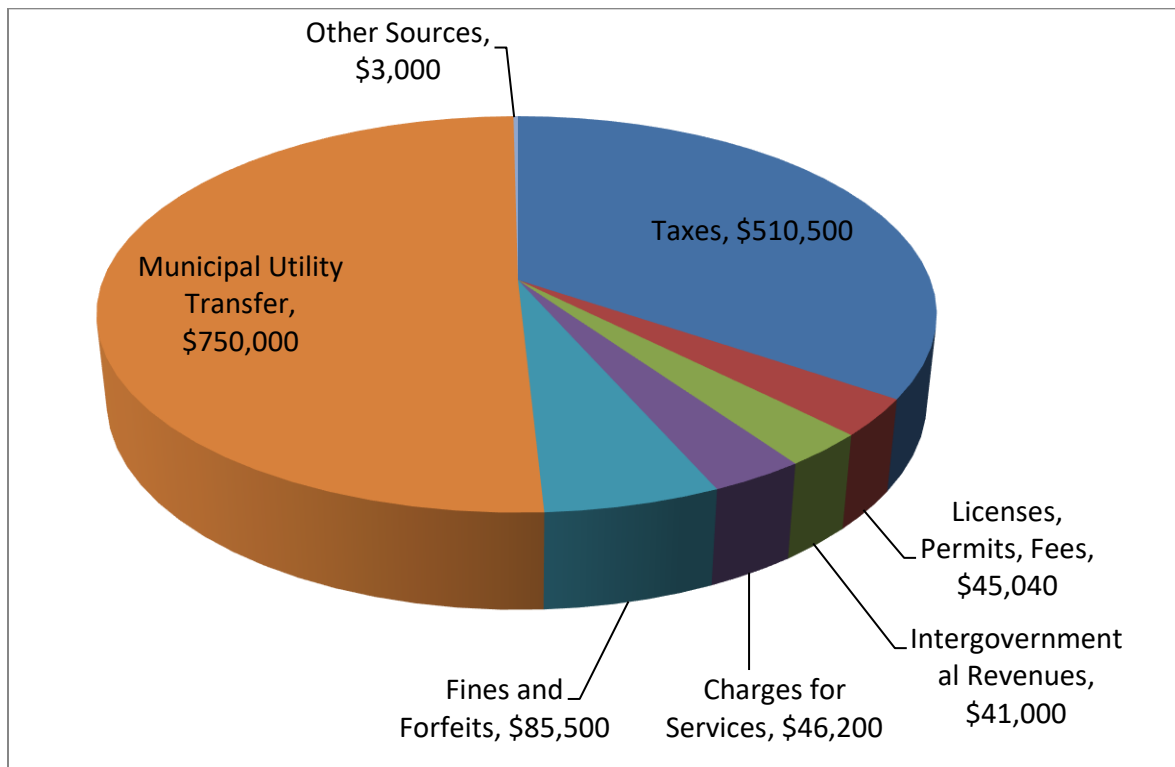


Figure 10.1 Valley City 2013 Revenues Source: 2013 City Budget (appendix)

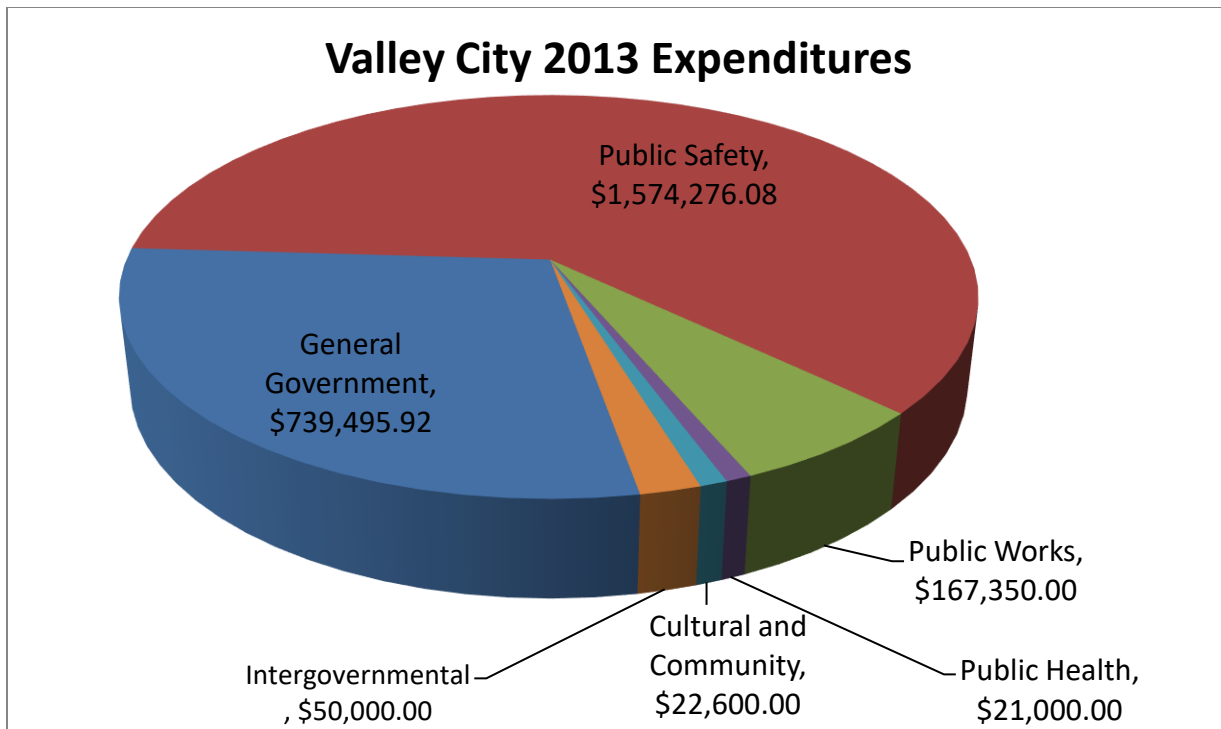


Figure 10.2 Valley City 2013 Expenditures Source: 2013 City Budget (appendix...)

Valley City has an economic development plan that covers both the long and short term. Development of the I-94 corridor is a program expanding land development on the south side of I-94. John Deere is expanding their facility in that area as is the North Dakota National Guard. Both of these expansions are looking to add jobs and tax base to the community. The continuation of the 1 cent sales tax is also to be used for future economic growth and expansion. In coordination with growth and development the City has established guidelines for a Renaissance Zone to encourage investment and add to the tax base as well as help reverse any loss to the community in regards to existing property, it aims to decrease the vacancy rate as well (Valley City Gov., 2012). Tax rates and incentives are favorable for economic development and growth.

Parks and Recreation

Valley City has ten public accessible recreational areas, with a vast amount of recreational and outdoor possibilities. Valley City encompasses 86 acres in their Recreational and Park Department. Parks include Chautauqua Park, Dacotah Pavilion, City Park (which contains a 9-hole disc golf course) Granger Hill Park, Hi-Line Park, Hinchberger Park, Pioneer Park, Valley City Skate Park, and Veterans Memorial Park. These parks contain hospitable amenities, such as a fully functioning dining hall located in Chautauqua Park. The facility contains refrigeration and cooking appliances, designated to hold gatherings and celebrations, available to the public upon reservation. In summer months some community and public attractions are held at the Valley City, City Park. Camping is offered at the Tourist Park and they are open from mid-May to mid-Oct. Some of the utilities offered are a shower house and 27 complete RV hook-ups.



Photograph 10.2 Valley City Parks and Recreation Source: Jeff Moss, 2012

The Valley City Parks and Recreation department offers an excessive variety of activities and athletics for every age group (Photograph 10.2):

- **Elementary Athletic Programs:** Flag Football, Boys' and Girls' Basketball, Cross Country Running, Volleyball, Tennis, and Track.
- **Adult Athletic Programs:** Men and Women's league Volleyball (offered in seasonal sessions), Men and Women's league Basketball (offered in seasonal sessions), CO-ED Volleyball (offered only in the spring), and Adult softball (offered in Men's Women's and CO-ED).
- **Recreational/Athletic Activities:** Dance, Hockey, Swimming, Bowling, Roller Skating, Soccer, Art, Martial Arts and Archery. These activity programs are scattered throughout the Parks, Community Center, and Public Gymnasiums.
- **Summer Adaptive Recreation Programs:** Baseball, Softball (Fast pitch), Prep Baseball (13 yr. old), Cal Ripken (12 yr. old), Youth little league Baseball.
- **Camps:** Basketball, Volleyball, Golf, Swimming Lessons, Soccer, Tennis, and Track.

The Parks and Recreation Department is an independent department. It primarily resolves and handles its own issues. It employs seven full-time staff members, Tyler Jacobson Director of Parks & Recreation, Amy Pederson Recreation Manager, Carol McAllister Office Manager, Diane Sommerfeld Administrative Assistant, Marlow Stavens Buildings & Grounds Superintendent, Jim Olstad Park Shop Superintendent, and Darvin Keys Golf Course Superintendent. The Parks and Recreation administration handles and coordinates recreational events as well as facility requirements. The Valley City Board of Parks includes, Dick Gulmon President, Mike Lentz Vice-President, William Murray, Ross Powell, and Brent Gustafson. Seasonal workers often coach and supervise activities and events. Thanks to local volunteers events such as "Ruckus at the Rec", are made possible. These individuals are responsible for the coordination and management of the Parks and Recreation Department.

The Valley City Fitness Center is a public facility ran by the Parks and Recreation Dept. Open 24 hours a day seven days a week, it is an easily accessible facility for everyone in the community. Membership requires a fee, collected monthly or bi-annually. Facility offers staffed personal trainers, exercise equipment, and weight room. Insurance benefits (facility reimbursement) may be given through participating insurance firms.

Community Police Services

One service in Valley City that is offered to the community is the Valley City Police Department as well as the Barnes County Municipal Court. The police department currently has twelve full staff, including the Police Chief Fred Thompson. One program that the Valley City Police Department offers is a ten-week course called the Citizens Academy, which teaches citizens traffic control, weapons, criminal investigations, emergency vehicle operations, etc. At the end of this course citizens are then rewarded with a certification of completion to honor their involvement to the community. Another program that the department hopes to return is the ability to put officers back in the schools. Due to the lack of funds and the need for grant money, the program was shut-down two years ago. This program strongly benefited Valley City schools



Photograph 10.3 Valley City Police Department

Source: Gary Goreham, 2012

and the communities through protection and enforcement of law through the police department. Though this service is not offered to the schools in Valley City in the present time, a big asset to the community that the police department points out is their ability to have a grant writer, who will hopefully look to bring the program back.

Upon having the privilege to speak to Chief Fred Thompson and Detective Mark McDonald, they each provided us with helpful information towards the success of this project. An important aspect to the community, the police department was very active during the 2009 and 2011 floods. During this time the police department collaborated and coordinated with the National Guard and the Corps of Engineer in traffic control, sandbagging, and working on a diversion project (M. McDonald, personal communication, November 13, 2012). Below in Photo 10.3 is a picture of the Valley City Police Department located on 216 2nd Ave. NE.

Valley City Police Department has a budget of \$1 million, which is appropriated from the city council that is submitted through various meetings (M. McDonald, personal communication, November 13, 2012). Within this budget the police department is constantly updating its policies and services for the community as well as introducing a new police chief to the community (Detective M. McDonald, personal communication, November 13, 2012) (Photograph 10.2). Below is a list of services that are offered by the Valley City Police Department as well as their website www.valleycity.govoffice.com:

- Pay fines
- Purchase a dog license
- Purchase an accident report
- Purchase a bicycle license
- Retrieve fingerprints
- Copy of closed case files
- Provide safety presentations on homes, vehicles, and drugs/alcohol

- Provide a list of sex offenders in area

Court Services

The Valley City Municipal Court is located in the same building as the police department, which makes it convenient for the community. Some of the community services that are offered would be social services and alternatives to arrest (Police Chief, F. Thompson, personal communication, November 29, 2012). The court services that are offered at Valley City are operated by Barnes County. Also the incarceration and correctional facilities are run by the county Sheriff. The incarceration facility does hold up to 30-35 inmates (Police Chief, F. Thompson, personal communication, November 29, 2012).

Emergency Management



Photograph 10.4 Valley City Rainbow Bridge during 2009 Flood
Source: Public Domain, www.fema.gov/photodata/original/40696.jpg

Emergency management is a role that is charged with creating the framework to reduce the risk and vulnerability of a community to hazard events. The wide range of emergency management deals with disaster preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery. Various activities compose these phases and all are equally crucial for a community to be a sustainable and resilient entity. Valley City has its emergency management responsibilities shared between the city administrator Daveid Schelkoph and chief of police Fred Thompson. Their efforts are

supported at the county level by Kim Franklin who holds the position as the emergency manager of Barnes County. The state also gives various types of support from North Dakota Disaster Services. Above in Photograph 10.4 is an example of what devastation the 2009 flood left in Valley City. Lastly the Federal Emergency Management Agency is the national government organization that completes the various levels of emergency management functions at that level.

Like many communities in the area Valley City has the potential for interactions with a variety of hazards. In particular hazards like flooding, blizzards, thunderstorms, and tornados pose as probable threats to the community. Not limited to these meteorological hazards are the potential incidents like power loss, hazmat spills, and civil violence. Keeping an open and comprehensive approach is a key as the community continues to improve their emergency planning efforts.

Due to the physical location of Valley City the role of emergency management in the town is greatly increasing. In recent years an increase in the number and severity of flooding events across the state of North Dakota has occurred. In 2009 the Sheyenne River reached its highest ever recorded water level at 20.69ft (D. Schelkoph, personal communication, November 13, 2012). Just two years later the city

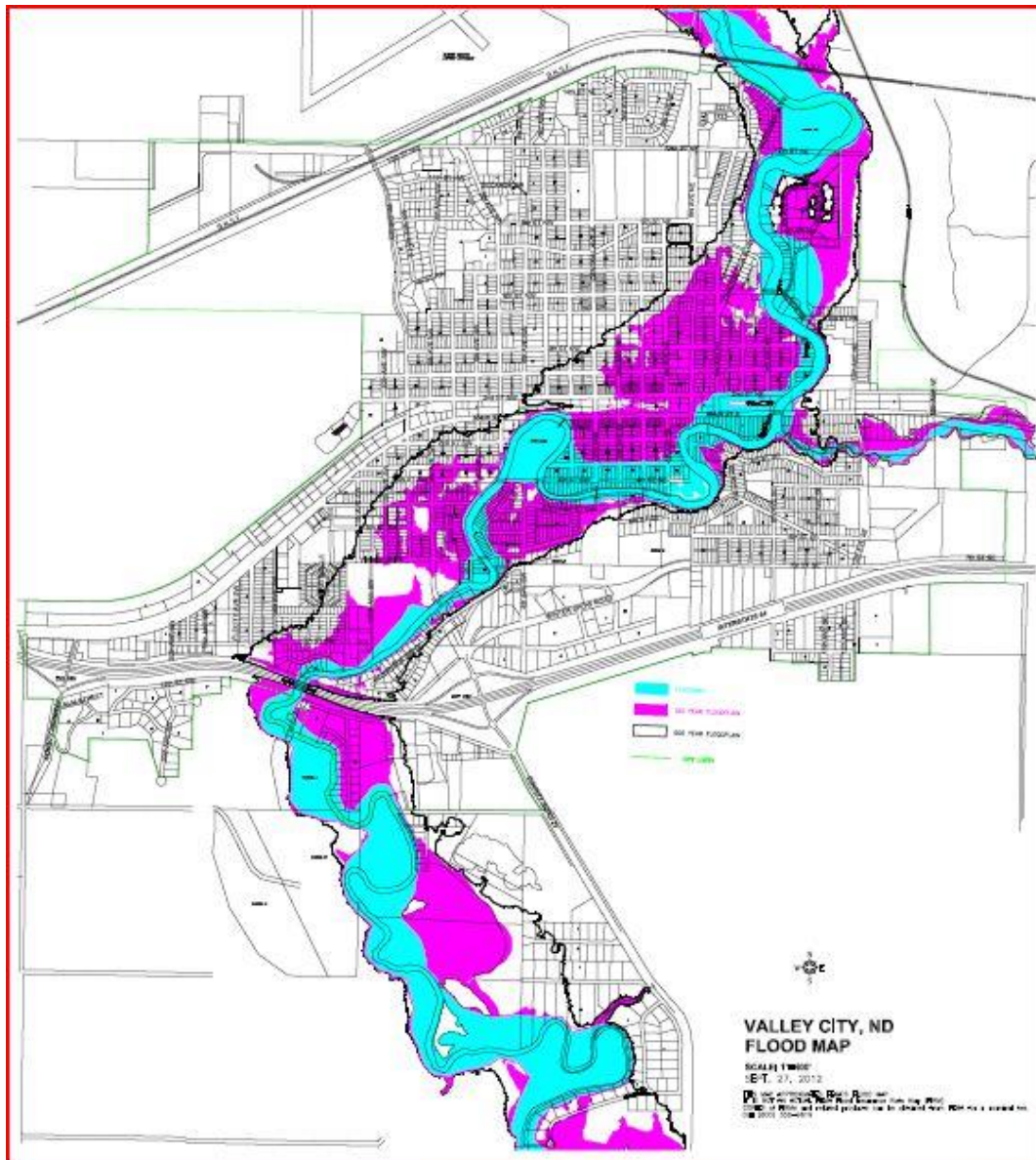


Photograph 10.5 VCSU Bridge underwater in 2009 Flood
Source: Public Domain, www.fema.gov/photodata/original/46467.jpg

experienced a flood that reached 20.66ft (D. Schelkoph, personal communication, November 13, 2012). These levels are both 500 year floods, meaning they had a .002 chance of occurring.

After the two years of flooding the city had spent \$3.5 million dollars in protective actions such as the construction of temporary levees (D. Schelkoph, personal communication, November 13, 2012). Just on basic road repairs alone after the flooding events the city spent \$650,000 (D. Schelkoph, personal communication, November 13, 2012). Due to these large costs the city's planned projects have been pushed back almost 4 years (D. Schelkoph, personal communication, November 13, 2012). With these figures little argument can be made that development has been hindered by the flood waters (Photograph 10.2).

A major strength of the emergency management program in Valley city is the creation of a new property buyout program. In response to the flooding hazard the city has recently undertaken a buyout program of the continual loss properties. 2012 being the first year of the program the city purchased 31 of these properties (D. Schelkoph, personal communication, November 13, 2012). With the land that is acquired Valley City can now explore mitigation options such as setting up new flood plains to create buffer zones between the city and the Sheyenne River. Below in Map 10.1 is an example of the Valley City Flood Plain that maps out the current floodway, the 100 year flood plain, and the 500 year floodplain.



Map 10.1. Valley City Flood Plain Map Source: City Auditor, Avis Richter, 2012

Emergency management activities could never be carried out without the assistance of first responders. A city police force is present, along with volunteer fire group, and a privately owned emergency medical service. Although not labeled as first responders, the local hospital is a key player in supporting the first responders of the community. With Valley City being the location of many of the counties services the city is fortunate to house the sheriff's office as well. They do serve as support for the community in emergency situations.

Another key component of an effective emergency management plan is strong community involvement. Valley City is fortunate to have a resource in Valley City State University. In past flooding events students have turned out to sandbag and serve as volunteers in protecting the city. Much can be said about the high school students as well. Other key nongovernmental organizations are the churches in the area. Often time these groups will volunteer their members or physical structures. In past flood events community kitchens were used to cook for other volunteers (D. Schelkoph, personal communication, November 13, 2012). Of course the Red Cross is ever present in community and disaster assistants and works in Valley City as well.

Any good emergency management program is supported by mutual aid agreements. Mutual aid agreements are set up with businesses, non-governmental organizations, or neighboring governments. Aid can come in many forms including man power, heavy equipment, basic supplies, or special services like hazmat teams. For Valley City the city of Jamestown is a particularly strong partner in mutual aid. The cities have a relationship that has set up agreements for a variety of services that can be called on if the other should ever need them. Many times in the face of a disaster a single community alone does not have the means to cope. These aid agreements go a long way in strengthening Valley City

Strengths, Resources, and Assets for Government

Identifying the strengths, resources and assets for a government can be complicated. While certain tangibles such as equipment owned are easy to identify as an asset, community participation in government may be harder to quantify. Below is a bulleted list of some strengths, resources, and assets found within the city government of Valley City.

- Solid representative form of Government (commission)
- Flexibility in Government decision making process
- Proactive Police Department
- City Administrator
- Commission Meetings open to Public
- Ability to communicate with state and county entities
- Ability to levy tax and adjust tax rates
- Property owned
- Service equipment owned (i.e. snow plows, vehicles, maintenance equipment, mowers, street sweepers)
- Political activity within the Community

Challenges

- Unable to identify a multi-hazard mitigation plan (MHMP) and emergency operations plan (EOP)
- Represent all members of the community
- Continued economic growth of community in balanced fashion

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2012

Community Assessment Valley City, North
Dakota



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Local
Development
Organization

Chapter 11. Local Development Organizations

Community Development Organizations

According to (www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs), community development organizations are a private, locally initiated entity governed by board consisting of residents of the community and business, civic leaders and public officials which has a record of implementing economic development projects or whose articles of incorporation and/or by-laws indicate that it has as a principal purpose, planning, developing, or managing community economic development projects. Community development goals include generating community loyalty, community beautification, develop/improve recreational and health facilities. They also promote activities going on throughout the community, community facility improvement, and provide housing or financing for housing. Economic Development serves in a community to help with business retention, expansion and development. It also serves to recruit businesses from outside the community to come into the community, and aid in financing these activities.

The purpose of this chapter is to look into how Valley City's own Local Development Organizations effectively work in its' community. The chapter also addresses the extensiveness of the organizations ability to work together to develop Valley City and make it a better environment to live in.

Valley City's Community Development Corporation

Valley City has two major community development organizations, Valley Development Group (VDG) and the Chamber of Commerce. These groups play a significant role in developing the community to create the best community possible for Valley City and Barnes County. The VDG contributes to the city by providing job creation and resources to strengthen the economy. "The VDG strives to elevate the standard of living and enhance the quality of life for all through business growth and career and educational opportunities to attract and retain talent" (www.valleycitynd.com, 11/28/30). The VDG is currently working on two different projects to expand Valley City's economic value by providing resources to help the National Guard and to help John Deere expand their existing business.

The VDG is composed of two paid officials and an 11-member Board of Directors elected by its members. According to Jennifer Feist, Director of Development, the VDG has been very successful in bringing new business to Valley City as well as improving Valley City's current businesses. However, she believes that the successes they have had so far have been limited by the amount of time and money they have. The VDG provides financial help to improve the local businesses.

Valley City's other major community development organization is the Chamber of Commerce. According to the Valley City website (www.valleycitynd.com, 11/28/12), the goal of the Chamber is to "work with community partners in the business, non-profit, and government sectors to ensure continued prosperity." The Chamber also works to advance the commercial, industrial, civic, and general interests of Valley City and Barnes County. The Chamber of Commerce is composed of 12 volunteer members Board of Directors, elected by its members.

Not only does Valley City have the Valley Development Group to help strengthen the community but they also have numerous other sources on which they can rely to help with community development. There are many organizations and programs available to help new businesses come in and existing businesses expand. These organizations and programs are divided into two categories: Economic Develop and Community Development. Table 11.1 and

Table 11.2 list the different organizations and programs that were found in relation to helping Valley City. The different Economic Development organizations and programs available are divided into three categories: local, state, and federal. These organizations and programs provide better opportunities for businesses by providing them with financial assistance.

We have included Economic Development organizations (shown in Table 11.1) as a resource for current and new businesses to access. They can use these financial aid programs to get started and create new business in Valley City or they can use it to expand an existing business. This shows that Valley City has the financial resources to expand on economic development.

Economic Development Organizations/Programs	Local	State	Federal
Tax Increment Financing	x		
South Central Revolving loan Fund	x		
Intermediary Relending Program	x		
Community Development loan Fund	x		
ND Small Business Investment Company		x	
ND Department of Commerce		x	
Bank of North Dakota		x	
Valley Development Group		x	
Small Business Administration Loan Program			x
Economic Develop Administration Grant			x
Economic Develop Administration Guarantee Program			x
Rural Economic and Community Development Loan Program			x
Rural Electric Administration Cushion of Credit			x

Community Development Organizations

- Job Training Incentives
- North Dakota New Jobs Training Program
- Workforce 20/20
- Enterprise University
- Corporate Adventures
- Valley Development Group (VDG)
- Chamber of Commerce
- Eide Baily Leadership Class

Valley City has three different job training incentives for the residents of Valley City (www.valleycitynd.com 11/28/12) (shown in Table 11.2). The first is the Job Training Incentive Program, which helps qualified new and expanding

businesses train new employees. The second, North Dakota Jobs Training Program provides incentives to businesses that are creating new employment opportunities through business expansion and relocation to the state. Funds are generated through the ND state income tax withholding and can be used for training or other purposes. The third program is Workforce 20/20. Workforce 20/20 is a grant program to assist North Dakota businesses and industries in retraining and upgrading worker's skills to meet demands of new technologies and work methods (www.valleycitynd.com, 11/28/12).

In addition to job training incentives for residents, Valley City also offers learning facilities that are focused on helping businesses build focused skills and continued professional growth. These facilities are Enterprise University and Corporate Adventures. Enterprise University is a Center of Excellence in North Dakota that produces industry-ready enterprise software consultants for jobs. Enterprise University provides graduates with outstanding career opportunities by creating customized coursework and training programs that are targeted at the specific needs of its business partners. Corporate Adventures facilities transform how employees work with other employees by focusing on the behavior changes that matter most to each organization. Emphasis is placed on measuring the most valuable outcomes by helping individuals capture valuable lessons and develop organizational strategies to implement learning. Corporate leaders, who value optimized collaboration as an essential component of their business strategy, participate in the full breadth of programs provided. Results are seen by companies in the following four areas: improved productivity; increased revenue; better employee retention; and lowered costs (www.valleycitynd.com, 11/28/12).

Urban/Regional Planning

Valley City uses different plans to help develop the community. According to Jennifer Fiest, the city holds city strategic planning meetings that are open to the public to discuss and update existing plans. She stated that those who attended the meetings break out into groups to focus their attention on one idea at a time. After some discussion between each small group, they bring the attendees back together to decide on plans that work best for the community. These discussions can take months of research and planning before the ideas are presented to the community. Other planning strategies they use include land use and transportation, housing, and labor availability. These are important for the community to know and develop because they have a large impact on business decisions, such as whether or not they can bring in a new company due to housing and labor availability. As previously stated in the Built Capital chapter (Chapter 9), Valley City currently has a shortage of housing availability so the community is working to improve the number of housing that is available for new and current residents. This also relates to the labor studies the VDG works on. The VDG measures their labor force availability so they can determine whether or not they can bring in a new business and ensure the business to be successful. Ms. Fiest also mentioned that she works with companies to improve local employment and reduce the number of people who commute to cities such as Fargo or Jamestown. She explained that employers in Valley City try to pay their employees within 10% of those that are located in Fargo or Jamestown. That way Valley City residents will be more enticed to work in Valley City rather than commuting to another city.

Development Corporation Models

Valley City appears to use several different approaches in order to further develop the community. One of these approaches includes the Self-help model, defined in the text *Rural Communities* by Flora and Flora (2013). This model explains how people work together throughout the community to make decisions and take action. In the interview with Jennifer Feist, she stated that Valley City holds community meetings to discuss city planning. Valley City also created leadership programs. They did this so that leadership was created within the community and used to bring people together to benefit the community as a whole.

Another model seen in Valley City is the Appreciative Inquiry approach defined in Flora and Flora as:

- 1) Discover assets and what is working best.
- 2) Dream about how what is working could work even better.
- 3) Design how to build on current assets and what works to get to desired future conditions.

Flora and Flora emphasizes that this approach builds on existing community and what is working within the community. This approach focuses on using in the future what is working and has worked in the past. Valley City uses parts of this model. According to Ms. Fiest, Valley City builds to expand and improve the community. They do not repeat projects too often but expand on existing ones by using similar processes, strategies, organizing, or team work. There is always a need for improvement.

Approaches to Economic Development

One approach to economic development used in Valley City is the firm-recruitment model. This approach, as defined in Flora and Flora (2013), “assumes that private-sector firms have considerable geographic mobility and seeks to engage community resources to attract those industries to the community” (p. 287). According to Jennifer Feist Valley City is working diligently with the National Guard to establish a base within the city. In exchange for financing and extending infrastructure the National Guard will provide Valley City with the opportunity for economic growth by creating more jobs. The National Guard will also provide Valley City with safety and security.

The expansion taking place within John Deere applies to the firm-recruitment model. John Deere is planning to expand their company to Valley City. This expansion will bring 50-100 John Deere employees to the area. This expansion will also bring new money to North Dakota. According to Ms. Fiest, the expansion has already been calculated that for every dollar John Deere spends in Valley City, it expands to about \$5 in economic growth in the community, the multiplier effect

The other approach utilized by Valley City is the self-development model. The self-development model is defined in Flora and Flora (2013) as “economic development us[ing] public-sector groups working with private-sector groups to establish locally owned enterprises” (page 289). An example of this model is the utilities used in Valley City. These utilities include electricity, telephone, and water.; more specifically, the city and Cass County Electric Co. work together to stay within the city’s threshold to keep costs down.

Development Organizations and the Community

The Chamber of Commerce, Job Development Corporation, Valley Development Group, Churches, and other organizations work together in the city. The Chamber of Commerce is the primary source of all things Valley City. They do the marketing for Valley City and put on events to promote tourism, such as Christmas events, parades, the Winter Show, and more.

The Chamber of Commerce, as well as the organizations listed above, work together to benefit the community. An example of this is the Valley Development Group funded Valley City State University one million dollars for scholarships, building maintenance, and marketing for the university.

Valley City has a large amount of assets and strengths that pertain to their Local Development Organizations. Here is a short list of those resources that have been obtained.

Assets/Resources/Strengths

- Valley Development Group
- Chamber of Commerce
- Job Development Corporation
- John Deere
- Eagle Creek Software
- Malach USA
- Volunteers
- Relationships between community organizations
- Financial Assistance availability
- Valley City website (www.valleycitynd.com)
-

Challenges

- Financial assistance from the state
- Housing shortage
- Commuters

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Jennifer Feist, Phone Interview, November 30, 2012

Appendixes:

Community Assessment Class' Code of Ethics

1. This project is being done for a grade. However this class and project have purpose above and beyond a grade both for the community being studied and the students of this class, emphasis on serving the needs of the Valley City community is of paramount importance. This project is being done for and in cooperation with the community; this is not a project being done TO the community.
2. Efforts will be made to ensure all stakeholders in the community have a chance to provide their input on the project and that input will be justly represented within the final project.
3. All research will be done in a manner that is non-discriminatory to both the participants and fellow researchers.
4. Academic Honesty and Integrity:
 - A: All students working on this project will abide by the standards of academic honesty; all work will be the students' own and sources when used will be properly cited.
 - B: All students working on this project will have competency in the area in which they are working.
 - C: This is a group project. Every student will do their individual share of work for this project; free riding will not be tolerated.
 - D: All students will put forth their best efforts on this project to ensure it is of the highest quality possible.
 - E: Students will be aware of sources of potential bias and take the appropriate steps to mitigate these potential biases.
 - F: All students will follow the methodologies established for the collection, analysis, and dissemination of information.
5. All students involved in this project will respect the expectations of privacy and confidentiality of the participants in this study.
6. All students will respect the local laws, ordinances, and guidelines during the conduct of their research.
7. Private property must be respected at all times.
8. Much of the data collected is qualitative in nature. This means that different people will have different opinions about the community. These differing opinions and their proponents will all be treated with respect and researches will always be open to hearing differing opinions on a topic.
9. All students will fully disclose the purpose of the research and the project.

10. Students will ensure that participants have given informed consent to be participants.
11. Students will respect the people and institutions of the community in Valley City as they would respect their own communities' people and institutions.

This Code of Ethics was devised and adopted by the students and professor in Community Assessment (SOC 404/604) in Fall 2012.

Appendix Table 5.1 Historic Population of Valley City, ND in Figure 5.1

Date	Population
1900	2446
1910	4606
1920	4686
1930	5268
1940	5917
1950	6851
1960	7809
1970	7843
1980	7774
1990	7163
2000	6826
2010	6585

Source: www.census.gov

Appendix Table 5.2 Age Demographic of Valley City, ND in Figure 5.2

Date	< 18	18 +
1990	1541	5622
2000	1283	5543
2010	1233	5352

Source: www.census.gov

Appendix Table 5.4 2010 Data of Age and Sex Demographic in Figure 5.4

Age	Male Pop	Male %	Female Pop	Female %
Under 5 years	180	5.7	171	5.0
5 to 9 years	172	5.4	190	5.6
10 to 14 years	140	4.4	170	5.0
15 to 19 years	242	7.6	225	6.6
20 to 24 years	320	10.1	294	8.6
25 to 29 years	210	6.6	190	5.6
30 to 34 years	192	6.1	170	5.0
35 to 39 years	151	4.8	132	3.9
40 to 44 years	171	5.4	171	5.0
45 to 49 years	186	5.9	186	5.4
50 to 54 years	218	6.9	223	6.5
55 to 59 years	222	7.0	235	6.9

60 to 64 years	185	5.8	192	5.6
65 to 69 years	156	4.9	164	4.8
70 to 74 years	118	3.7	171	5.0
75 to 79 years	121	3.8	162	4.7
80 to 84 years	79	2.5	144	4.2
85 to 89 years	69	2.2	123	3.6
90 years +	35	1.1	105	3.1

Source: www.census.gov

Appendix Table 5.5 Births by Age and Marital Status

Valley City, North Dakota

	Estimate	Margin of Error
Total:	1,505	+/-86
Women who had a birth in the past 12 months:	69	+/-41
Now married (including separated and spouse absent):	57	+/-34
15 to 19 years old	0	+/-93
20 to 34 years old	57	+/-34
35 to 50 years old	0	+/-93
Unmarried (never married, widowed, and divorced):	12	+/-18
15 to 19 years old	0	+/-93
20 to 34 years old	12	+/-18
35 to 50 years old	0	+/-93
Women who did not have a birth in the past 12 months:	1,436	+/-96
Now married (including separated and spouse absent):	567	+/-101
15 to 19 years old	0	+/-93
20 to 34 years old	207	+/-75
35 to 50 years old	360	+/-83
Unmarried (never married, widowed, and divorced):	869	+/-113
15 to 19 years old	254	+/-32
20 to 34 years old	374	+/-77
35 to 50 years old	241	+/-84

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey (B13002)

Photograph Appendix

Photograph 1.1 Downtown Valley City

Photograph 1.2 Bridge over the Sheyenne River in Valley City

Photograph 3.1 Russel Miller Milling Company

Photograph 3.2 Valley City Carnaghee Library

Photograph 3.3 Quilted Ceiling, Valley City

Photograph 4.1 Sheynne River, October 4, 2012

Photograph 5.1 Valley City State University, 2012

Photograph 9.1 Valley City, City Hall

Photograph 9.2 Valley City Fire Department

Photograph 9.3 Medicine Wheel Park

Photograph 9.4 North Dakota Winter Show Complex

Photograph 9.5 Valley City Skate Park

Photograph 10.2 Valley City Parks and Recreation building

Photograph 10.3 Valley City Police Department

Photograph 10.4 Valley City Rainbow Bridge under construction

Photograph 10.5 Valley City State University Bridge underwater in 2009 flood