**Description of strategy**

Alcohol outlet density indicates the number of physical locations where alcohol is sold per population or geographic area (such as a square mile, census tract, or city block). It is often regulated at the local level through zoning and business licensing. State alcohol control agencies can also stipulate density levels. Regulations can either reduce alcoholic beverage outlet density or limit the increase of alcoholic beverage outlet density in an area (Guide to Community Preventive Services, 2007). Regulating the number of alcohol outlets per unit of area may decrease the retail availability of alcohol, which may lead to a decrease in excessive consumption of alcohol and its related harms.

In North Dakota, current state law does not regulate alcohol outlet density however, restrictions can be implemented locally.

**Discussion of effectiveness**

*Alcohol*

Evidence strongly suggests restricting the location and density of alcohol retail outlets is an effective local policy to decrease excessive alcohol consumption, alcohol-related crashes, and hospitalizations (Guide to Community Preventive Services, 2007).

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**Intervening Variables**

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**References for description of strategy**


**Evidence base**


**Further reading**
