

UTC Project Information	
Project Title	MPC-684 – The Impact of Transportation Service on Food Access Among Native Americans in North Dakota: A Case Study
University	North Dakota State University
Principal Investigator	Jill Hough, Ph.D.
PI Contact Information	Program Director, Small Urban and Rural Center on Mobility Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute North Dakota State University Phone: (701) 793-1364 Email: jill.hough@ndsu.edu ORCID: 0000-0001-7032-9221
Funding Source(s) and Amounts Provided (by each agency or organization)	USDOT, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology \$128,441 North Dakota State University \$78,441 National Rural Transit Assistance Program \$25,000 Community Transportation Association of America \$25,000
Total Project Cost	\$256,882
Agency ID or Contract Number	69A3551747108
Start and End Dates	February 10, 2022 to July 31, 2024
Brief Description of Research Project	Food insecurity is a persistent problem in the U.S, and it is disproportionately distributed across racial/ethnic groups. USDA-ERS identified the American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) tribes as the highest food insecurity ethnic groups in the U.S. at a rate of 23.5%. Most AIAN tribes live in rural areas and reservations. Transportation plays a role in the limited access to food. This study will focus on Native American tribes in ND. First, we will evaluate food access available in and off Native American reservations. Second, we will evaluate public transportation service and food access in and off the reservations; third, we will measure the effect of lack/low public transportation service on food insecurity and fourth, we will assess Native American households' status living in and off reservations before and after the COVID-19 pandemic to determine changes in food access due to the pandemic.
Describe Implementation of Research Outcomes (or why not implemented)	The information will be shared with decision makers who can address food insecurity issues for Native Americans living in North Dakota.
Place Any Photos Here	

<p>Impacts/Benefits of Implementation (actual, not anticipated)</p>	<p>This research will help inform decision makers regarding the level of food insecurity among Native Americans living in North Dakota. Further, it illustrates the lack of transportation, as Native Americans in North Dakota have substantially less access to vehicles compared to national and state averages. Providing better access to healthy foods for Native Americans can address the health issues, such as diabetes, hypertension, and obesity, that hinder this underserved population.</p>
<p>Web Links</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports • Project Website 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MPC Research Report – The Association Between Tribal Transit and Food Insecurity Status Among Native Americans in North Dakota