In 2002, there were over 1,400 minority firms in North Dakota.

These firms also employed about 2,560 workers.

Minority firms represented 2.6% of all ‘classifiable’ firms located in the state.

The number of minority firms in North Dakota decreased by 7% between 1997 and 2002, compared to an increase of 1% for all ‘classifiable’ firms in the state.

North Dakota had the 3rd smallest minority population, numbering about 54,200 or 8.5% of the North Dakota’s total population in 2002.

In North Dakota, no minority group has reached parity in number of firms or gross receipts when compared to that group’s representation in the state’s population.

If minority business activity in North Dakota matched the state’s minority population percentage in 2002, the number of minority firms in the state would have reached 4,630 and they would have generated about $1.7 billion in gross receipts and employed over 11,600 workers.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau’s 2007 Special Tabulation for Minority Firms in 2002, 2002 Survey of Business Owners, Company Summary, September 2006; 1997 Survey of Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprises, July 2001. Table 2: Estimates of the Total Population of States by Race and Hispanic Origin: July 1, 2002. All U.S. Firms include publicly held, foreign-owned and non-profit firms. Statistics for All Minority, Classifiable Firms and all groups do not include publicly held, foreign-owned and non-profit entities. Classifiable Firms include minority-owned and non-minority-owned firms. These are firms whose ownership can be classified by race, gender of Hispanic origin. Total numbers for Classifiable Firms represent MBDA estimates. Hispanics may be of any race, because business owners were allowed to identify with more than one race category. Due to the exclusion of tribally held governments in 2002, data for American Indian and Alaska Native firms for 1997 and 2002 are not directly comparable. Data withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual companies; data are included in higher level totals. n/a = not available. Change in gross receipts for Minority Firms, African American, Asian, and Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islanders was not included because relevant data was withheld. Population estimates for 2002 were for all ages.
While smaller in number, Strategic Growth Initiative (SGI) minority-owned firms, which have annual receipts of $500,000 or more, generate a much larger percentage of all the group’s revenues and paid employment than firms with receipts under $500,000.

In 2002, minority-owned firms with receipts of $500,000 or more generated about 86% of all receipts grossed by all minority firms in North Dakota.

Minority-owned firms in North Dakota were most concentrated in the following industries: health care and social assistance; construction; and other services.