

North Dakota Geological Survey

Mississippian Period



Age: Kinderhookian to Chesterian (359 to 318 Ma)

Mississippian rocks in North Dakota were deposited during the second major transgressive phase of the Kaskaskia sea. The initial deposits of this phase of deposition occur in the middle member of the Bakken Formation and are conformable with the Devonian portion of the Bakken near the center of the basin. Elsewhere, the contact is unconformable. The top of the Mississippian is marked by a regionally extensive unconformity that marks the end of the Kaskaskia sequence.

Mississippian rocks in North Dakota are subdivided as follows:

Big Snowy Group

- Otter Formation
- Libbey Formation

Madison Group

- Charles Formation
- Mission Canyon Formation
- Lodgepole Formation

(No Group Designation) Bakken Formation

