## Average Wage Per Job in North Dakota: 2005

The average wage per job in North Dakota rose to $\$ 29,818$ in 2005, an increase of 4.0 percent per year, on average, since 1998. Nationally, wages rose an average of 3.6 percent annually between 1998 and 2005 , reaching $\$ 40,146$ (Table 1). Both rates of increase were slightly higher than inflation, which has risen an average of 2.6 percent per year since 1998.

The average wage earned in North Dakota was 25.7 percent below the national average in 2005 (Figure 1). Nationally, three other states had lower averages than North Dakota: Mississippi $(\$ 29,413)$, Montana $(\$ 29,139)$, and South Dakota $(\$ 28,951)$. Connecticut had the highest average wage per job in $2005(\$ 51,805)$, followed by New York $(\$ 51,165)$ and Massachusetts $(\$ 48,960)$.

When considering the annual average percent change in average wages for North Dakota counties since 1998, all counties experienced growth of at least 2 percent per year (Table 2).

Figure 1. Average Wage Per Job in North Dakota and the U.S.:
1970 to 2005


Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, BEA, REIS, Table CA34.

Table 1. Average Wage Per Job in ND, Surrounding States, \& the U.S. by Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA): 1998 to 2005 Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), Regional Economic Information System (REIS), Table CA34, www.bea.gov/bea/regional/reis. Note: MSA - Metropolitan Statistical Areas defined by the Office of Management and Budget.

| Area | Average Wage Per Job (Dollars) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Annual Average \% <br> Change: 1998-2005 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 |  |
| North Dakota | 22,633 | 23,373 | 24,348 | 25,365 | 26,269 | 27,413 | 28,789 | 29,818 | 4.0 |
| (Non-Metropolitan Portion) | 20,833 | 21,424 | 22,353 | 23,449 | 24,244 | 25,300 | 26,637 | 27,855 | 4.2 |
| (Metropolitan Portion) | 24,240 | 25,090 | 26,089 | 27,021 | 27,995 | 29,178 | 30,563 | 31,408 | 3.8 |
| Bismarck, ND MSA | 23,859 | 24,431 | 25,419 | 26,697 | 27,493 | 29,023 | 30,359 | 31,105 | 3.9 |
| Fargo, ND-MN MSA | 24,475 | 25,418 | 26,419 | 27,288 | 28,377 | 29,472 | 30,925 | 31,721 | 3.8 |
| Grand Forks, ND-MN MSA | 22,579 | 23,153 | 24,095 | 24,803 | 25,815 | 26,656 | 27,737 | 28,260 | 3.3 |
| Minnesota | 31,393 | 32,708 | 34,660 | 35,801 | 36,670 | 37,772 | 39,544 | 39,957 | 3.5 |
| (Non-Metropolitan Portion) | 22,787 | 23,593 | 24,608 | 25,362 | 26,370 | 27,082 | 28,261 | 28,471 | 3.2 |
| (Metropolitan Portion) | 33,971 | 35,410 | 37,609 | 38,858 | 39,731 | 40,945 | 42,885 | 43,339 | 3.6 |
| Duluth, MN-WI MSA | 25,912 | 26,988 | 28,041 | 29,157 | 30,357 | 30,921 | 32,254 | 32,395 | 3.3 |
| Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN-WI MSA | 35,110 | 36,645 | 39,005 | 40,277 | 41,101 | 42,349 | 44,376 | 44,890 | 3.6 |
| Rochester, MN MSA | 31,387 | 33,038 | 34,204 | 35,658 | 36,997 | 38,730 | 40,157 | 40,683 | 3.8 |
| St. Cloud, MN MSA | 25,700 | 25,691 | 26,876 | 27,699 | 28,981 | 29,767 | 31,079 | 31,110 | 2.8 |
| Montana | 22,445 | 23,057 | 24,084 | 24,959 | 25,923 | 26,814 | 27,750 | 29,139 | 3.8 |
| (Non-Metropolitan Portion) | 21,661 | 22,165 | 23,126 | 24,015 | 24,960 | 25,826 | 26,750 | 28,234 | 3.9 |
| (Metropolitan Portion) | 23,600 | 24,356 | 25,485 | 26,323 | 27,308 | 28,244 | 29,209 | 30,473 | 3.7 |
| Billings, MT MSA | 24,373 | 25,125 | 26,309 | 27,469 | 28,184 | 29,117 | 30,340 | 31,873 | 3.9 |
| Great Falls, MT MSA | 23,159 | 23,907 | 24,657 | 25,034 | 26,337 | 27,494 | 28,631 | 29,567 | 3.6 |
| Missoula, MT MSA | 22,847 | 23,610 | 24,942 | 25,672 | 26,783 | 27,571 | 28,055 | 29,143 | 3.5 |
| South Dakota | 22,262 | 23,222 | 24,323 | 25,151 | 26,043 | 26,914 | 28,031 | 28,951 | 3.8 |
| (Non-Metropolitan Portion) | 19,768 | 20,539 | 21,519 | 22,259 | 23,034 | 23,782 | 24,889 | 25,762 | 3.9 |
| (Metropolitan Portion) | 24,891 | 25,979 | 27,161 | 28,060 | 29,033 | 29,994 | 31,132 | 32,098 | 3.7 |
| Rapid City, SD MSA | 22,166 | 23,315 | 24,339 | 25,486 | 26,792 | 27,571 | 28,498 | 29,301 | 4.1 |
| Sioux Falls, SD MSA | 25,250 | 26,278 | 27,356 | 28,425 | 29,474 | 30,633 | 31,814 | 33,038 | 3.9 |
| United States | 31,411 | 32,774 | 34,718 | 35,582 | 36,150 | 37,169 | 38,792 | 40,146 | 3.6 |
| (Non-Metropolitan Portion) | 23,173 | 23,867 | 24,754 | 25,510 | 26,292 | 27,066 | 28,154 | 29,078 | 3.3 |
| (Metropolitan Portion) | 32,794 | 34,252 | 36,352 | 37,223 | 37,761 | 38,821 | 40,526 | 41,942 | 3.6 |

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Table 2. Average Wage Per Job in North Dakota by County: 1998 to 2005
Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), Regional Economic Information System (REIS), Table CA34,
www.bea.gov/bea/regional/reis

|  | Average Wage Per Job (Dollars) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Annual Average \% Change: 1998-2005 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Area | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 |  |
| North Dakota | 22,633 | 23,373 | 24,348 | 25,365 | 26,269 | 27,413 | 28,789 | 29,818 | 4.0 |
| Adams | 18,529 | 19,360 | 19,733 | 21,353 | 21,563 | 22,108 | 23,173 | 24,082 | 3.8 |
| Barnes | 18,421 | 18,860 | 19,348 | 19,875 | 20,817 | 21,794 | 23,179 | 23,941 | 3.8 |
| Benson | 17,698 | 19,003 | 21,183 | 22,557 | 23,180 | 23,528 | 24,988 | 25,825 | 5.6 |
| Billings | 14,749 | 15,347 | 16,739 | 17,862 | 17,534 | 19,694 | 20,297 | 22,170 | 6.1 |
| Bottineau | 17,079 | 17,241 | 18,444 | 19,215 | 19,884 | 20,763 | 22,458 | 24,342 | 5.2 |
| Bowman | 17,245 | 17,046 | 18,012 | 19,933 | 20,771 | 22,823 | 23,261 | 24,819 | 5.4 |
| Burke | 19,026 | 19,568 | 21,086 | 22,055 | 22,614 | 25,310 | 26,500 | 28,937 | 6.2 |
| Burleigh | 24,144 | 24,697 | 25,731 | 26,901 | 27,817 | 29,430 | 30,876 | 31,564 | 3.9 |
| Cass | 25,126 | 26,215 | 27,215 | 28,085 | 29,143 | 30,199 | 31,770 | 32,703 | 3.8 |
| Cavalier | 19,079 | 20,150 | 20,305 | 21,988 | 22,613 | 23,165 | 24,206 | 25,748 | 4.4 |
| Dickey | 17,774 | 18,325 | 18,839 | 19,597 | 20,354 | 21,363 | 22,986 | 23,664 | 4.2 |
| Divide | 14,084 | 14,776 | 15,843 | 17,208 | 18,788 | 19,881 | 20,359 | 21,739 | 6.4 |
| Dunn | 18,618 | 18,830 | 20,105 | 20,853 | 20,568 | 22,166 | 22,401 | 23,833 | 3.6 |
| Eddy | 16,996 | 17,808 | 18,536 | 18,168 | 19,036 | 19,431 | 20,355 | 20,915 | 3.0 |
| Emmons | 16,274 | 16,731 | 17,673 | 18,468 | 18,780 | 19,935 | 21,866 | 22,576 | 4.8 |
| Foster | 19,087 | 19,842 | 21,482 | 22,140 | 23,370 | 24,804 | 26,144 | 27,315 | 5.3 |
| Golden Valley | 17,856 | 16,645 | 17,336 | 17,396 | 17,800 | 18,297 | 20,262 | 21,373 | 2.7 |
| Grand Forks | 22,929 | 23,595 | 24,544 | 25,148 | 26,192 | 27,184 | 28,216 | 28,967 | 3.4 |
| Grant | 15,983 | 15,714 | 16,499 | 17,369 | 18,439 | 19,204 | 20,514 | 21,579 | 4.4 |
| Griggs | 18,010 | 19,047 | 20,535 | 20,509 | 20,669 | 20,982 | 22,217 | 23,199 | 3.7 |
| Hettinger | 16,844 | 17,822 | 18,405 | 19,498 | 19,752 | 20,381 | 21,686 | 22,221 | 4.1 |
| Kidder | 15,948 | 16,306 | 17,502 | 18,971 | 19,552 | 20,649 | 21,735 | 22,780 | 5.2 |
| LaMoure | 16,310 | 16,478 | 17,711 | 18,546 | 19,303 | 21,022 | 22,724 | 24,163 | 5.8 |
| Logan | 14,320 | 14,916 | 15,788 | 17,001 | 17,938 | 18,245 | 18,422 | 19,968 | 4.9 |
| McHenry | 17,268 | 18,041 | 18,440 | 20,359 | 20,070 | 21,018 | 22,534 | 24,930 | 5.5 |
| Mclntosh | 15,621 | 15,998 | 16,997 | 17,981 | 18,977 | 19,253 | 20,338 | 20,824 | 4.2 |
| McKenzie | 20,615 | 21,299 | 22,449 | 23,759 | 23,391 | 24,717 | 25,714 | 27,449 | 4.2 |
| McLean | 23,902 | 25,199 | 25,006 | 26,162 | 27,243 | 28,110 | 30,187 | 31,880 | 4.2 |
| Mercer | 32,830 | 33,500 | 35,050 | 37,140 | 36,729 | 38,326 | 41,111 | 41,411 | 3.4 |
| Morton | 22,539 | 23,205 | 23,947 | 25,713 | 25,914 | 27,043 | 27,835 | 28,811 | 3.6 |
| Mountrail | 18,689 | 19,792 | 20,651 | 21,142 | 22,654 | 24,955 | 27,707 | 27,977 | 6.0 |
| Nelson | 17,097 | 17,334 | 17,409 | 18,426 | 20,158 | 20,377 | 20,513 | 21,550 | 3.4 |
| Oliver | 38,425 | 38,627 | 40,904 | 44,456 | 40,498 | 41,132 | 45,084 | 43,478 | 2.0 |
| Pembina | 24,158 | 24,914 | 25,308 | 26,482 | 27,162 | 27,899 | 28,699 | 29,963 | 3.1 |
| Pierce | 17,916 | 17,715 | 18,003 | 19,896 | 20,917 | 22,983 | 23,814 | 24,466 | 4.6 |
| Ramsey | 18,345 | 18,812 | 19,465 | 20,656 | 21,110 | 21,923 | 23,032 | 24,339 | 4.1 |
| Ransom | 18,860 | 20,011 | 21,827 | 22,905 | 24,022 | 24,321 | 25,319 | 27,093 | 5.3 |
| Renville | 17,673 | 17,586 | 19,024 | 20,457 | 20,887 | 21,452 | 23,133 | 24,554 | 4.9 |
| Richland | 22,528 | 23,432 | 24,329 | 25,078 | 25,868 | 26,554 | 27,694 | 28,970 | 3.7 |
| Rolette | 20,741 | 20,949 | 21,726 | 22,518 | 22,808 | 24,259 | 25,639 | 26,480 | 3.6 |
| Sargent | 29,763 | 32,738 | 33,475 | 33,231 | 34,995 | 38,843 | 39,573 | 40,458 | 4.6 |
| Sheridan | 17,495 | 20,421 | 19,064 | 19,549 | 19,689 | 21,275 | 20,984 | 23,398 | 4.5 |
| Sioux | 21,502 | 22,609 | 23,657 | 25,436 | 25,751 | 27,337 | 29,001 | 29,523 | 4.7 |
| Slope | 17,022 | 16,086 | 18,094 | 20,236 | 21,274 | 21,402 | 24,582 | 26,975 | 7.0 |
| Stark | 20,024 | 20,447 | 21,144 | 22,318 | 23,160 | 24,227 | 24,930 | 26,260 | 4.0 |
| Steele | 20,538 | 21,036 | 22,617 | 23,067 | 23,008 | 24,315 | 26,033 | 27,755 | 4.4 |
| Stutsman | 21,091 | 21,507 | 22,751 | 23,849 | 24,567 | 25,262 | 26,417 | 27,435 | 3.8 |
| Towner | 18,995 | 18,982 | 19,596 | 20,073 | 20,545 | 20,543 | 21,839 | 23,371 | 3.0 |
| Traill | 19,984 | 20,282 | 21,622 | 22,269 | 22,954 | 23,839 | 24,959 | 26,055 | 3.9 |
| Walsh | 18,845 | 19,347 | 19,926 | 21,121 | 21,949 | 21,990 | 23,552 | 25,004 | 4.1 |
| Ward | 22,340 | 23,122 | 24,024 | 24,876 | 26,443 | 27,312 | 28,588 | 29,493 | 4.1 |
| Wells | 17,743 | 18,596 | 18,985 | 20,024 | 20,809 | 21,248 | 22,341 | 23,740 | 4.3 |
| Williams | 21,131 | 20,798 | 22,228 | 24,438 | 24,462 | 26,281 | 28,234 | 31,229 | 5.8 |


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