

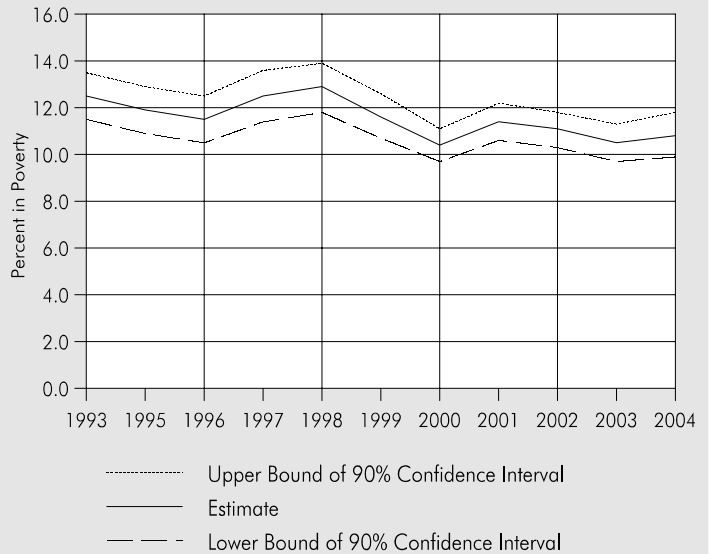
Poverty Estimates for Persons in North Dakota: 2004

Approximately one in 10 North Dakotans were living in poverty in 2004 (Figure 1). The Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) program, which is part of the U.S. Census Bureau, provides annual estimates of the number and percentage of total persons and children living in poverty. These estimates are based on a sample of households. Due to the small population base in North Dakota and the need to keep costs of data collection manageable, the sample sizes for the state are relatively small, though this increases the likelihood of error. Therefore, confidence intervals are calculated to account for sampling error. For example, SAIPE estimates indicate that 10.8 percent of North Dakotans were living in poverty in 2004. However, in order to be 90 percent confident of the true poverty level, one should use a range from 9.9 percent to 11.8 percent (Table 1).

Poverty rates in North Dakota were notably higher in reservation areas, with Sioux, Rolette, and Benson counties averaging one in four persons living in poverty in 2004 (Figure 2). However, when making important decisions based on these data, one needs to be mindful of the confidence intervals (Table 1).

Nationally, 12.7 percent of all persons were living in poverty in 2004 (the 90% confidence interval ranges from 12.5 percent to 13.0 percent) (Table 1).

Figure 1. Percent of North Dakotans Living in Poverty: 1993 to 2004



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, www.census.gov/hhes/www/saipe. Note: Data for 1994 are not available.

Figure 2. Percent of Persons Living in Poverty in North Dakota by County: 2004

Note: See Table 1 for 90% confidence intervals by county.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, www.census.gov/hhes/www/saipe.

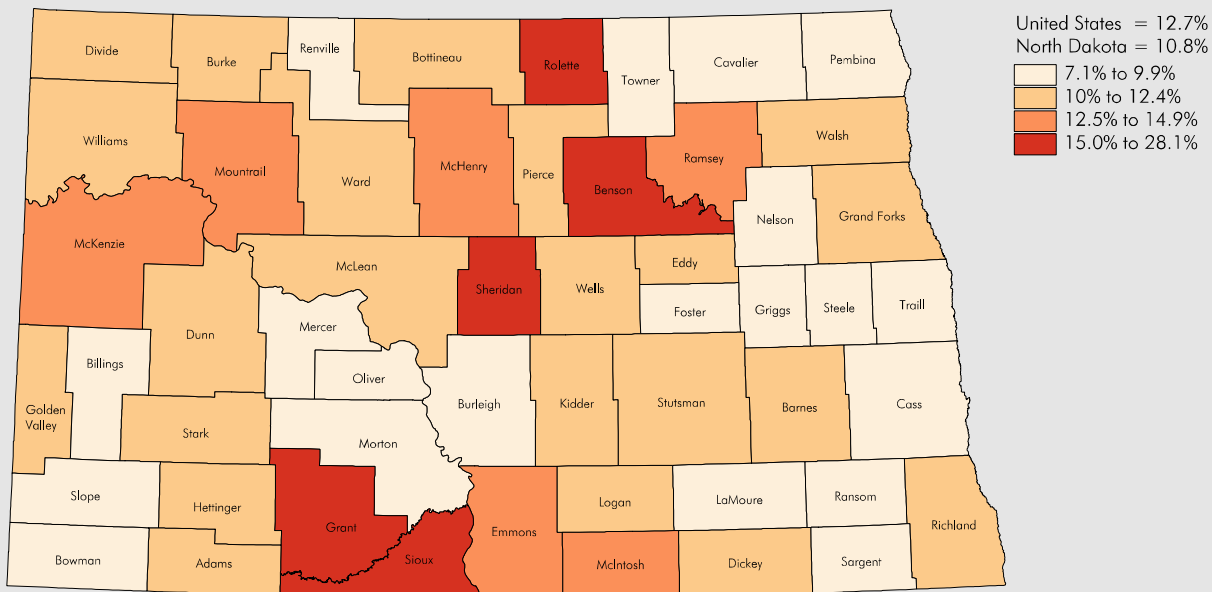


Table 1. Income and Poverty Estimates for the United States and for North Dakota by County: 2004

Note: To be 90 percent confident, the estimate may fall anywhere within the specified interval. For an explanation of confidence intervals, visit www.census.gov/hhes/www/saipe/techdoc/stcty/ci.html.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, www.census.gov/hhes/www/saipe.

Area	Median Household Income (\$)		All Ages - Percent in Poverty		Ages 0 to 17 - Percent in Poverty		Ages 5 to 17 in Families - Percent in Poverty	
	Dollars	90% Confidence Interval	Percent	90% Confidence Interval	Percent	90% Confidence Interval	Percent	90% Confidence Interval
United States	44,334	44,012 to 44,656	12.7	12.5 to 13.0	17.8	17.3 to 18.3	16.2	15.6 to 16.7
North Dakota	39,233	37,767 to 40,699	10.8	9.9 to 11.8	13.5	11.8 to 15.3	11.0	8.9 to 13.1
Adams	31,352	29,330 to 33,513	10.1	7.6 to 12.6	13.4	9.5 to 17.4	10.1	6.6 to 13.7
Barnes	36,799	34,504 to 39,245	10.7	8.1 to 13.2	12.1	8.7 to 15.5	9.6	6.3 to 12.8
Benson	28,058	26,321 to 29,909	22.4	17.0 to 27.8	29.8	21.2 to 38.5	27.7	18.1 to 37.3
Billings	38,505	36,016 to 41,166	9.3	7.0 to 11.6	11.0	7.9 to 14.2	10.1	6.6 to 13.5
Bottineau	37,385	35,010 to 39,921	11.0	8.4 to 13.7	14.7	10.5 to 18.9	11.2	7.3 to 15.0
Bowman	39,302	36,812 to 41,959	7.8	6.0 to 9.7	9.3	6.7 to 11.9	7.7	5.0 to 10.3
Burke	32,504	30,222 to 34,958	10.2	7.6 to 12.7	11.6	8.2 to 15.0	9.7	6.2 to 13.3
Burleigh	47,268	44,595 to 50,100	8.8	6.8 to 10.8	10.6	7.8 to 13.5	8.4	5.7 to 11.1
Cass	44,531	42,098 to 47,105	9.2	7.1 to 11.2	9.9	7.3 to 12.5	8.1	5.5 to 10.7
Cavalier	34,722	32,224 to 37,414	9.8	7.4 to 12.3	14.3	10.1 to 18.6	10.8	6.9 to 14.6
Dickey	35,537	33,321 to 37,900	12.2	9.3 to 15.1	15.8	11.4 to 20.2	13.2	8.7 to 17.6
Divide	31,236	29,215 to 33,397	10.1	7.5 to 12.6	14.4	10.0 to 18.9	11.2	7.0 to 15.3
Dunn	34,299	32,171 to 36,568	11.5	8.7 to 14.4	15.6	11.0 to 20.2	12.0	7.8 to 16.3
Eddy	32,267	30,239 to 34,431	10.1	7.6 to 12.5	13.2	9.4 to 17.0	10.2	6.6 to 13.8
Emmons	29,519	27,651 to 31,514	12.6	9.4 to 15.9	16.9	11.7 to 22.1	13.0	8.2 to 17.8
Foster	36,033	33,673 to 38,558	8.2	6.2 to 10.2	9.3	6.6 to 11.9	7.8	5.1 to 10.6
Golden Valley	30,956	28,958 to 33,092	11.4	8.6 to 14.2	15.6	10.9 to 20.3	13.2	8.5 to 17.9
Grand Forks	39,171	36,887 to 41,597	11.3	8.7 to 13.9	12.8	9.3 to 16.2	9.8	6.6 to 13.1
Grant	26,855	25,103 to 28,728	15.5	11.7 to 19.4	25.0	17.2 to 32.8	17.6	11.1 to 24.0
Griggs	34,282	32,061 to 36,656	9.9	7.5 to 12.3	12.9	9.2 to 16.6	9.6	6.3 to 12.9
Hettinger	31,954	29,833 to 34,226	11.3	8.5 to 14.1	15.6	10.9 to 20.4	11.3	7.1 to 15.4
Kidder	30,228	28,256 to 32,339	11.4	8.4 to 14.4	14.3	9.9 to 18.7	11.9	7.5 to 16.2
LaMoure	38,870	36,309 to 41,612	9.8	7.5 to 12.2	12.6	9.0 to 16.1	10.5	6.9 to 14.1
Logan	31,379	29,394 to 33,498	10.4	7.7 to 13.1	13.2	9.2 to 17.1	10.8	6.9 to 14.7
McHenry	32,306	30,257 to 34,494	12.8	9.7 to 15.9	17.1	12.2 to 22.0	13.4	8.7 to 18.0
McIntosh	30,281	28,340 to 32,354	13.4	10.0 to 16.7	17.3	12.0 to 22.6	13.1	8.3 to 17.8
McKenzie	33,711	31,515 to 36,060	13.7	10.4 to 17.0	18.2	12.9 to 23.4	15.1	9.8 to 20.4
McLean	39,218	36,774 to 41,824	11.3	8.6 to 13.9	16.6	11.9 to 21.3	12.0	7.9 to 16.1
Mercer	53,710	50,143 to 57,532	7.4	5.6 to 9.1	8.1	5.7 to 10.4	5.8	3.8 to 7.9
Morton	43,050	40,484 to 45,777	9.9	7.6 to 12.2	12.1	8.8 to 15.4	9.6	6.4 to 12.7
Mountrail	34,503	32,214 to 36,955	14.2	10.7 to 17.6	18.6	13.2 to 24.0	14.9	9.7 to 20.1
Nelson	31,344	29,321 to 33,506	9.5	7.2 to 11.8	13.4	9.4 to 17.4	10.4	6.7 to 14.0
Oliver	46,396	43,288 to 49,727	8.9	6.5 to 11.2	12.8	8.6 to 17.1	10.3	6.3 to 14.3
Pembina	37,537	34,837 to 40,446	8.7	6.6 to 10.8	11.1	7.9 to 14.3	8.6	5.6 to 11.6
Pierce	30,116	28,175 to 32,190	11.4	8.7 to 14.2	15.5	11.1 to 19.9	12.3	8.1 to 16.6
Ramsey	36,445	34,240 to 38,793	13.5	10.4 to 16.6	18.1	13.2 to 23.0	15.4	10.3 to 20.5
Ransom	43,281	40,617 to 46,121	8.9	6.7 to 11.1	10.0	7.2 to 12.8	8.4	5.5 to 11.2
Renville	37,831	35,343 to 40,493	9.4	7.1 to 11.7	12.8	9.0 to 16.7	10.1	6.5 to 13.6
Richland	39,530	37,007 to 42,225	10.0	7.6 to 12.5	10.7	7.7 to 13.7	8.6	5.7 to 11.5
Rolette	28,085	26,411 to 29,865	25.9	19.8 to 32.0	31.8	23.0 to 40.5	27.5	18.3 to 36.7
Sargent	45,253	42,294 to 48,418	7.1	5.4 to 8.8	8.1	5.8 to 10.4	6.9	4.5 to 9.3
Sheridan	29,552	27,585 to 31,660	16.9	12.6 to 21.1	24.6	17.1 to 32.0	17.6	11.2 to 24.0
Sioux	25,420	23,808 to 27,141	28.1	21.1 to 35.0	33.5	23.4 to 43.6	33.0	21.1 to 44.8
Slope	31,723	29,514 to 34,097	9.6	7.2 to 12.1	12.1	8.4 to 15.7	9.9	6.2 to 13.6
Stark	38,345	36,046 to 40,792	11.4	8.8 to 14.1	13.9	10.1 to 17.7	11.0	7.4 to 14.6
Steele	39,697	37,013 to 42,577	8.0	6.1 to 9.9	11.6	8.3 to 14.9	8.6	5.7 to 11.5
Stutsman	38,081	35,806 to 40,500	11.4	8.8 to 14.1	14.5	10.5 to 18.4	10.9	7.3 to 14.6
Towner	34,606	32,432 to 36,926	9.6	7.3 to 12.0	12.9	9.2 to 16.6	9.7	6.3 to 13.0
Traill	40,995	38,480 to 43,674	9.1	7.0 to 11.2	10.6	7.7 to 13.5	8.6	5.7 to 11.4
Walsh	36,396	34,184 to 38,752	11.1	8.5 to 13.7	14.1	10.3 to 18.0	11.4	7.6 to 15.1
Ward	39,828	37,445 to 42,363	10.7	8.3 to 13.2	13.4	9.8 to 17.0	11.3	7.6 to 15.0
Wells	36,092	33,822 to 38,513	11.7	8.8 to 14.5	14.1	10.1 to 18.2	10.7	7.0 to 14.4
Williams	38,115	35,708 to 40,685	11.1	8.5 to 13.8	15.1	10.9 to 19.4	12.1	8.0 to 16.2

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North Dakota's Poverty Rate Sees Little Change in 2004

Approximately one in 10 North Dakotans were living in poverty in 2004, a rate relatively unchanged from 2003, and down slightly from 1998 when one in eight persons were living in poverty.

This month's "Population Bulletin," a monthly publication from the North Dakota State Data Center at North Dakota State University, focuses on poverty estimates released from the Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) program through the U.S. Census Bureau. SAIPE provides annual estimates of the number and percentage of total persons and children living in poverty. These estimates are based on a sample of households. Due to the relatively small population base in North Dakota and the need to keep costs of data collection manageable, the sample sizes for the state are relatively small, though this increases the likelihood of error. Therefore, confidence intervals are calculated to account for this sampling error. For example, SAIPE estimates indicate that 10.8 percent of all North Dakotans were living in poverty in 2004. However, if one wants to be 90 percent confident of the true poverty level, one should use a range from 9.9 percent to 11.8 percent.

Certain populations in North Dakota are harder hit by poverty than others. Children had a greater likelihood for poverty than the general public throughout the state. The percentage of North Dakota children ages 0 to 17 living in poverty was estimated at 13.5 percent in 2004, and the percentage of children ages 0 to 4 living in poverty was 18.0 percent. In addition, poverty rates in North Dakota were notably higher in reservation areas, with Sioux, Rolette, and Benson counties averaging one in four persons living in poverty in 2004. "Although our state has been successful in lowering its poverty rate over the past 10 years, we need to continue our efforts in reducing the barriers to self-sufficiency. The fact that nearly one in five of our preschoolers are living below the poverty threshold should be a call to action," said Richard Rathge, Director of the State Data Center. When making important decisions based on these data, one needs to be mindful of the confidence intervals (11.8 to 15.3 percent for children ages 0 to 17 and 14.8 to 21.2 percent for children ages 0 to 4).

Nationally, 12.7 percent of all persons were living in poverty in 2004, 17.8 percent of children ages 0 to 17 were living in poverty, and 20.5 percent of children ages 0 to 4 were living in poverty (90 percent confidence intervals are 12.5 to 13.0, 17.3 to 18.3, and 19.5 to 21.5 percent, respectively).

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