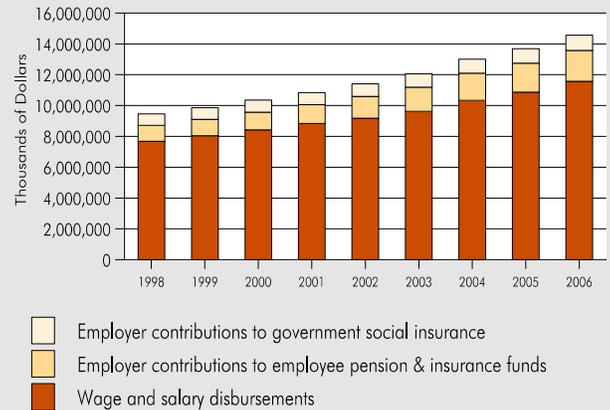


Compensation of North Dakota Employees: 2006

Total compensation of North Dakota employees totaled \$14.6 billion in 2006, up 6.4 percent from 2005. Average compensation per job in North Dakota rose to \$39,077 in 2006, an increase of 4.3 percent per year, on average, since 1998. Nationally, compensation per job rose an average of 4.1 percent annually between 1998 and 2006, reaching \$51,861 (Table 1). Compensation of North Dakota employees consists of wage and salary disbursements (79.5 percent) and supplements to wages and salaries (i.e., employer contributions to employee pension and insurance funds and employer contributions to government social insurance; 20.5 percent) (Figure 1). On average, employer supplements in North Dakota grew faster than actual wages and salaries between 1998 and 2006. Employer supplements in the state grew an average of 6.8 percent annually since 1998; wages and salaries grew an average of 5.3 percent.

Within North Dakota, the average per job compensation for all 53 counties grew at least 3.0 percent per year, on average, since 1998; six counties, all in the western part of the state, grew at least 6.0 percent annually, on average (Williams, Billings, Burke, Slope, Divide, and Bowman).

Figure 1. Compensation of North Dakota Employees: 1998-2006 (Thousands of Dollars)



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, BEA, REIS, Table CA06.

Table 1. Average Compensation Per Job in North Dakota, Surrounding States, and the United States by MSA: 1998 to 2006

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), Regional Economic Information System (REIS), Table CA06, www.bea.gov/bea/regional/reis. Note: MSA - Metropolitan Statistical Areas defined by the Office of Management and Budget.

Area	Average Compensation Per Job (Dollars)									Average Annual % Change: 1998-2006
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	
North Dakota	27,844	28,678	29,923	31,131	32,697	34,342	36,200	37,511	39,077	4.3
(Non-Metropolitan Portion)	25,900	26,597	27,808	29,109	30,582	32,183	34,037	35,574	37,281	4.7
(Metropolitan Portion)	29,578	30,511	31,769	32,880	34,500	36,145	37,982	39,078	40,510	4.0
Bismarck, ND MSA	28,858	29,496	30,753	32,293	33,621	35,606	37,525	38,559	39,792	4.1
Fargo, ND-MN MSA	29,498	30,590	31,850	32,898	34,646	36,166	37,966	38,975	40,372	4.0
Grand Forks, ND-MN MSA	28,222	28,793	30,006	30,834	32,535	33,855	35,410	36,165	37,587	3.7
Minnesota	37,330	38,888	41,252	42,809	44,490	46,102	48,396	49,077	50,635	3.9
(Non-Metropolitan Portion)	27,356	28,342	29,627	30,658	32,378	33,519	35,050	35,483	36,918	3.8
(Metropolitan Portion)	40,318	42,014	44,663	46,368	48,089	49,837	52,347	53,074	54,641	3.9
Duluth, MN-WI MSA	31,205	32,486	33,828	35,331	37,213	38,177	40,028	40,377	41,553	3.7
Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN-WI MSA	41,649	43,453	46,289	48,019	49,721	51,509	54,150	54,955	56,525	3.9
Rochester, MN MSA	37,157	39,110	40,551	42,581	44,671	47,023	48,498	49,236	51,081	4.1
St. Cloud, MN MSA	30,653	30,668	32,130	33,337	35,354	36,684	38,238	38,467	40,074	3.4
Montana	27,644	28,322	29,658	30,809	32,432	33,757	35,134	36,963	38,661	4.3
(Non-Metropolitan Portion)	26,761	27,322	28,586	29,757	31,291	32,622	33,943	35,854	37,632	4.4
(Metropolitan Portion)	28,944	29,778	31,225	32,330	34,074	35,402	36,873	38,597	40,199	4.2
Billings, MT MSA	29,572	30,389	31,884	33,372	34,845	36,022	37,929	39,912	41,626	4.4
Great Falls, MT MSA	29,181	30,082	31,144	31,680	33,849	35,587	37,380	38,862	40,794	4.3
Missoula, MT MSA	27,868	28,693	30,364	31,367	33,169	34,430	35,079	36,592	37,826	3.9
South Dakota	26,899	28,036	29,397	30,468	32,045	33,316	34,875	36,049	37,339	4.2
(Non-Metropolitan Portion)	24,045	24,988	26,206	27,215	28,602	29,772	31,322	32,439	33,725	4.3
(Metropolitan Portion)	29,907	31,167	32,627	33,741	35,467	36,801	38,373	39,604	40,871	4.0
Rapid City, SD MSA	27,272	28,634	29,905	31,380	33,480	34,691	36,146	37,257	38,629	4.5
Sioux Falls, SD MSA	30,022	31,220	32,526	33,874	35,683	37,203	38,672	40,178	41,601	4.2
United States	37,662	39,242	41,541	42,742	44,172	45,837	47,950	49,740	51,861	4.1
(Non-Metropolitan Portion)	26,735	27,502	28,520	31,083	32,589	34,023	35,359	36,634	38,081	4.5
(Metropolitan Portion)	39,600	41,302	43,801	44,634	46,057	47,761	49,995	51,858	54,076	4.0

Table 2. Average Compensation Per Job in North Dakota by County: 1998 to 2006

Note: Compensation of employees consists of wage and salary disbursements and supplements to wages and salaries (i.e., employer contributions to employee pension and insurance funds and employer contributions for government social insurance).

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), Regional Economic Information System (REIS), Table CA06, www.bea.gov/beat/regional/reis.

Area	Average Compensation Per Job (Dollars)									Average Annual % Change: 1998-2006
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	
North Dakota	27,844	28,678	29,923	31,131	32,697	34,342	36,200	37,511	39,077	4.3
Adams	22,305	23,235	23,786	25,464	25,992	26,851	28,119	29,012	30,006	3.8
Barnes	22,519	23,058	23,670	24,287	25,752	27,114	28,908	29,864	31,069	4.1
Benson	23,463	25,088	27,886	29,597	30,661	31,397	33,486	34,717	36,770	5.8
Billings	18,594	19,354	21,157	22,764	22,368	25,226	26,184	28,872	31,280	6.8
Bottineau	21,085	21,245	22,773	23,583	24,697	26,060	28,325	30,305	30,860	4.9
Bowman	21,015	20,682	21,936	24,017	25,367	28,186	28,669	30,425	34,036	6.3
Burke	24,278	24,982	27,049	28,303	29,527	33,413	35,439	38,194	39,903	6.5
Burleigh	29,110	29,724	31,033	32,426	33,829	35,951	37,943	38,885	39,928	4.0
Cass	30,311	31,565	32,818	33,862	35,595	37,082	39,001	40,155	41,652	4.1
Cavalier	23,253	24,538	24,784	26,687	27,847	28,687	29,938	31,707	32,139	4.2
Dickey	21,444	22,071	22,766	23,581	24,897	26,434	28,295	29,071	30,112	4.3
Divide	17,400	18,230	19,562	21,046	23,223	24,659	25,189	26,932	28,442	6.4
Dunn	23,121	23,415	24,999	25,786	25,798	28,173	28,306	29,850	31,596	4.0
Eddy	21,212	22,228	23,102	22,370	23,768	24,309	25,511	26,269	26,827	3.0
Emmons	19,931	20,506	21,676	22,447	23,135	24,683	27,080	27,933	27,977	4.4
Foster	23,155	24,066	26,083	26,820	28,902	30,544	32,410	33,733	36,141	5.7
Golden Valley	21,795	20,422	21,420	21,364	22,071	22,870	25,301	26,725	28,018	3.3
Grand Forks	28,993	29,620	30,845	31,531	33,309	34,842	36,382	37,408	38,923	3.8
Grant	19,894	19,567	20,570	21,643	23,201	24,334	26,013	27,129	27,892	4.3
Griggs	22,059	23,176	24,986	24,772	25,349	25,918	27,309	28,509	28,998	3.5
Hettinger	20,905	22,190	22,877	24,055	24,662	25,685	27,307	27,826	29,643	4.5
Kidder	19,805	20,222	21,726	23,342	24,434	26,021	27,090	28,125	28,373	4.6
LaMoure	20,223	20,420	21,945	22,848	24,216	26,613	28,483	30,121	31,274	5.6
Logan	17,747	18,473	19,494	20,876	22,319	22,877	23,161	24,816	25,349	4.6
McHenry	21,993	23,013	23,612	25,938	26,135	27,406	29,440	32,548	33,360	5.4
McIntosh	19,025	19,465	20,772	21,858	23,338	23,916	25,184	25,762	26,265	4.1
McKenzie	26,162	27,003	28,546	30,044	29,985	31,906	33,677	35,848	40,210	5.6
McLean	29,602	31,225	31,064	32,586	34,482	36,152	39,382	41,456	43,309	4.9
Mercer	39,965	40,707	42,807	45,670	46,326	49,386	54,668	55,207	58,138	4.8
Morton	27,697	28,446	29,431	31,649	32,605	33,925	35,485	36,931	39,102	4.4
Mountrail	23,339	24,635	25,760	26,206	28,445	31,561	35,001	35,454	34,298	5.0
Nelson	20,990	21,319	21,553	22,612	25,173	25,735	25,577	26,704	28,159	3.8
Oliver	47,111	47,341	50,429	55,193	51,493	53,419	59,826	58,133	59,667	3.2
Pembina	30,468	31,285	31,791	33,144	35,170	36,682	36,347	37,851	39,650	3.4
Pierce	21,831	21,498	21,679	23,991	25,562	28,369	29,569	30,387	30,245	4.3
Ramsey	22,400	22,965	23,800	25,214	26,107	27,188	28,819	30,465	31,475	4.4
Ransom	23,137	24,551	26,953	28,222	30,133	30,758	31,656	33,654	33,553	4.8
Renville	21,656	21,583	23,332	24,865	25,664	26,693	28,513	30,135	32,872	5.4
Richland	27,653	28,672	29,876	30,712	32,235	33,281	34,739	36,293	37,627	3.9
Rolette	26,946	27,171	28,310	29,805	30,578	32,515	34,623	35,952	37,129	4.1
Sargent	36,120	39,691	40,819	40,463	43,669	49,367	50,656	51,462	50,695	4.4
Sheridan	21,952	25,685	24,097	24,480	25,169	27,417	26,732	29,377	28,115	3.4
Sioux	28,838	30,250	31,813	34,135	34,756	36,903	39,436	40,516	41,744	4.7
Slope	21,111	20,234	22,693	25,181	26,984	27,492	30,508	31,840	34,378	6.4
Stark	24,379	24,871	25,773	27,104	28,447	30,074	30,865	32,522	35,159	4.7
Steele	25,226	25,938	27,797	28,139	28,589	30,301	32,222	33,918	35,362	4.3
Stutsman	25,559	25,994	27,551	28,934	30,307	31,184	33,014	34,430	35,054	4.0
Towner	23,230	23,198	24,031	24,520	25,492	25,636	27,516	29,180	29,497	3.1
Traill	24,366	24,724	26,414	26,917	28,222	29,345	30,882	32,052	33,275	4.0
Walsh	23,005	23,596	24,345	25,739	27,115	27,365	29,183	30,741	31,568	4.1
Ward	28,715	29,660	30,847	31,847	34,436	35,911	37,914	39,351	40,638	4.4
Wells	21,795	22,836	23,353	24,431	25,707	26,354	27,735	29,288	29,475	3.9
Williams	25,642	25,205	27,009	29,491	29,838	32,277	34,692	38,131	44,055	7.1



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North Dakota Shows Continued Growth in Average Compensation Per Job

The average compensation per job in North Dakota rose to \$39,077 in 2006, an increase of 4.3 percent per year, on average, since 1998. This average annual growth was 10th largest in the nation behind eight states and the District of Columbia. During the same time frame, inflation grew an average of 2.7 percent per year. "These data are exciting news for North Dakota because they tell us two main things. First, our buying power, on average, is increasing since our compensation is greatly out-pacing inflation. Second, we are making important strides in reducing the income disparity between North Dakota and the U.S.," said Richard Rathge, Director of the State Data Center.

Employee compensation consists of wage and salary disbursements, employer contributions to employee pension and insurance funds, and employer contributions for government social insurance.

On average, employer contributions (supplements to wages and salaries) in North Dakota grew faster than actual wages and salaries between 1998 and 2006. Supplements in the state grew an average of 6.8 percent annually since 1998; wages and salaries grew an average of 5.3 percent.

This month's "Population Bulletin," a monthly publication from the North Dakota State Data Center at North Dakota State University, focuses on average compensation per job data released from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) at www.bea.gov. BEA provides compensation data for the nation, states, counties, and metropolitan and micropolitan areas throughout the nation.

Nationally, compensation per job rose an average of 4.1 percent per year between 1998 and 2006, reaching \$51,861 in 2006. Within North Dakota, the average compensation per job for all 53 counties grew at least 3.0 percent per year on average since 1998; six counties, all in the western part of the state, grew an average of at least 6.0 percent annually (Williams, Billings, Burke, Slope, Divide, and Bowman).

While compensation in North Dakota is experiencing consistent and positive growth, the average compensation of \$39,077 earned in North Dakota still lags behind most states and was 24.7 percent below the national average of \$51,861 in 2006. Three other states had lower averages than North Dakota: Mississippi (\$38,787), Montana (\$38,661), and South Dakota (\$37,339). The District of Columbia had the highest average compensation per job in 2006 (\$88,044), followed by New York (\$66,262) and Connecticut (\$65,638).

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