

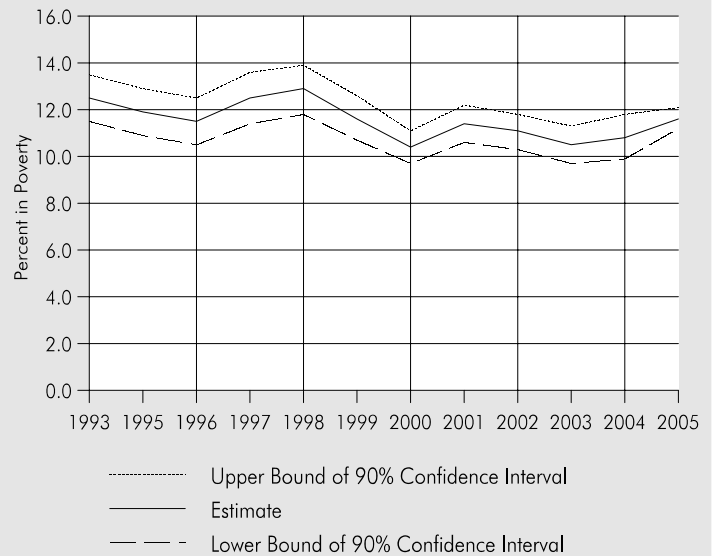
Poverty Estimates for Persons in North Dakota: 2005

Slightly more than one in 10 North Dakotans were living in poverty in 2005 (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, which increases the likelihood of error. Therefore, confidence intervals are calculated to account for sampling error. For example, SAIPE estimates indicate that 11.6 percent of North Dakotans were living in poverty in 2005. In order to be 90 percent confident of the true poverty level, one should use a range from 11.2 percent to 12.1 percent (Table 1). Thus, when making important decisions based on these data, one needs to be mindful of the confidence intervals.

Poverty rates in North Dakota were notably higher in Native American reservation areas, with Sioux, Benson, and Rolette counties having more than one in four persons living in poverty in 2005 (Figure 2).

Nationally, 13.3 percent of all persons were living in poverty in 2005 (the 90 percent confidence interval ranges from 13.2 percent to 13.4 percent) (Table 1).

Figure 1. Percent of North Dakotans Living in Poverty: 1993 to 2005



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

Figure 2. Percent of Persons Living in Poverty in North Dakota Counties: 2005

Note: See Table 1 for 90% confidence intervals.

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

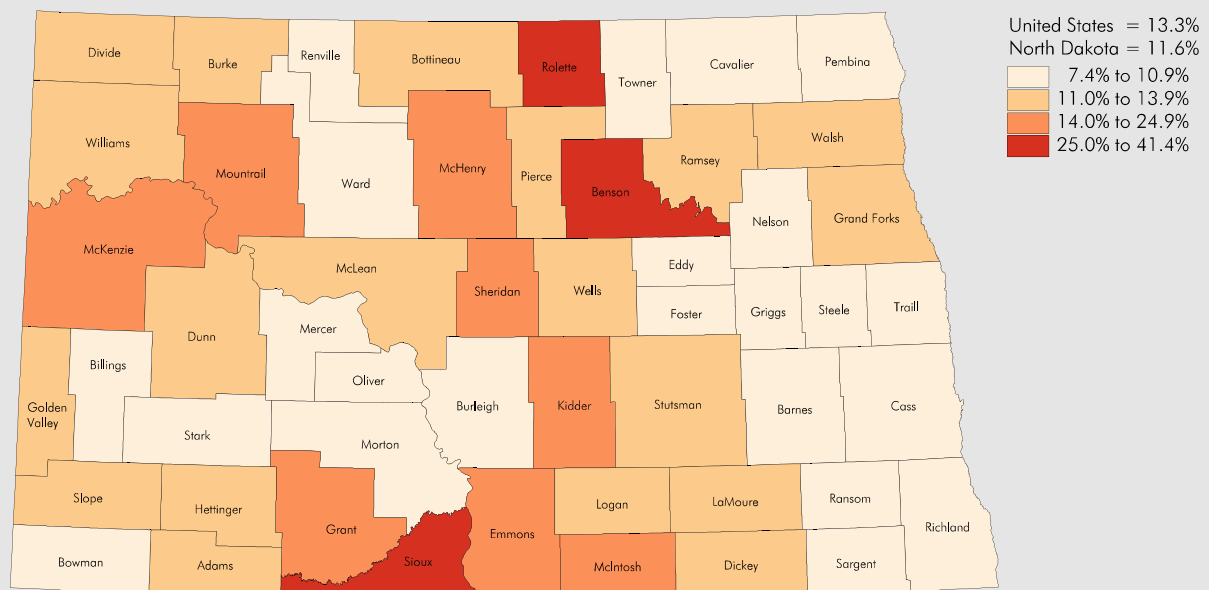


Table 1. Income and Poverty Estimates for the United States and for North Dakota Counties: 2005

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/saie/techdoc/stcty/ci.html.

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

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	46,242	46,138 to 46,346	13.3	13.2 to 13.4	18.5	18.4 to 18.7	17.0	16.8 to 17.2
North Dakota	40,818	40,163 to 41,472	11.6	11.2 to 12.1	14.5	13.5 to 15.5	12.3	11.1 to 13.5
Adams	31,601	28,630 to 34,572	11.5	9.2 to 13.7	14.9	11.4 to 18.4	11.8	8.6 to 14.9
Barnes	39,627	36,697 to 42,558	10.7	8.6 to 12.8	12.4	9.5 to 15.3	10.3	7.6 to 12.9
Benson	29,721	27,147 to 32,296	28.8	23.3 to 34.3	41.5	32.3 to 50.7	39.6	29.9 to 49.3
Billings	39,564	36,007 to 43,122	10.3	8.1 to 12.5	11.5	8.7 to 14.3	10.2	7.4 to 13.0
Bottineau	35,999	32,689 to 39,309	11.7	9.4 to 14.0	15.8	12.1 to 19.5	12.9	9.6 to 16.2
Bowman	38,175	34,619 to 41,731	8.3	6.6 to 9.9	9.9	7.5 to 12.3	8.4	6.2 to 10.7
Burke	31,102	28,173 to 34,031	12.4	9.9 to 15.0	12.9	9.8 to 16.1	11.3	8.4 to 14.3
Burleigh	47,080	43,361 to 50,798	8.5	7.1 to 9.9	9.7	7.6 to 11.8	8.3	6.3 to 10.3
Cass	43,936	41,949 to 45,924	10.4	8.8 to 12.0	10.4	8.2 to 12.6	8.6	6.5 to 10.7
Cavalier	35,453	32,181 to 38,724	10.7	8.5 to 12.9	15.9	12.0 to 19.7	12.9	9.5 to 16.3
Dickey	35,211	31,975 to 38,447	13.3	10.6 to 16.0	18.1	13.8 to 22.5	16.3	12.0 to 20.6
Divide	32,756	29,743 to 35,770	11.7	9.2 to 14.2	16.4	12.4 to 20.4	13.9	10.2 to 17.6
Dunn	35,107	31,975 to 38,239	13.0	10.3 to 15.7	18.0	13.7 to 22.3	14.6	10.8 to 18.4
Eddy	32,576	29,582 to 35,570	10.9	8.6 to 13.2	14.5	11.0 to 18.0	11.9	8.8 to 15.0
Emmons	29,063	26,391 to 31,735	15.1	12.0 to 18.2	20.2	15.3 to 25.1	16.4	12.1 to 20.8
Foster	36,515	33,227 to 39,803	8.2	6.5 to 10.0	9.8	7.4 to 12.1	8.3	6.1 to 10.4
Golden Valley	28,648	26,863 to 30,432	13.2	10.6 to 15.8	18.9	14.4 to 23.3	15.5	11.6 to 19.4
Grand Forks	41,507	39,423 to 43,592	12.6	10.6 to 14.5	13.6	10.7 to 16.6	11.3	8.5 to 14.1
Grant	27,679	25,188 to 30,171	17.4	13.8 to 21.0	27.0	20.4 to 33.5	21.3	15.6 to 27.0
Griggs	35,331	32,421 to 38,242	10.1	8.1 to 12.2	13.6	10.3 to 16.9	11.1	8.2 to 14.0
Hettinger	33,093	30,085 to 36,101	12.7	10.1 to 15.3	17.4	13.2 to 21.7	13.7	10.1 to 17.4
Kidder	30,393	27,587 to 33,199	15.7	12.5 to 18.9	17.9	13.6 to 22.2	14.9	10.9 to 18.9
LaMoure	37,469	34,188 to 40,751	11.4	9.2 to 13.6	13.7	10.4 to 17.1	12.1	8.9 to 15.3
Logan	31,899	29,001 to 34,797	12.6	10.0 to 15.3	15.6	11.8 to 19.4	13.3	9.7 to 16.8
McHenry	31,947	29,093 to 34,801	14.7	11.9 to 17.4	19.4	14.9 to 23.9	16.2	12.0 to 20.3
McIntosh	30,744	28,036 to 33,451	15.2	12.2 to 18.2	19.4	14.7 to 24.1	15.9	11.7 to 20.1
McKenzie	35,348	32,365 to 38,331	15.8	12.6 to 18.9	22.0	16.9 to 27.1	18.1	13.4 to 22.8
McLean	37,652	34,650 to 40,654	12.8	10.3 to 15.3	18.6	14.3 to 22.9	15.2	11.3 to 19.1
Mercer	51,719	47,504 to 55,933	7.4	5.9 to 8.8	7.5	5.7 to 9.4	5.7	4.2 to 7.3
Morton	39,657	36,996 to 42,318	10.6	8.6 to 12.6	14.4	11.2 to 17.6	11.3	8.5 to 14.1
Mountrail	34,541	31,378 to 37,705	15.4	12.4 to 18.4	20.5	15.8 to 25.3	18.3	13.6 to 22.9
Nelson	31,715	28,832 to 34,598	10.0	7.9 to 12.1	13.8	10.5 to 17.1	11.7	8.7 to 14.8
Oliver	45,376	41,284 to 49,469	10.8	8.5 to 13.0	14.7	11.1 to 18.4	12.5	9.1 to 15.8
Pembina	37,531	34,893 to 40,170	9.8	7.9 to 11.6	12.0	9.3 to 14.7	10.3	7.8 to 12.9
Pierce	29,971	27,172 to 32,769	13.3	10.5 to 16.0	17.5	13.3 to 21.7	14.3	10.5 to 18.1
Ramsey	38,404	35,191 to 41,616	12.7	10.1 to 15.2	19.2	14.6 to 23.7	16.5	12.2 to 20.8
Ransom	42,714	39,014 to 46,414	9.8	8.0 to 11.6	10.3	7.8 to 12.7	8.7	6.4 to 10.9
Renville	36,748	33,283 to 40,213	10.1	7.9 to 12.2	13.3	10.1 to 16.6	11.4	8.4 to 14.3
Richland	41,236	38,231 to 44,242	10.3	8.4 to 12.3	11.4	8.8 to 14.0	9.0	6.8 to 11.3
Rolette	29,748	27,060 to 32,436	25.9	21.0 to 30.8	34.6	26.8 to 42.3	31.3	23.6 to 39.1
Sargent	45,376	41,371 to 49,382	7.4	5.9 to 9.0	8.3	6.3 to 10.3	7.1	5.3 to 9.0
Sheridan	29,229	26,663 to 31,796	19.9	15.8 to 24.0	27.9	21.2 to 34.6	22.4	16.4 to 28.3
Sioux	25,720	23,340 to 28,101	41.4	34.6 to 48.3	50.1	40.1 to 60.1	47.5	36.8 to 58.1
Slope	30,729	27,817 to 33,640	12.0	9.5 to 14.6	13.7	10.3 to 17.0	12.0	8.8 to 15.2
Stark	39,078	36,240 to 41,915	10.6	8.7 to 12.5	13.0	10.0 to 16.1	11.3	8.5 to 14.2
Steele	40,106	36,362 to 43,850	7.8	6.2 to 9.4	12.0	9.1 to 15.0	9.3	6.9 to 11.7
Stutsman	38,862	35,954 to 41,770	11.8	9.8 to 13.8	14.1	10.9 to 17.3	11.8	8.8 to 14.9
Towner	35,623	32,373 to 38,874	9.8	7.8 to 11.8	14.1	10.7 to 17.5	11.2	8.3 to 14.1
Traill	42,577	39,007 to 46,147	9.1	7.3 to 10.9	10.9	8.3 to 13.6	9.1	6.7 to 11.4
Walsh	36,877	34,067 to 39,686	11.4	9.1 to 13.8	14.7	11.3 to 18.2	12.6	9.4 to 15.8
Ward	40,901	39,289 to 42,513	10.2	8.4 to 12.0	12.9	10.1 to 15.8	11.0	8.2 to 13.7
Wells	35,790	32,709 to 38,872	12.7	10.1 to 15.3	15.0	11.4 to 18.6	12.2	9.1 to 15.4
Williams	39,921	36,974 to 42,869	12.2	9.9 to 14.5	16.1	12.3 to 19.8	13.8	10.3 to 17.3

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North Dakota's Poverty Rate Sees Slight Increase in 2005

An estimated 11.6 percent of North Dakotans were living in poverty in 2005, up from 10.8 percent in 2004. Poverty thresholds are updated annually by the U.S. Census Bureau following guidelines established by the Social Security Administration. The thresholds vary by family size and number of children. In 2005, the poverty threshold for one person was \$9,973 and \$19,806 for a family of four with two children under the age of 18.

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, which increases the likelihood of error. Therefore, confidence intervals are calculated to account for this sampling error. For example, SAIPE estimates indicate that 11.6 percent of all North Dakotans were living in poverty in 2005. However, if one wants to be 90 percent confident of the true poverty level, one should use a range from 11.2 percent to 12.1 percent.

Certain populations in North Dakota are harder hit by poverty than others. Children had a greater likelihood of living in poverty than the general public. The percentage of North Dakota children ages 0 to 17 living in poverty was estimated at 14.5 percent in 2005, the percentage of children ages 0 to 4 living in poverty was 18.9 percent, and the proportion of children ages 5 to 17 living in families below poverty was 12.3 percent. "These statistics should give us pause when we realize that nearly 1 in 5 children under the age of 5 is impoverished in North Dakota," said Richard Rathge, Director of the State Data Center. In addition, poverty rates in North Dakota were notably higher in Native American reservation areas, with Sioux, Benson, and Rolette counties having more than one in four persons living in poverty in 2005.

When making important decisions based on these data, one needs to be mindful of the confidence intervals (13.5 percent to 15.5 percent for North Dakota children ages 0 to 17, 17.0 percent to 20.8 percent for children ages 0 to 4, and 11.1 percent to 13.5 percent for children ages 5 to 17).

Nationally, 13.3 percent of all persons were living in poverty in 2005, 18.5 percent of children ages 0 to 17 were living in poverty, and 21.3 percent of children ages 0 to 4 were living in poverty (90 percent confidence intervals are 13.2 percent to 13.4 percent, 18.4 percent to 18.7 percent, and 21.0 percent to 21.5 percent, respectively).

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