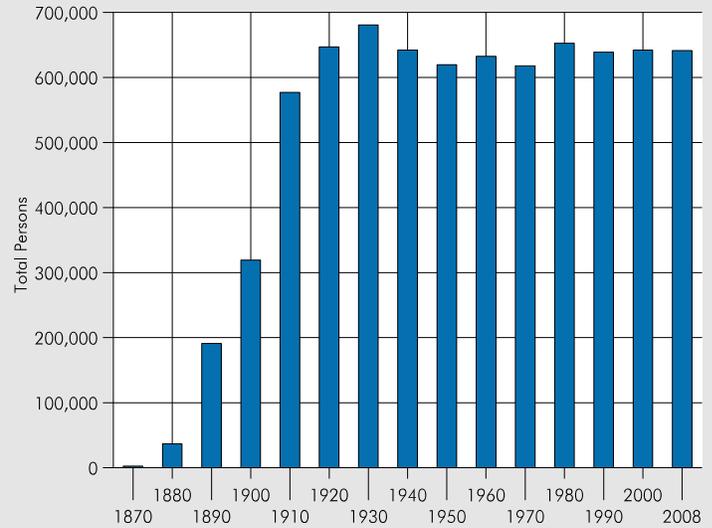


Annual Population for North Dakota: April 1, Census 2000 to the July 1, 2008 Estimate

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, current population estimates indicate that North Dakota's population was 641,481 in 2008, up 0.6 percent from 637,904 in 2007 (Table 1). Readers may notice that the 2007 estimate of 637,904 differs from the 2007 estimate released one year ago. It is important to recognize that most administrative record data sources used in calculating these estimates lag the current estimate year by up to two years. As updated data become available, the past years' estimates are revised so that the current year is always based on the most recent data available. For more information on methodology, visit the U.S. Census Bureau's Population Division at www.census.gov/popest/estimates.php.

In North Dakota, population grew in 18 counties from 2007 to 2008 (Figure 2). Slope and Bowman counties had the largest percentage growth (2.6 percent each) followed by Billings, Burleigh and Cass counties (1.9 percent each). Sheridan County showed the largest percentage decline during this period (-3.8 percent), followed by Towner County (-3.7 percent). Population in North Dakota continues to be centralized. The majority of North Dakotans (53.2 percent) reside in the top four populated counties (Cass, Burleigh, Grand Forks, and Ward); this proportion is up from 49.4 percent in 2000.

Figure 1. Total Population in North Dakota: 1870 to 2008



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Census and the Population Division, www.census.gov/popest/estimates.php.

Among all the states in the nation in 2008, North Dakota ranked 48th in total population and had the 13th lowest population growth rate from 2007 to 2008. Two states lost population during this time: Michigan (-0.5 percent) and Rhode Island (-0.2 percent). The fastest growing states were Utah and Arizona (2.5 percent and 2.3 percent, respectively).

Figure 2. Percent Change in Total Population Estimates for North Dakota by County: July 1, 2007 to July 1, 2008

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, Table 1. Annual Estimates of the Population for Counties: April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2008 (CO-EST2008-01-38), www.census.gov/popest/estimates.php.

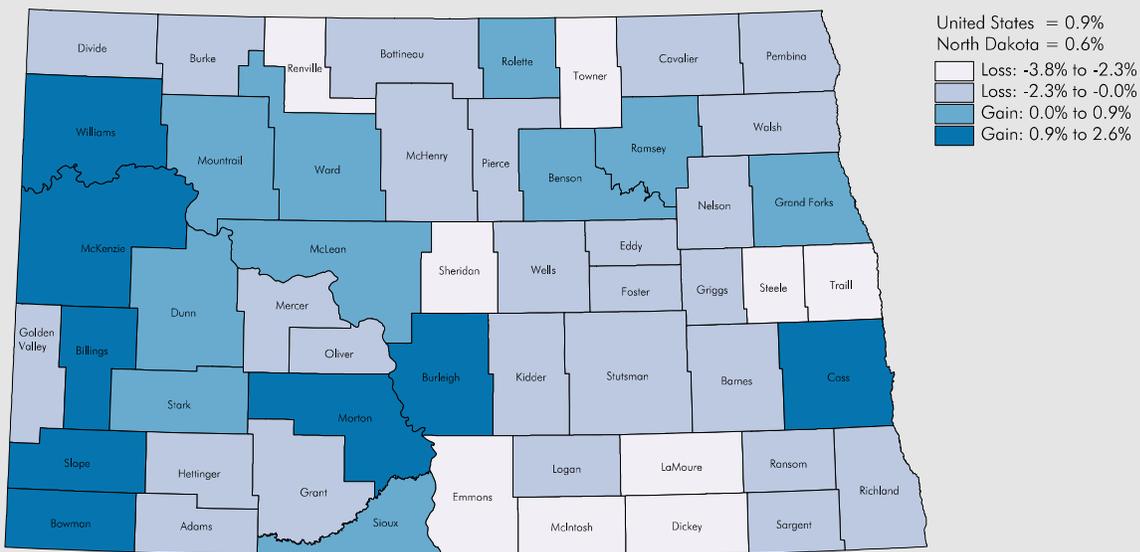


Table 1. Annual Population for North Dakota by County: April 1, Census 2000 to July 1, 2008 Estimate

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, Table 1. Annual Estimates of the Population for Counties: April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2008 (CO-EST2008-01-38), www.census.gov/popest/estimates.php.

Area	Census 2000	July 1, Population Estimates									Change: 2007 to 2008	
		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Numeric	Percent
North Dakota	642,200	641,183	636,211	633,521	632,689	636,196	635,222	636,453	637,904	641,481	3,577	0.6
Adams	2,593	2,576	2,531	2,488	2,437	2,395	2,352	2,284	2,267	2,244	-23	-1.0
Barnes	11,775	11,704	11,418	11,219	11,098	11,067	10,983	10,859	10,761	10,682	-79	-0.7
Benson	6,964	6,957	6,945	6,804	6,849	6,926	6,910	6,920	6,937	6,953	16	0.2
Billings	888	877	883	860	830	805	788	773	796	811	15	1.9
Bottineau	7,149	7,119	6,984	6,823	6,772	6,663	6,615	6,487	6,397	6,338	-59	-0.9
Bowman	3,242	3,229	3,099	3,053	3,039	3,066	2,966	2,936	2,942	3,019	77	2.6
Burke	2,242	2,232	2,165	2,104	2,061	2,021	1,967	1,903	1,851	1,820	-31	-1.7
Burleigh	69,416	69,531	70,095	71,023	71,851	72,626	74,136	75,636	77,256	78,689	1,433	1.9
Cass	123,138	123,485	124,879	125,960	127,626	130,971	132,362	134,882	137,335	139,918	2,583	1.9
Cavalier	4,831	4,803	4,652	4,542	4,431	4,317	4,214	4,048	3,895	3,841	-54	-1.4
Dickey	5,757	5,751	5,666	5,585	5,481	5,550	5,456	5,377	5,359	5,237	-122	-2.3
Divide	2,283	2,264	2,172	2,181	2,174	2,158	2,089	2,043	1,999	1,986	-13	-0.7
Dunn	3,600	3,595	3,554	3,500	3,457	3,358	3,316	3,307	3,293	3,318	25	0.8
Eddy	2,757	2,741	2,670	2,628	2,616	2,591	2,548	2,453	2,421	2,388	-33	-1.4
Emmons	4,331	4,301	4,186	4,064	3,962	3,875	3,727	3,608	3,473	3,377	-96	-2.8
Foster	3,759	3,736	3,629	3,561	3,491	3,484	3,527	3,527	3,477	3,447	-30	-0.9
Golden Valley	1,924	1,916	1,862	1,822	1,797	1,734	1,699	1,664	1,666	1,640	-26	-1.6
Grand Forks	66,109	65,947	65,385	65,238	65,327	67,015	66,503	67,036	66,026	66,585	559	0.8
Grant	2,841	2,833	2,802	2,711	2,659	2,596	2,560	2,502	2,453	2,415	-38	-1.5
Griggs	2,754	2,730	2,634	2,579	2,550	2,495	2,472	2,421	2,400	2,359	-41	-1.7
Hettinger	2,715	2,691	2,624	2,578	2,499	2,520	2,489	2,479	2,415	2,378	-37	-1.5
Kidder	2,753	2,713	2,622	2,544	2,538	2,505	2,394	2,379	2,320	2,290	-30	-1.3
LaMoure	4,701	4,675	4,611	4,533	4,473	4,419	4,282	4,177	4,106	3,986	-120	-2.9
Logan	2,308	2,299	2,214	2,183	2,116	2,075	2,015	1,962	1,960	1,943	-17	-0.9
McHenry	5,987	5,950	5,818	5,719	5,668	5,566	5,441	5,363	5,211	5,168	-43	-0.8
McIntosh	3,390	3,376	3,304	3,210	3,164	3,040	2,953	2,874	2,730	2,639	-91	-3.3
McKenzie	5,737	5,714	5,606	5,618	5,500	5,465	5,534	5,537	5,593	5,674	81	1.4
McLean	9,311	9,251	9,106	8,945	8,840	8,655	8,438	8,342	8,321	8,337	16	0.2
Mercer	8,644	8,595	8,484	8,425	8,332	8,218	8,099	7,978	7,947	7,854	-93	-1.2
Morton	25,303	25,311	25,072	25,067	25,000	25,118	25,252	25,519	25,871	26,255	384	1.5
Mountrail	6,631	6,603	6,541	6,477	6,457	6,505	6,475	6,376	6,456	6,511	55	0.9
Nelson	3,715	3,696	3,587	3,450	3,404	3,404	3,376	3,255	3,213	3,166	-47	-1.5
Oliver	2,065	2,053	1,967	1,922	1,872	1,829	1,787	1,749	1,720	1,695	-25	-1.5
Pembina	8,585	8,551	8,344	8,184	8,160	8,050	7,858	7,744	7,564	7,419	-145	-1.9
Pierce	4,675	4,656	4,569	4,496	4,389	4,290	4,200	4,158	4,105	4,091	-14	-0.3
Ramsey	12,066	12,023	11,823	11,778	11,539	11,417	11,295	11,213	11,186	11,234	48	0.4
Ransom	5,890	5,885	5,850	5,815	5,827	5,778	5,754	5,675	5,704	5,628	-76	-1.3
Renville	2,610	2,591	2,521	2,514	2,462	2,424	2,402	2,372	2,299	2,245	-54	-2.3
Richland	17,998	17,944	17,598	17,380	17,538	17,345	17,163	16,756	16,490	16,334	-156	-0.9
Rolette	13,674	13,678	13,731	13,679	13,577	13,620	13,615	13,563	13,617	13,657	40	0.3
Sargent	4,366	4,355	4,329	4,241	4,128	4,064	4,102	4,133	4,099	4,048	-51	-1.2
Sheridan	1,710	1,697	1,620	1,565	1,513	1,440	1,405	1,369	1,316	1,266	-50	-3.8
Sioux	4,044	4,058	3,998	4,052	4,045	4,084	4,090	4,184	4,197	4,232	35	0.8
Slope	767	760	739	727	714	695	685	689	658	675	17	2.6
Stark	22,636	22,553	22,358	22,153	22,093	22,095	22,120	22,110	22,428	22,575	147	0.7
Steele	2,258	2,239	2,164	2,096	2,049	2,023	1,972	1,906	1,838	1,795	-43	-2.3
Stutsman	21,908	21,843	21,563	21,372	21,122	20,885	20,779	20,736	20,457	20,394	-63	-0.3
Towner	2,876	2,857	2,769	2,703	2,617	2,542	2,466	2,387	2,287	2,202	-85	-3.7
Traill	8,477	8,467	8,310	8,244	8,169	8,190	8,111	7,984	8,006	7,820	-186	-2.3
Walsh	12,389	12,356	12,099	11,785	11,659	11,493	11,383	11,208	11,018	10,880	-138	-1.3
Ward	58,795	58,685	57,754	57,138	56,817	57,026	56,496	56,028	55,947	55,986	39	0.1
Wells	5,102	5,079	4,875	4,768	4,648	4,565	4,476	4,338	4,262	4,191	-71	-1.7
Williams	19,761	19,652	19,430	19,415	19,252	19,138	19,125	19,244	19,559	19,846	287	1.5

Date of Release: April 2, 2009

North Dakota's Population Reflects Modest Growth in 2008

North Dakota's population grew to 641,481 in 2008, up 0.6 percent from 637,904 people in 2007.

This month's "Population Bulletin," a monthly publication from the North Dakota State Data Center at North Dakota State University, focuses on county population estimates recently released from the U.S. Census Bureau's Population Division.

In North Dakota, population grew in 18 counties from 2007 to 2008. Slope and Bowman counties had the largest percentage growth (2.6 percent each) followed by Billings, Burleigh and Cass counties (1.9 percent each).

Sheridan County showed the largest percentage decline during this period (-3.8 percent), followed by Towner County (-3.7 percent).

The population in North Dakota continues to be centralized. The majority of North Dakotans (53.2 percent) reside in the top four populated counties (Cass, Burleigh, Grand Forks, and Ward); this proportion is up from 49.4 percent in 2000.

"The growth pattern this year was much more equally distributed between the eastern and western parts of the state. Of the 18 counties experiencing growth from 2007 to 2008, 55 percent of the population increase occurred in the east and 45 percent in the west," said Richard Rathge, Director of the State Data Center.

Among all the states in the nation in 2008, North Dakota ranked 48th in total population and had the 13th lowest population growth rate from 2007 to 2008. Two states lost population during this time: Michigan (-0.5 percent) and Rhode Island (-0.2 percent). The fastest growing states were Utah and Arizona (2.5 percent and 2.3 percent, respectively).

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