

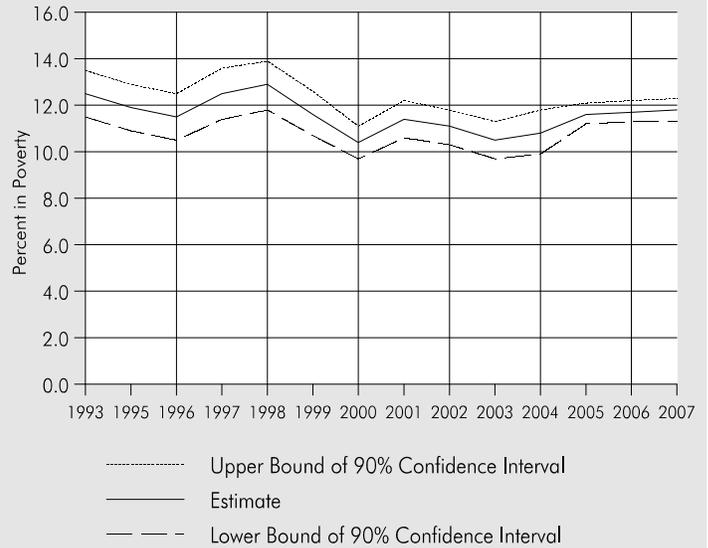
Poverty Estimates for Persons in North Dakota: 2007

Approximately 12 percent of 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. Confidence intervals are calculated to account for sampling error. For example, SAIPE estimates indicate that 11.8 percent of North Dakotans were living in poverty in 2007. In order to be 90 percent confident of the true poverty level, one should use a range from 11.3 percent to 12.3 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 each having more than one in four persons living in poverty in 2007 (Figure 2).

Nationally, 13.0 percent of all persons were living in poverty in 2007 (the 90 percent confidence interval ranges from 12.9 percent to 13.0 percent) (Table 1).

Figure 1. Percent of North Dakotans Living in Poverty: 1993 to 2007



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 Counties: 2007

Note: See Table 1 for 90% confidence intervals.

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

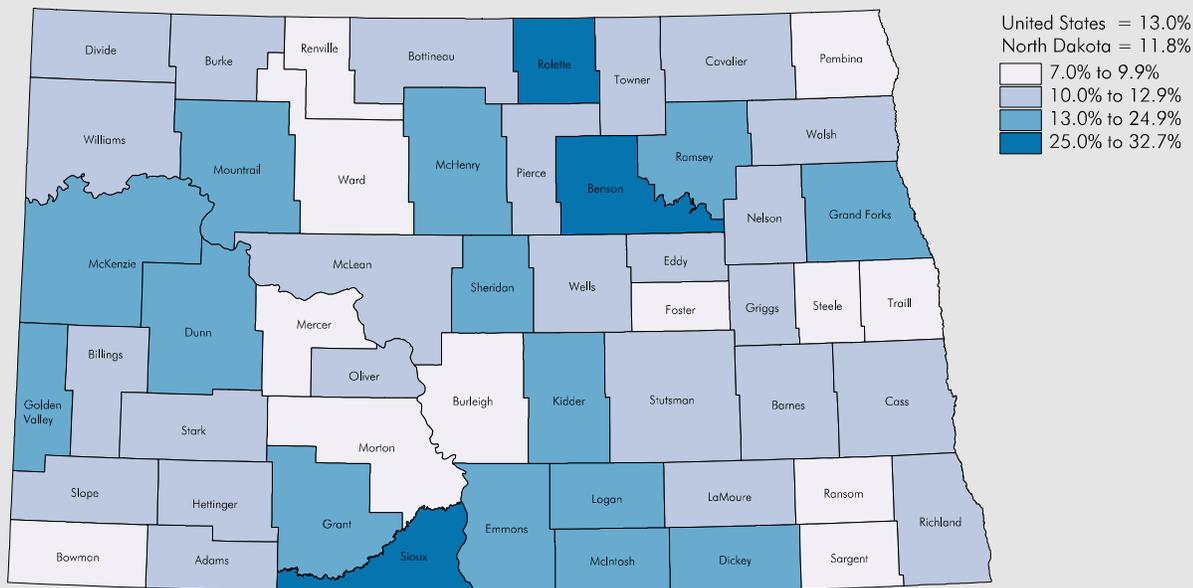


Table 1. Income and Poverty Estimates for the United States and for North Dakota Counties: 2007

Note: To be 90 percent confident, the estimate may fall anywhere within the specified interval. For an explanation of confidence intervals, visit <http://www.census.gov/did/www/saipe/methods/statecounty/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	50,740	50,665 to 50,815	13.0	12.9 to 13.0	18.0	17.9 to 18.2	16.4	16.2 to 16.5
North Dakota	43,936	42,915 to 44,958	11.8	11.3 to 12.3	14.0	13.0 to 15.0	11.7	10.4 to 12.9
Adams	36,100	32,631 to 39,568	10.2	7.8 to 12.6	15.7	11.7 to 19.8	13.4	9.5 to 17.3
Barnes	39,387	36,197 to 42,576	10.5	8.2 to 12.8	11.5	8.6 to 14.5	9.3	6.7 to 11.8
Benson	30,030	27,207 to 32,852	27.4	21.3 to 33.4	38.0	28.7 to 47.3	34.0	24.8 to 43.1
Billings	44,819	40,294 to 49,344	11.4	8.7 to 14.2	17.6	13.4 to 22.5	14.8	10.2 to 19.4
Bottineau	38,751	36,109 to 41,393	11.0	8.4 to 13.5	15.3	11.4 to 19.2	12.7	9.1 to 16.2
Bowman	44,510	39,965 to 49,054	8.3	6.4 to 10.3	10.3	7.7 to 13.0	9.3	6.6 to 12.0
Burke	38,162	34,692 to 41,632	11.4	8.7 to 14.2	14.6	10.8 to 18.4	12.7	9.3 to 16.2
Burleigh	52,122	49,233 to 55,011	7.8	6.4 to 9.1	9.2	7.0 to 11.3	7.9	5.8 to 9.9
Cass	44,747	42,130 to 47,364	11.5	9.9 to 13.1	10.3	8.1 to 12.6	7.9	5.9 to 9.9
Cavalier	39,134	35,322 to 42,945	10.4	7.9 to 12.8	18.1	13.3 to 22.9	14.9	10.7 to 19.0
Dickey	39,811	35,911 to 43,712	13.5	10.6 to 16.5	16.1	12.0 to 20.2	14.1	10.2 to 18.1
Divide	36,651	32,933 to 40,369	11.9	9.0 to 14.7	16.5	12.3 to 21.0	15.1	10.8 to 19.4
Dunn	37,632	33,856 to 41,408	13.5	10.5 to 16.6	18.5	13.8 to 23.3	14.6	10.5 to 18.7
Eddy	35,347	31,971 to 38,723	10.9	8.3 to 13.5	14.5	10.9 to 18.4	11.8	8.5 to 15.1
Emmons	31,833	28,751 to 34,915	14.0	11.0 to 17.0	17.3	12.7 to 21.7	13.9	9.9 to 17.9
Foster	41,954	38,667 to 45,241	8.6	6.5 to 10.6	11.5	8.6 to 14.5	10.0	7.2 to 12.8
Golden Valley	36,502	32,866 to 40,139	14.1	10.7 to 17.5	24.5	18.0 to 30.7	19.1	13.6 to 24.6
Grand Forks	43,541	40,218 to 46,864	15.5	13.1 to 17.9	13.3	10.3 to 16.2	10.6	7.8 to 13.4
Grant	30,880	27,975 to 33,785	17.4	13.3 to 21.4	29.7	22.0 to 37.4	23.4	16.8 to 29.9
Griggs	36,410	33,060 to 39,761	10.6	8.1 to 13.1	14.1	10.4 to 17.5	11.3	8.1 to 14.5
Hettinger	35,422	31,969 to 38,875	12.5	9.5 to 15.6	17.8	13.1 to 22.4	14.9	10.7 to 19.2
Kidder	31,981	28,903 to 35,058	15.2	11.8 to 18.6	18.8	13.8 to 23.7	17.3	12.4 to 22.1
LaMoure	44,181	41,381 to 46,982	10.8	8.4 to 13.1	13.0	9.7 to 16.4	11.4	8.1 to 14.6
Logan	33,796	30,479 to 37,113	13.4	10.2 to 16.6	19.5	14.3 to 24.6	15.5	11.2 to 19.7
McHenry	36,053	32,698 to 39,407	14.8	11.3 to 18.2	21.0	15.7 to 26.4	17.9	13.0 to 22.9
McIntosh	32,245	29,185 to 35,305	14.3	11.0 to 17.5	20.7	15.2 to 26.1	17.9	12.9 to 22.9
McKenzie	41,333	37,594 to 45,073	13.8	10.7 to 16.9	18.4	13.7 to 23.1	15.4	11.1 to 19.7
McLean	44,421	40,765 to 48,078	10.4	8.1 to 12.7	15.8	11.6 to 19.8	13.2	9.5 to 16.9
Mercer	57,841	53,383 to 62,300	7.7	6.0 to 9.5	8.3	6.2 to 10.4	6.5	4.7 to 8.2
Morton	46,265	42,574 to 49,955	9.1	7.1 to 11.2	12.8	9.6 to 16.1	11.0	7.9 to 14.0
Mountrail	35,981	32,453 to 39,509	15.9	12.5 to 19.4	22.0	16.6 to 27.3	18.9	13.8 to 24.0
Nelson	35,093	31,831 to 38,354	10.8	8.3 to 13.3	16.3	12.2 to 20.7	13.9	10.0 to 17.9
Oliver	49,069	44,066 to 54,072	10.2	7.7 to 12.6	17.6	12.8 to 22.4	14.8	10.4 to 19.2
Pembina	42,646	39,077 to 46,215	8.7	6.7 to 10.7	11.7	8.7 to 14.8	10.0	7.2 to 12.7
Pierce	31,442	28,560 to 34,323	12.8	9.8 to 15.9	17.5	12.9 to 22.0	13.2	9.5 to 16.8
Ramsey	41,916	37,995 to 45,837	13.3	10.2 to 16.3	19.5	14.6 to 24.4	15.8	11.4 to 20.2
Ransom	47,913	43,342 to 52,483	8.3	6.4 to 10.2	10.1	7.5 to 12.6	8.4	6.0 to 10.8
Renville	42,993	39,818 to 46,167	9.0	6.8 to 11.1	11.0	8.1 to 14.1	9.6	7.0 to 12.1
Richland	44,007	41,932 to 46,082	10.1	8.0 to 12.3	9.7	7.2 to 12.2	7.8	5.7 to 10.0
Rolette	30,543	27,507 to 33,580	29.8	24.3 to 35.2	38.1	29.8 to 46.4	33.4	25.2 to 41.6
Sargent	50,097	45,581 to 54,614	7.0	5.3 to 8.6	7.6	5.6 to 9.5	6.2	4.5 to 7.9
Sheridan	28,573	25,665 to 31,480	18.3	13.9 to 22.7	27.0	20.1 to 34.4	21.0	15.0 to 26.9
Sioux	28,536	25,891 to 31,181	32.7	25.4 to 39.9	43.1	32.1 to 54.2	40.1	29.1 to 51.2
Slope	30,669	27,633 to 33,706	12.2	9.1 to 15.2	16.5	12.2 to 20.9	12.8	8.5 to 17.0
Stark	43,007	39,077 to 46,938	11.0	8.8 to 13.2	12.4	9.3 to 15.5	10.7	7.8 to 13.6
Steele	45,295	40,759 to 49,831	7.4	5.6 to 9.2	11.4	8.3 to 14.4	8.6	6.3 to 10.9
Stutsman	41,664	38,041 to 45,287	11.4	9.0 to 13.8	14.0	10.6 to 17.3	12.3	9.1 to 15.4
Towner	37,817	34,011 to 41,623	11.6	8.9 to 14.3	16.9	12.5 to 21.1	13.4	9.8 to 16.9
Traill	48,126	44,638 to 51,615	9.7	7.5 to 11.8	10.0	7.4 to 12.5	8.2	6.0 to 10.5
Walsh	42,238	38,504 to 45,972	10.6	8.2 to 13.0	15.5	11.5 to 19.5	13.1	9.5 to 16.7
Ward	45,267	42,476 to 48,058	9.9	7.9 to 12.0	13.0	9.9 to 16.1	10.9	8.0 to 13.8
Wells	38,457	34,915 to 41,998	12.3	9.5 to 15.2	16.1	11.9 to 20.3	12.8	9.2 to 16.4
Williams	48,919	45,973 to 51,865	10.2	8.0 to 12.3	13.7	10.3 to 17.1	11.6	8.4 to 14.8

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North Dakota's Poverty Rate Sees Little Change in 2007

An estimated 11.8 percent of North Dakotans were living in poverty in 2007, which is relatively unchanged from 11.7 percent in 2006.

"Given our estimated population in the state of 641,481, this means that over 75,000 people were impoverished in 2007," said Richard Rathge, Director of the State Data Center.

Poverty thresholds are updated annually by the U.S. Census Bureau and vary by family size and number of children. In 2007, the poverty threshold for one person was \$10,590 and \$21,027 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. Confidence intervals are calculated to account for this sampling error. For example, SAIPE estimates indicate that 11.8 percent of all North Dakotans were living in poverty in 2007. However, if one wants to be 90 percent confident of the true poverty level, one should use a range from 11.3 percent to 12.3 percent.

Certain populations in North Dakota continue to struggle with higher than average poverty rates. Children have 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 14.0 percent in 2007, the percentage of children ages 0 to 4 living in poverty was 18.1 percent, and the percentage of children ages 5 to 17 living in families below poverty was 11.7 percent. 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 2007.

When making important decisions based on these data, one needs to be mindful of the confidence intervals (13.0 percent to 15.0 percent for North Dakota children ages 0 to 17, 16.5 percent to 19.7 percent for children ages 0 to 4, and 10.4 percent to 12.9 percent for children ages 5 to 17).

Nationally, 13.0 percent of all persons were living in poverty in 2007, 18.0 percent of children ages 0 to 17 were living in poverty, and 20.8 percent of children ages 0 to 4 were living in poverty (90 percent confidence intervals are 12.9 percent to 13.0 percent, 17.9 percent to 18.2 percent, and 20.5 percent to 21.0 percent, respectively).

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