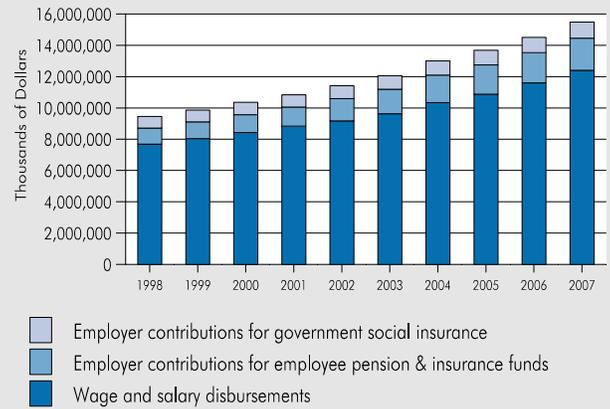


Compensation of North Dakota Employees: 2007

Total compensation of North Dakota employees totaled \$15.5 billion in 2007, up 6.7 percent from 2006. Average compensation per job in North Dakota rose to \$40,876 in 2007, an increase of 4.4 percent per year, on average, since 1998. Nationally, compensation per job rose an average of 4.1 percent annually from 1998 to 2007, reaching \$53,892. Compensation of North Dakota employees consists of wage and salary disbursements (80.1 percent) and supplements to wages and salaries (i.e., employer contributions for employee pension and insurance funds and employer contributions for government social insurance; 19.9 percent) (Figure 1). On average, employer supplements in North Dakota grew faster than actual wages and salaries from 1998 to 2007. Employer supplements in the state grew an average of 6.4 percent annually since 1998; wages and salaries grew an average of 5.5 percent per year.

In North Dakota, the average per job compensation for all 53 counties grew at least 3.0 percent per year, on average, since 1998; seven counties, all in the western part of the state, grew at least 6.0 percent annually, on average (McKenzie, Burke, Bowman, Divide, Williams, Billings, and Slope) (Table 1). Out of the 3,141 counties in the nation, Oliver County in west central North Dakota had the 94th highest average compensation per job in 2007 at \$60,382 (Figure 2).

Figure 1. Compensation of North Dakota Employees: 1998-2007 (Thousands of Dollars)



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, BEA, REIS, Table CA06 and CA06N.

Figure 2. Total Average Compensation Per Job by County in the U.S., 2007

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), Regional Economic Information System (REIS), Table CA06N, www.bea.gov/regional/reis.

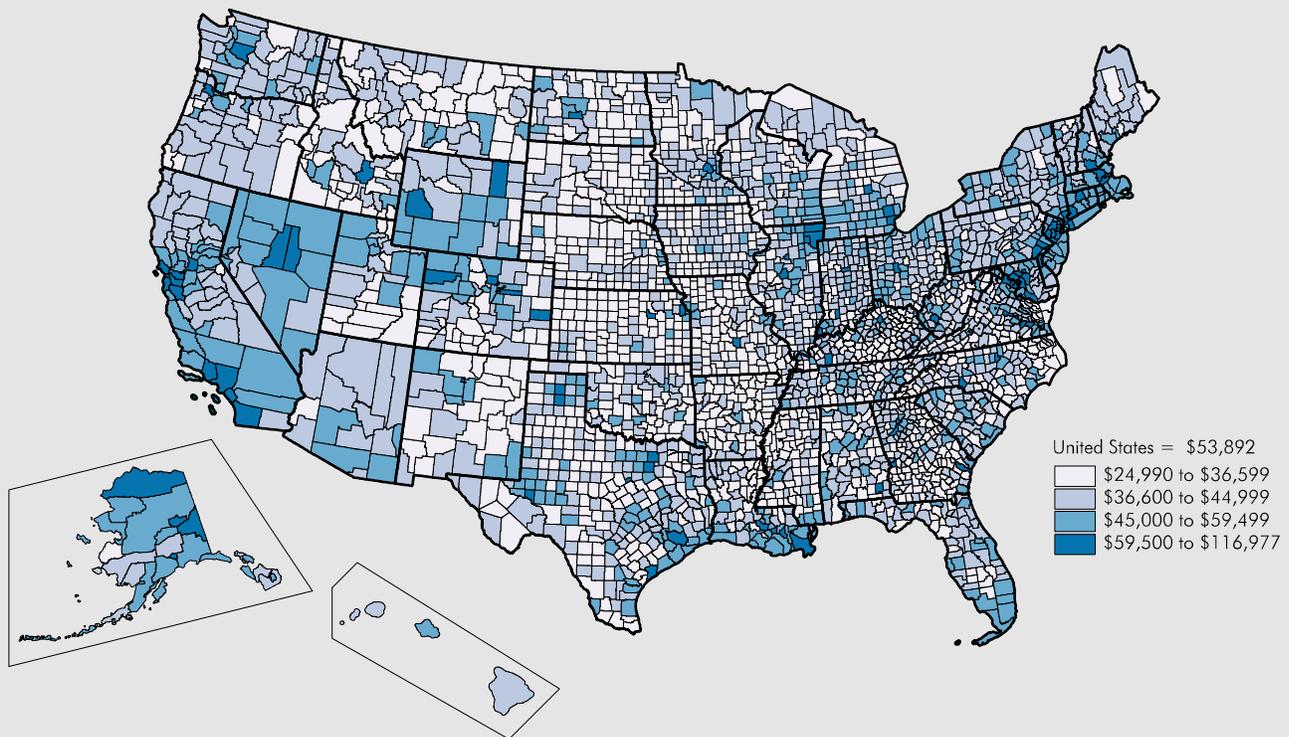


Table 1. Average Compensation Per Job in North Dakota by County: 1998 to 2007

Note: Compensation of employees consists of wage and salary disbursements and supplements to wages and salaries (i.e., employer contributions for 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), Tables CA06 and CA06N, www.bea.gov/regional/reis.

Area	Average Compensation Per Job (Dollars)										Avg. Annual % Change: 1998-2007
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	
North Dakota	27,844	28,678	29,923	31,131	32,697	34,342	36,200	37,448	38,844	40,876	4.4
Adams	22,305	23,235	23,786	25,464	25,992	26,851	28,119	28,999	29,822	31,420	3.9
Barnes	22,519	23,058	23,670	24,287	25,752	27,114	28,908	29,843	30,908	32,858	4.3
Benson	23,463	25,088	27,886	29,597	30,661	31,397	33,486	34,618	36,395	38,550	5.7
Billings	18,594	19,354	21,157	22,764	22,368	25,226	26,184	28,845	31,248	37,130	8.1
Bottineau	21,085	21,245	22,773	23,583	24,697	26,060	28,325	30,200	30,667	32,614	5.0
Bowman	21,015	20,682	21,936	24,017	25,367	28,186	28,669	30,503	34,115	36,691	6.5
Burke	24,278	24,982	27,049	28,303	29,527	33,413	35,439	37,903	39,423	41,608	6.2
Burleigh	29,110	29,724	31,033	32,426	33,829	35,951	37,943	38,866	39,620	41,557	4.0
Cass	30,311	31,565	32,818	33,862	35,595	37,082	39,001	40,198	41,583	43,481	4.1
Cavalier	23,253	24,538	24,784	26,687	27,847	28,687	29,938	31,810	32,174	35,807	5.0
Dickey	21,444	22,071	22,766	23,581	24,897	26,434	28,295	28,929	29,912	31,427	4.4
Divide	17,400	18,230	19,562	21,046	23,223	24,659	25,189	26,899	28,323	30,708	6.5
Dunn	23,121	23,415	24,999	25,786	25,798	28,173	28,306	29,800	31,568	33,083	4.1
Eddy	21,212	22,228	23,102	22,370	23,768	24,309	25,511	26,310	26,841	28,548	3.4
Emmons	19,931	20,506	21,676	22,447	23,135	24,683	27,080	27,965	27,897	29,591	4.5
Foster	23,155	24,066	26,083	26,820	28,902	30,544	32,410	33,534	35,901	37,316	5.5
Golden Valley	21,795	20,422	21,420	21,364	22,071	22,870	25,301	26,722	27,859	28,516	3.1
Grand Forks	28,993	29,620	30,845	31,531	33,309	34,842	36,382	37,373	38,604	40,376	3.8
Grant	19,894	19,567	20,570	21,643	23,201	24,334	26,013	26,982	27,621	29,020	4.3
Griggs	22,059	23,176	24,986	24,772	25,349	25,918	27,309	28,473	28,832	29,170	3.2
Hettinger	20,905	22,190	22,877	24,055	24,662	25,685	27,307	27,726	29,440	31,155	4.5
Kidder	19,805	20,222	21,726	23,342	24,434	26,021	27,090	27,989	28,173	30,105	4.8
LaMoure	20,223	20,420	21,945	22,848	24,216	26,613	28,483	29,817	31,005	32,712	5.5
Logan	17,747	18,473	19,494	20,876	22,319	22,877	23,161	24,707	25,104	25,885	4.3
McHenry	21,993	23,013	23,612	25,938	26,135	27,406	29,440	32,417	32,967	36,181	5.7
McIntosh	19,025	19,465	20,772	21,858	23,338	23,916	25,184	25,669	25,960	27,867	4.4
McKenzie	26,162	27,003	28,546	30,044	29,985	31,906	33,677	35,678	39,739	44,404	6.1
McLean	29,602	31,225	31,064	32,586	34,482	36,152	39,382	40,850	42,158	45,916	5.0
Mercer	39,965	40,707	42,807	45,670	46,326	49,386	54,668	53,644	56,003	58,269	4.3
Morton	27,697	28,446	29,431	31,649	32,605	33,925	35,485	36,794	39,504	40,464	4.3
Mountrail	23,339	24,635	25,760	26,206	28,445	31,561	35,001	35,506	34,200	35,930	5.0
Nelson	20,990	21,319	21,553	22,612	25,173	25,735	25,577	26,490	27,958	29,842	4.0
Oliver	47,111	47,341	50,429	55,193	51,493	53,419	59,826	56,469	56,825	60,382	3.0
Pembina	30,468	31,285	31,791	33,144	35,170	36,682	36,347	37,333	39,124	42,183	3.7
Pierce	21,831	21,498	21,679	23,991	25,562	28,369	29,569	30,302	29,854	30,850	4.0
Ramsey	22,400	22,965	23,800	25,214	26,107	27,188	28,819	30,507	31,358	33,136	4.5
Ransom	23,137	24,551	26,953	28,222	30,133	30,758	31,656	33,489	33,223	35,166	4.8
Renville	21,656	21,583	23,332	24,865	25,664	26,693	28,513	30,086	32,764	34,919	5.5
Richland	27,653	28,672	29,876	30,712	32,235	33,281	34,739	36,198	37,418	39,930	4.2
Rolette	26,946	27,171	28,310	29,805	30,578	32,515	34,623	35,983	36,981	38,109	3.9
Sargent	36,120	39,691	40,819	40,463	43,669	49,367	50,656	50,589	49,546	51,174	4.1
Sheridan	21,952	25,685	24,097	24,480	25,169	27,417	26,732	29,530	27,974	28,730	3.3
Sioux	28,838	30,250	31,813	34,135	34,756	36,903	39,436	40,467	41,387	43,300	4.6
Slope	21,111	20,234	22,693	25,181	26,984	27,492	30,508	30,933	32,798	46,556	9.8
Stark	24,379	24,871	25,773	27,104	28,447	30,074	30,865	32,469	34,938	37,336	4.9
Steele	25,226	25,938	27,797	28,139	28,589	30,301	32,222	33,487	34,952	36,052	4.1
Stutsman	25,559	25,994	27,551	28,934	30,307	31,184	33,014	34,166	34,601	36,325	4.0
Towner	23,230	23,198	24,031	24,520	25,492	25,636	27,516	28,903	29,044	30,927	3.3
Traill	24,366	24,724	26,414	26,917	28,222	29,345	30,882	31,811	32,796	34,639	4.0
Walsh	23,005	23,596	24,345	25,739	27,115	27,365	29,183	30,676	31,305	33,639	4.3
Ward	28,715	29,660	30,847	31,847	34,436	35,911	37,914	39,393	40,539	42,331	4.4
Wells	21,795	22,836	23,353	24,431	25,707	26,354	27,735	29,381	29,036	29,992	3.6
Williams	25,642	25,205	27,009	29,491	29,838	32,277	34,692	38,055	43,779	48,443	7.4

Date of Release: March 5, 2009

North Dakota Shows Continued Growth in Average Compensation Per Job

The average compensation per job in North Dakota rose to \$40,876 in 2007, an increase of 4.4 percent per year, on average, since 1998. This average annual growth was ninth largest in the nation behind seven states and the District of Columbia. During the same time frame, inflation grew an average of 2.7 percent per year.

“This is very good news for North Dakotans, especially given the national economy. This means our buying power grew at a pace one and a half times that of inflation, on average,” said Richard Rathge, Director of the State Data Center.

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

On average, employer supplements in North Dakota grew faster than actual wages and salaries from 1998 to 2007. Supplements in the state grew an average of 6.4 percent annually since 1998; wages and salaries grew an average of 5.5 percent per year.

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. The BEA provides compensation data for the nation, states, and counties, plus metropolitan and micropolitan areas.

Nationally, compensation per job increased an average of 4.1 percent per year from 1998 through 2007, reaching \$53,892 in 2007. In North Dakota, the average compensation per job for all 53 counties grew at least 3.0 percent per year, on average, since 1998. Seven counties, all in the western part of the state, grew an average of at least 6.0 percent annually (McKenzie, Burke, Bowman, Divide, Williams, Billings, and Slope).

Out of the 3,141 counties in the nation, Oliver County in west central North Dakota had the 94th highest average compensation per job in 2007 at \$60,382.

While compensation in North Dakota is experiencing consistent and positive growth, the average compensation of \$40,876 earned in North Dakota still lags behind most states and was 24.2 percent below the national average of \$53,892 in 2007. Three other states had lower averages than North Dakota: Montana (\$40,446), Mississippi (\$40,027), and South Dakota (\$38,893). The District of Columbia had the highest average compensation per job in 2007 (\$92,281), followed by New York (\$70,656) and Connecticut (\$69,008).

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