

Components of Population Change in North Dakota: July 1, 2007 to July 1, 2008

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, current population estimates indicate that North Dakota's population grew to 641,481 in 2008, an increase of 3,577 people from the year before (Table 1). While Burleigh and Cass counties contributed significantly to overall growth statewide, 16 other counties in the state experienced an increase in population as well. Notably, 12 of these 16 growth counties were either along or west of the Missouri River.

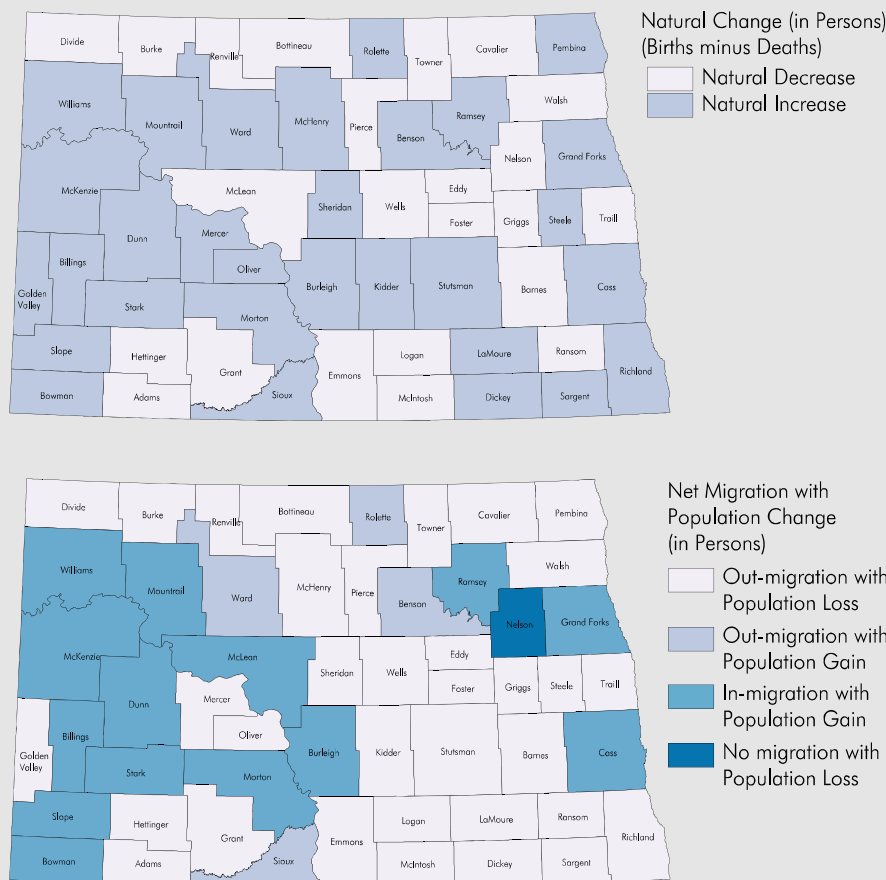
Population change is comprised of three components: births, deaths, and migration. The total number of births for a time period minus the number of deaths equals natural change. Net migration, which includes international and domestic movement, is the difference between people moving into an area and those moving away from an area. Between 2007 and 2008, North Dakota experienced 3,665 more births than deaths, or a natural increase. During this same period of time, 122 more residents moved into North Dakota than moved away from the state, thus resulting in net in-migration (Table 1). When net migration (+122) and

natural change (+3,665) are combined, the result is an overall population gain of 3,787 people. The reason this number is slightly larger than the 3,577 total gain reported by the Census Bureau is because a national population control must be applied to state and county population estimates in order to align them to the national estimate.

Figure 1. Components of Population Change in North Dakota by County: July 1, 2007 to July 1, 2008

Note: Population change is comprised of three components: births, deaths, and migration.

Source: Table 5 - CO-EST2007-05-38 - Annual Estimates of the Components of Population Change for Counties of North Dakota: July 1, 2007 to July 1, 2008; Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau. Release Date: March 19, 2009, www.census.gov/popest/counties/tables/CO-EST2008-05-38.xls



North Dakota's net in-migration of 122 people between 2007 and 2008 resulted from the net domestic out-migration of 381 people and net international in-migration of 503 people. Overall, net in-migration was experienced in 14 of North Dakota's 53 counties (Table 1).

Natural increase was experienced in 30 North Dakota counties between 2007 and 2008. Of these 30 natural increase counties, 13 had net out-migration that exceeded the growth from natural increase. In addition, one county with natural decrease had net in-migration that exceeded the loss from natural decrease. As a result, 18 counties grew in total population between 2007 and 2008 (Figure 1).

For population estimates or components-of-change data for other states and counties and for more information on terms, definitions, and methodology, visit the Population Division of the U.S. Census Bureau at: www.census.gov/popest/estimates.php.

Table 1. Components of Population Change in North Dakota by County: July 1, 2007 to July 1, 2008

Source: Table 5 - CO-EST2008-05-38 - Annual Estimates of the Components of Population Change for Counties of North Dakota: July 1, 2007 to July 1, 2008; Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau. Release Date: March 19, 2009, www.census.gov/popest/counties/tables/CO-EST2008-05-38.xls

Area	July 1, 2008 Total Population	July 1, 2007 to July 1, 2008							
		Total Population Change	Natural Change			Migration			Residual *
			Net (Births - Deaths)	Births	Deaths	Net (International + Domestic)	International	Domestic	
North Dakota	641,481	3,577	3,665	9,014	5,349	122	503	-381	-210
Adams	2,244	-23	-6	22	28	-11	1	-12	-6
Barnes	10,682	-79	-13	110	123	-58	6	-64	-8
Benson	6,953	16	111	155	44	-100	1	-101	5
Billings	811	15	6	8	2	10	-	10	-1
Bottineau	6,338	-59	-20	64	84	-41	3	-44	2
Bowman	3,019	77	12	37	25	67	-	67	-2
Burke	1,820	-31	-5	14	19	-20	-	-20	-6
Burleigh	78,689	1,433	547	1,091	544	887	25	862	-1
Cass	139,918	2,583	1,328	2,114	786	1,208	253	955	47
Cavalier	3,841	-54	-23	26	49	-21	4	-25	-10
Dickey	5,237	-122	12	71	59	-126	-	-126	-8
Divide	1,986	-13	-11	17	28	-3	-	-3	1
Dunn	3,318	25	15	36	21	17	-	17	-7
Eddy	2,388	-33	-3	26	29	-26	-	-26	-4
Emmons	3,377	-96	-19	29	48	-55	-	-55	-22
Foster	3,447	-30	-10	41	51	-17	2	-19	-3
Golden Valley	1,640	-26	3	12	9	-19	-	-19	-10
Grand Forks	66,585	559	560	978	418	9	104	-95	-10
Grant	2,415	-38	-17	14	31	-20	-	-20	-1
Griggs	2,359	-41	-13	21	34	-28	-	-28	0
Hettinger	2,378	-37	-14	16	30	-22	1	-23	-1
Kidder	2,290	-30	3	27	24	-23	-	-23	-10
LaMoure	3,986	-120	1	49	48	-107	-	-107	-14
Logan	1,943	-17	-7	20	27	-9	-	-9	-1
McHenry	5,168	-43	3	55	52	-26	1	-27	-20
McIntosh	2,639	-91	-36	25	61	-46	-	-46	-9
McKenzie	5,674	81	22	70	48	60	2	58	-1
McLean	8,337	16	-21	83	104	41	1	40	-4
Mercer	7,854	-93	5	75	70	-94	4	-98	-4
Morton	26,255	384	144	382	238	223	9	214	17
Mountrail	6,511	55	41	114	73	24	-	24	-10
Nelson	3,166	-47	-47	22	69	-	1	-1	0
Oliver	1,695	-25	15	19	4	-35	-	-35	-5
Pembina	7,419	-145	5	75	70	-134	2	-136	-16
Pierce	4,091	-14	-16	43	59	-2	1	-3	4
Ramsey	11,234	48	15	145	130	27	6	21	6
Ransom	5,628	-76	-6	70	76	-64	1	-65	-6
Renville	2,245	-54	-6	14	20	-45	1	-46	-3
Richland	16,334	-156	66	205	139	-211	6	-217	-11
Rolette	13,657	40	194	309	115	-149	5	-154	-5
Sargent	4,048	-51	12	45	33	-66	-	-66	3
Sheridan	1,266	-50	1	9	8	-41	-	-41	-10
Sioux	4,232	35	100	111	11	-67	-	-67	2
Slope	675	17	6	6	-	13	-	13	-2
Stark	22,575	147	106	316	210	37	11	26	4
Steele	1,795	-43	5	12	7	-38	1	-39	-10
Stutsman	20,394	-63	27	232	205	-86	6	-92	-4
Towner	2,202	-85	-15	16	31	-70	-	-70	0
Traill	7,820	-186	-5	93	98	-181	1	-182	0
Walsh	10,880	-138	-10	136	146	-118	2	-120	-10
Ward	55,986	39	550	1,004	454	-471	39	-510	-40
Wells	4,191	-71	-24	35	59	-45	-	-45	-2
Williams	19,846	287	97	295	198	194	3	191	-4

*The estimated components of population change, when added together, will not equal the total population change because of a small residual. The residual results from the application of a national population control to state and county population estimates. The residual is the difference in state and county population before and after the application of the control. The residual is not a demographic component of population change.

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North Dakota's Population Grows Due to More Births and Net In-Migration

As of July 1, 2008, North Dakota's population totaled 641,481, an increase of 3,577 people since July 1, 2007 (637,904 people). This increase is the result of 1) 3,665 more births than deaths between 2007 and 2008, the largest annual natural increase since 2000 and 2) during the same time, the state experienced an overall net in-migration of 122 people.

"This is the first year in nearly two decades that we have seen both natural increase and net in-migration in North Dakota. This is a very positive sign for our state and a reflection of our strong economy," said Richard Rathge, Director of the State Data Center. The Census Bureau did report net in-migration for North Dakota in 2004, but there were inconsistencies in the data.

This month's "Population Bulletin," a monthly publication from the North Dakota State Data Center at North Dakota State University, focuses on components of North Dakota's population change (births, deaths, and migration) between July 1, 2007 and July 1, 2008 as released from the U.S. Census Bureau's Population Division.

Migration statistics consist of domestic and international movement. Between 2007 and 2008, North Dakota experienced net domestic out-migration of 381 people leaving North Dakota for another state. At the same time, the state experienced a net international in-migration of 503 people. The difference between domestic and foreign movement resulted in a net gain of 122 North Dakota residents due to migration alone.

Population change also is affected by natural change (births minus deaths). Between 2007 and 2008, North Dakota reported 9,014 births and 5,349 deaths. The difference between births and deaths resulted in a natural population increase of 3,665 residents. When net migration (plus 122) and natural change (plus 3,665) are combined, the result is an overall population gain of 3,787 people. The reason this number (3,787) is slightly higher than the 3,577 total gain reported by the Census Bureau is because a national population control must be applied to state and county population estimates to align them to the national estimate.

A natural population increase was experienced in 30 North Dakota counties between 2007 and 2008. Of these 30 natural-increase counties, 13 had net out-migration that exceeded the growth from natural increase resulting in an overall population loss for these 13 counties. The remaining 17 natural-increase counties had an overall population growth. In addition, one county with natural decline had net in-migration that exceeded the loss from natural decline, resulting in a net population gain. As a result, 18 counties grew in total population between 2007 and 2008.

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