

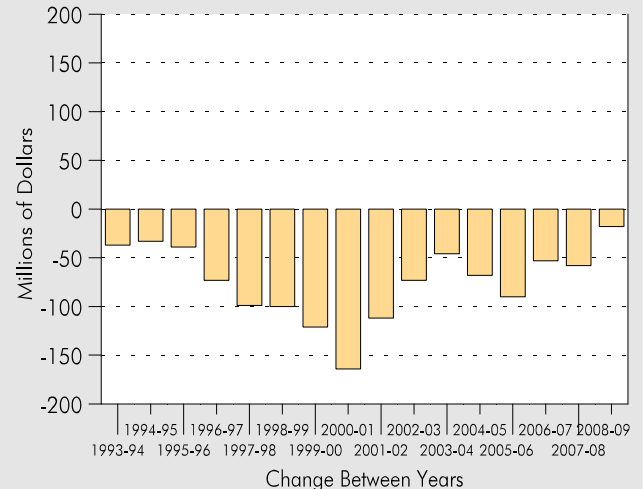
Adjusted Gross Income Flow Due to Migration for North Dakota: 2008-2009

Analysis of IRS data from the past 16 tax years reveals that North Dakota has experienced a continued net loss of taxable income as a direct result of migration (Figure 1). From 1993 (when IRS records were first made available for county flow analysis) through 2009 (the most current data available), people moving to North Dakota brought with them \$8.1 billion in adjusted gross income (AGI). People moving out of the state took with them \$9.3 billion. Since 1993, North Dakota has lost \$1.2 billion in net AGI as a direct result of migration.

Despite a net loss in AGI of \$18 million from 2008 to 2009, North Dakota did experience a net increase of 975 taxpayers (i.e., a taxpayer approximates to a household) and 1,013 exemptions (i.e., persons). So, even though more people moved into North Dakota than moved out, those people leaving had larger incomes than those moving in.

The average AGI per taxpayer (i.e., household income) leaving North Dakota during the 2008-2009 period was \$39,051, which is 8 percent larger than the \$36,281 average for those taxpayers moving into the state (Table 1).

Figure 1. Annual Adjusted Gross Income Flow Due to Migration for North Dakota: 1993-94 to 2008-09



Note: Not adjusted for inflation. Source: U.S. Internal Revenue Service (IRS), County-to-County Migration Flow files for North Dakota, 1993-94 to 2008-09.

For information on methodology and limitations of these data, along with further discussion and additional tables, visit <http://www.ndsu.edu/sdc/publications/research.htm#migration>.

Figure 2. Net Adjusted Gross Income Flow Due to Migration for North Dakota by County: 2008-09

Source: U.S. Internal Revenue Service (IRS), County-to-County Migration Flow files for North Dakota, 2008-09.

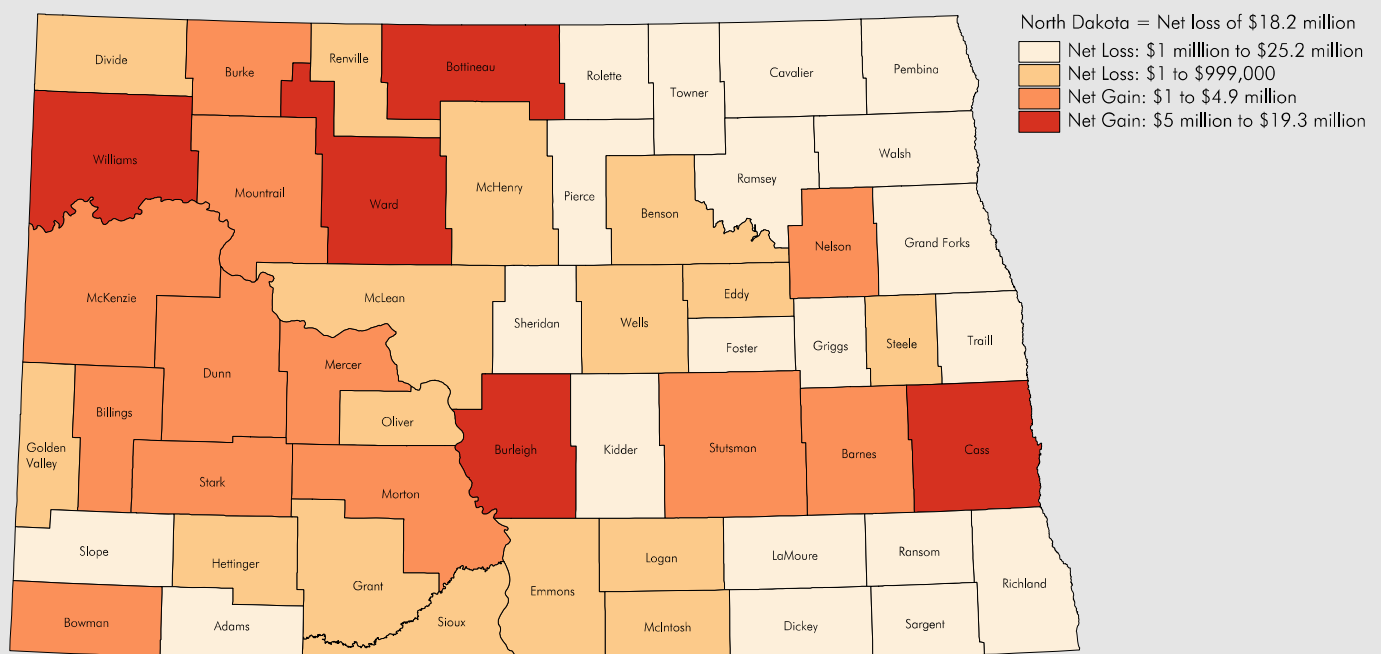


Table 1. County Migration Flows for North Dakota: 2008-2009

Note: Adjusted gross income figures are in thousands of dollars. For example, -18,188 equals a net loss of \$18,188,000. NR=Data are suppressed if based on less than 10 records. Data are not adjusted for inflation.

Source: U.S. Internal Revenue Service (IRS), County-to-County Migration Flow files for North Dakota, 2008-09. For information on methodology and limitations of these data, along with further discussion and additional tables, visit www.ndsu.edu/sdc/publications/research.htm#migration to obtain *North Dakota County Migration Flows: 1998-99 to 2000-01*, a North Dakota State Data Center report in PDF format.

Area	Migration and Flow Due to Taxpayer Migration for 2008 to 2009										
	Taxpayers			Exemptions			Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) (\$1,000)			AGI Per Taxpayer (\$)	
	Into ND	Out of ND	Net Flow	Into ND	Out of ND	Net Flow	Into ND	Out of ND	Net Flow	Into ND	Out of ND
North Dakota	20,314	19,339	975	34,765	33,752	1,013	737,019	755,207	-18,188	36,281	39,051
Adams	48	59	-11	77	98	-21	1,222	2,571	-1,349	25,458	43,576
Barnes	278	254	24	492	410	82	10,748	8,630	2,118	38,662	33,976
Benson	101	136	-35	243	248	-5	3,073	3,682	-609	30,426	27,074
Billings	35	38	-3	60	58	2	1,391	950	441	39,743	25,000
Bottineau	185	160	25	323	260	63	11,200	6,034	5,166	60,541	37,713
Bowman	76	89	-13	149	146	3	3,741	3,095	646	49,224	34,775
Burke	65	50	15	141	82	59	2,985	2,321	664	45,923	46,420
Burleigh	2,461	2,090	371	4,139	3,446	693	96,472	77,167	19,305	39,200	36,922
Cass	5,226	4,168	1,058	7,983	6,870	1,113	183,069	175,067	8,002	35,030	42,003
Cavalier	82	101	-19	138	161	-23	2,579	5,853	-3,274	31,451	57,950
Dickey	113	150	-37	222	304	-82	3,604	5,494	-1,890	31,894	36,627
Divide	46	49	-3	78	75	3	1,188	1,794	-606	25,826	36,612
Dunn	102	71	31	185	130	55	3,378	2,459	919	33,118	34,634
Eddy	53	71	-18	88	125	-37	2,168	2,271	-103	40,906	31,986
Emmons	58	74	-16	133	108	25	2,603	2,692	-89	44,879	36,378
Foster	65	105	-40	103	187	-84	2,223	13,598	-11,375	34,200	129,505
Golden Valley	40	48	-8	65	85	-20	1,330	1,650	-320	33,250	34,375
Grand Forks	2,380	2,764	-384	3,853	5,146	-1,293	73,927	99,153	-25,226	31,062	35,873
Grant	46	62	-16	83	101	-18	1,251	2,142	-891	27,196	34,548
Griggs	56	66	-10	109	118	-9	2,208	3,668	-1,460	39,429	55,576
Hettinger	63	67	-4	131	96	35	2,064	2,881	-817	32,762	43,000
Kidder	65	81	-16	116	138	-22	1,638	3,688	-2,050	25,200	45,531
LaMoure	83	102	-19	151	189	-38	2,733	5,096	-2,363	32,928	49,961
Logan	37	49	-12	61	79	-18	1,314	1,663	-349	35,514	33,939
McHenry	137	169	-32	277	271	6	4,974	5,321	-347	36,307	31,485
McIntosh	53	72	-19	99	121	-22	1,801	2,426	-625	33,981	33,694
McKenzie	168	129	39	377	235	142	7,285	4,891	2,394	43,363	37,915
McLean	228	247	-19	421	438	-17	8,840	9,156	-316	38,772	37,069
Mercer	207	217	-10	370	350	20	9,446	8,535	911	45,633	39,332
Morton	986	953	33	1,747	1,572	175	35,055	33,531	1,524	35,553	35,185
Mountrail	239	196	43	484	386	98	8,696	7,809	887	36,385	39,842
Nelson	76	78	-2	138	142	-4	2,739	2,378	361	36,039	30,487
Oliver	48	60	-12	84	89	-5	2,183	3,143	-960	45,479	52,383
Pembina	170	216	-46	330	359	-29	6,164	7,984	-1,820	36,259	36,963
Pierce	73	99	-26	131	193	-62	2,140	3,258	-1,118	29,315	32,909
Ramsey	291	326	-35	478	589	-111	8,442	9,646	-1,204	29,010	29,589
Ransom	99	166	-67	177	290	-113	3,084	6,683	-3,599	31,152	40,259
Renville	102	94	8	174	163	11	3,251	4,127	-876	31,873	43,904
Richland	370	530	-160	675	913	-238	18,320	22,170	-3,850	49,514	41,830
Rolette	196	231	-35	387	436	-49	4,959	6,524	-1,565	25,301	28,242
Sargent	78	115	-37	141	191	-50	3,209	5,493	-2,284	41,141	47,765
Sheridan	20	28	-8	41	37	4	611	1,806	-1,195	30,550	64,500
Sioux	77	73	4	171	151	20	1,505	2,023	-518	19,545	27,712
Slope	12	24	-12	24	44	-20	463	1,746	-1,283	38,583	72,750
Stark	741	649	92	1,256	1,105	151	29,108	26,001	3,107	39,282	40,063
Steele	41	61	-20	68	97	-29	1,643	2,117	-474	40,073	34,705
Stutsman	517	483	34	898	782	116	18,778	16,945	1,833	36,321	35,083
Towner	54	78	-24	121	116	5	1,831	3,302	-1,471	33,907	42,333
Traill	196	252	-56	347	411	-64	5,734	9,702	-3,968	29,255	38,500
Walsh	216	267	-51	385	464	-79	7,179	9,066	-1,887	33,236	33,955
Ward	2,312	2,021	291	4,272	4,113	159	85,491	78,263	7,228	36,977	38,725
Wells	75	99	-24	121	162	-41	2,245	2,897	-652	29,933	29,263
Williams	768	502	266	1,448	872	576	33,734	24,645	9,089	43,924	49,094

Date of Release: August 16, 2011

Western North Dakota Counties Show Growth in Income Due to Migration

During 2008-09, 17 counties in North Dakota reported a net gain in adjusted gross income (AGI) due to migration, 13 of which are located in the western part of the state. Losses in the remaining 36 counties, however, combined to produce a net loss of \$18 million in AGI in North Dakota due to migration alone.

This month's "Economic Brief," a monthly publication from the North Dakota State Data Center at North Dakota State University, focuses on the analysis of federal individual income tax returns of taxpayers moving to and from North Dakota over the past 16 tax years, as released by the IRS. These records reveal that North Dakota has experienced a continued net loss of AGI as a direct result of migration.

North Dakota's general trend of outmigration has produced long-term economic consequences. Since 1993, North Dakota has lost \$1.2 billion in net AGI as a direct result of migration. From 1993 through 2009, people moving to North Dakota brought with them \$8.1 billion in AGI, while people moving out of the state took with them \$9.3 billion. Grand Forks and Ward counties showed the largest losses in AGI due to migration with net outflows of \$340 million and \$195 million in AGI, respectively, since 1993.

Three counties in the state experienced a net gain in AGI due to migration during the past 16 years. Burleigh County had a net increase of \$61 million in AGI due to migration, Morton County had a \$20 million increase, and Bottineau County had a net increase of \$7 million.

The most current data suggest that some flows are becoming positive, specifically in 13 western North Dakota counties which, collectively, showed a net increase in AGI of \$52 million from 2008 to 2009 (i.e., Billings, Bottineau, Bowman, Burke, Burleigh, Dunn, McKenzie, Mercer, Morton, Mountrail, Stark, Ward, and Williams). Prior to the 2006-2007 flow data, these 13 counties averaged a collective net loss in AGI of \$21 million per year.

"These data offer one tool to explore the impact of the western energy development activity. The net gain in adjusted gross income flow suggests that not only are many western counties growing in population, but the tax revenues are also dramatically increasing. This is a situation we have not seen in quite some time," said Richard Rathge, director of the State Data Center.

One needs to keep in mind that the IRS data have important limitations, such as the need to match returns between years and misreporting due to address changes. Nonetheless, these data offer one way to document the economic consequences of migration.

For information on methodology and limitations of these data, along with further discussion and additional tables, visit <http://www.ndsu.edu/sdc/publications/research.htm#migration>.

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