

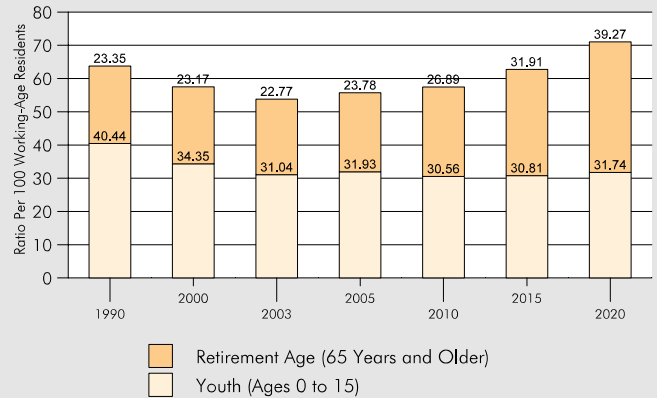
North Dakota Age-Dependency Ratios

The total dependency ratio measures the dependence that non-working age people have on working-age people. It indicates the economic responsibility of those economically active in providing for those that are not. The dependency ratio combines the proportion of people who are not of working age, either because they are less than 16 years (youth) or because they are 65 years or older (retirement age), and compares this total with the proportion of people of working ages (16 to 64 years).

According to 2003 population estimates from the Census Bureau, for every 100 working-age residents in North Dakota, there were approximately 54 non-working age residents (Table 1). If the age-distribution patterns of the 1990s continue, 2020 projections indicate that this ratio will rise to 71 non-working age residents for every 100 residents of working age. In addition, 18 counties throughout the state are projected to have more dependents than workers by 2020.

While the dependency ratio does not accurately capture people who are economically inactive, it helps to show the changing age distribution of potential dependents throughout the state. In 1990, the majority of non-working age residents in North Dakota were youth less than 16 years (Figure 1). By 2020, retirement-age residents 65 years and older will capture the majority of non-working age residents in the state. This shift in age structure will impact the types of decisions needed to provide services to an older non-working population.

Figure 1. Dependency Ratios by Age in North Dakota, 1990 to 2020



Note: In 2003, there were 53.81 non-working age residents in North Dakota for every 100 working-age residents.
Source: Age-distribution base data obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau <<http://www.census.gov>> and the North Dakota State Data Center <<http://www.ndsu.edu/sdc/data/projections.htm>>. Dependency ratios calculated by the North Dakota State Data Center.

Figure 2. Total Dependency Ratios by State: 2003

Note: Dependency Ratio equals the number of non-working age residents (0 to 15 plus 65 and older) per 100 working-age residents (ages 16 to 64).
Source: Age-distribution base data obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, <http://www.census.gov/popest/estimates.php>. Dependency ratios calculated by the North Dakota State Data Center.

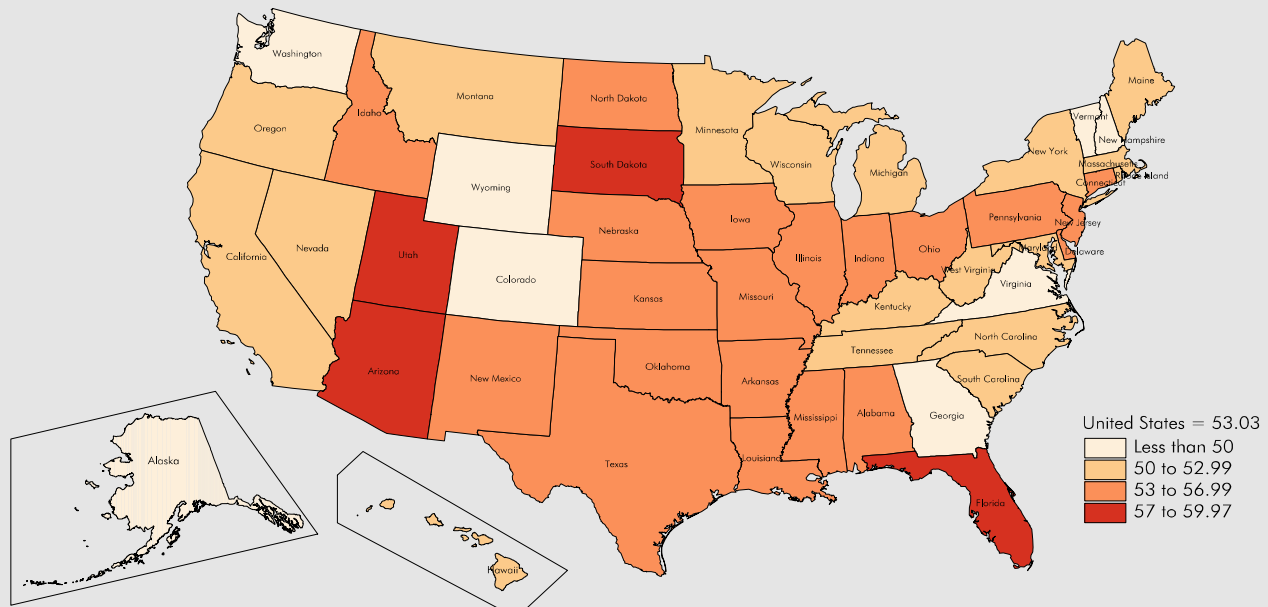


Table 1. Total Dependency Ratios - Ratio of Youth and Elderly To 100 Working-Age Residents in North Dakota by County: 1990, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2010, 2015, and 2020

Note: For every 100 residents ages 16 to 64 in North Dakota in 2003, there were 53.81 non-working age residents (ages 0 to 15 plus ages 65 and older).

Source: Age-distribution base data obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau <<http://www.census.gov>> and the North Dakota State Data Center <<http://www.ndsu.edu/sdc/data/projections.htm>>. Dependency ratios calculated by the North Dakota State Data Center.

Area	Census		Census Bureau Estimate, 2003	Projections			
	1990	2000		2005	2010	2015	2020
North Dakota	63.79	57.52	53.81	55.70	57.45	62.72	71.01
Adams	79.83	77.85	76.41	75.50	78.09	91.60	114.63
Barnes	75.50	63.81	61.56	62.11	66.52	77.17	97.39
Benson	89.27	82.97	76.48	76.53	78.58	85.66	94.54
Billings	68.13	55.79	46.05	44.91	48.07	61.84	83.32
Bottineau	77.08	67.07	59.57	65.95	69.23	82.82	102.67
Bowman	75.07	73.18	64.77	62.82	65.30	70.71	84.34
Burke	80.84	73.40	66.11	69.91	65.37	80.16	90.25
Burleigh	55.59	51.63	48.27	49.59	50.27	53.06	58.73
Cass	47.94	43.89	42.62	44.58	46.78	51.62	58.86
Cavalier	77.83	78.79	73.06	75.56	79.52	92.23	110.61
Dickey	77.17	72.62	71.04	72.64	76.35	84.95	98.70
Divide	93.52	86.06	75.96	85.74	91.76	116.80	145.08
Dunn	80.24	68.70	60.43	71.17	74.02	82.28	102.50
Eddy	87.72	82.10	76.37	81.69	84.00	93.65	117.54
Emmons	79.15	88.47	84.99	91.17	96.02	106.60	121.65
Foster	81.21	78.91	71.58	78.18	77.60	85.44	95.64
Golden Valley	90.42	78.81	74.59	77.40	78.25	82.83	98.42
Grand Forks	48.27	44.30	41.74	43.74	44.16	46.89	50.40
Grant	80.79	79.36	68.14	79.20	90.69	109.44	131.45
Griggs	88.74	80.59	70.39	77.72	84.41	97.07	119.29
Hettinger	83.15	80.88	75.48	81.60	89.91	112.37	145.55
Kidder	79.04	75.57	69.87	76.11	84.20	91.68	109.91
LaMoure	85.81	77.53	71.17	75.52	76.73	85.73	102.18
Logan	79.62	87.79	89.54	93.16	105.82	110.26	115.13
McHenry	80.98	72.34	66.39	69.50	74.67	83.04	93.85
McIntosh	94.63	104.09	98.13	107.91	122.10	135.36	148.30
McKenzie	77.11	72.59	62.80	65.50	70.52	82.29	100.95
McLean	82.18	67.46	61.43	67.06	74.88	88.69	112.92
Mercer	72.71	63.37	52.81	56.08	59.05	72.42	90.90
Morton	67.01	60.75	56.41	57.87	57.84	62.21	71.44
Mountrail	80.86	72.73	67.36	66.41	68.74	75.55	87.90
Nelson	90.58	83.10	79.43	80.89	83.83	96.65	113.14
Oliver	72.04	58.72	50.59	56.45	59.80	72.36	90.37
Pembina	77.01	68.23	61.28	61.19	62.84	70.99	84.85
Pierce	86.70	80.15	75.55	76.34	78.21	78.96	87.72
Ramsey	72.41	67.77	63.98	62.03	64.36	71.20	81.47
Ransom	80.90	75.14	67.76	74.33	78.48	84.38	98.37
Renville	78.23	70.48	61.32	70.94	69.55	79.94	92.43
Richland	69.05	57.85	52.60	56.85	58.36	62.39	72.94
Rolette	82.46	72.33	67.00	63.88	65.65	72.12	81.96
Sargent	71.27	67.15	63.38	66.67	68.03	74.27	86.13
Sheridan	80.05	81.14	77.22	74.64	77.06	84.44	98.83
Sioux	82.93	70.42	63.06	62.94	62.27	62.83	64.45
Slope	65.21	61.47	56.39	58.36	58.01	67.98	89.18
Stark	66.26	60.36	57.40	57.10	58.09	65.54	76.12
Steele	77.42	74.63	65.95	69.95	70.61	72.55	82.06
Stutsman	65.59	59.83	56.11	60.10	65.87	73.35	81.85
Towner	87.64	78.30	65.96	69.81	72.79	76.00	90.10
Traill	76.42	68.73	61.55	67.60	68.98	71.67	78.58
Walsh	77.50	68.47	63.23	63.19	65.46	71.87	81.86
Ward	57.80	55.25	55.01	55.80	57.64	63.58	70.76
Wells	84.40	82.87	76.30	78.26	81.71	89.44	104.15
Williams	70.70	63.26	58.13	60.29	63.34	70.61	82.76