

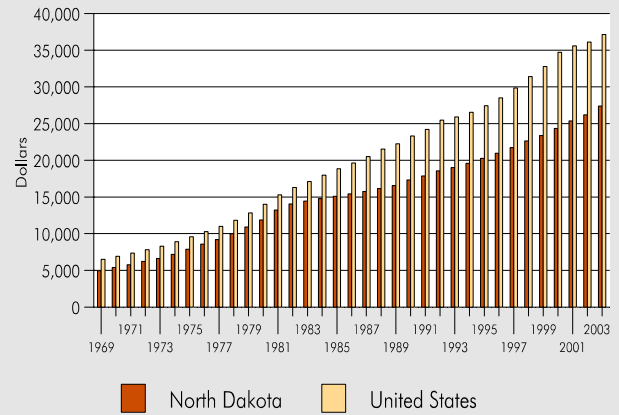
Average Wage Per Job in North Dakota: 2003

The average wage per job in North Dakota rose to \$27,393 in 2003, an increase of 4.6 percent from \$26,186 in 2002. Nationwide wages rose 2.8 percent between 2002 and 2003 (from \$36,102 to \$37,130), a rate slightly higher than inflation at 2.3 percent (Table 1).

The average wage earned in North Dakota was 26.2 percent below the national average in 2003 (Figure 1). Nationally, three other states had lower averages: Mississippi (\$27,135), South Dakota (\$26,899), and Montana (\$26,869). Connecticut had the highest average wage per job in 2003 (\$47,283), followed by New York (\$46,559) and New Jersey (\$45,596).

Statewide, all 53 North Dakota counties experienced an increase in average wages between 2002 and 2003. However, average wage increases in Oliver, Ransom, Towner, and Walsh counties, did not keep pace with inflation (Table 2).

Figure 1. Average Wage Per Job in North Dakota and the U.S. 1969 to 2003



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, BEA, REIS, Table CA34.

Table 1. Average Wage Per Job in North Dakota and Surrounding States by Metropolitan Area: 1998 to 2003

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), Regional Economic Information System (REIS), Table CA34, <<http://www.bea.doc.gov/bea/regional/reis>>. Note: MSA - Metropolitan Statistical Areas defined by the Office of Management and Budget.

Area	Average Wage Per Job (Dollars)						Percent Change	
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2002-2003	1998-2003
North Dakota	22,633	23,373	24,348	25,365	26,186	27,393	4.6	21.0
(Non-Metropolitan Portion)	20,833	21,424	22,353	23,449	24,136	25,317	4.9	21.5
(Metropolitan Portion)	24,240	25,090	26,089	27,021	27,935	29,133	4.3	20.2
Bismarck, ND MSA	23,859	24,431	25,419	26,697	27,512	29,023	5.5	21.6
Fargo-Moorhead, ND-MN MSA	24,475	25,418	26,419	27,288	28,377	29,460	3.8	20.4
Grand Forks, ND-MN MSA	22,579	23,153	24,095	24,803	25,589	26,617	4.0	17.9
Minnesota	31,393	32,708	34,660	35,801	36,662	37,826	3.2	20.5
(Non-Metropolitan Portion)	22,787	23,593	24,608	25,362	26,360	27,246	3.4	19.6
(Metropolitan Portion)	33,971	35,410	37,609	38,858	39,726	40,968	3.1	20.6
Duluth-Superior, MN-WI MSA	25,912	26,988	28,041	29,157	30,347	30,899	1.8	19.2
Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN-WI MSA	35,110	36,645	39,005	40,277	41,095	42,401	3.2	20.8
Rochester, MN MSA	31,387	33,038	34,204	35,658	36,984	38,172	3.2	21.6
St. Cloud, MN MSA	25,700	25,691	26,876	27,699	28,965	29,829	3.0	16.1
Montana	22,445	23,057	24,084	24,959	25,830	26,869	4.0	19.7
(Non-Metropolitan Portion)	21,661	22,165	23,126	24,015	24,868	25,907	4.2	19.6
(Metropolitan Portion)	23,600	24,356	25,485	26,323	27,216	28,259	3.8	19.7
Billings, MT MSA	24,373	25,125	26,309	27,469	28,175	29,143	3.4	19.6
Great Falls, MT MSA	23,159	23,907	24,657	25,034	25,954	27,343	5.4	18.1
Missoula, MT MSA	22,847	23,610	24,942	25,672	26,783	27,688	3.4	21.2
South Dakota	22,262	23,222	24,323	25,151	25,947	26,899	3.7	20.8
(Non-Metropolitan Portion)	19,768	20,539	21,519	22,259	22,970	23,815	3.7	20.5
(Metropolitan Portion)	24,891	25,979	27,161	28,060	28,905	29,931	3.6	20.2
Rapid City, SD MSA	22,166	23,315	24,339	25,486	26,509	27,434	3.5	23.8
Sioux Falls, SD MSA	25,250	26,278	27,356	28,425	29,418	30,603	4.0	21.2
United States	31,411	32,774	34,718	35,582	36,102	37,130	2.8	18.2
(Non-Metropolitan Portion)	23,173	23,867	24,754	25,510	26,261	27,082	3.1	16.9
(Metropolitan Portion)	32,794	34,252	36,352	37,223	37,710	38,769	2.8	18.2

Table 2. Average Wage Per Job in North Dakota by County: 1998 to 2003

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), Regional Economic Information System (REIS), Table CA34, <<http://www.bea.doc.gov/bea/regional/reis>>.

Area	Average Wage Per Job (Dollars)						Percent Change	
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2002-2003	1998-2003
North Dakota	22,633	23,373	24,348	25,365	26,186	27,393	4.6	21.0
Adams	18,529	19,360	19,733	21,353	21,585	22,365	3.6	20.7
Barnes	18,421	18,860	19,348	19,875	20,846	21,884	5.0	18.8
Benson	17,698	19,003	21,183	22,557	23,155	23,679	2.3	33.8
Billings	14,749	15,347	16,739	17,862	17,527	19,711	12.5	33.6
Bottineau	17,079	17,241	18,444	19,215	19,904	20,855	4.8	22.1
Bowman	17,245	17,046	18,012	19,933	20,765	22,923	10.4	32.9
Burke	19,026	19,568	21,086	22,055	22,605	25,434	12.5	33.7
Burleigh	24,144	24,697	25,731	26,901	27,828	29,430	5.8	21.9
Cass	25,126	26,215	27,215	28,085	29,135	30,171	3.6	20.1
Cavalier	19,079	20,150	20,305	21,988	22,613	23,343	3.2	22.3
Dickey	17,774	18,325	18,839	19,597	20,421	21,586	5.7	21.4
Divide	14,084	14,776	15,843	17,208	18,784	20,084	6.9	42.6
Dunn	18,618	18,830	20,105	20,853	21,507	22,928	6.6	23.2
Eddy	16,996	17,808	18,536	18,168	19,107	19,555	2.3	15.1
Emmons	16,274	16,731	17,673	18,468	18,820	20,051	6.5	23.2
Foster	19,087	19,842	21,482	22,140	23,349	24,916	6.7	30.5
Golden Valley	17,856	16,645	17,336	17,396	17,809	18,435	3.5	3.2
Grand Forks	22,929	23,595	24,544	25,148	25,920	27,046	4.3	18.0
Grant	15,983	15,714	16,499	17,369	18,439	19,420	5.3	21.5
Griggs	18,010	19,047	20,535	20,509	20,671	21,295	3.0	18.2
Hettinger	16,844	17,822	18,405	19,498	19,866	20,711	4.3	23.0
Kidder	15,948	16,306	17,502	18,971	19,583	20,822	6.3	30.6
LaMoure	16,310	16,478	17,711	18,546	19,321	21,297	10.2	30.6
Logan	14,320	14,916	15,788	17,001	17,957	18,468	2.8	29.0
McHenry	17,268	18,041	18,440	20,359	20,144	21,229	5.4	22.9
McIntosh	15,621	15,998	16,997	17,981	18,972	19,447	2.5	24.5
McKenzie	20,615	21,299	22,449	23,759	23,412	24,788	5.9	20.2
McLean	23,902	25,199	25,006	26,162	27,214	28,118	3.3	17.6
Mercer	32,830	33,500	35,050	37,140	36,766	38,337	4.3	16.8
Morton	22,539	23,205	23,947	25,713	25,976	27,045	4.1	20.0
Mountrail	18,689	19,792	20,651	21,142	22,278	24,831	11.5	32.9
Nelson	17,097	17,334	17,409	18,426	20,172	20,650	2.4	20.8
Oliver	38,425	38,627	40,904	44,456	40,577	41,237	1.6	7.3
Pembina	24,158	24,914	25,308	26,482	27,111	28,136	3.8	16.5
Pierce	17,916	17,715	18,003	19,896	20,926	23,053	10.2	28.7
Ramsey	18,345	18,812	19,465	20,656	21,102	21,952	4.0	19.7
Ransom	18,860	20,011	21,827	22,905	24,096	24,415	1.3	29.5
Renville	17,673	17,586	19,024	20,457	20,928	21,696	3.7	22.8
Richland	22,528	23,432	24,329	25,078	25,876	26,648	3.0	18.3
Rolette	20,741	20,949	21,726	22,518	22,718	24,177	6.4	16.6
Sargent	29,763	32,738	33,475	33,231	34,959	38,975	11.5	31.0
Sheridan	17,495	20,421	19,064	19,549	19,499	21,435	9.9	22.5
Sioux	21,502	22,609	23,657	25,436	25,673	27,317	6.4	27.0
Slope	17,022	16,086	18,094	20,236	21,288	22,622	6.3	32.9
Stark	20,024	20,447	21,144	22,318	23,191	24,242	4.5	21.1
Steele	20,538	21,036	22,617	23,067	23,024	24,374	5.9	18.7
Stutsman	21,091	21,507	22,751	23,849	24,606	25,329	2.9	20.1
Towner	18,995	18,982	19,596	20,073	20,538	20,764	1.1	9.3
Trail	19,984	20,282	21,622	22,269	22,976	24,016	4.5	20.2
Walsh	18,845	19,347	19,926	21,121	21,959	22,229	1.2	18.0
Ward	22,340	23,122	24,024	24,876	25,871	27,027	4.5	21.0
Wells	17,743	18,596	18,985	20,024	20,866	21,357	2.4	20.4
Williams	21,131	20,798	22,228	24,438	24,481	26,295	7.4	24.4