

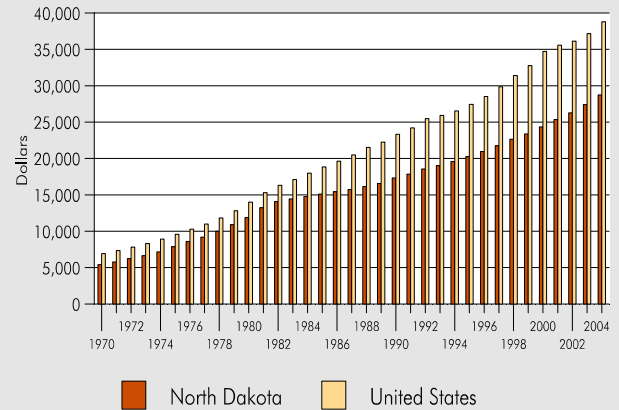
## Average Wage Per Job in North Dakota: 2004

The average wage per job in North Dakota rose to \$28,741 in 2004, an increase of 4.9 percent from \$27,400 in 2003. Nationally, wages rose 4.4 percent between 2003 and 2004 (from \$37,173 to \$38,798) (Table 1). Both rates were higher than inflation during that period of time, 3.4 percent (Table 1).

The average wage earned in North Dakota was 25.9 percent below the national average in 2004 (Figure 1). Nationally, three other states had lower averages than North Dakota: Mississippi (\$28,174), South Dakota (\$28,035), and Montana (\$27,721). Connecticut had the highest average wage per job in 2004 (\$49,941), followed by New York (\$49,221) and Massachusetts (\$47,876).

Statewide, all but one North Dakota county experienced an increase in average wages between 2003 and 2004. During this same period of time, average wage increases in 10 North Dakota counties did not keep pace with inflation (Table 2).

Figure 1. Average Wage Per Job in North Dakota and the U.S. 1970 to 2004



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

Table 1. Average Wage Per Job in ND, Surrounding States, & the U.S. by Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA): 1998 to 2004

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), Regional Economic Information System (REIS), Table CA34, [www.bea.gov/region/reis](http://www.bea.gov/region/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	2004	2003-2004	1998-2004
<b>North Dakota</b>	<b>22,633</b>	<b>23,373</b>	<b>24,348</b>	<b>25,365</b>	<b>26,269</b>	<b>27,400</b>	<b>28,741</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>27.0</b>
(Non-Metropolitan Portion)	20,833	21,424	22,353	23,449	24,244	25,287	26,538	4.9	27.4
(Metropolitan Portion)	24,240	25,090	26,089	27,021	27,995	29,165	30,552	4.8	26.0
Bismarck, ND MSA	23,859	24,431	25,419	26,697	27,493	29,000	30,343	4.6	27.2
Fargo, ND-MN MSA	24,475	25,418	26,419	27,288	28,377	29,461	30,907	4.9	26.3
Grand Forks, ND-MN MSA	22,579	23,153	24,095	24,803	25,815	26,660	27,733	4.0	22.8
<b>Minnesota</b>	<b>31,393</b>	<b>32,708</b>	<b>34,660</b>	<b>35,801</b>	<b>36,670</b>	<b>37,788</b>	<b>39,551</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>26.0</b>
(Non-Metropolitan Portion)	22,787	23,593	24,608	25,362	26,370	27,123	28,300	4.3	24.2
(Metropolitan Portion)	33,971	35,410	37,609	38,858	39,731	40,962	42,891	4.7	26.3
Duluth, MN-WI MSA	25,912	26,988	28,041	29,157	30,357	30,937	32,281	4.3	24.6
Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN-WI MSA	35,110	36,645	39,005	40,277	41,101	42,400	44,415	4.8	26.5
Rochester, MN MSA	31,387	33,038	34,204	35,658	36,997	38,127	39,565	3.8	26.1
St. Cloud, MN MSA	25,700	25,691	26,876	27,699	28,981	29,783	31,094	4.4	21.0
<b>Montana</b>	<b>22,445</b>	<b>23,057</b>	<b>24,084</b>	<b>24,959</b>	<b>25,923</b>	<b>26,814</b>	<b>27,721</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>23.5</b>
(Non-Metropolitan Portion)	21,661	22,165	23,126	24,015	24,960	25,830	26,686	3.3	23.2
(Metropolitan Portion)	23,600	24,356	25,485	26,323	27,308	28,237	29,230	3.5	23.9
Billings, MT MSA	24,373	25,125	26,309	27,469	28,184	29,108	30,334	4.2	24.5
Great Falls, MT MSA	23,159	23,907	24,657	25,034	26,337	27,482	28,542	3.9	23.2
Missoula, MT MSA	22,847	23,610	24,942	25,672	26,783	27,570	28,185	2.2	23.4
<b>South Dakota</b>	<b>22,262</b>	<b>23,222</b>	<b>24,323</b>	<b>25,151</b>	<b>26,043</b>	<b>26,943</b>	<b>28,035</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>25.9</b>
(Non-Metropolitan Portion)	19,768	20,539	21,519	22,259	23,034	23,807	24,875	4.5	25.8
(Metropolitan Portion)	24,891	25,979	27,161	28,060	29,033	30,024	31,147	3.7	25.1
Rapid City, SD MSA	22,166	23,315	24,339	25,486	26,792	27,606	28,504	3.3	28.6
Sioux Falls, SD MSA	25,250	26,278	27,356	28,425	29,474	30,662	31,837	3.8	26.1
<b>United States</b>	<b>31,411</b>	<b>32,774</b>	<b>34,718</b>	<b>35,582</b>	<b>36,150</b>	<b>37,173</b>	<b>38,798</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>23.5</b>
(Non-Metropolitan Portion)	23,173	23,867	24,754	25,510	26,292	27,072	28,145	4.0	21.5
(Metropolitan Portion)	32,794	34,252	36,352	37,223	37,761	38,824	40,534	4.4	23.6

**Table 2. Average Wage Per Job in North Dakota by County: 1998 to 2004**

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

Area	Average Wage Per Job (Dollars)							Percent Change	
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2003-2004	1998-2004
North Dakota	22,633	23,373	24,348	25,365	26,269	27,400	28,741	4.9	27.0
Adams	18,529	19,360	19,733	21,353	21,563	22,078	22,948	3.9	23.8
Barnes	18,421	18,860	19,348	19,875	20,817	21,772	23,160	6.4	25.7
Benson	17,698	19,003	21,183	22,557	23,180	23,541	24,827	5.5	40.3
Billings	14,749	15,347	16,739	17,862	17,534	19,626	20,262	3.2	37.4
Bottineau	17,079	17,241	18,444	19,215	19,884	20,737	22,446	8.2	31.4
Bowman	17,245	17,046	18,012	19,933	20,771	22,792	23,135	1.5	34.2
Burke	19,026	19,568	21,086	22,055	22,614	25,292	26,296	4.0	38.2
Burleigh	24,144	24,697	25,731	26,901	27,817	29,408	30,887	5.0	27.9
Cass	25,126	26,215	27,215	28,085	29,143	30,184	31,761	5.2	26.4
Cavalier	19,079	20,150	20,305	21,988	22,613	23,147	23,997	3.7	25.8
Dickey	17,774	18,325	18,839	19,597	20,354	21,348	22,998	7.7	29.4
Divide	14,084	14,776	15,843	17,208	18,788	19,889	20,215	1.6	43.5
Dunn	18,618	18,830	20,105	20,853	20,568	22,151	22,259	0.5	19.6
Eddy	16,996	17,808	18,536	18,168	19,036	19,392	20,347	4.9	19.7
Emmons	16,274	16,731	17,673	18,468	18,780	19,914	21,777	9.4	33.8
Foster	19,087	19,842	21,482	22,140	23,370	24,795	25,967	4.7	36.0
Golden Valley	17,856	16,645	17,336	17,396	17,800	18,252	20,167	10.5	12.9
Grand Forks	22,929	23,595	24,544	25,148	26,192	27,186	28,202	3.7	23.0
Grant	15,983	15,714	16,499	17,369	18,439	19,211	20,386	6.1	27.5
Griggs	18,010	19,047	20,535	20,509	20,669	21,128	22,272	5.4	23.7
Hettinger	16,844	17,822	18,405	19,498	19,752	20,394	21,600	5.9	28.2
Kidder	15,948	16,306	17,502	18,971	19,552	20,382	21,281	4.4	33.4
LaMoure	16,310	16,478	17,711	18,546	19,303	21,011	22,586	7.5	38.5
Logan	14,320	14,916	15,788	17,001	17,938	18,173	18,281	0.6	27.7
McHenry	17,268	18,041	18,440	20,359	20,070	20,998	22,268	6.0	29.0
McIntosh	15,621	15,998	16,997	17,981	18,977	19,260	20,146	4.6	29.0
McKenzie	20,615	21,299	22,449	23,759	23,391	24,684	25,653	3.9	24.4
McLean	23,902	25,199	25,006	26,162	27,243	28,125	30,155	7.2	26.2
Mercer	32,830	33,500	35,050	37,140	36,729	38,284	41,057	7.2	25.1
Morton	22,539	23,205	23,947	25,713	25,914	27,016	27,691	2.5	22.9
Mountrail	18,689	19,792	20,651	21,142	22,654	24,994	27,671	10.7	48.1
Nelson	17,097	17,334	17,409	18,426	20,158	20,345	20,349	0.0	19.0
Oliver	38,425	38,627	40,904	44,456	40,498	41,084	44,773	9.0	16.5
Pembina	24,158	24,914	25,308	26,482	27,162	27,894	28,385	1.8	17.5
Pierce	17,916	17,715	18,003	19,896	20,917	22,917	23,755	3.7	32.6
Ramsey	18,345	18,812	19,465	20,656	21,110	21,914	23,020	5.0	25.5
Ransom	18,860	20,011	21,827	22,905	24,022	24,288	25,164	3.6	33.4
Renville	17,673	17,586	19,024	20,457	20,887	21,436	22,970	7.2	30.0
Richland	22,528	23,432	24,329	25,078	25,868	26,543	27,584	3.9	22.4
Rolette	20,741	20,949	21,726	22,518	22,808	24,287	25,646	5.6	23.6
Sargent	29,763	32,738	33,475	33,231	34,995	38,809	39,512	1.8	32.8
Sheridan	17,495	20,421	19,064	19,549	19,689	21,231	20,723	-2.4	18.5
Sioux	21,502	22,609	23,657	25,436	25,751	27,379	29,012	6.0	34.9
Slope	17,022	16,086	18,094	20,236	21,274	21,097	23,067	9.3	35.5
Stark	20,024	20,447	21,144	22,318	23,160	24,199	24,922	3.0	24.5
Steele	20,538	21,036	22,617	23,067	23,008	23,896	25,164	5.3	22.5
Stutsman	21,091	21,507	22,751	23,849	24,567	25,232	26,409	4.7	25.2
Towner	18,995	18,982	19,596	20,073	20,545	20,531	21,581	5.1	13.6
Traill	19,984	20,282	21,622	22,269	22,954	23,776	24,760	4.1	23.9
Walsh	18,845	19,347	19,926	21,121	21,949	21,992	23,261	5.8	23.4
Ward	22,340	23,122	24,024	24,876	26,443	27,326	28,451	4.1	27.4
Wells	17,743	18,596	18,985	20,024	20,809	21,246	22,012	3.6	24.1
Williams	21,131	20,798	22,228	24,438	24,462	26,266	28,158	7.2	33.3