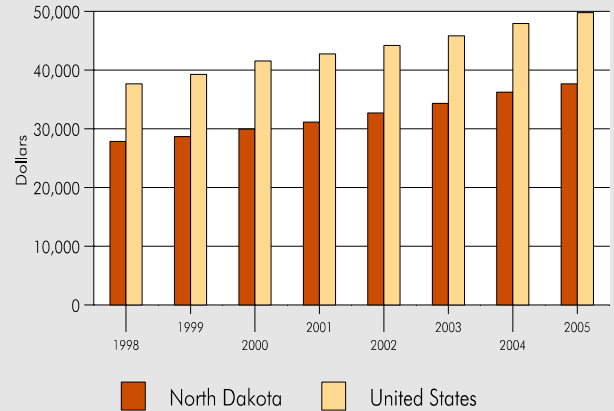


Average Compensation Per Job in North Dakota: 2005

The average compensation per job in North Dakota rose to \$37,635 in 2005, an increase of 4.4 percent per year, on average, since 1998. Nationally, compensation per job rose an average of 4.1 percent annually between 1998 and 2005, reaching \$49,775 (Table 1). Compensation of employees consists of wage and salary disbursements (79.2 percent) and supplements to wages and salaries (i.e., employer contributions to employee pension and insurance funds and employer contributions for government social insurance; 20.8 percent). On average, employer contributions in North Dakota grew faster than actual wages and salaries between 1998 and 2005. Employer contributions in the state grew an average of 7.1 percent annually since 1998; wages and salaries grew an average of 5.1 percent.

Average compensation received in North Dakota was 24.4 percent below the national average in 2005 (Figure 1). Three other states had lower averages than North Dakota: Mississippi (\$37,349), Montana (\$37,019), and South Dakota (\$36,123). Connecticut had the highest average compensation per job in 2005 (\$63,279), followed by New York (\$62,069) and Massachusetts (\$59,642).

Figure 1. Average Compensation Per Job in North Dakota and the United States: 1998 to 2005



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, BEA, REIS, Table CA06.

Table 1. Average Compensation Per Job in North Dakota, Surrounding States, and the United States by MSA: 1998 to 2005

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), Regional Economic Information System (REIS), Table CA06, www.bea.gov/bea/regional/reis. Note: MSA - Metropolitan Statistical Areas defined by the Office of Management and Budget.

Area	Average Compensation Per Job (Dollars)								Annual Average % Change: 1998-2005
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	
North Dakota	27,844	28,678	29,923	31,131	32,697	34,342	36,234	37,635	4.4
(Non-Metropolitan Portion)	25,900	26,597	27,808	29,109	30,582	32,183	34,038	35,677	4.7
(Metropolitan Portion)	29,578	30,511	31,769	32,880	34,500	36,145	38,044	39,221	4.1
Bismarck, ND MSA	28,858	29,496	30,753	32,293	33,621	35,606	37,486	38,557	4.2
Fargo, ND-MN MSA	29,498	30,590	31,850	32,898	34,646	36,166	38,088	39,204	4.2
Grand Forks, ND-MN MSA	28,222	28,793	30,006	30,834	32,535	33,855	35,444	36,277	3.7
Minnesota	37,330	38,888	41,252	42,809	44,490	46,102	48,433	49,202	4.0
(Non-Metropolitan Portion)	27,356	28,342	29,627	30,658	32,378	33,519	35,112	35,644	3.9
(Metropolitan Portion)	40,318	42,014	44,663	46,368	48,089	49,837	52,378	53,194	4.0
Duluth, MN-WI MSA	31,205	32,486	33,828	35,331	37,213	38,177	39,928	40,349	3.7
Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN-WI MSA	41,649	43,453	46,289	48,019	49,721	51,509	54,168	55,063	4.1
Rochester, MN MSA	37,157	39,110	40,551	42,581	44,671	47,023	48,887	49,694	4.2
St. Cloud, MN MSA	30,653	30,668	32,130	33,337	35,354	36,684	38,403	38,747	3.4
Montana	27,644	28,322	29,658	30,809	32,432	33,757	35,196	37,019	4.3
(Non-Metropolitan Portion)	26,761	27,322	28,586	29,757	31,291	32,622	34,053	35,971	4.3
(Metropolitan Portion)	28,944	29,778	31,225	32,330	34,074	35,402	36,863	38,564	4.2
Billings, MT MSA	29,572	30,389	31,884	33,372	34,845	36,022	37,752	39,785	4.3
Great Falls, MT MSA	29,181	30,082	31,144	31,680	33,849	35,587	37,382	38,729	4.1
Missoula, MT MSA	27,868	28,693	30,364	31,367	33,169	34,430	35,288	36,754	4.0
South Dakota	26,899	28,036	29,397	30,468	32,045	33,316	34,831	36,123	4.3
(Non-Metropolitan Portion)	24,045	24,988	26,206	27,215	28,602	29,772	31,276	32,541	4.4
(Metropolitan Portion)	29,907	31,167	32,627	33,741	35,467	36,801	38,338	39,657	4.1
Rapid City, SD MSA	27,272	28,634	29,905	31,380	33,480	34,691	36,093	37,215	4.5
Sioux Falls, SD MSA	30,022	31,220	32,526	33,874	35,683	37,203	38,731	40,356	4.3
United States	37,662	39,242	41,541	42,742	44,172	45,837	47,905	49,775	4.1
(Non-Metropolitan Portion)	26,735	27,502	28,520	31,083	32,589	34,023	35,396	36,762	4.7
(Metropolitan Portion)	39,600	41,302	43,801	44,634	46,057	47,761	49,936	51,877	3.9

Table 2. Average Compensation Per Job in North Dakota by County: 1998 to 2005

Note: Compensation of employees consists of wage and salary disbursements and supplements to wages and salaries (i.e., employer contributions to employee pension and insurance funds and employer contributions for government social insurance).

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), Regional Economic Information System (REIS), Table CA06, www.bea.gov/bea/regional/reis.

Area	Average Compensation Per Job (Dollars)								Annual Average % Change: 1998-2005
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	
North Dakota	27,844	28,678	29,923	31,131	32,697	34,342	36,234	37,635	4.4
Adams	22,305	23,235	23,786	25,464	25,992	26,851	28,144	29,354	4.0
Barnes	22,519	23,058	23,670	24,287	25,752	27,114	29,002	30,072	4.2
Benson	23,463	25,088	27,886	29,597	30,661	31,397	33,627	34,995	5.9
Billings	18,594	19,354	21,157	22,764	22,368	25,226	26,120	28,884	6.6
Bottineau	21,085	21,245	22,773	23,583	24,697	26,060	28,369	30,617	5.5
Bowman	21,015	20,682	21,936	24,017	25,367	28,186	28,748	30,775	5.7
Burke	24,278	24,982	27,049	28,303	29,527	33,413	35,403	38,539	6.9
Burleigh	29,110	29,724	31,033	32,426	33,829	35,951	37,968	38,942	4.3
Cass	30,311	31,565	32,818	33,862	35,595	37,082	39,130	40,401	4.2
Cavalier	23,253	24,538	24,784	26,687	27,847	28,687	30,014	32,068	4.7
Dickey	21,444	22,071	22,766	23,581	24,897	26,434	28,445	29,356	4.6
Divide	17,400	18,230	19,562	21,046	23,223	24,659	25,311	27,296	6.7
Dunn	23,121	23,415	24,999	25,786	25,798	28,173	28,526	30,455	4.1
Eddy	21,212	22,228	23,102	22,370	23,768	24,309	25,579	26,427	3.2
Emmons	19,931	20,506	21,676	22,447	23,135	24,683	27,082	28,103	5.1
Foster	23,155	24,066	26,083	26,820	28,902	30,544	32,368	34,001	5.7
Golden Valley	21,795	20,422	21,420	21,364	22,071	22,870	25,450	27,018	3.2
Grand Forks	28,993	29,620	30,845	31,531	33,309	34,842	36,433	37,518	3.8
Grant	19,894	19,567	20,570	21,643	23,201	24,334	26,038	27,467	4.8
Griggs	22,059	23,176	24,986	24,772	25,349	25,918	27,494	28,910	4.0
Hettinger	20,905	22,190	22,877	24,055	24,662	25,685	27,350	28,131	4.3
Kidder	19,805	20,222	21,726	23,342	24,434	26,021	27,179	28,595	5.4
LaMoure	20,223	20,420	21,945	22,848	24,216	26,613	28,622	30,557	6.1
Logan	17,747	18,473	19,494	20,876	22,319	22,877	23,259	25,226	5.2
McHenry	21,993	23,013	23,612	25,938	26,135	27,406	29,450	32,652	5.9
McIntosh	19,025	19,465	20,772	21,858	23,338	23,916	25,265	26,039	4.6
McKenzie	26,162	27,003	28,546	30,044	29,985	31,906	33,362	35,635	4.5
McLean	29,602	31,225	31,064	32,586	34,482	36,152	38,760	40,948	4.8
Mercer	39,965	40,707	42,807	45,670	46,326	49,386	52,914	53,338	4.2
Morton	27,697	28,446	29,431	31,649	32,605	33,925	35,136	36,631	4.1
Mountrail	23,339	24,635	25,760	26,206	28,445	31,561	35,139	35,754	6.3
Nelson	20,990	21,319	21,553	22,612	25,173	25,735	25,755	27,182	3.8
Oliver	47,111	47,341	50,429	55,193	51,493	53,419	58,329	56,510	2.8
Pembina	30,468	31,285	31,791	33,144	35,170	36,682	36,555	38,497	3.4
Pierce	21,831	21,498	21,679	23,991	25,562	28,369	29,478	30,413	4.9
Ramsey	22,400	22,965	23,800	25,214	26,107	27,188	28,831	30,598	4.6
Ransom	23,137	24,551	26,953	28,222	30,133	30,758	31,865	34,280	5.8
Renville	21,656	21,583	23,332	24,865	25,664	26,693	28,731	30,638	5.1
Richland	27,653	28,672	29,876	30,712	32,235	33,281	34,932	36,679	4.1
Rolette	26,946	27,171	28,310	29,805	30,578	32,515	34,770	36,136	4.3
Sargent	36,120	39,691	40,819	40,463	43,669	49,367	51,082	51,687	5.4
Sheridan	21,952	25,685	24,097	24,480	25,169	27,417	26,989	30,132	4.9
Sioux	28,838	30,250	31,813	34,135	34,756	36,903	39,544	40,703	5.1
Slope	21,111	20,234	22,693	25,181	26,984	27,492	30,934	33,733	7.1
Stark	24,379	24,871	25,773	27,104	28,447	30,074	31,245	32,901	4.4
Steele	25,226	25,938	27,797	28,139	28,589	30,301	32,466	34,675	4.7
Stutsman	25,559	25,994	27,551	28,934	30,307	31,184	32,755	34,211	4.3
Towner	23,230	23,198	24,031	24,520	25,492	25,636	27,375	29,351	3.4
Traill	24,366	24,724	26,414	26,917	28,222	29,345	30,913	32,456	4.2
Walsh	23,005	23,596	24,345	25,739	27,115	27,365	29,365	31,270	4.5
Ward	28,715	29,660	30,847	31,847	34,436	35,911	37,936	39,264	4.6
Wells	21,795	22,836	23,353	24,431	25,707	26,354	27,831	29,644	4.5
Williams	25,642	25,205	27,009	29,491	29,838	32,277	34,735	38,387	6.0

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Growth in North Dakota Average Compensation Per Job

The average compensation per job in North Dakota rose to \$37,635 in 2005, an increase of 4.4 percent per year, on average, since 1998. Compensation of employees consists of wage and salary disbursements and employer contributions to employee pension and insurance funds and for government social insurance. On average, employer contributions in North Dakota grew faster than actual wages and salaries between 1998 and 2005. Employer contributions in the state grew an average of 7.1 percent annually since 1998; wages and salaries grew an average of 5.1 percent.

This month's "Population Bulletin," a monthly publication from the North Dakota State Data Center at North Dakota State University, focuses on average compensation per job data released from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) at www.bea.gov. BEA provides compensation data for the nation, states, counties, and metropolitan areas throughout the nation. Nationally, compensation per job rose an average of 4.1 percent per year between 1998 and 2005, reaching \$49,775. This rate of growth was higher than inflation which grew 2.6 percent per year on average since 1998.

While compensation in North Dakota is experiencing consistent and positive growth, the average compensation of \$37,635 earned in North Dakota still lags behind most states and was 24.4 percent below the national average of \$49,775 in 2005. Three other states had lower averages than North Dakota: Mississippi (\$37,349), Montana (\$37,019), and South Dakota (\$36,123). Connecticut had the highest average compensation per job in 2005 (\$63,279), followed by New York (\$62,069) and Massachusetts (\$59,642).

"This is the first time that overall compensation figures have been released by the BEA. What I find most intriguing about the new data is that states ranking lowest in average wage and salary disbursements are among the highest in terms of the proportion that employer contributions comprise of total compensation. Furthermore, North Dakota ranks 12th highest in the proportion that employer contributions comprise of total compensation (20.8 percent), while Connecticut, New York, and Massachusetts rank in the bottom six states at less than 18.2 percent," said Richard Rathge, Director of the State Data Center.

<p>North Dakota State Data Center North Dakota State University IACC Building, Room 424 or PO Box 5636 Fargo, North Dakota 58105-5636 Ph: (701) 231-7980 Fax: (701) 231-9730</p>	<p>For more information, contact:</p> <p>Dr. Richard Rathge, Director (701) 231-8621 richard.rathge@ndsu.edu</p>	<p>Karen Olson, Information Specialist (701) 231-1060 k.olson@ndsu.edu</p>	<p>View publication online at: www.ndsu.edu/sdc/publications.htm</p>
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