

-Understanding The Community In Which We Live - Grafton, ND

Community Profiles Generated for the Northwest Area Foundation Horizons Program to Assist in Understanding Poverty
 Prepared by the North Dakota State Data Center at North Dakota State University, an Equal Opportunity Institution - April 2004

Table 1. Demographics

DEMOGRAPHICS	Grafton, ND		Walsh County, ND					
	Census		Census		Projections			
	1990	2000	1990	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
Total Population	4,840	4,489	13,840	12,389	11,621	11,239	10,776	10,336
AGE:								
Ages 0 to 19	1,393	1,189	4,113	3,400	2,960	2,681	2,447	2,315
Percent of Total Population	28.8	26.5	29.7	27.4	25.5	23.9	22.7	22.4
Ages 65 and Older	854	863	2,604	2,414	2,235	2,327	2,520	2,776
Percent of Total Population	17.6	19.2	18.8	19.5	19.2	20.7	23.4	26.9
RACE*								
White	4,624	4,150	13,501	11,811				
Percent of Total Population	95.5	92.4	97.6	95.3				
Black or African American	19	0	40	4				
Percent of Total Population	0.4	0.0	0.3	0.0				
American Indian or Alaska Native	70	55	92	134				
Percent of Total Population	1.4	1.2	0.7	1.1				
Asian/Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	36	0	52	7				
Percent of Total Population	0.7	0.0	0.4	0.1				
Other	91	244	155	303				
Percent of Total Population	1.9	5.4	1.1	2.4				

Note:*Racial reporting procedures changed with the 2000 Census, allowing persons to report multiple races. The categories listed above for 2000 represent those persons who reported 'one race only'.
 Data Sources: AGE - U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 Census, Summary Tape File 3 (STF3) Table P13, <<http://factfinder.census.gov/>>; 2000 Census, Summary File 3 (SF3) Table P8, <<http://factfinder.census.gov/>>; North Dakota State Data Center, *North Dakota Population Projections: 2005 to 2020-Including County Distributions by Age and Gender*, Issued September 2002, <<http://www.ndsu.nodak.edu/sdc/data/projections.htm>>; Minnesota Department of Administration, State and Community Services, State Demographic Center, Estimates and Projections, <http://www.demography.state.mn.us/demog_03.html>; RACE - U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 Census, Summary Tape File 3 (STF3) Table P8; 2000 Census, Summary File 3 (SF3) Table P6.

- The total population in Grafton has decreased modestly over the past decade as has the overall county population of Walsh.
- Future projections suggest that Walsh County will continue to lose residents.
- Nearly one in every five residents in Grafton and in Walsh County is at least 65 years of age. It is expected that by the year 2020, seniors 65 years of age and over will account for nearly 27 percent of the county's total population.
- The racial mix of residents in Grafton city and Walsh County remains predominately white. However, over the past decade there has been growth in diversity.

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Table 2. Housing

HOUSING	Grafton, ND				Walsh County, ND			
	1990		2000		1990		2000	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total Housing Units	2,033	100.0	1,998	100.0	6,093	100.0	5,757	100.0
Occupied Housing Units	1,828	100.0	1,797	100.0	5,229	100.0	5,029	100.0
Owner-Occupied Housing Units	1,184	64.8	1,177	65.5	3,921	75.0	3,863	76.8
Renter-Occupied Housing Units	644	35.2	620	34.5	1,308	25.0	1,166	23.2
Vacant Housing Units	205	100.0	201	100.0	864	100.0	728	100.0
For Rent	111	54.1	96	47.8	194	22.5	158	21.7
For Sale Only	33	16.1	36	17.9	121	14.0	166	22.8
Rented or Sold, Not Occupied	7	3.4	16	8.0	112	13.0	69	9.5
For Seasonal, Recreational, or Occasional use	8	3.9	16	8.0	47	5.4	88	12.1
For Migrant Workers	10	4.9	23	11.4	134	15.5	125	17.2
Other Vacant	36	17.6	14	7.0	256	29.6	122	16.8
Median Value for Specified Owner-Occupied Housing Units (Dollars)	\$51,700		\$61,400		\$42,000		\$52,100	
Median Year Housing Structure Built (All Housing Units)	1964		1964		1958		1961	
Median Price Asked for Specified Vacant-for-sale-only Housing Units (Dollars)			\$67,500				\$15,600	

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 Census, Summary Tape File 3 (STF3) Tables H1, H8, H61A, and H25A, Summary Tape File 1 (STF1) Table H5, <<http://factfinder.census.gov/>>; 2000 Census, Summary File 3 (SF3) Tables H1, H7, H8, H76, H35, and H88, <<http://factfinder.census.gov/>>.

- The total number of housing units in Grafton city and Walsh County has declined slightly during the past decade.
- The housing unit mix in Grafton city and Walsh County mirror larger regional trends with owner-occupied housing accounting for roughly two of three units in Grafton and three of four housing units in Walsh County.
- Nearly half of the vacant housing units in Grafton city are for rent, a proportion more than twice the level for the overall county.
- Migrant housing represents a significant and growing proportion of the vacant housing in Grafton city. It currently accounts for more than 11 percent of vacancies, twice the proportion from ten years ago. In contrast, the number of vacant migrant housing units in Walsh County has declined over the past decade, although the proportion it represents has increased. Nonetheless, it still represents 17 percent of all vacant units.
- Seasonal housing vacancies have doubled in both Grafton city and Walsh County over the past decade.
- The median value of an owner-occupied home in Grafton was \$61,400 in 2000 compared to \$52,100 in Walsh County.
- The majority of housing units built in both Grafton city and Walsh County are relatively new with half the homes built after 1960.

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Table 3. Income and Poverty

INCOME AND POVERTY	Grafton, ND		Walsh County, ND	
	1990	2000	1990	2000
Median Household Income (Dollars)	\$22,122	\$33,231	\$21,973	\$33,845
Per Capita Personal Income (Dollars)	\$12,094	\$16,644	\$10,766	\$16,496
Persons in Poverty	631	534	1,788	1,331
Percent of Persons in Poverty	14.2	12.2	13.4	10.9
Persons Ages 0 to 17 in Poverty	278	122	709	384
Percent of Persons 0 to 17 in Poverty	22.3	11.7	18.8	12.6
Persons Ages 65 and Older in Poverty	94	55	285	195
Percent of Persons Ages 65 and Older Poverty	13.2	7.1	12.0	8.8

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 Census, Summary Tape File 3 (STF3) Tables P80A, P114A, and P117, <<http://factfinder.census.gov/>>; 2000 Census, Summary File 3 (SF3) Tables P53, P82, and P87, <<http://factfinder.census.gov/>>.

- Income levels for Grafton city and Walsh County are relatively the same. Per capita personal income for both was roughly \$16,500 which is 6 percent below the statewide average of \$17,769 and 23 percent below the national average of \$21,587.
- Approximately 12 percent of the residents in Grafton are in poverty, a proportion that has declined over the past decade.
- The number and proportion of children impoverished in Grafton has been cut in half since 1990, dropping from 22.3 percent in 1990 to 11.7 percent in 2000. A similar, but less dramatic decline in elderly poor also occurred during the same time period.

Table 4. Spiritual

SPIRITUAL	Grafton, ND		Walsh County, ND	
	1990	2000	1990	2000
Number of Churches, Synagogues, Mosques, Temples			50	46
Full-Time Members			4,972	4,872
Number of Attendees				1,993

Data Sources: *Religious Congregations and Membership in the United States 2000: An Enumeration by Region, State and County Based on Data Reported by 49 Religious Bodies*. Nashville, TN: Glenmary Research Center, 2002; *Churches and Church Membership in the United States 1990: An Enumeration by Region, State and County Based on Data Reported for 133 Church Groupings*. Atlanta, GA: Glenmary Research Center, 1992.

- The number of churches and synagogues in Walsh County has declined slightly over the past ten years. Nonetheless, approximately 40 percent of the residents are full-time members of a church or synagogue, a proportion among the highest in the country.

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Table 5. Health

HEALTH	Walsh County, ND		
	2000	2001	2002
Total Births	147	131	125
Birth Rate (Births Per 1,000 Persons)	11.87	10.57	10.09
Births to Teenage Mothers	16	18	14
Total Deaths	142	159	161
Death Rate (Deaths Per 100,000 Persons)	1,146.18	1,283.40	1,299.54
Deaths Due to Suicide	NR	NR	0
Deaths Due to Cancer	30	38	40
Deaths Due to Heart Disease	55	37	49
Foster Care Placements	19	24	
Adoptions			

Data Sources: BIRTHS and DEATHS - North Dakota Department of Health, Vital Records, <<http://www.vitalnd.com/>>; Minnesota Department of Health, Health Data and Statistics, <<http://www.health.state.mn.us/stats.htm>>; South Dakota Department of Health, Vital Records, <<http://www.state.sd.us/doh/Stats/vstats.htm>>; FOSTER CARE and ADOPTIONS - North Dakota Department of Human Services, Children and Family Services Division, <<http://www.state.nd.us/humanservices/info/pubs/family.html>>; Minnesota Department of Human Services, Children and Family Services, <<http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/CFS/Research/outofhome.htm>> and <<http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/default.htm>>; South Dakota Department of Social Services, <<http://www.state.sd.us/social/>>.
Note: NR indicates that data are not reported (event number may be less than 5).

- The number of births in Walsh County continues to decline, dropping from 147 in 2000 to 125 in 2002. For perspective, the number of births in Walsh County 20 years earlier was 268. During the peak of the babyboom period in 1955 there were 465 births in Walsh County.
- The number of deaths occurring in the county continues to rise as the proportion of elderly (residents 65 and over) increases. Not surprisingly, therefore, major contributors to death include heart disease and cancer.

Table 6. Labor Force

LABOR FORCE	Grafton, ND		Walsh County, ND	
	1990	2000	1990	2000
Persons 16 Years and Older	3,670	3,593	10,418	9,778
In Labor Force	2,267	2,409	6,403	6,222
Civilian Employed	2,128	2,162	6,066	5,834
Civilian Unemployed	128	247	324	388
Unemployed as Percent of Civilian Labor Force	5.7	10.3	5.1	6.2
Not in Labor Force	1,403	1,184	4,015	3,556

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 Census, Summary Tape File 3 (STF3) Table P70, <<http://factfinder.census.gov/>>; 2000 Census, Summary File 3 (SF3) Table P43, <<http://factfinder.census.gov/>>.

- The labor pool in Grafton has increased modestly over the past 10 years while it has declined in the overall county. As the proportion of youth declines relative to seniors, labor declines are expected to intensify.
- The unemployment rate nearly doubled in Grafton between 1990 and 2000, while it increased slightly in the overall county during the same time period. In 2000, the unemployment rate in Grafton was 10.3 percent, nearly three times higher than the statewide average of 3.0 percent.

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Table 7. Employment by Gender and Industry

EMPLOYMENT BY GENDER AND INDUSTRY	Grafton, ND				Walsh County, ND			
	1990		2000		1990		2000	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total Employment of Persons 16 Years and Older	2,128	100.0	2,162	100.0	6,066	100.0	5,834	100.0
Females	984	46.2	1,100	50.9	2,631	43.4	2,766	47.4
Males	1,144	53.8	1,062	49.1	3,435	56.6	3,068	52.6
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting, and	159	7.5	180	8.3	1,266	20.9	882	15.1
Manufacturing	121	5.7	177	8.2	276	4.6	550	9.4
Services	881	41.4	1,002	46.3	2,178	35.9	2,310	39.6

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 Census, Summary Tape File 3 (STF3) Tables P70 and P77, <<http://factfinder.census.gov/>>; 2000 Census, Summary File 3 (SF3) Tables P43 and P49, <<http://factfinder.census.gov/>>.

- The proportion of women employed in Grafton has dramatically increased over time. In 2000, the difference in employment rates between men and women in the city was relatively small with roughly half of both men and women 16 years and over in Grafton employed. Nearly half of these workers were in the service sector.

Table 8. Educational Attainment

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT	Grafton, ND				Walsh County, ND			
	1990		2000		1990		2000	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Persons 25 Years and Older	3,180	100.0	3,099	100.0	9,142	100.0	8,530	100.0
Less than 9 th Grade	769	24.2	494	15.9	2,036	22.3	1,207	14.2
9 th to 12 th Grade, no Diploma	274	8.6	323	10.4	894	9.8	788	9.2
High School Graduate (includes equivalency)	901	28.3	1,060	34.2	2,860	31.3	2,736	32.1
Some College, no Degree	477	15.0	648	20.9	1,407	15.4	2,062	24.2
Associate Degree	278	8.7	166	5.4	760	8.3	604	7.1
Bachelor's Degree	347	10.9	312	10.1	913	10.0	931	10.9
Graduate or Professional Degree	134	4.2	96	3.1	272	3.0	202	2.4

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 Census, Summary Tape File 3 (STF3) Table P57, <<http://factfinder.census.gov/>>; 2000 Census, Summary File 3 (SF3) Table P37, <<http://factfinder.census.gov/>>.

- Education levels among Grafton residents have increased significantly over the past decade. Only about one in four residents did not graduate from high school, most of whom are elderly residents. In contrast, nearly 21 percent of residents have attended college with 10 percent earning a Bachelor's degree. Slightly more than 3 percent hold a graduate or professional degree.

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Table 9. Enrollment by Grade Level and Race/Hispanic Origin

ENROLLMENT BY GRADE LEVEL AND RACE/HISPANIC ORIGIN	Grafton, ND School District		
	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003
Total K-12 Enrollment	1,010	958	911
K-8	682	655	609
9-12	328	303	302
K-12 Enrollment by Race/Hispanic Origin:	1,010	958	911
White	853	788	748
Black	12	3	6
American Indian	3	16	9
Asian/Pacific Islander	4	7	4
Hispanic Origin	138	144	144
High School Graduation Rates	98.7	100.0	83.7
High School Dropouts		5	5
Student/Teacher Ratio	20.4	22.0	21.7
Percent of Students Meeting Proficiency Cutpoints in Reading		63.0	57.7
Percent of Students Meeting Proficiency Cutpoints in Math		37.6	35.2

Data Sources: North Dakota Department of Public Instruction, North Dakota School District Profiles, <<http://www.dpi.state.nd.us>>; Minnesota Department of Education, School Report Cards, <<http://education.state.mn.us>>; South Dakota Department of Education, <<http://www.state.sd.us/deca>>.

- Enrollment within the Grafton school district continues to decline reflecting the overall population losses in the county. Between 2000 and 2003, there was nearly a 10 percent drop in total enrollment with the greatest losses occurring in the K-8 grades.
- Although high school graduation rates fluctuate over time due to class size, the overall graduation rate for the school district is quite high.
- Student academic performance scores based on statewide proficiency standards show superior achievement in reading than math. More than half the students in the district were above the cutpoint for reading while roughly one-third were above the cutpoint for math.