



Growing ND by the Numbers

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Few 50 Hour-Per-Week Workers Are Poor

Only three percent of individuals who work at least 50 hours per week are estimated to be below the poverty line compared to 11 percent of those who work less than 50 hours per week.

Individuals below the poverty line working more than 50 hours per week are usually self-employed and involved in farming. As poverty statistics measure only income in the last year rather than net worth, it is possible to be both a millionaire and a poverty statistic if one has no income in the prior year. It also is possible many of these individuals suffered a bad year the year prior to being surveyed.

Source: Census Bureau ACS 2016 5-Yr PUMS Data

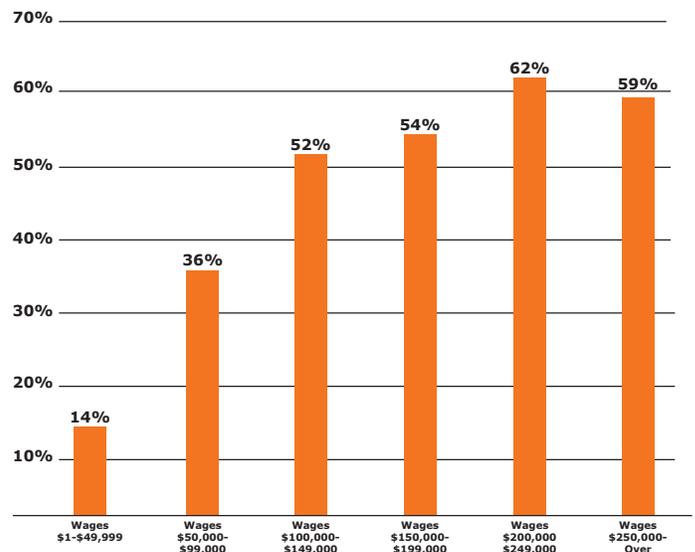
Percentage of North Dakotans Working 50 Hours Per Week or More is Above the National Average

Residents of North Dakota are reputed to be hard workers and have been seen as such for a long time. Data in the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) strongly supports this premise.

In North Dakota, 22 percent of employed individuals report working more than 50 hours per week. Not surprisingly, individuals who work more hours tend to report higher earnings. This figure includes 33 percent of men and nine percent of women who are employed. Overall, North Dakota is second only to Alaska in the percentage of workers who report working more than 50 hours per week. Nationally, about 17 percent of workers report working 50 hours or more per week. States with the lowest percentage of workers meeting this threshold were Nevada at 13 percent and New Mexico and Rhode Island at 14 percent.

Individuals that are self-employed are far more likely to work longer hours.

Percent of Individuals at \$50K Wage Range Working At Least 50 Hours Per Week



The higher the reported earning of an individual in North Dakota, the higher the percent that work at least 50 hours a week. Individuals who work 50 hours or more per week have a very low representation of those below the poverty line.

Source: Census Bureau ACS 2016 5-Yr PUMS Data

Approximately 48 percent of these individuals report putting in at least 50 hours per week. Fifty-seven percent of self-employed males and 28 percent of self-employed females report an average work week of 50 hours or more.

Employees of private for-profit firms also are

well represented in this group with approximately 21 percent (32 percent of males and eight percent of females) working more than 50 hours per week. A wide variety of occupations in North Dakota top the list where one-quarter or more

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North Dakotans in Most Age Groups Work More

In each 5-year age group, the number of hours that all workers in the US and those in North Dakota were compared. For all age groups under age 80 North Dakota workers put in about five percent more hours than their peers elsewhere. In the age range 20-24 years, the average number of hours worked was 33 compared to 37 for those of the same age range in North Dakota, a difference 12 percent.

Source: Census Bureau ACS 2016 5-Yr PUMS Data

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Statistics: North Dakotans Appear to Work Hard

The Census Bureau has published statistics annually in the American Community Survey (ACS) since 2005 for the primary work force age group, which is ages 16 to 64. These statistics cover: individuals worked or not; the number of weeks per year worked; and the typical number of hours per week worked by those individuals. Data from the ACS shows that North Dakotans exceed the national average and are at or near the top in a number of these labor statistics of the 50 states. Similar data from the Census long form used from 1970 through 2000 provide the same indications. North Dakota has the highest labor force participation rate for residents ages 16 and older at 70.5 percent for the time frame 2012-2016, compared to 63.5 percent nationally. North Dakota was closely followed by Alaska (70.4),

Nebraska (70) and Minnesota (69.9). West Virginia (54), Mississippi (58) and Alabama (57.9) were on the bottom of states' labor force participation.

In North Dakota for 2012-2016, 65.4 percent of individuals ages 16 to 64 worked 50 to 52 weeks each year on average, compared to 56.4 percent nationally for the same time frame. North Dakota was followed in this by Nebraska (65.3), South Dakota (64.8) and Minnesota and Iowa (64 each). When it comes to full-time work (measured at 35 hours per week or more), North Dakota again leads the pack with 68 percent working 35 hours or more, compared to 58 percent nationally.

Comparing the average number of hours worked per week by state, North Dakota is second at 44.4 hours.

Only Alaska at 45.6 hours per week has a higher percentage. However, when responding to the question "Did you work last week?" 69 percent of North Dakotans responded yes, higher than any other state, including Alaska at 65 percent. Nationally, 59 percent of respondents answered "yes."

The work force sex ratio is a contributing factor in the state's high level of work. Individuals ages 16 to 64 years is 52.6 percent male and 47.4 percent female. Nationally, males worked an average of 41 hours per week while females worked 35.9 hours per week. In North Dakota males worked an average of 46 hours per week while females worked on average 36 hours per week.

Source: Census Bureau ACS 2016 5-Yr Table S2301 and 1-Yr 2005 - 2016 Tables S2003 and PUMS data

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workers report putting in at least a 50-hour week. These include farmers, chief executives, oil derrick operators, diesel mechanics, construction equipment operators, truck drivers, food service managers, educational administrators, lawyers, railroad engineers and conductors, as well as

military officers and enlisted members. The levels of educational attainment appears to be a factor in the percentage of workers putting in long hours. An estimated 25 percent of those with a high school level of education, 22 percent of those have bachelor's degrees and

27 percent with graduate degrees work at least 50 hours per week. Twelve percent of individuals with no schooling and 15 percent with less than high school diploma report working 50 or more hours per week.

Source: Census Bureau ACS 2016 5-Yr PUMS Data

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