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What is the Small Area Income and Poverty Estimate?

SAIPE is a model-based statistical set that uses a combination of survey and administrative data to create an annual estimate of both income and poverty for states and counties. It was created as a means to provide an annual estimate of school-age children to support the distribution of Title I funds by the US Department of Education and provides breakout estimate for individuals of school age, 5-17 years of age. The smaller population of a given area, the greater the reliance on administrative data, such as tax returns. Larger populated areas tend to rely more on survey data for their results.

Source: Census Bureau SAIPE Methodology: www.census.gov/programs-surveys/saipe/technical-documentation/methodology.html

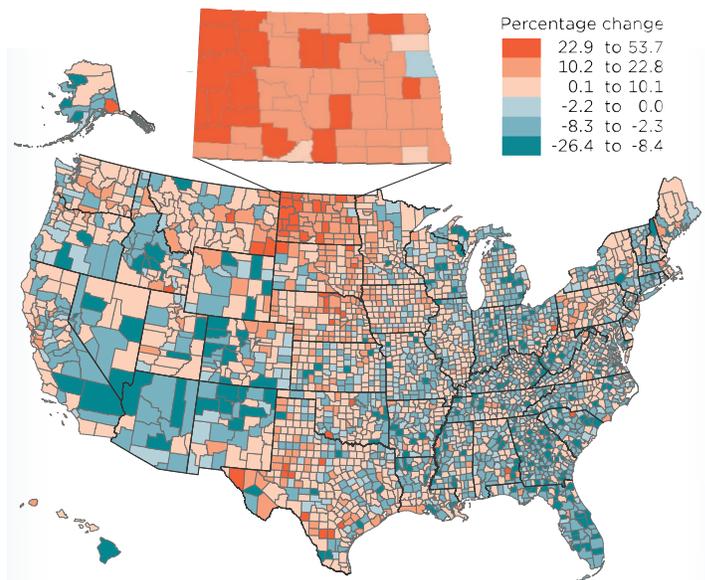
What a Change 10 Years Makes!

In December, the Census Bureau released its update of the Small Area Income and Poverty Estimate or SAIPE. Of 3,135 counties measured that existed both in 2007 to 2017, 11.3 percent saw a statistically significant increase in median household income while 7.5 percent saw a statistically significant decrease.

The timeframe from 2007 to 2017 is significant because it represents the years prior to and after the recession. Orange used on the chart represents those areas that saw an increase in median household income. The darker the color, the more significant the change.

North Dakota stands out as the state with the most counties positively impacted over this 10-year timeframe. The darker the orange, the more significant the increase observed. The darker the blue, the more significant the decrease observed. Fifty-two of North Dakota's fifty-three counties are shown in orange with the darkest orange, those areas with the greatest gains, tending to be in the western part of the state.

The 2017 estimate also showed the lowest percentage of North Dakotans in poverty since the first year of the model at 10.2 percent. This was eighth-lowest of the 50 states and considerably lower than the US estimate of 17.3



Source: Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers

percent for this year. According to the SAIPE model, in 2007, the median household income in North Dakota was \$42,936, significantly below the national median estimate of \$50,665. But by 2017, despite two years of economic slowdown in the state, the model shows North Dakota's median household income growing to \$63,392 and surpassing the national estimate of \$60,250. Not adjusting for inflation, North Dakota's median household income grew by 42 percent compared to 19 percent nationally.

In 2007, North Dakota counted 11 counties among the bottom

quintile (or one-fifth of counties) with the lowest median household income. They included Sioux, Sheridan, Benson, Rolette, Slope, Grant, Pierce, Emmons, Kidder, McIntosh and Logan counties. Conversely, the state had just three counties, Mercer, Burleigh and Sargent, in the top quintile.

From 2007 to 2017, both the U.S. and North Dakota's median household income increased every month. SAIPE shows North Dakota's figures below that of the U.S. in every year prior to 2011 and higher every year since. Flash forward to 2017. The

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Change in State, County Median Income in North Dakota 2007- 2017

The estimated overall median household income in North Dakota increased by 43 percent between 2007 and 2017, compared to 19 percent for the U.S. (Figures are not adjusted for inflation). Not surprisingly, those counties in the western part of the state experienced the greatest gains, with McKenzie County leading with 82-percent growth. McKenzie was followed by Slope, Dunn, Mountrail and Golden Valley. Counties with lower increases tended to be rural and farther from the Bakken.

While there can be a relatively large margin of error (plus or minus 10 percent) 52 of the state's 53 counties are shown to have exceeded the percentage growth of the U.S. from 2007 to 2017. For the one county, Grand Forks, estimated to have a lower increase than the national average, the change is within the margin of error.

Source: Census Bureau SAIPE 2007 and 2017

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What SAIPE Tells us About School-Age Poverty Statistics

As SAIPE was designed to provide an annual estimate for individuals of school age, it gives us an opportunity to see how North Dakota compares to other states.

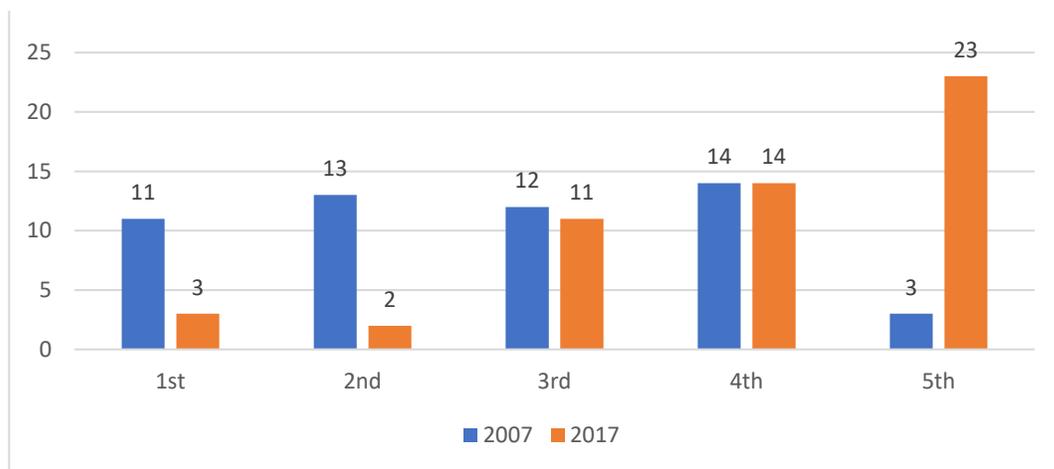
In 2017, SAIPE shows North Dakota with the third-lowest of

the 50 states for percentage of families with children ages 5 -17 in poverty at 10.4 percent. Only the states of New Hampshire and Utah were estimated to have a smaller percentage of families with children in this age range in poverty. According to SAIPE tables, North Dakota has

maintained a lower percentage of this cohort in poverty than the U.S. since the beginning of data compilation in 1989. The 10.4 percent result is the lowest percentage of any year for the state.

Source: Census Bureau SAIPE 1989 through 2017

North Dakota Counties by Quintiles of Median Household Income 2007 and 2017



10 Years: Story Continued from Page 1

ranking of North Dakota's counties among the 3,135 counties for which SAIPE statistics were prepared from 2007 to 2017, changed considerable. While three, Sioux, Rolette and Sheridan, were in the bottom quintile (the last two listed at the very top of this quintile), 23 - or

43 percent of the counties in the state - were now in the top quintile of those counties measured. Mercer County's median household income of \$82,991 was the highest-ranking county in the state and 99th of the counties in the table. Mercer was followed by Williams, McKenzie, Billings

and Burleigh counties in ranking of those counties with the highest median household income in the state.

Source: Census Bureau SAIPE 2007 and 2017

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