



Growing ND by the Numbers

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Male/Female

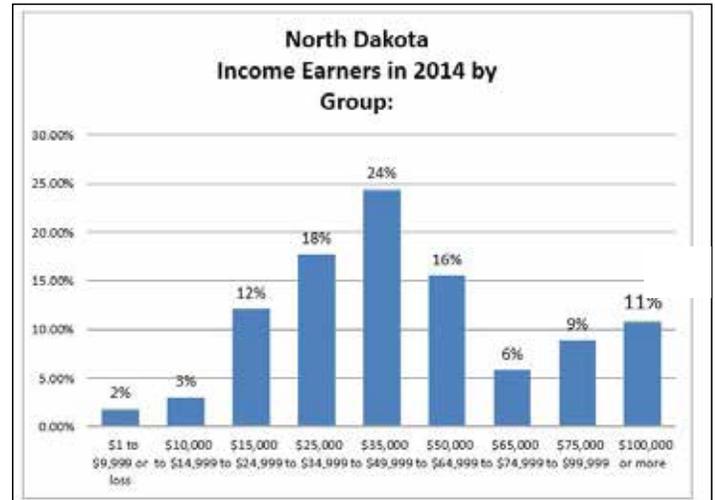
In North Dakota, an estimated 16 percent of males and three percent of females earned \$100,000 or more in 2014. The ratio of male to female wage earners at nearly five males to every female in the \$100,000 plus category is the highest in the country. Nationally, the ratio of high income male wage earners to female wage earners is a little over two to one.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate, Table S2001

North Dakota's High Wage Workers

In 2014, of the estimated 281,000 full-time workers in North Dakota approximately 30,400 earned \$100,000 per year or more.

The industries most likely to employ workers earning \$100,000 plus include mining, agriculture, construction, hospitals, engineering, transportation, wholesale machinery sales, banking and electric generation. High wage earners are slightly less likely to be employed by a private or public business and are more than twice as likely to be self-employed as those who earn less than \$100,000.



In 2014, 11 percent of the full-time workers in North Dakota earned \$100,000 or more. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate, Table S2001.

Certain occupations maintained an average income in excess of \$100,000 in the state in 2014. These included:

physicians, chief executive officers, administrative service managers, derrick operators, environmental

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High Wage Earners by County

Using data collected between 2010 and 2014, all counties in the state can be compared. In North Dakota, every county has some percentage of its workers estimated to be in the high wage category, although the percentage varied greatly.

The county with the highest percentage of wage earners

in excess of \$100,000 was Williams County where an estimated 19 percent of workers were in this high wage group. In Williams County, more than 25 percent of the male workers and five percent of the female workers were in this category. Williams was followed by Divide, Towner, Dunn, Burke and Billings

as the counties with the highest percentage of wage earners in the \$100,000 plus category.

Sioux County had the lowest percentage of its workers in the high income category at six percent.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimate, Table S2001.

Hours Worked

The income earner's sex, age, education, industry and occupation all appear to be factors in whether a worker is a high income earner or not. One of the most noticeable factors is the difference in the average number of hours worked per week. Those earning less than \$100,000 reported working on average 39 hours per week while high income earners averaged 54 hours per week.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 American Community Survey 1-Year PUMS data

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and physical scientists, lawyers, aircraft pilots, engineers and financial advisors.

Nationally, the District of Columbia had a higher percentage of high income earners, with 28 percent of its workers estimated in this income category than all fifty states. Twenty-one states had a higher percentage of their workers

in the \$100,000 or more category than North Dakota. The state with the highest percentage of its workers in this category was New Jersey followed by Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maryland and Virginia. The state with the lowest percentage of its workers earning \$100,000 or more was South Dakota with 6 percent followed by Mississippi, Arkansas, West

Virginia and Kentucky.

In North Dakota, an estimated 16 percent of males and three percent of females earned \$100,000 or more in 2014.

U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate, Table S2001, 2014 American Community Survey 1-Year PUMS data

Demographic Characteristics of High Wage Earners

High wage earners in North Dakota tend to be older, white, male and well-educated; they are more likely to have been born in the state and more likely to have a spouse that also works full-time than those not considered high wage earners.

Eighty-six percent of high wage earners are male compared to 53 percent of wage earners of less than \$100,000. Only two percent of high wage earners are estimated to have less than a high school education, compared to eight percent for the less than \$100,000 group. They are also far more likely to hold a

graduate or doctorate level degree at 18 percent compared to five percent. Ninety-six percent of this group is estimated to be white compared to 91 percent for the less than \$100,000 group.

The typical \$100,000 wage earner is 48 years old, compared to 40 for the \$100,000 or less group.

Eighty-four percent of high wage earners are married compared to 51 percent for the group earning less than \$100,000. The percentage of these individuals who are divorced is nearly half of that of the less than \$100,000 group. The high

income earners are less likely to have children in the home and far less likely to have children of age six or less, eight percent compared to 43 percent for those age six or less.

High wage earners in North Dakota are also more likely to report having been born in the state than lower wage earners. Sixty-four percent of high wage earners reported being born in the state, compared to 59 percent of those earning less than \$100,000 per year.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimate, Table S2001, 2014 American Community Survey 1-Year PUMS data

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