



Growing ND by the Numbers

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Earning Influences Choices in Transportation

The mean earning of individuals that commuted to work was \$35,154. This compares to \$13,105 for those individuals who choose to use public transportation. Seventy-five percent of public transportation commuters earned less than \$25,000 per year.

Source: ACS 2014 5-Year Estimate, Tables S0802

Commuting to Work in North Dakota

In North Dakota, nearly 90 percent of the approximately 378,000 workers travel to work via an automobile, with over 80 percent of those workers traveling alone. Carpooling is used by nine percent of the state's workers, and public transportation is used by less than one percent. Four percent of workers in the state reported walking to work and less than one percent reported traveling by other means which included taxicabs, motorcycles and bicycles. Just over five percent of the workers in the state reported working at home.

Age, sex and race all appear to be factors in commuting behavior. In the age group 16-19, 65 percent of workers drive alone to work. While this is the highest percentage of mode of travel, this percentage is the lowest of any age group. This group had the highest percentages of individuals who carpooled (12 percent) or walked to work (eight percent).

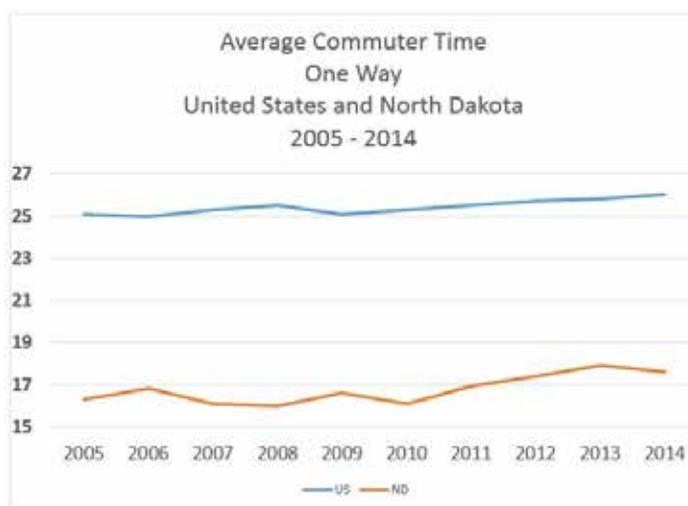
Minorities (Blacks, American Indian, Asians, as well as,

Latinos) in the state are over represented among public transportation users, making up a full third, more than three times their overall representation among the state's population. Conversely, Caucasians are slightly over represented among commuters who drive alone.

Equal percentages of men and women appear to drive alone. Male commuters are more likely to leave for work at an earlier timeframe and to travel further to work.

The time of departure for work is a factor in mode of travel. For those commuters departing between midnight and 4 a.m., the percentage that travel by automobile jumps to nearly 96 percent. Public transportation tends to be used more by those commuting during daylight hours when the percentage of automobile commuters drops off slightly.

Source: ACS 2014 5-Year Estimate, Tables B08532 and S0802



The average commute time in North Dakota has grown slightly since 2005 but continues to lag far behind the national average. North Dakotan commuters have the second shortest commute to work after South Dakota. Source: ACS 2005 - 2014 1-Year Estimates, Table S0801

Commuters of Four or More Per Vehicle Fairly High in North Dakota

An estimated 1.2 percent or approximately 500 workers commute to and from work in automobiles with four or more other individuals. Hawaii, Utah, Wyoming, Alaska and Washington are the only states that exceed North Dakota's percentage of commuters with four or more in the automobile.

Source: ACS 2014 5-Year Estimate, Tables S0801

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North Dakota Commuters Compared to Other States

North Dakotans tend to drive only slightly more than residents in most states. The state's percentage of residents commuting to work via automobile at 90 percent is only slightly higher than the national average of 86 percent.

Of the 50 states, North Dakota ranks 24th in the percentage of workers who travel by automobile. When the data was limited to those who drove alone, North Dakota's ranking dropped only slightly to 23rd. The southern states of Alabama (85 percent) and

Mississippi (84 percent) had the highest percentage of individuals traveling alone by automobile to work. New York (53 percent), Hawaii (67 percent) and the District of Columbia had the lowest at 34 percent.

North Dakotans have a far shorter average commute time than residents of most other states. Nationally, the average commuter spends nearly 27 minutes commuting one way. North Dakota's average commute of just 17 minutes is nearly the shortest, with only South Dakota with an average

commute of 16.9 being less.

North Dakota is also somewhat unique in that there is a fairly significant difference between commute time of men and women with men driving 3.4 minutes longer than women to work.

Source: ACS 2014 5-Year Estimate, Tables S0801 and S0802

Commuting Time by County in North Dakota

Of the state's 53 counties, only two has commute times exceeding the national average of 26 minutes from 2010 to 2014, Slope in the southwestern region and McHenry in north central region. The average commute in both of these counties exceeded 28 minutes.

A large percentage of McHenry's workers are employed in Ward County, specifically Minot, than

in their home county. Similarly, a large percentage of Slope's workers are employed in Stark County, specifically Dickinson, than in their home county. The state's four largest counties (Burleigh, Cass, Grand Forks and Ward) had the longest average commute at just over 18 minutes. Grand Forks had the shortest at just under 14 minutes.

Vehicles tend to be more available in households throughout the state than in the rest of the nation. Only Sioux, Benson and Pierce Counties had a lower percentage of households without vehicles than the national average of 4.4 percent. Eleven counties, all of them rural, had 'no' estimated households without vehicles.

Source: ACS 2014 5-Year Estimate, Tables S0801. Census LED On-The-Map 2014 data

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