



# NORTH DAKOTA

## COMPASS POINTS

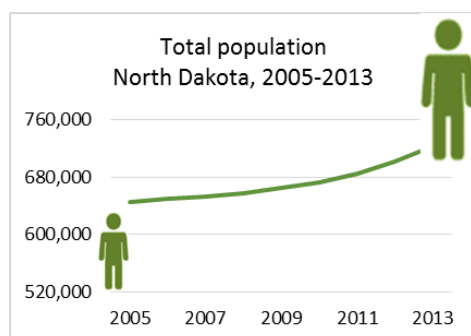
### 2015

North Dakota's energy development, robust economy, and thriving workforce create a variety of opportunities and challenges for North Dakota communities.

Here are some important statewide trends to consider.

#### Reinvigorated State Population

##### Fastest growing state in the nation

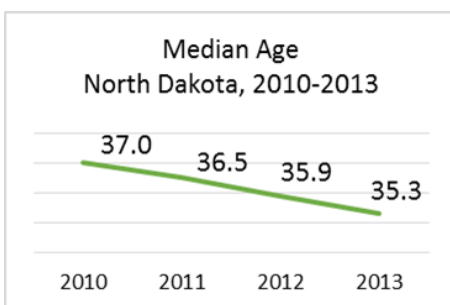


After years of steady growth, North Dakota continues to be the fastest growing state in the nation with a 3 percent population growth (2012 to 2013),

reaching a total of 723,857 residents in 2013.

Although 34 counties experienced growth from 2012 to 2013, some counties continued to lose population (8 counties) or see little or no change (11 counties).

##### Growing younger faster than other states



While the U.S. continues to age as the youngest of the Baby Boom Generation enters their 50s, the North Dakota population is becoming younger. From 2012 to 2013, North Dakota saw

the largest decline in median age in the nation (0.6 years), reaching a median age of 35.3 years old in 2013.

Despite this statewide trend, 30 counties had a median age from 40 to 49 years old and nine counties had a median age of 50 or older in 2013.

#### Top Economic Growth Performer

##### Robust economy

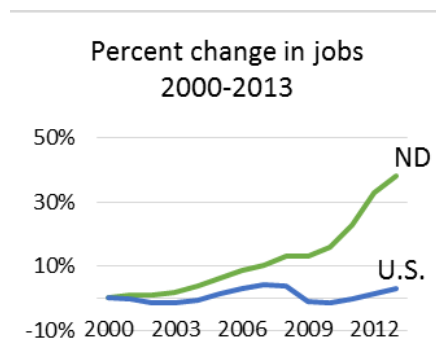
North Dakota has a strong economy with a growth rate five times the national average (10% real GDP annual change in 2013 for North Dakota compared to 2% change for the U.S.).

##### Leading the country in job growth

North Dakota also surpasses the U.S. job growth (38% compared to 3%, 2000-2013).

While seven counties saw a 5 percent or larger increase in the number of jobs

from the first quarter in 2013 to the first quarter in 2014, 20 counties experienced a job decrease.



##### Thriving workforce

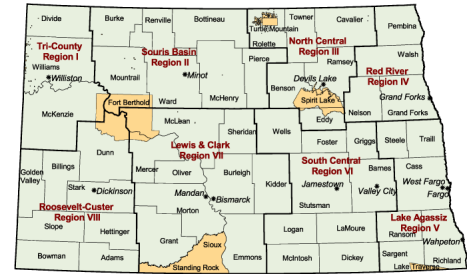
In 2013, the proportion of working adults (age 16-64) in North Dakota topped the national rankings at 79 percent, which is well above the national average of 67 percent. About 70 percent of children under 6 years old and 77 percent of school-aged children live in households where all the parents are working.

The median household income in North Dakota has steadily increased reaching \$55,759 in 2013. However, five counties in the state had a median household income less than \$40,000.

# NORTH DAKOTA—At a Glance

Quality of life in North Dakota is intrinsically tied to the health of its inhabitants. Health promotion throughout the life span, from prenatal through old age can lead to optimum growth and development.

Quality of life can also be improved through a strong economy that encourages business investment and provides employment opportunities for workers at all skill levels. By active participation in the life of the community, citizens improve conditions for others and help shape the community's future.



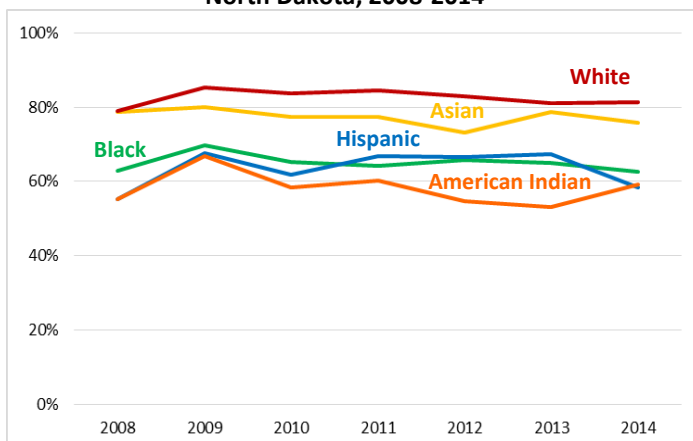
Check a quick snapshot at how North Dakota is doing across the topics highlighted on North Dakota Compass.

		MOST RECENT DATA	PREVIOUS DATA	NATIONAL RANK*
<b>EARLY CHILDHOOD</b>	Babies born at low birth weight	6% (2012)	7% (2011)	4
	Children enrolled in preschool	39% (2013)	40% (2012)	42
<b>CHILDREN &amp; YOUTH</b>	High schoolers who trust at least one adult	84% (2013)	86% (2011)	-
	High schoolers who binge drank	22% (2013)	26% (2011)	37
<b>EDUCATION</b>	3rd graders who are proficient in reading	77% (2014)	77% (2013)	-
	Students graduate high school on time	87% (2013)	87% (2012)	-
<b>HEALTH</b>	Adults (age 18+) who are obese	31% (2013)	30% (2012)	37
	Residents (under age 65) who are uninsured	12% (2013)	12% (2012)	11
<b>AGING</b>	Older adults (age 65+) who volunteer	31% (2010-12)	35% (2007-09)	10
	Median income, head of household (age 65+)	\$35,293 (2013)	\$34,972 (2012)	35

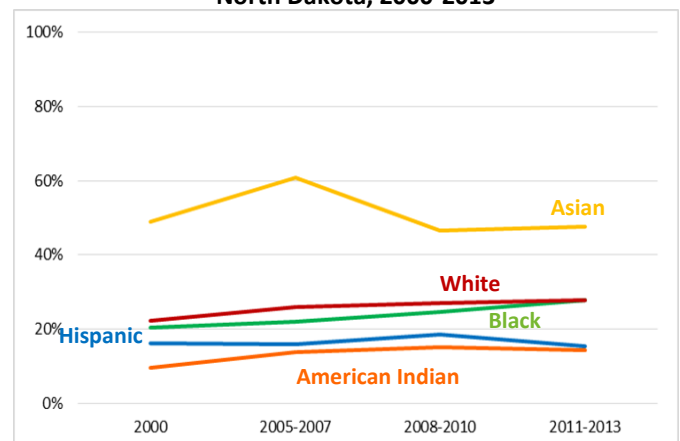
\* National rank is based on a scale of 1=best ranking to 50=worst ranking

## Critical Racial Gaps

Third grade students achieving reading standards  
By racial and ethnic group  
North Dakota, 2008-2014



Percent (age 25+) with a bachelor's degree or higher  
By racial and ethnic group  
North Dakota, 2000-2013



## North Dakota's Changing Landscape

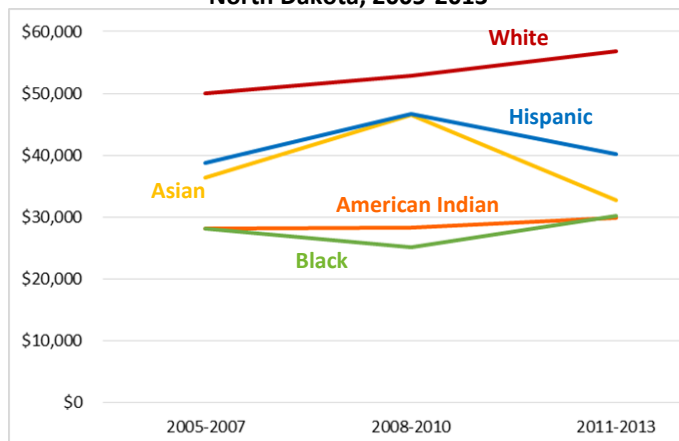
	Year 2000	Percent of population	Year 2013	Percent of population
<b>Overall Population</b>	642,200	-	723,857	-
<b>Older Adults Age 65+</b>	94,478	15%	102,815	14%
<b>American Indian Population</b>	31,329	5%	39,395	5%
<b>Working Age Population</b>	400,616	62%	469,996	65%
<b>People in Poverty</b>	73,457	12%	82,398	11%

		MOST RECENT DATA	PREVIOUS DATA	NATIONAL RANK*
<b>ECONOMY</b>	Percent change in jobs from previous year	<b>5%</b> (Sep. 2014)	<b>3%</b> (Sep. 2013)	<b>1</b>
	Median household income	<b>\$55,759</b> (2013)	<b>\$54,379</b> (2012)	<b>19</b>
	Annual change in real GDP	<b>10%</b> (2013)	<b>20%</b> (2012)	<b>1</b>
<b>WORKFORCE</b>	Proportion of adults working (age 16-64)	<b>79%</b> (2013)	<b>79%</b> (2012)	<b>1</b>
	Post secondary degree completion rate (6yr)	<b>49%</b> (2011)	<b>48%</b> (2010)	<b>37</b>
<b>HOUSING</b>	Homeownership rate	<b>65%</b> (2013)	<b>65%</b> (2012)	<b>35</b>
	Households that are cost-burdened	<b>23%</b> (2013)	<b>21%</b> (2012)	<b>1</b>
<b>ENVIRONMENT</b>	Population with low access to a grocery store	<b>31%</b> (2010)	-	<b>47</b>
	Days air quality was rated "good" (Williams County)	<b>68%</b> (2013)	<b>80%</b> (2012)	-
<b>CIVIC ENGAGEMENT</b>	Voted in last presidential election year	<b>59%</b> (2012)	<b>62%</b> (2008)	<b>16</b>
	Residents (age 16+) who volunteer	<b>29%</b> (2012)	<b>31</b> (2011)	<b>21</b>

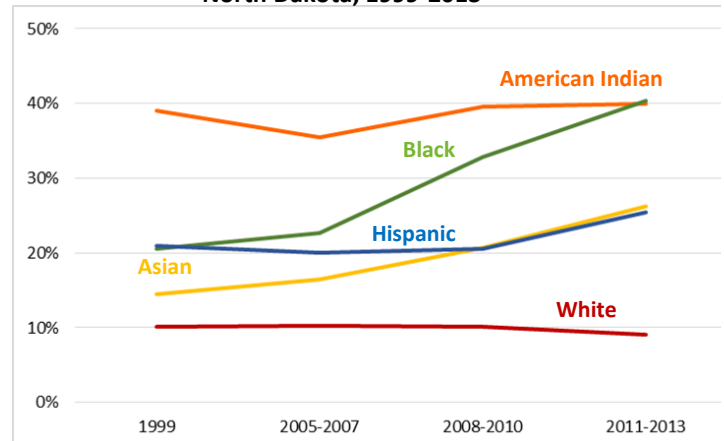
\* National rank is based on a scale of 1=best ranking to 50=worst ranking

## Critical Racial Gaps

**Median household income (2013 dollars)**  
By racial and ethnic group  
North Dakota, 2005-2013



**Individuals below the poverty level**  
By racial and ethnic group  
North Dakota, 1999-2013



# North Dakota Compass



Located at the Center for Social Research at North Dakota State University, ND Compass was developed by The Center for Social Research in partnership with Wilder Research, MN, with funding from:

- Bush Foundation
- Otto Bremer Foundation

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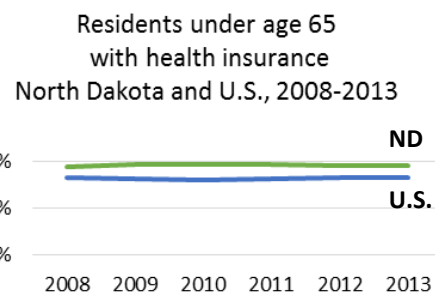
All data for the **2015 North Dakota Compass Points** come from North Dakota Compass, with the most recent data compiled in February 2015. Data sources, years, margins of error, and additional notes are available on [ndcompass.org](http://ndcompass.org).

## More notable trends

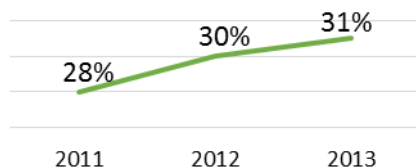
### Healthy and Active Communities

#### Concern for the health of people

Although many people have access to health insurance, health concerns are still high in North Dakota. In 2013, 88 percent of residents under age 65 in North Dakota had health insurance coverage. This rate of coverage is higher than the national average of 83 percent.



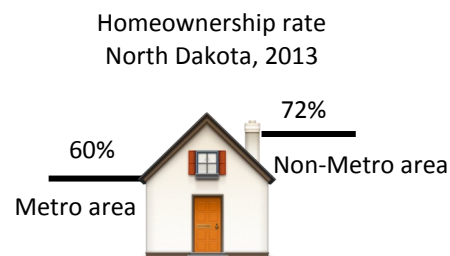
#### Adults who are obese North Dakota, 2011-2013



However, the proportion of adults (18 years and older) who are obese continues to slightly increase each year (31% in 2013 compared to 30% in 2012 and 28% in 2011).

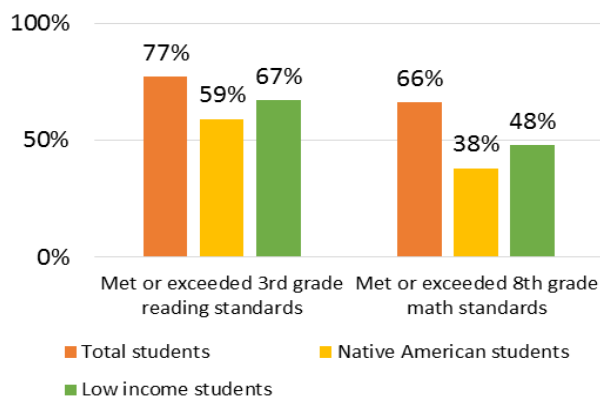
#### Healthy communities

Communities benefit from high rates of homeownership, because it is a significant asset-building strategy for many individuals, in addition to an important source of stability for children and their families. In 2013, North Dakota had a homeownership rate of 65 percent, but the rate differs by metropolitan status.



### Cradle-To-Career Success

#### Reading and math proficiency North Dakota, 2014



In North Dakota, there are large racial and income gaps along the cradle-to-career continuum. Given the increase in North Dakota's diversity with its growing population, these disparities will increase unless they are addressed.