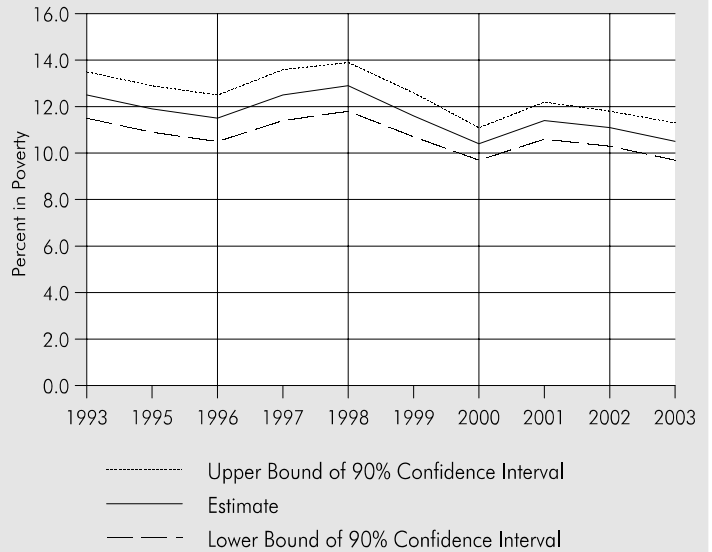


## Poverty Estimates for Individuals in North Dakota: 2003

Approximately one in 10 North Dakotans were living in poverty in 2003, a rate down slightly from one in eight in 1993 (Figure 1). The Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) program, which is part of the U.S. Census Bureau, provides annual estimates of the number and percentage of total persons and children living in poverty. These estimates are based on a sample of households. Due to the small population base in North Dakota and the need to keep costs of data collection manageable, the sample sizes for the state are relatively small, though this increases the likelihood of error. Therefore, confidence intervals are calculated to account for sampling error. For example, SAIPE estimates indicate that 10.5 percent of all North Dakotans were living in poverty in 2003. However, in order to be 90 percent confident of the true poverty level, one should use a range from 9.7 percent to 11.3 percent (Table 1).

Poverty rates in North Dakota were notably higher in reservation areas, with Sioux, Rolette, and Benson counties averaging one-in-four persons living in poverty in 2003. Areas in the south central and western parts of the state also had higher rates of poverty (Figure 2). However, when making important decisions based on these data, one needs to be mindful of the confidence intervals (Table 1).

Figure 1. Percent of All Persons Living in Poverty in North Dakota 1993 to 2003

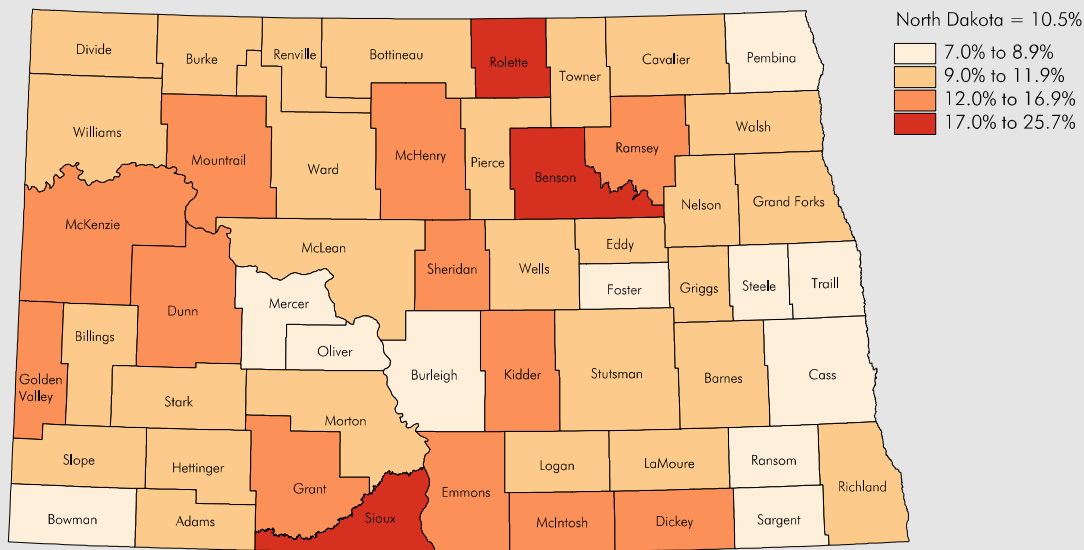


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, [www.census.gov/hhes/www/saipe](http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/saipe).

Nationally, 12.5 percent of all persons were living in poverty in 2003 (the 90% confidence interval ranges from 12.2 percent to 12.7 percent) (Table 1).

Figure 2. Percent of All Persons Living in Poverty in North Dakota by County: 2003

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, [www.census.gov/hhes/www/saipe](http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/saipe).



**Table 1. Income and Poverty Estimates for the United States and for North Dakota by County: 2003**

Note: To be 90 percent confident, the estimate may fall anywhere within the specified interval. For an explanation of confidence intervals, visit [www.census.gov/hhes/www/saipe/techdoc/stcty/ci.html](http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/saipe/techdoc/stcty/ci.html).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, [www.census.gov/hhes/www/saipe](http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/saipe).

Area	Median Household Income (\$)		All Ages - Percent in Poverty		Ages 0 to 17 - Percent in Poverty		Ages 5 to 17 in Families - Percent in Poverty	
	Dollars	90% Confidence Interval	Percent	90% Confidence Interval	Percent	90% Confidence Interval	Percent	90% Confidence Interval
United States	43,318	43,009 to 43,627	12.5	12.2 to 12.7	17.6	17.2 to 18.1	16.1	15.5 to 16.6
North Dakota	38,223	36,622 to 39,823	10.5	9.7 to 11.3	13.5	11.9 to 15.0	11.1	9.6 to 12.7
Adams	30,907	29,005 to 32,934	10.0	7.6 to 12.5	12.2	8.9 to 15.5	9.9	6.8 to 12.9
Barnes	36,372	34,088 to 38,810	10.3	7.9 to 12.8	12.5	9.2 to 15.9	10.3	7.1 to 13.5
Benson	29,373	27,452 to 31,427	22.5	17.2 to 27.7	31.4	22.8 to 39.9	28.6	19.7 to 37.5
Billings	36,423	34,067 to 38,943	11.0	8.3 to 13.6	15.1	10.7 to 19.5	13.4	9.0 to 17.8
Bottineau	38,233	35,587 to 41,076	10.5	8.1 to 12.9	14.3	10.5 to 18.1	11.2	7.7 to 14.7
Bowman	38,420	35,950 to 41,059	8.4	6.4 to 10.4	11.2	8.0 to 14.4	9.3	6.3 to 12.4
Burke	31,916	29,660 to 34,344	10.6	7.9 to 13.2	13.3	9.4 to 17.1	11.4	7.5 to 15.3
Burleigh	45,634	43,054 to 48,370	8.5	6.6 to 10.4	10.7	8.0 to 13.5	8.3	5.8 to 10.7
Cass	43,155	40,804 to 45,640	8.7	6.8 to 10.6	9.9	7.4 to 12.5	8.0	5.7 to 10.4
Cavalier	36,869	34,411 to 39,503	9.6	7.3 to 11.9	13.0	9.3 to 16.6	10.6	7.2 to 14.1
Dickey	33,951	31,840 to 36,202	12.5	9.6 to 15.3	15.9	11.7 to 20.1	13.9	9.7 to 18.2
Divide	30,863	28,909 to 32,950	10.1	7.6 to 12.6	13.0	9.2 to 16.8	11.2	7.4 to 14.9
Dunn	32,688	30,675 to 34,832	12.2	9.2 to 15.2	15.6	11.1 to 20.0	12.7	8.6 to 16.9
Eddy	32,987	30,923 to 35,188	9.5	7.3 to 11.8	12.3	8.9 to 15.7	9.8	6.7 to 12.8
Emmons	28,736	26,944 to 30,647	13.1	9.8 to 16.4	16.7	11.8 to 21.6	13.7	9.1 to 18.3
Foster	37,796	35,379 to 40,377	8.4	6.4 to 10.4	10.5	7.6 to 13.3	8.5	5.8 to 11.2
Golden Valley	31,838	29,884 to 33,920	12.4	9.4 to 15.4	16.8	12.0 to 21.6	14.5	9.7 to 19.4
Grand Forks	38,686	36,442 to 41,068	11.0	8.5 to 13.4	13.0	9.6 to 16.3	10.5	7.4 to 13.6
Grant	26,407	24,702 to 28,229	16.4	12.4 to 20.3	25.9	18.4 to 33.4	20.9	14.0 to 27.8
Griggs	34,682	32,472 to 37,042	9.8	7.5 to 12.1	14.5	10.4 to 18.7	11.2	7.5 to 14.8
Hettinger	32,185	30,058 to 34,463	11.3	8.5 to 14.1	15.7	10.9 to 20.5	12.7	8.2 to 17.1
Kidder	28,562	26,696 to 30,557	12.3	9.2 to 15.5	15.7	10.9 to 20.5	13.8	9.0 to 18.7
LaMoure	36,668	34,295 to 39,206	10.5	8.0 to 12.9	12.7	9.2 to 16.1	11.1	7.6 to 14.5
Logan	30,857	28,881 to 32,969	11.6	8.7 to 14.4	14.0	10.1 to 18.0	11.8	8.0 to 15.7
McHenry	31,648	29,633 to 33,799	13.3	10.1 to 16.6	18.8	13.6 to 24.1	15.4	10.5 to 20.3
McIntosh	29,075	27,252 to 31,020	13.2	10.1 to 16.4	17.8	12.6 to 23.0	15.1	10.1 to 20.0
McKenzie	31,118	29,146 to 33,223	13.7	10.4 to 17.0	18.3	13.1 to 23.5	15.4	10.3 to 20.5
McLean	36,744	34,509 to 39,123	11.6	9.0 to 14.3	16.3	11.9 to 20.8	12.9	8.9 to 16.9
Mercer	51,311	47,897 to 54,969	7.4	5.6 to 9.1	8.2	5.9 to 10.4	6.0	4.1 to 7.9
Morton	40,893	38,463 to 43,476	9.5	7.4 to 11.7	12.1	8.9 to 15.2	10.2	7.1 to 13.2
Mountrail	32,138	30,018 to 34,408	13.6	10.4 to 16.9	18.7	13.5 to 24.0	15.9	10.8 to 21.1
Nelson	32,365	30,357 to 34,506	9.5	7.3 to 11.7	13.2	9.6 to 16.8	11.1	7.6 to 14.6
Oliver	42,421	39,665 to 45,369	8.9	6.6 to 11.3	11.5	7.7 to 15.2	9.8	6.1 to 13.5
Pembina	39,001	36,387 to 41,804	8.6	6.6 to 10.7	11.1	8.0 to 14.1	9.1	6.2 to 11.9
Pierce	30,352	28,421 to 32,414	11.0	8.4 to 13.5	15.0	10.9 to 19.1	11.6	7.9 to 15.3
Ramsey	36,548	34,371 to 38,863	12.7	9.8 to 15.6	17.5	13.0 to 22.1	15.0	10.5 to 19.5
Ransom	42,103	39,513 to 44,863	8.2	6.2 to 10.1	9.4	6.9 to 12.0	7.9	5.4 to 10.4
Renville	40,359	37,297 to 43,671	10.0	7.6 to 12.3	12.9	9.3 to 16.4	11.1	7.6 to 14.7
Richland	38,832	36,402 to 41,425	9.7	7.4 to 12.0	11.0	8.0 to 13.9	8.9	6.1 to 11.6
Rolette	27,795	26,123 to 29,575	23.9	18.4 to 29.4	30.9	22.7 to 39.2	27.2	18.9 to 35.5
Sargent	42,570	39,745 to 45,595	7.5	5.7 to 9.3	9.0	6.6 to 11.4	7.6	5.2 to 9.9
Sheridan	27,951	26,141 to 29,886	15.8	12.0 to 19.7	22.8	16.4 to 29.3	18.8	12.8 to 24.9
Sioux	24,569	22,994 to 26,251	25.7	19.4 to 32.0	32.0	22.6 to 41.4	30.7	20.4 to 41.0
Slope	27,411	25,632 to 29,313	11.0	8.1 to 14.0	13.8	9.4 to 18.1	13.6	8.6 to 18.7
Stark	36,946	34,735 to 39,296	11.3	8.8 to 13.9	13.6	10.1 to 17.1	11.0	7.7 to 14.3
Steele	44,213	41,256 to 47,381	7.0	5.3 to 8.6	8.6	6.2 to 10.9	6.8	4.7 to 9.0
Stutsman	37,059	34,826 to 39,436	10.6	8.1 to 13.0	12.8	9.4 to 16.2	10.4	7.3 to 13.6
Towner	37,551	34,998 to 40,291	9.0	6.8 to 11.1	13.5	9.7 to 17.4	10.5	7.1 to 13.9
Traill	40,902	38,468 to 43,490	8.8	6.8 to 10.8	10.4	7.6 to 13.1	8.7	6.1 to 11.3
Walsh	35,833	33,698 to 38,104	10.6	8.2 to 13.0	13.8	10.2 to 17.4	11.3	7.9 to 14.6
Ward	38,278	36,002 to 40,699	10.1	7.9 to 12.4	12.8	9.5 to 16.1	10.8	7.6 to 14.0
Wells	35,678	33,451 to 38,054	11.2	8.6 to 13.9	13.7	10.0 to 17.4	11.1	7.6 to 14.5
Williams	36,349	34,067 to 38,783	11.2	8.5 to 13.8	15.5	11.3 to 19.7	12.8	8.8 to 16.8

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## North Dakota's Poverty Rate is Down

Approximately one in 10 North Dakotans were living in poverty in 2003, a rate down slightly from 10 years ago when one in eight persons were living in poverty.

This month's "Population Bulletin," a monthly publication from the North Dakota State Data Center at North Dakota State University, focuses on poverty estimates released from the Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) program through the U.S. Census Bureau. SAIPE provides annual estimates of the number and percentage of total persons and children living in poverty. These estimates are based on a sample of households. Due to the relatively small population base in North Dakota and the need to keep costs of data collection manageable, the sample sizes for the state are relatively small, though this increases the likelihood of error. Therefore, confidence intervals are calculated to account for this sampling error. For example, SAIPE estimates indicate that 10.5 percent of all North Dakotans were living in poverty in 2003. However, if one wants to be 90 percent confident of the true poverty level, one should use a range from 9.7 percent to 11.3 percent. "Even considering the confidence intervals, the good news for our state is that overall poverty has trended downward since the early 1990s," said Richard Rathge, Director of the State Data Center.

Certain populations in North Dakota are harder hit by poverty than others. Poverty rates in North Dakota were notably higher in reservation areas, with Sioux, Rolette, and Benson counties averaging one-in-four persons living in poverty in 2003. In addition, children had a greater likelihood for poverty than the general public throughout the state. The percentage of North Dakota children ages 0 to 17 living in poverty was estimated at 13.5 percent in 2003, and the percentage of children ages 0 to 4 living in poverty was 18.7 percent. When making important decisions based on these data, one needs to be mindful of the confidence intervals (11.9 to 15.0 percent for children ages 0 to 17 and 14.8 to 22.6 percent for children ages 0 to 4).

Nationally, 12.5 percent of all persons were living in poverty in 2003, 17.6 percent of children ages 0 to 17 were living in poverty, and 20.3 percent of children ages 0 to 4 were living in poverty (90 percent confidence intervals are 12.2 to 12.7, 17.2 to 18.1, and 19.3 to 21.4 percent, respectively).

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