



Growing ND by the Numbers

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

November 2018

ND: Quality of Life Improves Through Reduction in Poverty **1**

Snapshot: Hispanic Community Sees Reduction in Poverty **1**

Quality of Life Improves for Different Groups **2**

Education Pays When it Comes to Poverty

At each level of education tracked in the ACS for rates of poverty (less than high school completion; high school graduate, some college; associate's degree; bachelor's and above), North Dakota residents generally have had a lower rate of poverty than that found nationally. However, there is far greater difference between levels of education than other factors. Individuals with less than a high school graduation had a poverty rate of 20 percent in the state. This compares to individuals with a bachelor's or higher that was less than 5 percent.

Source: Census Bureau ACS Files 1-Year 2007 - 2017 Table S1701

ND: Quality of Life Improves Through Reduction in Poverty

The Census Bureau released a number of statistics related to poverty this fall for the prior year. In the one-year American Community Survey (ACS) release the US poverty rate was estimated to be 13.4 percent. North Dakota's rate was 10.3 percent, putting the state among the 10 with the lowest rates of

poverty in the ACS statistics for 2017.

Since 2007, while the US poverty rate climbed at one point to nearly 16 percent using ACS data, North Dakota's never exceeded 13 percent, reaching the highest point in 2009 and generally declining since. The

state's rate of poverty has trended down over the past 10 years. In 2007 North Dakota had an estimated poverty rate of 12.1, just under the national estimate of 13 percent. North Dakota ranked 27th lowest of the 50 states in that year.

Source: Census Bureau ACS Files 1-Year 2007-2017 Table S1701

Snapshot: Hispanic Community Sees Reduction in Poverty

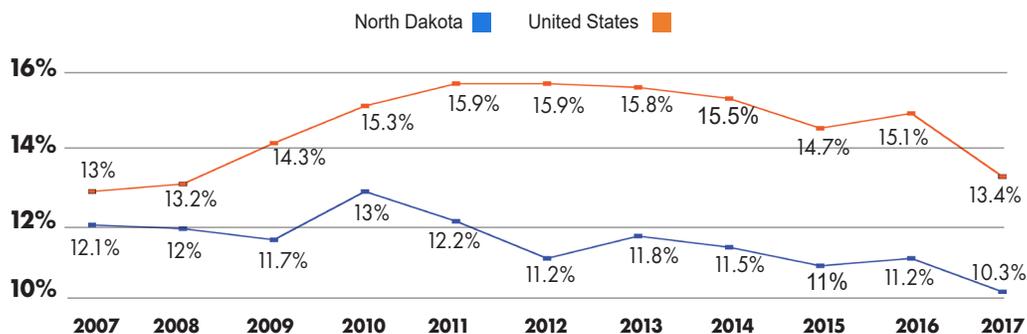
Similar to the rate of growth found with the change in the state's population of Black residents, Hispanic population has grown by 109 percent since 2010, from about 13,500

in 2010 to 28,200 by 2017. Hispanics appear to be even younger than Blacks in the state with a median age of 24.5 years of age. In 2017 younger, more recent arrivals generally

have higher levels of poverty than older, more established populations. Also, similar to the statistics for Black residents in

See QUALITY OF LIFE on Page 2

Less Poverty = More Quality of Life



North Dakota's healthy economy in the past 10 years has aided in the general reduction in poverty. From 2007 to 2017, North Dakota went from being the state that ranked 27th in lowest rate of poverty to 9th of the 50 states. The decline appears to be broadly based as these rates appear to transcend age, sex, race, and ethnicity.

Source: Census Bureau ACS Files 1-Year 2007-2017 Table S1701

Several Ways to Measure our Well-Being

The official rate of poverty comes from the Current Population Survey or CPS, the survey conducted by the Census Bureau for the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The Annual Social and Economic supplement is added to the CPS house to house survey. However, this survey is generally thought to be less accurate as less than 1,000 samples are included in North Dakota compared to about 7,500 samples in the ACS. Another source of data is the Small Area Income and Poverty tables, or SAIPE. This source uses both survey data and administrative records to produce annual estimates in school districts. Even in small counties and school districts that do not receive annual estimate in the American Community Survey (ACS), SAIPE combines administrative data from several sources with limited samples from the ACS to create an estimate of income and poverty for individuals of all ages, but with a focus on those less than age 18.

Source: Author's Comments

Joe Cicha
Census Specialist
Phone
701-328-7283
E-mail
jcicha@nd.gov
Web
NDCensus.gov

Quality of Life Improves for Different Groups

The estimated level of poverty among American Indians, the state's largest minority, shows signs of gradually declining over the past decade. While poverty among American Indians in the state remains high and above the national rate for this race, the gap between the national estimate and the state estimate appears to be narrowing.

Nationally, 25 percent of American Indians were estimated to be in poverty both in 2007 and in 2017. In North Dakota, the rate of poverty of American Indians was 40 percent, reaching its highest point during this timeframe in 2011 of 46 percent. The 2017 estimate of 33.8 percent is the lowest annual estimate.

While general hardship and lack of employment opportunities explain much of the reasons for long-term poverty among the state's American Indian population, high fertility rates and a relatively young population of American Indians are influencing factors impacting

the higher rate found in this population. The state's American Indian population tends to be much younger than that of whites with a median age in 2017 of 25.1 years of age compared to 39.1 for Whites. Younger populations tend to experience higher rates of poverty.

The most dramatic change in poverty of any race was for Blacks in the state. In 2007, the number of Black respondents to the ACS was too small to publish a figure for North Dakota. That year, there were an estimated 7,000 Blacks in the state. In 2008, with only a slightly larger population and a large margin of error, the Census Bureau published an estimated poverty rate in ACS at 24.8 percent, slightly higher than that found for the nation of 24.1 percent.

In 2017, the estimated rate of poverty for this group in the state was 21.2, below the national average of 23 percent. For most of period in between, the rate of poverty for Blacks in the state

remained above the national average.

However, these figures appear to be highly skewed by the way the survey is conducted and the significant number of Blacks who have migrated into the state. Between 2010 and 2017, the estimated number of Blacks living in the state grew from 8,248 to 23,533, an increase of 185 percent.

As many of these now "current residents" of the state did not live here the year prior, they report their income in the state they lived previously.

As in-migration has slowed the last few years, the rate of poverty among Blacks in the state has declined with the past two of three years showing North Dakota's rate of poverty among Blacks below the nationally estimated rate.

Source: Census Bureau ACS Files 1-Year 2007 - 2017 Table S1701 and Population Estimate File PEPAS6H 2017

Quality of Life: Story Continued from Page 1

the state, the margin of error has been greater with smaller populations.

The ACS estimated poverty for Hispanics in 2017 was 15.3 percent compared to 19.4 percent nationwide. This is down from 24.9 in the state found in

2007, which was higher than the nationwide estimate at the time of 20.7 percent. Given that Hispanics are predominately young, it is also noteworthy that their the rate of poverty found in the state is less than that of all individuals in the 18-to-34-year-old age range in the state. Data

on work force demographics shows that in the most recent four years for which data is available Hispanic in the state earned on average 95 percent of non-Hispanics.

Source: Census Bureau ACS Files 1-Year 2007 - 2017 Table S1701, Population Estimate File PEPAS6H 2017, Local Employment Dynamics Quarterly Workforce Indicators

North Dakota Department of Commerce
1600 E. Century Ave., Suite 2
Bismarck, ND 58503 | 701.328.5300

NORTH
Dakota Be Legendary.™

More info on North Dakota:

Tourism
Experience ND
Economic Development & Finance
Workforce Development
Community Services