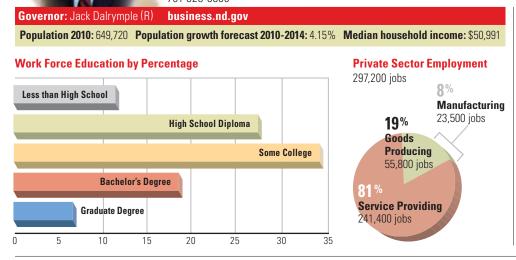
## North Dakota Dept. of ED 1600 E. Century Ave., #2 Bismarck, ND 58502 Paul Lucy, Dir. ED/Finance 701-328-5300



## 2010 New Economy Index Rankings

Overall: 36

Immigration of Domestic and Foreign Knowledge Workers: **1** 

Manufacturing Value-Added: 31

Export Focus of Manufacturing

and Services: 10

Industry Investment in R&D: 39

Median Hourly Wage for Production Occupations: \$14.64

Right-to-work state? YES

## **Legislative Update**

 After being sworn in in early December, Gov. Jack Dalrymple released his 2011-2013 executive budget, which calls for a \$1.2-billion state surplus by June 30, 2013. A total of \$619 million of that amount would go to the Legacy Fund, which voters approved the creation of in November, and which will be supported with oil tax revenue. The budget also calls for hundreds of millions of dollars in road, housing and other infrastructure investments in North Dakota's 17 oil and gas producing counties, which are seeing intense drilling and transport activity. Dalrymple proposes investing \$600,000 to establish an Office of Energy Development within the North Dakota Dept. of Commerce. And he calls for extending the state public universities and colleges' Centers of Excellence program in order to continue fostering research partnerships with the private sector.