



**“Building a 21st century workforce and economy requires us to examine our current approach to higher education, including how our 11 public colleges and universities are being governed and whether the system is operating to its fullest potential.”**

— Gov. Doug Burgum, Nov. 7, 2017, announcing the creation of a task force to assess the existing governance structure for higher education

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# North Dakota

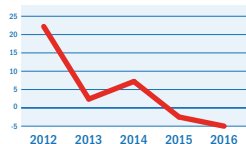
**Pop. (2017):** 793,399  
**Median household income:** \$58,447  
**Credit Rating:** AA+/Stable

**Pop. growth 2017-2022:** 2.27%  
**Median age:** 37.9  
**Right-to-work state:** Yes

## Legislative Update

- The Department of Commerce budget bill, SB 2018, contains \$3 million for further development of the Grand Sky unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) business and technology park in Grand Forks and \$2 million for Northern Plains UAS Test Site operations.
- HB 1035 ensures the angel fund venture capital program can continue.
- HB 1296 eliminates unemployment insurance paper reporting for businesses.
- HB 1255 directs the North Dakota DOT to establish a limited transportation network of designated highways with higher truck weight limits, allowing shippers to be more efficient and make less trips.

**GDP**  
**45<sup>th</sup>**



**2016 GDP**  
(in millions of current US\$)  
**\$53,453**



**30<sup>th</sup>**

Business Tax Climate Rank Change 2017-2018: **0**



**40<sup>th</sup>**

Higher Ed. R&D Expenditure: **\$227,417**



**44<sup>th</sup>**

Number of NCRCs: **760** | Percent Improvement 2017-2018: **13%**



**38<sup>th</sup>**

ITIF Score: **51.8**



**40<sup>th</sup>**

Lowest Electric Power Cost (cents/kWh): **8.66**



**2<sup>nd</sup>**

## Selected Corporate Facility Projects 2017

COMPANY	CITY	COUNTY	TYPE	NEW/ EXPANDED	PRODUCT	INVESTMENT (US\$ M)	EMP
North Dakota Soybean Processors	Spiritwood	Stutsman	MF	N	Soybeans	287	60
Arrow Field Services	Keene	McKenzie	MF	N	Natural Gas	100	12
Border States Industries	Fargo	Cass	HQ	N	Electrical Equipment	18	50
Midcontinent Communications	Fargo	Cass	DT	N	Data Center	12	3
Dakota Specialty Milling	Fargo	Cass	MF	E	Flour	9	12
Anchor Ingredients Co.	Buffalo	Cass	MF	N	Crop Activities	4	18
Mackow Industries	West Fargo	Cass	MF	E	Fabricated Metal	4	12
Northrop Grumman Corp.	Grand Forks	Grand Forks	RD	N	Circuit Assembly	3	30
Agri-Cover	Jamestown	Stutsman	MF	E	Textiles	3	43
Korber Medipak Systems NA	Fargo	Cass	MF	N	Machinery	1	68
Heimbuch Potatoes	Cogswell	Sargent	MF	E	Food	1	7

DT = Data Center | MF = Manufacturing | OF = Office | HQ = Headquarters | RD = Research & Development | DW = Distribution/Warehouse

## Did You Know?

The North Dakota Governor's Office, North Dakota Department of Commerce and Economic Development Association of North Dakota (EDND) presented Governor's Choice – Economic Developer of the Year awards to Matt Marshall, economic development and community services director for the City of West Fargo, and Melissa Beach, executive director of the Traill County Economic Development Commission (TCEDC).

The state's leadership in legume production includes ranking No. 1 in the US in production of dry navy and pinto beans.

The number of oil and gas wells in production in North Dakota was 14,190 in September 2017, a change of +0.7 percent from the prior month and +6.1 percent from one year ago. Approximately 8 in 10 oil and gas wells are located in the four core oil and gas producing counties.

Fit Small Business recently ranked North Dakota the No. 1 state most likely to weather the next recession, owing to conservative fiscal practices and economic diversification backed by the oil & gas, agriculture and food sectors.

# Put your business on the map



As you can see, North Dakota has some primary innovation and development categories charting the state. Everyday, more and more industries are finding North Dakota to be a good place to call home.

The reasons are quite simple. It's easy to do business here. Fewer regulations. State leaders are easy to find and go out of their way to help you succeed.

Check out North Dakota today and put **your** business on the map.

