



**"We have gifted researchers, entrepreneurs and technology right here in North Dakota — as well as natural attributes such as open skies, variable climate, agriculture and energy — to diversify our economy and continue our trajectory as a national leader in UAS."**

— Gov. Doug Burgum, announcing in November a \$30 million proposal to build out infrastructure that would support beyond visual line of sight (BVLOS) operations for unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) across North Dakota

**North Dakota Dept. of Econ. Dev.**  
1600 E. Century Ave., #2  
Bismarck, ND 58503

**John Schneider**  
DIRECTOR ED/FINANCE  
701-328-5300

**business.nd.gov**

# North Dakota

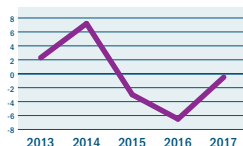
**Pop. (2018):** 797,210  
**Median household income:** \$60,183  
**Credit Rating:** AA+/Stable

**Pop. growth 2018-2023:** 1.88%  
**Median age:** 38  
**Right-to-work state:** Yes

## Legislative Update

- In response to an infrastructure funding package proposed by Republican legislators in July, in advance of the coming biennial session in 2019, Gov. Burgum said, "We commend legislative leaders for proposing a plan that addresses critical infrastructure needs across our entire state for the long-term benefit of our citizens, while also still maintaining funding for hub cities in the oil patch."
- Burgum in April designated 25 areas in North Dakota as Opportunity Zones under the federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017.
- Burgum in March convened 60 leaders to update them on his administration's five strategic priorities: Reinventing Government, Main Street Initiative, Transforming Education, Tribal Partnerships and Behavioral Health. "Budget challenges, demographics, digital transformation, cybersecurity challenges and very tight national, state and local labor markets are all powerful forces," he said, "that will require us to re-envision our current siloed agency approach to delivering services."

**GDP**  
**46<sup>th</sup>**



**2017 GDP**  
(in millions of current US\$)  
**\$50,795.4**



**17<sup>th</sup>**  
Business Tax Climate Rank Change 2018-2019: **+2**



**40<sup>th</sup>**  
Higher Ed. R&D Expenditure: **\$255,942**



**1<sup>st</sup>**  
Number of NCRCs: **1,309** | Percent Improvement 2017-2018: **72.2%**



**1<sup>st</sup>**  
2018 Workers' Comp Index Rate: **0.82**



**39<sup>th</sup>**  
Lowest Electric Power Cost (cents/kWh): **8.55**



**19<sup>th</sup>**  
Fiscal Condition Index Rank