

1950 CENSUS OF POPULATION

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CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION OF NORTH DAKOTA

APRIL 1, 1950

(This is one of a series of reports presenting figures on selected characteristics of the population of the smaller States. In this series, reports are numbered alphabetically by States. Additional reports will be issued as figures for other States become available. Preliminary sample data for the larger States, not covered in this series, will be found in Series PC-6)

Although the population of North Dakota decreased between 1940 and 1950, there were marked gains among young children and elderly persons, according to figures from the 1950 Census of Population released today by Roy V. Peel, Director, Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce. The total population of the State decreased by 22,299, or 3.5 percent, during the decade, but the number of children under 5 years of age increased by 13,615, or 22.0 percent, and the number of persons 65 years old and over increased by 22.4 percent. On the other hand, decreases were shown by the figures for a number of other age groups--the largest of these, 19.8 percent, occurred among persons 15 to 24 years old. In 1950 there were more males than females in the population of North Dakota, but the excess of males was relatively smaller than it had been at the time of the preceding census. There were 108.8 males for every 100 females in 1950 as compared with 109.4 in 1940. Between 1940 and 1950 the nonwhite population of the State, which includes a considerable number of Indians, increased by 6.8 percent in contrast to a decrease of 3.6 percent in the white population.

DEFINITIONS OF TERMS AND EXPLANATIONS

Urban and rural residence.--Under the urban definition established for use in the 1950 Census, the urban population comprises all persons living in (a) places of 2,500 inhabitants or more incorporated as cities, boroughs, towns,¹ and villages; (b) the densely settled urban fringe, including both incorpo-

¹ Except in New England, New York, and Wisconsin, where "towns" are minor civil divisions of counties and are not necessarily densely settled centers like the towns in other States.

rated and unincorporated areas, around cities of 50,000 or more; and (c) unincorporated places of 2,500 inhabitants or more outside any urban fringe. The remaining population is classified as rural. According to the definition used in previous censuses, urban population comprised all persons living in incorporated places of 2,500 inhabitants or more and areas (usually minor civil divisions) classified as urban under special rules relating to population size and density.

Farm and nonfarm residence.--The rural population is subdivided into the rural-farm population, which comprises all rural residents living on farms, and the rural-nonfarm population, which comprises the remaining rural population. However, the method of determining farm and nonfarm residence in the 1950 Census differs somewhat from that used in earlier censuses. In the 1950 Census, persons on "farms" who were paying cash rent for their house and yard only were classified as nonfarm; furthermore, persons in institutions, summer camps, and tourist courts were classified as nonfarm.

Color.--The group designated as "nonwhite" consists of Negroes, Indians, Japanese, Chinese, and other nonwhite races. Persons of Mexican birth or ancestry who are not definitely Indian or of other nonwhite race are classified as white.

Age.--The age classification is based on the age of the person at his last birthday before the date of the census, that is, the age of the person in completed years. The median age may be defined as that age which divides the population into two equal groups--one-half being older and one-half younger than the median.

Table 1.--COLOR BY SEX, FOR NORTH DAKOTA, URBAN AND RURAL: 1950 AND 1940

Color and sex	The State			Urban, 1950	Rural, 1950	Percent distribution			
	1950	1940	Percent change, 1940 to 1950			The State		Urban, 1950	Rural, 1950
						1950	1940		
Total.....	619,636	641,935	-3.5	164,817	454,819	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	608,448	631,464	-3.6	163,664	444,784	98.2	98.4	99.3	97.8
Nonwhite.....	11,188	10,471	6.8	1,153	10,035	1.8	1.6	0.7	2.2
Male.....	322,944	335,402	-3.7	80,805	242,139	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	317,153	330,047	-3.9	80,196	236,957	98.2	98.4	99.2	97.9
Nonwhite.....	5,791	5,355	8.1	609	5,182	1.8	1.6	0.8	2.1
Female.....	296,692	306,533	-3.2	84,012	212,680	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	291,295	301,417	-3.4	83,468	207,827	98.2	98.3	99.4	97.7
Nonwhite.....	5,397	5,116	5.5	544	4,853	1.8	1.7	0.6	2.3

Table 2.--AGE BY SEX, FOR NORTH DAKOTA, URBAN AND RURAL: 1950 AND 1940

Age and sex	The State			Urban, 1950	Rural nonfarm, 1950	Rural farm, 1950	Percent distribution				
	1950	1940	Per- cent change, 1940 to 1950				The State		Urban, 1950	Rural non- farm, 1950	Rural farm, 1950
							1950	1940			
Total population.....	619,636	641,935	-3.5	164,817	200,332	254,487	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Percent by residence	100.0	...	...	26.6	32.3	41.1	...	...	...	...	...
Under 5 years.....	75,408	61,793	22.0	19,020	23,432	32,956	12.2	9.6	11.5	11.7	12.9
5 to 14 years.....	116,771	128,797	-9.3	25,129	36,260	55,382	18.8	20.1	15.2	18.1	21.8
15 to 24 years.....	99,029	123,501	-19.8	30,300	28,672	40,057	16.0	19.2	18.4	14.3	15.7
25 to 34 years.....	86,906	95,937	-9.4	25,911	26,155	34,840	14.0	14.9	15.7	13.1	13.7
35 to 44 years.....	79,838	75,840	5.3	20,596	24,633	34,609	12.9	11.8	12.5	12.3	13.6
45 to 54 years.....	62,518	67,212	-7.0	17,000	19,978	25,540	10.1	10.5	10.3	10.0	10.0
55 to 64 years.....	50,970	49,465	3.0	14,155	18,818	17,997	8.2	7.7	8.6	9.4	7.1
65 years and over.....	48,196	39,390	22.4	12,706	22,384	13,106	7.8	6.1	7.7	11.2	5.1
Median age.....years..	27.1	25.7	...	28.1	29.5	24.7	...	...	...	...	...
Male.....	322,944	335,402	-3.7	80,805	101,780	140,359	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 5 years.....	38,398	31,346	22.5	9,625	11,884	16,889	11.9	9.3	11.9	11.7	12.0
5 to 14 years.....	59,534	65,141	-8.6	12,744	18,222	28,568	18.4	19.4	15.8	17.9	20.4
15 to 24 years.....	50,363	62,800	-19.8	13,694	13,814	22,855	15.6	18.7	16.9	13.6	16.3
25 to 34 years.....	45,588	49,556	-8.0	13,220	13,493	18,875	14.1	14.8	16.4	13.3	13.4
35 to 44 years.....	42,061	39,798	5.7	10,093	12,596	19,372	13.0	11.9	12.5	12.4	13.8
45 to 54 years.....	33,039	36,155	-8.6	8,058	10,119	14,862	10.2	10.8	10.0	9.9	10.6
55 to 64 years.....	27,469	27,960	-1.8	7,018	9,541	10,910	8.5	8.3	8.7	9.4	7.8
65 years and over.....	26,492	22,646	17.0	6,353	12,111	8,028	8.2	6.8	7.9	11.9	5.7
Median age.....years..	27.9	26.7	...	28.3	30.2	26.0	...	...	...	...	...
Female.....	296,692	306,533	-3.2	84,012	98,552	114,128	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 5 years.....	37,010	30,447	21.6	9,395	11,548	16,067	12.5	9.9	11.2	11.7	14.1
5 to 14 years.....	57,237	63,656	-10.1	12,385	18,038	26,814	19.3	20.8	14.7	18.3	23.5
15 to 24 years.....	48,666	60,701	-19.8	16,606	14,858	17,202	16.4	19.8	19.8	15.1	15.1
25 to 34 years.....	41,318	46,381	-10.9	12,691	12,662	15,965	13.9	15.1	15.1	12.8	14.0
35 to 44 years.....	37,777	36,042	4.8	10,503	12,037	15,237	12.7	11.8	12.5	12.2	13.4
45 to 54 years.....	29,479	31,057	-5.1	8,942	9,859	10,678	9.9	10.1	10.6	10.0	9.4
55 to 64 years.....	23,501	21,505	9.3	7,137	9,277	7,087	7.9	7.0	8.5	9.4	6.2
65 years and over.....	21,704	16,744	29.6	6,353	10,273	5,078	7.3	5.5	7.6	10.4	4.4
Median age.....years..	26.3	24.7	...	27.9	28.8	23.2	...	...	...	...	...