

North Dakota



North Dakota has a small rural high school student population; however, these students make up the strong majority of the state's total high school population.

While the majority of ND's rural high schools students is white (78.6%), there are sizable groups of Native American (7.0%) and Hispanic (5.9%) students.

ND's rural median family income (\$54,700) is below the overall state median income (\$61,800). However, rural ND falls in the top quintile for economic mobility, meaning the current generation is very likely to out earn their parents.

High school graduation rates as well as AP and SAT/ACT participation rates are a useful college preparedness gauge. The rural student population has a strong graduation rate compared to the national average. The state performs at a similarly high level.

Rural students participate in AP exams and the ACT/SAT at rates slightly lower than their peers across the state.

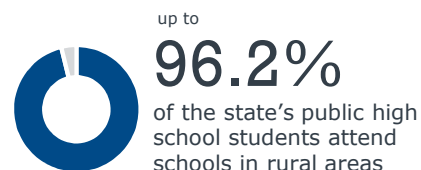
The unemployment rate in rural ND is lower than the national rate and only slightly higher than the state, showing a healthy job market.

Looking at the top industries in rural parts of the state, none of the categories necessarily require a college degree, at least for the majority of reported roles held. Select roles in other categories (i.e., accounting) may also require a degree.

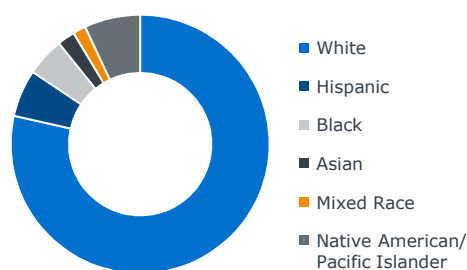
Size of the Rural Market

29,000+

rural students in grades 9-12¹ throughout the state



Statewide Rural Diversity Measures



\$54,700

median family income in rural parts of the state

2 of 50

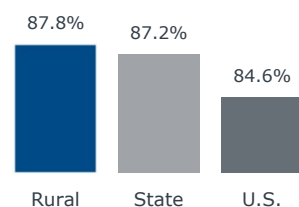
economic mobility ranking (top quintile)



Academic Preparedness

High School Graduation Rates

Rural, state, and national averages



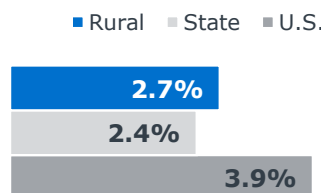
College Readiness Indicators

	Rural	State
Share of junior and senior students who take ACT/SAT per year	47.6%	50.9%
Share of rural HS students taking 1+ AP exams per year	4.6%	4.9%

Employment and Industry Context

Unemployment Rates[†]

Unemployment in rural North Dakota is well below the national average.



[†] Data as of December 2018

Main Industries in Rural ND

The main industries in the nonmetro areas of the state, excluding retail and food service occupations, are:

- **Office and administrative**
Secretaries; office assistants; bookkeeping and accounting; store clerks; order fillers
- **Construction and extraction**
Oil and gas laborers; construction laborers; supervisors; electricians; carpenters
- **Transportation/material moving**
Truck and tractor trailer drivers; hand freight and stock movers; packing workers

1) 2015-16 NCES private school data shows about 1,000 additional rural students in private schools in the state.

Source: See "Data and Methodology" for a full explanation of resources accessed and analyses conducted.