

New Town, North Dakota - Understanding the Community in Which We Live

Community Profiles Generated for the Northwest Area Foundation Horizons Program to Assist in Understanding Poverty
Prepared by the North Dakota State Data Center at North Dakota State University, an Equal Opportunity Institution - January 2007

Table 1. Demographic Characteristics

Demographics	New Town		Mountrail County					
	1990	2000	1990	2000	Projections			
					2005	2010	2015	2020
Total population	1,388	1,396	7,021	6,631	6,492	6,518	6,516	6,503
AGE								
Ages 0 to 19	487	492	2,283	2,026	1,873	1,739	1,647	1,597
% of total population	35.1	35.2	32.5	30.6	28.9	26.7	25.3	24.6
Ages 65 and Older	206	173	1,287	1,164	1,169	1,301	1,486	1,754
% of total population	14.8	12.4	18.3	17.6	18.0	20.0	22.8	27.0
RACE*								
White	666	407	5,595	4,362				
% of total population	48.0	29.2	79.7	65.8				
Black	0	0	3	3				
% of total population	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
American Indian or Alaska Native	722	931	1,398	1,986				
% of total population	52.0	66.7	19.9	30.0				
Asian, Hawaiian, or Pacific Islander	0	15	21	41				
% of total population	0.0	1.1	0.3	0.6				
Other	0	0	4	3				
% of total population	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0				
Two or more races	-	43	-	236				
ETHNICITY								
Hispanic Origin of any race	3	31	16	77				
% of total population	0.2	2.2	0.2	1.2				

Note: *Racial reporting procedures changed with Census 2000, allowing persons to report multiple races.

Data Sources: AGE - U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 Census, Summary Tape File 3 (STF3) Table P13, <http://factfinder.census.gov/>; 2000 Census, Summary File 3 (SF3) Table P8, <http://factfinder.census.gov/>; North Dakota State Data Center, North Dakota Population Projections: 2005 to 2020-Including County Distributions by Age and Gender, Issued September 2002, <http://www.ndsu.edu/sdc/data/ndpopulationprojections.htm>. RACE - U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 Census, Summary Tape File 3 (STF3) Table P8; 2000 Census, Summary File 3 (SF3) Table P6. ETHNICITY - U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 Census, Summary Tape File 3 (STF3) Table P10; 2000 Census, Summary File 3 (SF3) Table P7.

- The city of New Town experienced a slight increase in population between 1990 and 2000 while Mountrail County experienced a modest decline.
- Population projections for Mountrail County indicate that population declines are likely to continue over the next two decades.
- The city of New Town experienced little change in the proportion of youth under 20 years of age and a decline in the proportion of elderly ages 65 and older between 1990 and 2000. At the same time, Mountrail County experienced a decline in the proportion of both youth and elderly. Projections for Mountrail County indicate that this loss of youth will likely continue over the next couple decades; however, the proportion of elderly is expected to increase.
- While the white population declined in both the city of New Town and Mountrail County between 1990 and 2000, the American Indian or Alaska Native population increased. In 2000, American Indians comprised two-thirds of the population in New Town and one-third of the population in Mountrail County.

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Table 2. Housing Characteristics

Housing	New Town				Mountrail County			
	1990		2000		1990		2000	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total housing units	553	100.0	519	100.0	3,675	100.0	3,438	100.0
Occupied housing units	494	89.3	493	95.0	2,587	70.4	2,560	74.5
Owner-occupied housing units	309	55.9	285	54.9	1,951	53.1	1,859	54.1
Renter-occupied housing units	185	33.5	208	40.1	636	17.3	701	20.4
Vacant housing units	59	10.7	26	5.0	1,088	29.6	878	25.5
For rent	32	5.8	6	1.2	110	3.0	60	1.7
For sale only	7	1.3	1	0.2	57	1.6	54	1.6
Rented or sold, not occupied	5	0.9	5	1.0	28	0.8	20	0.6
For seasonal or recreational use	1	0.2	9	1.7	465	12.7	311	9.0
For migrant workers	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	0.1	19	0.6
Other vacant	14	2.5	5	1.0	425	11.6	414	12.0
Median value for specified owner-occupied housing units (2000 inflation adjusted dollars)	\$54,282		\$44,000		\$42,292		\$39,700	
Median year housing structure built (all housing units)	1968		1971		1969		1968	
Median price asked for specified vacant-for-sale-only housing units (dollars)	NA		\$0		NA		\$10,000-	

Notes: "\$10,000-" indicates that the median falls below \$10,000. For 1990 data, occupied and vacant housing units may not sum to total housing units due to two different data sets used to collect 1990 data; see Data Sources. The 1990 median values for owner-occupied housing units are inflated to their 2000 values using the consumer price index. NA indicates that data are not available.

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 Census, Summary Tape File 3 (STF3) Tables H1, H8, H61A, and H25A, Summary Tape File 1 (STF1) Table H5, <http://factfinder.census.gov/>; 2000 Census, Summary File 3 (SF3) Tables H1, H7, H8, H76, H37, and H88, <http://factfinder.census.gov/>.

- Both the city of New Town and Mountrail County experienced a decline in the total number of housing units between 1990 and 2000. In 2000, 54 percent of housing units in Mountrail County and 55 percent in New Town were owner-occupied.
- The number of vacant housing units declined in both the city of New Town and Mountrail County between 1990 and 2000. In 2000, vacant housing comprised 5 percent of all housing in New Town and 26 percent in Mountrail County.
- In 2000, the median value of an owner-occupied home in the city of New Town was \$44,000, compared to \$39,700 in Mountrail County. These 2000 values were actually lower than the 1990 median values after adjusting for inflation.
- In 2000, half of all housing units in the city of New Town were built before 1971; half of all housing units in Mountrail County were built before 1968.

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Table 3. Income and Poverty Characteristics

Income and Poverty	New Town		Mountrail County	
	1990	2000	1990	2000
Median household income (2000 inflation adjusted dollars)	\$23,772	\$29,524	\$25,559	\$27,098
Per capita income (2000 inflation adjusted dollars)	\$10,555	\$12,490	\$12,207	\$13,422
Persons for whom poverty is determined	1,324	1,333	6,802	6,450
Living below poverty	368	310	1,436	1,243
% of all persons	27.8	23.3	21.1	19.3
Ages 0 to 17 below poverty	159	105	583	435
% of all persons below poverty	43.2	33.9	40.6	35.0
Ages 65 and older below poverty	30	39	187	186
% of all persons below poverty	8.2	12.6	13.0	15.0

Note: The 1990 median household income and per capita income values are inflated to their 2000 values using the consumer price index.

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 Census, Summary Tape File 3 (STF3) Tables P80A, P114A, and P117, <http://factfinder.census.gov/>; 2000 Census, Summary File 3 (SF3) Tables P53, P82, and P87, <http://factfinder.census.gov/>.

- The median household income in the city of New Town was \$29,524 in 2000, compared to \$27,098 in Mountrail County. When the 1990 median values are adjusted for inflation, the 2000 median household incomes represent an increase in purchasing power in both the city of New Town and Mountrail County.
- The proportion of residents living below poverty declined in both the city of New Town and Mountrail County between 1990 and 2000. Nonetheless, 23 percent of residents in New Town and 19 percent in Mountrail County were impoverished in 2000.
- The number of impoverished children declined in both the city of New Town and Mountrail County between 1990 and 2000. At the same time, the number of impoverished elderly increased slightly in New Town and remained relatively unchanged in Mountrail County. In 2000, children comprised 35 percent of all impoverished residents in Mountrail County and 34 percent in New Town. Elderly comprised 15 percent of all impoverished residents in Mountrail County and 13 percent in New Town in 2000.

Table 4. Religious Congregation and Membership Characteristics

Religion	New Town		Mountrail County	
	1990	2000	1990	2000
Number of churches, synagogues, mosques, and temples	NA	NA	32	28
Full-time members	NA	NA	2,941	2,500
Number of attendees	NA	NA	NA	927

Note: NA indicates that data are not available for this geography.

Data Sources: "Religious Congregations and Membership in the United States 2000: An Enumeration by Region, State, and County Based on Data Reported by 49 Religious Bodies." Nashville, TN: Glenmary Research Center, 2002; "Churches and Church Membership in the United States 1990: An Enumeration by Region, State, and County Based on Data Reported for 133 Church Groupings." Atlanta, GA: Glenmary Research Center, 1992.

- The number of churches, synagogues, mosques, and temples in Mountrail County declined by four between 1990 and 2000 and the number of full-time members declined as well. These declines may be a reflection of the overall population loss the county experienced during the same time period.

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Table 5. Health Characteristics

Health	Mountrail County			
	2002	2003	2004	2005
Total resident births	81	90	117	88
Birth rate (births per 1,000 persons)	12.22	13.57	17.64	13.27
Births to teenage mothers	17	9	17	10
Total resident deaths	92	107	82	77
Death rate (deaths per 1,000 persons)	13.87	16.14	12.37	11.61
Deaths due to suicide	NR	0	NR	0
Deaths due to cancer	10	19	17	10
Deaths due to heart disease	34	36	25	24
Foster care placements	15	26	20	15

Note: NR - Data are not reported for geographies where the number of events is five or less.

Data Sources: BIRTHS and DEATHS - Calendar year data. North Dakota Department of Health, Vital Records, <http://www.vitalnd.com/>. FOSTER CARE - Fiscal year data. North Dakota Department of Human Services, Children and Family Services Division, unpublished data.

- Mountrail County reported 88 births in 2005, a rate of 13.27 per 1,000 persons. This rate was down from 17.64 in 2004, yet up from 12.22 in 2002.
- The number of deaths occurring in Mountrail County totaled 77 in 2005, down from 107 in 2003. Major contributors to death were heart disease and cancer.
- The number of foster care placements in Mountrail County declined over the last few years. In 2005, the number of foster care placements was 15, down from 26 in 2003.

Table 6. Labor Force Characteristics

Labor Force	New Town		Mountrail County	
	1990	2000	1990	2000
Persons 16 years and older	1,006	1,020	5,190	5,005
In the labor force	632	575	2,997	2,916
Armed Forces	0	1	0	1
Civilian employed	553	511	2,747	2,743
Civilian unemployed	79	63	250	172
Unemployment rate (unemployed as a % of civilian labor force)	12.5	11.0	8.3	5.9
Not in the labor force	374	445	2,193	2,089

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 Census, Summary Tape File 3 (STF3) Table P70, <http://factfinder.census.gov/>; 2000 Census, Summary File 3 (SF3) Table P43, <http://factfinder.census.gov/>.

- Both the city of New Town and Mountrail County experienced declines in the labor force between 1990 and 2000.
- The unemployment rates declined slightly for both the city of New Town and Mountrail County between 1990 and 2000.

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Table 7. Employment Characteristics

Employment	New Town				Mountrail County			
	1990		2000		1990		2000	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total employed (in civilian labor force)	553	100.0	511	100.0	2,747	100.0	2,743	100.0
GENDER								
Females	264	47.7	253	49.5	1,235	45.0	1,324	48.3
Males	289	52.3	258	50.5	1,512	55.0	1,419	51.7
INDUSTRY								
Agriculture, forestry, mining	43	7.8	13	2.5	673	24.5	479	17.5
Manufacturing	58	10.5	35	6.8	135	4.9	98	3.6
Retail Trade	97	17.5	47	9.2	404	14.7	285	10.4
Services	195	35.3	241	47.2	850	30.9	1,146	41.8
Other	160	28.9	175	34.2	685	24.9	735	26.8

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 Census, Summary Tape File 3 (STF3) Tables P70 and P77, <http://factfinder.census.gov/>; 2000 Census, Summary File 3 (SF3) Tables P43 and P49, <http://factfinder.census.gov/>.

- Total employment declined slightly for both the city of New Town and Mountrail County between 1990 and 2000.
- The percentage of employment that was female increased slightly for both the city of New Town and Mountrail County between 1990 and 2000. In 2000, females comprised 50 percent of all employed in New Town and 48 percent of all employed in Mountrail County.
- Both the city of New Town and Mountrail County experienced growth in service industry employment and declines in agricultural, manufacturing, and retail trade employment between 1990 and 2000. In 2000, the service sector was the largest industry in both areas, employing 42 percent of workers in Mountrail County and 47 percent of workers in New Town.

Table 8. Educational Attainment Characteristics

Educational Attainment	New Town				Mountrail County			
	1990		2000		1990		2000	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Persons 25 years and older	828	100.0	833	100.0	4,490	100.0	4,309	100.0
Less than High School								
Less than 9th grade	107	12.9	72	8.6	791	17.6	431	10.0
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	65	7.9	106	12.7	422	9.4	523	12.1
High school graduate (or equivalency)								
Some college, no degree	192	23.2	222	26.7	898	20.0	997	23.1
College degree								
Associate degree	114	13.8	113	13.6	476	10.6	411	9.5
Bachelor's degree	79	9.5	94	11.3	471	10.5	515	12.0
Graduate or professional degree	36	4.3	45	5.4	108	2.4	158	3.7

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 Census, Summary Tape File 3 (STF3) Table P57, <http://factfinder.census.gov/>; 2000 Census, Summary File 3 (SF3) Table P37, <http://factfinder.census.gov/>.

- In both the city of New Town and Mountrail County, the number and proportion of persons ages 25 and older with some college education but no degree and the proportion with a college degree increased slightly between 1990 and 2000.

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Table 9. School District Characteristics

Enrollment, Achievement, and Proficiency	New Town Public School District			
	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005
Total K-12 enrollment	749	761	772	726
GRADE				
Kindergarten to 6th grade	423	436	435	390
7th to 8th grade	129	117	123	131
9th to 12th grade	197	208	214	205
RACE*				
% White	11.4	10.1	7.9	8.8
% Black	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
% American Indian	88.0	89.8	91.7	90.2
% Asian	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
% Hispanic	0.5	0.1	0.4	0.8
High school graduation rate	65.4	71.9	81.4	77.1
High school dropouts	6	6	0	6
Student to classroom teacher ratio	15.2	15.8	15.9	15.3
% of students who scored at the proficient or advanced achievement level in reading	46.1	45.2	52.4	53.3
% of students who scored at the proficient or advanced achievement level in math	21.7	20.6	31.5	48.5

Notes: *The North Dakota Department of Public Instruction classifies Hispanic origin as a separate race, not as an ethnic origin of any race. NA indicates that data are not available.
Data Sources: Academic year data. North Dakota Department of Public Instruction, North Dakota School District Profiles, <http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/dpi/reports/Profile/index.shtm>.

- Enrollment within the New Town Public School District declined over the past few years, from 761 students in 2002-2003 to 726 students in 2004-2005.
- In 2004-2005, 53 percent of students in the New Town Public School District were proficient or advanced in reading, up from 46 percent in 2001-2002. In addition, 49 percent of students were proficient or advanced in math in 2004-2005, up from 22 percent in 2001-2002.