

North Dakota

1997

Issued December 1999

EC97R44A-ND

1997 Economic Census

Retail Trade

Geographic Area Series



U S C E N S U S B U R E A U

Helping You Make Informed Decisions

U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU



North Dakota 1997

Issued December 1999

EC97R44A-ND

1997 Economic Census

Retail Trade

Geographic Area Series



U.S. Department of Commerce

William M. Daley,

Secretary

Robert L. Mallett,

Deputy Secretary

Economics

and Statistics

Administration

Robert J. Shapiro,

Under Secretary for

Economic Affairs

U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

Kenneth Prewitt,

Director



**Economics
and Statistics
Administration**

Robert J. Shapiro,
Under Secretary
for Economic Affairs



U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

Kenneth Prewitt,
Director

William G. Barron,
Deputy Director

Paula J. Schneider,
Principal Associate Director
for Programs

Frederick T. Knickerbocker,
Associate Director
for Economic Programs

Thomas L. Mesenbourg,
Assistant Director
for Economic Programs

Carole A. Ambler,
Chief, Service Sector
Statistics Division

CONTENTS

Introduction to the Economic Census	1
Retail Trade	5
TABLES	
1. Summary Statistics for the State: 1997	7
2. Summary Statistics for Metropolitan Areas: 1997	10
3. Summary Statistics for Counties: 1997	15
4. Summary Statistics for Places: 1997	38
APPENDIXES	
A. Explanation of Terms	A-1
B. NAICS Codes, Titles, and Descriptions	B-1
C. Coverage and Methodology	C-1
D. Geographic Notes	D-1
E. Metropolitan Areas	E-1

SOURCES FOR MORE INFORMATION

More information about the scope, coverage, classification system, data items, and publications for each of the economic censuses and related surveys is published in the *Guide to the 1997 Economic Census and Related Statistics* at www.census.gov/econguide. More information on the methodology, procedures, and history of the censuses will be published in the *History of the 1997 Economic Census* at www.census.gov/econ/www/history.html.

ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

The following abbreviations and symbols are used with the 1997 Economic Census data:

A	Standard error of 100 percent or more.
D	Withheld to avoid disclosing data of individual companies; data are included in higher level totals.
F	Exceeds 100 percent because data include establishments with payroll exceeding revenue.
N	Not available or not comparable.
Q	Revenue not collected at this level of detail for multiestablishment firms.
S	Withheld because estimates did not meet publication standards.

V	Represents less than 50 vehicles or .05 percent.
X	Not applicable.
Y	Disclosure withheld because of insufficient coverage of merchandise lines.
Z	Less than half the unit shown.
a	0 to 19 employees.
b	20 to 99 employees.
c	100 to 249 employees.
e	250 to 499 employees.
f	500 to 999 employees.
g	1,000 to 2,499 employees.
h	2,500 to 4,999 employees.
i	5,000 to 9,999 employees.
j	10,000 to 24,999 employees.
k	25,000 to 49,999 employees.
l	50,000 to 99,999 employees.
m	100,000 employees or more.
p	10 to 19 percent estimated.
q	20 to 29 percent estimated.
r	Revised.
s	Sampling error exceeds 40 percent.
nec	Not elsewhere classified.
nsk	Not specified by kind.
–	Represents zero (page image/print only).
(CC)	Consolidated city.
(IC)	Independent city.

This page is intentionally blank.

1990 Census of Population or subsequent special census) and which meet specific criteria of urban character and of social and economic integration.

4. Metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) defined by the OMB as of June 30, 1997. An MSA is an integrated economic and social unit with a population nucleus of at least 50,000 inhabitants (according to the 1990 Census of Population or subsequent special census). Each MSA consists of one or more counties meeting standards of metropolitan character. In New England, cities and towns rather than counties are the component geographic units.
5. Areas within the state outside metropolitan areas (MAs).
6. Counties and county equivalents defined as of January 1, 1997. Counties are the primary divisions of states, except in Louisiana where they are called parishes and in Alaska where they are called boroughs and census areas. Maryland, Missouri, Nevada, and Virginia have one place or more that is independent of any county organization and constitutes primary divisions of their states. These places are treated as counties and as places.
7. Consolidated cities defined as of January 1, 1997. Consolidated cities are consolidated governments which consist of separately incorporated municipalities.
8. Municipalities of 2,500 inhabitants or more defined as of January 1, 1997. These are areas of significant population incorporated as cities, boroughs, villages, or towns according to the 1990 Census of Population or subsequent special census. For the economic census, boroughs and census areas in Alaska and boroughs in New York are not included in this category.

9. Special economic urban areas (SEUAs), which include townships in Michigan, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, and towns in New York, Wisconsin, and the six New England states with 10,000 inhabitants or more (according to the 1990 Census of Population or subsequent special census).

COMPARABILITY OF THE 1992 AND 1997 CENSUSES

The 1997 Economic Census is the first census to present data based on the new North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). Previous census data were presented according to the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system developed some 60 years ago. Due to this change, comparability between census years may be limited. Comparative statistics will be included as part of the Core Business Statistics Reports.

DISCLOSURE

In accordance with Federal law governing census reports (Title 13 of the United States Code), no data are published that would disclose the operations of an individual establishment or business. However, the number of establishments in a kind-of-business classification is not considered a disclosure; therefore, this information may be released even though other information is withheld.

AVAILABILITY OF MORE FREQUENT ECONOMIC DATA

The Census Bureau conducts annual and monthly surveys on retail trade. These surveys, while providing more frequent observations, yield less kind-of-business and geographic detail than the economic census. In addition, the County Business Patterns program offers annual statistics on the number of establishments, employment, and payroll classified by industry within each county.

Table 3. Summary Statistics for Counties: 1997—Con.

[Includes only establishments with payroll. For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text. For explanation of terms, see Appendix A. For information on geographic areas followed by *, see Appendix D]

Table with columns: NAICS code, Geographic area and kind of business, Establishments (number), Sales (\$1,000), Annual payroll (\$1,000), First-quarter payroll (\$1,000), Paid employees for pay period including March 12 (number), and Percent of sales— (From administrative records, Estimated).

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. Summary Statistics for Counties: 1997—Con.

[Includes only establishments with payroll. For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text. For explanation of terms, see Appendix A. For information on geographic areas followed by *, see Appendix D]

Table with 9 columns: NAICS code, Geographic area and kind of business, Establishments (number), Sales (\$1,000), Annual payroll (\$1,000), First-quarter payroll (\$1,000), Paid employees for pay period including March 12 (number), Percent of sales— From administrative records¹, Estimated².

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4. Summary Statistics for Places: 1997—Con.

[Includes only establishments with payroll. For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text. For explanation of terms, see Appendix A. For information on geographic areas followed by *, see Appendix D]

Table with 9 columns: NAICS code, Geographic area and kind of business, Establishments (number), Sales (\$1,000), Annual payroll (\$1,000), First-quarter payroll (\$1,000), Paid employees for pay period including March 12 (number), and Percent of sales— (From administrative records¹, Estimated²). Rows include WILLISTON, ND and BALANCE OF ADAMS COUNTY, ND, with various NAICS codes and business descriptions.

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4. Summary Statistics for Places: 1997—Con.

[Includes only establishments with payroll. For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text. For explanation of terms, see Appendix A. For information on geographic areas followed by *, see Appendix D]

NAICS code	Geographic area and kind of business	Establishments (number)	Sales (\$1,000)	Annual payroll (\$1,000)	First-quarter payroll (\$1,000)	Paid employees for pay period including March 12 (number)	Percent of sales—	
							From administrative records ¹	Estimated ²
	BALANCE OF WILLIAMS COUNTY, ND—Con.							
44-45	Retail trade—Con.							
453	Miscellaneous store retailers	1	D	D	D	a	D	D
454	Nonstore retailers	1	D	D	D	a	D	D

Data for this line not included in broader kind-of-business totals.

¹Includes sales information obtained from administrative records of other Federal agencies.

²Includes sales information which was imputed based on historic company ratios or administrative records, or on industry averages.

Appendix A. Explanation of Terms

ANNUAL PAYROLL (\$1,000)

Payroll includes all forms of compensation such as salaries, wages, commissions, dismissal pay, bonuses, vacation allowances, sick-leave pay, and employee contributions to qualified pension plans paid during the year to all employees. Tips and gratuities received by employees from patrons and reported to employers are included. Excluded are payrolls of departments or concessions operated by other companies at the establishment. For corporations, payroll includes amounts paid to officers and executives; for unincorporated businesses, it does not include profit or other compensation of proprietors or partners. Payroll is reported before deductions for social security, income tax, insurance, union dues, etc. This definition of payroll is the same as that used by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) on Form 941.

FIRST-QUARTER PAYROLL (\$1,000)

Represents payroll paid to persons employed at any time during the quarter January to March 1997.

NUMBER OF ESTABLISHMENTS

An establishment is a single physical location at which business is conducted. It is not necessarily identical with a company or enterprise, which may consist of one establishment or more. Retail trade figures represent a summary of reports for individual establishments rather than companies. For cases where a census report was received, separate information was obtained for each location where business was conducted. When administrative records of other Federal agencies were used instead of a census report, no information was available on the number of locations operated. Each retail trade establishment was tabulated according to the physical location at which the business was conducted. The count of establishments represents those in business at any time during 1997.

When two activities or more were carried on at a single location under a single ownership, all activities generally were grouped together as a single establishment. The entire establishment was classified on the basis of its major activity and all data for it were included in that classification. However, when distinct and separate economic activities (for which different industry classification codes were appropriate) were conducted at a single location under a single ownership, separate establishment reports for each of the different activities were obtained in the census.

Leased departments are treated as separate establishments and are classified according to the kind of business they conduct. For example, a leased department selling shoes within a department store would be considered a separate retail establishment under the "shoe stores" classification.

NUMBER OF PAID EMPLOYEES FOR PAY PERIOD INCLUDING MARCH 12

Paid employees consist of full-time and part-time employees, including salaried officers and executives of corporations, who were on the payroll during the pay period including March 12. Included are employees on paid sick leave, paid holidays, and paid vacations; not included are proprietors and partners of unincorporated businesses, and employees of departments or concessions operated by other companies at the establishment. The definition of paid employees is the same as that used by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) on Form 941.

SALES (\$1,000)

Includes merchandise sold for cash or credit at retail and wholesale by establishments primarily engaged in retail trade; amounts received from customers for layaway purchases; receipts from rental of vehicles, equipment, instruments, tools, etc.; receipts for delivery, installation, maintenance, repair, alteration, storage, and other services; the total value of service contracts; and gasoline, liquor, tobacco, and other excise taxes which are paid by the manufacturer or wholesaler and passed on to the retailer.

Sales are net after deductions for refunds and allowances for merchandise returned by customers. Trade-in allowances are not deducted from sales. Sales do not include carrying or other credit charges; sales (or other) taxes collected from customers and forwarded to taxing authorities; gross sales and receipts of departments or concessions operated by other companies; and commissions or receipts from the sale of government lottery tickets.

Sales do not include retail sales made by manufacturers, wholesalers, service establishments, or other businesses whose primary activity is other than retail trade. They do include receipts other than from the sale of merchandise at retail, e.g., service receipts, sales to industrial users, and sales to other retailers, by establishments primarily engaged in retail trade.

**SALES, RECEIPTS, OR REVENUE ESTIMATED
(PERCENT)**

Percent of total sales/receipts/revenue that was imputed based on historic company ratios or administrative records, or on industry averages.

SALES, RECEIPTS, OR REVENUE FROM ADMINISTRATIVE RECORDS (PERCENT)

Percent of total sales/receipts/revenue obtained from administrative records of other Federal agencies.

45439033 Direct Selling, All Other Merchandise

Establishments primarily engaged in the direct selling of merchandise such as building materials; hardware; lawn and garden supplies; grocery items (except freezer meat and foods/beverages for immediate consumption); apparel and accessories; cosmetics; proprietary medicines; used

merchandise; sporting goods; jewelry; tobacco products; gifts, novelties and souvenirs; optical goods; leather goods; hobby equipment; religious articles; greeting cards; toys and games; and bottled water and coffee supplies.

Appendix C.

Coverage and Methodology

MAIL/NONMAIL UNIVERSE

For this sector, large- and medium-size firms, plus all firms known to operate more than one establishment, were sent questionnaires to be completed and returned to the Census Bureau by mail. For most very small firms, data from existing administrative records of other Federal agencies were used instead. These records provided basic information on location, kind of business, sales, payroll, number of employees, and legal form of organization.

Firms in the 1997 Economic Census were divided into the mail universe and nonmail universe. The coverage of and the method of obtaining census information from each are described below:

1. The mail universe consisted of firms for which information was obtained by means of a mail canvass and included:
 - a. Large employers, i.e., all multiestablishment firms, and all employer firms with payroll above a specified cutoff. (The term “employers” refers to firms with one or more paid employees at any time during 1997 as shown in the active administrative records of other Federal agencies.)
 - b. A sample of small employers, i.e., single-establishment firms with payroll below a specified cutoff in classifications for which specialized data precluded reliance solely on administrative records sources.
2. The nonmail universe consisted of firms that were not required to file a regular census return and included:
 - a. Selected small employers, i.e., single-establishment firms with payroll below a specified cutoff. Although the payroll cutoff varied by kind of business, small employers in the nonmail universe generally included firms with less than 10 employees and represented about 10 percent of total sales of establishments covered in the census. Data on sales, payroll, and employment for small employers in the nonmail universe were derived or estimated from administrative records of other Federal agencies.
 - b. All nonemployers, i.e., all firms with no paid employees during 1997. Sales information for these firms was obtained from administrative records of other Federal agencies. Although consisting of many firms, nonemployers accounted for

less than 10-percent of total sales of all establishments covered in the census. The census included only those nonemployer firms which reported a sales volume of \$1,000 or more during 1997. Establishments with no paid employees were excluded as in previous censuses. Data for nonemployers are not included in this report, but are released as part of the “Core Business Statistics Series.”

INDUSTRY CLASSIFICATION OF ESTABLISHMENTS

The classifications for all establishments in this sector were assigned in accordance with the 1997 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Manual, United States. NAICS is a common classification system developed by the United States, Canada, and Mexico. This system replaces the 1987 Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) that was used in previous censuses. Appendix A of the 1997 NAICS manual provides information on the comparability between the 1987 SIC and 1997 NAICS. More information on NAICS is available in the NAICS manual and at www.census.gov/naics.

The method of assigning classifications and the level of detail at which establishments were classified differed between the mail and nonmail universe as follows:

1. The mail universe. Establishments in the mail universe were classified on the basis of their self-designation, sales of merchandise lines, and other industry-specific inquiries.
2. The nonmail universe. Selected small employers were classified on the basis of the most current kind-of-business classification available from one of the Census Bureau’s current sample surveys or the 1992 Economic Census. Otherwise, the classification was obtained from administrative records of other Federal agencies. If the census or administrative record classifications proved inadequate (none corresponded to a 1997 Economic Census classification in the detail required for employers), the firm was sent a brief inquiry requesting information necessary to assign a kind-of-business code.

Nonemployers were classified on the basis of information obtained from administrative records of other Federal agencies.

RELIABILITY OF DATA

All data compiled for this sector are subject to nonsampling errors. Nonsampling errors can be attributed to many sources: inability to identify all cases in the actual universe; definition and classification difficulties; differences in the interpretation of questions; errors in recording or coding the data obtained; and other errors of collection, response, coverage, processing, and estimation for missing or misreported data.

Data presented in the Miscellaneous Subjects and the Merchandise Line Sales reports for this sector are subject to sampling errors as well as nonsampling errors. Specifically, these data are estimated based on information obtained from census questionnaires mailed to all large employers and to a sample of small employers in the universe. Sampling errors affect these estimates insofar as they may differ from results that would be obtained from a complete enumeration.

The accuracy of these tabulated data is determined by the joint effects of the various nonsampling errors or by the joint effects of sampling and nonsampling errors. No direct measurement of these effects has been obtained except for estimation for missing or misreported data; however, precautionary steps were taken in all phases of the collection, processing, and tabulation of the data in an effort to minimize the effects of nonsampling errors.

The Census Bureau obtains limited information extracted from administrative records of other Federal agencies. This information is used in conjunction with other information available to the Census Bureau to develop estimates for nonemployers, small employers, and other establishments for which responses were not received in time for publication.

TREATMENT OF NONRESPONSE

Census report forms included two different types of inquiries, "basic" and "industry-specific." Data for the

basic inquiries, which included location, kind of business or operation, sales, payroll, number of employees, and legal form of organization, were available from a combination of sources for all establishments. Data for industry-specific inquiries, tailored to the particular kinds of business or operation covered by the report, were available only from the establishments in the mail universe that completed the appropriate inquiries on the questionnaire.

Two methods were used to account for nonresponse to industry-specific inquiries. For some inquiries, missing data were imputed for individual records based on responses from similar establishments. For other inquiries, the total of reported data was expanded to represent 100 percent of the mail and nonmail employer universe. Data presented for industry-specific inquiries based on a December 31 reference date were expanded in direct relationship to total sales of only those establishments in business at the end of the year. Unless otherwise noted in specific reports, data for other industry-specific inquiries were expanded in direct relationship to total sales of all establishments included in the category. In a few cases, expansion on the basis of sales was not appropriate, and another basic data item was used as the basis for expansion.

All reports in which data were expanded to account for nonmail employers and nonrespondents include a coverage indicator for each publication category, which shows the sales of establishments responding to the industry-specific inquiry as a percent of total sales for all establishments for which data are shown. For some inquiries, coverage is determined by the ratio of total payroll or employment of establishments responding to the inquiry to total payroll or employment of all establishments in the category.

Appendix D. Geographic Notes

NORTH DAKOTA

There are no geographic notes for the state of North Dakota.

Appendix E. Metropolitan Areas

NORTH DAKOTA

Bismarck, ND MSA

Burleigh County, ND

Morton County, ND

Fargo—Moorhead, ND—MN MSA

Clay County, MN

Cass County, ND

Grand Forks, ND—MN MSA

Polk County, MN

Grand Forks County, ND

