

McKENZIE COUNTY

★ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ★

ECONOMY

AT A GLANCE

APRIL 2025

UPDATED MONTHLY	February 2025	February 2024	January 2025	January 2024
McKenzie County Unemployment Rate	3.0%	1.8%	2.7%	1.7%
North Dakota Unemployment Rate	3.2%	2.9%	3.1%	2.7%
McKenzie County Labor Force	7,961	9,965	7,912	9,886
North Dakota Labor Force	426,386	418,989	424,680	416,994
Online Job Openings-McKenzie County	293	340	221	222
West Texas Intermediate Oil (Price/Barrel)	\$71.53	\$77.25	\$75.74	\$74.15
Oil Production-McKenzie County (Barrels)	9,257,095	11,488,635	10,383,868	10,374,749
Farmers Prices Received Index (2011 Base)	147.1	120.5	129.6	111.8
Farmers Prices Paid Index (2011 Base)	147.4	140.5	146.9	139.9

SOURCES: Unemployment, labor force, and online job openings data from Job Service North Dakota; Oil price from US Energy Information Administration; Oil production from North Dakota Department of Mineral Resources; Farmers price index from United States Department of Agriculture

MONTHLY/YEAR TO DATE	March 2025	March 2024	Jan-March 2025	Jan-March 2024
Occupancy Tax Distribution-Watford City	\$8,896	\$10,325	\$56,104	\$41,562
City Sales Tax Distribution -Watford City	\$603,832	\$371,763	\$1,602,765	\$1,195,664
City Sales Tax Distribution -Alexander	\$59,694	NA	\$249,486	NA
Restaurant/Lodging Tax Distribution-Watford City	\$23,551	\$29,758	\$91,101	\$84,990
Permits-Watford City	9	17	22	36
Permits Value-Watford City	\$702,448	\$2,443,095	\$1,048,503	\$3,634,851
Permits-McKenzie County	6	0	8	2
Permits Value-McKenzie County	\$1,958,380	\$0	\$2,508,380	\$50,000
Landfill Daily Average (tons)-McKenzie County	66.9	60.1	180.3	186.2
LoadPass Permits	3,024	2,937	7,092	7,529
Thdr. Roosevelt National Park-North Unit Visits	1,900	924	3,400	2,000
Rough Rider Center Visits	22,000	16,700	75,200	67,500
City of Watford City Visits	115,300	113,800	327,500	345,300
City of Arnegard Visits	2,300	2,100	6,400	4,900
City of Alexander Visits	5,700	4,800	17,000	14,300

SOURCES: Tax distributions from North Dakota State Treasurer (Alexander's City Sales Tax Distribution Total is excluding March, April and May numbers); Building permit data from City of Watford City or McKenzie County; "Permits" for City of Watford City includes building, moving, sign, excavation, w/s access, demolition, fence, general, private septic, storage, and construction and repair. LoadPass numbers from McKenzie County Public Works; Visit data is from Placer.ai

APARTMENT OCCUPANCY RATE	April 2025	March 2025	April 2024	April 2023
Watford City-Brookledge	96%	97%	97%	93%

SOURCE: Brookledge Apartments that includes 174 units

UPDATED YEARLY (for McKenzie County)	2024	2023	2022	2021
Births	263	247	206	224
Deaths	76	87	93	97
K-12 Fall Public School enrollment	3,116	2,775	2,590	2,310
Median Age-County residents	NA	31.8	31.5	31.3
Oil Extraction and Transport employment	NA	3,439	3,188	2,984
All other employment	NA	7,615	6,939	6,142
All cattle and calf inventory	68,000	74,000	79,000	83,000
US Hwy 85 Oversize/overweight permits	45,878	44,829	37,398	35,131
Total true and full value of property	NA	NA	\$3,556,496,745	\$3,290,936,283

SOURCES: Births/Deaths from ND Dept of Health; School enrollment data from North Dakota Department of Public Instruction; Median age from US Census Bureau; Employment data from QCEW for All Employers, "Oil Extraction and Transport" cover NAICS codes 21, 48, 49 and "All other employment" cover any others besides what is included in oil extraction and transport; Cattle inventory is from USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service; Total true and full value is provided by the McKenzie County Records Office; NA means the data is not available.

TAXABLE SALES & PURCHASES	2024Q4	2024Q3	2023Q4	2023Q3
Watford City	\$73,064,333	\$73,755,543	\$70,956,404	\$75,259,539
McKenzie County	\$84,818,193	\$88,016,972	\$84,742,292	\$88,273,273
North Dakota	\$7,132,168,914	\$7,240,804,466	\$6,905,097,443	\$7,222,708,278

SOURCE: North Dakota State Tax Commissioner Office