MCKENZIE COUNTY
★ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ★

ECONOMY
AT A GLANCE
FEBRUARY 2025

UPDATED MONTHLY	December 2024	December 2023	November 2024	November 2023
McKenzie County Unemployment Rate	1.9%	1.3%	1.9%	1.1%
North Dakota Unemployment Rate	2.5%	1.8%	2.1%	1.4%
McKenzie County Labor Force	10,174	9,787	10,231	9,917
North Dakota Labor Force	417,728	409,589	417,167	412,927
Online Job Openings-McKenzie County	246	192	255	216
West Texas Intermediate Oil (Price/Barrel)	$70.12	$71.90	$69.95	$77.69
Oil Production-McKenzie County (Barrels)	10,278,039	12,009,759	10,346,168	11,535,844
Farmers Prices Received Index (2011 Base)	126.5	113.1	120.1	114.0
Farmers Prices Paid Index (2011 Base)	141.1	139.0	140.1	138.3

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	January 2025	January 2024	2024	2023
Occupancy Tax Distribution-Watford City	$20,474	$16,902	$187,543	$206,639
City Sales Tax Distribution -Watford City	$513,536	$330,483	$4,852,824	$4,932,881
City Sales Tax Distribution -Alexander	$100,906	$71,098	$538,385	$719,196
Restaurant/Lodging Tax Distribution-Watford City	$35,035	$27,800	$357,841	$357,028
Permits-Watford City	6	7	279	201
Permits Value-Watford City	$18,000	$656,800	$22,168,736	$36,194,683
Permits-McKenzie County	0	1	28	36,194,683
Permits Value-McKenzie County	$0	$50,000	$7,152,174	$9,023,601
Landfill Daily Average (tons)-McKenzie County	60.4	60.4	994.8	945.8
LoadPass Permits	2,292	2,020	31,600	29,499
Thdr. Roosevelt National Park-North Unit Visits	611	345	67,900	60,000
Rough Rider Center Visits	27,600	27,100	195,400	176,500
City of Watford City Visits	109,900	119,700	1,500,000	1,600,000
City of Arnegard Visits	2,300	1,700	41,400	35,500
City of Alexander Visits	6,500	4,900	76,200	78,400

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	February 2025	January 2025	February 2024	February 2023
Watford City-Brookledge	94%	94%	98%	93%

SOURCE: Brookledge Apartments that includes 174 units

UPDATED YEARLY (for McKenzie County)	2023	2022	2021	2020
Births	247	206	224	247
Deaths	87	93	97	105
K-12 Fall Public School enrollment	2,775	2,590	2,310	2,377
Median Age-County residents	NA	31.5	31.3	NA
Oil Extraction and Transport employment	3,425	3,188	2,984	3,322
All other employment	7,615	6,939	6,142	6,575
All cattle and calf inventory	74,000	79,000	83,000	81,000
US Hwy 85 Oversize/overweight permits	44,829	37,398	35,131	33,214
Total true and full value of property	NA	$3,556,496,745	$3,290,936,283	$3,205,480,881

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 Recorders Office; NA means the data is not available.

TAXABLE SALES & PURCHASES	2024Q3	2024Q2	2023Q3	2023Q2
Watford City	$73,434,868	$70,209,830	$75,259,539	$74,265,757
McKenzie County	$87,670,012	$81,697,567	$88,273,273	$87,654,494
North Dakota	$7,213,680,470	$6,822,412,317	$7,219,494,294	$6,958,780,560

SOURCE: North Dakota State Tax Commissioner Office