

Testimony to the  
**ADVISORY COMMISSION ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS**  
 Prepared August 28, 2013  
 by the North Dakota Association of Counties  
 Terry Traynor, Assistant Director

### **CONCERNING COUNTY EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS**

Madam Chair and Commission members, thank you for the invitation to respond to several requests and questions regarding this study topic.

To address the first information request regarding a listing of elected and appointed county officials, we have prepared and attached several tables and graphics. The first (Attachment 1) addresses the traditionally elected offices. Our office has maintained this table since the passage of the “tool chest” legislation in 1993 that facilitated the combination and redesignation of these offices. It is rather complicated as there are quite a few variations.

Similarly, Attachment 2 looks at appointed agency heads, many of which are often filled as part-time; either by assignment to another full-time individual or bundled as “combined appointments” with other part-time duties. Notably absent from the “appointed position table” are the social service directors and the health district administrators. As so many of these serve as multi-county officials, it was easier to depict them in map form as Attachment 3.

Attachment 4 is a summary of the changes in the last 20 years of the traditionally full-time elected county officials, contrasting the numbers before and after the enactment of the “tool chest” provisions – although clearly some of the adjustments are due to joint powers agreements, home rule charters and legislative changes. A summary of the appointed positions is a bit more complex, but the 424 statutorily required positions are filled with a combination of 205 full-time individuals, 51 part-time, and 37 contracts (coroners).

We were requested to also provide information regarding the membership of appointed boards that counties establish as a requirement of state law or local ballot measure. We began gathering much of this information several years ago and have data on the most common boards across the state (Attachment 5). It should be noted that counties may also appoint port authority, commerce authority, home rule charter, and special assessment boards. In the first two cases these boards have never been created and the latter two are not often used by most counties.

County officials were pleased to learn that the information in these tables was requested by this committee, as they believe it demonstrates their concerted efforts to streamline and simplify local government where possible, often in a somewhat unique manner that fits local needs. Similarly, the table documenting the use of 1772 citizen volunteers in support of key county services strongly validates our system of citizen-government in North Dakota.

NDACo was asked to update the ACIR “*on what is being done to help the Interim Taxation Committee obtain information on 2013 property tax levies in a more timely basis.*” As this testimony follows that by the League of Cities, it is likely unnecessary to explain their long-term data gathering efforts conducted through the County Auditors and our hope that the current year

of data can be compiled and contrasted with the many years of data already available by the January 2014 meeting of the Committee.

It is also our hope that it will be possible to then also update the information in Attachment 6, which illustrates what we believe is the most accurate means of looking at property tax changes. We began this analysis because it is the practice to often divide the gross increase in property tax revenue from one year to the next by the previous year's revenue; and the result is assumed to be the average property tax burden increase. To many local officials, doing that without consideration of the new property created and added to the tax rolls is incorrect and a bit misleading. In the charts of this attachment we have broken down the annual increase in tax revenue collected by "existing" and "new" property, for all property taxes and then just that supporting county government. Three percent may actually overstate the growth on existing property as it assumes the value of all property inflates equally, while in reality the "new" property often increases more rapidly.

The next data element requested was the number of "*county commissioners enrolled in the state uniform group insurance plan and in the defined benefit plan.*" This may be something that we can provide more information about at a future meeting, but we can begin to respond with a more general summary. The table in Attachment 7 shows which counties participate in those two benefit programs. It may be possible to survey the counties for the enrollment of commissioners in the defined benefit plan. Gathering their participation in the uniform group insurance plan however, may prove difficult. If a county were asked how many commissioners participate, and the answer is "all of them", I have been told that county would have released personally identifiable health information – a HIPAA violation – since it could then be discerned who has what coverage. I don't know if our Association or this committee wants to put counties in that position.

The committee was interested in the number of jails operated in the state. The total number of facilities has decreased dramatically with the legislative changes placing rule-making authority for local jails with the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. With the imposition of jail standards and a grading system, all city and many of the smaller rural county jails have been closed. The table and map making up Attachment 8 shows those operating facilities by grade and absolute capacity.

As we were asked to discuss how many jails are shared with other counties or cities, we have included color-coding for the formal multi-county facilities that were developed and are operating in that manner. It is important to note that all facilities are in reality shared statewide in several ways. All cities with their own police departments have agreements to use their home county facility, since cities no longer maintain their own jails. Additionally, virtually all county jails have signed a memorandum of agreement to address mutual aid in a situation of a facility evacuation. As discussed in recent news stories throughout the state, most jails are reaching their operational capacity, particularly those from Bismarck west. This necessitates numerous contractual arrangements for the routine placement of prisoners in neighboring, and at times not so neighboring, facilities.

The question: “*Do you have any suggestions on how information can be developed to identify, by major spending categories, the growth rate of county costs over a period of years in each category?*” was posed to NDACo. Recognizing that the uniformity challenges discussed in earlier testimony, our Association has worked to develop a database of information for all counties that can be used to monitor trends of this sort. Since 1984, NDACo has contracted with a private consultant to compile the counties’ annual fiscal audits filed in the State Auditor’s Office by the private auditing firms. While greater detail would certainly be more desirable, this fairly “high-level” data set allows for reliable comparisons across counties and across time.

Attachment 9 contains just two charts that can be derived from this data set. The upper chart is all expenditures of all counties in the major categories established by the State Auditor. The impacts of federal funds during the 97-99 “disaster years” and the effects of the recent influx of state support for highways are immediately evident. The second chart looks at the same data at the same scale, but adjusted for inflation.

The committee was interested in determining “*what areas drive the greatest share of county costs?*” It is clear on these tables, that the “big 3” of county expenditures are highways, law enforcement and social services – in that order. Together, these three consistently form 62-67% of all county budgets. The table provided in the previous testimony regarding those county expenditures supported exclusively by property tax shows the same three, but there social service comes out on top, as federal grant and state general funds provide much greater support for highways and law enforcement within county budgets.

This data set was also accessed to address the committee’s question regarding the determination of the savings to counties from state assumption of social service program costs in recent years. The first chart of Attachment 10 looks only at the Health and Welfare expenditures of counties. The effects of the 1997 financing change (swap), and that of the state assumption of child support enforcement program in 2007 are immediately evident. Based on the growth trends in the counties’ remaining social service costs and the even higher growth rate of the Medicaid grant costs “swapped” away, it has been projected that county expenditures in this category would be approaching, if not exceeding, \$100 million per year had these policy changes not been implemented.

We were also asked if social service staffing data reflects these state decisions regarding social services. The second chart of Attachment 9 contains HRMS data for county social service employees, augmented with the staffing data from the regional child support enforcement units that were either stand-alone county departments or housed within the state’s attorney’s office. As the “swap” did not change duties or staffing requirements – only payment responsibilities, there is little evidence of this policy change in HRMS data; however the child support enforcement change, which actually transferred staff, is again quite apparent.

Surprisingly difficult to answer was the committee’s question on county commissions’ authority when it comes to levying property taxes “*on behalf of other entities such as weed boards or water districts.*” As the table of Attachment 5 shows, there are a number of appointed county boards, some with rather extensive responsibilities. These have been created by the legislature at different times, and under different conditions – some as recently as 2003 (Port Authority) and

some prior to statehood (Library Board). As a result, there is quite a variation in the statutory language addressing the authority of these boards when it comes to controlling their own levies. Attachment 11 contains examples of the language specific to many of the boards.

After reading these statutes, the answer appears on the surface to be – “it depends”. However, the ND Supreme court in a 1907 opinion stated “the Legislature cannot enact a law which authorizes a body not elected by the people to levy taxes.” Reading some of the enabling legislation for these boards suggests an inconsistency with that 1907 opinion.

It should be noted that for tax year 2012 the levies supporting these appointed boards total 35.5% of the total property tax revenue collected by the counties – almost two-thirds of that going to the social service board.

Possibly the two most complex questions raised by the committee in this topic area I have saved for last, as they encompasses the others and are clearly the hoped-for result of this study. The questions were:

- *“Do you have any suggestions on developing a "blueprint" for efficiency for counties?”*
- and
- *“Are there statutory provisions in place (or lacking) that impede opportunities for county efficiency?”*

I hope the collective “county response” to this question can be a work in progress throughout the interim; however we have some initial thoughts.

It seems likely that we first must agree on what efficiency looks like in this context. Counties would contend that efficiency would increase if the following can be accomplished:

- Continued delivery of needed, quality services with fewer resources,
- Improved quality and/or quantity of needed services with the same resources,
- Discontinuing services that are determined to be unneeded or not cost-effective, and/or
- Shifting the delivery of a needed service, by law or agreement, to entities that can provide the same or better service at less cost.

County commissions and their citizens have, relatively recently, been granted considerable authority to restructure “who does what” and as this testimony demonstrates they have used this authority quite extensively in the last 20 years to lower costs; hopefully without a loss of quality.

Counties however, have much less control over “what we do”, as virtually every function of county government is either required by law, or the citizens are authorized by law to require it by vote. As part of this study, counties would hope that some aspects of “what we do” can be examined to see if county government remains the most efficient delivery vehicle.

Additionally, the 71 different property tax levies of county government may deserve examination to see if efficiency in fund management could be improved through consolidation. This seems to have been effective for schools and parks.

Lastly, the preservation of “tool chest”, joint powers, and home rule authorities are critical. Legislative and judicial actions have chipped away at some of the flexibility of county

# County 'Elected' Officials in 2013

Updated 08/22/2013

Population 2010	Auditor		Treasurer		Recorder		Clerk of Dist. Court		Co. Supt. of Schools		State's Attorney		Sheriff		
	Status	Combined With	Status	Combined With	Status	Combined With	Status	Combined With?	Status	Combined With?	Status	Combined With	Elected Status (1)	Combined With	
2,343	Adams	Comb. Elect.	Treasurer	Comb. Elect.	Auditor	Comb. Elect.	Clerk of Ct. %	Comb. Elect.	Recorder	Assigned	Auditor	Elected		Elected	911 Coord
11,066	Barnes	Elected		Elected		Elected		Appointed %		Assigned	Auditor	Shared Elect. Griggs SA		Elected	
6,660	Benson	Comb. Elect.	Treasurer	Comb. Elect.	Auditor	Elected %		Elected		Appointed		Elected		Elected	
783	Billings	Comb. Elect.	Treasurer	Comb. Elect.	Auditor	Comb. Elect.	Clerk of Ct. %	Comb. Elect.	Recorder	Assigned	Auditor	Elected		Elected	
6,429	Bottineau	Elected		Elected #		Elected		Appointed %		Assigned	Treasurer	Elected		Elected	
3,151	Bowman	Elected		Elected #		Comb. Elect.	Clerk of Ct. %	Comb. Elect.	Recorder	Assigned	Treasurer	Elected		Elected	
1,968	Burke	Elected		Elected		Comb. Elect.	Clerk of Ct. %	Comb. Elect.	Recorder	Assigned	Auditor	Elected		Elected	911/EM
81,308	Burleigh	Comb. Elect.	Treas.&Tax	Comb. Elect.	Aud.&Tax	Elected %		State Employ		Contract w/ Bis. Schools		Elected		Elected	
149,778	Cass	Elected		Elected %		Elected		State Employ		Assigned	Auditor	Elected		Elected	
3,993	Cavalier	Elected		Elected #		Elected		Appointed %		Assigned	Auditor	Elected		Elected	
5,289	Dickey	Elected		Elected #		Elected		Elected		Assigned	Recorder	Elected		Elected	
2,071	Divide	Elected		Elected		Comb. Elect.	Clerk of Ct. %	Comb. Elect.	Recorder	Appointed		Elected		Elected	
3,536	Dunn	Comb. Elect.	Treasurer	Comb. Elect.	Auditor	Comb. Elect.	Clerk of Ct. %	Comb. Elect.	Recorder	Assigned	Auditor	Elected		Elected	
2,385	Eddy	Elected		Elected #		Comb. Elect.	Clerk of Ct. %	Comb. Elect.	Recorder	Appointed		Elected		Elected	
3,550	Emmons	Elected		Elected #		Comb. Elect.	Clerk of Ct. %	Comb. Elect.	Recorder	Assigned	Treasurer	Elected		Elected	911 Coord
3,343	Foster	Elected		Elected		Elected %		Appointed		Assigned	Auditor	Elected		Elected	
1,680	Golden Valley	Elected		Elected		Comb. Elect.	Clerk of Ct. %	Comb. Elect.	Recorder	Assigned	Auditor	Appointed		Elected	
66,861	Grand Forks	Comb. Appt.	Treasurer	Comb. Appt.	Auditor	Appointed		State Employ		Appointed		Elected		Elected	
2,394	Grant	Comb. Elect.	Treasurer	Comb. Elect.	Auditor #	Comb. Elect.	Clerk of Ct. %	Comb. Elect.	Recorder	Assigned	Auditor	Elected		Elected	
2,420	Griggs	Elected		Elected		Comb. Elect.	Clerk of Ct. %	Comb. Elect.	Recorder	Appointed		Shared Elect. Barnes SA		Elected	Emerg. Man.
2,477	Hettinger	Elected		Elected		Comb. Elect.	Clerk of Ct. (1)	Comb. Elect.	Recorder	Appointed		Shared Elect. Slope SA		Elected	
2,435	Kidder	Elected		Elected		Comb. Elect.	Clerk of Ct. %	Comb. Elect.	Recorder	Appointed		Elected		Elected	
4,139	LaMoure	Elected		Elected		Elected		Appointed %		Assigned	Various Off.	Elected		Elected	
1,990	Logan	Elected		Elected		Comb. Elect.	Clerk of Ct. %	Comb. Elect.	Recorder	Appointed		Elected		Elected	
5,395	McHenry	Elected		Elected		Elected		Elected %		Appointed		Elected		Elected	Emerg. Man.
2,809	McIntosh	Elected		Elected		Comb. Elect.	Clerk of Ct. %	Comb. Elect.	Recorder	Appointed		Elected		Elected	911 Coord
6,360	McKenzie	Elected		Elected #		Elected		Appointed %		Appointed		Elected		Elected	
8,962	McLean	Comb. Elect.	Treasurer	Comb. Elect.	Auditor	Elected		Appointed %		Assigned	Dep. Auditor	Shared Elect. Sheridan SA		Elected	
8,424	Mercer	Elected		Elected		Elected		Appointed %		Appointed		Elected		Elected	
27,471	Morton	Elected		Elected		Elected %		State Employ		Appointed		Elected		Elected	
7,673	Mountrail	Elected		Elected		Elected		Appointed %		Assigned	Auditor	Elected		Elected	911 Coord
3,126	Nelson	Elected		Elected		Comb. Elect.	Clerk of Ct. %	Comb. Elect.	Recorder	Appointed		Elected		Elected	
1,846	Oliver	Elected		Elected		Comb. Elect.	Clerk of Ct. %	Comb. Elect.	Recorder	Assigned	Auditor	Elected		Elected	
7,413	Pembina	Comb. Elect.	Treasurer	Comb. Elect.	Auditor	Comb. Elect.	Clerk of Ct. %	Comb. Elect.	Recorder	Assigned	Auditor	Elected		Elected	
4,357	Pierce	Comb. Appt.	Treasurer	Comb. Appt.	Auditor	Elected		Elected %		Assigned	Auditor	Elected		Elected	
11,451	Ramsay	Elected		Elected		Elected %		State Employ		Assigned	Treasurer	Elected		Elected	
5,457	Ransom	Elected		Elected #		Elected		Appointed %		Appointed		Elected		Elected	
2,470	Renville	Comb. Elect.	Treasurer	Comb. Elect.	Auditor	Comb. Elect.	Clerk of Ct. %	Comb. Elect.	Recorder	Assigned	Auditor	Elected		Elected	
16,321	Richland	Appointed		Appointed		Appointed %		State Employ		Assigned	Auditor	Elected		Elected	
13,937	Rolette	Elected		Elected		Elected %		State Employ		Appointed		Elected		Elected	
3,829	Sargent	Elected		Comb. Elect. Rec.&Clk		Comb. Elect. Treas. & Clk %		Comb. Appt. Rec.& Treas		Assigned	Auditor	Elected		Elected	
1,321	Sheridan	Elected		Elected		Comb. Elect.	Clerk of Ct. %	Comb. Elect.	Recorder	Assigned	Auditor	Shared Elect. McLean SA		Elected	
4,153	Sioux	Comb. Elect.	Tax Dir.	Comb. Elect. Rec.&Clk		Comb. Elect. Treas. & Clk %		Comb. Appt. Rec.& Treas		Assigned	Auditor	Elected		Elected	911/EM
727	Slope	Elected		Elected		Comb. Elect.	Clerk of Ct. %	Comb. Elect.	Recorder	Appointed		Shared Elect. Hettinger SA		Elected	
24,199	Stark	Comb. Elect.	Treasurer	Comb. Elect.	Auditor	Elected %		State Employ		Assigned	Auditor	Elected		Elected	
1,975	Steele	Elected		Elected		Comb. Appt.	Clerk of Ct. %	Comb. Appt.	Recorder	Assigned	Auditor	Appointed		Elected	
21,100	Stutsman	Appointed		Appointed		Appointed %		State Employ		Assigned	Auditor	Elected		Elected	
2,246	Towner	Comb. Appt.	Treasurer	Comb. Appt.	Auditor	Comb. Elect.	Clerk of Ct. %	Comb. Elect.	Recorder	Appointed		Elected		Elected	
8,121	Trails	Elected		Elected		Elected		Elected %		Assigned	Auditor	Elected		Elected	Emerg. Man.
11,119	Walsh	Appointed		Elected		Elected %		State Employ		Assigned	Auditor	Elected		Elected	
61,675	Ward	Comb. Appt.	Treasurer	Comb. Appt.	Auditor	Appointed %		State Employ		Appointed		Elected		Elected	
4,207	Wells	Elected		Elected		Elected %		Appointed		Assigned	Auditor	Elected		Elected	
22,398	Williams	Elected %		Comb. Elect. Recorder		Comb. Elect. Treasurer		State Employ		Assigned	Various Off.	Elected		Elected	
672,591	Statewide														

\* = Home Rule County

# = Also motor vehicle regist % = Official assigned marriage license duties

1 Hettinger marriage licenses moved to Info. Tech. Officer

Note: If an elected position is currently held by someone appointed to fill that position - the position is still listed as "elected".

government since these authorities were put in place. Collectively, they are the best tools for the continued increase in efficiency for not just counties but all of local government.

County Appointed Officials in 2013

Updated 08/22/2013

Population 2010		911 Coordinator		Emergency Manager		Tax Director		Veterans Service Off.		NDSU Ext. Agent		County Coroner	
		Appointed Status	Combined With	Appointed Status	Combined With	Appointed Status	Combined With	Appointed Status	Combined With	Status		Status	Combined With
2,343	Adams	Assigned	Sheriff	Part-Time	Risk Manager	Full-Time		Part-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	
11,066	Barnes	Appointed	City Dispatch	Full-Time		Full-Time		Part-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	
6,660	Benson	5-County	Lake Regon	Part-Time		Full-Time		Part-Time		2-County Gold Valley		Contracted	Ramsey
783	Billings	Comb.Appt.	Tax Director	Assigned	Dep. Sheriff	Comb.Appt.	911 Coord	Part-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	Stark
6,429	Bottineau	Appointed	Weed Cntrl Off	Part-Time		Full-Time		Part-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	
3,151	Bowman	2-County	Slope	Comb.Appt.	Tax Director	Comb.Appt.	Emerg. Man.	Part-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	
1,968	Burke	Assigned	Sheriff	Assigned	Sheriff	Full-Time		Part-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Assigned	Sheriff
81,308	Burleigh	City/County	Position	2-County	Emmons	Comb. Elect.	Aud.& Treas	Full-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	Morton
149,778	Cass	* Assigned	Dep. Sheriff	Full-Time		Full-Time		Full-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	
3,993	Cavalier	Comb.Appt.	Emerg. Man.	Comb.Appt.	911 Coord.	Full-Time		Part-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	
5,289	Dickey	Comb.Appt.	Emerg. Man.	Comb.Appt.	911 Coord.	Full-Time		Part-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	
2,071	Divide	Comb.Appt.	Emerg. Man.	Comb.Appt.	911 Coord.	Full-Time		Part-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Assigned	Sheriff
3,536	Dunn	Comb.Appt.	Emerg. Man.	Comb.Appt.	911 Coord.	Full-Time		2-County	Stark	State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	
2,385	Eddy	5-County	Lake Regon	Part-Time		2-County	Foster Tax	Part-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	
3,550	Emmons	Assigned	Sheriff	2-County	Burleigh	Full-Time		Part-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	
3,343	Foster	Assigned	Dep. Treasurer	Part-Time		2-County	Eddy Tax	Part-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	
1,680	Golden Valley	Comb.Appt.	Emerg. Man.	Comb.Appt.	911 Coord.	Comb.Appt.	VSO	Comb.Appt.	Tax Director	2-County Billings		Contracted	
66,861	Grand Forks	Appointed	City Dispatch	Full-Time		Full-Time		Full-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	
2,394	Grant	Comb.Appt.	Emerg. Man.	Comb.Appt.	911 Coord.	Full-Time		Part-Time		2-County Sioux		Contracted	
2,420	Griggs	Assigned	Road Supt.	Assigned	Sheriff	Full-Time		2-County	Steele	State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	
2,477	Hettinger	* Comb.Appt.	Soc. Ser. Direct.	Part-Time		Full-Time		Part-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Assigned	Sheriff
2,435	Kidder	Assigned	Recorder	Comb.Appt.	Tax Director	Comb.Appt.	Emerg. Man.	Part-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	
4,139	LaMoure	Comb.Appt.	Emerg. Man.	Comb.Appt.	911 Coord.	Full-Time		Assigned	Co. Ext. Agent	State/County Shared \$\$		Assigned	Sheriff
1,990	Logan	Assigned	Treasurer	Part-Time		Full-Time		Part-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Assigned	Sheriff
5,395	McHenry	Part-Time		Assigned	Sheriff	Full-Time		Part-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	Wells
2,809	McIntosh	Assigned	Sheriff	Part-Time		Full-Time		Part-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	
6,360	McKenzie	Assigned	Dep. Sheriff	Comb.Appt.	VSO	Full-Time		Comb.Appt.	Emerg. Man.	State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	
8,962	McLean	Comb.Appt.	Emerg. Man.	Comb.Appt.	911 Coord.	Comb.Appt.	VSO	Comb.Appt.	Tax Director	State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	
8,424	Mercer	2-Co. Oliver	Emerg. Man.	Comb.Appt.	911 Coord.	Full-Time		Part-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	Oliver
27,471	Morton	Comb.Appt.	Emerg. Man.	Comb.Appt.	911 Coord.	Full-Time		2-County	Oliver	State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	Burleigh
7,673	Mountrail	Assigned	Sheriff	Assigned	Co. Manager	Full-Time		Part-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Assigned	Sheriff
3,126	Nelson	5-County	Lake Regon	Comb.Appt.	Supt. of School	Full-Time		Part-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	
1,846	Oliver	2-County	Mercer	Part-Time		Full-Time		2-County	Morton	State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	Mercer
7,413	Pembina	Assigned	IT Coordinator	Full-Time		Full-Time		Part-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	
4,357	Pierce	Assigned	Dep. Sheriff	Part-Time		Full-Time		Part-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	
11,451	Ramsey	5-County	Lake Regon	Full-Time		Full-Time		Part-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	Benson
5,457	Ransom	Appointed		Part-Time		Full-Time		2-County	Sargent	State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	
2,470	Renville	Assigned	Dep. Sheriff	Part-Time		Full-Time		Part-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	
16,321	Richland	* Assigned	Chief Dispatch.	Full-Time		Full-Time		Full-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Assigned	Sheriff
13,937	Rolette	Assigned	Dep. Sheriff	Part-Time		Full-Time		Part-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Assigned	Sheriff
3,829	Sargent	Comb.Appt.	EM/Tax Dir.	Comb.Appt.	911/Tax Dir.	Comb.Appt.	911/EM	2-County	Ransom	State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	
1,321	Sheridan	Comb.Appt.	Emerg. Man.	Comb.Appt.	911 Coord.	Full-Time		Part-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Assigned	Sheriff
4,153	Sioux	Assigned	Sheriff	Assigned	Sheriff	Comb. Elect.	Auditor	Part-Time		2-County Grant		Assigned	Sheriff
727	Slope	2-County	Bowman	Assigned	Dep. Sheriff	Full-Time		Part-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Assigned	Sheriff
24,199	Stark	Comb.Appt.	Emerg. Man.	Comb.Appt.	911 Coord.	Full-Time		2-County	Dunn	State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	Billings
1,975	Steele	* Comb.Appt.	Emerg. Man.	Comb.Appt.	911 Coord.	Full-Time		2-County	Griggs	State/County Shared \$\$		Comb.Appt.	911/EM
21,100	Stutsman	* Comb.Appt.	Emerg. Man.	Comb.Appt.	911 Coord.	Full-Time		Part-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	
2,246	Towner	5-County	Lake Regon	Assigned	Road Supt.	Full-Time		Part-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	
8,121	Trail	Part-Time		Assigned	Sheriff	Full-Time		Part-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	
11,119	Walsh	* Comb.Appt.	EM/Weed Cntrl	Comb.Appt.	911/Weed Cntrl	Full-Time		Part-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	
61,675	Ward	* City/County	Position	Full-Time		Full-Time		Part-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	
4,207	Wells	Assigned	Dep. Sheriff	Part-Time		Full-Time		Part-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	McHenry
22,398	Williams	* Comb.Appt.	Emerg. Man.	Comb.Appt.	911 Coord.	Full-Time		Full-Time		State/County Shared \$\$		Contracted	

672,597 wide

\* = Home Rule County



## County Officials in 1993

(Excluding Judges & Commissioners)

Instances		County Officials	
		Appointed	Elected
53	Elected Auditors		53
53	Elected Treasurers		53
53	Elected Sheriffs		53
53	Elected State's Attorneys		53
22	Combined Elected Clerk/Registers		22
31	Separately Elected Registers		31
31	Separately Elected Clerks of Court		31
53	Elected Supt. of Schools		53
		0	349

## County Officials - August 2013

(Excluding Judges & Commissioners)

Instances		County Officials	
		Appointed	Elected
3	Separately Appointed Auditor	2	
4	Combined Appointed Auditor/Treasurers	4	
9	Combined Elected Auditor/Treasurers		9
1	Combined Elected Auditor/Treasurer/Tax Director		1
1	Combined Elected Auditor/Tax Director		1
35	Separately Elected Auditors		35
2	Separately Appointed Treasurers	2	
3	Combined Elected Treasurer/Recorders (2 with clerk duties)		3
34	Separately Elected Treasurers		34
5	Separately Appointed Recorders (1 with clerk duties assigned)	5	
23	Elected Recorders <u>without</u> Clerk Duties Assigned		23
22	Elected Recorders with Clerk Duties Assigned		22
12	Separately Appointed Clerks of Court	12	
4	Separately Elected Clerks of Court		4
53	Separately Elected Sheriffs		53
45	Separately Elected State's Attorneys		45
3	Elected State's Attorney elected to serve 2 counties		3
2	Separately Appointed State's Attorney serving a single county	2	
19	Separately Appointed Co. Supt. of Schools	19	
3	Appointed Co. Supt. of Schools serving 2 counties each	3	
1	Co. Supt. of Schools Duties contracted with school district		
28	Co. Supt. of Schools Duties assigned to other office holder		
12	Clerks of Court Moved to State Employment		
		49	233
	Change in County Officials	49	-116

## County Appointed Board Members - 2013 NDACo Survey

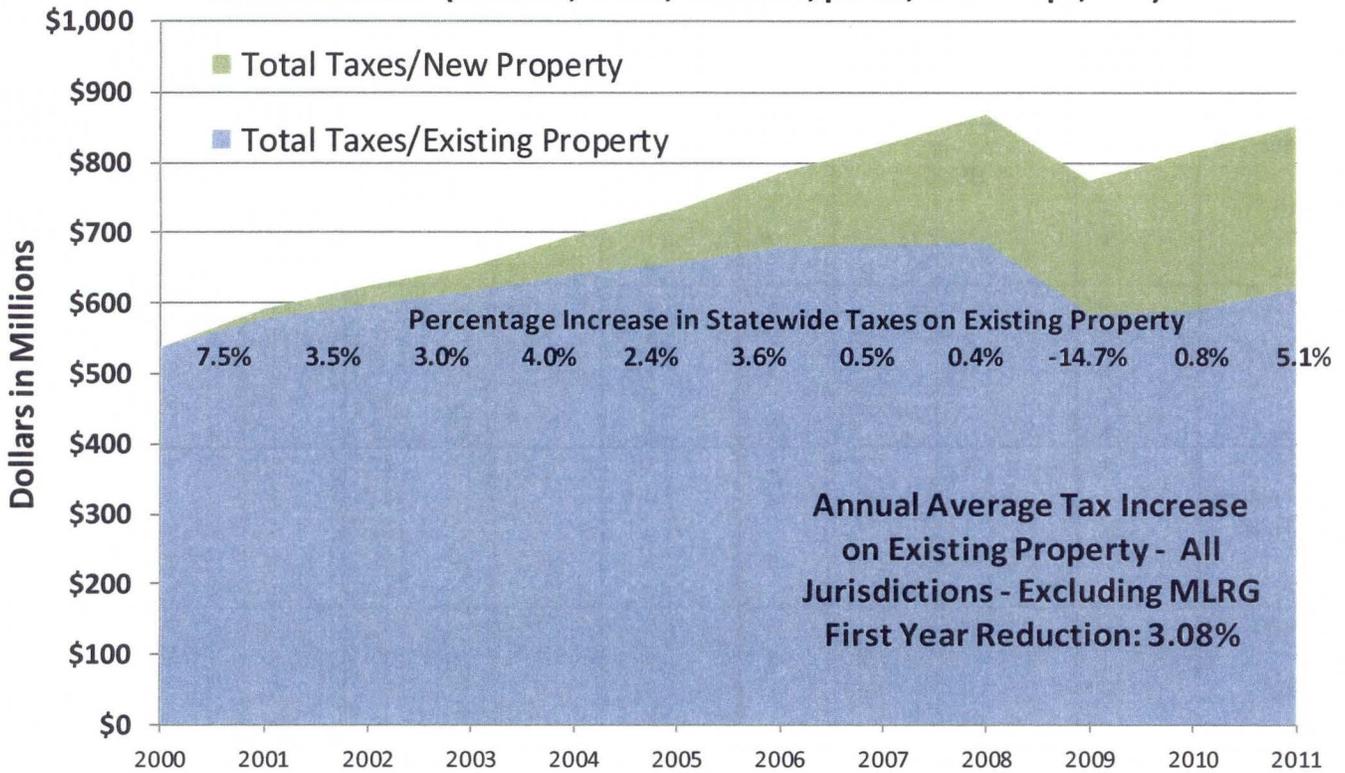
	Housing Authority	Jobs Develop. Authority	Library Board	Park Board	Social Services Board	Vector Control Board	County Water Board **	Weed Board	Zoning Board	Weather Mod. Board	Grand Total
Adams	5	11 *	3		5		3	7			34
Barnes	5	1	2	2	5		5	5	5		30
Benson	5	11			7		3	5	5		36
Billings					4 *		3	7	7		21
Bottineau			5	2	7		5	5	9		33
Bowman	5		5	5	5 *		4	3	9	5	41
Burke		10			5		4	6	7		32
Burleigh	5			2	5		5	5	5		27
Cass	5			7	7	3	12	5	8		47
Cavalier	5		0		5		5	5	10		30
Dickey	4 *	0		3	2		5	5	5		24
Divide	1 *	5 *	5	5	5		3	7	7		38
Dunn	5	9		7	5		3	5	9		43
Eddy	6		5		5		3	7	6		32
Emmons	4			2	5		5	5			21
Foster	5	3		1	5		5	5	7		31
Golden Valley			5	2	4 *		3	3	7		24
Grand Forks					5		7	5	9		26
Grant		10		5	5		3	7	7		37
Griggs			1		4 *		4	5	2		16
Hettinger				5	5		3	7	7		27
Kidder			5	5	5		3	5	5		28
LaMoure	5 *		2 *	3	3		5	5			23
Logan		13 *			5		3	5			26
McHenry	5 *	14		5	5		5	5	9		48
McIntosh		12			5		3	5			25
McKenzie	5	12	6	2	5		5	5	9	5	54
McLean			5 *	5	3 *		3	5	7		28
Mercer	5		5 *		3 *		3	7	6		29
Morton	5		3 *	2	3		5	5	5		28
Mountrail	5	10	5	5	5		3	5	9	5	52
Nelson	5	11	2	7	5		5	5	9		49
Oliver				2	2 *		3	7	7		21
Pembina	5	16	5		5		5	6	9		51
Pierce	3 *		3	2	5		3	7	9		32
Ramsey	5		1 *		2 *		5	5	9		27
Ransom		9		7	5		3	7			31
Renville		9		5	5		3	5	7		34
Richland	5	11		7	5	3	5	7			43
Rolette	5	11		7	7		5	5	9		49
Sargent	1 *	11		7	7		5	6	9		46
Sheridan				2	2 *		3	5	5		17
Sioux			5		5		3	5			18
Slope		9 *			2 *		3	6	6		26
Stark	6	12		2	7	4	3	7	7		48
Steele		11		7	5		3	5			31
Stutsman	5 *		4 *	2	2		6	7	6		32
Towner	5			6	3 *		3	5	9		31
Traill	7			7	6		5	5			30
Walsh	5	15	9 *	8	5		3	6	6		57
Ward			4	2			5	5	7	5	28
Wells	5	14			5		5	5	9		43
Williams			2	2	2	5	5	7	9	5	37
Grand Total	152	260	97	157	239	15	220	294	313	25	1772

\* County indicated that this is a multi-jurisdictional board - only county appointed members are reported

\*\* Only "county" water boards are reported - there also exist multi-county water boards (i.e. Red River Regional Water Board)

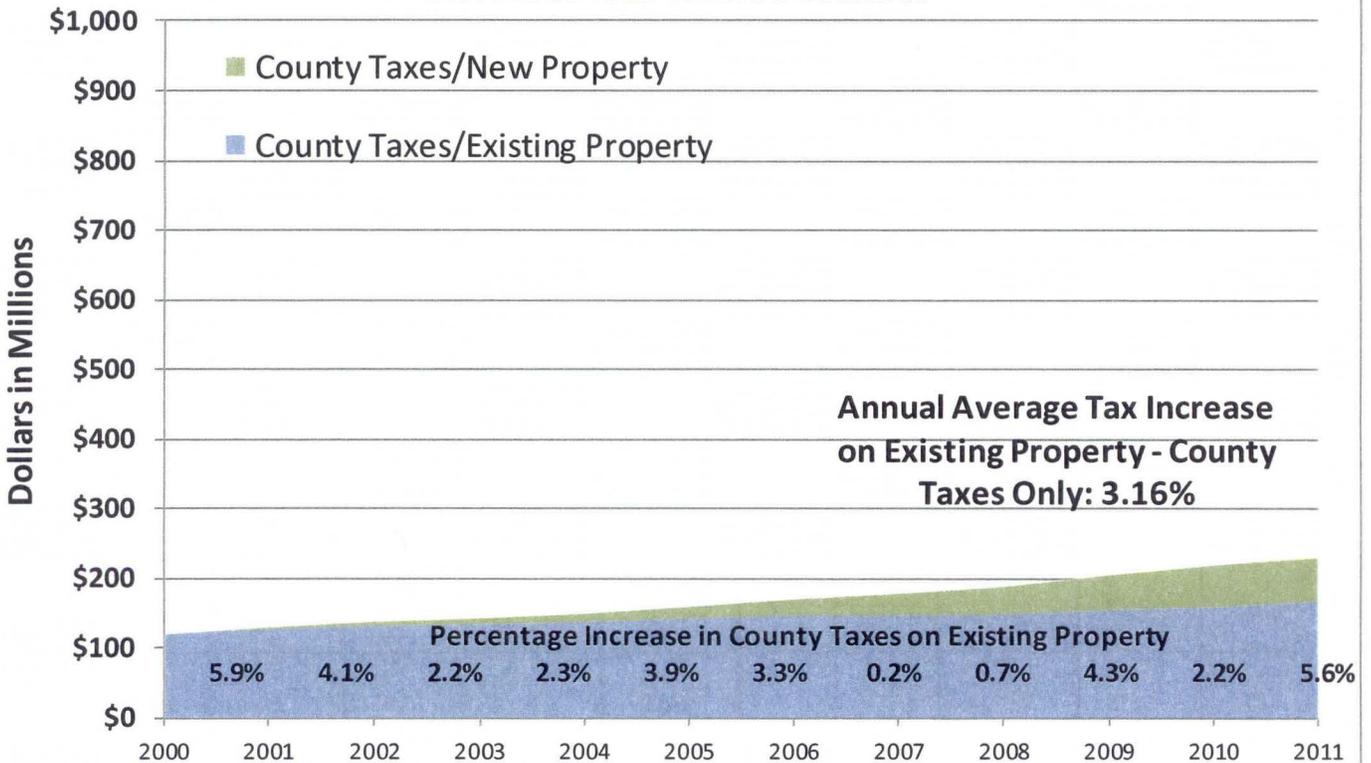
### Statewide Property Taxes Levied

All Jurisdictions (Schools, cities, counties, parks, townships, etc.)



### County Levied Taxes Only

Statewide Total of All 53 Counties

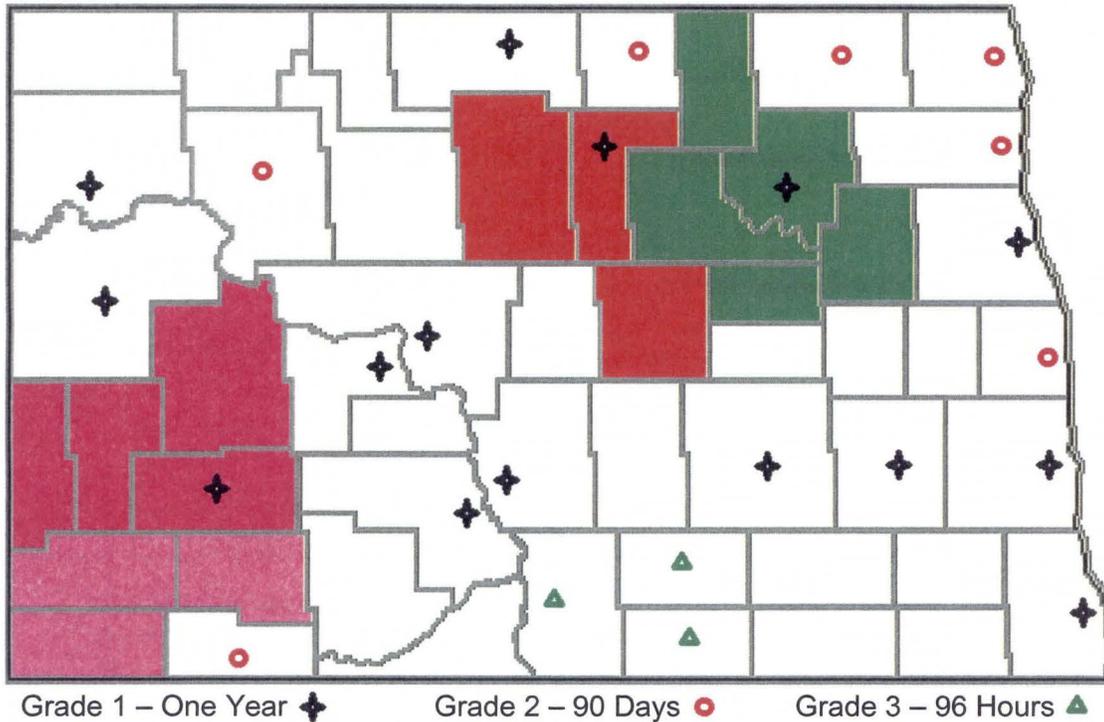


## County Fringe Benefits - January 1, 2013

	Employee Retirement Options	Percent of Salary		Percent of Family Policy Paid by County
		Paid by County	Employee Health Plan	
Adams	NDPERS	13.26%	NDPERS	54%
Barnes	NDPERS	7.26%	NDPERS	75%
Benson	NDPERS,Other Deferred Comp	10.26%	NDPERS	36%
Billings	NDPERS	13.26%	NDPERS	100%
Bottineau	NDPERS	13.26%	NDPERS	63%
Bowman	NDPERS	12.26%	NDPERS	85%
Burke	NDPERS,Other Deferred Comp	7.26%	NDPERS	70%
Burleigh	NDPERS	13.26%	NDPERS	78%
Cass	NDPERS	11.26%	Self Insured - BCBS Admin	78%
Cavalier	NDPERS	9.26%	NDPERS	100%
Dickey	NDPERS	11.26%	NDPERS	78%
Divide	NDPERS,Other Deferred Comp	7.26%	NDPERS	100%
Dunn	NDPERS	13.26%	NDPERS	100%
Eddy	NDPERS	7.26%	Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS)	42% *
Emmons	NDPERS	13.26%	NDPERS	100%
Foster	NDPERS	7.26%	NDPERS	69%
Golden Valley	Other Deferred Comp	3.00%	Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS)	42% *
Grand Forks	NDPERS	12.26%	Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS)	82%
Grant	NDPERS	9.26%	NDPERS	42% *
Griggs	NDPERS	13.26%	NDPERS	42%
Hettinger	NDPERS	13.26%	Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS)	90%
Kidder	Nationwide (NRS)	\$100 Flat	NDPERS	70%
LaMoure	NDPERS	13.26%	NDPERS	70%
Logan	NDPERS	13.26%	NDPERS	80%
McHenry	NDPERS	13.26%	NDPERS	100%
McIntosh	NDPERS	13.26%	NDPERS	90%
McKenzie	NDPERS	6.26%	Self Insured - BCBS Admin	85%
McLean	NDPERS	13.26%	NDPERS	100%
Mercer	NDPERS,Nationwide (NRS),Other	9.00%	Self Insured - BCBS Admin	90%
Morton	NDPERS,Other Deferred Comp	8-11.26%	NDPERS	80%
Mountrail	NDPERS	11.26%	NDPERS	100%
Nelson	NDPERS	13.26%	NDPERS	100%
Oliver	NDPERS	13.26%	NDPERS	100%
Pembina	NDPERS	12.26%	NDPERS	83%
Pierce	NDPERS,Other Deferred Comp	9.26%	NDPERS	100%
Ramsey	NDPERS	7.26%	Self Insured - BCBS Admin	100%
Ransom	NDPERS,Nationwide (NRS)	13.26%	NDPERS	70%
Renville	NDPERS	13.26%	Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS)	38%
Richland	NDPERS	13.26%	NDPERS	56%
Rolette	NDPERS	12.26%	NDPERS	50%
Sargent	NDACO - Nationwide (NRS)	4.26%	NDPERS	75%
Sheridan	NDPERS	13.26%	NDPERS	42% *
Sioux	Other Deferred Comp	\$50 Flat	Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS)	42%
Slope	NDPERS,Nationwide (NRS)	13.26%	Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS)	100%
Stark	NDPERS	13.26%	NDPERS	75%
Steele	NDPERS	13.26%	NDPERS	41%
Stutsman	NDPERS,Other Deferred Comp	13.26%	NDPERS	82%
Towner	NDPERS	6.26%	NDPERS	50%
Traill	NDPERS	11.26%	NDPERS	42%
Walsh	NDPERS	11.26%	Self Insured - BCBS Admin	75%
Ward	NDPERS	11.26%	NDPERS	65%
Wells	NDPERS	12.26%	Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS)	92%
Williams	NDPERS	13.26%	Self Insured - BCBS Admin	100%

\* County indicates they pay 100% of a single policy - calculates to approximately 42% of a family policy

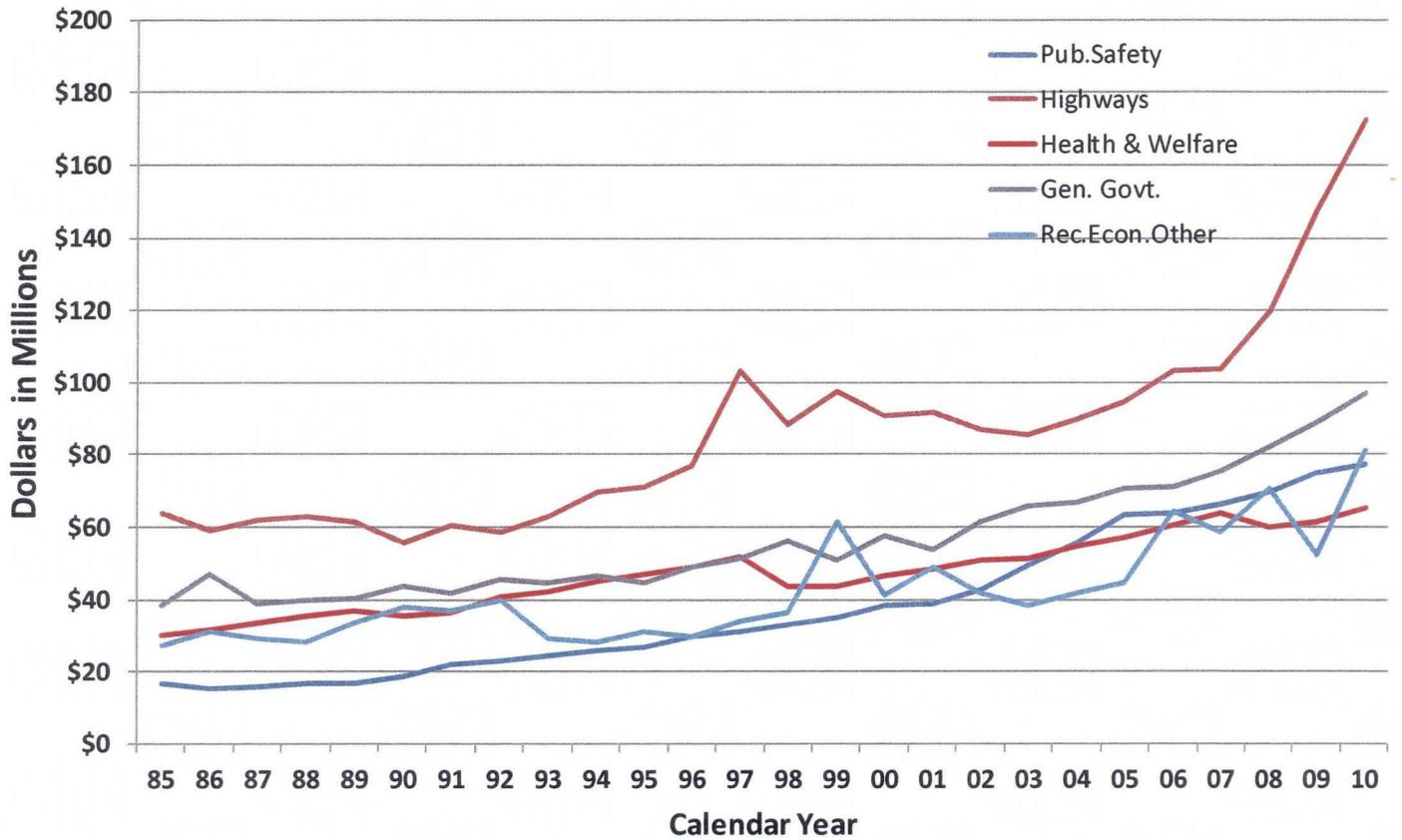
### County Adult Correctional Facilities



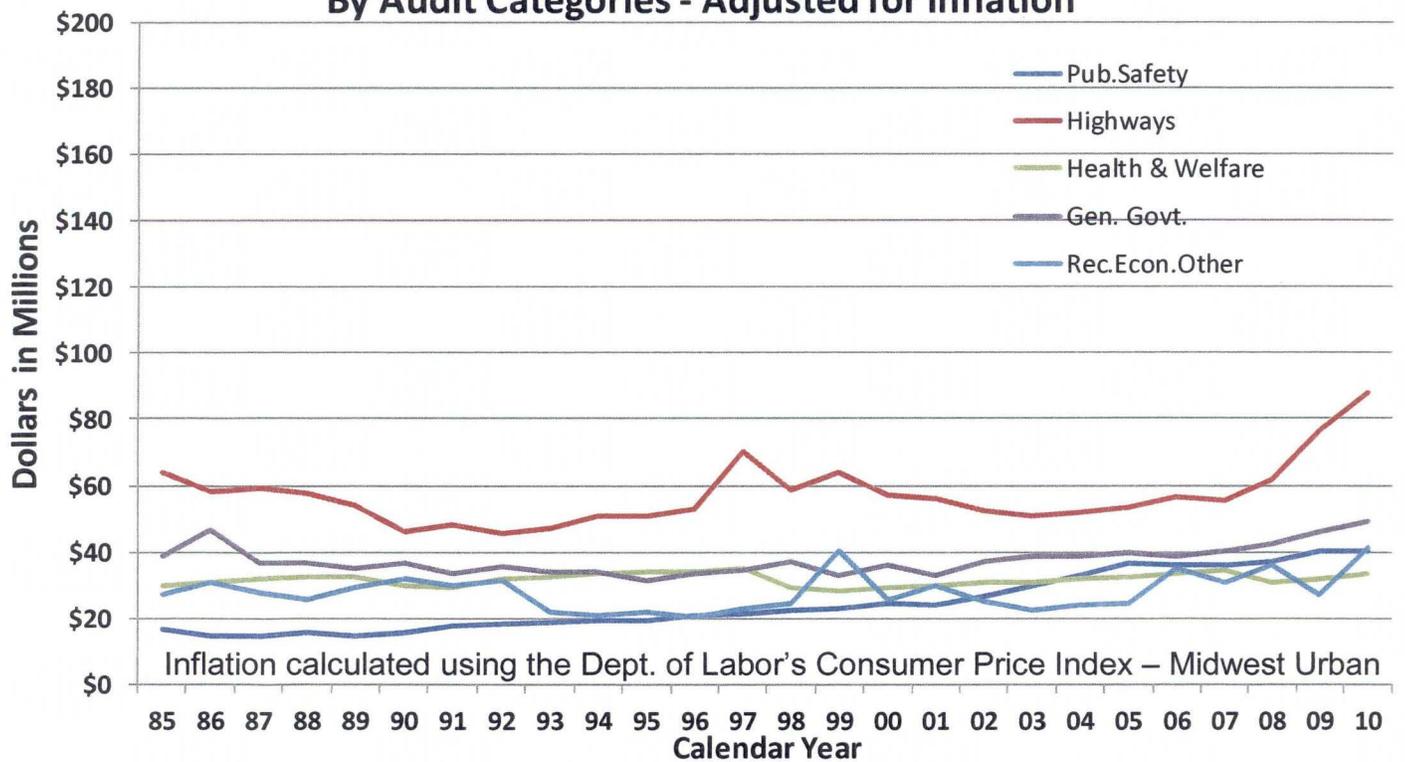
### County Adult Correctional Facilities

Grade	County	Facility	City	Grade	Capacity
<b>Grade 1 (One-Year)</b>					
	Barnes	Barnes County CF	Valley City	1	30
	Bottineau	Bottineau County CF	Bottineau	1	9
	Burleigh	Burleigh County CF	Bismarck	1	138
	Cass	Cass County CF	Fargo	1	352
	Grand Forks	Grand Forks County CF	Grand Forks	1	248
	McKenzie	McKenzie County CF	Watford City	1	10
	McLean	McLean County CF	Washburn	1	30
	Mercer	Mercer County CF	Stanton	1	24
	Morton	Morton County CF	Mandan	1	40
	Pierce	Heart of America CTC	Rugby	1	142
	Ramsey	Lake Region CF	Devils Lake	1	71
	Richland	Richland County CF	Wahpeton	1	33
	Stark	Southwest Multi-County	Dickinson	1	84
	Stutsman	Stutsman County CF	Jamestown	1	94
	Ward	Ward County CF	Minot	1	104
	Williams	Williams County CF	Williston	1	112
<b>Grade 2 (90-Days)</b>					
	Adams	Adams County CF	Hettinger	2	7
	Cavalier	Cavalier County CF	Langdon	2	9
	Mountrail	Mountrail County CF	Stanley	2	12
	Pembina	Pembina County CF	Cavalier	2	18
	Rolette	Rollete County Jail	Rolla	2	25
	Traill	Traill County CF	Hillsboro	2	13
	Walsh	Walsh County CF	Grafton	2	21
<b>Grade 3 (96-Hours)</b>					
	Emmons	Emmons County CF	Linton	3	1
	Logan	Logan County CF	Napoleon	3	2
	Melrose	Melrose County CF	Archie	3	1

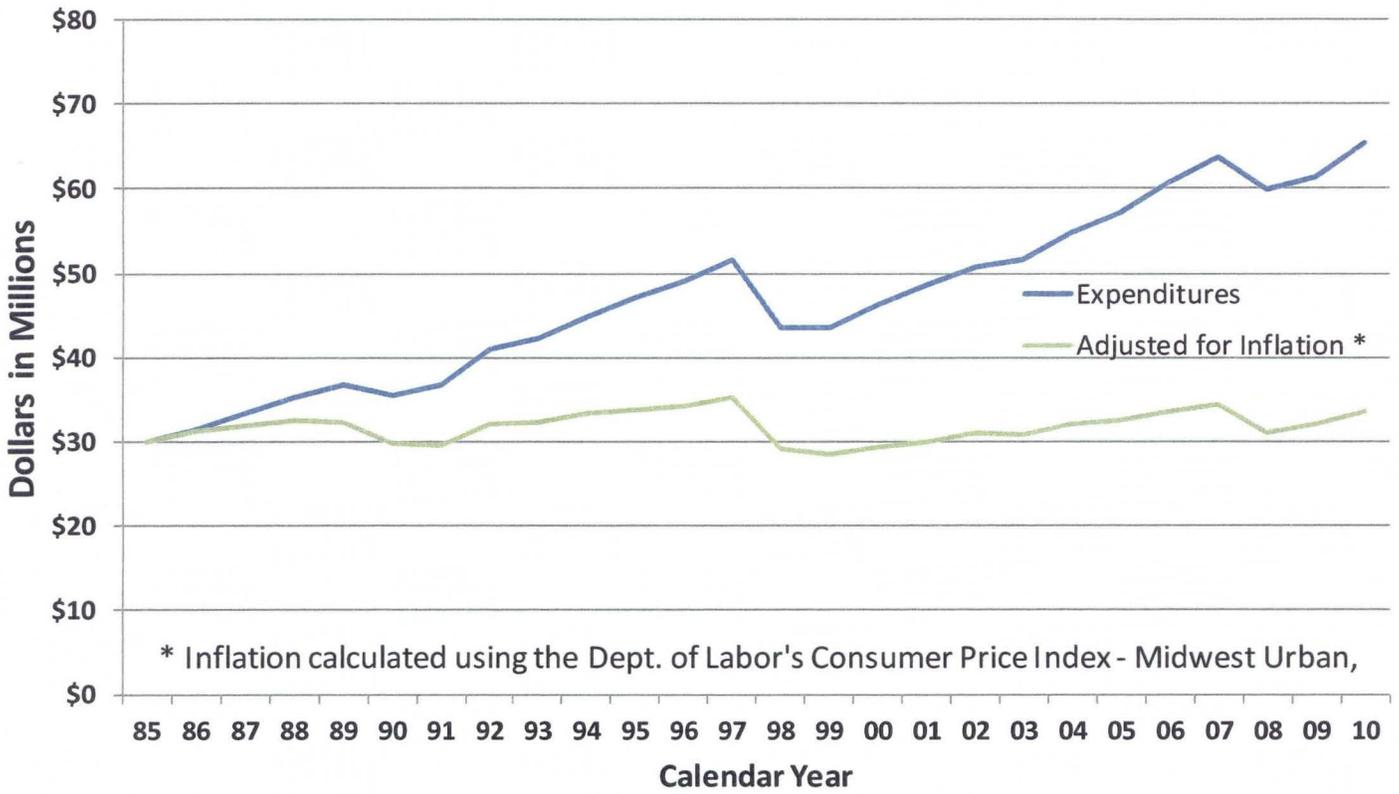
### County Expenditures - All Funds By Audit Categories



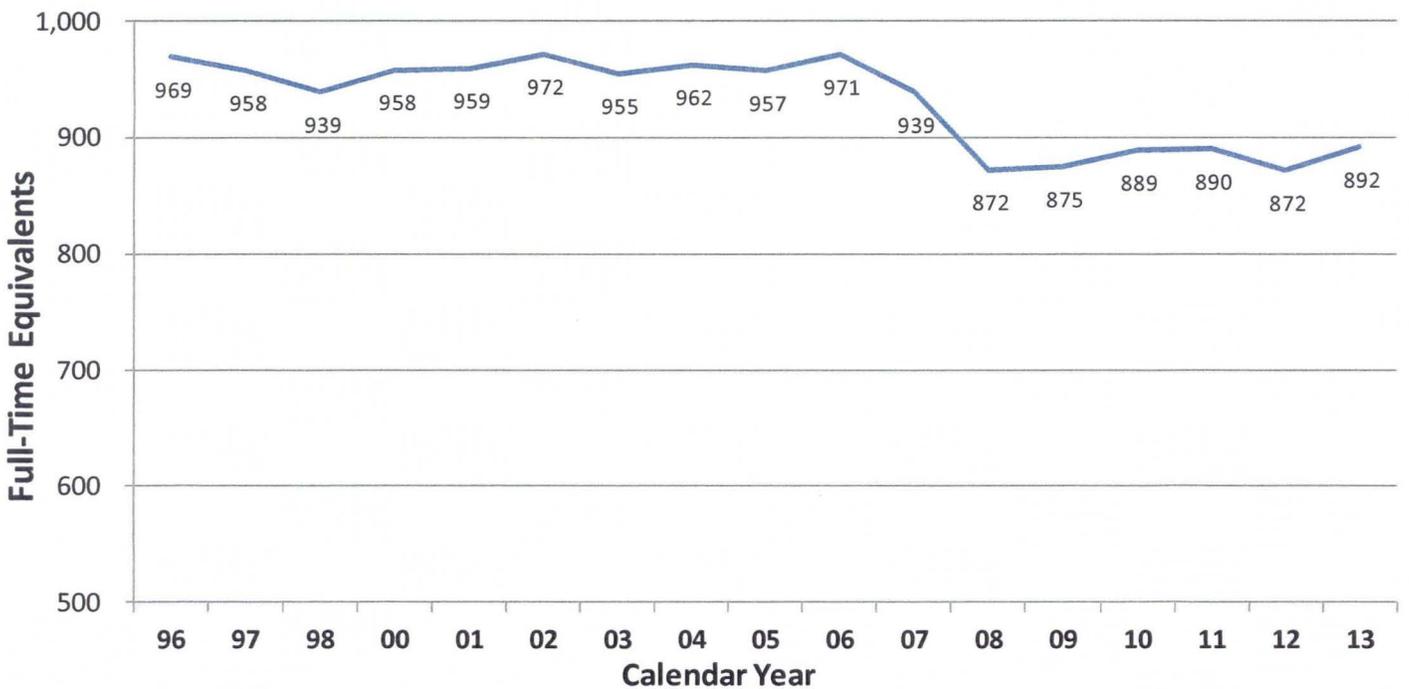
### County Expenditures - All Funds By Audit Categories - Adjusted for Inflation



### County Health & Welfare Expenditures - All Counties Data from Annual Fiscal Audits



### County Social Service Staffing Trends Includes Child Support Enforcement Staff in All County Departments



## Appointed Board Levies – Not Exhaustive

Historical Board	0.25 mills or 0.75 mills by electors	The board of county commissioners <u>may</u> levy a tax... If sixty percent of the qualified electors voting on the question approve, a tax <u>must</u> be levied
Job Development	5 mills	board of county commissioners ... <u>shall</u> establish a ... fund and levy a tax
Human Services	20 mills Unlimited for deficiencies	board of county commissioners ... <u>shall</u> annually appropriate and make available ... an amount <u>sufficient</u> to pay
Weather Mod.	7 mills	The tax (certified) <u>shall</u> be levied by the board of county commissioners
Water Board	4 mills Unlimited for deficiencies	The board of county commissioners shall either disapprove the budget, amend and approve the budget as amended, or approve the budget as submitted
Library Board	4 mills or as increased by electors	Upon approval by sixty percent of the qualified electors...the governing body <u>shall</u> increase the levy
Weed Board	2 mills or 4 mills by electors	...the board of county commissioners <u>may</u> levy... If a majority of the qualified electors voting thereon approve, a tax <u>must</u> be levied not exceeding the limitation
Vector Control	1 mill	The board of county commissioners of each county in which the district is situated <u>shall</u> by resolution levy
Public Health	5 mills	after approval by the <u>joint board</u> of county commissioners, the district board of health shall certify ... and the budget <u>must</u> be included in the levies of the counties
Fair Board	1 mill initial, 1.5 more by electors, 0.5 more by electors	If the board of county commissioners is satisfied...it <u>may</u> levy for the first year's grant of aid... If an additional levy is approved by the electors, the board of commissioners <u>may</u> make the additional annual levy... If a majority of the votes cast ... the tax <u>must</u> be levied... with the consent of the board of county commissioners <u>may</u> establish a sinking fund in excess of twenty thousand dollars.
Port Authority	4 mills, unlimited for deficiency	The port authority may certify annually to the governing bodies the amount of tax <u>to be</u> levied