

Money Available
\$16.6 billion



Taxpayer Surplus™
\$55,600



Financial Grade



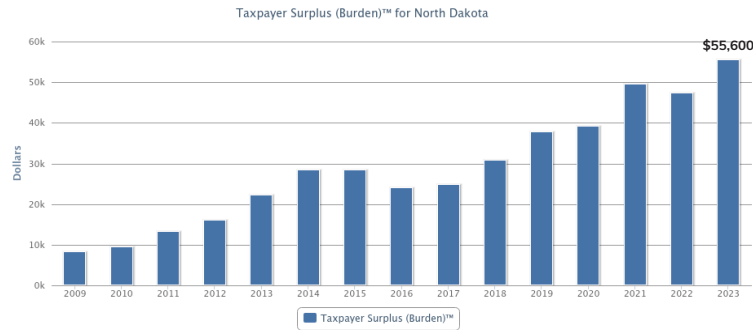
Ranking

1 out of 50



North Dakota, like most other states, improved its financial condition in 2023. This is a positive development, and Truth in Accounting applauds the state's commitment to improving its fiscal solvency. The state increased its money available to pay bills by \$3.8 billion. This means the state had a Taxpayer Surplus™ of \$55,600, earning it an "A" grade.

North Dakota's overall financial condition increased by \$3.8 billion resulting in a move to the top ranking of all states. The state is the third-largest oil producer in the U.S., behind Texas and New Mexico. As of the start of the 2023-25 biennium, oil prices have rebounded to around \$77 per barrel, exceeding the budgeted estimate of \$70. The state's unemployment rate was notably low at 1.9 percent in August 2023, compared to the national rate of 3.8 percent.



Although North Dakota ended its 2023 fiscal year in strong financial health, as outlined in the comprehensive 2024 Financial State of the States report, market fluctuations in pension values, coupled with uncertainty around inflation and employment, make it challenging to predict the future resources needed to sustain government services and benefits. In light of these uncertainties, it's reassuring that the state has retained funds to cover its financial obligations.

- North Dakota had \$26.2 billion available to pay \$9.6 billion worth of bills.
- The outcome was a \$16.6 billion surplus, which breaks down to \$55,600 per taxpayer.
- North Dakota's Taxpayer Surplus is the highest in the country with oil production ranking third in the U.S., low unemployment and rebounding oil prices.

The State's Assets Exceeded Its Bills

Total Assets	\$44,609,411,000
Minus: Capital Assets	-\$8,199,291,000
Restricted Assets	-\$10,173,757,000
Assets Available to Pay Bills	\$26,236,363,000
Minus: Total Bills*	\$9,601,931,000
Money available to pay bills	\$16,634,432,000
Each taxpayer's share of this surplus	\$55,600

*Breakdown of Total Bills

Bonds	\$3,368,074,000
Other Liabilities	\$6,080,990,000
Minus: Debt Related to Capital Assets	-\$928,811,000
Unfunded Pension Benefits	\$1,030,338,000
Unfunded Retiree Health Care Benefits	\$51,340,000
Total Bills	\$9,601,931,000

Grade:

A

Bottom line: North Dakota had more than enough money to pay its outstanding bills and received an "A" grade for its finances. According to Truth in Accounting's grading scale, any government with a Taxpayer Surplus greater than \$10,000 is given an "A" grade.