

Australia's relationship with

# NORTH DAKOTA

## KEY FACTS

- **Population:** 762,062 (7/2019)
- **Major Cities:** Bismarck, Fargo
- **Gross Domestic Product (GDP):** \$57,106 Million (2018).
- **Key Industries:** Agriculture, Manufacturing, Mining (Oil and Gas), Services, Renewable Energy.
- **Known for:** North Dakota is known for its 2010 oil boom, and the strong influence that Scandinavian immigrants have had on the culture. It has a comparatively large Native American population, with 5.5% of the population being Native American.

## ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP

- **Two-Way Trade (Goods Only):** \$129.2 Million (2018)
- **Australia's Exports to North Dakota:** \$8.6 Million (2018)
- **North Dakota's Exports to Australia:** \$120.6 Million (2018)
- **Priority Sectors for the Australia-North Dakota economic relationship:** Munitions, pet food, vaccines, electrical equipment.

*2.1% of North Dakota's exports go to Australia.*

## PEOPLE TO PEOPLE LINKS

- **Sister Cities:** None
- **Representation:** Australia's relationship with North Dakota is managed by the **Consulate General in Chicago**.
- **Consul General:** David Bushby.



## AUSTRALIAN COMMUNITY

- **Australian Community:** There is no substantial Australian community in North Dakota.
- **Notable Australians in North Dakota:** Vamegh Rasouli, a Department Chair and continental resources distinguished Professor at the Department of Petroleum Engineering, University of North Dakota; Grant Tomkinson, a Professor of Kinesiology & Public Health Ed, University of North Dakota; Jay Simmons, the President of Thermo-Gel.



## AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS

- North Dakota Governor Doug Burgum was the first Chairman of Australian software company **Atlassian**.
- In 2013, the **North Dakota Lignite Energy Council** signed a research partnership agreement with Melbourne-based **Brown Coal Innovation Australia**.

- Founded by Australian Martin Olsen, **eOne Solutions**, based in Fargo, provide 20,000 companies with eOne software.

## GLOBAL BUSINESS

The **major companies** in North Dakota are as follows:

- **MDU Resources Group, Inc.** is a U.S.-based corporation supplying essential products and services through its regulated energy delivery and construction materials and services businesses. It is headquartered in Bismarck, North Dakota, and operates in 48 states
- **Basin Electric Power Cooperative** is a wholesale electric generation and transmission cooperative based in North Dakota that provides electricity to 2.8 million customers in nine U.S. states
- **RDO Equipment Co.** owns and operates more than 75 dealerships in 10 states, and sells quality brands such as John Deere, Vermeer, and Topcon
- **Titan Machinery Incorporated** is one of the largest American dealers of agricultural and construction equipment. It is based in Fargo, North Dakota and has locations throughout the Midwestern United States.

- **The North Dakota State Fair:** features the best in entertainment including 10 free stages, 3 nights of rodeo (Australian Aboriginal cowboys have been known to perform), 3 nights of auto events, big name entertainment in the grandstand, a carnival, over 46,000 competitive exhibits, 600 commercial vendors, livestock shows and special contests. This 9-day spectacular continues to be the largest annual event held in North Dakota, attracting nearly one quarter of a million people.

## UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS

Nationally Ranked Universities

- **University of North Dakota:** #263
- **North Dakota State University:** #281

## MAJOR EVENTS

- **KMOT Ag Expo:** A popular event for more than four decades, and now one of the main North Dakota US events, the KMOT Ag Expo is the largest indoor agricultural show in the upper Midwest and attracts more than 35,000 visitors every year. Over 360 exhibitors in almost 1,000 booths cover all aspects of agriculture in Western North Dakota including the latest in agricultural technology and equipment as well as livestock displays and informative seminars on all topics in agriculture.