METRO PROFILE 2024

Annual Report for the Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Area



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Dear Interested Persons, Stakeholders, Jurisdictions, Agencies and Organizations

The Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Council of Governments (Metro COG) is pleased to present the 2024 Metropolitan Profile: Annual Report for the Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Area. This document is previously known as the Surveillance and Monitoring Report for the Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Area. **The data presented within this Profile pertains to the 2023 calendar year (January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023)**.

Metro COG began producing the Metropolitan Transportation Surveillance and Monitoring Report in 1981. Over time, this document has taken various forms in order to ensure compliance and compatibility with relevant surface transportation authorization, such as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). The Metro Profile has become an essential performance management tracking tool.

The profile is structured to document and monitor the following:

- (a) Changes to the transportation system;
- (b) Demographic and socioeconomic conditions;
- (c) Changes in land use patterns and/or development patterns;
- (d) Accuracy of projections/assumptions made within the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP); and
- (e) Implementation of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

The Metro COG Policy Board believes this data to be critical to both accurately represent the state of the transportation network and to maintain and to implement elements of the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Program, such as the TIP, MTP, and regional Travel Demand Model (TDM).

It is Metro COG's goal to continue to enhance the ease and accuracy of collecting and reporting metropolitan transportation data; as well as improving accessibility to this information for all interested persons and stakeholders.

Any questions or comments on the content of this document should be directed to Metro COG. Supporting plans, studies, and other transportation data for the Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Area is available by contacting Metro COG (701.532.5100), by email at metrocog@fmmetrocog.org, or visiting Metro COG's website at www.fmmetrocog.org.

Duane Breitling Chair, Metro COG Policy Board

Ben Griffith

Executive Director, Metro COG

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INTRODUCTION

Who is Metro COG?

The Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Council of Governments (Metro COG) is both the designated Council of Governments (COG) and Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the greater Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Area. An MPO is a transportation policy-making organization comprised of representatives from local government and transportation authorities. The Federal Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1973 requires the formation of a MPO for any urbanized area with a population greater than 50,000. MPOs ensure that existing and future expenditures for transportation projects and programs are based on a comprehensive, cooperative, and continuing planning process, known as the "3-C" process.

October of 2023, Metro COG became a designated Transportation Management Area (TMA). A TMA is an urbanized area with a population of greater than 200,000 people that is designated by the US Secretary of Transportation. With the new TMA status, Metro COG will have a stronger role in setting priorities for transportation improvement projects.

What is the Metro Profile?

The Metro Profile is an annual report that provides a snapshot of the Fargo-Moorhead metro area based on data from the previous year. The Metropolitan Profile is separated into five chapters, each of which focus on trends affecting the development patterns and transportation network of the Fargo-Moorhead MPA. Together the chapters provide a comprehensive snapshot of the conditions and trends affecting the metro area based on 2023 data.

The chapters are grouped into two sections:

Community Profile

Transportation

The Transportation section encompasses topics focused on the:

Roadway System

Freight & Interstate Travel

Bicycle & Pedestrian Network

Local & Regional Transit

Within each of these chapters are metrics that Metro COG tracks from year to year. These metrics are used to track progress towards goals set in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). The goals in the MTP are developed with Metro COG's vision, mission, and core functions in mind.

JURISDICTIONS

MEMBER

Cass County 1,768 sq. miles Fargo 51.18 sq. miles West Fargo 16.41 sq. miles

Horace 12.68 sq. miles

CASSELTON 2.18 SQ. MILES

Harwood 1.31 sq. miles

MAPLETON 3.91 SQ. MILES

ASSOCIATE

Clay County 1,053 sq. miles Moorhead 22.32 sq. miles Dilworth 3.22 sq. miles Barnesville 1.96 sq. miles Glyndon 1.59 sq. miles Hawley 2.448 sq. miles



*2023 INFORMATION WAS USED IN 2022 METRO PROFILE NOTE: Jurisdiction acreage was calculated from the GIS information provided by each jurisdiction. Associate Juri

NOTE: Jurisdiction acreage was calculated from the GIS information provided by each jurisdiction. Associate Jurisdictions are depicted in navy, while the Member Jurisdictions are color coded by pink, purple, greens, bright blues, or yellow.

STAFF ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



VISION AND MISSION

Vision Statement Provide quality, proactive regional planning services for a changing society.

Mission

- 1. Harmonize the activities of federal, state, and local agencies
- 2. Render technical assistance
- 3. Encourage public participation in the development of the area

Core Functions

- □ Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.
- □ Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- □ Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- □ Increase accessibility and mobility for people and freight.
- Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvements and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns.

- □ Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight.
- □ Promote efficient system management and operation.
- □ Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.
- □ Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate storm water impacts of surface transportation.
- □ Enhance travel and tourism.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The economy in the Metro continued to see growth trends during 2023 as it neared pre-pandemic levels. This can be seen through Hector International Airport reporting its highest passenger volume of all time.

Demographic Highlights

The Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) has continued to experience faster population growth than the country as a whole. In 2023, much of this growth is estimated to have occurred within Horace. The population of the metro remains younger and more educated than national averages thanks to the number of higher education institutions in the area. The metro also continues to look more diverse, with despite having lower rates of foreign-born individuals and those speaking a language other than English at home. Even though the MSA is diversifying, regional trends are slower than what is occurring nationally.

Economics

The unemployment rate in the Metro continues to decrease. In 2023, despite seeing a slight decrease in the labor force, the Fargo-Moorhead Metro area was ranked #2 in the nation for lowest unemployment rate (tied with Sioux Falls, SD). Even though the FM Area observed increased median household incomes, the region is still below the national average. The regional poverty rate increased, nearing the national average.

Transportation

Vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and vehicle miles traveled per capita both increased in 2023. However, the Metro area's average commute time decreased from 2022.

The Metro area welcomed two Amazon Warehouses at the end of 2021 and in 2023 construction continued a series of four buildings for the Dakota Commerce Center. The area saw an increase in truck average daily traffic and an improved truck travel time reliability index. However, air cargo continued to decline.

Amtrak's Empire Builder increased their on-time performance and saw a significant increase in passenger ridership in 2023. Hector International Airport also saw an improvement in both air passengers and enplanements. 2023 was Hector International Airport's busiest passenger year on record.

Data collected from Metro COG's pedestrian counters shows a drop in activity this year, however bicycle activity increased. Metro COG saw a significant decrease in the number of non-motorized crashes but the number of both; serious injuries and fatalities, increased.

MATBUS ridership has continued to increase in all jurisdictions. Ridership is up for paratransit and Metro Senior ride. Overall, ridership from local university students has increased; however, ridership from MSUM and NDSCS has decreased. MATBUS was able to increase some service, however, like 2021 and 2022, driver shortages have continued to hinder service.

COMMUNITY PROFILE

Overview



2014 - 2023 FM MSA Annual population growth



2014 - 2023 Population Growth by %



* Census ACS discrepency; Source: Census data, Vintage Estimates, 2023

Sources in this section: Census data, American Community Survey (ACS) estimates, Federal Reserve Bank, Home Builders Association of Fargo-Moorhead

United States



** 2022 (8.6%) used previous year (ACS) 5-year estimates

COMMUNITY PROFILE **Employment**



NOTE: For full industry titles and more comprehensive economic profile, see "Economic Profile" in Additional Resources.

+ / - Designates change from previous year

^2019-2023 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates

COMMUNITY PROFILE

Housing



Housing units metro wide

Average household size

FM MSA **United States** 2.27 +.44% 2 4 9

Owner-occupied rate[^]

FM MSA **United States** 55% -2.65% 65%



Building permits issued in 2023



New multi-family Permits [& 1066 units]

+ / - Designates change from previous year

* fred.stlouisfred.org

^2019-2023 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates

2023 30-Yr Fixed Mortgage* Average Year High 7.79% 6.81%

Median Home Price* \$322,433

+ \$13,858 from 2022

Average Rent (3 bedroom)

New single-family Permits Fargo +156West Fargo +220Horace +111Moorhead +19Dilworth

+35Associate Jurisdictions

2023 Median Household Price*



New multi-family Permits & Units

+9 [842]	Fargo
+0	West Fargo
+0	Horace
+3 [224]	Moorhead
+0	Dilworth
+0	Associate Jurisdictions

NOTE: For more in-depth information, see "Permits Plus" in Additional Resources

ROADWAYS Overview



ROADWAYS Projects





Top 2023 Federal Fiscal Year Funded TIP Projects

52nd Ave. Reconstruction (4200016) I-94 Bridge Repair at Lynchburg Interchange (9231005) 8th Ave. North Reconstruction (9230001) MN9 Reconstruct, Mill & Overlay, Trail, ADA Improvements (8200011) Transit Operating Assistance(4200029)

Number of TIP Projects in 2023

60

Total cost **86,065,822**

Federal funding \$ 50,069,286

State funding \$ 12,837,956

Local funding \$ 23,158,580

2023 Mapped Federally Funded TIP Projects



ROADWAYS

Safety & Pavement Condition Targets



Number of fatalities

6

- 52 Number of serious injuries
- 12 Number of non-motorized fatalities and nonmotorized serious injuries

MN-Side of the FM MPA 2023 safety data

- Number of fatalities
- Number of serious injuries
- Number of non-motorized fatalities and nonmotorized serious injuries

ND-Side of the FM MPA 2023 Pavement Conditions



77.35% of Interstate in good condition
0% of Interstate in poor condition
15.55% of non-Interstate in good condition
87% of non-Interstate in poor condition

ND-Side of the FM MPA 2023 Bridge Conditions



54.05% of NHS bridges in good condition 2.03% of NHS bridges in poor condition

MN-Side of the FM MPA 2023 Pavement Conditions

- 67.42% of Interstate in good condition
 - 0% of Interstate in poor condition
- 52.94% of non-Interstate in good condition
 - 0% of non-Interstate in poor condition

MN-Side of the FM MPA 2023 Bridge Conditions

- 11.87% of NHS bridges in good condition
 - 5.95% of NHS bridges in poor condition

ROADWAYS



FREIGHT Overview



Air cargo total landed weight in 2023 (lbs) 406.1 million

Change from year previous -0.9%

Truck Average Daily Traffic (ADT) on I-94 and I-29



New Facilities

Asian & American Supermarket 19,500 sf international store - The largest international grocery store in the Dakotas

Brewhalla

100,000 sq. ft. Brewery with a hotel, apartments, food, and shopping

- 1-94 / Red River Bridge
- 1-29/ North of 12th Ave.

FREIGHT





NOTE: For more information, see "Performance Measures" in Additional Resources. *NPMRDS data



26 BNSF Freight Crossing #070807A, South Track

NOTE: For more information, see "Fargo Amtrak Station" in Additional Resources. + / - Designates change from previous year

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* Seasonal

ST. PETE - CLEARWATER

FREIGHT

Rail and Air Map

Amtrak Projects & Studies

In 2023 Fargo Amtrak started to modify it's station and platform to be ADA compliant. Updates are scheduled to be completed in 2024.

Amtrak Daily Long-Distance Service Study.

All Aboard Northwest

All Aboard Northwest continues to advocate for the needs of rail passengers in the Greater Northwest. In 2023 AANW conducted their 2023 Train Trek: "Returning Passenger Tains to a Station Near You: Why and How" To learn more, visit their website: www.allaboardnw.org.

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Downtown Inset



At-Grade Rail Crossings



Interstate

Collector

Principal Arterial

Local and Other Roads

Minor Arterial

UZA Boundary

MPA Boundary

Safety Overview







September 13, 2023

atal Non-Motorized Crash Locations

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NOTE: For more information, please see "Performance Measures in additional resources.

Sources in this section: NDDOT, MnDOT 2023 METROPOLITAN PROFILE | 22

Projects



Area Bikeway Typologies





2023 Projects

Midtown Trail - Moorhead 45th Street Path - Fargo 64th Avenue Path - Fargo

The Wilds - West Fargo Main - Moorhead **Orchard Glen** - Fargo

11th Street South - Moorhead Center Avenue - Horace CR 17 - Horace



Fargo-Moorhead Bike Map

The application is available on Google Play and the Apple App Store

The bike map of the Fargo-Moorhead metro area includes locations of bikeways (streets with sharrows, wide shoulders, bike lanes or bike-signed roadways) and shared use paths (paths for biking and walking). Also included in the map are the locations of bike repair stations and bike lockers.



NOTE: For the most up-to-date bike network map, please click here or see "Fargo-Moorhead Bike Map" in additional resources.

BIKE & PEDESTRIAN Average Hourly Pedestrian Counts Manual Count 8th St at I-94. Moorhead Locations 4th St at Center Ave, Moorhead (once per year) Center Ave/NP Ave Bridge, FM 6 Automated Count 17th Ave E at 9th St, West Fargo Locations, NOT SHOWN 9th St at 17th Ave E, West Fargo 12th/15th Ave N Bridge, FM Univ Dr at 12th Ave N, Fargo 12th Ave N at Univ Dr, Fargo 40th Ave S at 45th St, Fargo 45th St at 40th Ave S, Fargo 13th Ave S at I-29, Fargo 12th Ave N Viaduct, Fargo 9th Ave S at I-29, Fargo 7th St at 4th Ave NE, Dilworth 20 0 5 10 15 25 30 35 40 45 50

10-Year Average Hourly Pedestrian Counts



NOTE: For more information about the most recent counts, please click here or see "Bike & Ped Count Report" in additional resources.

BIKE & PEDESTRIAN Average Hourly Bicycle Counts



NOTE: For more information about the most recent counts, please click here or see "Bike & Ped Count Report" in additional resources.

Broadway Average Hourly Pedestrian Counts



Broadway Average Hourly Bicycle Counts



10-Year Average Hourly Pedestrian Counts



NOTE: For more information about the most recent counts, please click here or see "Bike & Ped Count Report" in additional resources.

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TRANSIT





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Fargo/West Fargo 854,493	+2.09%
Moorhead/Dilworth 374,928	+9.03%
Paratransit 57,545	+3.83%
Metro Senior Ride 8,351	+5.28%

University	Ridership
------------	-----------

NDSU	
321,537	+8%
MSUM	
18,154	-5%
Concordia	
12,807	+18%
M State	
13,188	+62%
NDSCS	
304	-13%
	-

+ / - Designates change from previous year

Sources in this section: MATBUS 2023 METROPOLITAN PROFILE | 28

TRANSIT

Projects

Route and Service Changes - Due to Driver Shortage (January, 2022)

- □ MATBUS service end time was changed from 9:45 pm to 10:15pm
- □ Route 2C (Route 2 operating Monday-Friday 2:30pm-6:30pm) was discontinued
- Route 13 reduced to 60-minute service all day
- Route 15:00 trip during peak hours was discontinued
- Additional bus leaving the GTC at :30 on weekdays 10:30am 5:30pm
- Route 11 & 14 service increase; odd hours have two trips from 7:15am 5:45pm
- □ Route 13 returned to 30-minute service
- □ Route 36 discontinued (same service as Route 13)
- □ Route 18 no longer travels west on 47th street south, increasing the route's on-time performance

Marketing

- Promoted transit to new riders during Try MATBUS Week
- LinkFM service during the Street Fair, Scandinavian Festival, Frostival, Celtic Festival, Pangea, and Trollwood Mainstage Musical
- Offered 'Get Your Can on the Bus' promotion during Earth Week
- Educated college students at back to school events
- Participated in the Holiday Lights Parade
- Sponsored a RedHawks and Fargo Force game
- Be Holiday ridership campaign called 'Season of Giving' providing a free ride with the donation of a non-perishable food item
- Partnered with YWCA for 'stuff the bus'

Studies

- Continued Transit Reorganization Study
- Updated Safety Plan in August 2023

Route Map







TRANSIT Inventory

Fleet



2 Fargo - Passenger Van

20 Fargo - 35' - diesel

2 Fargo - 35' - diesel-electric hybrid

6 Fargo - 40' - diesel-electric hybrid



4 Moorhead - Caravan

Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP)

		Fatalities (per		Injuries (per	Safety	Safety Events	System Reliability	
Mode of Transit Service	Fatalities (total)	100 thousand VRM)	Injuries (total)	100 thousand VRM)	Events	(per 100 thousand VRM)	VRM/failures	Maintenance within 10% of Scheduled Miles
Fixed Route Bus	0	0	0.6	0.13	1.4	0.29	9,000	90%
Demand Response (Senior Ride)	0	0	0	0	0.2	0.06	12,000	90%

*2023 performance reported in 2024

Collisions

Preventable: 20

Unpreventable: 39

Major*: 3

*collision resulting in serious injury, fatality, or exeeds \$25,000 in damage

TRANSIT Vehicle Condition

FLEET BUSES (GREATER THAN 35 FEET)



TRANSIT Vehicle Condition

PARA TRANSIT BUSES (LESS THAN 30 FEET)



ACRONYMS

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/FARG038UR

https://www.bls.gov/lau/lamtrk23.htm

BIA (Building Industry Association Red River Valley) Summary of Building Permits Granted 2023

Freight:

https://www.fargoairport.com/december-2023-year-end-statistics/

greatamericanstations.com/stations/fargo-nd-far/

safetydata.fra.dot.gov/officeofsafety/publicsite/crossings

Fargo-Moorhead Bike Map fmmetrocog.org/fmbikemap

Bike & Ped Count Report fmmetrocog.org/resources/planning/bicycle-pedestrian-planning

Hector International Airport Year-End Statistics fargoairport.com/december-2023-year-end-statistics/

Permits Plus issuu.com/homebuildersassociation/docs/permits_plus_issue_1_2023

Performance Measures fmmetrocog.org/resources/performance-measures

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) fmmetrocog.org/TIP



