



STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
**OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR**  
STATE CAPITOL  
600 E. BOULEVARD AVE. - DEPT. 117  
BISMARCK, ND 58505

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Honorable John Hoeven, Governor  
of the State of North Dakota

Members of the Legislative Assembly  
of the State of North Dakota

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the State of North Dakota as of and for the year ended June 30, 2008, which collectively comprise the State's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the State of North Dakota's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We did not audit the financial statements of the following state entities and discretely presented component units:

Bank of North Dakota	Job Service North Dakota
Beginning Farmer Revolving Loan Fund	Mandan Remediation Trust
Board of University and School Lands	PACE and AG PACE Funds
Building Authority	Public Employees Retirement System
College SAVE Plan	Retirement and Investment Office
Community Water Facility Loan Fund	State Fair Association
Developmentally Disabled Facility Loan Program	Student Loan Trust
Guaranteed Student Loan Program	Workforce Safety and Insurance
Housing Finance Agency	All Discretely Presented Component Units

The financial statements of the above entities reflect total assets and revenues of the government-wide financial statements and fund financial statements as follows:

	<u>Percent of Assets</u>	<u>Percent of Revenues</u>
<u>Government-Wide Financial Statements</u>		
Governmental Activities	26%	4%
Business-Type Activities	80%	30%
Aggregate Discretely Presented Component Units	100%	100%
<u>Fund Financial Statements</u>		
Major Governmental Funds		
Federal Fund	1%	2%
School Permanent Trust Fund	100%	100%
Major Enterprise Funds		
Bank of North Dakota	100%	100%
Housing Finance Agency	100%	100%
Workforce Safety and Insurance	100%	100%
Aggregate Remaining Fund Statements	82%	31%

Those financial statements were audited by other auditors whose reports thereon have been furnished to us, and our opinion, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for those entities, is based on the reports of the other auditors.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. The financial statements of the North Dakota University System's component units were not audited in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit and the reports of other auditors provide a reasonable basis for our opinions.

The actuary for the North Dakota Teachers' Fund for Retirement has determined the Fund's unfunded actuarial accrued liability is approximately \$421 million at June 30, 2008. The funding for the actuarial accrued liabilities is predicated on employer and employee funding rates mandated by North Dakota statutes. The actuary has determined that the current statutory contribution rates will amortize the unfunded actuarial accrued liability over 57 years, based on the current actuarial assumptions, unless there are sufficient actuarial gains in the future to offset the recent investment losses.

The actuary for the North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System has determined that the Fund's unfunded actuarial accrued liability is approximately \$128 million at June 30, 2008. The funding for the actuarial accrued liabilities is predicated on employer and employee funding rates mandated by North Dakota statutes. The actuary has determined that the current statutory contribution rates are insufficient to meet the actuarially determined requirement, based upon the current assumptions, unless there are sufficient actuarial gains in the future to offset the recent investment losses.

In our opinion, based on our audit and the reports of other auditors, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the State of North Dakota, as of June 30, 2008, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, thereof for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

As described in Note 18 to the basic financial statements, the Bank of North Dakota elected to present an unclassified balance sheet because current assets are not matched with current liabilities. Presentation of a classified balance sheet would give the false impression that there is a liquidity problem at the bank. Presentation of a classified balance sheet for the Bank of North Dakota would be misleading to the extent that the financial statements may be materially misstated.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued under separate cover, our report dated December 18, 2008 on our consideration of the State of North Dakota's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to

describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis and Budgetary Comparison Schedules on pages 20 through 29 and 119 through 123, respectively, are not a required part of the basic financial statements but are supplementary information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We and the other auditors have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the State of North Dakota's basic financial statements. The combining and individual fund financial statements and schedules listed in the table of contents are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. This supplementary information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied by us and the other auditors in the audit of the basic financial statements and in, our opinion, based on our audit and the reports of other auditors, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

The data included in the introductory and statistical sections of this report has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied by us and the other auditors in the audit of the basic financial statements and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion thereon.

Robert R. Peterson  
State Auditor

Edwin J. Nagel, Jr., CPA  
Director

December 18, 2008