

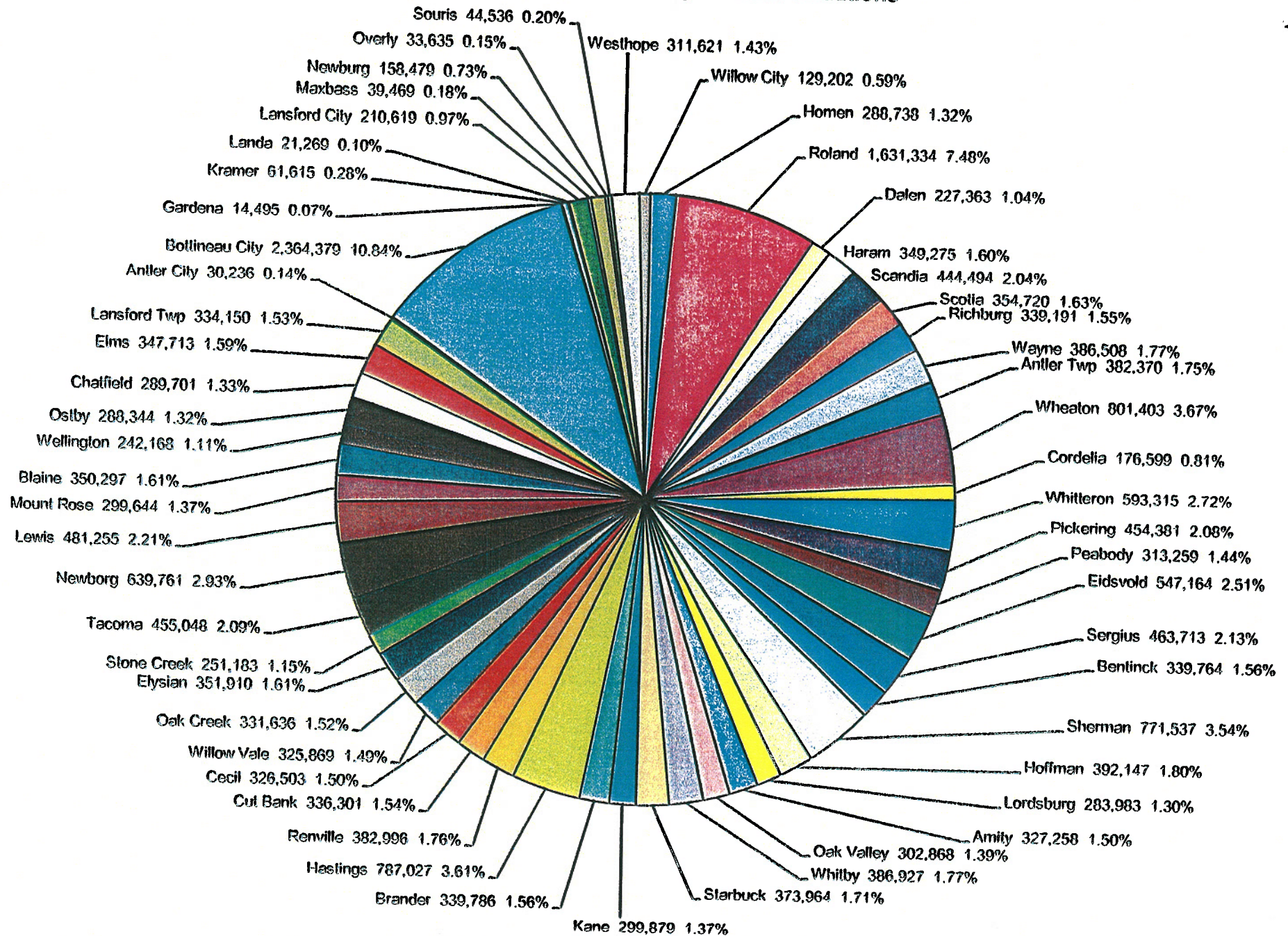
We are present here this afternoon as property owners of Lake Metigoshe, and our concerns that the current property tax laws are not fair or at least are not being applied fairly to us in Bottineau County. The way it exists right now, some families are being forced to or seriously contemplating to sell their property because of the drastic increase in property taxes. These are families who have owned property for generations, and most of them use the property for summer recreational purposes only. Now, their property taxes at Lake Metigoshe exceed the property taxes they pay on their principal residences in their home cities or homesteads. Here are some points which we want you and the upcoming legislative assembly to consider:

1. Introduce legislation which is similar to proposition 13 of California, or if you feel you cannot introduce it as a bill, then let us know so we can start an initiated measure. This proposition allows the sales price (fair market value) of property to also become the tax value upon its sale. Thus, other property in the surrounding area does not have to be increased each year to a speculated "tax value" based upon total sales in the area for that particular year. The person who wants to buy will have his tax value set at the FMV for which he bought the property. Many property owners have no intention to sell, yet their tax value has increased 4 or 5 times fold in the past 10 years. It makes more sense if your neighbor wants to sell for a drastic increase in value, let him pay the capital gains tax, and the new buyer will establish a new property tax value for which he will be assessed in the future rather than attempt to spread the increased property value amongst the neighbors at a speculated level.
2. Consider the fact that for example 900 cabins or homes are located at Lake Metigoshe and 20 get sold during the year, the other 880 are impacted by the sales price of the 20; the 20 are sold at very speculated values (e.g. when the lake level is high); when the lake level goes drastically down or even floods and property cannot be sold, will tax values go down proportionately? No!
3. The method which other property is valued in the township—NDSU has established the tax value for agricultural property in the township at approximately \$160/acre. Whereas, the actual sales price for most agricultural property is around \$1,100 to \$1,300 per acre in the township. Why should Lake Metigoshe property be forced to be taxed at 60% - 95% of FMV or "Sales" value for tax purposes and agricultural property is not.
4. Over a 4 year period (2003-2007) non-Lake Metigoshe tax value property increased by approximately \$100,000 in Bottineau County, whereas tax values (both lake shore and buildings) at Lake Metigoshe increased \$50,000,000!!
5. Pursuant to 2007, Roland Township paid for 17.53% of the total property tax valuations in Bottineau County with 926 property owners at Lake Metigoshe, and the city of Bottineau paid 10.34% of property tax valuations for Bottineau County with 2,500 residents!

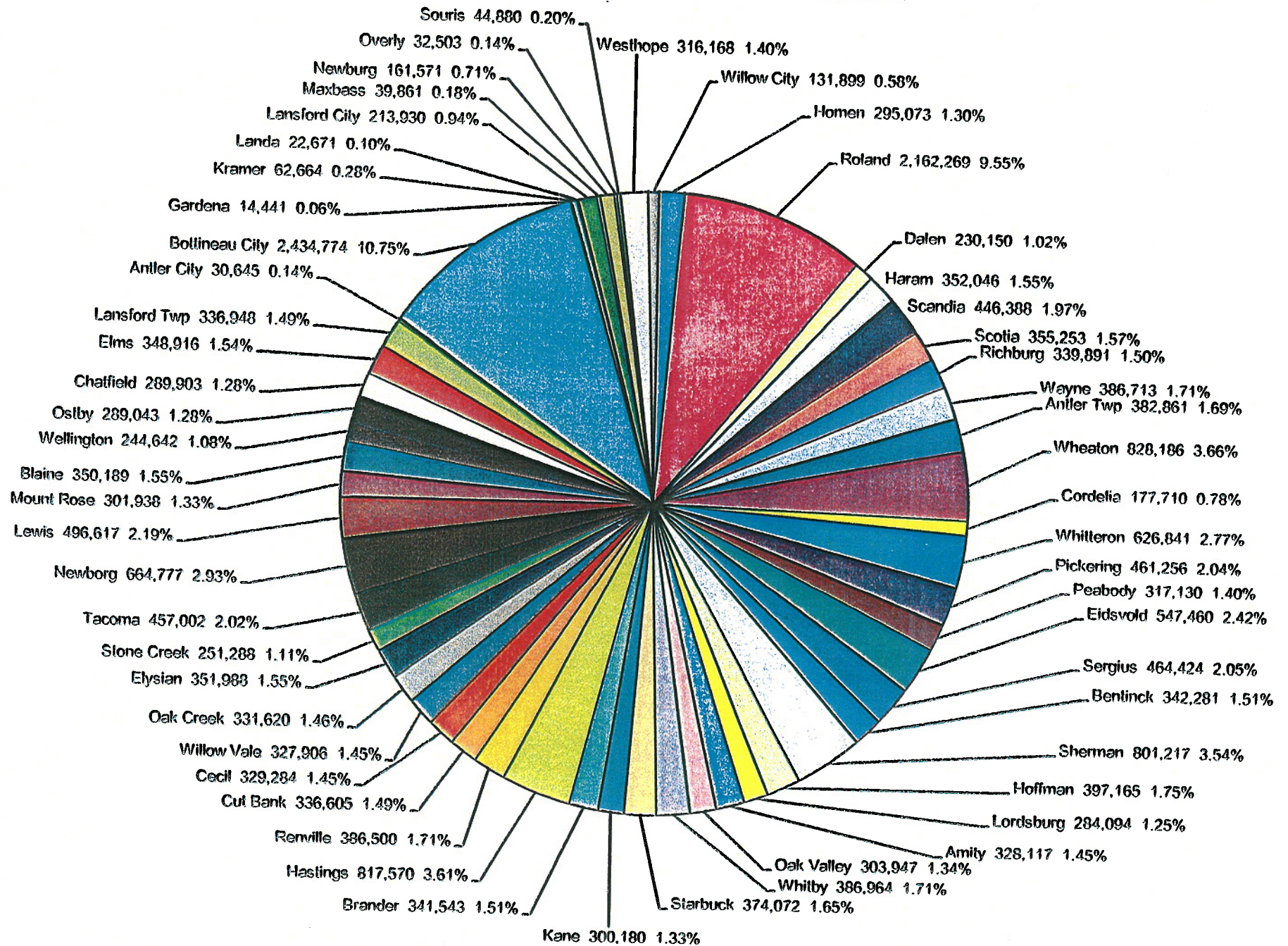
6. We are wondering if property values on the Missouri River in Bismarck are taxed at 95% to 105% of market value?
7. Lake Metigoshe is unique in ND; it's a blend of year-round residents and summer only residents who principally live outside of Bottineau County with 926 in total for both; different from Devils Lake where most property owners principally live within the county--whether its Ramsey or Benson—and are not paying double school tax in another county; we're different from property owners along the Missouri River in Bismarck—they don't own a second place for recreational purposes.
8. At the conclusion of the State Tax Commission Memo, dated May 2, 2008, it states, "The statute requires property to be assessed at its market value." Alright, then why is NDSU dictating that assessed market value for agricultural property should be at \$160/acre in Roland Township, but actual market value for agricultural property is at \$1,100 to \$1,300 per acre? Why should lake shore property owners in Roland Township be assessed at 95% of market value, whereas agricultural property in Roland Township is assessed only at 13%?!
9. Other points:

2002 Bottineau County Taxable Valuations

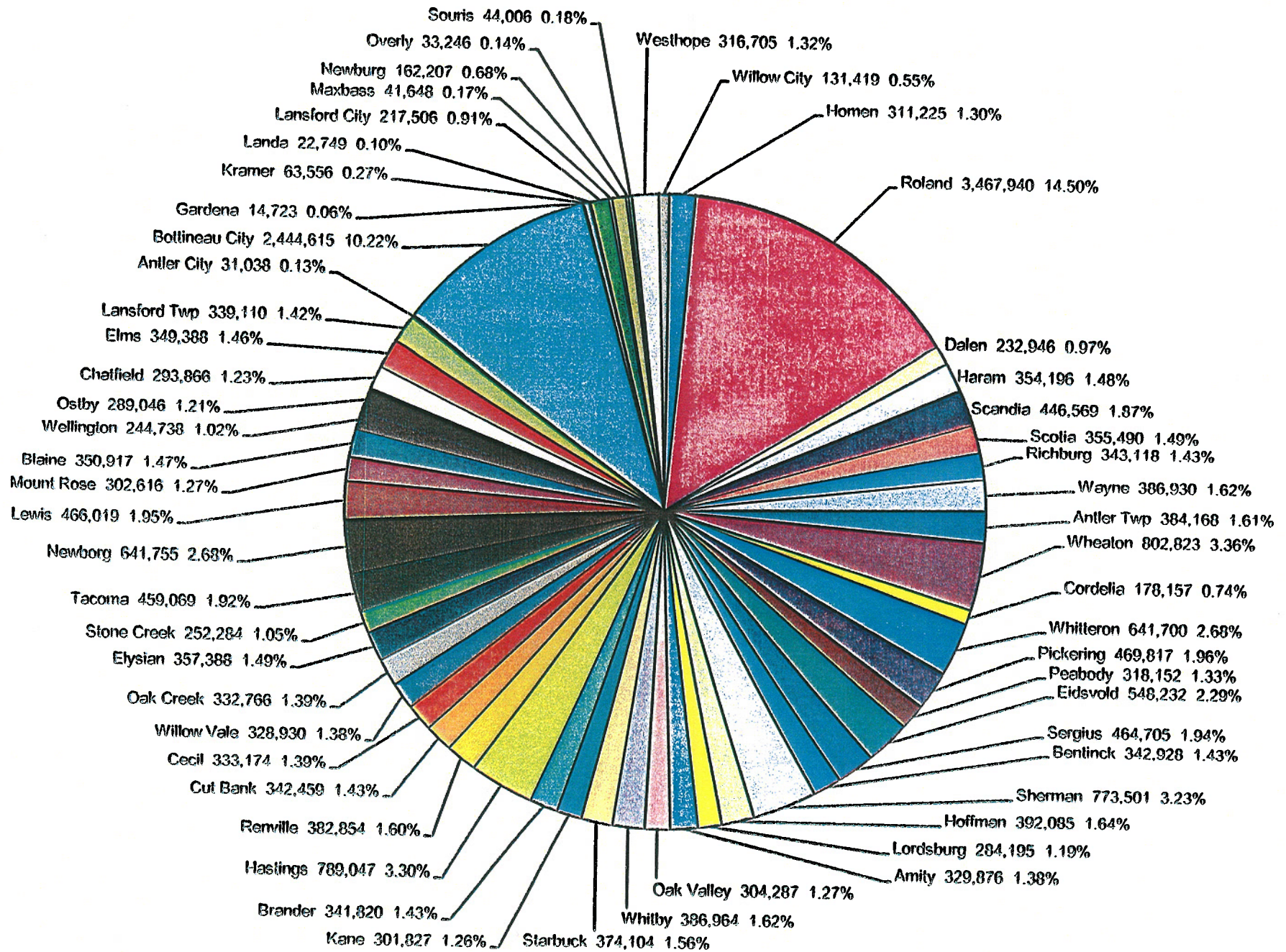
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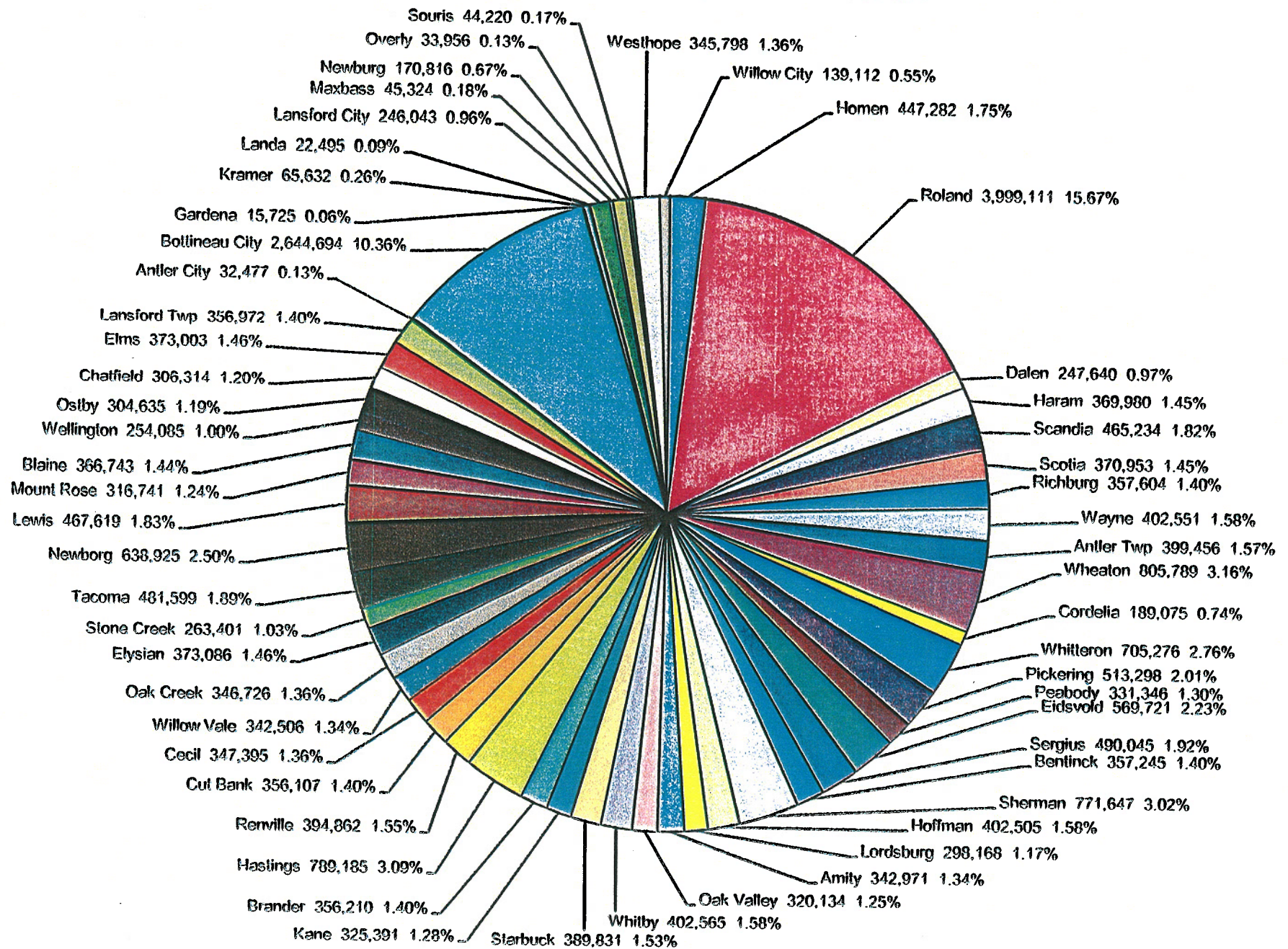
2003 Bottineau County Taxable Valuations



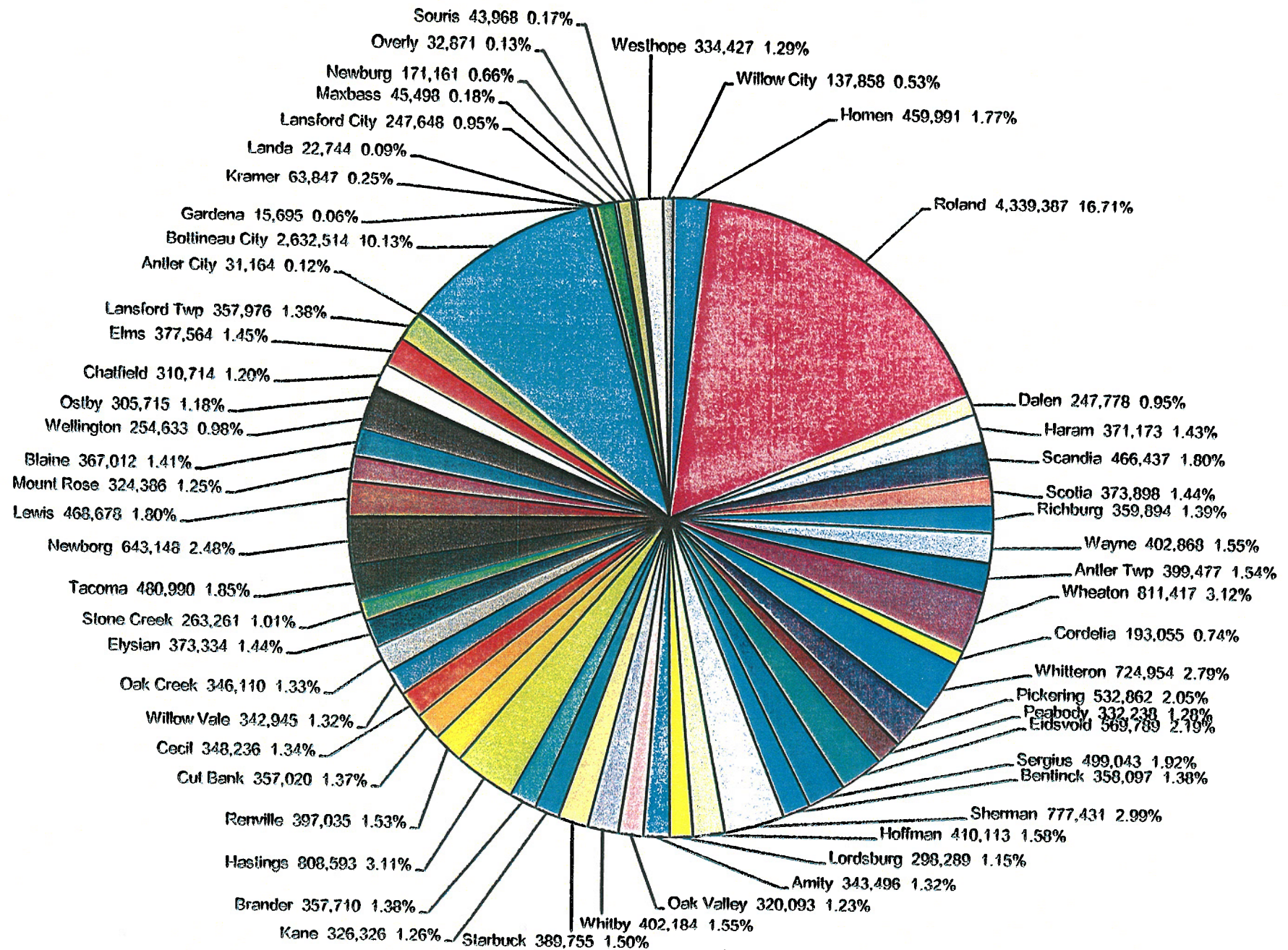
2004 Bottineau County Taxable Valuations



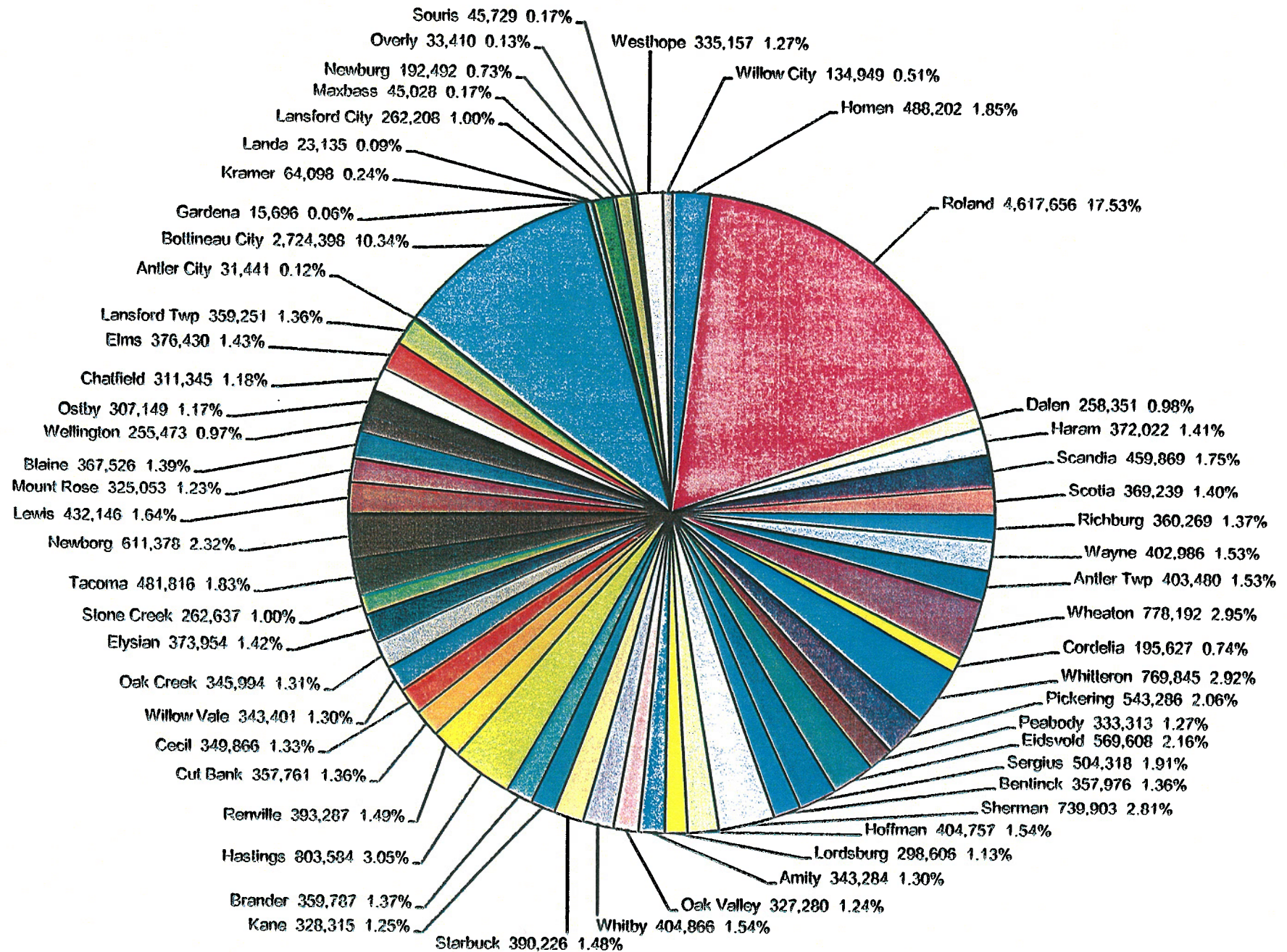
2005 Bottineau County Taxable Valuations



2006 Bottineau County Taxable Valuations



2007 Bottineau County Taxable Valuations



2002-2007 Roland Township Lake Metigoshe Recreation Service District Real Estate Taxes Assessed

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
County General	24,980.46	35,802.57	60,758.88	66,875.27	77,594.18	83,079.60
Social Services	13,529.41	31,638.20	49,123.55	57,595.92	65,450.69	72,486.95
County Road & Bridge	5,309.86	7,075.75	11,088.50	10,665.91	11,639.13	12,461.94
County Road Repair	9,158.16	10,982.16	15,250.48	17,776.52	19,398.55	20,769.90
Farm to Market Blacktop	13,408.73	18,426.44	30,379.44	35,553.04	38,797.09	41,539.80
County Fair & Fair Bldg	2,011.31	2,763.97	4,556.92	5,012.98	5,819.56	6,230.97
Property Insurance	2,011.31	1,842.64	3,037.94	5,368.51	3,879.71	4,153.98
NDSU Extension	4,022.62	5,527.93	9,113.83	10,665.91	11,639.13	12,461.94
Senior Citizens	1,340.87	1,842.64	3,037.94	3,555.30	3,879.71	4,153.98
1st District Health	4,921.00	6,799.36	9,204.97	12,194.69	12,143.49	13,001.96
Garrison Diversion	1,340.87	1,842.64	3,037.94	3,555.30	3,879.71	4,153.98
County Library	5,873.02	7,831.24	12,242.91	14,221.22	15,518.84	16,615.92
Historical Society	348.63	460.66	759.49	853.27	969.93	1,038.50
Ambulance	2,815.83	3,758.99	6,075.89	7,110.61	7,759.42	8,307.96
County Special Assm'ts	-	-	-	-	-	6,397.13
Veteran Service Officer	1,112.92	1,603.10	2,187.32	2,844.24	2,909.78	2,824.71
Soc Sec/Rtmt/Technology	12,604.21	17,486.69	30,379.44	28,833.52	36,003.70	52,963.25
Advertising	670.44	921.32	1,518.97	1,777.65	1,939.85	2,076.99
Weed Control	5,363.49	7,370.58	12,151.78	13,332.39	15,518.84	16,615.92
Health Insurance	5,363.49	7,370.58	12,151.78	23,856.09	31,037.67	33,231.84
Job Development	5,363.49	7,370.58	12,151.78	12,052.48	15,518.84	16,615.92
Emergency	1,354.28	3,685.29	3,037.94	3,590.86	5,819.56	-
County Park	1,340.87	1,842.64	3,037.94	3,341.99	3,879.71	4,153.98
County Airport Authority	-	-	-	-	3,879.71	4,153.98
County Tax Dollars	\$ 124,245.29	\$ 184,245.97	\$ 294,285.64	\$ 340,633.68	\$ 394,876.78	\$ 439,491.08
Increase from Previous Yr.		48.29%	59.72%	15.75%	15.92%	11.30%
Increase 2002-2007						253.73%
State Medical Center	1,340.87	1,842.64	3,037.94	3,555.30	3,879.71	4,153.98
Bottineau S.D.#1	259,981.87	315,902.89	508,096.13	591,709.24	657,571.88	712,033.71
Roland Township	28,654.46	30,716.88	38,490.75	27,944.69	33,753.47	31,030.23
Lake Metigoshe RSD	1,340.87	1,842.64	3,037.94	3,555.30	3,879.71	4,153.98
Bottineau Fire District	15,151.86	19,661.01	31,594.62	33,810.94	35,887.31	41,207.48
Turtle Mountain SCD	1,340.87	1,842.64	4,283.50	4,906.32	5,470.39	5,649.41
Oak Creek Water District	3,580.13	921.32	1,518.97	14,221.22	15,518.84	16,615.92
Total Tax Dollars Assessed	\$ 435,636.23	\$ 556,976.00	\$ 884,345.50	\$ 1,020,336.69	\$ 1,150,838.08	\$ 1,254,335.80
Increase from Previous Yr.		27.85%	58.78%	15.38%	12.79%	9.0%
Increase 2002-2007						187.93%