



March 2016

Labor Market Information Center

SD Department of Labor & Regulation

South Dakota Worker Commuting Patterns

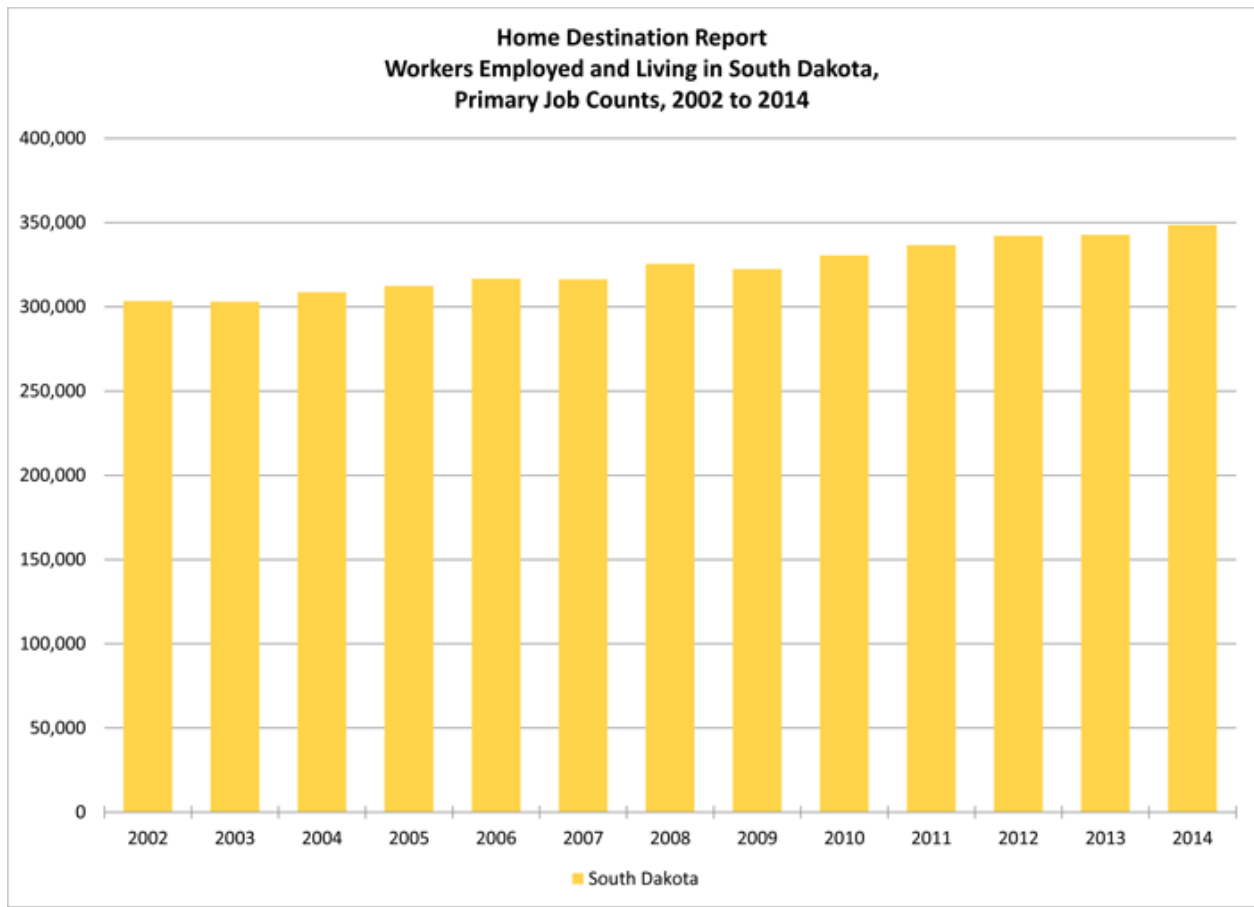
South Dakota is known for its low unemployment rate, which is currently 3.2 percent (not seasonally adjusted) as of February 2016. Despite the low unemployment rate, South Dakota does have available labor to fill job vacancies. The pool of available workers includes those who are unemployed and seeking employment opportunities, as well as residents who are already gainfully employed, including those who are willing to change jobs if the right opportunity presents itself. These decisions are usually related to a job which offers a higher wage, access to benefits and a work schedule that better fits lifestyle.

Within this pool of workers are those who are likely "underemployed." The underemployed includes persons working full-time or part-time jobs below their earning capacity or level of competence. Underemployment has also been defined as "involuntary part-time" employment or employment of a person on a part-time basis when full-time work is desired.

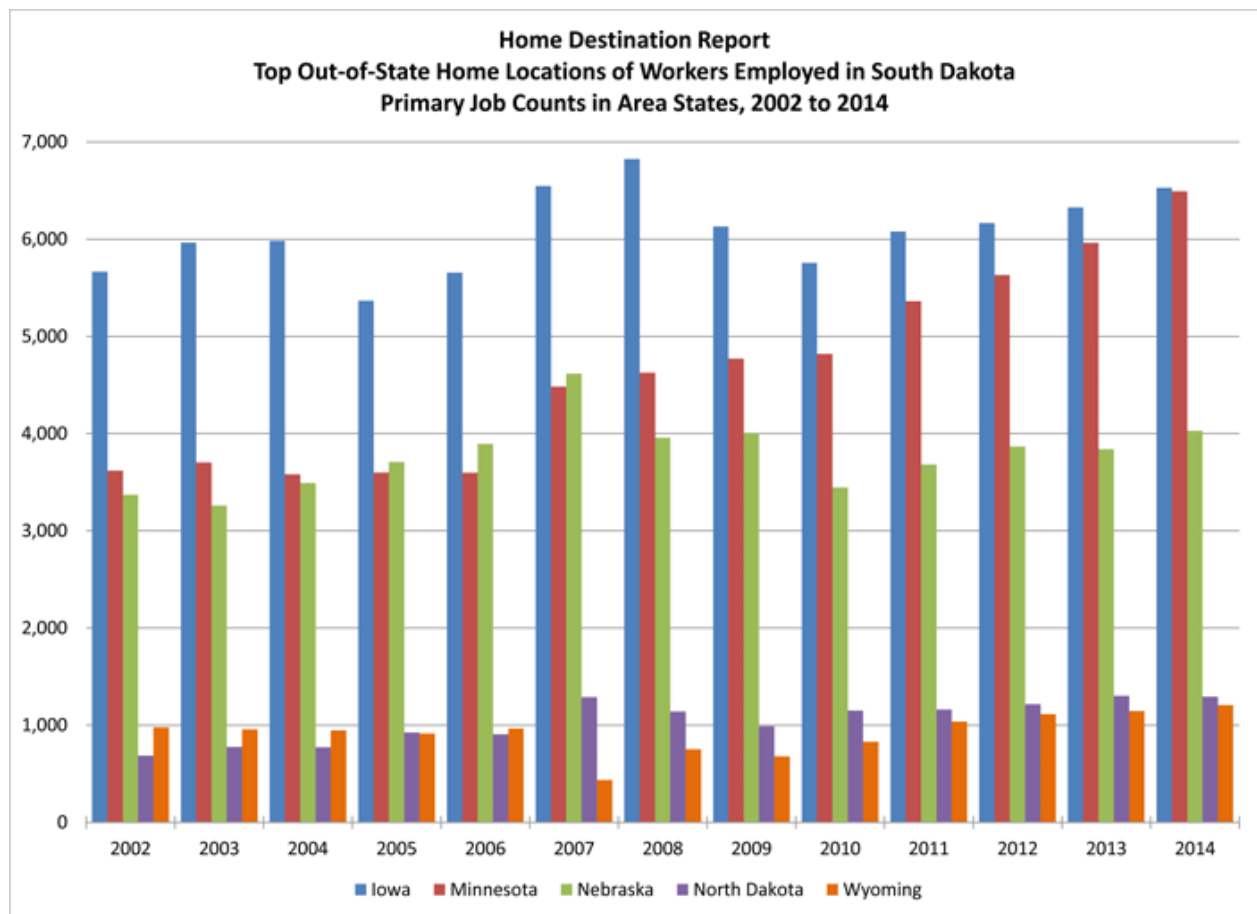
Therefore, since some of the jobs available in South Dakota may not match up with the skills of the available labor pool, some South Dakota residents may choose to commute to other counties within South Dakota, or counties in other states, to seek employment related to their specific skill sets.

Every day the nation's roads, highways and transit systems carry millions of people from home to work, often to a county in which they do not reside. Most people typically live and work in the same county, but according to 2014 Census Bureau data, 27.6 percent of the nation's workers 16 and older worked outside their county of residence. Commuting information provided by the Census Bureau (<http://blogs.census.gov/2015/08/13/where-do-all-those-commuters-come-from-census-bureau-releases-new-information-on-county-to-county-commuting-flows/>) provides insights regarding how many people travel across state borders for employment.

The chart at the top of the next page shows the historical trends of workers employed and living in South Dakota. The numbers reflect a steady climb of more workers being both employed and living in South Dakota for the 2002 to 2014 time period.



The next chart provides information on the top out-of-state home locations of workers employed in South Dakota.



Iowa consistently reflects the highest level of workers commuting to South Dakota, which is likely related to the close proximity of the Sioux Falls Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). Minnesota and Nebraska also reflect higher levels of commuting into South Dakota to work. North Dakota and Wyoming had the lowest levels of commuters working in South Dakota.

The table on the following page provides information on the work locations of workers living in South Dakota for 2002-2014. It is not surprising to see the number of workers living in South Dakota with a work location of North Dakota starting to increase in the latter part of the decade. This coincided with the oil boom which started in the latter part of 2008, within the midst of the recession.

During the 2002-2014 time period, the out of state work locations of workers living in South Dakota all reflected increasing levels of South Dakota residents working in bordering states.

Work Destination Report Work Locations of Workers Living in South Dakota Top Primary Job Counts in Area States, 2002 to 2014						
Year	South Dakota	Iowa	Minnesota	Nebraska	North Dakota	Wyoming
2002	303,453	2,656	1,965	1,878	1,630	731
2003	303,061	2,721	2,003	2,150	1,726	747
2004	308,644	2,829	2,017	2,067	1,606	776
2005	312,452	2,539	2,069	1,655	1,370	726
2006	316,677	2,542	2,091	1,661	1,328	1,012
2007	316,348	2,780	2,268	1,397	1,631	1,668
2008	325,441	3,035	2,447	1,900	1,683	1,723
2009	322,328	3,538	2,334	1,704	1,585	1,273
2010	330,534	3,786	2,628	1,990	2,095	1,369
2011	336,572	4,047	2,803	2,063	2,436	1,404
2012	342,189	4,590	3,144	2,163	3,555	1,581
2013	342,734	4,788	3,272	2,369	4,099	1,565
2014	348,567	5,008	3,588	2,638	4,153	n/a
Change 2002-2014	14.9%	88.6%	82.6%	40.5%	154.8%	n/a

Numbers may not sum due to rounding.

Work destination data for Wyoming not available for 2014. In previous years it has been one of the top work destination states.

Primary Jobs: Public- and private-sector jobs, one job per worker. A primary job is the highest paying job for an individual worker.

Years 2002 through 2009 only include jobs covered by states' unemployment insurance; years 2010 through 2014 also contain federal job data.

OnTheMap application (<http://onthemap.ces.census.gov>), Longitudinal-Employer Household Dynamics Program, U.S. Census Bureau, 2016.

Prepared by the Labor Market Information Center, South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation, March 2016.

The Home Destination Report for South Dakota provides the most current information on South Dakota workers and where they live. For the second quarter of 2014, an estimated 93.8 percent of those who worked in South Dakota also lived there.

The Work Destination Report indicated a high level of those who lived in South Dakota worked within its borders. For the second quarter of 2014, an estimated 95.2 percent of those who lived in South Dakota also work there.

Home Destination Report Home Location of Workers Employed in South Dakota			Work Destination Report Work Location of Workers Living in South Dakota		
Job Counts by State			Job Counts by State		
Second Quarter 2014			Second Quarter 2014		
States	Count	Share	States	Count	Share
South Dakota	348,567	93.8%	South Dakota	348,567	95.2%
Iowa	6,528	1.8%	Iowa	5,008	1.4%
Minnesota	6,492	1.7%	North Dakota	4,153	1.1%
Nebraska	4,028	1.1%	Minnesota	3,588	1.0%
North Dakota	1,293	0.3%	Nebraska	2,638	0.7%
Wyoming	1,206	0.3%	Colorado	373	0.1%
Colorado	366	0.1%	California	159	0.0%
California	328	0.1%	Kansas	136	0.0%
Texas	288	0.1%	Texas	132	0.0%
Illinois	251	0.1%	Montana	124	0.0%
All Other Locations	2,352	0.6%	All Other Locations	1,183	0.3%
Total Primary Jobs	371,699	100.0%	Total Primary Jobs	366,061	100.0%

Numbers may not sum due to rounding.

Work destination data for Wyoming not available for 2014. In previous years it has been one of the top 10 work destination states.

Primary Jobs: Public- and private-sector jobs, one job per worker. A primary job is the highest paying job for an individual worker.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, OnTheMap application (<http://onthemap.ces.census.gov>) and LEHD Origin-Destination Employment Statistics (Beginning of Quarter Employment, 2nd Quarter of 2002-2014).

Prepared by the Labor Market Information Center, South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation, March 2016.

If you are interested in receiving similar commuting-to-work information for a specific area of South Dakota, contact the Labor Market Information Center at 605.626.2314.