

# South Dakota Health Care Industry

## VITALS



### Healthy component of South Dakota's workforce

The Health Care industry is an important part of South Dakota's economic baseline, accounting for 16% of all workers in privately owned establishments and nearly 20% of payrolls.



### With readings climbing

South Dakota's Health Care industry added more than 9,000 workers (18%) over the last 10 years, more than any other private industry.



### Opportunity stat!

There are almost 3,500 South Dakota job openings in Health Care occupations right now.



### Charting expected to continue upward

The Health Care industry is projected to be among the state's largest growth industries to 2032, adding nearly 8,000 workers to the state's economy with a growth rate exceeding 13%. Outstanding career opportunities await South Dakota's future Health Care workforce.



# VITALS in detail

- ★ South Dakota's Health Care industry is an important source of employment, with 61,238 workers (**16.0% of all workers** in privately owned establishments) in 2024.
- ★ Health Care also plays a big role in earnings, accounting for **19.8% of** the state's privately owned establishment **payrolls** in 2024.
- ★ The number of workers in South Dakota's Health Care industry **increased 18.2% from 2014 to 2024**, adding **9,420 workers** to the state's economy.
- ★ South Dakota's Health Care industry is **projected to add 7,950 workers** by 2032 (from a level of 60,196 in 2022 to 68,146 in 2032, a **13.2%** increase).
- ★ Several of South Dakota's occupations projected to be in **greatest demand** through 2032 are Health Care careers, as shown in the table below.
- ★ And the majority of those high-demand occupations (highlighted in gold below) have been identified as **South Dakota Hot Careers** (high-demand and high-wage occupations). Hot Career occupations have greater than average projected demand (more than 82 openings per year) and an average wage greater than \$45,620 (the median wage across all occupations in 2024). For more information on Hot Careers, visit [dlr.sd.gov/hotcareers](https://dlr.sd.gov/hotcareers).

**South Dakota Health Care Occupations Projected to be in Greatest Demand 2022-2032**

	2022 Employment	Projected 2032 Employment	Percent Change 2022-2032	Projected Annual Openings
Clinical Laboratory Technologists and Technicians	1,289	1,441	11.8%	101
Dental Assistants	1,035	1,168	12.9%	164
Home Health and Personal Care Aides	4,615	5,335	15.6%	802
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	2,150	2,319	7.9%	186
Medical and Health Services Managers	1,004	1,278	27.3%	106
Medical Assistants	999	1,163	16.4%	154
Medical Records Specialists	1,150	1,312	14.1%	97
Nurse Practitioners	821	1,284	56.4%	92
Nursing Assistants	6,000	6,496	8.3%	934
Pharmacy Technicians	1,166	1,309	12.3%	124
Registered Nurses	14,586	16,506	13.2%	1,028

Source: Labor Market Information Center, South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation, August 2025