



**South Dakota  
High Demand  
&  
High Wage  
Career**



**Career Cluster:  
Architecture & Construction**

## Civil Engineers

### What They Do

Plan, design and supervise construction of building structures and facilities, including roads, buildings, airports, pipelines, tunnels, dams, bridges and systems for water supply and sewage treatment.

### Is This For You?

**Work Interests** are described in the following categories (compatible with Holland's Model). People who tend to succeed in this career are:

**Realistic (Doers)** — Prefer to work with objects, things, machines, tools, plants or animals. They have mechanical ability, enjoy being outdoors and working with their hands.

**Investigative (Thinkers)** — Interested in science and logic. They like to analyze, evaluate and solve problems, and enjoy learning and understanding the causes of events.

*Standard Occupational Code 17-2051*

**Work Values** are aspects of work that are satisfying to you. The following work values are generally associated with this career.

**Independence** — Allow employees to work on their own and make decisions.

**Working Conditions** — Offer job security and good working conditions.

**Recognition** — Offer advancement, potential for leadership, and are often considered prestigious.

**Abilities** reflect a person's aptitude to acquire skills and knowledge. The following abilities are important for success in the career.

- Deductive Reasoning
- Inductive Reasoning
- Oral Comprehension
- Oral Expression
- Problem Sensitivity
- Written Comprehension
- Written Expression

## Basic Skills You Need

- Active Listening
- Complex Problem Solving
- Critical Thinking
- Mathematics
- Reading Comprehension
- Speaking
- Science
- Systems Analysis

## Education & Training

Civil engineer positions require the minimum of a bachelor's degree in civil engineering or a related program. Some employers prefer a master's or even a doctoral degree. Civil engineers must be licensed by the South Dakota Board of Technical Professions. For more information, please see the South Dakota Board of Technical Professions website at <https://dlr.sd.gov/btp>.

## Recommended Levels\* for the National Career Readiness Certificate

Applied Math	6
Workplace Documents	6
Graphic Literacy	6

\*Using the median skill level.

## Where They Work

The South Dakota industries which employ the largest number of civil engineers are:

- State Government, excluding Education and Hospitals
- Local Government, excluding Education and Hospitals
- Federal Government, excluding Post Office

## South Dakota Employment & Wages

2022 Employment	2032 Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Average Annual Openings	Annual Median Wage	Annual Average Wage
1,435	1,565	130	9.1%	101	\$85,410	\$90,870

## Additional References

### Labor Market Information Center

[www.dlr.sd.gov/lmic](http://www.dlr.sd.gov/lmic)

### Career OneStop

[www.careeronestop.org](http://www.careeronestop.org)

### O\*Net Online

[www.onetonline.org](http://www.onetonline.org)

### mySkills myFuture

<https://www.myskillsmyfuture.org/>

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. U.S. DOL funded. For details, see [dlr.sd.gov/lmic/eta\\_grant.aspx](http://dlr.sd.gov/lmic/eta_grant.aspx).

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Labor Market Information Center  
South Dakota Dept. of Labor and Regulation  
605.626.2314

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July  
2024