



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



**Career Cluster: Law, Public Safety,  
Corrections & Security**

## **Correctional Officers and Jailers**

*Standard Occupational Code 33-3012*

### **What They Do**

Guard inmates in penal or rehabilitative institutions following established regulations and procedures. May guard prisoners in transit between jail, courtroom, prison, or other point. Includes deputy sheriffs and police who spend the majority of time guarding prisoners in correctional institutions.

### **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.

**Conventional (Organizers)** — Detail oriented and organized. They like to analyze data, keep financial records and do research. They can be counted on to be accurate and enjoy structure and closure.

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

**Support** — Offer supportive management that stands behind employees.

**Relationships** — Allow employees to provide service to others and work with co-workers in a friendly, non-competitive environment.

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

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

- Oral Comprehension
- Oral Expression
- Problem Sensitivity
- Deductive Reasoning
- Inductive Reasoning
- Speech Clarity
- Near Vision

## Basic Skills You Need

- Active Listening
- Monitoring
- Social Perceptiveness
- Speaking
- Critical Thinking
- Reading Comprehension
- Coordination
- Persuasion

## Education & Training

A high school diploma or equivalent is the minimum level of education recommended for correctional officers and jailers. Some employers may prefer postsecondary education in criminal justice or a related field. Correctional officers and jailers must also complete specific training in law enforcement.

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

Applied Math	3
Workplace Documents	4
Graphic Literacy	3

\*Using the median skill level.

## Where They Work

The South Dakota industries which employ the largest number of correctional officers and jailers are:

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

## South Dakota Employment & Wages

2022 Employment	2032 Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Average Annual Openings	Annual Median Wage	Annual Average Wage
1,410	1,443	33	2.3%	126	\$49,950	\$50,500

## 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/>

## Provided By

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

Visit [dlr.sd.gov/hotcareers](http://dlr.sd.gov/hotcareers) to obtain the most recent workforce data and trends and more resources, including this document. Also available are explanations of the terms used in this occupational profile.

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).

Printed on recycled paper. 



July  
2024