



“South Dakota continues to face a shortage of skilled workers. I hear from many business owners they are delaying expansions and even turning work away because they simply cannot hire enough people. It needs constant attention.”

— Gov. Dennis Daugaard, in a speech to legislators Jan. 12, 2016

Gov. Dennis Daugaard (R)

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<h1>South Dakota</h1>	Pop. (2016): 872,884	Pop. growth 2016-2021: 1.17%
	Median household income: \$50,322	Median age: 37.7
	Credit Rating: AAA/Stable	Right-to-work state: Yes

Legislative Update

- In February, lawmakers passed and the governor signed HB 1084, considered among the most important business legislation in the state. The measure clarifies workers' compensation law. The state Supreme Court had ruled existing law was ambiguous, and a woman injured at one job had sought compensation not just from that job but also through three other part-time employers.
- Also in February, the legislature passed an Act to authorize municipalities to create programs to encourage housing development.
- In November, voters approved a referendum to ensure the state's technical colleges do not fall under the purview of the state board of regents. Ambiguity surrounding oversight of the institutes had blunted their development, supporters said.

