



**“Our unemployment rate of 2.8% — the lowest in America — means that every South Dakotan who wants a job should have little problem finding one. In fact, there are 10 job openings available for every South Dakotan currently receiving unemployment. WalletHub took notice of this by declaring that South Dakota is the No. 1 ranked state in America to find a job right now.”**

— Gov. Kristi Noem, *June 2021*

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# South Dakota

Pop. (2021): 903,556

Median household income (2021): \$58,941

Credit Rating: AAA / Stable

Pop. growth 2021–2026: 0.96%

Median age (2021): 38.5

Right-to-work state: Yes

## Legislative Update

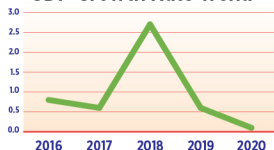
The spring legislative session delivered \$100 million for rural broadband access and appropriated nearly \$1 million for recruiting health care professionals to the state, with a strong focus on rural health care providers. House Bill 1259 creates incentives that encourage more businesses to construct facilities in cities and counties throughout the state. “I also cut red tape that prevented South Dakotans from being able to start small businesses in their homes,” wrote Gov. Noem in August.

Gov. Noem’s budget recommendations for 2022 include more than \$47 million to expand skilled workforce training capacity at colleges and universities, including strengthening programs focused on healthcare, cybersecurity, manufacturing, and farming and ranching. She also recommends \$1.5 billion in water/wastewater infrastructure funding, and historic investments in workforce housing. “This includes \$150 million from the state and \$50 million in federal funds,” she wrote in December. “A partnership with local cities and developers will triple the total investment to \$600 million for new housing.”

GDP

**47<sup>th</sup>**

GDP Growth Rate Trend



**2020 GDP**  
(In millions of current US\$)  
**\$46,683**



Business Tax Climate Rank Change 2021–2022: 0



**50<sup>th</sup>**

Higher Ed. R&D Expenditure in \$000s: **111,203**



**23<sup>rd</sup>**

Number of NCRCs: **46,100** | Percent Improvement 2020–2021: **18.78%**



**23<sup>rd</sup>**

2021 Workers' Comp Index Rate: **1.48**



**35<sup>th</sup>**

Industrial power cost per kWh: **\$8.13**



**9<sup>th</sup>**

Total Revenue as Share of Total Expenses, FY 2004–2019: **105.7%**