



South Dakota Hot Trends in Health Care



South Dakota's health care industry is a major source of employment and earnings, accounting for almost 16 percent of all workers in privately owned establishments and 20.2 percent of those employers' payrolls.



South Dakota's health care industry added more workers than any other industry from 2008-2018. This industry added more than 9,100 workers during that period, equaling growth of more than 19.6 percent.



South Dakota's health care industry is projected to be among the largest growth industries through 2026. It will add an estimated 6,400 workers to South Dakota's economy. The rate of growth is projected to be 11.7 percent, almost double the 6.8 percent growth projected for all industries.



The health care practitioners and technical occupations group is projected to be the second fastest growing occupational group in South Dakota to 2026.

Many health care careers in South Dakota offer a great outlook with high projected demand for workers.

The Statistics Behind the Trends



South Dakota's health care industry is a major source of employment and earnings in South Dakota, accounting for 56,012 workers (or 15.9 percent of all workers in privately owned establishments) and 20.2 percent of statewide privately-owned establishment pay-rolls in 2018 (based on Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages).

The number of workers in South Dakota's health care industry increased 19.6 percent from 2008 to 2018, significantly higher than the 7.9 percent increase of all private industries (based on Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages).

South Dakota's health care industry is projected to be among the largest growth industries through 2026. The industry is projected to add 6,412 workers to South Dakota's economy (from a level of 54,900 in 2016 to a level of 61,312 in 2026). The rate of growth is projected to be 11.7 percent, nearly double the 6.8 percent growth projected in total employment for all industries.

The health care practitioners and technical occupations group is projected to be the second-fastest growing occupational group in South Dakota to 2026. Employment in this group (including such occupations as family and general practitioners, registered nurses and physical therapists, to name a few) is projected to increase by more than 3,700 workers and 12.2 percent by 2026.

Occupational Title	2016 Workers	2026 Workers	Percent Change 2016-2026	Annual Average Demand for Workers
Total, All Occupations	487,455	520,526	6.8%	58,885
Registered Nurses	12,334	14,052	13.9%	837
Nursing Assistants	6,038	6,510	7.8%	745
Medical Assistants	1,036	1,230	18.7%	139
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	1,851	1,892	2.2%	135
Home Health Aides	924	1,062	14.9%	124
Pharmacy Technicians	1,238	1,345	8.6%	110
Dental Assistants	844	929	10.1%	104
Medical Records and Health Information Technicians	1,099	1,211	10.2%	79
Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics	985	1,099	11.6%	72
Pharmacists	1,248	1,308	4.8%	61
Radiologic Technologists	874	962	10.1%	56
Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technologists	775	847	9.3%	55
Physical Therapists	798	955	19.7%	51

Source: Labor Market Information Center, South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation, December 2019.

For more projections and outlook information, visit dlr.sd.gov/lmic.

