

# Preface

***2011 South Dakota Vital Statistics Report: A State and County Comparison of Leading Health Indicators*** was prepared by the South Dakota Department of Health.

This report contains state and county leading health indicators for vital statistics. The report is divided into nine main sections: Overview, Natality, Infant Mortality, Mortality, Induced Abortion, Marriage and Divorce, Infectious Disease, Health Status Profiles, and Health Status Maps. Each section contains written analysis plus tables and figures. There is also a technical notes section that provides additional information regarding the sources of data, data limitations, geographic allocation, populations, rates, and definitions. Reading this section before reading the county profiles may provide the answers to questions in advance.

## **Race Allocation**

Beginning with the 2010 data, race is now assigned based on standards set forth by the National Center for Health Statistics and the US Census Bureau in order for South Dakota's race data to be comparable to other areas. Race is no longer allocated as it had been since the 2000 Census started allowing multiple races to be reported. All race data in this report are now categorized in the following manner:

- White
- American Indian
- Black
- Asian
- Pacific Islander
- Two or more races

In other words, if more than one of the first five races is reported, the race is categorized as "Two or more races". Due to space constraints and small numbers, some of these race categories are grouped into an "Other" category in this report.

Any questions concerning the data, or request for additional statistics, may be directed to the following agency within the South Dakota Department of Health.

Office of Health Statistics  
615 East 4<sup>th</sup> St  
Pierre, SD 57501-2536  
Phone: (605) 773-3361  
Internet: <http://doh.sd.gov/statistics/>

For specific information or questions on Communicable Disease contact:

Office of Disease Prevention  
615 East 4<sup>th</sup> St  
Pierre, SD 57501-1700  
Phone: (605) 773-3737

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