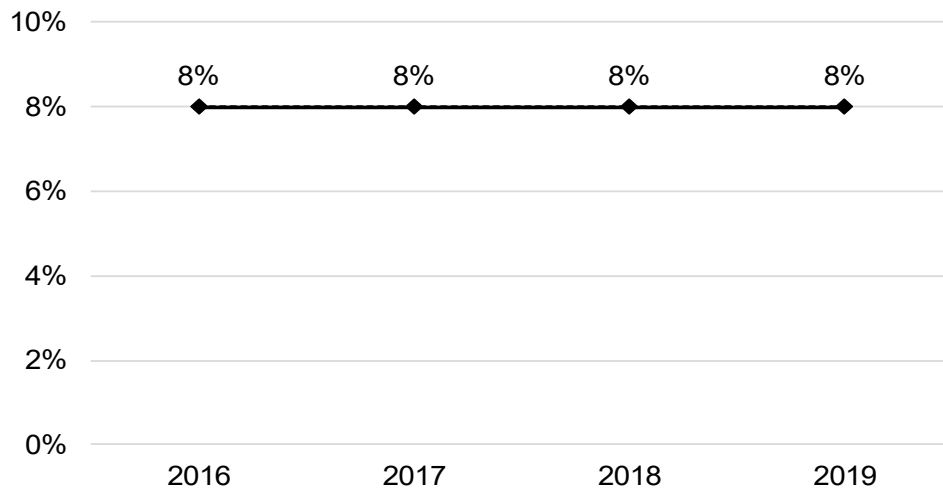

Hearing Difficulty

Definition: South Dakotans who answered yes to the question: “Are you deaf or do you have serious difficulty hearing?”

Prevalence of Hearing Difficulty

- South Dakota 8%
- Nationwide median 7%

Figure 59
Percentage of South Dakotans Who Are Deaf or Have Serious Difficulty Hearing, 2016-2019



Source: The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, South Dakota Department of Health, 2016-2019

Table 53				
South Dakotans Who Are Deaf or Have Serious Difficulty Hearing, 2016-2019				
		2016-2019	95% Confidence Interval	
			Low	High
Gender	Male	10%	9.2%	11.1%
	Female	5%	4.6%	5.8%
Age	18-29	3%	1.7%	3.9%
	30-39	3%	2.0%	3.7%
	40-49	4%	2.9%	5.7%
	50-59	7%	6.1%	8.5%
	60-69	10%	8.8%	11.5%
	70-79	18%	15.8%	20.4%
	80+	28%	24.8%	31.9%
Race/Ethnicity	White, Non-Hispanic	7%	6.9%	8.1%
	American Indian, Non-Hispanic	11%	8.6%	14.3%
	American Indian/White, Non-Hispanic	11%	5.1%	22.1%
	Hispanic	7%	3.6%	12.1%
Household Income	Less than \$35,000	10%	8.7%	11.1%
	\$35,000-\$74,999	7%	5.9%	7.7%
	\$75,000+	5%	3.9%	5.8%
Education	Less than High School, G.E.D.	11%	8.5%	13.8%
	High School, G.E.D.	9%	8.2%	10.5%
	Some Post-High School	7%	6.2%	7.9%
	College Graduate	5%	4.7%	6.2%
Employment Status	Employed for Wages	4%	3.6%	4.9%
	Self-employed	7%	5.2%	8.5%
	Unemployed	7%	4.9%	10.7%
	Homemaker	7%	4.9%	10.1%
	Student	1%	0.4%	3.0%
	Retired	18%	16.2%	19.4%
	Unable to Work	16%	12.5%	19.4%
Marital Status	Married/Unmarried Couple	8%	6.9%	8.4%
	Divorced/Separated	9%	7.5%	10.9%
	Widowed	20%	17.1%	22.3%
	Never Married	3%	2.7%	4.4%
Home Ownership Status	Own Home	8%	7.6%	8.9%
	Rent Home	6%	5.4%	7.6%
Children Status	Children in Household (Ages 18-44)	3%	2.1%	4.0%
	No Children in Household (Ages 18-44)	2%	1.5%	3.2%
Phone Status	Landline	11%	10.3%	12.6%
	Cell Phone	6%	5.7%	7.0%
Pregnancy Status	Pregnant (Ages 18-44)	2%	0.3%	11.5%
	Not Pregnant (Ages 18-44)	1%	0.9%	2.4%
County	Minnehaha	6%	5.0%	7.6%
	Pennington	9%	7.6%	10.6%
	Lincoln	4%	2.4%	6.9%
	Brown	8%	6.3%	10.5%
	Brookings	5%	3.6%	6.2%
	Codington	10%	8.0%	12.2%
	Meade	10%	7.4%	14.0%
	Lawrence	6%	4.6%	8.7%

Note: *Results based on small sample sizes have been suppressed.

Source: The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, South Dakota Department of Health, 2016-2019

Demographics

Gender	Males exhibit a significantly higher prevalence of hearing difficulty than females.
Age	The prevalence of hearing difficulty increases as age increases. This includes significant increases when people reach their 50s, 60s, 70s, and 80s.
Race/ Ethnicity	American Indians demonstrate a very high prevalence of hearing difficulty, while whites show a very low prevalence.
Household Income	The prevalence of hearing difficulty decreases as household income increases. This includes significant decreases as the \$35,000-\$74,999 and \$75,000+ household income groups are reached.
Education	The prevalence of hearing difficulty decreases as education increases. This includes a significant decrease as the some post-high school level is reached.
Employment	Those who are retired or unable to work demonstrate a very high prevalence of hearing difficulty while those who are a student show a very low prevalence.
Marital Status	Those who are widowed exhibit a very high prevalence of hearing difficulty, while those who have never been married show a very low prevalence.
Home Ownership	The prevalence of hearing difficulty does not seem to differ based on home ownership status.
Children Status	The prevalence of hearing difficulty does not seem to change based on the presence of children in the household.
Phone Status	Those who primarily use a landline phone show a significantly higher prevalence of hearing difficulty than those who primarily use a cell phone.
County	Pennington, Brown, Codrington, and Meade counties exhibit a very high prevalence of hearing difficulty, while those in Minnehaha, Lincoln, and Brookings counties show a very low prevalence.