

South Dakota American Indian Resident Leading Causes of Death by Year, 2008–2024

Rank	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
1	Heart 70	Heart 94	Cancer 84	Heart 79	Cancer 107	Cancer 89	Heart 82	Heart 92	Heart 90	Heart 103	Heart 123	Heart 98	COVID-19 206	Liver 175	Liver 144	Cancer 118	Liver 107
2	Cancer 64	Cancer 69	Heart 76	Cancer 76	Heart 87	Heart 84	Cancer 80	Cancer 77	Cancer 86	Cancer 96	Cancer 105	Cancer 91	Heart 117	Heart 127	Heart 131	Heart 115	Heart 105
3	Liver 39	MVA 41	Diabetes 51	Diabetes 43	Liver 47	Liver 55	Liver 59	Diabetes 53	Liver 58	Liver 62	Liver 79	Liver 64	Liver 109	COVID-19 111	Cancer 103	Liver 107	Cancer 100
4	Diabetes 33	Suicide 33	Liver 29	Liver 37	Diabetes 37	MVA 39	Diabetes 42	Liver 52	Diabetes 50	Diabetes 56	Diabetes 70	Diabetes 56	Cancer 101	Diabetes 87	Diabetes 74	Diabetes 61	Diabetes 71
5	Suicide 26	Liver 30	MVA 29	MVA 30	MVA 34	Diabetes 37	MVA 25	Suicide 47	MVA 38	MVA 48	MVA 45	Suicide 28	Diabetes 82	Cancer 86	MVA 62	Suicide 42	Suicide 34
6	CLRD 25	Diabetes 27	Suicide 23	Suicide 23	Suicide 19	Suicide 21	Suicide 20	MVA 41	Suicide 33	Suicide 44	Suicide 34	MVA 27	Suicide 42	MVA 61	COVID-19 62	MVA 41	CLRD 32
7	MVA 22	CLRD 20	CLRD 16	CLRD 21	CLRD 19	Stroke 21	Stroke 20	CLRD 19	I & P 22	CLRD 31	CLRD 25	CLRD 23	MVA 39	Suicide 50	Suicide 43	Homicide 30	MVA 31
8	Stroke 16	Stroke 16	Septicemia 14	Stroke 17	Stroke 15	CLRD 15	Septicemia 13	Stroke 16	CLRD 21	Stroke 21	Septicemia 20	Stroke 21	Stroke 31	CLRD 34	Homicide 35	Drug 29	Stroke 28
9	I & P 15	Homicide 16	Stroke 13	I & P 16	I & P 13	I & P 15	CLRD 12	I & P 16	Homicide 18	I & P 18	I & P 16	Drug 18	Homicide 29	Drug 25	Drug 23	Septicemia 25	Homicide 28
10	Alcohol 9	Septicemia 10	Falls 12	Homicide 11	Falls 11	Homicide 12	I & P 12	Septicemia 14	Kidney 18	Falls 14	Stroke 14	I & P 17	Septicemia 21	Alcohol 24	CLRD 22	CLRD 14	Drug 21
Total	493	498	532	524	580	568	560	636	649	714	732	688	1,086	1,102	1,013	859	851
CDR*	750	750	765	749	820	799	786	888	898	982	1,002	936	1,488	1,504	1,445	1,219	1,212
AADR*	1,318	1,250	1,339	1,266	1,343	1,322	1,280	1,354	1,406	1,517	1,549	1,392	2,174	2,140	1,993	1,629	1,674

Highlighted areas indicate the highest rank from 2008-2024 for the given cause of death. Tie breaker goes to highest percentage of total deaths.

Heart: Heart disease
CLRD: Chronic lower respiratory disease, (Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)
Liver: Chronic liver disease and cirrhosis
Kidney: Kidney disease

CDR: Crude death rate per 100,000 population
MVA: Motor vehicle accidents
I & P: Influenza and pneumonia
Alcohol: Chronic alcohol abuse

AADR: Age-adjusted death rate per 100,000 population
Falls: Accidental falls
Drug: Accidental drug overdose

Local physicians or coroners submit death certificates to the South Dakota Department of Health. Over the past 17 years, 2008-2024, the top three leading causes of death in any given year have been heart disease, cancer, chronic liver disease and cirrhosis, diabetes, motor vehicle accidents, and COVID-19. Chronic liver disease has been the leading cause for three of the past four years.

Age-grouped deaths during the 10-year period, 2015-2024, show motor vehicle accidents as the leading cause of death in children 1-9 years of age. Suicide was the leading cause of those 10-29 years old. Chronic liver disease was the leading cause for 30-59 year olds. Cancer was the leading cause for 60-79 year olds, while heart disease was most common in the 80+ age group.

Source: Office of Health Statistics, SD Dept. of Health

South Dakota American Indian Resident Leading Causes of Death by Age, 2015-2024

Average Deaths per Year

Rank	Age Groups											Total
	<1	1-9	10-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-89	90+	
	Yearly Average 21	Yearly Average 9	Yearly Average 24	Yearly Average 58	Yearly Average 92	Yearly Average 104	Yearly Average 147	Yearly Average 149	Yearly Average 131	Yearly Average 76	Yearly Average 22	Yearly Average 833
1	Congenital malformations 3	Motor vehicle accidents 3	Suicide 12	Suicide 14	Chronic liver disease 20	Chronic liver disease 25	Chronic liver disease 26	Cancer 29	Cancer 27	Heart disease 13	Heart disease 6	Heart disease 110
2	Short gestation and low birth weight 2	Homicide 1	Motor vehicle accidents 5	Motor vehicle accidents 12	Motor vehicle accidents 10	Heart disease 12	Heart disease 21	Heart disease 29	Heart disease 22	Cancer 12	Dementia 2	Cancer 96
3	Accidental suffocation and strangulation in bed 2		Homicide 3	Chronic liver disease 6	Suicide 8	Diabetes 9	Cancer 17	COVID-19 (2020-2024) 22	COVID-19 (2020-2024) 20	COVID-19 (2020-2024) 10	Alzheimer's disease 2	Chronic liver disease 96
4	SIDS 2			Homicide 5	Accidental drug overdose 6	COVID-19 (2020-2024) 6	Diabetes 14	Diabetes 16	Diabetes 15	Diabetes 7	Chronic lower respiratory diseases 2	COVID-19 (2020-2024) 80
5	Undetermined cause 1			Accidental drug overdose 4	Homicide 6	Motor vehicle accidents 5	COVID-19 (2020-2024) 14	Chronic liver disease 12	Chronic lower respiratory diseases 8	Chronic lower respiratory diseases 6	Influenza & pneumonia 1	Diabetes 66
6				Heart disease 2	Heart disease 6	Cancer 4	Motor vehicle accidents 5	Chronic lower respiratory diseases 5	Chronic liver disease 5	Alzheimer's disease 3	COVID-19 (2020-2024) 1	Motor vehicle accidents 43
7				COVID-19 (2020-2024) 1	COVID-19 (2020-2024) 4	Suicide 4	Stroke 3	Stroke 5	Stroke 5	Dementia 3	Cancer 1	Suicide 40
8				Alcohol Poisoning/Exposure 1	Diabetes 4	Homicide 3	Septicemia 3	Septicemia 4	Influenza & pneumonia 3	Influenza & pneumonia 3		Chronic lower respiratory diseases 24
9				Exposure to natural cold 1	Cancer 3	Chronic alcohol abuse 3	Chronic alcohol abuse 3	Influenza & pneumonia 3	Kidney disease 3	Stroke 2		Homicide 22
10				Legal intervention 1	Alcohol Poisoning/Exposure 2	Accidental drug overdose 3	Chronic lower respiratory diseases 3	Motor vehicle accidents 3	Septicemia 3	Kidney disease 2		Stroke 19

Top 5 overall causes of death are highlighted.

Source: Office of Health Statistics, SD Dept. of Health