

South Dakota 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 1,677	Heart 1,778	Cancer 1,651	Cancer 1,656	Heart 1,652	Heart 1,617	Heart 1,695	Heart 1,712	Heart 1,732	Cancer 1,717	Heart 1,797	Heart 1,840	Heart 1,819	Cancer 1,740	Heart 1,835	Heart 1,783	Cancer 1,754
2	Cancer 1,561	Cancer 1,506	Heart 1,611	Heart 1,615	Cancer 1,623	Cancer 1,574	Cancer 1,679	Cancer 1,632	Cancer 1,691	Heart 1,708	Cancer 1,632	Cancer 1,736	Cancer 1,728	Heart 1,691	Cancer 1,687	Cancer 1,739	Heart 1,710
3	CLRD 486	CLRD 440	CLRD 451	CLRD 485	CLRD 479	Alzheimer's 420	CLRD 440	CLRD 500	Alzheimer's 449	CLRD 505	CLRD 498	CLRD 521	COVID-19 1,497	COVID-19 776	COVID-19 448	CLRD 424	Alzheimer's 505
4	Alzheimer's 401	Stroke 417	Stroke 411	Stroke 442	Alzheimer's 462	Stroke 414	Stroke 439	Alzheimer's 421	CLRD 427	Alzheimer's 444	Alzheimer's 437	Alzheimer's 496	Alzheimer's 488	CLRD 464	Alzheimer's 436	Alzheimer's 398	CLRD 450
5	Stroke 391	Alzheimer's 402	Alzheimer's 401	Alzheimer's 423	Stroke 410	CLRD 413	Alzheimer's 433	Stroke 381	Stroke 420	Stroke 410	Stroke 387	Stroke 373	CLRD 429	Alzheimer's 396	CLRD 415	Stroke 381	Stroke 416
6	Diabetes 216	Diabetes 200	Diabetes 241	Diabetes 267	Diabetes 219	Diabetes 239	Diabetes 223	Diabetes 282	Diabetes 253	Diabetes 262	Diabetes 252	Diabetes 287	Stroke 426	Stroke 391	Stroke 393	Diabetes 263	Diabetes 282
7	I & P 186	I & P 135	I & P 166	Dementia 184	I & P 188	I & P 186	Dementia 188	I & P 213	I & P 195	I & P 217	I & P 246	Falls 203	Diabetes 329	Liver 329	Diabetes 336	Dementia 255	Liver 262
8	Dementia 130	MVA 133	Dementia 151	I & P 178	Dementia 183	MVA 149	I & P 180	Dementia 198	Dementia 192	Falls 196	Dementia 212	I & P 189	Liver 235	Diabetes 306	Liver 281	Liver 235	Dementia 223
9	MVA 125	Dementia 132	MVA 141	Falls 146	Falls 143	Suicide 147	Falls 170	Falls 181	Falls 185	Suicide 192	Liver 185	Suicide 185	Falls 217	Falls 229	Falls 219	Falls 189	Falls 205
10	Falls 124	Suicide 128	Suicide 139	Suicide 125	MVA 142	Falls 146	MVA 151	Suicide 173	Suicide 161	Dementia 183	Suicide 168	Liver 154	Dementia 194	Suicide 202	Dementia 199	Suicide 180	Suicide 198
Total	7,056	6,913	7,087	7,271	7,283	7,079	7,500	7,724	7,838	7,991	7,971	8,273	9,857	9,183	8,955	8,500	8,724
CDR*	877	851	870	882	874	838	879	900	906	919	904	935	1,104	1,026	984	925	943
AADR*	712	689	713	716	707	677	710	715	719	736	716	740	867	858	796	749	771

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

CDR: Crude death rate per 100,000 population

MVA: Motor vehicle accidents

I & P: Influenza and pneumonia

Falls: Accidental falls

AADR: Age-adjusted death rate per 100,000 population

Local physicians or coroners submit death certificates to the South Dakota Department of Health. Over the past 17 years, 2008-2024, the two most common causes of death have been heart disease and cancer. Over this time period, influenza and pneumonia has gone from generally being the 7th leading cause to the 13th leading cause. Similarly, chronic liver disease and cirrhosis has gone from generally the 13th leading cause to the 8th leading cause.

Age-grouped deaths during the 5-year period from 2020-2024 show motor vehicle accidents as the leading cause for 1-9 year olds, suicide for 10-29 year olds, chronic liver disease and cirrhosis for 30-49 year olds, cancer for 50-79 year olds, and heart disease for those 80 years old or older.

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

South Dakota Resident Leading Causes of Death by Age, 2020-2024

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 79	Yearly Average 26	Yearly Average 61	Yearly Average 156	Yearly Average 268	Yearly Average 361	Yearly Average 677	Yearly Average 1,395	Yearly Average 1,983	Yearly Average 2,320	Yearly Average 1,718	Yearly Average 9,044
1	Congenital malformations 18	Motor vehicle accidents 4	Suicide 19	Suicide 41	Chronic liver disease 44	Chronic liver disease 56	Cancer 147	Cancer 403	Cancer 524	Heart disease 480	Heart disease 430	Heart disease 1,768
2	Short gestation and low birth weight 8	Accidental drowning 3	Motor vehicle accidents 15	Motor vehicle accidents 28	Suicide 37	Heart disease 47	Heart disease 120	Heart disease 282	Heart disease 382	Cancer 421	Alzheimer's disease 200	Cancer 1,730
3	SIDS 8	Cancer 2	Homicide 5	Accidental drug overdose 14	Accidental drug overdose 24	Cancer 43	Chronic liver disease 68	COVID-19 91	Chronic lower respiratory diseases 145	Alzheimer's disease 186	Cancer 164	COVID-19 595
4	Accidental suffocation & strangulation in bed 6	Congenital malformations 2	Cancer 2	Chronic liver disease 12	Motor vehicle accidents 24	Suicide 29	COVID-19 41	Chronic lower respiratory diseases 73	COVID-19 139	COVID-19 172	COVID-19 123	Alzheimer's disease 445
5	Undetermined cause 3	Homicide 2	Accidental drug overdose 2	Homicide 12	Heart disease 19	Motor vehicle accidents 21	Diabetes 33	Diabetes 58	Stroke 85	Chronic lower respiratory diseases 137	Stroke 113	Chronic lower respiratory diseases 436
6	Premature rupture of membranes 2	Undetermined cause 1	Accidental discharge of firearms 2	Heart disease 5	Cancer 18	Accidental drug overdose 18	Suicide 27	Chronic liver disease 52	Diabetes 83	Stroke 125	Dementia 103	Stroke 401
7	Homicide 1		Congenital malformations 1	Cancer 3	Homicide 12	Diabetes 16	Motor vehicle accidents 21	Stroke 50	Alzheimer's disease 48	Dementia 79	Accidental falls 71	Diabetes 303
8	Neonatal hemorrhage 1		Heart disease 1	COVID-19 3	COVID-19 10	COVID-19 15	Chronic lower respiratory diseases 20	Motor vehicle accidents 22	Accidental falls 37	Diabetes 68	Chronic lower respiratory diseases 57	Chronic liver disease 268
9	Lung collapse (full or partial) 1		Accidental drowning 1	Diabetes 3	Diabetes 8	Chronic alcohol abuse 12	Stroke 16	Suicide 21	Dementia 27	Accidental falls 66	Hypertension 43	Dementia 213
10	Bacterial sepsis 1		Epilepsy 1	Alcohol Poisoning/Exposure 2	Chronic alcohol abuse 6	Homicide 9	Chronic alcohol abuse 14	Accidental falls 19	Influenza & pneumonia 26	Parkinson's disease 52	Influenza & pneumonia 40	Accidental falls 212

Top 5 overall causes of death are highlighted.

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