

Marriage & Divorce

An Overview: 2012	
Marriages:	
Number Occurring in S.D.	6,236
S.D. Rate per 1,000 Population	7.5
U.S. Rate per 1,000 Population	6.8*
Age of Bride (Years)	
Mean	32
Median	28
Mode	24
Range	
Lower	16
Upper	85
Age of Groom (Years)	
Mean	34
Median	30
Mode	25
Range	
Lower	16
Upper	87
**Divorces:	
Number Occurring in S.D.	2,550
S.D. Rate Per 1,000 Population	3.1
U.S. Rate per 1,000 Population	3.6*
Years Married Before Termination in S.D.	
Mean	10
Median	8
Mode	2
Range	
Lower	Less Than 1
Upper	56

Source: National Center for Health Statistics and South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Note: The U.S. marriage and divorce rates are provisional from 2010.

* The U.S. divorce rate only includes 44 reporting states and the District of Columbia.

** Divorces include annulments.

Marriages in South Dakota

In 2012, the South Dakota marriage rate was 7.5, unchanged from 2011. On the following page is Table 66, which provides the United States and South Dakota marriage rates from 2000 through 2012.

For marriages occurring in South Dakota, the mean or average age of brides in 2012 was 32 years of age, the median age was

28, and the modal age was 24. The age of brides in 2012 ranged from a low of 16 to a high of 85. The mean age of grooms in 2012 was 34 years of age, the median age was 30, and the modal age was 25. The age of grooms in 2012 ranged from a low of 16 to a high of 87.

Table 66
Marriages and Marriage Rates by Occurrence,
South Dakota and United States, 2000-2012

Year	United States*		South Dakota	
	Number	Crude Rate	Number	Crude Rate
2012	NA	NA	6,236	7.5
2011	2,118,000	6.8	6,145	7.5
2010	2,096,000	6.8	5,939	7.3
2009	2,080,000	6.8	5,887	7.2
2008	2,157,000	7.1	6,148	7.6
2007	2,197,000	7.3	6,138	7.7
2006	2,193,000	7.5	6,303	8.0
2005	2,249,000	7.6	6,551	8.4
2004	2,279,000	7.8	6,485	8.4
2003	2,245,000	7.7	6,427	8.4
2002	2,290,000	8.0	6,585	8.6
2001	2,326,000	8.2	6,719	8.9
2000	2,315,000	8.2	6,882	9.1

Note: *The marriage data for the United States is provisional for all years.
 Crude marriage rates are per 1,000 population.
 The 2006 U.S. number and rate excludes data from Louisiana.
 Source: National Center for Health Statistics
 South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Table 67, below, displays the median age of brides and grooms over the past several decades. The median age has increased for both brides and grooms since 1970.

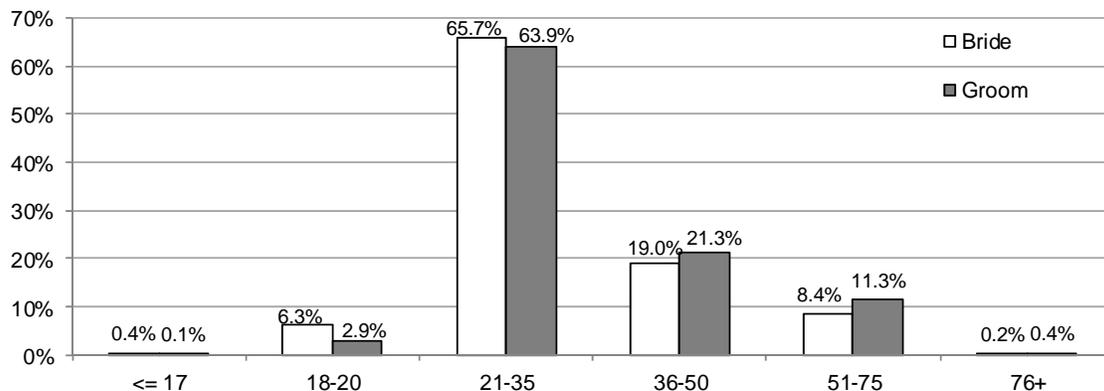
Table 67
Marriages Occurring in South Dakota
by Median Age and Year, 1970-2012

Year	Bride	Groom
2012	28	30
2011	27	29
2010	27	29
2000	27	29
1990	26	28
1980	22	24
1970	21	23

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Figure 44, below, illustrates ages for brides and grooms for marriages occurring in South Dakota in 2012. The majority of marriages occurred to brides and grooms aged 21 to 35 with 65.7 and 63.9 percent, respectively.

Figure 44
Brides and Grooms by Age Group for Marriages Occurring in South Dakota, 2012



Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Table 68 and 69, below, show age groups for brides and grooms for the past 10 years. For both brides and grooms ages 20 to 24

and 25 to 29 were the ages when most couples wed.

Table 68
Age of Brides by Year for Marriages Occurring in South Dakota, 2003-2012

Year	19 and Under		20-24		25-29		30-34		35-39		40-44		45-49		50-54		55+	
	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%
2012	232	3.7	1,736	27.8	1,636	26.2	793	12.7	487	7.8	417	6.7	339	5.4	290	4.7	306	4.9
2011	289	4.7	1,768	28.8	1,512	24.6	816	13.3	498	8.1	378	6.2	342	5.6	246	4.0	296	4.8
2010	279	4.7	1,795	30.2	1,484	25.0	715	12.0	444	7.5	331	5.6	363	6.1	232	3.9	296	5.0
2009	308	5.2	1,839	31.2	1,455	24.7	674	11.4	428	7.3	354	6.0	339	5.8	219	3.7	271	4.6
2008	332	5.4	1,917	31.2	1,523	24.8	692	11.3	437	7.1	373	6.1	376	6.1	224	3.6	274	4.5
2007	326	5.3	1,986	32.4	1,437	23.4	652	10.6	462	7.5	389	6.3	387	6.3	242	3.9	257	4.2
2006	353	5.6	2,085	33.1	1,364	21.6	666	10.6	493	7.8	446	7.1	382	6.1	247	3.9	267	4.2
2005	367	5.6	2,154	32.9	1,478	22.6	689	10.5	514	7.8	463	7.1	387	5.9	226	3.4	273	4.2
2004	418	6.4	2,100	32.4	1,341	20.7	738	11.4	516	8.0	489	7.5	403	6.2	220	3.4	260	4.0
2003	409	6.4	2,125	33.1	1,257	19.6	700	10.9	553	8.6	524	8.2	376	5.9	237	3.7	246	3.8

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Table 69
Age of Grooms by Year for Marriages Occurring in South Dakota, 2003-2012

Year	19 and Under		20-24		25-29		30-34		35-39		40-44		45-49		50-54		55+	
	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%
2012	86	1.4	1,216	19.5	1,721	27.6	1,038	16.6	540	8.7	431	6.9	395	6.3	336	5.4	473	7.6
2011	103	1.7	1,301	21.2	1,683	27.4	967	15.7	557	9.1	409	6.7	383	6.2	300	4.9	442	7.2
2010	108	1.8	1,375	23.2	1,578	26.6	862	14.5	510	8.6	394	6.6	341	5.7	312	5.3	459	7.7
2009	131	2.2	1,331	22.6	1,662	28.2	809	13.7	530	9.0	385	6.5	348	5.9	282	4.8	409	6.9
2008	126	2.0	1,433	23.3	1,677	27.3	860	14.0	551	9.0	409	6.7	372	6.1	283	4.6	437	7.1
2007	115	1.9	1,483	24.2	1,625	26.5	823	13.4	503	8.2	445	7.2	386	6.3	313	5.1	445	7.2
2006	123	2.0	1,588	25.2	1,639	26.0	781	12.4	537	8.5	477	7.6	427	6.8	280	4.4	451	7.2
2005	137	2.1	1,657	25.3	1,649	25.2	853	13.0	597	9.1	495	7.6	383	5.8	323	4.9	457	7.0
2004	164	2.5	1,638	25.3	1,563	24.1	826	12.7	589	9.1	555	8.6	431	6.6	295	4.5	424	6.5
2003	161	2.5	1,713	26.7	1,469	22.9	813	12.6	598	9.3	541	8.4	424	6.6	301	4.7	407	6.3

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Table 70, below, and 71, on the next page, display brides and grooms by number of previous marriages. The majority for both

brides and grooms stated this was their first marriage.

Table 70
Number of Previous Marriages for Brides by Year for Marriages Occurring in South Dakota, 2003-2012

Year	Total		No Previous Marriages		One Previous Marriage		Two Previous Marriages		Three or More Previous Marriages		Not Stated	
	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%
2012	6,236	100	4,085	65.5	1,476	23.7	513	8.2	161	2.6	1	-
2011	6,145	100	4,005	65.2	1,474	24.0	489	8.0	177	2.9	0	-
2010	5,939	100	3,908	65.8	1,386	23.3	479	8.1	165	2.8	1	-
2009	5,887	100	3,918	66.6	1,351	22.9	458	7.8	160	2.7	0	-
2008	6,148	100	4,025	65.5	1,449	23.6	493	8.0	179	2.9	2	-
2007	6,138	100	4,002	65.2	1,472	24.0	488	8.0	176	2.9	0	-
2006	6,303	100	4,026	64.0	1,531	24.3	543	8.6	190	3.0	13	-
2005	6,551	100	4,259	65.1	1,521	23.2	545	8.3	219	3.3	7	-
2004	6,485	100	4,059	62.7	1,655	25.6	570	8.8	193	3.0	8	-
2003	6,427	100	3,978	62.0	1,638	25.5	596	9.3	208	3.2	7	-

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Table 71
Number of Previous Marriages for Grooms by Year for Marriages Occurring
in South Dakota, 2003-2012

Year	Total		No Previous Marriages		One Previous Marriage		Two Previous Marriages		Three or More Previous Marriages		Not Stated	
	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%
2012	6,236	100	4,134	66.3	1,505	24.1	447	7.2	150	2.4	0	-
2011	6,145	100	4,137	67.3	1,422	23.1	452	7.4	132	2.1	2	-
2010	5,939	100	3,937	66.3	1,427	24.0	423	7.1	151	2.5	1	-
2009	5,887	100	4,009	68.1	1,337	22.7	402	6.8	139	2.4	0	-
2008	6,148	100	4,142	67.5	1,414	23.1	428	7.0	149	2.4	15	-
2007	6,138	100	4,067	66.3	1,457	23.7	460	7.5	153	2.5	1	-
2006	6,303	100	4,156	66.0	1,497	23.8	475	7.5	170	2.7	5	-
2005	6,551	100	4,298	65.6	1,589	24.3	491	7.5	170	2.6	3	-
2004	6,485	100	4,196	64.8	1,602	24.8	524	8.1	150	2.3	13	-
2003	6,427	100	4,163	64.9	1,587	24.7	483	7.5	186	2.9	8	-

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Table 72, below, and 73, on the next page, show the number of previous marriages by age for brides and grooms. For both brides and grooms, the majority for ages 34 and under stated this was their first marriage while the majority for ages 40 and up stated they have had one previous marriage.

When looking at the age range of 35 to 39 brides and grooms differ. Grooms are about even with 45.4 percent having no previous marriages and 44.6 percent having one previous marriage. For brides, 50.5 percent said they have had a previous marriage and 33.3 said it was their first marriage.

Table 72
Number of Previous Marriages for Brides by Age for Marriages Occurring
in South Dakota, 2012

Year	Total		No Previous Marriages		One Previous Marriage		Two Previous Marriages		Three or More Previous Marriages		Not Stated	
	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%
Total	6,236	100	4,085	65.5	1,476	23.7	513	8.2	161	2.6	1	-
19 and Under	232	100	231	99.6	1	0.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	-
20-24	1,736	100	1,677	96.6	57	3.3	1	0.1	1	0.1	0	-
25-29	1,636	100	1,395	85.3	218	13.3	22	1.3	0	0.0	1	-
30-34	793	100	466	58.8	275	34.7	44	5.5	8	1.0	0	-
35-39	487	100	162	33.3	246	50.5	67	13.8	12	2.5	0	-
40-44	417	100	78	18.7	211	50.6	96	23.0	32	7.7	0	-
45-49	339	100	45	13.3	161	47.5	99	29.2	34	10.0	0	-
50-54	290	100	21	7.2	143	49.3	96	33.1	30	10.3	0	-
55-59	135	100	7	5.2	72	53.3	36	26.7	20	14.8	0	-
60-64	88	100	3	3.4	44	50.0	29	33.0	12	13.6	0	-
65-69	45	100	0	0.0	23	51.1	16	35.6	6	13.3	0	-
70-74	24	100	0	0.0	15	62.5	4	16.7	5	20.8	0	-
75+	14	100	0	0.0	10	71.4	3	21.4	1	7.1	0	-

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Table 73
Number of Previous Marriages for Grooms by Age for Marriages Occurring
in South Dakota, 2012

Year	Total		No Previous Marriages		One Previous Marriage		Two Previous Marriages		Three or More Previous Marriages		Not Stated	
	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%
Total	6,236	100	4,134	66.3	1,505	24.1	447	7.2	150	2.4	0	-
19 and Under	86	100	86	100	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	-
20-24	1,216	100	1,186	97.5	30	2.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	-
25-29	1,721	100	1,562	90.8	147	8.5	10	0.6	2	0.1	0	-
30-34	1,038	100	762	73.4	251	24.2	20	1.9	5	0.5	0	-
35-39	540	100	245	45.4	241	44.6	47	8.7	7	1.3	0	-
40-44	431	100	146	33.9	207	48.0	65	15.1	13	3.0	0	-
45-49	395	100	77	19.5	196	49.6	94	23.8	28	7.1	0	-
50-54	336	100	44	13.1	185	55.1	80	23.8	27	8.0	0	-
55-59	190	100	14	7.4	98	51.6	53	27.9	25	13.2	0	-
60-64	136	100	7	5.1	66	48.5	42	30.9	21	15.4	0	-
65-69	79	100	3	3.8	45	57.0	20	25.3	11	13.9	0	-
70-74	36	100	2	5.6	18	50.0	10	27.8	6	16.7	0	-
75+	32	100	0	0.0	21	65.6	6	18.8	5	15.6	0	-

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Table 74, below, displays marriages by month over the past five years. The most common time to have a wedding for all years is from June to September.

Table 74
Month of Marriages for Marriages Occurring in South Dakota, 2008-2012

Year	2012		2011		2010		2009		2008	
	Num	%								
Total	6,236	100	6,145	100	5,939	100	5,887	100	6,148	100
January	204	3.3	241	3.9	240	4.0	241	4.1	223	3.6
February	262	4.2	267	4.3	236	4.0	273	4.6	321	5.2
March	253	4.1	244	4.0	259	4.4	258	4.4	242	3.9
April	324	5.2	372	6.1	347	5.8	271	4.6	355	5.8
May	540	8.7	536	8.7	534	9.0	608	10.3	642	10.4
June	930	14.9	849	13.8	854	14.4	839	14.3	871	14.2
July	768	12.3	840	13.7	848	14.3	721	12.2	718	11.7
August	814	13.1	791	12.9	839	14.1	839	14.3	1,009	16.4
September	854	13.7	782	12.7	651	11.0	733	12.5	639	10.4
October	555	8.9	530	8.6	550	9.3	518	8.8	529	8.6
November	289	4.6	380	6.2	264	4.4	272	4.6	280	4.6
December	443	7.1	313	5.1	317	5.3	314	5.3	319	5.2

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Divorces in South Dakota

Table 75, on the next page, lists the divorce rates for South Dakota and the United States. As shown, the 2012 South Dakota

divorce rate was 3.1 divorces per 1,000 population, which decreased slightly from 3.3 in 2011.

Table 75
Number and Rate of Divorces by Occurrence,
South Dakota and United States, 2000-2012

Year	United States*		South Dakota	
	Number	Crude Rate	Number	Crude Rate
2012	NA	NA	2,550	3.1
2011	877,000	3.6	2,694	3.3
2010	872,000	3.6	2,774	3.4
2009	840,000	3.5	2,686	3.3
2008	844,000	3.5	2,459	3.1
2007	856,000	3.6	2,438	3.1
2006	872,000	3.7	2,465	3.1
2005	847,000	3.6	2,354	3.0
2004	879,000	3.7	2,358	3.0
2003	927,000	3.8	2,502	3.3
2002	955,000	3.9	2,561	3.4
2001	940,000	4.0	2,522	3.3
2000	944,000	4.0	2,678	3.5

Note: *The U.S. data is provisional for all years. Crude divorce rates are per 1,000 population. The years 2005-2010 exclude data for California, Georgia, Hawaii, Indiana, Louisiana, and Minnesota. The year 2004 excludes data for California, Georgia, Hawaii, Indiana, and Louisiana and 2003 excludes data from California, Georgia, Hawaii, Indiana, and Oklahoma. The year 2002 excludes data for California, Indiana, and Oklahoma and years 2000-2005 exclude data for California, Indiana, Louisiana, and Oklahoma.

Source: National Center for Health Statistics
 South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

For South Dakota, the mean or average duration of the marriages ending in divorce during 2012 was 10 years, the median duration was eight years, and the modal duration was two years. The length of time before terminating the marriage ranged from less than one year to 56 years for South Dakota divorces in 2012.

Table 76, below, displays the duration of marriages ending in divorce for the past 10 years. In 2012, zero to five years and six to 10 years is the length most marriages lasted with 39.5 and 23.2 percent, respectively.

Table 76
Duration of Marriage Ending in Divorces by Year for Divorces Occurring
in South Dakota, 2003-2012

Year	0-5 Years		6-10 Years		11-15 Years		16-20 Years		21-25 Years		26-30 Years		31+ Years		Not Stated	
	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%
2012	1,006	39.5	591	23.2	334	13.1	221	8.7	190	7.5	107	4.2	101	4.0	0	-
2011	1,056	39.2	611	22.7	393	14.6	261	9.7	163	6.1	106	3.9	104	3.9	0	-
2010	1,129	40.7	633	22.8	376	13.6	274	9.9	155	5.6	96	3.5	111	4.0	0	-
2009	1,072	39.9	633	23.6	341	12.7	250	9.3	177	6.6	111	4.1	102	3.8	0	-
2008	1,025	41.7	533	21.7	340	13.8	199	8.1	153	6.2	94	3.8	115	4.7	0	-
2007	994	40.8	572	23.5	328	13.5	216	8.9	146	6.0	104	4.3	78	3.2	0	-
2006	1,024	41.5	518	21.0	334	13.5	210	8.5	170	6.9	109	4.4	100	4.1	0	-
2005	977	41.5	525	22.3	310	13.2	192	8.2	166	7.1	94	4.0	88	3.7	2	-
2004	961	40.8	531	22.5	321	13.6	221	9.4	162	6.9	97	4.1	64	2.7	0	-
2003	1,014	40.6	554	22.2	342	13.7	238	9.5	156	6.2	109	4.4	84	3.4	0	-

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Table 77, below, displays the number of children involved in divorces for the past 10

years. For all years, the majority of divorces did not involve children.

Table 77
Number of Children Involved in Divorce by Year for Divorces Occurring in South Dakota, 2003-2012

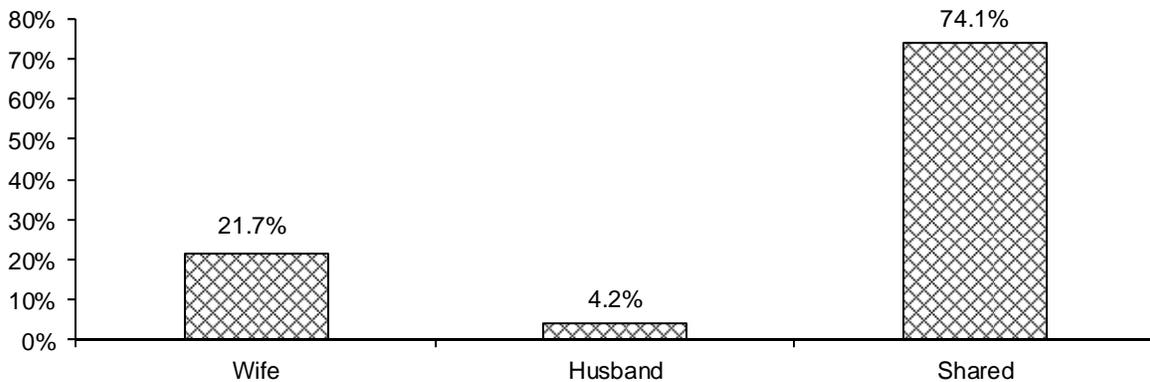
Year	Total		No Children Involved		1 Child Involved		2 Children Involved		3 Children Involved		4 or More Children Involved		Not Stated	
	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%
2012	2,550	100	1,290	50.6	503	19.7	523	20.5	181	7.1	52	2.0	1	-
2011	2,694	100	1,348	50.0	535	19.9	562	20.9	180	6.7	69	2.6	0	-
2010	2,774	100	1,370	49.4	596	21.5	562	20.3	197	7.1	49	1.8	0	-
2009	2,686	100	1,381	51.4	549	20.4	520	19.4	174	6.5	62	2.3	0	-
2008	2,459	100	1,251	50.9	474	19.3	529	21.5	161	6.5	44	1.8	0	-
2007	2,438	100	1,285	52.7	513	21.0	428	17.6	165	6.8	47	1.9	0	-
2006	2,465	100	1,249	50.7	512	20.8	482	19.6	181	7.3	41	1.7	0	-
2005	2,354	100	1,203	51.1	546	23.2	421	17.9	151	6.4	31	1.3	2	-
2004	2,358	100	1,125	47.7	572	24.3	475	20.1	155	6.6	31	1.3	0	-
2003	2,502	100	1,212	49.0	528	21.3	505	20.4	168	6.8	62	2.5	27	-

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Figure 45, below, displays the custody arrangements for divorces that involved children. The majority of parents shared custody with 74.1 percent. Wives obtained

custody in 21.7 percent and husbands obtained custody in only 4.2 percent of divorces.

Figure 45
Custody Arrangements for Children Involved in the Divorce for Divorces Occurring in South Dakota, 2012

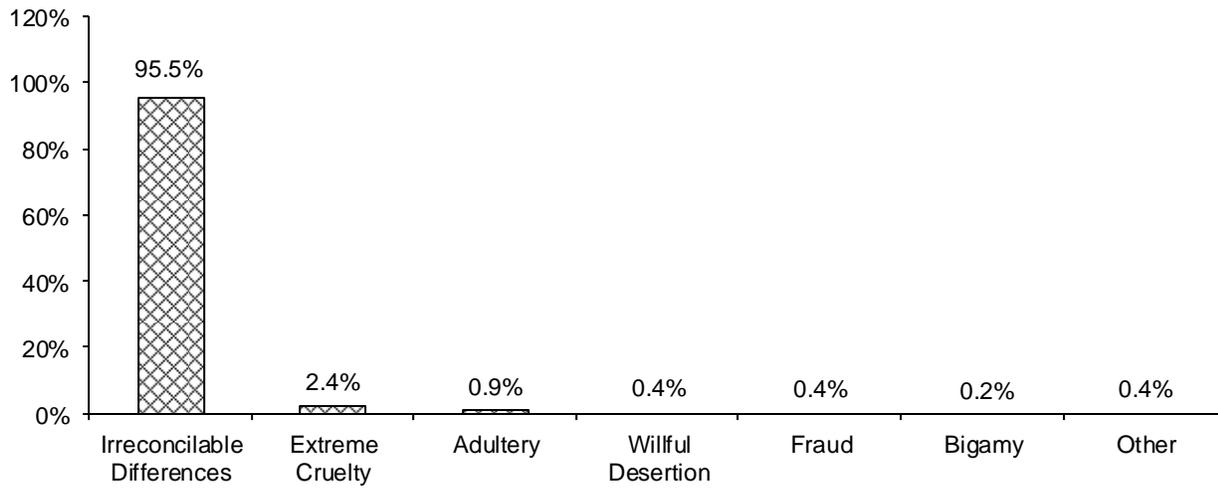


Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Figure 46, on the next page, displays divorces in 2012 stated irreconcilable causes for the divorce. The majority of

divorces in 2012 stated irreconcilable differences with 95.5 percent.

Figure 46
Causes for Divorce for Divorces Occurring
in South Dakota, 2012



Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics