

Marriage & Divorce

An Overview: 2014	
Marriages:	
Number Occurring in S.D.	6,040
S.D. Rate per 1,000 Population	7.1
U.S. Rate per 1,000 Population	6.8*
Age of Bride (Years)	
Mean	32
Median	28
Mode	23
Range	
Lower	16
Upper	82
Age of Groom (Years)	
Mean	34
Median	30
Mode	25
Range	
Lower	17
Upper	86
**Divorces:	
Number Occurring in S.D.	2,374
S.D. Rate Per 1,000 Population	2.8
U.S. Rate per 1,000 Population	3.4*
Years Married Before Termination in S.D.	
Mean	11
Median	8
Mode	3
Range	
Lower	Less Than 1
Upper	57

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 2012.

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

** Divorces include annulments.

Marriages in South Dakota

In 2014, the South Dakota marriage rate was 7.1, a slight increase from 2013. On the following page is Table 66, which provides the United States and South Dakota marriage rates from 2000 through 2014.

For marriages occurring in South Dakota, the mean or average age of brides in 2014 was 32 years of age, the median age was

28, and the modal age was 23. The age of brides in 2014 ranged from a low of 16 to a high of 82. The mean age of grooms in 2014 was 34 years of age, the median age was 30, and the modal age was 25. The age of grooms in 2014 ranged from a low of 17 to a high of 86.

Table 66
Marriages and Marriage Rates by Occurrence,
South Dakota and United States, 2000-2014

Year	United States*		South Dakota	
	Number	Crude Rate	Number	Crude Rate
2014	NA	NA	6,040	7.1
2013	NA	NA	5,919	7.0
2012	2,131,000	6.8	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 and 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, 1970-2014

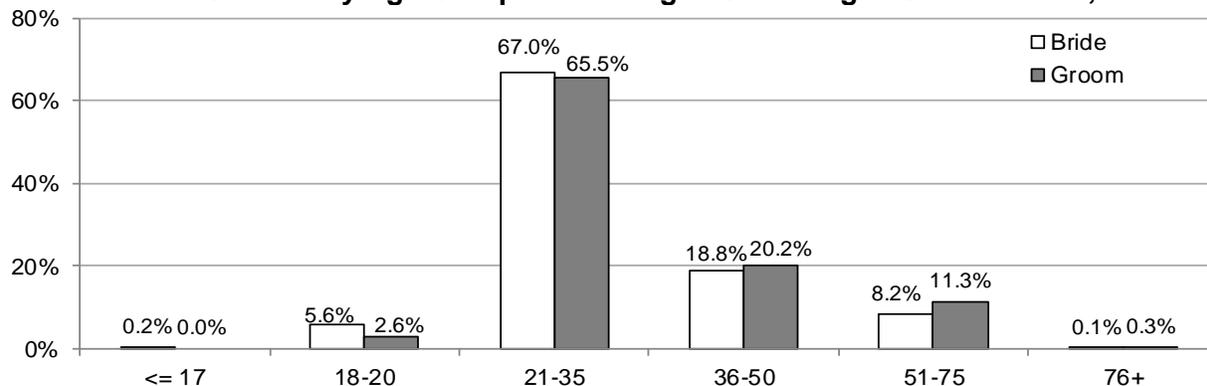
Year	Bride	Groom
2014	28	30
2013	28	30
2012	28	30
2011	27	29
2010	27	29
2000	27	29
1990	26	28
1980	22	24
1970	21	23

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

Figure 43, below, illustrates ages for brides and grooms for marriages occurring in South Dakota in 2014.

The majority of marriages occurred to brides and grooms aged 21 to 35 with 67.0 and 65.5 percent, respectively.

Figure 43
Brides and Grooms by Age Group for Marriages Occurring in South Dakota, 2014



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

Tables 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, 2005-2014

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	%
2014	173	2.9	1,645	27.2	1,622	26.9	837	13.9	520	8.6	366	6.1	301	5.0	252	4.2	324	5.4
2013	238	4.0	1,613	27.3	1,510	25.5	834	14.1	476	8.0	342	5.8	315	5.3	269	4.5	322	5.4
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

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

Table 69
Age of Grooms by Year for Marriages Occurring in South Dakota, 2005-2014

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	%
2014	69	1.1	1,146	19.0	1,655	27.4	1,106	18.3	555	9.2	413	6.8	337	5.6	277	4.6	482	8.0
2013	87	1.5	1,147	19.4	1,618	27.3	977	16.5	551	9.3	399	6.7	364	6.1	298	5.0	478	8.1
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

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

Tables 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, 2005-2014

Year	Total		No Previous Marriages		One Previous Marriage		Two Previous Marriages		Three or More Previous Marriages		Not Stated	
	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%
2014	6,040	100	4,063	67.3	1,381	22.9	436	7.2	159	2.6	1	-
2013	5,919	100	3,895	65.8	1,383	23.4	475	8.0	166	2.8	0	-
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	-

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, 2005-2014

Year	Total		No Previous Marriages		One Previous Marriage		Two Previous Marriages		Three or More Previous Marriages		Not Stated	
	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%
2014	6,040	100	4,151	68.7	1,363	22.6	393	6.5	133	2.2	0	-
2013	5,919	100	3,949	66.7	1,387	23.4	436	7.4	147	2.5	0	-
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	-

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

Tables 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 49.5 percent having no previous marriages and 44.5 percent having one previous marriage. For brides, 46.0 percent said they have had a previous marriage and 37.7 said it was their first marriage.

Table 72
Number of Previous Marriages for Brides by Age for Marriages Occurring
in South Dakota, 2014

Year	Total		No Previous Marriages		One Previous Marriage		Two Previous Marriages		Three or More Previous Marriages	
	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%
Total	6,040	100	4,063	67.3	1,381	22.9	436	7.2	159	2.6
19 and Under	173	100	172	99.4	1	0.6	0	0.0	0	0.0
20-24	1,645	100	1,601	97.3	43	2.6	1	0.1	0	0.0
25-29	1,622	100	1,398	86.2	206	12.7	16	1.0	1	0.1
30-34	837	100	522	62.4	277	33.1	36	4.3	2	0.2
35-39	520	100	196	37.7	239	46.0	72	13.8	13	2.5
40-44	366	100	84	23.0	180	49.2	79	21.6	23	6.3
45-49	301	100	36	12.0	166	55.1	68	22.6	31	10.3
50-54	252	100	25	9.9	120	47.6	66	26.2	41	16.3
55-59	159	100	21	13.2	72	45.3	39	24.5	27	17.0
60-64	87	100	6	6.9	42	48.3	28	32.2	11	12.6
65-69	44	100	2	4.5	16	36.4	18	40.9	8	18.2
70-74	22	100	0	0.0	11	50.0	9	40.9	2	9.1
75+	12	100	0	0.0	8	66.7	4	33.3	0	0.0

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, 2014

Year	Total		No Previous Marriages		One Previous Marriage		Two Previous Marriages		Three or More Previous Marriages	
	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%
Total	6,040	100	4,151	68.7	1,363	22.6	393	6.5	133	2.2
19 and Under	69	100	69	100	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
20-24	1,146	100	1,125	98.2	21	1.8	0	0.0	0	0.0
25-29	1,655	100	1,540	93.1	110	6.6	5	0.3	0	0.0
30-34	1,106	100	859	77.7	225	20.3	22	2.0	0	0.0
35-39	555	100	275	49.5	247	44.5	30	5.4	3	0.5
40-44	413	100	136	32.9	202	48.9	64	15.5	11	2.7
45-49	337	100	64	19.0	175	51.9	75	22.3	23	6.8
50-54	277	100	42	15.2	149	53.8	63	22.7	23	8.3
55-59	209	100	22	10.5	103	49.3	51	24.4	33	15.8
60-64	123	100	11	8.9	57	46.3	38	30.9	17	13.8
65-69	91	100	7	7.7	41	45.1	26	28.6	17	18.7
70-74	34	100	0	0.0	20	58.8	11	32.4	3	8.8
75+	25	100	1	4.0	13	52.0	8	32.0	3	12.0

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, 2010-2014

Year	2010		2011		2012		2013		2014	
	Num	%								
Total	5,939	100	6,145	100	6,236	100	5,919	100	6,040	100
January	240	4.0	241	3.9	204	3.3	201	3.4	221	3.7
February	236	4.0	267	4.3	262	4.2	237	4.0	267	4.4
March	259	4.4	244	4.0	253	4.1	282	4.8	259	4.3
April	347	5.8	372	6.1	324	5.2	310	5.2	307	5.1
May	534	9.0	536	8.7	540	8.7	517	8.7	592	9.8
June	854	14.4	849	13.8	930	14.9	925	15.6	879	14.6
July	848	14.3	840	13.7	768	12.3	703	11.9	716	11.9
August	839	14.1	791	12.9	814	13.1	857	14.5	891	14.8
September	651	11.0	782	12.7	854	13.7	735	12.4	753	12.5
October	550	9.3	530	8.6	555	8.9	517	8.7	531	8.8
November	264	4.4	380	6.2	289	4.6	335	5.7	258	4.3
December	317	5.3	313	5.1	443	7.1	300	5.1	363	6.0

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 2014 South Dakota

divorce rate was 2.8 divorces per 1,000 population, which decreased slightly from 2.9 in 2013.

Table 75
Number and Rate of Divorces by Occurrence,
South Dakota and United States, 2000-2014

Year	United States*		South Dakota	
	Number	Crude Rate	Number	Crude Rate
2014	NA	NA	2,374	2.8
2013	NA	NA	2,450	2.9
2012	851,000	3.4	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 2005-2012 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, Hawaii, Indiana, and Oklahoma. The year 2002 excludes data for California, Indiana, and Oklahoma and years 2000-2001 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 2014 was 11 years, the median duration was eight years, and the modal duration was three years. The length of time before terminating the marriage ranged from less than one year to 57 years for South Dakota divorces in 2014.

Table 76, below, displays the duration of marriages ending in divorce for the past 10 years. In 2014, zero to five years and six to 10 years is the length most marriages lasted with 37.7 and 22.4 percent, respectively.

Table 76
Duration of Marriage Ending in Divorces by Year for Divorces Occurring
in South Dakota, 2005-2014

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	%
2014	895	37.7	531	22.4	321	13.5	235	9.9	172	7.2	111	4.7	109	4.6	0	-
2013	931	38.0	568	23.2	359	14.7	244	10.0	159	6.5	100	4.1	89	3.6	0	-
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	-

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. Slightly over half of all divorces in 2014 did not involve children.

Table 77
Number of Children Involved in Divorce by Year for Divorces Occurring in South Dakota, 2005-2014

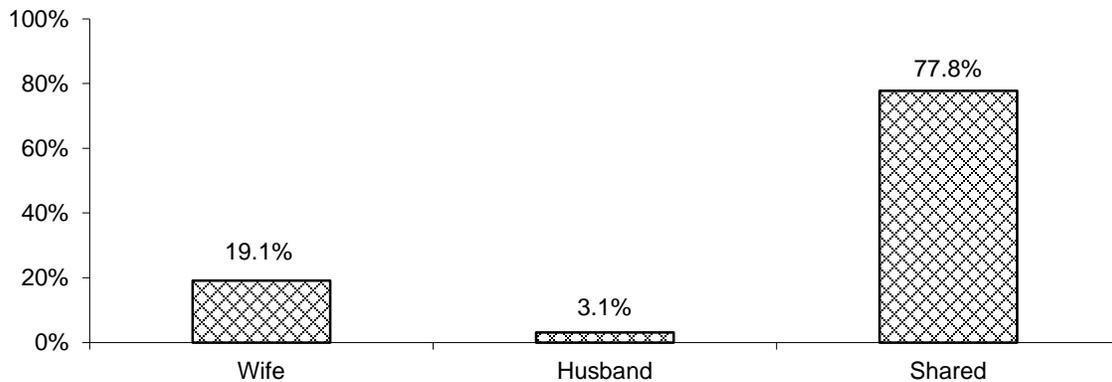
Year	Total		No Children Involved		1 Child Involved		2 Children Involved		3 Children Involved		4 or More Children Involved		Not Stated	
	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%
2014	2,374	100	1,256	52.9	502	21.2	414	17.4	156	6.6	45	1.9	1	-
2013	2,450	100	1,220	49.8	484	19.8	494	20.2	199	8.1	53	2.2	0	-
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	-

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

Figure 44, below, displays the custody arrangements for divorces that involved children. The majority of parents shared custody with 74.7 percent. Wives obtained

custody in 18.7 percent and husbands obtained custody in 3.2 percent of divorces.

Figure 44
Custody Arrangements for Children Involved in the Divorce for Divorces Occurring in South Dakota, 2014

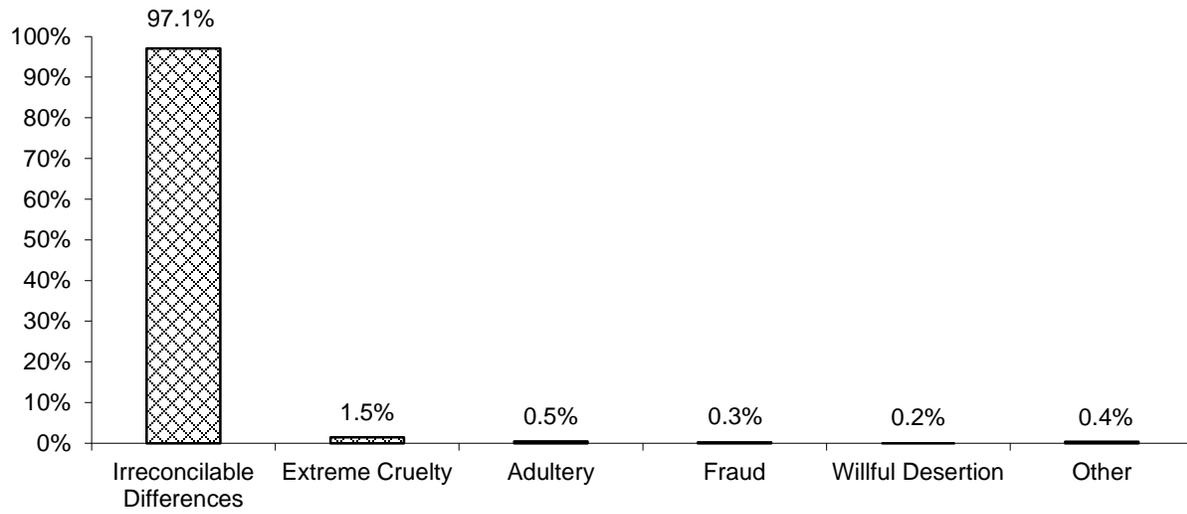


Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Figure 45, on the next page, displays divorces in 2014 stated irreconcilable causes for the divorce. The majority of

divorces in 2014 stated irreconcilable differences with 97.1 percent.

Figure 45
Causes for Divorce for Divorces Occurring in South Dakota, 2014



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