

South Dakota Health Care Workforce Trends



September 2024

Major Component of South Dakota Workforce

The Health Care industry is a major player on South Dakota's workforce stage, accounting for nearly 16% of all workers in privately owned establishments and more than 19% of those employers' payrolls.

On the Grow

South Dakota's Health Care industry added nearly 7,900 workers (15%) over the last 10 years, more than any other private industry.

Current Opportunities Abound

There are currently more than 3,500 South Dakota job openings in Health Care occupations.

The Future Looks Just as Bright

The Health Care industry is projected to be among the state's largest growth industries to 2032, adding nearly 8,000 workers to the state's economy with a growth rate exceeding 13%. Outstanding career opportunities await South Dakota's future Health Care workforce.

More Detailed Health Care Workforce Data

- South Dakota’s **Health Care** industry is an important source of employment, with 59,445 workers (15.8% of all workers in privately owned establishments) in 2023.
- **Health Care** also plays a big role in earnings, accounting for 19.4% of the state’s privately owned establishment payrolls in 2023.
- The number of workers in South Dakota’s **Health Care** industry increased 15.3% from 2013 to 2023, adding 7,866 workers to the state’s economy.
- South Dakota’s **Health Care** industry is projected to add 7,950 workers by 2032 (from a level of 60,196 in 2022 to 68,146 in 2032, a 13.2% increase).
- Several of South Dakota’s occupations projected to be in greatest demand through 2032 are Health Care careers, as shown in the table below.
- And the majority of those high-demand occupations (highlighted in light blue below) have been identified as South Dakota Hot Careers (high-demand and high-wage occupations). Hot Career occupations have greater than average projected demand (more than 82 openings per year) and an average wage greater than \$43,680 (the median wage across all occupations in 2023). For more information on Hot Careers, visit dlr.sd.gov/hotcareers.

South Dakota Health Care Occupations Projected to be in Greatest Demand 2022-2032

	2022 Employment	Projected 2032 Employment	Percent Change 2022-2032	Projected Annual Openings
Clinical Laboratory Technologists and Technicians	1,289	1,441	11.8%	101
Dental Assistants	1,035	1,168	12.9%	164
Home Health and Personal Care Aides	4,615	5,335	15.6%	802
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	2,150	2,319	7.9%	186
Medical and Health Services Managers	1,004	1,278	27.3%	106
Medical Assistants	999	1,163	16.4%	154
Medical Records Specialists	1,150	1,312	14.1%	97
Nurse Practitioners	821	1,284	56.4%	92
Nursing Assistants	6,000	6,496	8.3%	934
Pharmacy Technicians	1,166	1,309	12.3%	124
Registered Nurses	14,586	16,506	13.2%	1,028

Source: Labor Market Information Center, South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation, September 2024

