

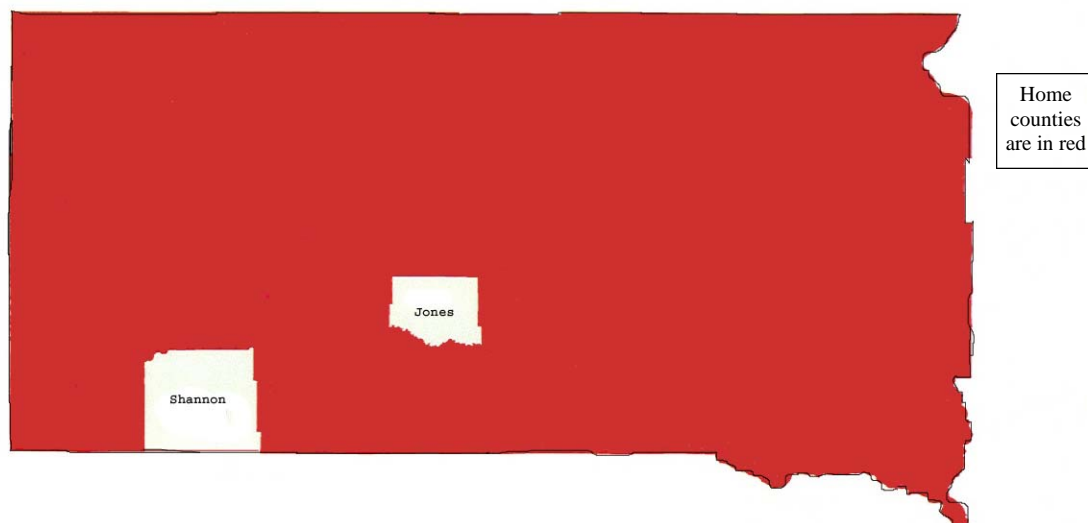
Synopsis: Offering the services and programs of public higher education in Sioux Falls is critical not only to the long-term future of that region but to the entire state of South Dakota. Many people from throughout South Dakota benefit today from public higher education's presence in the Sioux Falls community. To plan for the future, a permanent location for the state university system in Sioux Falls is under development.

The demographics of South Dakota are changing. While many smaller towns struggle to maintain population, other areas are seeing substantial growth. Population forecasts for 2040 estimate a 73 percent increase in the metropolitan statistical area including Sioux Falls and a 114 percent increase in the city of Sioux Falls itself. A catalyst for growth in that region has been diversification of the economy into new areas such as health care, banking and financial services, technology, hospitality, and retail.

The 1990 Census reported about 100,000 people in Sioux Falls, while the 2000 Census pegged its population at closer to 123,000. Today, it is estimated that Sioux Falls itself is home to 145,000 residents. In addition, communities surrounding Sioux Falls are often growing at even faster rates.

Public higher education is important to the continuing development of the Sioux Falls-area economy. The public higher education center in Sioux Falls—USDSU—was created in response to that need. USDSU programs are tailored to the needs of the regional economy and the demands of local students. In 2005-06, USDSU served almost 3,300 unique individual students. But, who are these local students being served?

Home Counties of High Schools Where USDSU Students Graduated 2005-06 Academic Year



Sioux Falls has become home to many native-born South Dakotans, who are attracted to new opportunities within the region. These people wish to continue to call South Dakota their home and maintain the strong cultural and family roots they grew up with. Likewise, USDSU offers a perfect opportunity for these same people to obtain the public higher education they need to fully participate in the local economy.

A Board of Regents’ review of data, indicating the high schools from which students said they graduated, offers interesting results. The data show students—most of them non-traditional—who were taking coursework at USDSU in 2005-06 hailed from every county in South Dakota except two: Shannon and Jones. With more than 80 percent of the students at USDSU currently living in the Sioux Falls area, including adjacent out-of-state communities, that means USDSU is providing new opportunities to students from all over South Dakota who now call this region home.

Future development at USDSU will support the continued growth of the regional economy, which in turn is good for the entire state. Just as importantly, USDSU provides a place for South Dakotans who find continuing opportunity within their home state to get the education they need to be successful. Another way to offer South Dakota students good reasons to stay in our state to live, work, and a raise a family!

USDSU Students Who Graduated from a South Dakota High School

2005-06 Academic Year

Aberdeen Central	25	Corsica	5	Hamlin	1	Menno	7	SF Washington	265
Aberdeen Roncalli	7	Crow Creek	1	Hanson	3	Milbank	13	Sioux Valley	11
Alcester-Hudson	14	Custer	1	Harding County	2	Miller	7	Sisseton	2
Alpena	2	Dakota Christian	3	Harrisburg	32	Mitchell Christian	1	South Shore	2
Andes Central	4	Dakota Valley	3	Henry	2	Mitchell	54	Spearfish	4
Arlington	6	DeSmet	6	Highmore	6	McBride	8	Stanley County	4
Armour	4	Dell Rapids	25	Hill City	3	Montrose	11	Stickney	6
Avon	3	Dell Rapids St. Marys	11	Hitchcock	1	Mount Vernon	4	Sturgis Brown	5
Baile	10	Delmont	1	Hitchcock-Tulare	1	New Ellington	1	Sully Buttes	1
Belle Fourche	2	Deubrook	5	Hosmer	1	New Underwood	2	Summill	4
Bennett County	1	Deuel	8	Hot Springs	1	Newell	2	Sunshine Bible	1
Beresford	33	Douglas	1	Hoven	4	Northwestern	4	Timber Lake	1
Bison	1	Edgemont	1	Howard	9	Oldham-Ramona	6	Todd County	3
Bon Homme	5	Elk Point-Jefferson	4	Hurley	8	Parker	15	Tripp-DeLmont	1
Bonesteel-Fairfax	3	Elkton	3	Huron	22	Parislon	13	Tri-Valley	36
Bowdle	1	Estelline	3	Irene	5	Phillp	3	Veblen	2
Brandon Valley	124	Ethan	3	Iroquois	6	Pierre Riggs	36	Vermillion	25
Bridgewater	3	Eureka	2	Isabel	1	Plankinton	4	Viborg	10
Bristol	1	Faith	1	James Valley Christian	3	Platte	9	Wagner	8
Britton-Hecla	6	Faulkton	3	Kadoka	4	RC Central	11	Wall	1
Brookings	48	Flandreau	16	Kimball	2	RC Christian	1	Watertown	36
Burke	6	Flandreau Indian	2	Lake Preston	2	RC St. Thomas More	2	Waubay	3
Canistota	7	Florence	1	Langford	4	RC Stevens	15	Waverly	2
Canton	33	Frederick	3	Lead	3	Redfield	3	Webster	8
Carthage	1	Freeman Academy	1	Lemmon	2	Roshott	3	Wessington	4
Castlewood	1	Freeman	6	Lennox	62	Rutland	4	Wessington Springs	3
Centerville	10	Garretson	18	Leola	2	St. Francis Indian	1	West Central	57
Chamberlain	11	Gary	1	Letcher	1	Sanborn Central	1	White Lake	4
Chester Area	4	Gayville-Volth	7	Lyman	6	Scotland	13	White River	3
Cheyenne-Eagle Butte	2	Geddes	2	Madison	26	Selby Area	2	Willow Lake	2
Clark	4	Gellysburg	2	Marion	10	SF Christian	16	Willmot	3
Colman-Egan	7	Great Plains Lutheran	1	Marty Indian	2	SF Joe Foss Alternative	5	Winner	2
Colome	3	Gregory	7	McCook Central	21	SF Lincoln	222	Wolsey-Wessington	2
Conde	1	Groton	4	McIntosh	1	SF O’Gorman	101	Woonsocket	5
						SF Roosevelt	225	Yankton	42

For more information, contact Janelle Toman at (605) 773-3455 or send e-mail to janellet@sdbor.edu.