

Demographic Indicators

Poverty Thresholds

Internet site: <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/data/threshld/index.html>

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Definitions: Measure of Need (Poverty Thresholds)

Poverty thresholds are the dollar amounts used to determine poverty status.

Each person or family is assigned one out of 48 possible poverty thresholds

Thresholds vary according to:

- Size of the family
- Ages of the members

The same thresholds are used throughout the United States (do not vary geographically).

Updated annually for inflation using the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U).

Although the thresholds in some sense reflect families needs,

- They are intended for use as a statistical yardstick, not as a complete description of what people and families need to live.
- Many government aid programs use a different poverty measure, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) poverty guidelines, or multiples thereof.

Poverty thresholds were originally derived in 1963-1964, using:

- U.S. Department of Agriculture food budgets designed for families under economic stress.
- Data about what portion of their income families spent on food.

People Whose Poverty Status Cannot Be Determined

Unrelated individuals under age 15 (such as foster children):

- Income questions are asked of people age 15 and older.
- If someone is under age 15 and not living with a family member, we do not know their income.
- Since we cannot determine their poverty status, they are excluded from the "poverty universe" (table totals).

People in:

- Institutional group quarters (such as prisons or nursing homes)
- College dormitories
- Military barracks
- Living situations without conventional housing (and who are not in shelters)

Authority Behind Official Poverty Measure

The official measure of poverty was established by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in Statistical Policy Directive 14, to be used by federal agencies in their statistical work.

Government aid programs do not have to use the official poverty measure as eligibility criteria.

- Many government aid programs use a different poverty measure, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) poverty guidelines, or variants thereof.
- Each aid program may define eligibility differently.

Official poverty data come from the Current Population Survey (CPS) Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC), formerly called the Annual Demographic Supplement or simply the "March Supplement."

Poverty Guidelines

Internet site: <http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/11poverty.shtml>

Data Source: Federal Register, Vol. 76, No. 13, January 20, 2011, pp. 3637-3638 .

Definition: The poverty guidelines apply to both aged and non-aged units. The guidelines have never had an aged/non-aged distinction; only the Census Bureau (statistical) poverty thresholds have separate figures for aged and non-aged one-person and two-person units.

Programs using the guidelines (or percentage multiples of the guidelines — for instance, 125 percent or 185 percent of the guidelines) in determining eligibility include Head Start, the Food Stamp Program, the National School Lunch Program, the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, and the Children's Health Insurance Program. Note that in general, cash public assistance programs (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and Supplemental Security Income) do NOT use the poverty guidelines in determining eligibility. The Earned Income Tax Credit program also does NOT use the poverty guidelines to determine eligibility. For a more detailed list of programs that do and do not use the guidelines, see the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).

The poverty guidelines (unlike the poverty thresholds) are designated by the year in which they are issued. For instance, the guidelines issued in January 2011 are designated the 2011 poverty guidelines. However, the 2011 HHS poverty guidelines only reflect price changes through calendar year 2010; accordingly, they are approximately equal to the Census Bureau poverty thresholds for calendar year 2010.

Poverty Guidelines & Poverty Thresholds

The U.S. Census Bureau uses a set of money income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to determine who is poor. There are two slightly different versions of the [U.S.] federal poverty measure: the poverty thresholds and the poverty guidelines.

Poverty guidelines

The poverty guidelines are another version of the federal poverty measure. The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) issues the guidelines each year in the Federal Register. The guidelines are a simplified version of the poverty thresholds and are used for determining financial eligibility for a wide range of federal and state programs.

Poverty thresholds

The poverty thresholds do not vary geographically and are updated each year by the Census Bureau (although they were originally developed by Mollie Orshansky of the Social Security Administration). *“The thresholds are used mainly for statistical purposes, for instance, preparing estimates of the number of Americans in poverty each year.”*

2011 HHS Poverty Guidelines

Persons in Family Unit	48 Contiguous States and D.C.	Alaska	Hawaii
1	\$10,890	\$13,600	\$12,540
2	14,710	18,380	16,930
3	18,530	23,160	21,320
4	22,350	27,940	25,710
5	26,170	32,720	30,100
6	29,990	37,500	34,490
7	33,810	42,280	38,880
8	37,630	47,060	43,270
For each additional person add	3,820	4,780	4,390

Source: <http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/11poverty.shtml>

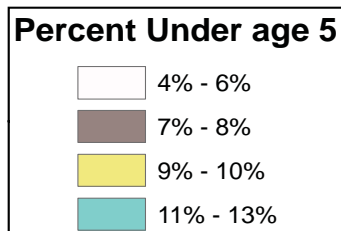
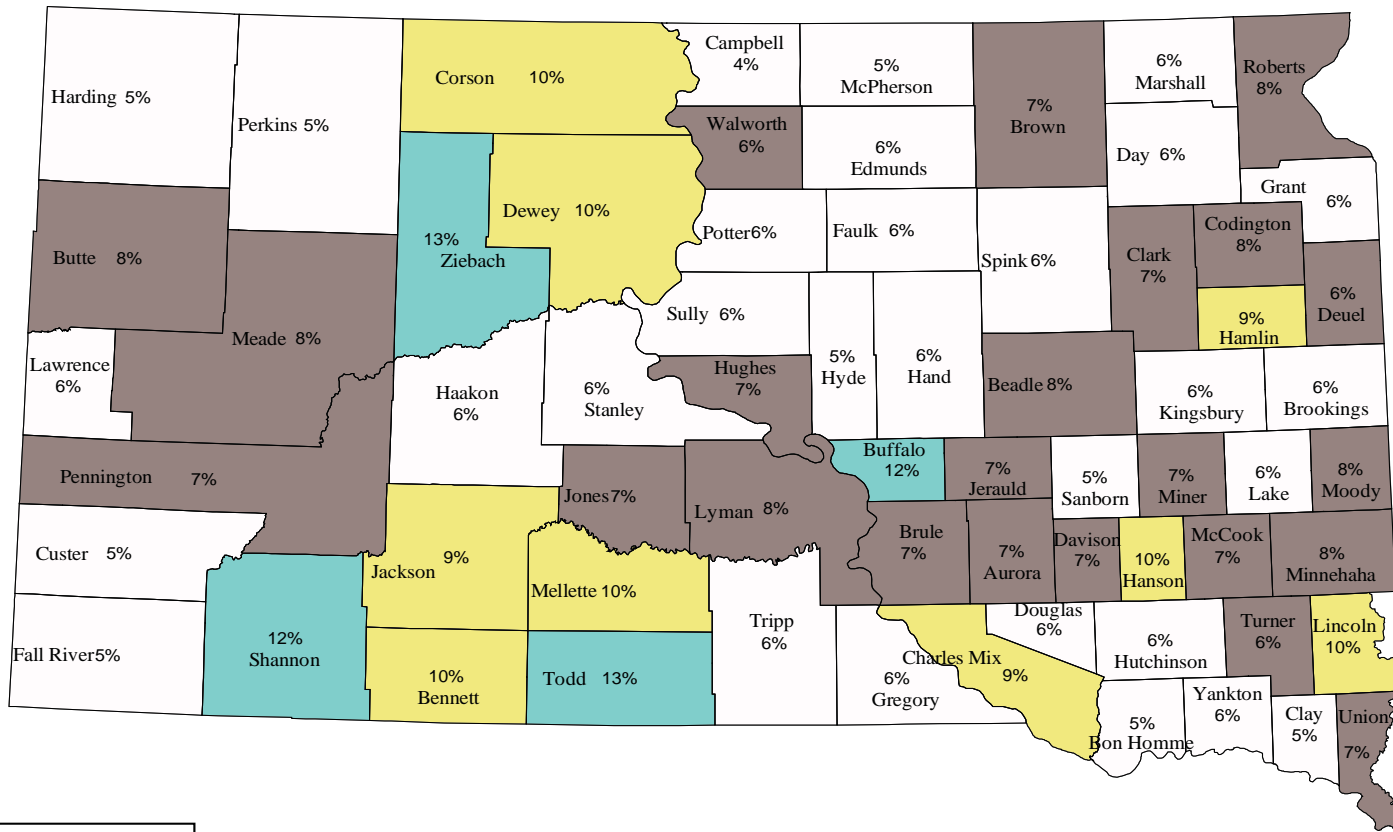
Poverty Thresholds for 2010 by Size of Family and Number of Related Children Under 18 Years

Size of family unit	Related children under 18 years								
	None	One	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six	Seven	Eight +
One person (unrelated individual)									
Under 65 years	\$11,344								
65 years and over	\$10,458								
Two people									
Householder under 65 years	\$14,602	\$15,030							
Householder 65 years and over	\$13,180	\$14,973							
Three people	\$17,057	\$17,552	\$17,568						
Four people	\$22,491	\$22,859	\$22,113	\$22,190					
Five people	\$27,123	\$27,518	\$26,675	\$26,023	\$25,625				
Six people	\$31,197	\$31,320	\$30,675	\$30,056	\$29,137	\$28,591			
Seven people	\$35,896	\$36,120	\$35,347	\$34,809	\$33,805	\$32,635	\$31,351		
Eight people	\$40,146	\$40,501	\$39,772	\$39,133	\$38,227	\$37,076	\$35,879	\$35,575	
Nine people or more	\$48,293	\$48,527	\$47,882	\$47,340	\$46,451	\$45,227	\$44,120	\$43,845	\$42,156

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau. <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/data/threshld/index.html>



2010 Population - Percent Under Age 5 by County South Dakota = 7.3%

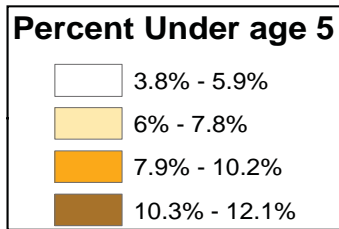
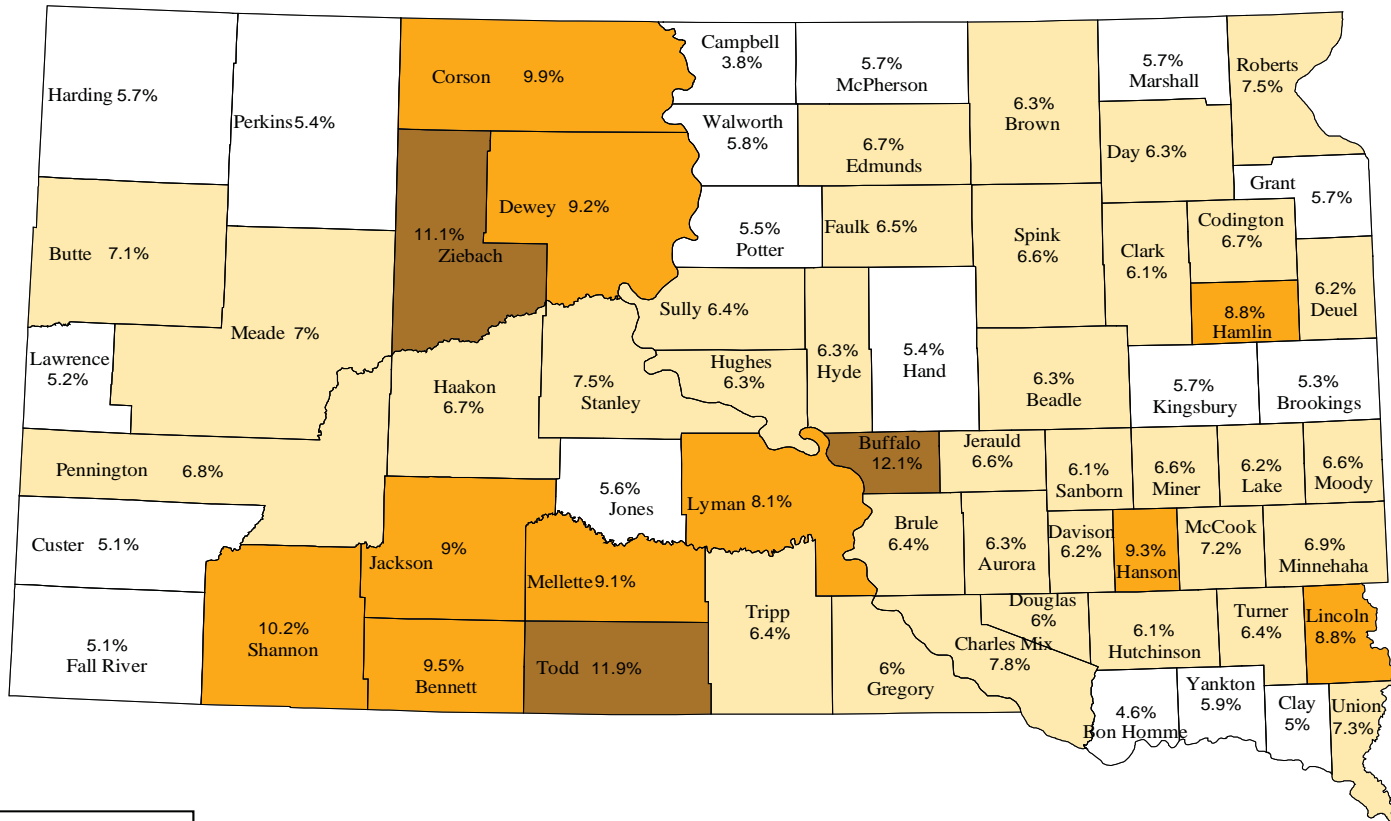


Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2010 Census. Summary File 1, Tables P12, P13, and PCT12.

Map by SD KIDS COUNT
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2010 Population - Percent Ages 5 to 9 by County South Dakota = 6.8%

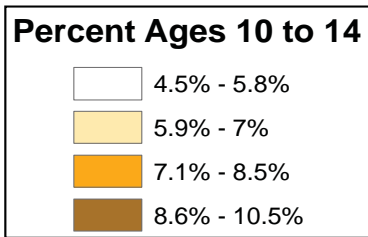
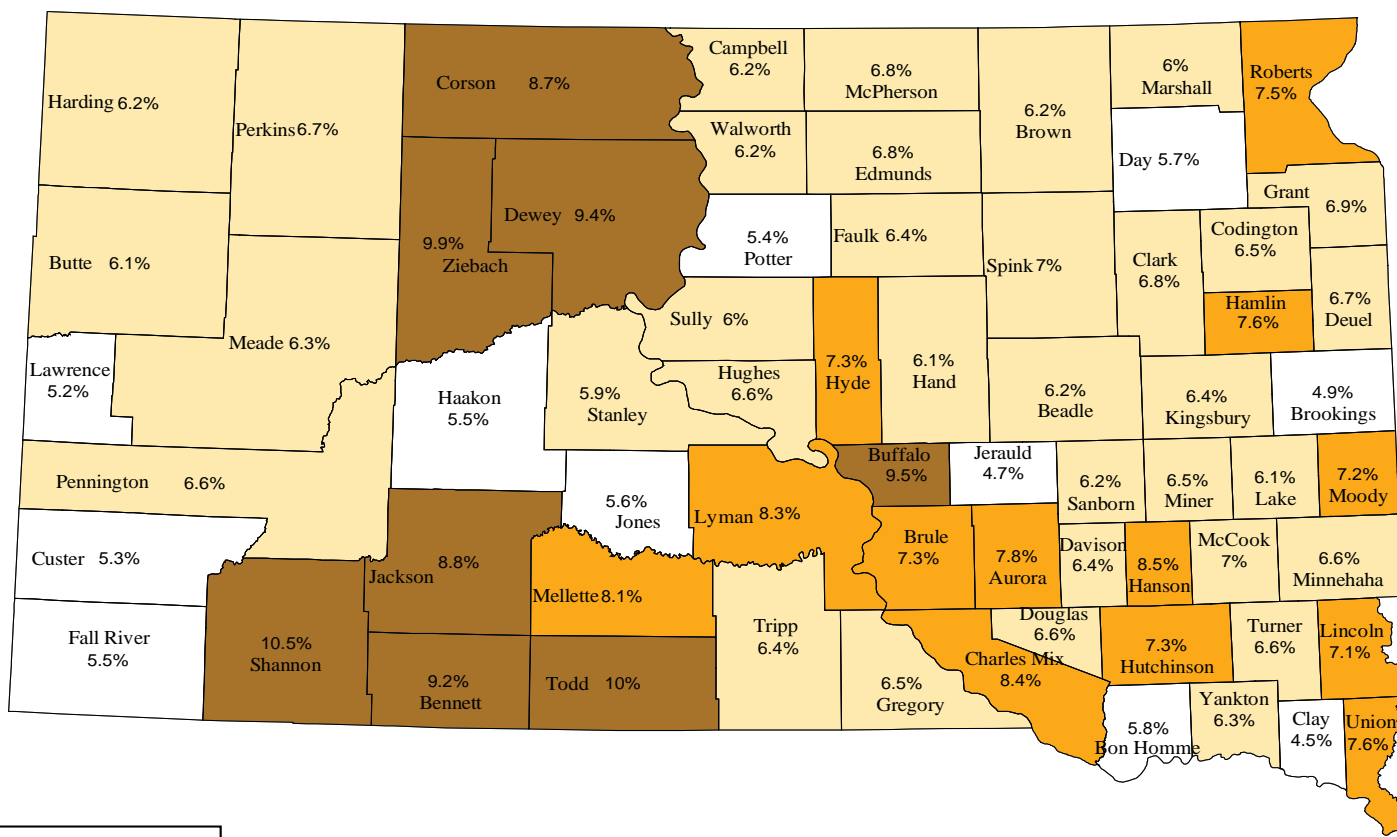


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census.
Summary File 1, Tables P12, P13, and PCT12.

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2010 Population - Percent Ages 10 to 14 by County South Dakota = 6.6%

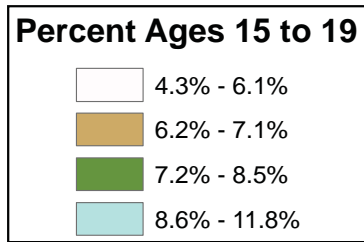
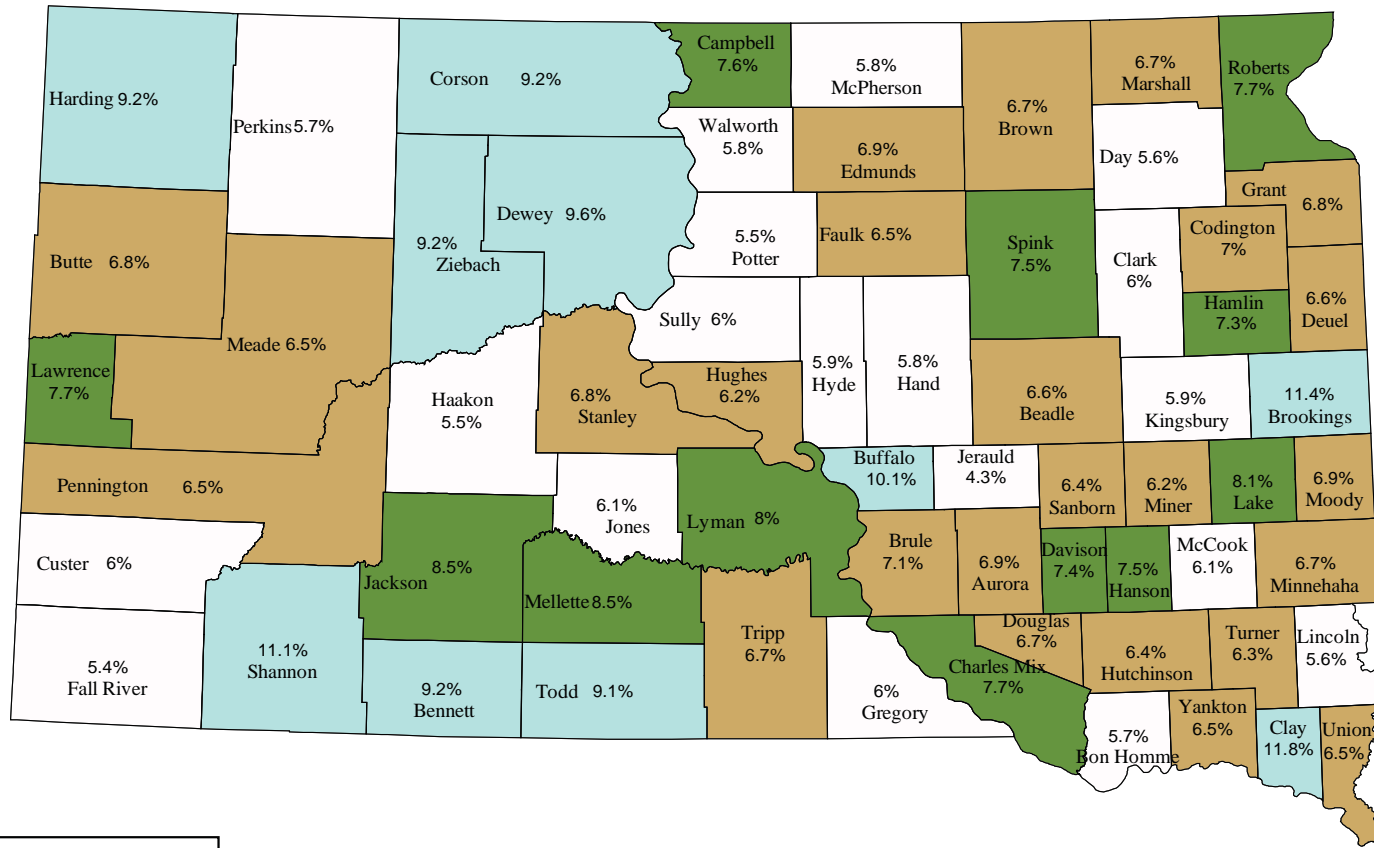


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census. Summary File 1, Tables P12, P13, and PCT12.

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2010 Population - Percent Ages 15 to 19 by County South Dakota = 7.1%

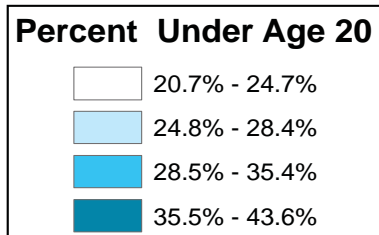
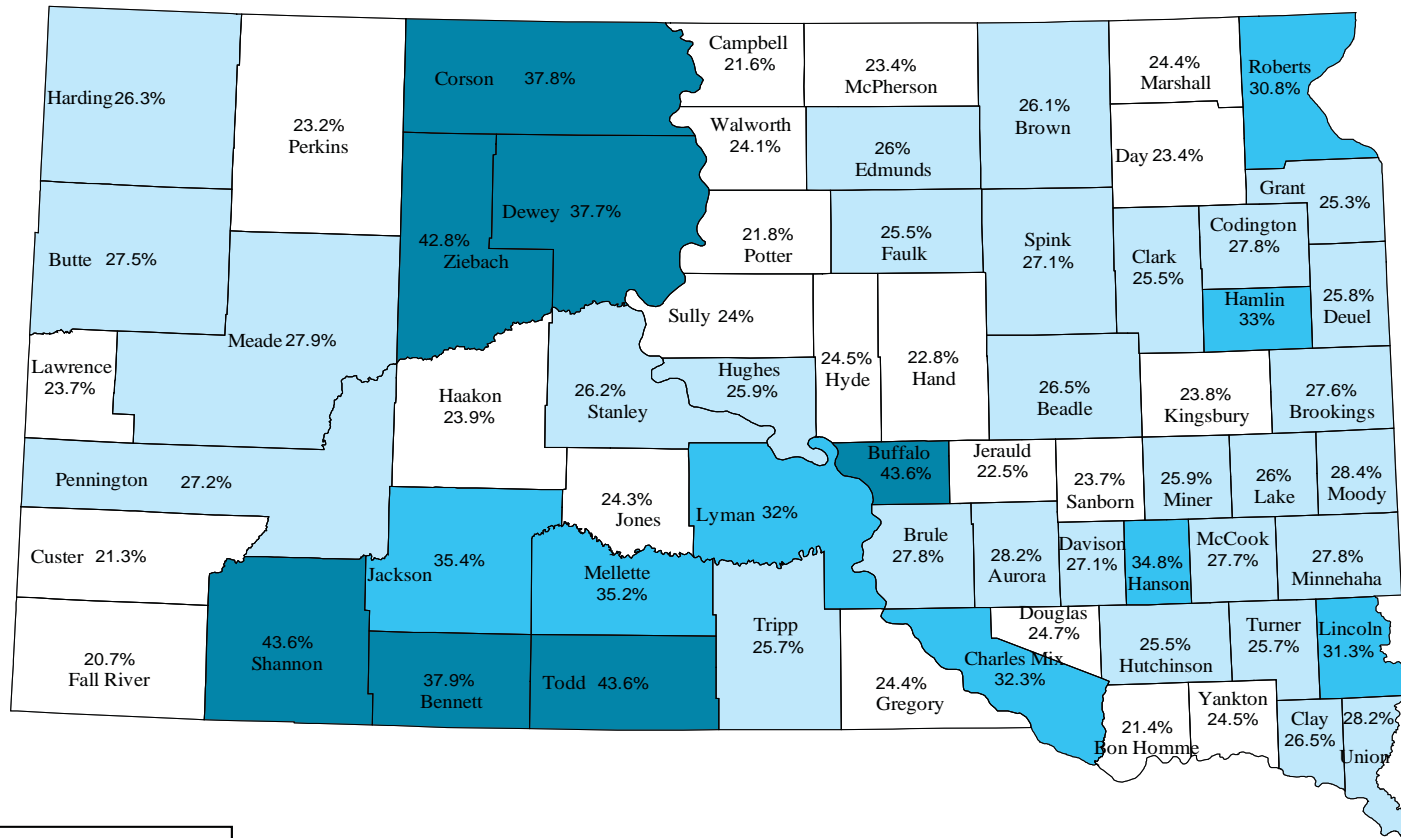


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census.
Summary File 1, Tables P12, P13, and PCT12.

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2010 Population - Percent Under Age 20 by County South Dakota = 28%

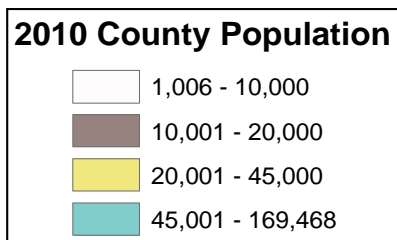
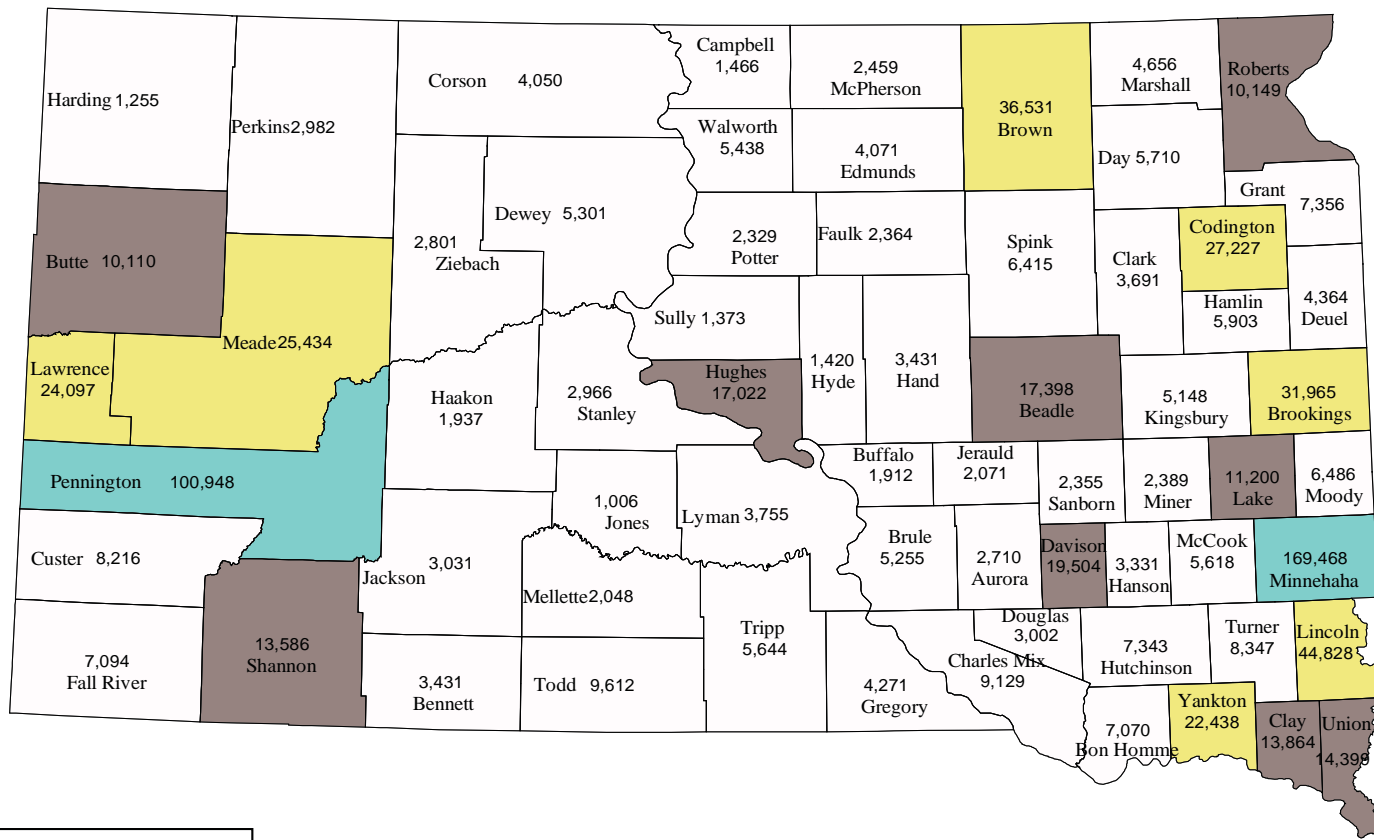


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census. Summary File 1, Tables P12, P13, and PCT12.

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2010 County Population South Dakota = 814,180

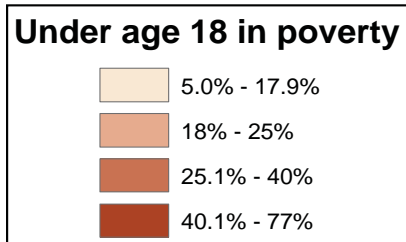
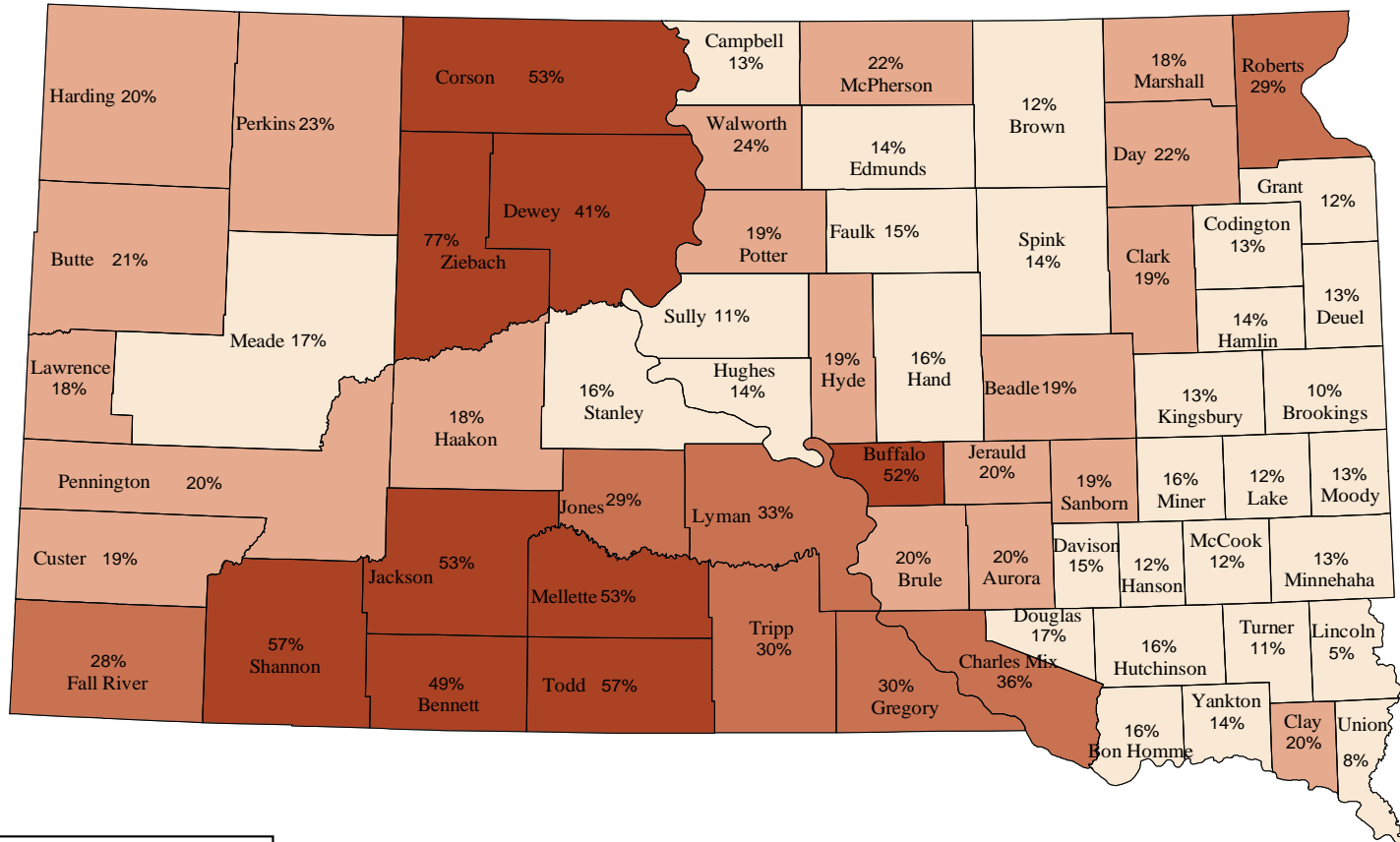


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census.
Summary File 1, Tables P12, P13, and PCT12.

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Estimate for Under age 18 in Poverty, 2009
United States = 20%
South Dakota = 19% (approximately 36,884 children)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau.
 Model-based Small Area Income & Poverty Estimates (SAIPE)
 for School Districts, Counties, and States.
<http://www.census.gov/did/www/saipe/index.html>

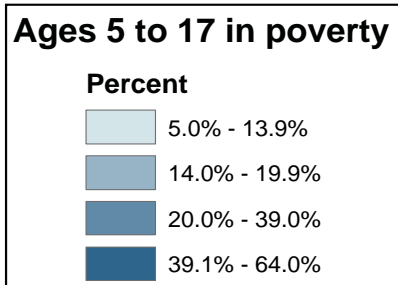
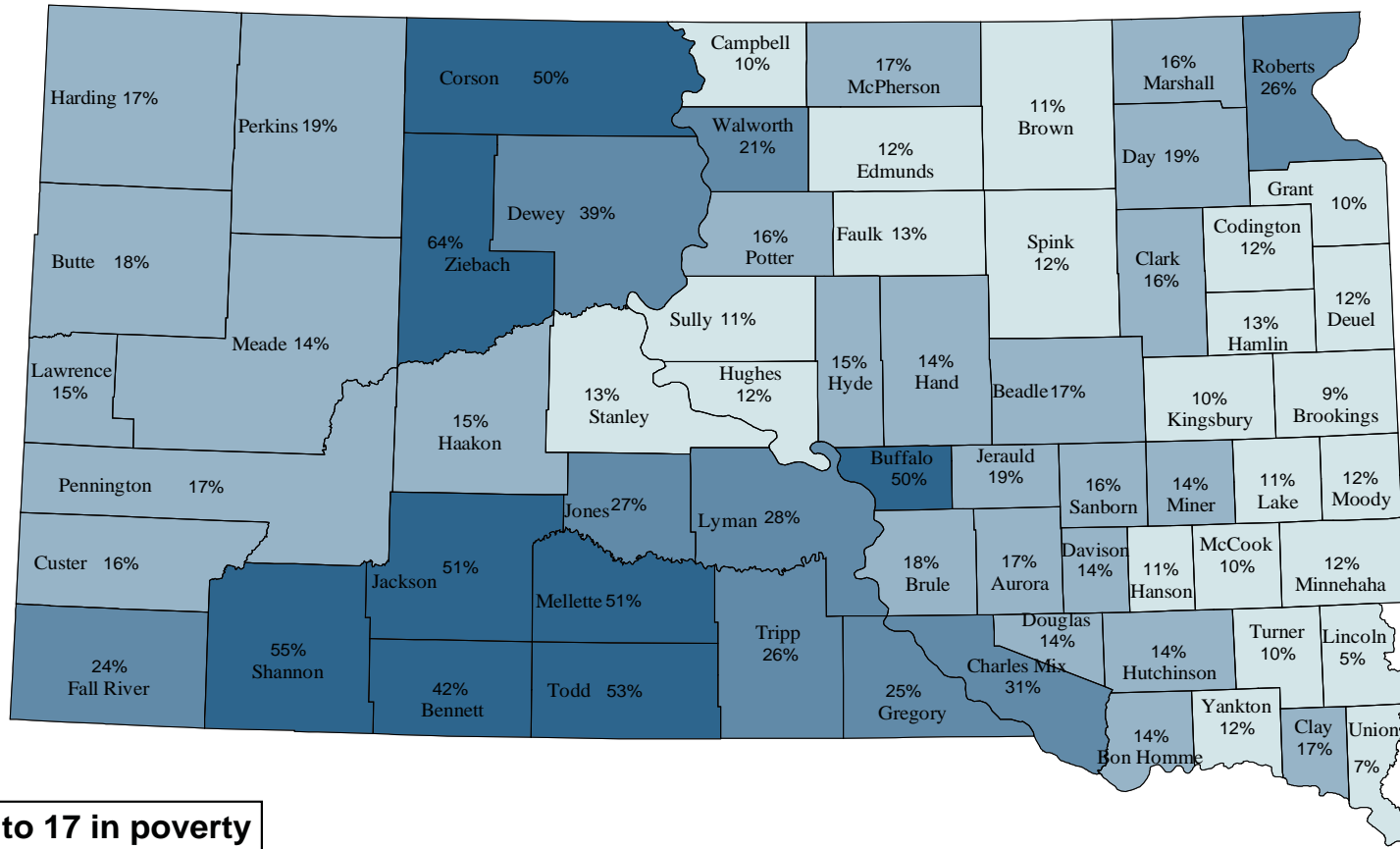
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Estimate of Ages 5 to 17 in Poverty, 2009

United States = 18.2%

South Dakota = 16.7% (approximately 22,720 children)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau.
 Model-based Small Area Income & Poverty Estimates (SAIPE)
 for School Districts, Counties, and States.
<http://www.census.gov/did/www/saipe/index.html>

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