

# Economic Indicators

## Child Care

Internet site: <http://dss.sd.gov/childcare/>

Data Source: Child Care Services Assistance Program, Department of Social Services.

Types of Regulated Child Care: **Family Child Care Home - Registered:** South Dakota law defines a Family Child Care Home as one in which care is given on a regular basis for any part of a twenty-four hour day to twelve or less children from more than one unrelated family. This includes any children under the age of six who are living in the home. Family child care is a service provided in the provider's home. Family child care providers are registered rather than licensed. Registration is a voluntary process whereby the applicants declare their intent to provide family child care and agree to comply with standards that have been established by the Department of Social Services. A registration certificate is in effect for 2 years. Registration is legally mandated when a provider receives compensation from public funds. Providers who are not receiving reimbursement from public funds and care for 12 or fewer children are exempt from registration. A registered family child care provider must be at least 18 years old. **Group Family Child Care Home - Licensed:** South Dakota law defines a Group Family Child Care Home as a facility that provides child care for a part of a day as a supplement to regular parental care for 13 to 20 children from more than one family, including the provider's own children who are under the age of 6 years. A group family child care home may be located in the provider's own home or in a separate facility. Group family child care homes are mandated by law to be licensed regardless of the funding source. A license is in effect for one year. Providers licensed as group family child care homes may be eligible to receive reimbursement through the Child Care Food Program if their program is located in a family home or residential area. **Child Care Center - Licensed:** South Dakota law defines a Child Care Center as a facility which provides child care for part of a 24-hour period to 21 or more children from one or more unrelated families, including the provider's own children under the age of 6 years, regardless of the source of income. A child care center may be located in the provider's own home or in a separate facility. In addition, programs that care for only school-age children may be licensed as a Before & After School Center. Child care centers are mandated by law to be licensed regardless of the funding source. A license is in effect for one year. A child care center may be operated as a nonprofit organization or as an independent, proprietary facility. Nursery schools that do not provide regular daily care are exempted from licensure by SDCL 26-6-27.

## Funding Categories Available for Child Care Assistance:

**TANF Child Care:** Provides payment of child care expenses for TANF families in approved work activities, which includes community service. Families must be receiving cash TANF benefits. No co-payment is required.

**Non-TANF Assistance:** Available for low-income families who work or work and attend school. Families may earn up to 200% of the federal poverty level. Students must work a minimum of 40 hours per month in order to receive assistance. High school, GED and technical education students who meet certain guidelines are exempt from the work requirement. Co-payment is based on family size and adjusted gross family income.

**Transitional Child Care (TCC):** Provides 12 months of child care payments for families whose TANF case closes because of income. May earn up to 200% of the federal poverty level. Co-payment is based on family size and adjusted gross household income.

## TANF/Foodstamps/Medicaid

Internet sites: <http://dss.sd.gov/tanf/>

<http://dss.sd.gov/foodstamps/>

<http://dss.sd.gov/medicalservices/>

Data Source: TANF/Foodstamps participation is from the South Dakota Department of Social Services. The data are for state fiscal years.

## Child Care

Child Care Services (CCS) at the South Dakota Department of Social Services has a number of responsibilities that include funding and technical assistance for Out-of-School-Time programs; child care facility development in response to local community needs; and a Health & Safety Continuous Funding cycle to help child care programs meet licensing requirements. In addition, CCS provides direct child care assistance payments for qualifying families; a statewide training delivery system for child care providers; and the licensing and registration of child care programs as authorized by SDCL 26-6.

### Licensing of Child Care Programs

Individuals or corporations who provide child care for more than 12 children are required by South Dakota law to be licensed. South Dakota Codified Law 26-6-9 requires licensure (regulation) of all child welfare agencies (including child care centers) by the Department of Social Services. South Dakota Codified Law 26-6-19 authorized the Department to develop standards of child care to be used for the regulation of these agencies. Child care licensing is a means of reducing the risk of harm to children in child care settings by establishing and enforcing regulations that require maintenance of minimum standards. Licensing is a form of consumer protection. Without licensing, to achieve compliance with state regulations, children would be at higher risk from fire, unsafe buildings, unsafe play equipment, injury, disease, and developmental impairment. In addition to prevention efforts, licensing workers also offer consultation to providers to help them increase quality of care beyond the minimum standards. The table on page 35 shows the number of registered and/or licensed child care programs for the state and each county. Data are from July 2007. Counts vary throughout the year. The data do not include family child care providers operating unregulated in their home.

### Direct Child Care Assistance

The table on page 36 shows the average number of children served by county (State Fiscal Year 2007 - July 2006-June 2007) by the child care assistance subsidy program. South Dakota families with incomes below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) and families receiving TANF benefits and those transitioning off TANF may apply for financial assistance to help pay their child care costs. Eligibility for the program is based on household size and gross monthly income. A sliding fee scale is used to determine the amount of reimbursement and co-payments for each family. Families receiving child care assistance generally choose a provider

who is licensed or registered (regulated) by the state. If a family chooses a provider who is unregulated by the state, certain criteria must be met such as TB testing, screening for child abuse and neglect, and basic training. Unregulated providers can be a close relative, a family friend, or someone who provides care in the home of the family requesting assistance. Unregulated providers are limited in the number of children they may care for and the amount of reimbursement they can receive. All providers must be 18 years old.

### Out-of-School Time (OST)

Since 1997 a formal funding cycle has been established to support schools and communities that want to offer structured and safe environments for children when they are not in school. These incentive grants last three years and require recipients to raise matching funds. Funding is available for schools and/or private non-profit organizations in communities that partner to provide OST programs. The intent of each grant is to provide start-up funds that encourage partnering agencies to develop programs that not only provide a safe haven for children while their parents are at work; but also provide structured recreational and enrichment activities that allow children to explore their creative potential. Currently there are 158 licensed OST programs operating in South Dakota.

### Training and Education-Early Childhood Enrichment (ECE)

This program was established to meet the growing need for early childhood and out-of-school-time (OST) training and to assist CCS in efforts to recruit and retain quality child care providers across South Dakota. CCS has developed five ECE sites throughout the state to offer a variety of services that support child care providers, teachers and others involved in the care and education of children. ECE programs offer training opportunities to help licensed or registered child care providers meet mandated training requirements. They also offer training to unregulated providers (i.e. relative and/or family friends) who are receiving public funds through the Child Care Assistance Subsidy program and are required to obtain 3 hours of training within the first 6 months. Registered family child care homes are required to obtain 6 hours of training each year; licensed group child care facilities are required to obtain 10 hours of training each year; and licensed child care centers are required to obtain 20 hours of training each year.

Number of  
Registered and/or  
Licensed Child Care  
Programs  
for the  
State & Counties  
July 2007

A - Licensed Group Family Child Care Homes  
B - Registered Family Child Care Homes  
C - Licensed Child Care Centers  
D - Licensed Before & After School Programs

County	A	B	C	D
State	90	858	173	158
Aurora	0	5	2	3
Beadle	2	25	2	3
Bennett	2	3	0	1
Bon Homme	2	6	1	3
Brookings	0	40	6	6
Brown	4	46	8	4
Brule	3	4	1	1
Buffalo	0	0	2	0
Butte	2	7	1	1
Campbell	0	1	0	0
Charles Mix	1	6	2	2
Clark	1	4	0	0
Clay	1	5	3	4
Codington	2	30	4	8
Corson	1	1	0	2
Custer	1	3	1	2
Davison	2	32	5	6
Day	2	3	0	2
Deuel	0	1	1	0
Dewey	1	2	1	0
Douglas	1	3	0	2
Edmunds	1	2	0	1
Fall River	0	1	3	0
Faulk	1	3	0	0
Grant	0	16	0	1
Gregory	1	7	1	2
Haakon	2	1	0	0
Hamlin	2	5	0	0
Hand	0	3	1	1
Hanson	0	0	2	3
Harding	0	1	0	0
Hughes	3	11	6	2
Hutchinson	1	3	2	0

County	A	B	C	D
Hyde	0	3	0	1
Jackson	1	1	0	1
Jerauld	1	2	0	1
Jones	0	0	0	1
Kingsbury	1	5	0	0
Lake	2	19	0	4
Lawrence	0	23	4	3
Lincoln	0	44	7	6
Lyman	2	0	1	0
Marshall	0	1	1	1
McCook	4	5	0	3
McPherson	1	3	0	0
Meade	6	28	2	1
Mellette	1	0	0	2
Miner	0	1	1	1
Minnehaha	7	215	61	36
Moody	1	7	0	1
Pennington	9	126	22	18
Perkins	1	1	0	0
Potter	0	4	0	0
Roberts	1	10	4	3
Sanborn	1	2	0	2
Shannon	4	0	0	0
Spink	1	9	1	1
Stanley	1	3	0	0
Sully	0	1	0	0
Todd	0	2	3	0
Tripp	1	5	0	1
Turner	1	10	1	2
Union	3	7	5	0
Walworth	0	6	0	1
Yankton	0	34	5	8
Ziebach	1	1	0	0

Source: Office of Child Care Services, Department of Social Services

Average Number  
of Children  
Served Each  
Month State  
Fiscal Year  
2007  
(July 2006 - June 2007)

County	Non-TANF/		Foster Care	Total
	TANF/TCC	TCC		
State	525	3,918	546	4,989
Aurora	0	15	1	16
Beadle	4	58	6	68
Bennett	2	9	3	14
Bon Homme	1	30	4	35
Brookings	11	77	5	93
Brown	14	158	17	189
Brule	2	21	3	26
Buffalo	3	8	3	14
Butte	4	46	15	65
Campbell	0	2	3	5
Charles Mix	21	51	8	80
Clark	0	19	1	20
Clay	13	67	11	91
Codington	8	159	12	179
Corson	6	10	0	16
Custer	2	27	3	32
Davidson	35	163	14	212
Day	1	5	1	7
Deuel	0	3	0	3
Dewey	5	3	5	13
Douglas	1	7	0	8
Edmunds	0	2	3	5
Fall River	4	24	10	38
Faulk	0	2	0	2
Grant	1	26	6	33
Gregory	0	17	2	19
Haakon	0	5	0	5
Hamlin	1	11	1	13
Hand	0	5	0	5
Hanson	1	6	1	8
Harding	1	0	0	1
Hughes	20	103	27	150
Hutchinson	1	8	0	9

County	Non-TANF/		Foster Care	Total
	TANF/TCC	TCC		
Hyde	0	3	4	7
Jackson	2	5	0	7
Jerauld	0	6	4	10
Jones	0	0	0	0
Kingsbury	0	9	1	10
Lake	9	39	2	50
Lawrence	13	143	24	180
Lincoln	5	124	25	154
Lyman	5	10	7	22
Marshall	0	28	0	28
McCook	0	3	1	4
McPherson	0	4	0	4
Meade	15	143	31	189
Mellette	7	6	1	14
Miner	0	7	0	7
Minnehaha	130	1,067	121	1,318
Moody	2	14	6	22
Pennington	70	801	92	963
Perkins	0	3	0	3
Potter	0	0	2	2
Roberts	1	34	4	39
Sanborn	1	12	0	13
Shannon	16	14	0	30
Spink	1	17	5	23
Stanley	5	12	8	25
Sully	0	6	1	7
Todd	35	16	5	56
Tripp	8	8	9	25
Turner	0	26	7	33
Union	8	30	3	41
Walworth	9	22	2	33
Yankton	18	157	15	190
Ziebach	3	2	1	6

Source: Office of Child Care Services, Department of Social Services

# TANF - Foodstamps - Medicaid

## Temporary Assistance to Needy Families

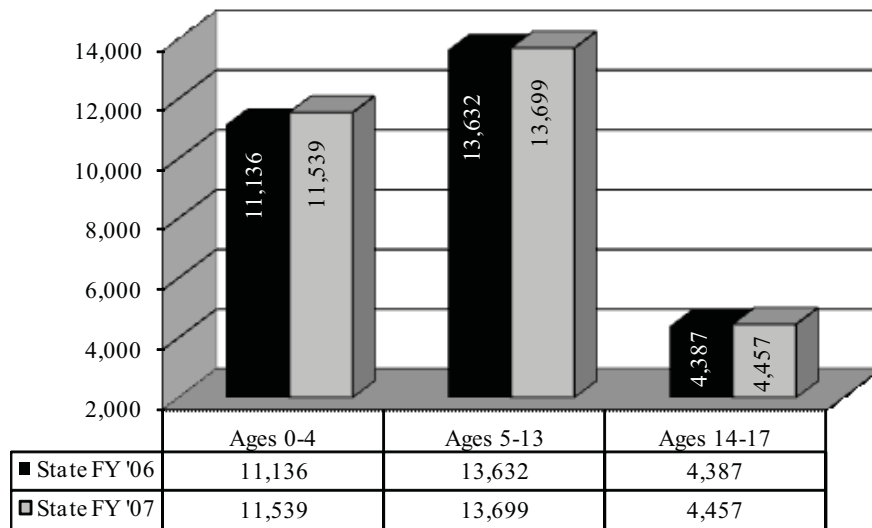
In state fiscal year 2007, there were 5,089 children receiving TANF benefits and 6,146 recipients of TANF funding for a total payment of \$12,468,272. The average per family of TANF funds was \$360. The average per recipient was \$169.

## Foodstamps

In 2007 (state fiscal year), 24,454 households in the state received food stamps. There were 59,549 recipients of food stamps. The fiscal year benefits value was \$69,164,303. The average coupon value per month per household was \$236. The average coupon value per month per recipient was \$97.

The graph below depicts the participation rate in the Food Stamps program. Participation increased slightly from the previous fiscal year.

**Foodstamp participation by age group by state fiscal year**



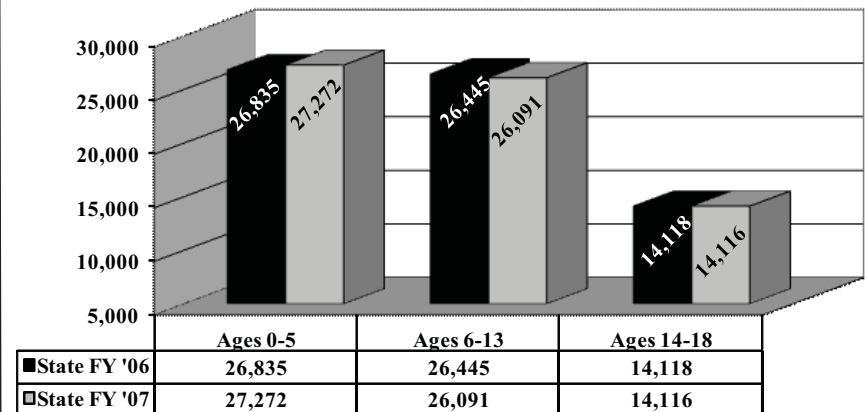
Source: South Dakota Department of Social Services

## Medicaid Participation

South Dakota has chosen Medicaid for its CHIP program. It allows the Department of Social Services to use the existing Medicaid program to administer and deliver benefits. A Medicaid-based expansion also offered more expansive coverage for preventive, dental and optometry services, and participating families are not required to make co-payments or pay premiums for children under 18.

The graph below shows the medical participation by age group for state fiscal years 2006 and 2007. The Medicaid participation by age group has increased from each year since state fiscal year 2003.

**Medicaid participation by age group by state fiscal year**



Source: South Dakota Department of Social Services

Notes