

SOUTH DAKOTA FACTS

South Dakota, the Mount Rushmore state, is a modern day blend of Old West attractions and new age industry and research. Our state's economy is driven by the traditional industries of agriculture, financial services and manufacturing, but gaining momentum are the professional and technical services industries, knowledge-based industries such as biotech and nanotech, and business processes.

The South Dakota of today is characterized by:

- Strong work ethic and high productivity workforce
- #2 business tax climate in America
- Accessibility to leaders to get the job done

Workforce

- Prepared: #1 in Internet-Connected Students. We annually have a steady supply of young workers eager for the opportunity to make a living in South Dakota. We're committed to equipping our youth with the skills they need for their future.
- Productive: #4 Most Productive Workforce

Business Climate

- #1 Lowest Cost for Doing Business Index (Milken Institute)
- #1 Small City for Business: Sioux Falls; #13: Rapid City (Forbes)
- #1 Environment for Entrepreneurs (Small Business Survival Foundation)
- #6 Corporate Business Environment (Pollina Corporate Real Estate)

Accessibility

- Governor Mike Rounds is spearheading the state's efforts to become leaders in business, research and quality of life
- #8 Most Business Friendly Legislature (Expansion Management)
- 7,000 miles of fiber optics; 67 percent of the state has broadband access
- 100 percent of public schools (K-12 & higher ed) have high-speed broadband access
- Border to border Interstate Highways: I-29 and I-90