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M P. Riley
South Dakota State University

L Baer
South Dakota State University

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South Dakota Population and Net Migration, 1970-1980
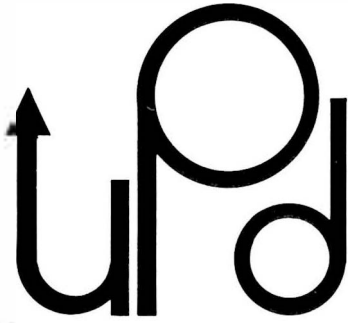
Marvin P. Riley, Professor and Linda Baer, Graduate Research Assistant
Department of Rural Sociology

The preliminary report* from the 1980 U.S. Census for South Dakota shows that the state's population increased 21,960 persons, or 3.3%, from 1970 to 1980. Significant changes have taken place in South Dakota's population during this past decade.

South Dakota State Population: 3 Decades

Basic changes have occurred primarily in birth rate and migration.

In the 1950's South Dakota experienced a small population increase (4.3%, Table 1) in spite of a high loss through out-migration. The out-migra-

*1980 Census of Population and Housing, PHC 80-P-43, South Dakota, Preliminary Population and Housing Units Counts, U.S. Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C. December, 1980.

tion was compensated for by the high birth rate of the "baby boom." By 1960 the baby boom had peaked; and the lower fertility of the 1960's, together with a continued high rate of out-migration, gave South Dakota a population loss for the 60's of 2.1%.

The 1970's present a different picture.

During this decade the birth rate continued at a relatively low level. However, a dramatic reduction in net out-migration during the 70's was sufficient to give South Dakota a population increase of 3.3% in spite of the low fertility.

Thus, the crucial factor explaining this population increase is migration. Much more needs to be known about why the out-migration rate dropped so markedly during this most recent period. This question will be dealt with in a subsequent publication.

Table 1. South Dakota population change and net migration, 1950-60, 1960-70, and 1970-80.

Decade	Population Beginning Of Decade	Population At End Of Decade	Number Change	Percentage Change	Number Net Migration	Percentage Net Migration
1950-1960	652,740	680,514	27,774	4.3	-93,962	-14.4
1960-1970	680,514	666,257	-14,257	-2.1	-92,560	-13.6
1970-1980	666,257	688,217	21,960	3.4	-28,935	-4.4

Population Change

Population Change by County

Between 1960 and 1970, 53 of South Dakota's 67 counties* lost population. At the extreme, Stanley County dropped 40% and Fall River 30%.

During the last 10 years, 12 of these counties "turned around." They had not only stopped losing, but actually gained population (Maps 1 and 2). Thus, while only 14 counties recorded gains in population during the '60's, 22 counties experienced gains in the '70's.

Of the 44 counties losing population, 19 lost a smaller percentage in the '70's than in the 1960's.

Only three counties that gained population from 1960 to 1970 (Bennett,

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*Washabaugh and Jackson Counties were combined in 1979. Thus the 1980 Census records only Jackson County; South Dakota now has 66 counties.

Brown, and Yankton) lost population in the 1970's. In Brown and Yankton, the loss was under 1% (Map 1 and Table 3).

Of the 10 counties that gained population for both periods, three (Minnehaha, Pennington, and Lawrence) increased their rate of population gain in the '70's.

Population Change by State Planning District

South Dakota is divided into six state planning districts, each of which contains a group of contiguous counties that are considered to share common socioeconomic and geographic characteristics.

Districts II and VI gained population during the past decade.

District II, which includes Minnehaha County with Sioux Falls, had a population increase of over 17,000, more than double the percentage population change for the 1960's (5% to 13%, Map 3 and Table 2).

Map 1. Population change for South Dakota counties, 1970-80, by percentage (top figure) and number (bottom figure).
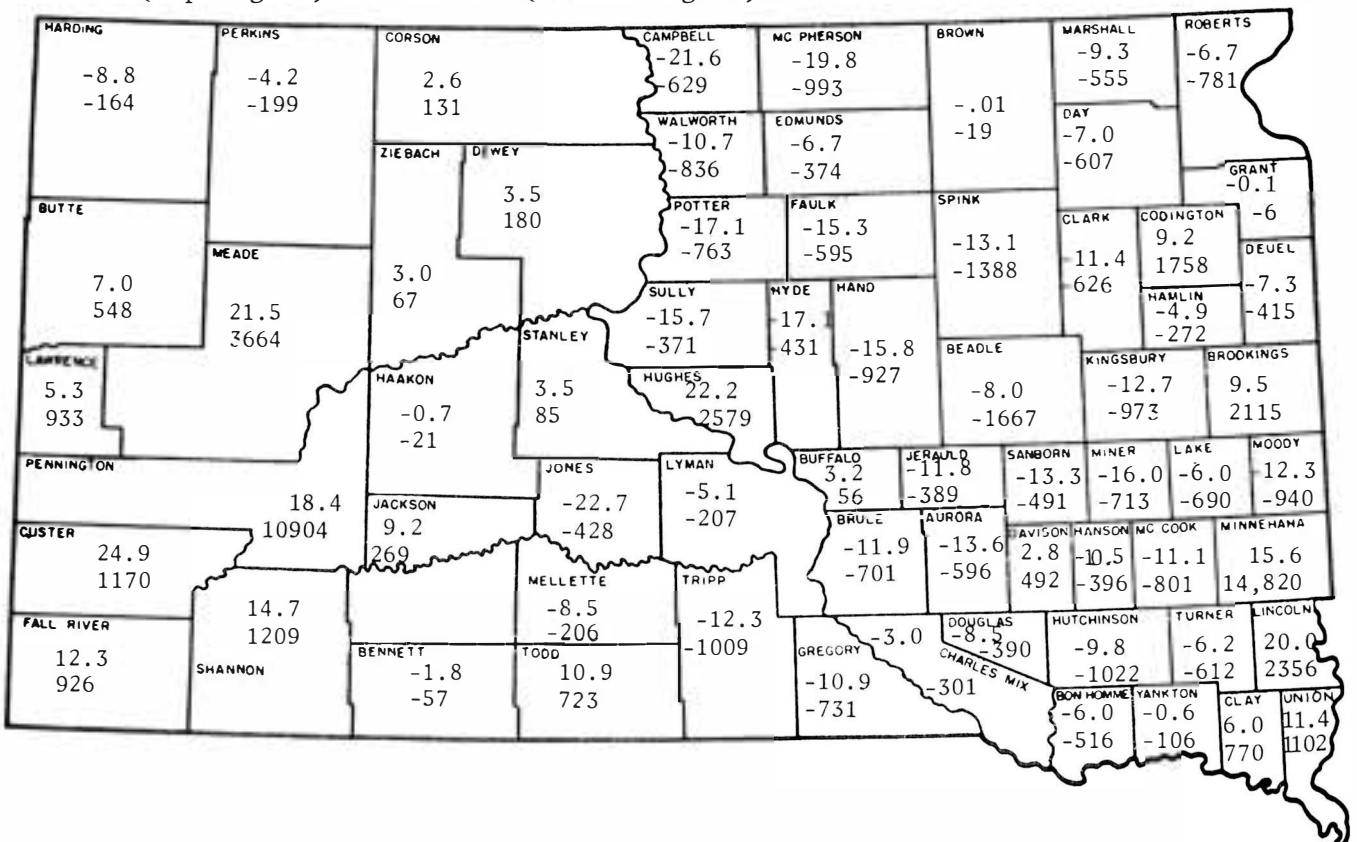
District VI includes the Black Hills area with Pennington County and Rapid City. It experienced a population gain of 19,402, nearly a five-fold increase (3% in the 60's to 15% in the 1970's).

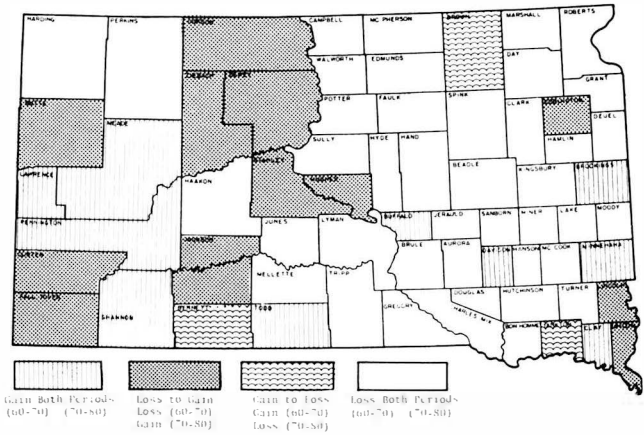The remaining four planning districts lost population in both the 1960's and 1970's. However, the loss (except for District IV) slowed. District I showed the greatest change, a 7.0% population loss in the 60's and only 0.8% in the 70's. District IV was the only planning district recording a greater population loss (4.8% in 1970 and 6.9% in 1980.
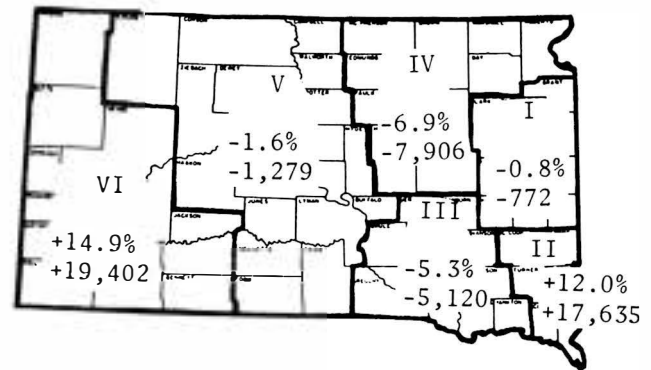
Net Migration+

Net Migration by County

The extent of population movement is reflected in the net migration numbers and rates for individual counties, especially when rates for the 60's are compared with rates of the 70's.

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+The U.S. Census does not report "net migration." It is calculated by the "residual method" which contrasts natural increase (births minus deaths) with the amount of population change. The authors are grateful for the cooperation of South Dakota Department of Health, Vital Records Project, Pierre, for birth and death data.

Map 2. Pattern of population change by county for 1960-70 and 1970-80.

Map 3. Population change for planning and development districts 1970-80.

Table 2. South Dakota planning and development districts, population change and net migration, 1970-80.

District	Population 1980	Population 1970	Number Change	Rate Change	Number Net Migrants	Rate Net Migration
State Total	688,217	666,257	21,960	+ 3.3	-28,935	- 4.3
District I	97,441	98,213	- 772	- .79	- 4,972	- 5.1
District II	164,289	146,654	17,635	+12.0	+ 6,712	+ 4.6
District III	92,308	97,428	- 5,120	- 5.3	- 9,582	- 9.8
District IV	107,188	115,094	- 7,906	- 6.9	-13,176	-11.4
District V	77,678	78,957	- 1,279	- 1.6	- 9,700	-12.3
District VI	149,313	129,911	19,402	+14.9	+ 1,783	+ 1.4

For 1960-70, only three counties (Clay, Meade, and Todd) experienced in-migration. The 1970-80 decade shows 11 counties with in-migration (Map 5 and Table 3).
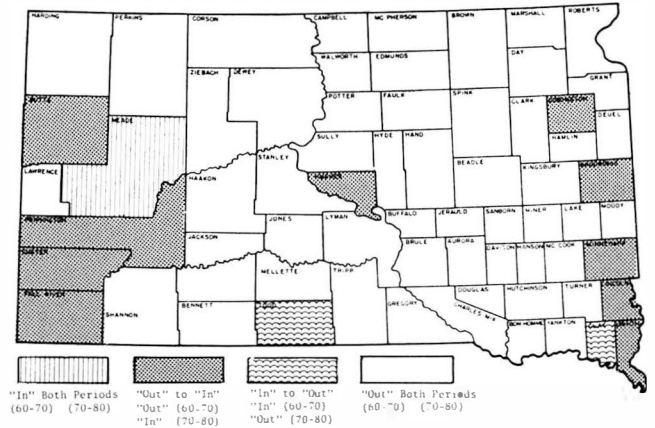
Ten counties "turned around" (losing in 1960-70 and gaining in 1970-80, Map 5). Meade County gained population through net in-migration for both decades.

"Reverse" migration patterns (gains in 1960-70 and losses in 1970-80) were found for Todd and Clay counties. The remaining counties experienced net out-migration for both periods.

Net Migration by Planning District

All six state planning districts had net out-migration during the 1960's, whereas two districts had net in-migration during the 1970's (District II, 4.1%; and District VI, 1.4%). The remaining districts recorded out-migration (Map 6 and Table 2).

Map 5. Migration patterns by county for 1960-70 and 1970-80.

"In" Both Periods (60-70) (70-80)	"Out" to "In" "Out" (60-70) "In" (70-80)	"In" to "Out" "In" (60-70) "Out" (70-80)	"Out" Both Periods (60-70) (70-80)

Map 6. Migration for planning and development districts, 1970-80, by rate (top figure) and number (bottom figure).
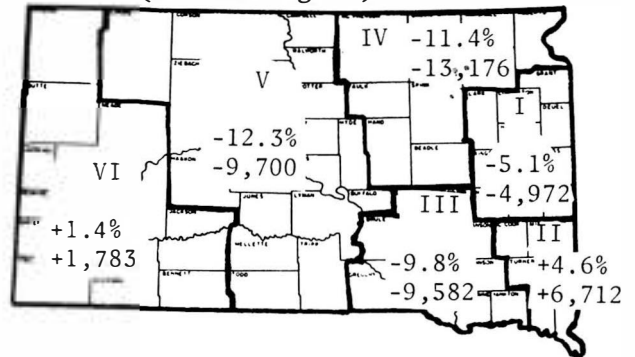
Map 4. Net migration by county for 1970-80, by rate (top figure) and number (bottom figure).

Table 3. South Dakota county population and net migration, 1970-80.

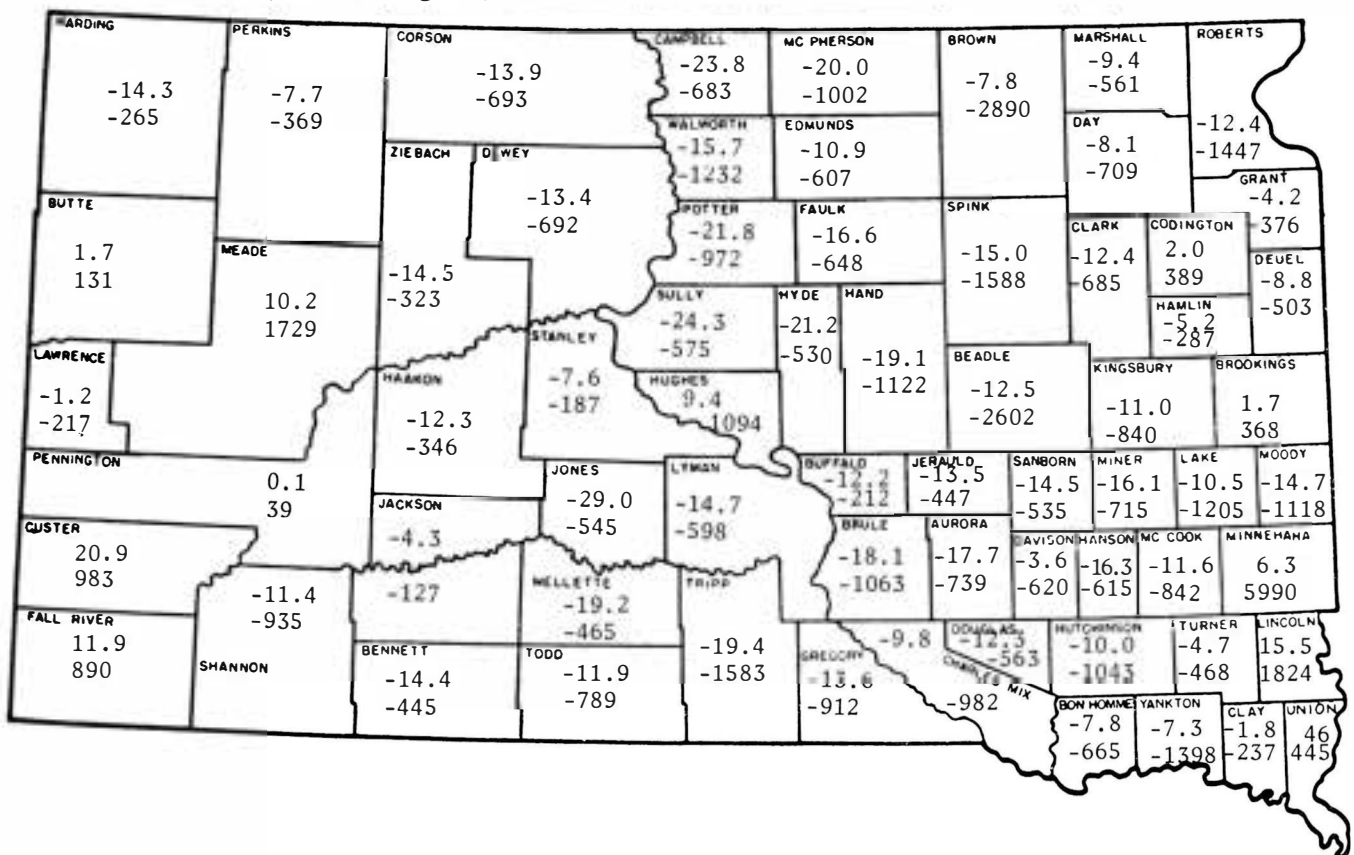| County	1980 Census	1970 Census	Population Change 1970-1980 Number	Percentage	Net Migration 1970-1980 Number	Rate
South Dakota	688,217	666,257	21,960	3.3	-28,935	- 4.3
Aurora	3,614	4,183	-569	-13.6	-739	-17.7
Beadle	19,210	20,877	-1,667	- 8.0	- 2,602	-12.5
Bennett	3,031	3,088	- 57	- 1.8	- 445	-14.4
Bon Homme	8,061	8,577	- 516	- 6.0	- 665	- 7.8
Brookings	24,263	22,158	+2,105	+ 9.5	+ 368	+ 1.7
Brown	36,901	36,920	- 19	- .1	- 2,890	- 7.8
Brule	5,169	5,870	- 701	-11.9	- 1,063	-18.1
Buffalo	1,795	1,739	+ 56	+ 3.2	- 212	-12.2
Butte	8,373	7,825	+ 548	+ 7.0	+ 131	+ 1.7
Campbell	2,237	2,866	- 629	-21.9	- 683	-23.8
Charles Mix	9,693	9,994	- 301	- 3.0	- 982	- 9.8
Clark	4,889	5,515	- 626	-11.4	- 685	-12.4
Clay	13,693	12,923	+ 770	+ 6.0	- 237	- 1.8
Codington	20,898	19,140	+1,758	+ 9.2	+ 389	+ 2.0
Corson	5,125	4,994	+ 131	+ 2.6	- 693	-13.9
Custer	5,868	4,698	+1,170	+24.9	+ 983	+20.9
Davison	17,811	17,319	+ 492	+ 2.8	- 620	- 3.6
Day	8,106	8,713	- 607	- 7.0	- 709	- 8.1
Deuel	5,271	5,686	- 415	- 7.3	- 503	- 8.8
Dewey	5,350	5,170	+ 180	+ 3.5	- 692	-13.4
Douglas	4,179	4,569	- 390	- 8.5	- 563	-12.3
Edmunds	5,174	5,548	- 374	- 6.7	- 607	-10.9
Fall River	8,431	7,505	+ 926	+12.3	+ 890	+11.9
Faulk	3,298	3,893	- 595	-15.3	- 648	-16.6
Grant	8,999	9,005	- 6	- .1	- 376	- 4.2
Gregory	5,979	6,710	- 731	-10.9	- 912	-13.6
Haakon	2,781	2,802	- 21	- .7	- 346	-12.3
Hamlin	5,248	5,520	- 272	- 4.9	- 287	- 5.2
Hand	4,956	5,883	- 927	-15.8	- 1,122	-19.1
Hanson	3,385	3,781	- 396	-10.5	- 615	-16.3
Harding	1,691	1,855	- 164	- 8.8	- 265	-14.3
Hughes	14,211	11,632	+2,579	+22.2	+ 1,094	+ 9.4
Hutchinson	9,357	10,379	-1,022	- 9.8	- 1,043	-10.0
Hyde	2,084	2,515	- 431	-17.1	- 530	-21.1
Jackson	3,189	2,920	+ 269	+ 9.2	- 127	- 4.3
Jerauld	2,921	3,310	- 389	-11.8	- 447	-13.5
Jones	1,454	1,882	- 428	-22.7	- 545	-29.0
Kingsbury	6,684	7,657	- 973	-12.7	- 840	-11.0
Lake	10,766	11,456	- 690	- 6.0	- 1,205	-10.5
Lawrence	18,386	17,453	+ 933	+ 5.3	- 217	- 1.2
Lincoln	14,117	11,761	+2,356	+20.0	+ 1,824	+15.5
Lyman	3,853	4,060	- 207	- 5.1	- 598	-14.7
McCook	6,445	7,246	- 801	-11.1	- 842	-11.6
McPherson	4,029	5,022	- 993	-19.8	- 1,002	-20.0
Marshall	5,410	5,965	- 555	- 9.3	- 561	- 9.4
Meade	20,684	17,020	+3,664	+21.5	+ 1,729	+10.2

Mellette	2,214	2,420	- 206	- 8.5	- 465	-19.2
Miner	3,741	4,454	- 713	-16.0	- 715	-16.1
Minnehaha	110,029	95,209	+14,820	+15.6	+ 5,990	+ 6.3
Moody	6,682	7,622	- 940	-12.3	- 1,118	-14.7
Pennington	70,253	59,349	+10,904	+18.4	+ 39	+ .1
Perkins	4,570	4,769	- 199	- 4.2	- 369	- 7.7
Potter	3,686	4,449	- 763	-17.1	- 972	-21.8
Roberts	10,897	11,678	- 781	- 6.7	- 1,447	-12.4
Sanborn	3,206	3,697	- 491	-13.3	- 535	-14.5
Shannon	9,407	8,198	+1,209	+14.7	- 935	-11.4
Spink	9,207	10,595	-1,388	-13.1	- 1,588	-15.0
Stanley	2,542	2,457	+ 85	+ 3.5	- 187	- 7.6
Sully	1,991	2,362	- 371	-15.7	- 575	-24.3
Todd	7,329	6.606	+ 723	+10.9	- 789	-11.9
Tripp	7,162	8,171	-1,009	-12.3	- 1,583	-19.4
Turner	9,260	9,872	- 612	- 6.2	- 468	- 4.7
Union	10,745	9,643	+1,102	+11.4	+ 445	+ 4.6
Walworth	7,006	7,842	- 836	-10.7	- 1,232	-15.7
Yankton	18,933	19,039	- 106	- .6	- 1,398	- 7.3
Ziebach	2,288	2,221	+ 67	+ 3.0	- 323	-14.5

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census
1980 U.S. Census Preliminary Population and Housing Report, South Dakota,
U.S. Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C., December, 1980.

Summary

Findings relative to population change are:

1. State Total: Preliminary reports show South Dakota's population on April 1, 1980, to be 688,217, an increase of 21,960 (3.3%) over the state's 1970 population of 666,257. The population increase during the 1970's represents a reversal from the 1960-1970 period when the state lost 14,257 (2.1%).

2. Counties: Twenty-two of the state's 66 counties increased in population 1970-80 (14 gained in the 1960-70 de-cade). The largest increase was Minnehaha County with 14,820 and the smallest was Buffalo with 56.

3. State Planning Districts: Of the state's six planning districts, two gained popula-tion and four lost during the 1970-80 decade. All six districts lost population in the 1960-70 decade. District III, which includes the Black Hills, had the greatest rate of gain (15%).

Findings relative to net-migration are:

1. State Total: Net migration is calculated to be 28,935 for the 1970-80 decade. This amounts to a loss of 4.3% of the state's 1970 population. The net out-migration for the 1960-70 decade was over 92,000 or 13.6%.

2. Counties: Eleven counties showed net in-migration for the 1970's in contrast to only four in the 1960's. In the main, net in-migration was limited to Black Hills counties and to counties with large cities or adjacent to large cities.

3. State Planning Districts: Two of the six districts had net in-migration. District II, which includes Minnehaha County, had the larger rate. District VI, with Pennington, also had net in-migration.