

8-1-1965

## Where Native South Dakotans Lived in 1960

M. P. Riley

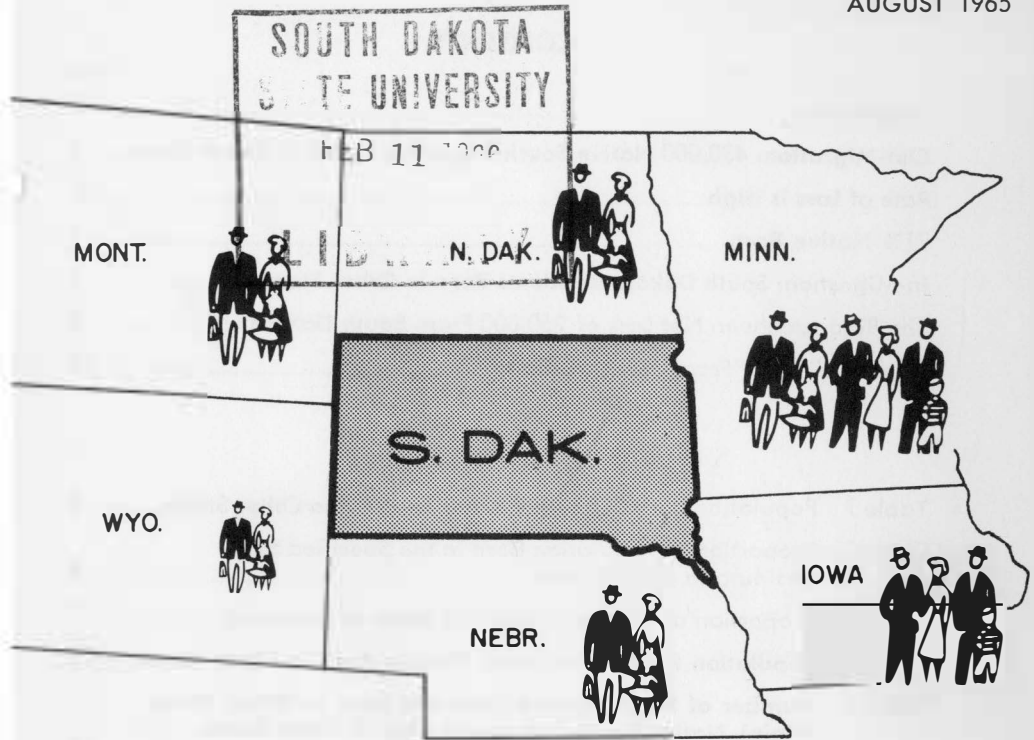
Follow this and additional works at: [http://openprairie.sdstate.edu/agexperimentsta\\_bulletins](http://openprairie.sdstate.edu/agexperimentsta_bulletins)

---

### Recommended Citation

Riley, M. P., "Where Native South Dakotans Lived in 1960" (1965). *Bulletins*. Paper 529.  
[http://openprairie.sdstate.edu/agexperimentsta\\_bulletins/529](http://openprairie.sdstate.edu/agexperimentsta_bulletins/529)

This Bulletin is brought to you for free and open access by the South Dakota State University Agricultural Experiment Station at Open PRAIRIE: Open Public Research Access Institutional Repository and Information Exchange. It has been accepted for inclusion in Bulletins by an authorized administrator of Open PRAIRIE: Open Public Research Access Institutional Repository and Information Exchange. For more information, please contact [michael.biondo@sdstate.edu](mailto:michael.biondo@sdstate.edu).



# WHERE NATIVE SOUTH DAKOTANS LIVED IN 1960

RURAL SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT  
AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION  
SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY, BROOKINGS

630.7  
17 12

## CONTENTS

	Page
Introduction .....	3
Out-Migration: 430,000 Native South Dakotans Reside in Other States..	4
Rate of Loss Is High.....	6
71% Native Born .....	7
In-Migration: South Dakota Residents Born in Other States.....	8
The Balance Sheet: Net Loss of 250,000 From South Dakota .....	8
Ages "To" and "From" South Dakota.....	13

## TABLES AND FIGURES

Table 1	Population Born in South Dakota Residing in Other States.....	4
Table 2	Proportion of Population Born in the Specified State Residing in Other States.....	6
Table 3	Proportion of Population Born in State of Residence .....	7
Table 4	Population Residing in South Dakota Born in Other States....	9
Table 5	Number of South Dakota Residents Born in Other States (Gain), Native South Dakotans Living in Other States (Loss), and Net Difference .....	12
Table 6	Major Age Groups of South Dakota's Resident Population and South Dakota's Native Population Residing in Other States..	14
Map 1	Out-Migration of People Born in South Dakota .....	5
Map 2	In-Migration of People Born in Other States to South Dakota....	10
Map 3	Net Gain or Loss in Population from Other States to South Dakota .....	11
Map 4	Age Structure of South Dakota's Native Population Residing in the Regions of the United States, 1960 .....	15

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:** This bulletin is a part of a larger study of population in South Dakota, Rural Sociology Department, Project No. 222, Experiment Station, South Dakota State University.

The author wishes to acknowledge the work of Mary Diane Eisele, student assistant, in the preparation of maps and tables included in this report.

# Where Native South Dakotans Lived in 1960

MARVIN P. RILEY,  
Associate Professor  
Rural Sociology Department

## INTRODUCTION

"We're from South Dakota" is a statement you frequently hear when traveling in the United States.

In fact, the statement could be made in 1960 by nearly a million people in the United States who had been born in South Dakota.

Not all of these people were residing in South Dakota at that time. The statement could have been made by two groups of people: those who were born in South Dakota and residing in the state in 1960, and those who were born in South Dakota and were then living in some other state. Of the 680,514 people who were residing in South Dakota in 1960, information on their state of birth was available for all but 9,162, or 1.4% unreported.

This publication is a report of an examination of four aspects of South Dakota's native population: (1) the

location in 1960 of the natives of South Dakota; (2) the states from which people have come who now reside in South Dakota; (3) the amount of net gain or loss to South Dakota through interstate migration; and (4) the age structure of the native population born in South Dakota and residing in the different regions of the United States. It is important to point out that the movement of South Dakota's population, either in or out, could have occurred at any time previous to 1960. Thus, undoubtedly, some of the migration may have occurred as early as 1889 or as recently as 1959.

Source: The data in this bulletin were taken from: U. S. Bureau of Census, U. S. Census of Population: 1960, Subject Reports, State of Birth, Final Report, P.C. (2)-2A, and U. S. Bureau of Census, U. S. Census of Population: 1960, South Dakota: General and Economic Characteristics, Final Report, P.C. (1)-43C, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

**OUT MIGRATION:****430,000 Native South Dakotans  
Reside in Other States**

There were 911,440 native South Dakotans living in the United States in 1960. Of this number, slightly over one-half (53%) were residing in South Dakota and 47% had residences outside of the state. The important question is, "Where have the people gone who were born in South Dakota and left the state?" Or putting it another way, "To what states are we losing our native South Dakotans?" In 1960 every state in the Nation had received some of the South Dakota migrants

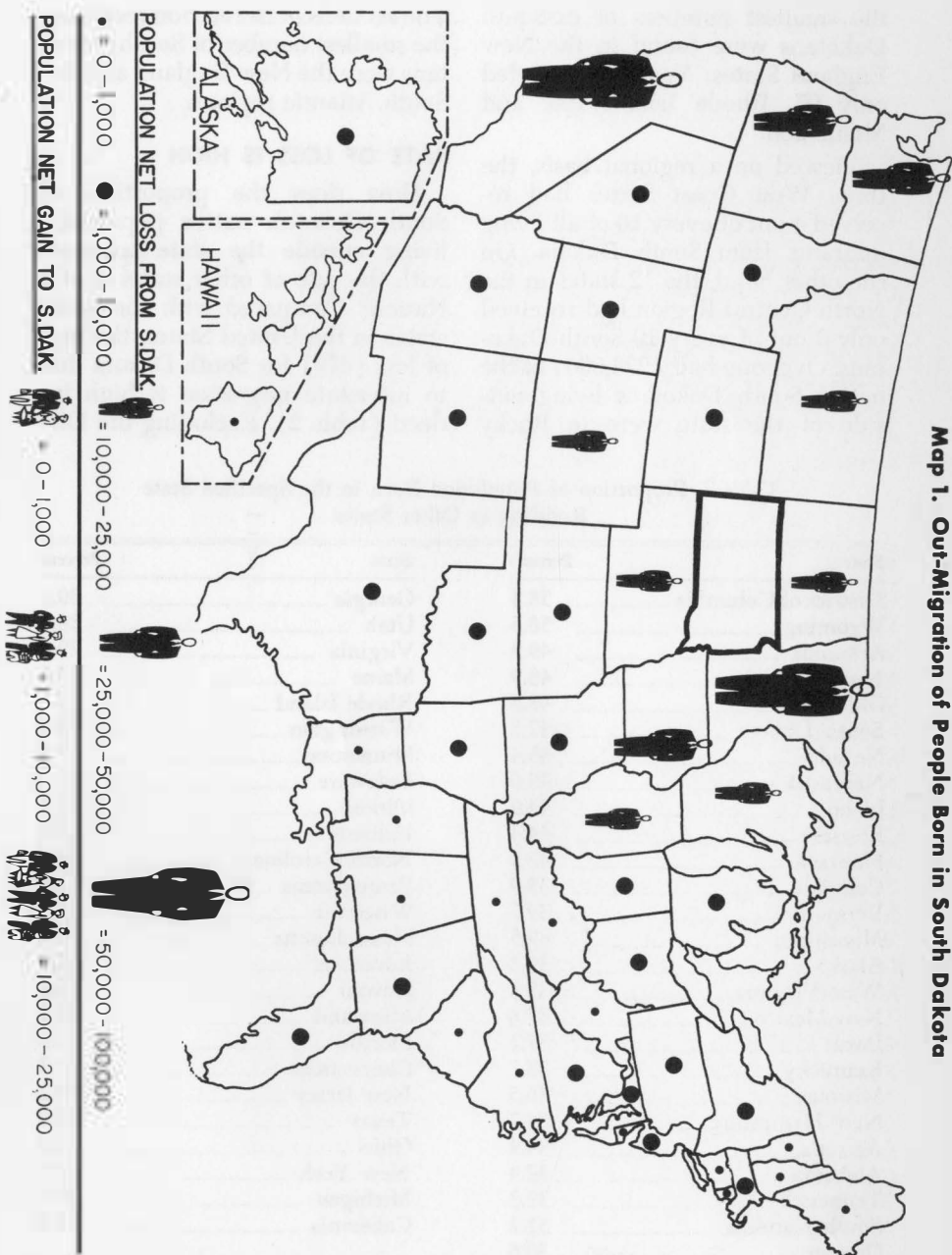
(map 1, table 1). However, the number of native South Dakotans was not evenly distributed among the states.

Thirty-four states had over 1,000 ex-South Dakotans each. California was by far the greatest recipient of former South Dakota people—nearly 99,000. In fact, there were nearly as many native South Dakotans living in California in 1960 as there were people living in the cities of Sioux Falls and Aberdeen. Minnesota had the second largest number with 54,000. Washington was third with 41,000 and Oregon and Iowa tied for fourth and fifth place with

**Table 1. Population Born in South Dakota Residing in Other States**

State	Population	State	Population
California .....	98,854	Maryland .....	2,176
Minnesota .....	53,749	Pennsylvania .....	1,993
Washington .....	40,892	Utah .....	1,959
Oregon .....	25,983	Nevada .....	1,803
Iowa .....	25,976	Alaska .....	1,660
Nebraska .....	17,486	New Jersey .....	1,625
Illinois .....	16,553	Massachusetts .....	1,166
North Dakota .....	13,624	Georgia .....	1,097
Montana .....	13,275	Arkansas .....	1,027
Colorado .....	13,275	Louisiana .....	966
Wisconsin .....	12,484	Tennessee .....	874
Texas .....	8,620	North Carolina .....	852
Michigan .....	8,395	District of Columbia .....	767
Wyoming .....	7,910	Connecticut .....	740
Idaho .....	6,613	Hawaii .....	730
Missouri .....	6,112	Alabama .....	689
Arizona .....	6,058	Kentucky .....	673
Kansas .....	5,690	Mississippi .....	529
Florida .....	4,870	South Carolina .....	516
New York .....	4,503	Maine .....	268
Ohio .....	4,132	West Virginia .....	226
Indiana .....	3,914	New Hampshire .....	225
Oklahoma .....	2,960	Delaware .....	181
Virginia .....	2,858	Rhode Island .....	165
New Mexico .....	2,404	Vermont .....	97
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>430,194</b>		

**Map 1. Out-Migration of People Born in South Dakota**



26,000 each. At the other extreme, the smallest numbers of ex-South Dakotans were found in the New England States: Vermont recorded only 97, Rhode Island 165, and Maine 268.

Viewed on a regional basis, the three West Coast States had received 4 out of every 10 of all living migrants from South Dakota. On the other hand, the 12 states in the North Central Region had received only 3 out of every 10 South Dakotans. Over one-half (223,000) of the native South Dakotans living outside of the state were in Rocky

Mountain and Pacific Coast States. The sections of the Nation receiving the smallest number of South Dakotans were the New England and the South Atlantic regions.

### RATE OF LOSS IS HIGH

How does the proportion of South Dakota's native population living outside the state compare with the rate of other states in the Nation? Compared with the other states in the United States, the rate of loss (47%) for South Dakota due to interstate migration is high indeed (table 2). Excluding the Dis-

Table 2. Proportion of Population Born in the Specified State Residing in Other States

State	Percent	State	Percent
District of Columbia .....	58.8	Georgia .....	30.5
Wyoming .....	50.5	Utah .....	30.4
Arkansas .....	49.9	Virginia .....	29.8
North Dakota .....	48.9	Maine .....	29.1
Oklahoma .....	48.6	Rhode Island .....	28.7
South Dakota .....	47.2	Washington .....	28.6
Nevada .....	45.4	Minnesota .....	27.8
Nebraska .....	45.0	Delaware .....	26.9
Idaho .....	44.9	Illinois .....	25.9
Kansas .....	44.4	Indiana .....	25.5
Montana .....	42.0	North Carolina .....	24.3
Colorado .....	39.9	Pennsylvania .....	24.3
Vermont .....	39.7	Wisconsin .....	22.9
Mississippi .....	39.5	Massachusetts .....	22.7
Alaska .....	39.2	Louisiana .....	22.6
West Virginia .....	38.8	Hawaii .....	21.5
New Mexico .....	37.6	Maryland .....	21.5
Iowa .....	37.1	Florida .....	21.5
Kentucky .....	36.7	Connecticut .....	21.3
Missouri .....	36.5	New Jersey .....	20.2
New Hampshire .....	34.7	Texas .....	20.0
Arizona .....	34.4	Ohio .....	19.8
Alabama .....	32.4	New York .....	19.5
Tennessee .....	32.2	Michigan .....	17.4
South Carolina .....	31.2	California .....	11.9
Oregon .....	30.6		

trict of Columbia, only four other states in the United States in 1960 had larger rates of loss than South Dakota through interstate movement. The five states with the largest rates of loss in the Nation were: Wyoming (51%), Arkansas (50%), North Dakota and Oklahoma (49%), and South Dakota (47%). The state with the smallest rate of loss was California (12%). Michigan (17%) and New York (19%) had next to the smallest. Of the 12 states in the North Central Region, North Dakota had the largest and South Dakota had the second largest rate of loss.

### 71% NATIVE BORN

Over one-half (53%) of all living persons born in South Dakota were residing in the state in 1960. At that time they accounted for 71% of the state's total population. On the other hand, 25% of South Dakota's residents were born in other states. The remaining 4% consisted of persons of foreign birth and persons whose place of birth was unknown.

The proportion of South Dakota's native population residing in the state compared favorably with the figures for other states in the United States (table 3). The average for all states in the Nation was two-thirds

Table 3. Proportion of Population Born in State of Residence

State	Percent	State	Percent
Mississippi .....	86.4	Michigan .....	67.2
Alabama .....	85.0	New York .....	66.8
Kentucky .....	84.1	Illinois .....	66.7
North Carolina .....	83.7	Hawaii .....	66.6
South Carolina .....	82.5	Rhode Island .....	64.9
West Virginia .....	82.2	Kansas .....	64.3
Louisiana .....	81.0	Oklahoma .....	61.8
Georgia .....	80.8	New Hampshire .....	60.0
Pennsylvania .....	80.6	Connecticut .....	59.1
Iowa .....	79.1	Maryland .....	58.3
Wisconsin .....	78.8	New Jersey .....	57.2
Maine .....	77.6	Montana .....	57.0
Tennessee .....	77.3	Delaware .....	54.3
Arkansas .....	76.8	Idaho .....	53.0
Minnesota .....	75.4	New Mexico .....	51.3
North Dakota .....	74.4	Washington .....	47.5
Texas .....	73.4	Colorado .....	47.1
Nebraska .....	72.3	Oregon .....	46.0
Vermont .....	72.1	Wyoming .....	42.7
Utah .....	72.0	California .....	39.9
Massachusetts .....	71.4	Florida .....	36.0
Missouri .....	71.1	Arizona .....	35.5
South Dakota .....	70.7	District of Columbia .....	35.3
Indiana .....	70.1	Alaska .....	30.9
Ohio .....	69.4	Nevada .....	26.2
Virginia .....	68.4		



(66%) of the resident population native to the state. South Dakota ranked twenty-third in the proportion of native resident population in the state (table 3). Mississippi was first with 86% native resident population and Nevada was last with 26%. Within the North Central Region, South Dakota's proportion of native population was smaller than neighboring states to the south, north, and east, and higher than states to the west. Iowa reported 79%, Minnesota 75%, North Dakota 74%, Nebraska 72%, Colorado 47%, and Wyoming 43%.

#### **IN-MIGRATION:**

##### **South Dakota Residents Born in Other States**

An important question concerning the one-fourth of South Dakota's resident population born in other states is, "From which states is South Dakota attracting people?"

The place of birth of the 171,000 people not born in South Dakota but who resided in the state in 1960 was examined. A picture quite different from the out-migration situation was found. As might be expected, the states immediately surrounding and bordering South Dakota had contributed a large number of people to South Dakota (map 2 and table 4). The largest number were from Iowa: 37,286 people born in Iowa were residing in South Dakota. Three other states contributed over 15,000 each. These were: Minnesota with 28,600; Nebraska 21,396; and North Dakota 15,648.

In contrast, California, which received the largest number of South Dakotans, had contributed only

3,798 persons to South Dakota's population. The Mountain and Pacific Coast States, which had received the largest proportion of South Dakotans, had, in turn, contributed only 17,250 people to South Dakota's population. For every six South Dakotans who were going to these states, only one native of these states came the other way. When distance is taken into account, relatively large numbers of people had moved to South Dakota from Pennsylvania, Kentucky, and West Virginia. For these three states three people were moving to South Dakota for every two South Dakotans moving to them. Only a small addition to South Dakota's population was made by the 30 states that contributed less than 1,000 persons each.

#### **THE BALANCE SHEET:**

Net Loss of 250,000 from  
South Dakota

The movement of South Dakotans to other states and natives of other states to South Dakota has resulted in a net loss to South Dakota of 258,665 people (map 3 and table 5). This was over one-third of the total population of South Dakota in 1960. In terms of the history of South Dakota, this loss represented an increase of 90,000 from the 1950 figure when the net loss through interstate movement stood at 166,710. The 1950 figure represented over an 80,000 increase during the preceding 10 years. The net loss reported in the 1940 census was 86,000; whereas, in 1930 we had a net gain of 42,000 people.

Compared to other states in the West North Central Region, the net loss for South Dakota due to interstate migration is high. South Dakota's net loss of 28% ranked second highest; North Dakota was highest losing 35% to other states. The other five states in the West North Central Region had a smaller loss with Minnesota's 10% being the smallest, then Missouri 15%, Kansas 17%, Iowa 23%, and Nebraska 27%.

On the other hand, the proportion of people residing in South Dakota who were born in other states, has gradually decreased throughout the years. According to the 1920 census,

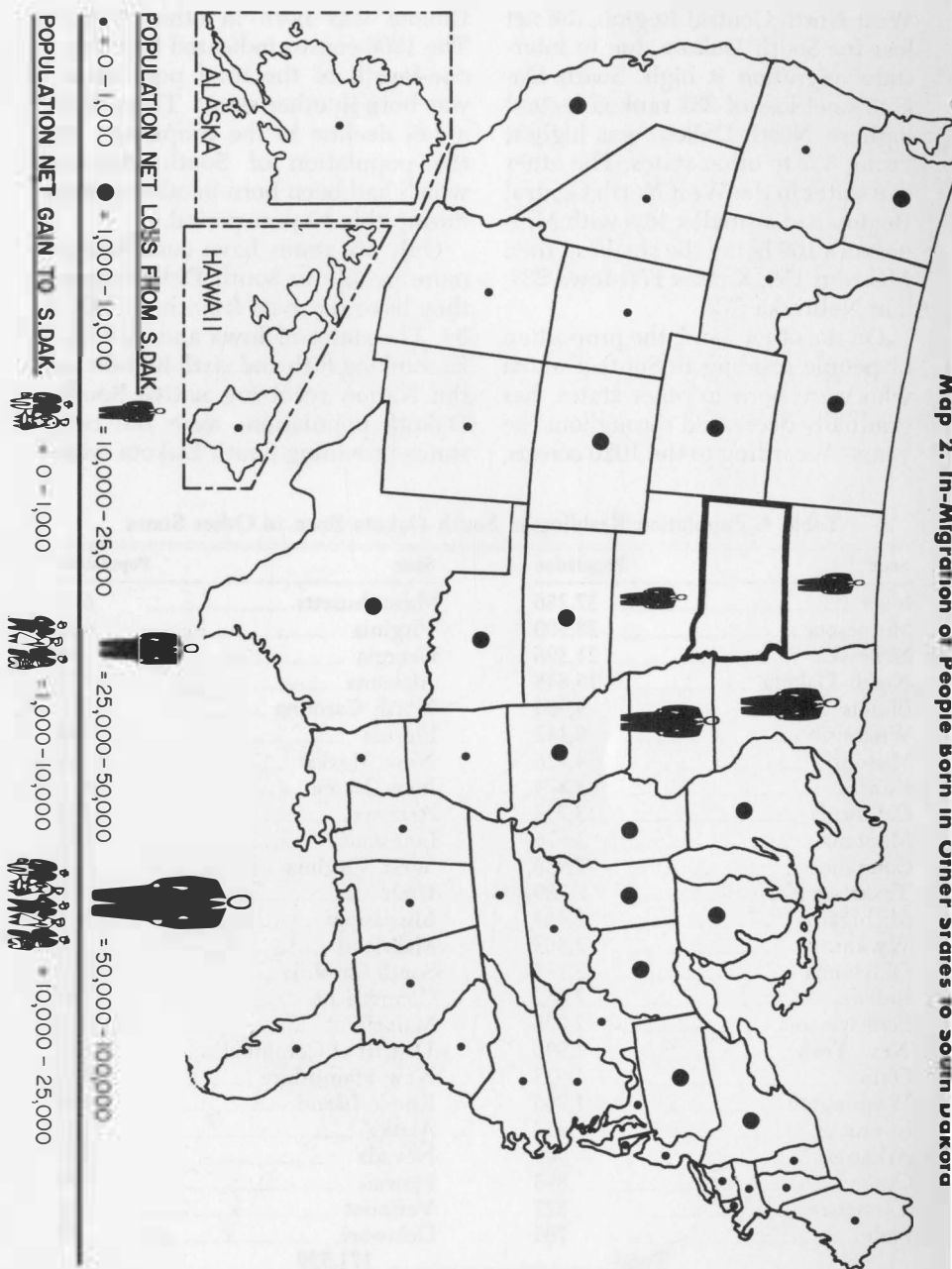
38% of the total population of South Dakota was born in other states. The 1960 census indicated that only one-fourth of the total population was born in other states. There was a 14% decline in the proportion of the population of South Dakota which had been born in other states during this 40-year period.

Only six states have contributed more people to South Dakota than they have received from her (table 5). The states of Iowa and Nebraska, ranking fifth and sixth highest in the Nation receiving native South Dakota population, were the two states providing South Dakota with

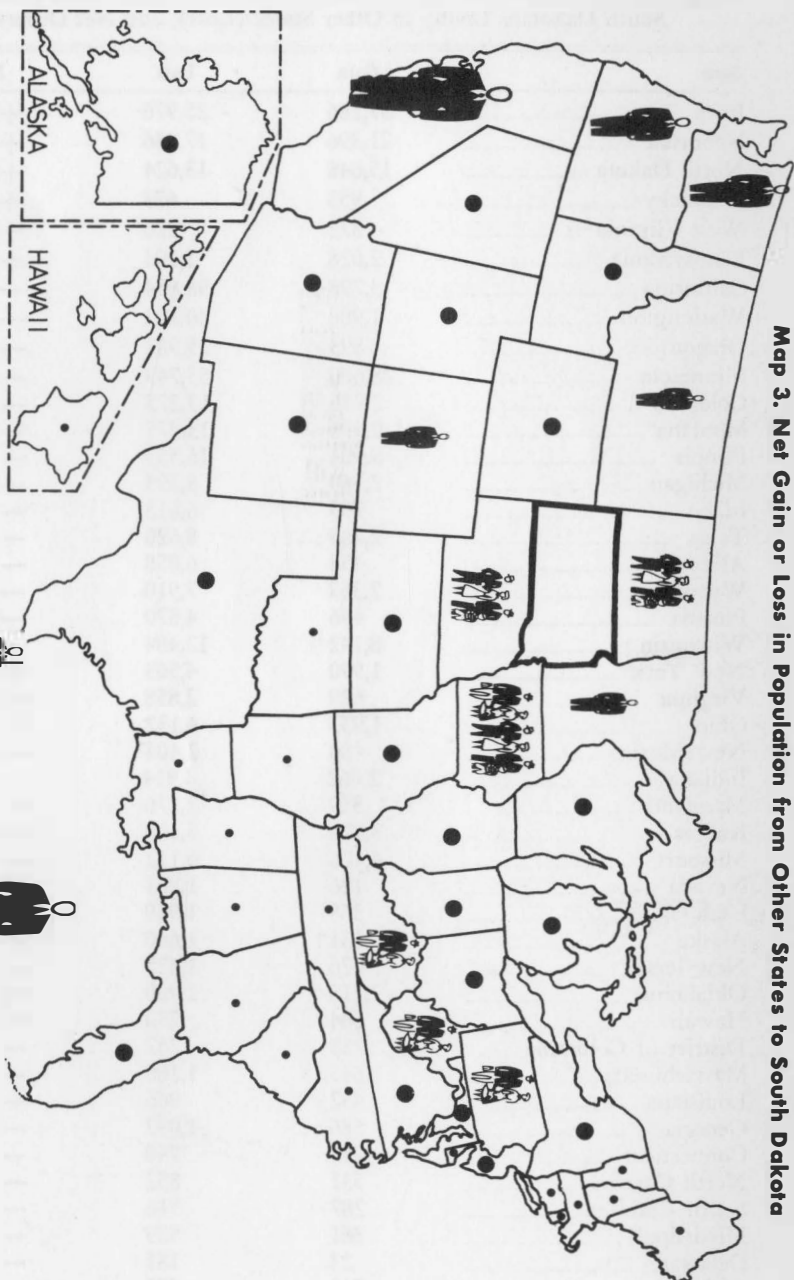
Table 4. Population Residing in South Dakota Born in Other States

State	Population	State	Population
Iowa .....	37,286	Massachusetts .....	645
Minnesota .....	28,600	Virginia .....	620
Nebraska .....	21,396	Georgia .....	586
North Dakota .....	15,648	Alabama .....	542
Illinois .....	9,904	North Carolina .....	531
Wisconsin .....	8,142	Florida .....	496
Missouri .....	4,426	New Mexico .....	486
Kansas .....	3,874	New Jersey .....	476
California .....	3,798	Arizona .....	458
Montana .....	2,976	Louisiana .....	452
Colorado .....	2,936	West Virginia .....	372
Texas .....	2,780	Utah .....	368
Michigan .....	2,464	Mississippi .....	361
Wyoming .....	2,363	Maryland .....	359
Oklahoma .....	2,213	South Carolina .....	287
Indiana .....	2,062	Connecticut .....	255
Pennsylvania .....	2,028	Maine .....	231
New York .....	1,990	District of Columbia .....	223
Ohio .....	1,933	New Hampshire .....	153
Washington .....	1,906	Rhode Island .....	150
Kentucky .....	953	Alaska .....	131
Arkansas .....	909	Nevada .....	126
Oregon .....	893	Hawaii .....	104
Tennessee .....	827	Vermont .....	82
Idaho .....	705	Delaware .....	23
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>171,529</b>		

**Map 2. In-Migration of People Born in Other States to South Dakota**



Map 3. Net Gain or Loss in Population from Other States to South Dakota



POPULATION NET LOSS FROM S. DAK.

• = 0 - 1,000

● = 1,000 - 10,000

● = 10,000 - 25,000

● = 25,000 - 50,000

● = 50,000 - 100,000

POPULATION NET GAIN TO S. DAK.

● = 0 - 1,000

● = 1,000 - 10,000

● = 10,000 - 25,000

Table 5. Number of South Dakota Residents Born in Other States (Gain), Native South Dakotans Living in Other States (Loss), and Net Difference

State	Gain	Loss	Difference
Iowa .....	37,286	25,976	+ 11,310
Nebraska .....	21,396	17,486	+ 3,910
North Dakota .....	15,648	13,624	+ 2,024
Kentucky .....	953	673	+ 280
West Virginia .....	372	226	+ 146
Pennsylvania .....	2,028	1,993	+ 35
California .....	3,798	98,854	— 95,056
Washington .....	1,906	40,892	— 38,986
Oregon .....	893	25,983	— 25,090
Minnesota .....	28,600	53,749	— 25,149
Colorado .....	2,936	13,275	— 10,339
Montana .....	2,976	13,275	— 10,299
Illinois .....	9,904	16,553	— 6,649
Michigan .....	2,464	8,395	— 5,931
Idaho .....	705	6,613	— 5,908
Texas .....	2,780	8,620	— 5,840
Arizona .....	458	6,058	— 5,600
Wyoming .....	2,363	7,910	— 5,547
Florida .....	496	4,870	— 4,374
Wisconsin .....	8,142	12,484	— 4,342
New York .....	1,990	4,503	— 2,513
Virginia .....	620	2,858	— 2,238
Ohio .....	1,933	4,132	— 2,199
New Mexico .....	486	2,404	— 1,918
Indiana .....	2,062	3,914	— 1,852
Maryland .....	359	2,176	— 1,817
Kansas .....	3,874	5,690	— 1,816
Missouri .....	4,426	6,112	— 1,686
Nevada .....	126	1,803	— 1,677
Utah .....	368	1,959	— 1,591
Alaska .....	131	1,660	— 1,529
New Jersey .....	476	1,625	— 1,149
Oklahoma .....	2,213	2,960	— 747
Hawaii .....	104	730	— 626
District of Columbia .....	223	767	— 544
Massachusetts .....	645	1,166	— 521
Louisiana .....	452	966	— 514
Georgia .....	586	1,097	— 511
Connecticut .....	255	740	— 485
North Carolina .....	531	852	— 321
South Carolina .....	287	516	— 229
Mississippi .....	361	529	— 168
Delaware .....	23	181	— 158
Alabama .....	542	689	— 147

**Table 5. Number of South Dakota Residents Born in Other States (Gain), Native South Dakotans Living in Other States (Loss), and Net Difference.—Continued**

State	Gain	Loss	Difference	
Arkansas .....	909	1,027	—	118
New Hampshire .....	153	225	—	72
Tennessee .....	827	874	—	47
Maine .....	231	268	—	37
Rhode Island .....	150	165	—	15
Vermont .....	82	97	—	15
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>171,529</b>	<b>430,194</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>258,665</b>

the largest numbers of their people. Also, they gave South Dakota the largest net gain in population numbers in the exchange taking place through interstate migration of native populations. The West Coast States of California, Washington, and Oregon were the top three in receiving larger numbers of South Dakotans in comparison to the number of the native born from those states who now live in South Dakota. In fact, these three states have received over one-half of the net loss in native population South Dakota has experienced.

#### **AGES "TO" AND "FROM"**

The U. S. Census for 1960 also provided the age of South Dakota resident population and South Dakota migrants who were living in other regions of the Nation. For purposes of comparison, South Dakota's total resident population is divided into two groups: those born in South Dakota, and those born in other states (table 6). The greatest difference between these two groups was on the proportion of children. Those born in South Dakota had 23% more children under 15 years of age than those residents born in other states. On the other

hand, a considerably larger proportion of older adults and aged persons were found in the group of residents born in other states but residing in South Dakota. These differences in the age structure of the two groups suggests that sizeable proportion of the group of South Dakota residents born in other states consisted of settlers that migrated into the state before the 1930's. This interpretation gains support from the fact that for those individuals 65 years and over in the group born in other states the proportion was nearly four times greater than those of that age category born in South Dakota.

An examination of the age structure of those native South Dakotans living in other states indicates that by far the largest proportion is the adult group 15 to 65 years of age (table 6). On a percentage basis, over three-fourths (78%) of this population were in the adult ages, whereas less than three-fifths (56%) of the total South Dakota resident population in 1960 was adult population. In the case of native South Dakotans who were young adults (15-34 years) in 1960, the proportion living outside the state (28%)

was greater than for those residing in South Dakota (26%).

Considering the age of the migrants from South Dakota on a regional basis, not one region contained the proportion of children among its ex-South Dakotans that was found in the resident population of South Dakota (map 4 and table 6). The highest proportion of children occurred in the West South Central States (18%) which was approximately one-half of the proportion in South Dakota (34%). However, in the case of young adults the situation was quite different. All regions contained a proportion of ex-South Dakota young adults greater than that found in South Dakota with the exception of one region which had the same proportion. The largest proportion was found in the East South Central States (37%) in contrast to South Dakota's 25%

(table 6 and map 4). Likewise, all regions had larger proportions of older adults than South Dakota. The largest proportion in this age group was the Pacific and East North Central Regions, both having 54% of the ex-South Dakotans in age group of 35 to 64 years.

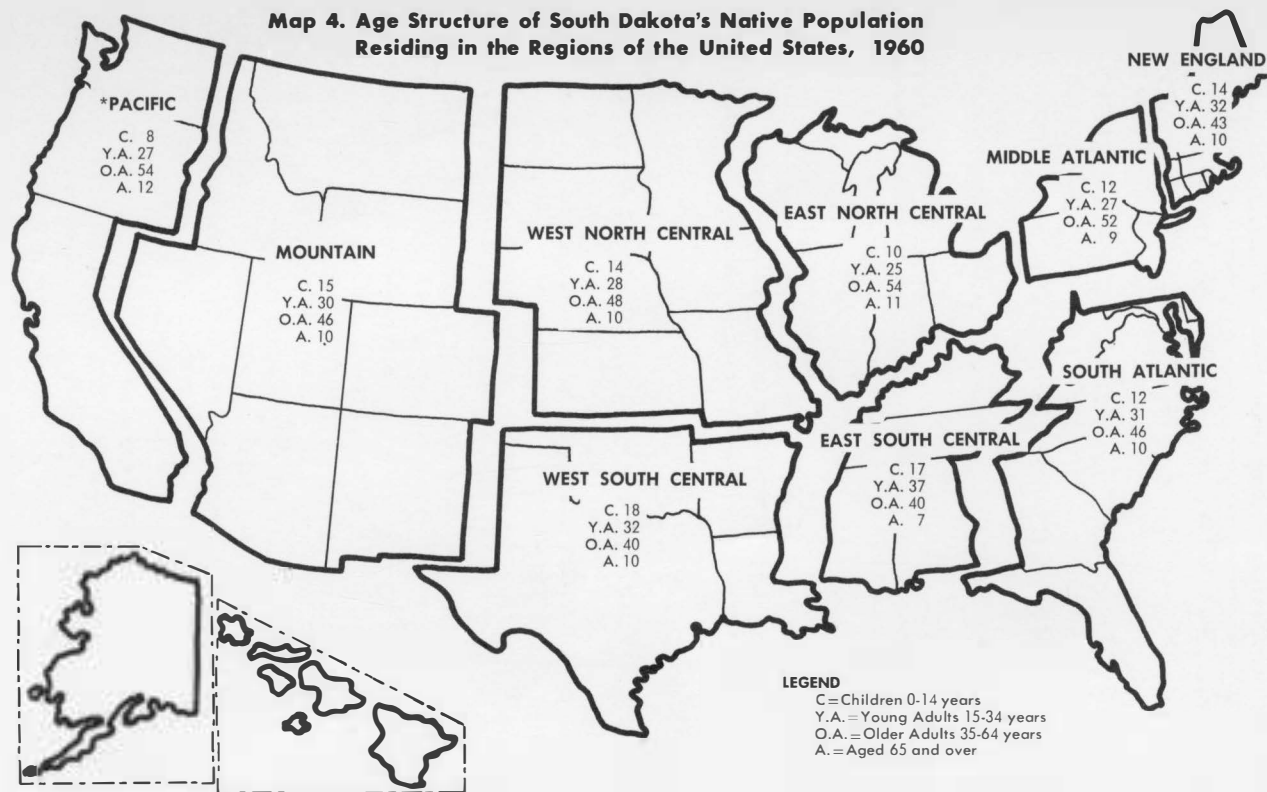
These findings offer strong support to the proposition that the migration of native South Dakotans from the state has not occurred in a random fashion as far as age is concerned. The evidence does give support to the idea that migration from the state has been selective in terms of age. The native South Dakota population residing in other states contains, on the whole, a much smaller proportion of children and a larger proportion of adults and aged population than the native South Dakotans that have remained in the state.

Table 6. Major Age Groups of South Dakota's Resident Population and South Dakota's Native Population Residing in Other States

Age Category	South Dakota Resident Population						South Dakotans	
	State Total		Born in		Born in		Residing	
	Population		South Dakota*		Other States*		in Other States	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0 - 14 (Children)	228,482	34	195,088	41	30,255	18	49,244	12
15 - 34 (Young adults)	169,631	25	124,148	26	42,802	25	119,505	28
35 - 64 (Older adults)	210,888	31	135,652	28	67,857	39	216,334	50
65 and over (Aged)	71,513	10	26,538	5	30,615	18	45,111	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>680,514</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>481,426</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>171,592</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>430,194</b>	<b>100</b>

\* "Foreign-born" and "unreported" not included; therefore, the number totals of these two columns do not equal the total state population.

**Map 4. Age Structure of South Dakota's Native Population  
Residing in the Regions of the United States, 1960**



\*The Pacific region also includes Alaska and Hawaii