

# 10 Leading causes of death among American Indians by year, South Dakota, 2004–2020

Rank	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
1	Heart 93	Heart 85	Injuries 84	Heart 79	Heart 70	Heart 94	Cancer 84	Injuries 81	Cancer 107	Cancer 89	Heart 82	Heart 92	Injuries 97	Injuries 111	Heart 123	Heart 98	COVID-19 206
2	Injuries 92	Cancer 79	Heart 75	Injuries 67	Cancer 64	Injuries 73	Heart 76	Heart 79	Heart 87	Heart 84	Cancer 80	Injuries 92	Heart 90	Heart 103	Cancer 105	Cancer 91	Injuries 122
3	Cancer 75	Injuries 76	Cancer 72	Cancer 61	Injuries 52	Cancer 69	Injuries 72	Cancer 76	Injuries 78	Injuries 73	Injuries 61	Cancer 77	Cancer 86	Cancer 96	Injuries 84	Injuries 91	Heart 117
4	Diabetes 40	Diabetes 47	Liver 38	Diabetes 44	Liver 39	Suicide 33	Diabetes 51	Diabetes 43	Liver 47	Liver 55	Liver 59	Diabetes 53	Liver 58	Liver 62	Liver 79	Liver 64	Liver 109
5	Liver 35	Liver 32	Diabetes 36	Liver 38	Diabetes 33	Liver 30	Liver 29	Liver 37	Diabetes 37	Diabetes 37	Diabetes 42	Liver 52	Diabetes 50	Diabetes 56	Diabetes 70	Diabetes 56	Cancer 101
6	Suicide 23	CLRD 21	Suicide 20	CLRD 19	Suicide 26	Diabetes 27	Suicide 23	Suicide 23	Suicide 19	Suicide 21	Suicide 20	Suicide 47	Suicide 33	Suicide 44	Suicide 34	Suicide 28	Diabetes 82
7	I & P 17	Suicide 17	Stroke 18	Suicide 17	CLRD 25	CLRD 20	CLRD 16	CLRD 21	CLRD 19	Stroke 21	Stroke 20	CLRD 19	I & P 22	CLRD 31	CLRD 25	CLRD 23	Suicide 42
8	CLRD 16	Stroke 13	CLRD 14	Stroke 16	Stroke 16	Stroke 16	Septicemia 14	Stroke 17	Stroke 15	CLRD 15	Septicemia 13	Stroke 16	CLRD 21	Stroke 21	Septicemia 20	Stroke 21	Stroke 31
9	Stroke 15	Homicide 13	Homicide 13	I & P 12	I & P 15	Homicide 16	Stroke 13	I & P 16	I & P 13	I & P 15	CLRD 12	I & P 16	Homicide 18	I & P 18	I & P 16	I & P 17	Homicide 29
10	Homicide 15	I & P 10	Septicemia 10	Septicemia 9	Alcohol 9	Septicemia 10	Kidney 12	Homicide 11	Septicemia 10	Homicide 12	I & P 12	Septicemia 14	Kidney 18	Homicide 11	Stroke 14	Septicemia 16	Septicemia 21
<b>Total</b>	<b>541</b>	<b>511</b>	<b>498</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>493</b>	<b>498</b>	<b>532</b>	<b>524</b>	<b>580</b>	<b>568</b>	<b>560</b>	<b>636</b>	<b>649</b>	<b>714</b>	<b>732</b>	<b>688</b>	<b>1,086</b>
<b>CDR'</b>	<b>856</b>	<b>803</b>	<b>774</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>765</b>	<b>749</b>	<b>820</b>	<b>799</b>	<b>786</b>	<b>888</b>	<b>898</b>	<b>982</b>	<b>1,002</b>	<b>936</b>	<b>1,488</b>
<b>AA DR'</b>	<b>1,584</b>	<b>1,453</b>	<b>1,347</b>	<b>1,392</b>	<b>1,318</b>	<b>1,250</b>	<b>1,339</b>	<b>1,266</b>	<b>1,343</b>	<b>1,322</b>	<b>1,280</b>	<b>1,354</b>	<b>1,406</b>	<b>1,517</b>	<b>1,549</b>	<b>1,392</b>	<b>2,174</b>

Heart: Heart disease  
 CLRD: Chronic lower respiratory disease, (Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)  
 Liver: Chronic liver disease and cirrhosis  
 Kidney: Kidney disease

CDR: Crude death rate per 100,000 population  
 Injuries: Unintentional injuries  
 I & P: Influenza and pneumonia  
 Alcohol: Chronic alcohol abuse

AA DR: Age-adjusted death rate per 100,000 population  
 Kidney: Kidney disease

Local physicians or coroners submit death certificates to the South Dakota Department of Health. Over the past 17 years, 2004-2020, the three most common causes of death were heart disease, cancer, and unintentional injuries. Over this time period, chronic liver disease moved up from generally being the 5<sup>th</sup> leading cause to the 4<sup>th</sup> leading cause. At the same time, diabetes dropped from generally being the 4<sup>th</sup> leading cause to the 5<sup>th</sup> leading cause.

Age-grouped deaths during the 10-year period, 2011-2020, show unintentional injuries as the leading cause of death in children and young adults in all age groups from 1-39 years of age except the 10-19 age group where suicide was the leading cause. Chronic liver disease was the leading cause among 40-49 year olds, while COVID-19 caused more deaths in 2020 for 50-89 year olds than the average of the next highest cause for the previous ten years. Heart disease was most common in the 90+ age group.

Source: Office of Health Statistics, SD Dept. of Health

# 10 Leading causes of death by age group among American Indians, South Dakota, 2011-2020 Average Deaths per Year

Rank	Age Groups											Total
	<1	1-9	10-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-89	90+	
	Yearly Average 21	Yearly Average 10	Yearly Average 19	Yearly Average 42	Yearly Average 62	Yearly Average 80	Yearly Average 124	Yearly Average 119	Yearly Average 108	Yearly Average 67	Yearly Average 23	Yearly Average 674
1	Unintentional Injuries 4	Unintentional injuries 5	Suicide 10	Unintentional injuries 19	Unintentional injuries 16	Chronic liver disease 17	COVID-19 (2020) 32	COVID-19 (2020) 59	COVID-19 (2020) 59	COVID-19 (2020) 26	Heart disease 5	COVID-19 (2020) 206
2	Congenital Malformations 3	Homicide 2	Unintentional injuries 6	Suicide 10	Chronic liver disease 12	COVID-19 (2020) 13	Heart disease 19	Cancer 26	Cancer 26	Heart disease 13	COVID-19 (2020) 3	Heart disease 96
3	Short gestation and low birth weight 3		Homicide 1	Homicide 4	COVID-19 (2020) 11	Unintentional injuries 13	Chronic liver disease 19	Heart disease 23	Heart disease 19	Cancer 12	Chronic lower respiratory diseases 2	Cancer 91
4	SIDS 2			COVID-19 (2020) 3	Suicide 6	Heart disease 10	Cancer 18	Diabetes 12	Diabetes 11	Diabetes 6	Cancer 2	Unintentional injuries 89
5	Unknown causes 2			Chronic liver disease 3	Heart disease 4	Diabetes 7	Unintentional injuries 14	Chronic liver disease 8	Chronic lower respiratory diseases 6	Chronic lower respiratory diseases 4	Influenza & pneumonia 2	Chronic liver disease 62
6	Placenta, cord, and membrane complications 1			Heart disease 1	Diabetes 4	Cancer 5	Diabetes 12	Unintentional injuries 7	Stroke 5	Stroke 3	Dementia, unspecified type 1	Diabetes 53
7					Homicide 3	Suicide 3	Septicemia 3	Chronic lower respiratory diseases 5	Unintentional injuries 4	Influenza & pneumonia 3	Unintentional injuries 1	Suicide 31
8					Cancer 2	Homicide 3	Stroke 3	Stroke 4	Influenza & pneumonia 4	Alzheimer's disease 2	Alzheimer's disease 1	Chronic lower respiratory diseases 20
9					Septicemia 2	Chronic alcohol abuse 2	Chronic alcohol abuse 3	Septicemia 3	Chronic liver disease 3	Kidney disease 2	Diabetes 1	Stroke 19
10					Influenza & pneumonia 1	Septicemia 2	Influenza & pneumonia 3	Influenza & pneumonia 3	Kidney disease 3	Unintentional injuries 2	Stroke 1	Influenza & pneumonia 17

Top 5 causes of death are highlighted.

Source: Office of Health Statistics, SD Dept. of Health