

# South Dakota

## Speed Limits: 1994 and 2004

State	Limited Access Rural Interstates		Limited Access Urban Interstates		Other Limited Access Roads		Truck Speed (Y or N)
	1994	2004	1994	2004	1994	2004	
South Dakota	65	75	65	75	N/A	N/A	Y

South Dakota reported that state highways have a speed limit of 65 mph and county roads have a maximum speed of 55 mph. Trucks have different limits, according to size.

## Speeding-related Data

South Dakota collects speeding-related crash data and speeding-related citation data. The state noted that individual driver citation/driver record information is available but has not been compiled into a statewide statistical report format. South Dakota does not collect aggressive driving data and statutes do not define aggressive driving. The state noted, however, that reckless, careless and overdriving are all considered aggressive.

## Proportion Speeding-related Crashes

Year	Speeding-related Fatal & Injury Crashes (percent)	State Patrol Citations
2003	1,210 (15%)	27,014
2002	1,107 (14%)	27,677
2001	1,177 (14%)	26,673

Information was not available to determine if the speed data show over-representation by any specific geographic area, race, ethnic group, gender, age or other grouping.

## Efforts to Reduce Excessive Speeding

South Dakota provides funding local law enforcement to purchase radar equipment to enhance speeding-related enforcement efforts. Speeding is also a component of all law enforcement grants.

*Operation Safe* is a noticeably successful program that combines public education and awareness activities with saturation patrols. The program has improved the safety of the public even though *Operation Safe* has only been in place for one year.

South Dakota reported a total of \$105,225 or 6 percent of the state's federal highway safety funds were committed to speed reduction efforts in 2003. In 2004, the amount was \$220,000 or 12 percent. South Dakota anticipates expending \$240,000 or 14 percent of funds on speeding-related activities in 2005. The state reported that law enforcement agencies are funded both by state and by local dollars, however, the total amount of state and local funding is not available. South Dakota believes efforts to address speed have been positive.

## Public Perception

South Dakota's state highway safety office felt the motoring public believes police give a 5 mph cushion in enforcing the posted speed limit. The state noted that South Dakota, like most rural states, struggles with large geographic areas and low population densities, miles of roadway and limited number of law enforcement personnel to patrol. Thus public perception of the risk of getting caught while speeding in rural areas is low.