



Graduate Placement Analysis Overview

January 2019

Introduction

What becomes of students who complete degrees at South Dakota public universities? As the state's public universities provide service to the state, it is an important question to ask. The Board of Regents prepares an annual report and maintains a data dashboard¹ analyzing the in-state placement of graduates. Of primary interest is the extent to which university system graduates are hired into the South Dakota workforce one year after graduation or enroll in further collegiate coursework at an in-state institution one year after graduation.

Data Notes

This report uses three data sources: the South Dakota Board of Regents (SDBOR), the South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation (SDDL), and the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC). The analysis focuses on the placement outcomes of undergraduate and graduate degree completers from the FY2016 university system graduation cohort.² In the initial step of the placement search, SDDL employment data systems are queried to determine the first-year job placement outcomes of all recent (FY2016) degree completers identified by SDBOR.³ For each degree completer in the SDBOR dataset, SDDL provides industry and wage data for up to three in-state job placements. Next, the same graduate list is submitted to the NSC to gather enrollment information on any students attempting collegiate coursework after graduation.⁴ The resultant NSC dataset contains institutional information for each student matriculating to an NSC-reporting college or university.

It is important to note that “placement rates” cited in this report do not account for degree completers who are hired out-of-state, are self-employed, are employed by the federal government (including armed services), or are employed or enrolled outside the three-month query window used by SDDL and NSC. It also should be noted that some postsecondary institutions do not

¹ SDBOR Graduate Placement Dashboard is available at <https://www.sdbor.edu/dashboards/Pages/GraduatePlacement.aspx>.

² Fiscal years include data from summer, fall, and spring terms. Consequently, the FY2016 cohort comprises graduates from 2015SU, 2015FA, and 2016SP. Cohort counts may not match Fact Book figures precisely due to differing unduplication procedures; in this analysis, each cohort member is included once per institution per degree per term.

³ For searches performed by both the SDDL and the NSC, matched records are sought for a one-quarter (three-month) window one year following a student's university system graduation date. Any employment/enrollment data returned for this time period – including part-time employment or part-time enrollment – are included in the analysis.

⁴ Approximately 3,600 US postsecondary institutions report enrollment data to NSC. NSC asserts that its data stores account for more than 98 percent of all US college students.

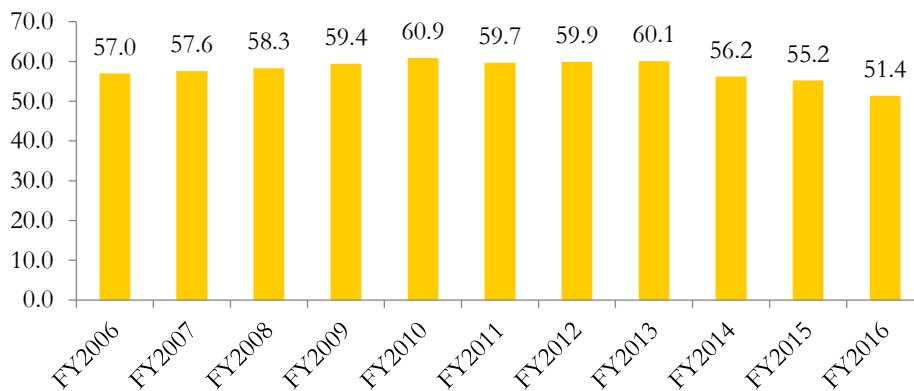
report enrollment information to NSC. The rates presented in this analysis are, then, conservative estimates of actual completer placement.

Overview of University Graduate Placement in South Dakota

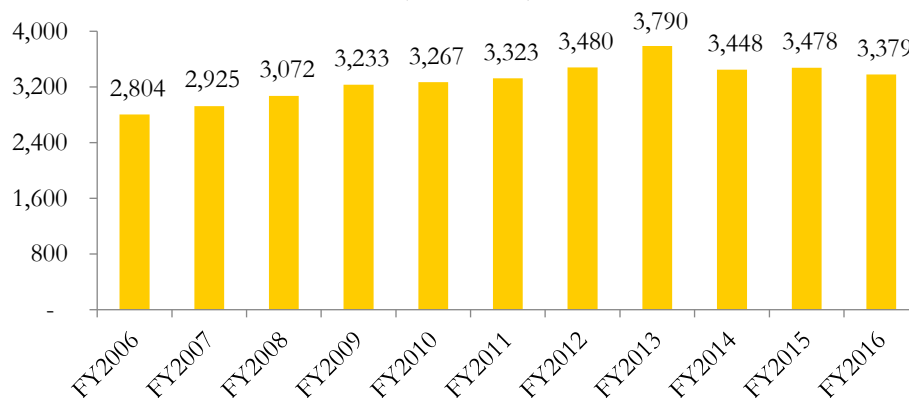
Of those receiving an undergraduate (e.g., bachelor's degree) degree in FY2016 from a South Dakota public university, 54% were either employed in South Dakota or enrolled in graduate school one year after graduation (50% employed, 4% enrolled in graduate school). For all graduates (including those earning undergraduate or graduate degrees), the in-state placement rate is 51.4%. For students originally from South Dakota, 67.1% were placed within the state; for out-of-state students, 28.3% were placed in South Dakota.

The figure below indicates that the FY2016 cohort's in-state placement rate of 51.4 percent is relatively low in comparison to recent years. Yet due to a general increase in cohort size, the number of placed students is significantly larger than a decade ago (600 additional graduates were placed in South Dakota in FY2016 than in FY2006).

**First-Year SD Placement Rates, Trend
(Percentages)**



(Numeric)

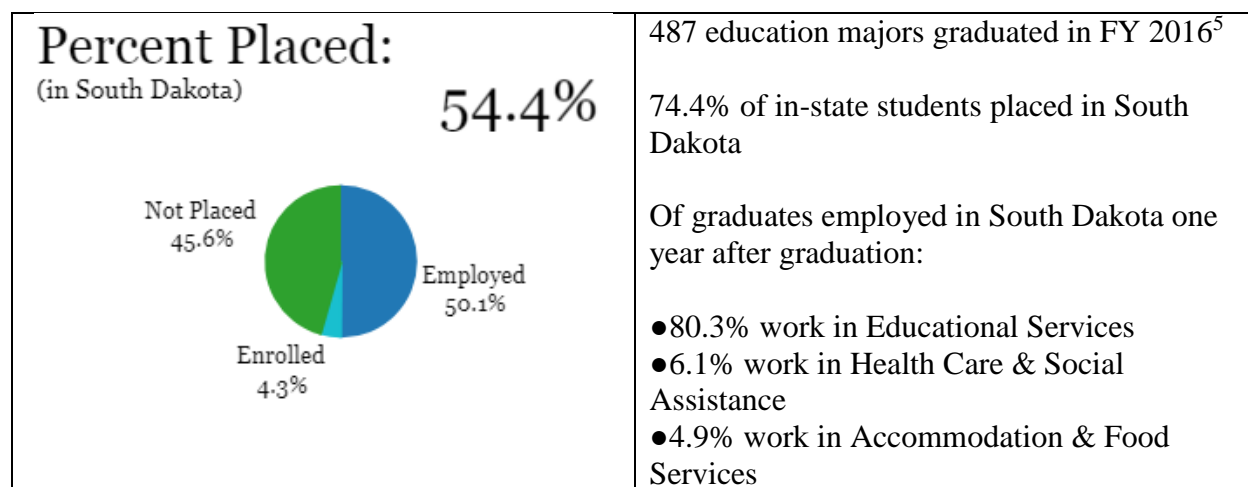


Overview of Education Major Placement

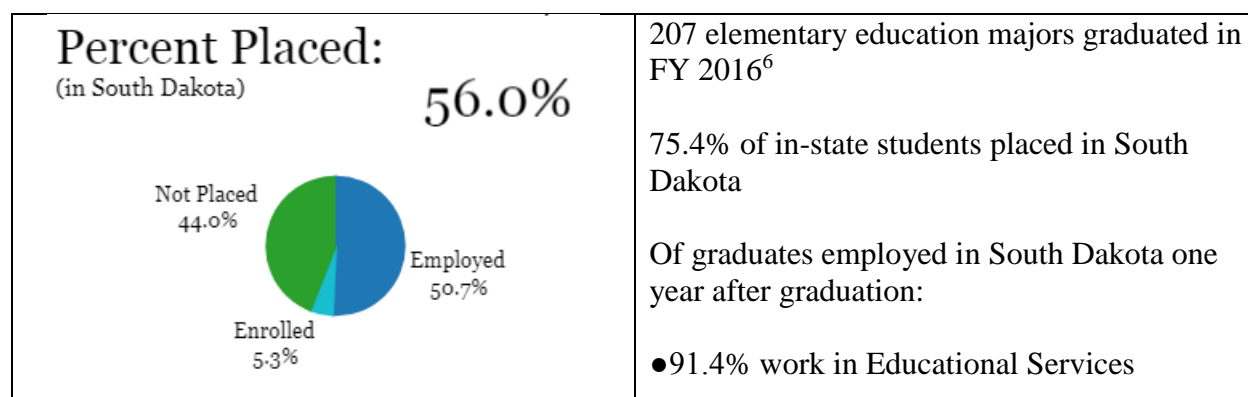
The following charts provide a snapshot of the placement of undergraduate education majors. In addition, the information below provides some additional detail of what industries education majors enter. As these are conservative estimates (see Data Notes), the actual raw numbers and percentages are likely higher than indicated here.

The placement within South Dakota of undergraduate education majors is roughly equal to that of the placement rate for all majors. For graduates originally from South Dakota, the in-state placement rate is slightly higher than that of all majors combined.

EDUCATION MAJOR PLACEMENT (OVERALL)



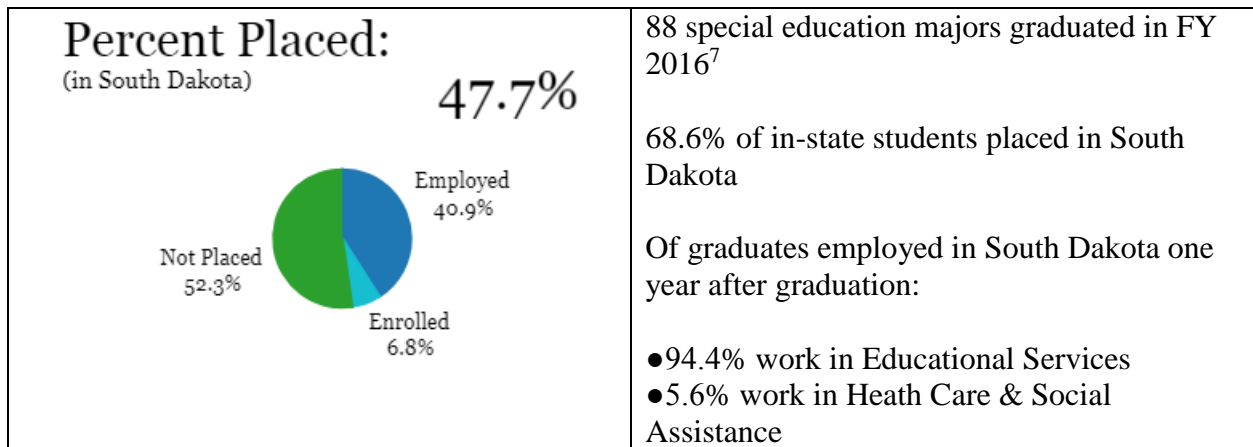
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION MAJOR PLACEMENT



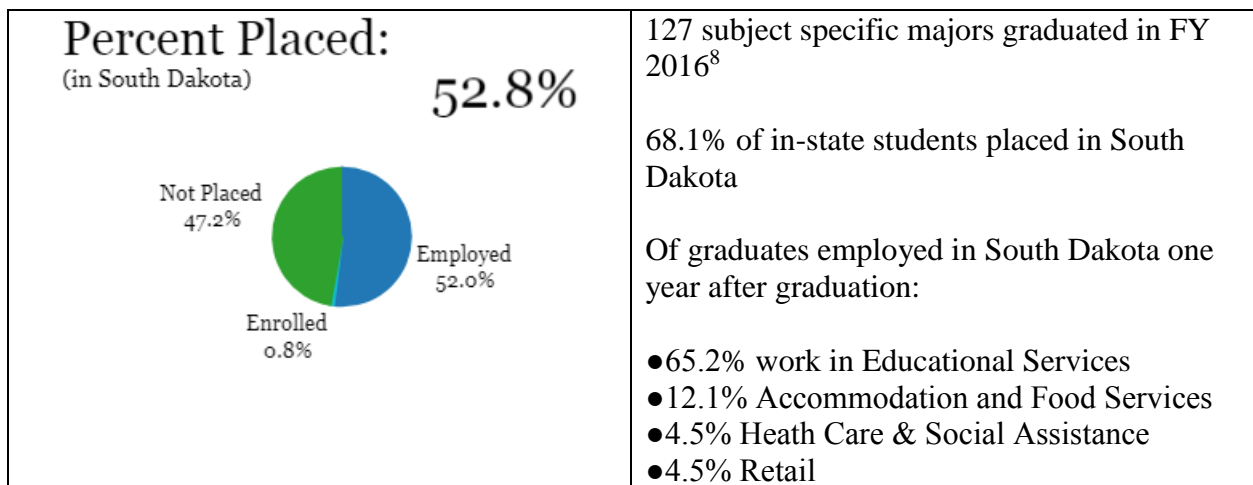
⁵ Majors included in this county include Ag Education/Communication/Leadership, Art Education, Biology Education, Business Education, Composite Early Childhood Education/Special Education, Composite Science Teaching, Composite Math & Science Education, Elementary Education/Special Education, Elementary Education, English Education, Mathematics Education, Music Education, Physical Education, Spanish Education, and Special Education.

⁶ Majors include Elementary Education and Elementary Education/Special Education

SPECIAL EDUCATION MAJOR PLACEMENT



SUBJECT SPECIFIC EDUCATION MAJOR PLACEMENT



⁷ Majors include Special Education and Elementary Education/Special Education.

⁸ Majors include Ag Education/Communication/Leadership, Art Education, Biology Education, Business Education, Composite Science Teaching, Composite Math/Science, Composite Science Education, English Education, Family & Consumer Science Education, History Education, Mathematics Education, Music Education, Physical Education, and Spanish Education.