

on the question of abstention from national daylight saving time. It may be noted that proposals having to do with liquor generally have brought out a high voting level, particularly in recent years.

The constitutional amendment in 1894 to lengthen the term of the superintendent of schools saw only 50.76 percent of the gubernatorial electors voting on the proposal, the lowest level in the state's history.

Fewer than half (44.6%) of all matters referred to the voters have been sustained or approved. The average voting level has been somewhat under eighty percent of the voter turnout for the gubernatorial election. Table 6, relating approval and turnout ratios, indicates a general tendency for approval to be associated with low turnout; note that 24 issues were approved and only six rejected when the turnout ratio was under 70 percent. Conversely, a high turnout most often accompanied popular rejection of a proposal; 49 issues failed while 25 passed when the turnout ratio was above 80 percent. Care must be taken in interpreting such summary remarks. The wording of the proposition may be such that a negative vote will favor adoption of a new policy. To cite a fairly unusual circumstance, in 1968 citizens referred by petition a law passed by the Legislature (pursuant to federal statute) which would have excluded South Dakota from provisions of national daylight saving time. The question before the electorate was whether the state law should be sustained; a "yes" would favor state exclusion, a "no" vote would approve state exclusion and thus favor daylight time. Be that as it may, Table 6 does properly measure the degree to which the electorate approves or rejects legislatively-endorsed constitutional amendments or laws and initiated laws proposed by the populace without legislative action.

Table 7 shows the subjects and results of the elections concerning constitutional amendments and initiated and referred laws in South Dakota since statehood.

Table 6.

Voter Turnout and Approval in General Referenda, 1889-1968.

Voter Turnout**	Voter Approval*				Totals
	Over 60%	50-59.99%	40-49.99%	Under 40%	
+90%	1	1	9	3	14
80-89.99%	11	12	22	15	60
70-79.99%	18	19	32	20	89
60-69.99%	12	6	-	2	20
50-59.99%	4	2	2	2	10
Totals	46	40	65	42	193

\*Number of referenda measures (Constitutional Amendment, Referred Law, or Initiated Law) in various categories of "Yes" ratios.

\*\*Number of referenda measures in various categories of ratios with relation to voter turnout in concurrent gubernatorial election.

TABLE 7. RESULTS OF ELECTIONS CONCERNING STATE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS AND INITIATED AND REFERRED LAWS, 1889-1968.

Year	Subject*	Yes	No	% Yes	Total Votes	Vote Level**
1890	C. Limiting state debt	15,787	50,742	23.72	66,529	85.51
1890	C. Woman suffrage	22,972	45,682	33.46	68,654	88.24
1890	C. Restrict Indian voting	29,053	38,362	43.10	67,415	86.65
1892	C. Legislators' mileage allowance	39,364	11,236	77.80	50,600	71.86
1894	C. Superintendent of Schools' term	11,241	27,705	28.86	38,946	50.76
1894	C. Woman suffrage in school elections	17,010	22,682	42.85	39,692	51.74
1894	C. Homesteads exempt from court orders	10,733	29,315	26.80	40,048	52.20
1896	C. Increase local debt limit	28,490	14,789	65.82	43,279	52.28
1896	C. Abolish Regents' Board of Trustees	31,061	11,690	72.66	42,751	51.65
1896	C. Render monopolies illegal	36,763	9,136	80.01	45,899	55.45
1896	C. Repeal prohibition	31,901	24,910	56.15	56,811	68.63
1898	C. Woman suffrage	19,698	22,983	46.15	42,681	56.75
1898	C. State control of liquor	22,170	20,557	51.89	42,727	56.80
1898	C. Initiative and referendum	23,816	16,483	59.10	40,299	53.59
1900	C. Investment of school funds by counties	49,989	15,653	76.15	65,642	68.70
1900	C. Repeal state control of liquor	48,673	33,927	58.93	82,600	86.46
1902	C. County seat relocation	36,436	14,612	71.38	51,048	68.56
1902	C. Lower interest rate on school funds	46,472	9,001	83.77	55,473	74.50
1902	C. Increase municipal debt for street railways and lighting	32,810	13,599	70.70	46,409	62.34
1904	C. Attorney general's salary	32,328	43,974	43.37	76,302	76.01
1904	C. Move state capitol to Mitchell	41,155	58,617	41.25	99,772	99.38

Year	Subject*	Yes	No	% Yes	Total Votes	Vote Level**
1904	C. Investment of school money	38,681	21,424	64.36	60,105	59.87
1906	C. Qualifications for Superintendent of Schools	35,806	15,971	69.15	51,777	69.43
1906	C. Municipal courts in larger cities	29,417	18,755	61.07	48,172	64.60
1906	C. Assessments for agricultural drainage	31,151	18,799	62.36	49,950	66.98
1906	C. Twine plant at Penitentiary	33,285	19,895	62.44	53,180	71.32
1908	C. Revise taxation articles	34,915	47,732	42.24	82,647	72.56
1908	C. Attorney general's salary	43,908	52,437	45.57	96,345	84.58
1908	I. Local liquor option	39,075	41,405	48.55	80,480	70.66
1908	R. Action for divorce	60,211	38,794	60.82	99,005	86.92
1908	R. Protection of quail	65,340	32,274	66.94	97,614	85.70
1908	R. Against Sunday performance	48,378	48,006	50.19	96,384	84.62
1910	C. School land use	48,152	44,220	52.13	92,372	87.30
1910	C. Attorney general's salary	35,932	52,397	40.68	88,329	83.48
1910	C. Woman suffrage	35,290	57,709	37.95	92,999	87.89
1910	C. Add to debt for school construction	32,613	52,243	38.43	84,856	80.19
1910	C. Change state tax structure	29,830	52,943	36.04	82,773	78.23
1910	C. People must approve new institutions	36,128	47,625	43.14	83,753	79.15
1910	R. Require headlights on locomotives	37,914	49,938	43.16	87,852	83.03
1910	R. Removal of state and local officers	32,160	52,152	38.14	84,312	79.68
1910	R. Embalmers	34,560	49,496	41.12	84,056	79.44
1910	R. Setting up congressional districts	26,918	48,883	35.51	75,801	71.65
1910	R. Militia	17,852	57,440	23.71	75,292	71.16
1912	C. Uniform taxation of corporations	70,686	31,110	69.44	101,796	86.40
1912	R. Require headlights on locomotives	93,136	20,523	81.94	113,659	96.46
1912	R. Damages for trespass of animals	56,782	30,643	64.95	87,425	74.20
1912	R. Prescribe how county seats may be removed	49,373	27,179	64.50	76,552	64.97
1912	I. Richards primary election law	58,139	33,256	63.61	91,395	77.57
1914	C. Lengthen legislative term to four years	29,746	45,051	39.77	74,797	75.44
1914	Call constitutional convention	34,832	51,585	40.31	86,417	88.05

Year	Subject*	Yes	No	% Yes	Total Votes	Vote Level**
1914	C. Reduce interest on purchase of school lands	45,554	35,102	56.48	80,656	81.35
1914	C. Superintendent of Schools' term	32,092	45,733	41.24	77,825	78.50
1914	C. Initiative and referendum in municipalities	28,226	43,162	39.54	71,388	72.01
1914	C. Changes in State Institutional Boards	29,601	44,107	40.16	73,708	74.35
1914	C. Woman suffrage	39,605	51,519	43.46	91,124	91.91
1914	C. Disqualification of Supreme Court judges	36,317	36,543	49.84	72,860	73.49
1914	C. State control and promotion of irrigation	32,958	40,457	44.89	73,415	74.05
1914	I. Local liquor option	38,000	51,779	42.33	89,779	90.56
1914	I. Coffey primary election law	37,106	44,679	45.37	81,785	82.49
1914	R. Course of study in Northern Normal School	27,538	49,382	35.80	76,920	77.58
1916	C. State construction and maintenance of irrigation	58,775	44,238	57.06	103,013	80.15
1916	C. Increase certain state salaries	39,169	61,223	39.02	100,392	78.11
1916	C. Prohibition	65,334	53,380	55.03	118,714	92.37
1916	C. Abolish five-year lease limit on school lands	41,379	61,798	40.10	103,177	80.28
1916	C. Allow rural credits system on real estate security	57,569	41,957	57.84	99,526	77.44
1916	C. Woman suffrage	53,432	58,350	47.80	111,782	86.97
1916	C. Change state revenue and finance structure	43,793	55,568	44.07	99,361	77.31
1916	C. Change number of members in constitutional convention	35,377	56,432	38.53	91,809	71.44
1916	C. Allow state to supply coal and build and maintain roads	75,922	33,521	69.37	109,443	85.16
1916	I. Richards primary law	52,410	52,733	49.85	105,143	81.81
1916	R. Issuance of liquor permits	49,174	54,422	47.47	103,596	80.61
1916	I. Create Department of Banking and Finance	47,715	52,205	47.75	99,920	77.74
1916	I. Create state banking board	47,925	50,226	48.83	98,151	76.37

Year	Subject*	Yes	No	% Yes	Total Votes	Vote Level**
1916	R. Five-sixths of jury may render verdict	49,601	51,529	49.05	101,130	78.69
1918	C. Replacement of disqualified Supreme Court judges	41,646	24,778	62.70	66,424	69.08
1918	C. Woman suffrage	49,318	28,934	63.02	78,252	81.37
1918	C. Reduce down payment on sale of school lands	45,809	21,855	67.70	67,664	70.37
1918	C. Graduated individual income tax	50,970	25,047	67.05	76,017	79.05
1918	C. Allow state works of internal improvement	42,097	24,424	63.28	66,521	69.18
1918	C. Allow state to go in debt for state development	34,821	27,886	55.53	62,707	64.47
1918	C. Allow state to develop and supply water power	41,658	24,429	64.00	65,087	76.79
1918	C. Allow state to manufacture and sell cement	38,108	25,702	59.72	63,810	66.36
1918	C. Increase certain state salaries	26,784	42,779	38.50	69,563	72.34
1918	C. Allow state to enter hail insurance business	41,162	25,896	61.38	67,058	69.74
1918	C. Allow state to build and operate grain elevators and warehouses and enter flour and meat-packing business	41,292	25,545	61.78	66,837	69.50
1918	C. Allow state to mine and sell coal	40,632	25,922	61.05	66,554	69.21
1918	I. Richards primary election law	47,891	34,705	58.00	82,596	85.87
1920	C. Replace State Board of Charities and Corrections	60,763	77,285	44.02	138,048	75.07
1920	C. Allow Legislature to fix state salaries	70,831	77,987	47.60	148,818	79.19
1920	C. Allow cities to incur added debt for street railways and lighting	66,734	72,226	48.02	138,960	75.57
1920	C. Allow state credits for home-building	80,062	61,674	56.49	141,736	77.09
1920	C. Provide soldiers' bonus	93,459	56,366	61.38	149,825	81.47

Year	Subject*	Yes	No	% Yes	Total Votes	Vote Level**
1920	R. Amend prohibition laws	75,860	87,986	46.30	163,846	89.10
1920	I. Primary election law	65,107	82,012	44.25	147,119	80.00
1922	C. Increase signatures needed to invoke initiative or referendum	49,019	96,201	33.75	145,220	82.72
1922	C. Allow legislature to organize counties	30,110	113,170	21.01	143,280	81.68
1922	C. Allow special assessments on land subject to river drainage	33,937	106,144	24.23	140,081	79.85
1922	C. Allow legislature to fix state salaries	41,343	110,215	27.29	151,558	86.39
1922	I. Build and operate state hydro-electric power plants and transmission systems	55,563	106,409	34.30	161,972	92.33
1922	I. Abolish state constabulary	64,221	96,241	40.02	160,462	91.47
1922	I. Against Sunday performances	56,320	99,848	36.06	156,168	89.02
1922	I. Establish state owned banks	33,032	122,807	21.20	155,839	88.83
1922	I. Moving state university from Vermillion to Sioux Falls	11,863	141,973	7.69	153,836	87.69
1924	Call constitutional convention	60,235	117,086	33.97	177,321	86.95
1924	R. Attaching Todd to Tripp County	68,463	89,440	43.36	157,903	77.42
1924	R. Nonpolitical judicial elections	54,966	102,339	34.94	157,305	77.13
1924	R. Primary elections law	54,163	102,240	34.63	156,403	76.69
1924	R. Amend public warehouses law	45,974	107,859	29.80	153,833	75.43
1926	C. Increase state salaries	55,670	117,866	32.02	173,536	94.40
1926	R. Repeal depositors guarantee fund	79,823	95,830	45.44	175,653	95.55
1930	C. Permit suspension of sentence on first conviction	81,697	76,358	51.69	158,055	77.78
1930	C. Give fines to county where collected	88,092	68,434	56.28	156,526	77.02
1930	C. Allow legislature to classify property for school taxation	81,870	69,414	54.12	151,284	74.44
1930	C. Local taxing districts may tax rural credit lands	101,527	55,100	64.82	156,627	77.07

Year	Subject*	Yes	No	% Yes	Total Votes	Vote Level**
1930	C. Allow Legislature to fix state salaries	67,165	81,797	45.09	148,962	73.30
1930	R. Provide for registration tax on motor vehicles	46,109	142,425	24.46	188,534	92.77
1932	C. Extend terms of superintendents of schools	98,033	138,684	43.24	226,714	79.80
1932	C. Allow Legislature to fix state salaries	106,585	108,184	49.63	214,769	75.59
1932	R. Change normal schools to teachers' colleges	86,253	147,303	36.93	233,556	82.20
1932	R. Impose 10 cents per pound tax on butter substitutes	152,638	84,750	64.30	237,388	83.55
1934	C. Prohibit state from extending credit or engaging in new works of internal improvement, excepting highways	113,717	121,918	48.26	235,635	80.18
1934	C. Repeal prohibition	142,853	108,648	56.80	251,501	86.57
1934	R. Abolish railroad commission and create a utility commission	106,844	157,836	41.95	254,680	86.66
1936	C. Reduce Legislature's membership and provide for reapportionment	125,597	92,961	57.47	218,558	74.36
1936	C. Limit State Treasurer to two terms and make election of Superintendent of Public Instruction non-partisan	137,247	82,611	62.42	219,858	74.80
1936	C. Make election of Superintendents of Schools non-partisan and extend terms	134,836	82,647	62.00	217,483	73.10
1936	C. Allow state to engage in internal improvements, with debt limit of 0.5 percent of state properties	109,703	94,571	53.70	204,274	69.50
1936	C. Make state bank shareholders and stockholders individually responsible, unless bank is FDIC member	109,154	96,760	53.27	204,914	69.73

Year	Subject*	Yes	No	% Yes	Total Votes	Vote Level**
1938	C. Increase Legislature's membership	60,428	166,326	26.65	226,754	81.90
1938	R. Abolish Unemployment Compensation Commission	106,493	118,007	47.44	224,500	81.09
1940	C. Provide that motor vehicle and gasoline taxes go to highways	142,782	109,259	56.65	252,041	82.88
1940	C. Allow governor to make appointments to fill legislative vacancies	97,748	140,564	41.03	238,213	78.33
1940	C. Reduce interest required on county investment of permanent school funds	93,013	149,486	38.36	242,499	79.74
1940	R. Abolish Unemployment Compensation Commission	117,722	121,786	49.15	239,508	78.76
1942	C. Increase salary of governor and judges	55,773	84,920	39.64	140,693	78.82
1942	C. Change investment restriction on permanent school funds	40,951	85,907	32.28	126,858	71.07
1942	C. Channel endowment land lease money to school districts in proportion to school tax	43,009	80,556	34.81	123,565	69.23
1942	C. Channel lease money or land income to school districts in proportion to school tax	44,508	77,922	36.35	122,430	68.59
1942	C. Increase salary of Supreme Court judges	39,969	85,206	31.93	125,175	70.13
1942	R. Create state oil and gas bond	66,585	67,038	49.83	133,623	74.86
1944	C. Restrict loans on educational funds to one-third of value	77,021	92,842	45.34	169,863	74.86
1944	C. Reclassify educational and charitable institutions	86,392	72,253	54.46	158,645	69.92
1946	C. Allow Legislature to fix state salaries	86,496	48,911	63.88	135,407	83.44
1946	C. Include Right to Work in Bill of Rights	93,035	39,257	70.32	132,292	81.51

Year	Subject*	Yes	No	% Yes	Total Votes	Vote Level**
1946	C. Require only two readings before passage of legislative act	85,975	39,404	68.57	125,379	77.26
1946	R. Regulate hospitals and related institutions	89,638	52,316	63.14	141,954	87.47
1948	C. Grant World War II veterans' bonus	120,462	76,636	61.12	197,098	80.33
1948	C. Provide legislative reapportionment in 1951 and every ten years thereafter	111,674	69,402	61.67	181,076	73.84
1948	C. Allow governor to make appointments to fill legislative vacancies	103,396	78,505	56.84	181,901	74.13
1948	C. Allow lessees of school and public lands an option on new lease	95,949	85,378	52.91	181,327	73.90
1948	C. Allow local units on tax state public shooting areas	106,458	71,942	59.67	178,400	72.71
1948	R. Prescribe age of liquor sold and size of container	106,271	119,743	47.02	226,014	92.11
1948	I. Prohibit sale of liquor where food is sold	110,017	127,615	46.30	237,632	96.84
1950	C. Provide legislative reapportionment in 1951 on basis of 1950 census	92,512	106,203	46.56	198,715	78.45
1950	C. Limit school district indebtedness to ten percent of assessed property value	75,191	120,032	38.52	195,223	77.01
1950	C. Transfer educational fund investments to Commissioner of School and Public Lands	84,804	104,960	44.69	189,764	74.91
1950	C. Allow county officials to succeed themselves indefinitely	83,505	112,851	42.53	196,356	77.69
1950	I. Prohibit sale of liquor where food is sold	108,855	138,959	43.93	247,814	97.83
1952	C. Reduce voting age to 18 years	128,231	128,916	49.87	257,147	88.82

Year	Subject*	Yes	No	% Yes	Total Votes	Vote Level**
1952	C. Restrict investment of educational funds to governmental bonds	116,463	112,290	50.95	228,753	78.95
1952	C. Change composition of Board of Pardons	110,213	114,142	49.12	224,355	77.49
1954	C. Pooling of oil, gas and mineral lease money of school and public lands	122,804	64,431	65.59	187,235	79.25
1954	C. Increasing school district debt limit to ten percent of assessed property value	96,370	87,265	52.48	183,635	77.73
1954	C. Allow county sheriffs to succeed themselves	97,059	93,073	51.05	190,132	80.48
1954	C. Assessment and taxation of agricultural lands	75,830	96,499	44.00	172,329	72.94
1956	C. Allow county officials to succeed themselves indefinitely	128,447	133,273	49.09	261,720	89.62
1956	R. Administration of state soldiers' home	127,392	132,475	49.02	259,867	88.99
1958	C. Municipal home rule	94,599	104,138	47.60	198,737	76.82
1958	C. Exempt public highway property from taxation	110,565	89,347	55.31	199,912	77.42
1958	C. Change in gubernatorial succession	120,511	76,628	61.13	197,139	76.35
1958	C. Reduce voting age to 18 years	71,033	137,942	33.99	208,975	80.93
1958	C. Maintain old voting residence in state until new one acquired	127,541	71,675	64.02	199,216	77.15
1960	C. Allow county officers to succeed themselves indefinitely	133,954	115,915	53.61	249,869	82.02
1960	C. Allow no county more than two senators	112,573	124,455	47.49	237,028	77.81
1960	C. Constitute a Board of Pardons and Paroles	131,185	99,832	56.78	231,017	75.84
1960	C. Provide for continuity of state operations in event of emergency caused by enemy attack	165,290	65,018	71.77	230,308	75.60

Year	Subject*			% Yes	Total Votes	Vote Level**
		Yes	No			
1962	C. Taking private property for public use	99,119	97,456	50.42	196,575	71.69
1962	C. Annual legislative session	101,548	88,118	53.54	189,666	74.05
1962	C. Home rule for municipalities	95,737	87,888	52.14	183,625	71.69
1964	C. Amendment notification	117,317	123,504	48.72	240,821	82.88
1964	C. County offices	120,998	118,973	50.42	239,971	82.59
1964	C. Property classification	98,454	132,235	42.68	230,689	79.39
1964	R. Indian jurisdiction	58,289	201,389	22.45	259,678	89.37
1964	R. Unemployment compensation	107,515	132,296	44.88	239,811	82.53
1964	R. Voter registration	98,544	140,199	41.28	238,743	82.16
1966	C. Reclassifying farm property	92,235	87,833	51.22	180,068	78.90
1966	C. Allowing counties to eliminate county superintendent	101,090	78,499	56.29	179,589	78.69
1966	C. Changing county court systems	105,554	69,391	60.34	174,945	76.66
1968	C. School land sales	110,327	118,202	48.28	228,529	82.53
1968	C. Building authority/debt limit	80,670	138,153	36.87	218,823	79.02
1968	C. Powers of retired judges	109,065	113,398	49.03	222,463	80.34
1968	C. Reinvestment of school funds	116,403	101,684	53.37	218,087	78.76
1968	C. Appointive Superintendent of Public Instruction	72,514	148,618	32.79	221,132	79.86
1968	R. Abstain from daylight time	108,712	158,637	40.66	267,349	96.55
1968	R. School district reorganization	120,336	118,631	50.36	238,967	86.30

\*"C" indicates a proposed constitutional amendment, "I" an initiated measure, and "R" a referred measure.

\*\*The vote level for each measure is the ratio of the total votes cast to the number of votes cast in the concurrent gubernatorial election.

Sources: South Dakota Session Laws, editions of 1889 through 1968; South Dakota Legislative Manual, editions of 1895 through 1967; Francis Neal Sever, "Amending the South Dakota Constitution," unpublished bachelor's thesis, University of South Dakota, 1951; and Douglas A. Leafstedt, "Statistical Analysis of Elections Concerning Constitutional Amendments and Initiated and Referred Laws in South Dakota, 1889-1960," unpublished seminar paper, University of South Dakota, 1962.

## A Survey of Elections, 1889-1968

The first reference table in this chapter shows for each county the Republican percentage of the major-party vote in gubernatorial elections from statehood through the election of 1926.

After this, brief summaries of each biennial election from 1928 through 1968 are presented. Names of candidates for each national or statewide partisan office are given, along with the votes each received in the state.

Following the capsule summaries is a second large reference table showing for each county the Republican percentage of the major-party vote in major elections (president, governor, U. S. senator, and U. S. representatives) for the period 1928 through 1968.

The concluding section of this chapter compares the counties on the basis of party strength.

## South Dakota Constitutional Amendments, Initiatives and Referendums

### 1970

	YES	NO
Amendment A - Residency Requirements	110,266	92,354
B - Initiative and Referendum	58,605	132,992
C - Retired Judges	111,040	82,980
D - Games of Chance	117,269	81,746
E - 4 Year Terms	94,108	101,497
F - Voting Age	78,320	117,367
G - Presidential Elections	115,292	74,528
H - School Lands	65,189	118,306
I - Constitutional Revision	69,459	111,427
Initiated Measure #1 - Fluoridation	104,430	111,568
#2 - Income Tax	85,812	134,410

### 1972

Amendment A - Voting Age	206,170	75,765
B - Executive Reorganization	182,248	96,914
C - Judicial Reorganization	177,235	89,358
D - Local Government Reorganization	152,474	107,296
E - Constitutional Revision	173,541	84,939
Initiated Measure #1 - Dove Bill	96,103	192,350

### 1974

Amendment A - Legislative Department	86,293	138,590
B - Elections & Right of Suffrage	132,120	88,524

### 1976

Amendment A - Preamble Change	75,174	183,548
B - Bill of Rights	77,771	179,936
C - Legislative Article	56,538	198,447
D - Repeal Section 26	45,100	208,909
E - School and Public Lands	66,287	188,012
F - Arrangement of Constitution	57,710	194,039

### 1978

Amendment A - 40 Day Legislative Session, etc.	104,367	122,429
B - Flexibility in Investing School Money	106,461	113,742
C - Protects School Land Mineral Rights	115,871	104,264
D - Limits Legislature in Tax Increases	116,647	103,621
Initiated Measure #1 - Lifeline Utility Rate Reform	91,707	140,899
#2 - Repeal Dairy Marketing Act	120,813	109,109
#3 - New Obscenity Statutes	60,051	176,152

1980 GENERAL ELECTION  
BALLOT QUESTIONS

Constitutional Amendments

- A. Relating to the appointment of Supreme Court justices and circuit court judges - Joint Resolution, Legislature

Yes: 158,490                      No: 135,062

- B. Relating to real property taxation - Dakota Proposition - Initiated by people

Yes: 113,863                      No: 192,116

- C. Prohibiting Legislature from substantially changing or re-enacting any law enacted or defeated by vote of people - Initiated by people

Yes: 126,181                      No: 140,632

- D. Relating to legislative prerogative to amend initiated or referred laws - Joint Resolution, Legislature

Yes: 77,225                      No: 140,406

- E. Relating to length of legislative session - Joint Resolution, Legislature

Yes: 156,630                      No: 120,703

Initiated and Referred Measures

1. An Act to Allow the Hunting of Mourning Doves - referred by petition of the people

Yes: 182,180                      No: 129,478

2. Relating to regulation of uranium mining, construction of nuclear power plants and disposal of nuclear waste - initiated by petition of the people

Yes: 146,381                      No: 156,293



1982 GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT QUESTIONS

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Initiated Constitutional Amendment "A" - amended Sec. 5, Art. III to provide for single member Senate districts in the legislature

Yes: 122,703                      No: 112,184

Constitutional Amendment "B": Relating to remittance of fines and establishment of interest rates in Article VII

Yes: 130,637                      No: 104,435

Constitutional Amendment "C" - amended Sec. 7, Art. III relating to the opening day of legislature

Yes: 137,262                      No: 99,001

Constitutional Amendment "D" - amended Article III relating to the authorization of certain games of chance

Yes: 107,552                      No: 147,146

1984 GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT QUESTIONS

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT A

Amended Art. IV, VIII, XI, and XVIII to combine duties of the treasurer and the commissioner of school and public lands

Yes: 142,985                      No: 143,276

INITIATED MEASURES

1: Require the approval of the voters on questions of disposal of nuclear waste or participation in nuclear waste disposal compacts.

Yes: 182,952                      No: 112,161

2: Establishes opening day of elementary and secondary school after Labor Day

Yes: 145,472                      No: 144,908

3: Governor to inform federal government that S. D. mandates a verifiable nuclear freeze.

Yes: 135,307                      No: 148,705

1986 GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT QUESTIONS

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT A:

Amendment to Article IV, section 5 of the Constitution relating to the duties of the lieutenant governor

Yes: 122,221            No: 144,976

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT B:

Amendment to Article III relating to the authorization of a state lottery

Yes: 163,005            No: 110,153

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT C:

Amendment to Article VIII relating to the loan of nonsectarian textbooks

Yes: 148,813            No: 127,530

INITIATED MEASURES:

1. Establishing the legal observance of Memorial Day as the last Monday in May

Yes: 164,732            No: 117,063

## 1988 GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT QUESTIONS

### CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT A:

Amend Article III, Section 1, relating to initiatives. Removes the legislature from the initiative process. Passed 153,168 to 140,188

### CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT B:

Initiated amendment to Article III, section 25 to permit gambling in the city of Deadwood. Passed 191,745 to 106,444

### CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT C:

Initiated amendment to Article XI to add a section 14 relating to limitation on property taxes. Failed 116,240 to 184,452

### CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT D:

Amend Article XIV relating to charitable and penal institutions. Removes the Board of Charities and Corrections from the Constitution and clears the way for reorganization of those departments. Passed 171,282 to 121,410

### Initiated Measures:

IM 1 related to surface mining reclamation. Failed 123,738 to 181,729

IM 2 related to an additional tax on surface mining. Failed 105,859 to 196,037.

IM 3 related to a ban on corporate hog farms. Passed 178,955 to 120,605.

### Referred Laws:

RL 4 was the telecommunications deregulation passed by the Legislature as Senate Bill 42. Legislative action was upheld 161,173 to 142,695.

1990 GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT QUESTIONS

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT A:

Amend Article VI, Section 13, relating to disposition of private property taken for public use. Failed 104,973 to 133,643

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT B:

Amend Article III, Section 12 relating to eligibility for legislative office. Failed 82,358 to 152,175

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT C:

Adding a new section to Article XI relating to the imposition of an income tax. Failed 114,215 to 119,037

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT D:

Adding a new section to Article III relating to sessions of Legislature. Passed 117,969 to 110,468

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT E:

Adding a new section to Article XI relating to a limit on the growth of taxes on real property. Failed 104,947 to 126,940

INITIATED MEASURE 1:

An Act relating to legislative approval for the siting, construction, or operation of a large-scale solid waste facility. Passed 130,465 to 115,894

INITIATED MEASURE 2:

An Act relating to large-scale gold or silver mining operation being granted a permit by the Board of Minerals and Environment under specific conditions. Failed 116,583 to 129,824

1992 SOUTH DAKOTA BALLOT QUESTIONS AND ATTORNEY GENERAL EXPLANATIONS

*Initiated* CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT A

Title: Relating to Term Limitations

Passed 205,074 to 117,702

REFERRED LAW 1

Title: An act to approve the siting, construction and operation of the Lonetree solid waste disposal facility.

Failed 93,556 to 217,051

INITIATED MEASURE 2

Title: An Act to provide an acreage regulation and reclamation incentive for large-scale gold or silver surface mining.

Passed 189,683 to 128,109

INITIATED MEASURE 3

Title: An Act to reduce property taxes and to repeal the sales tax on groceries, clothing and utilities by imposing a personal and corporate income tax and distributing the revenue therefrom.

Failed 80,171 to 235,871

INITIATED MEASURE 4

Title: An act to repeal the video lottery.

Failed 122,298 to 207,607

1993 South Dakota Special Referendum Election

REFERRED LAW 1

Title: An act to revise certain provisions related to limited gaming in Deadwood.

Failed 71,422 to 89,106

# 1994 SOUTH DAKOTA BALLOT QUESTIONS

## Constitutional Amendment A

**Title:** An amendment to section 9 of Article VIII of the Constitution of the state of South Dakota, relating to the taxation of leased school and public lands.  
Passed 176,751 to 127,464

## Constitutional Amendment B

**Title:** An amendment to section 2 of Article VII of the Constitution of the state of South Dakota, relating to the minimum age to vote.  
Failed 76,921 to 228,444

## Constitutional Amendment C

**Title:** An amendment to section 11 of Article VIII of the Constitution of the state of South Dakota, relating to the investment of permanent educational funds.  
Failed 130,785 to 168,232

## Constitutional Amendment D

**Title:** An amendment to section 3 of Article III of the Constitution of the state of South Dakota, relating to the qualifications for legislative office.  
Failed 51,458 to 255,166

## Constitutional Amendment E

**Title:** An amendment to section 25 of Article III of the Constitution of the state of South Dakota, relating to the state lottery and video games of chance.  
Passed 165,185 to 147,680

## Initiated Measure 1

**Title:** Property tax reform.  
Failed 152,048 to 155,435

## Referred Law 2

**Title:** An Act to require the use of safety belt systems in passenger vehicles.  
Passed 158,705 to 151,005

# 1996 South Dakota Ballot Questions

## Constitutional Amendment A

Title: An amendment to Article VIII, section 11 of the Constitution of the State of South Dakota, relating to the investment of permanent education funds.  
Passed 191,771 to 112,659.

## Constitutional Amendment B

Title: An amendment to Article XI of the Constitution of the State of South Dakota, relating to the vote required to impose or increase taxes.  
Passed 229,580 to 79,493.

## Initiated Measure 1

Title: An Act requiring South Dakota's Congressional delegation to use their powers to adopt a congressional term limits amendment to the United States Constitution.  
Passed 205,852 to 98,696.

# 1998 South Dakota Ballot Questions

## **Constitutional Amendment A**

**Title:** Initiated amendment to Article VIII, Section 15 of the South Dakota Constitution concerning the taxation of real property for school purposes.

Failed 56,957 to 198,256.

## **Constitutional Amendment B**

**Title:** An Amendment to Article III of the South Dakota Constitution concerning the authority of a special interim legislative committee to approve the transfer of appropriated funds.

Failed 81,976 to 166,373.

## **Constitutional Amendment C**

**Title:** An Amendment to Article III, Section 12 of the South Dakota Constitution concerning legislative conflicts of interest.

Failed 53,020 to 194,689.

## **Constitutional Amendment D**

**Title:** An Amendment to Article IX of the South Dakota Constitution authorizing local initiatives to provide for the cooperation and organization of local government.

Failed 121,880 to 122,184.

## **Constitutional Amendment E**

**Title:** Initiated amendment to Article XVII of the South Dakota Constitution concerning ownership and interest in farming.

Passed 149,470 to 105,282.

## **Constitutional Amendment F**

**Title:** An amendment to Article VIII of the South Dakota Constitution, concerning the classification of property for purposes of taxation.

Failed 92,447 to 153,230.

## **Constitutional Amendment G**

**Title:** An Amendment to Article VIII of the South Dakota Constitution, permitting the investment of permanent school funds in certain stocks, bonds, mutual funds, and other financial instruments.

Failed 96,975 to 150,907.

## **Constitutional Amendment H**

**Title:** Amendments to Article III, Section 3 of the South Dakota Constitution, relating to age qualifications for legislative office, and to Article IV, Section 2 of the South Dakota Constitution, relating to the age qualifications for Governor and lieutenant governor.

Passed 150,680 to 99,834.

## **Referred Law 2**

**Title:** An act to transfer the unclaimed property office from the State Treasurer's Office to the Secretary of Revenue.

Failed 71,379 to 174,790.



## 2000 South Dakota Ballot Questions

### **Constitutional Amendment A**

**Title:** An amendment to Article VIII of the South Dakota Constitution relating to classification of property for purposes of taxation.  
Passed 167,117 to 137,081.

### **Constitutional Amendment B**

**Title:** An amendment to Article IX of the South Dakota Constitution authorizing local initiatives to provide for the cooperation and organization of local government.  
Passed 165,346 to 133,780.

### **Constitutional Amendment C**

**Title:** An initiated amendment to Article XI of the South Dakota Constitution, concerning the taxation of inheritances.  
Passed 251,316 to 62,334.

### **Constitutional Amendment D**

**Title:** An initiated amendment to Article III, Section 25 of the South Dakota Constitution repealing the video lottery.  
Failed 146,428 to 169,642.

### **Constitutional Amendment E**

**Title:** An amendment to Article VIII of the South Dakota Constitution, permitting the investment of permanent school funds in certain stocks, bonds, mutual funds, and other financial instruments and to use a certain portion of the interest and income to increase the principal in the fund.  
Passed 168,896 to 132,181.

### **Initiated Measure 1**

**Title:** An initiated amendment to SDCL 42-7B-14 to raise the maximum bet limits for limited card games and slot machines authorized within the city of Deadwood.  
Passed 161,249 to 151,244.

## 2001 South Dakota Ballot Questions

### **Constitutional Amendment A**

**Title:** An amendment to Article XIII of the South Dakota Constitution authorizing the creation and administration of a trust fund for proceeds of the sale of the State Cement Plant.  
Passed 69,309 to 18,657.

### **Constitutional Amendment B**

**Title:** An amendment to Article XII of the South Dakota Constitution authorizing the creation and administration of trust funds for health care and education.  
Passed 63,484 to 24,086.

# 2002 South Dakota Ballot Questions

## Constitutional Amendment A

**Title:** An initiated amendment to Article VI, Section 7 of the Constitution, relating to the rights of a criminal defendant. Failed 68,659 to 246,097.

## Constitutional Amendment B

**Title:** An amendment to Article III, Section 5 of the Constitution to clarify the responsibility of the Legislature to provide for its own apportionment. Failed 116,495 to 187,242.

## Constitutional Amendment C

**Title:** An amendment to Article IV, Section 4 of the Constitution, extending the time allowed for the Governor's review of legislation passed by the Legislature. Passed 166,969 to 141,326.

## Initiated Measure 1



**Title:** An initiated measure adopting a law relating to industrial hemp (cannabis). Failed 119,990 to 196,060.

# 2004 South Dakota Ballot Questions

## **Constitutional Amendment A**

**(2003 Legislative Session - HJR 1003)**

**Title:** An amendment to Article V, section 7 of the South Dakota Constitution, providing for the merit selection of circuit court judges. Failed 227,577 to 138,368.

## **Constitutional Amendment B**

**(2004 Legislative Session - HJR 1003)**

**Title:** An amendment to Article VIII, section 20 of the South Dakota Constitution to authorize the provision of certain services to all children of school age. Failed 195,936 to 173,650.

## **Initiated Measure I**

**Title:** An act to exempt food from sales and use taxes. Failed 255,855 to 123,210.

# 2006 South Dakota Ballot Questions

## **Constitutional Amendment C** **(2005 Legislative Session – HJR 1001)**

**Title:** An Amendment to Article XXI of the South Dakota Constitution, relating to marriage. Passed 172,305 to 160,152.

## **Constitutional Amendment D**

**Title:** An Amendment to Article XI, Section 2 of the South Dakota Constitution, relating to real property assessment for taxation. Failed 65,903 to 260,375.

## **Constitutional Amendment E**

**Title:** An Amendment to Article VI of the South Dakota Constitution, relating to judicial decisions. Failed 35,641 to 294,734.

## **Constitutional Amendment F** **(2006 Legislative Session – HJR 1003)**

**Title:** An Amendment to Article III of the South Dakota Constitution, relating to the Legislature. Failed 103,026 to 215,458.

## **Initiated Measure 2**

**Title:** An Initiative to increase the tax on cigarettes and tobacco products and to dedicate the revenues. Passed 202,779 to 130,757.

## **Initiated Measure 3**

**Title:** An Initiative to prohibit starting a school term prior to the last day of August. Failed 140,487 to 185,129.

## **Initiated Measure 4**

**Title:** An act to provide safe access to medical marijuana for certain qualified persons. Failed 157,953 to 173,178.

## **Initiated Measure 5**

**Title:** An Initiative to place certain restrictions on the use of state owned or leased aircraft. Passed 180,592 to 145,594.

## **Initiated Measure 7**

**Title:** An Initiative to repeal video lottery. Failed 110,032 to 222,889.

## **Initiated Measure 8**

**Title:** An Act to repeal the gross receipts tax on wireless telecommunication services. Failed 129,851 to 199,892.

## **Referred Law 6**

**Title:** Referral of HB 1215, entitled "An Act to establish certain legislative findings, to reinstate the prohibition against certain acts causing the termination of an unborn human life, to prescribe a penalty therefore, and to provide for the implementation of such provisions under certain circumstances." Failed 148,648 to 185,945.

# 2008 South Dakota Ballot Questions

## **Constitutional Amendment G (2008 Legislative Session - HJR 1003)**

**Title:** An Amendment to the South Dakota Constitution, to repeal certain reimbursement restrictions for travel by legislators to and from a legislative session. Failed 211,413 to 147,763.

## **Constitutional Amendment H (2008 Legislative Session - HJR 1001)**

**Title:** An Amendment to the South Dakota Constitution, to repeal certain provisions relating to corporations. Failed 229,985 to 103,172.

## **Constitutional Amendment I (2008 Legislative Session - HJR 1004)**

**Title:** An Amendment to the South Dakota Constitution, to provide for a maximum of forty legislative days each year. Passed 184,722 to 167,751.

## **Constitutional Amendment J (2008 Legislative Session - SJR 1)**

**Title:** An Amendment to the South Dakota Constitution, to eliminate term limits for legislators. Failed 272,635 to 87,380.

## **Initiated Measure 9**

**Title:** An Initiative to make certain securities practices and transactions unlawful. Failed 191,596 to 146,872.

## **Initiated Measure 10**

**Title:** An Initiative to prohibit tax revenues from being used for lobbying or campaigning, to prohibit governmental bodies from lobbying, to prohibit government contractors from making campaign contributions, to prohibit government contracts when the contractor employs a legislator or legislative staff member, and to require contracts with governmental bodies to be published. Failed 232,684 to 127,040.

## **Initiated Measure 11**

**Title:** An Initiative to prohibit abortions except in cases where the mother's life or health is at a substantial and irreversible risk, and in cases of reported rape and incest. Failed 206,535 to 167,560.

## **2010 South Dakota Ballot Questions**

### **Constitutional Amendment K (2010 Legislative Session SJR3)**

**Title:** An Amendment to Article VI of the South Dakota Constitution relating to the right of individuals to vote by secret ballot. Passed 241,896 to 63,783.

### **Constitutional Amendment L (2010 Legislative Session HJR1004)**

**Title:** An Amendment to Article XIII of the South Dakota Constitution relating to the trust fund created from the proceeds of the state cement enterprise sales. Failed 114,321 to 167,594.

### **Initiated Measure 13**

**Title:** An Initiated Measure to authorize the possession, use and cultivation of marijuana by and for persons with specified debilitating medical conditions registered with the Department of Health. Failed 115,667 to 199,552.

### **Referred Law 12 (2009 Legislative Session HB1240)**

**Title:** An Act to prohibit smoking tobacco or carrying lighted tobacco products in certain places and to require certain persons to inform violators of the prohibition. Passed 204,160 to 113,011.

## **2012 South Dakota Ballot Questions**

### **Constitutional Amendment M (2012 Legislative Session HJR 1001)**

**Title:** An Amendment to the South Dakota Constitution regarding certain provisions relating to corporations. Failed 96,187 to 228,720.

### **Constitutional Amendment N (2012 Legislative Session HJR 1002)**

**Title:** An Amendment to the South Dakota constitution repealing certain reimbursement restrictions for travel by legislators to and from a legislative session. Failed 125,715 to 215,675.

### **Constitutional Amendment O (2012 Legislative Session HJR 1006)**

**Title:** An Amendment to the South Dakota Constitution changing the method for distributions from the cement plant trust fund. Passed 186,956 to 142,410.

### **Constitutional Amendment P (2012 Legislative Session HJR 1007)**

**Title:** An Amendment to the South Dakota Constitution adding balanced budget requirements. Passed 215,659 to 118,165.

### **Initiated Measure 15**

**Title:** An Initiated Measure to increase state general sales and use taxes for additional K-12 public education and Medicaid funding. Failed 151,498 to 198,586.

### **Referred Law 14**

**Title:** An Act to establish the large project development fund. Failed 139,751 to 190,126.

### **Referred Law 16**

**Title:** An education reform act to establish a teacher scholarship program; create a program for math and science teacher bonuses; create a program for teacher merit bonuses; mandate a uniform teacher and principal evaluation system; and eliminate state requirements for teacher tenure. Failed 114,590 to 235,064.

## **2014 South Dakota Ballot Questions**

### **Constitutional Amendment Q (2014 Legislative Session HJR 1001)**

**Title:** An Amendment to the South Dakota Constitution authorizing the Legislature to allow roulette, keno and craps in Deadwood. Passed 152,265 to 116,326.

### **Initiated Measure 17**

**Title:** An Initiated Measure to require health insurers to include all willing and qualified health care providers on their provider lists. Passed 166,401 to 102,792.

### **Initiated Measure 18**

**Title:** An Initiated Measure to increase the state minimum wage. Passed 150,819 to 123,167.



# 2016 South Dakota Ballot Questions

## **Constitutional Amendment R**

**Title:** An Amendment to the South Dakota Constitution regarding postsecondary technical education institutes. Passed 178,209 to 173,945.

## **Constitutional Amendment S**

**Title:** An initiated amendment to the South Dakota Constitution to expand rights for crime victims. Passed 215,565 to 146,084.

## **Constitutional Amendment T**

**Title:** An initiated amendment to the South Dakota Constitution to provide for state legislative redistricting by a commission. Failed 149,942 to 198,982.

## **Constitutional Amendment U**

**Title:** An initiated amendment to the South Dakota Constitution limiting the ability to set statutory interest rates for loans. Failed 130,627 to 224,876.

## **Constitutional Amendment V**

**Title:** An initiated amendment to the South Dakota Constitution establishing nonpartisan elections. Failed 157,870 to 196,781.

## **Initiated Measure 21**

**Title:** An initiated measure to set a maximum finance charge for certain licensed money lenders. Passed 270,312 to 87,355.

## **Initiated Measure 22**

**Title:** An initiated measure to revise State campaign finance and lobbying laws, create a publicly funded campaign finance program, create an ethics commission, and appropriate funds. Passed 180,634 to 169,199.

## **Initiated Measure 23**

**Title:** An initiated measure to give certain organizations the right to charge fees. Failed 71,250 to 279,481.

## **Referred Law 19**

**Title:** An Act to revise State laws regarding elections and election petitions. Failed 98,657 to 242,113.

## **Referred Law 20**

**Title:** An Act lowering the State minimum wage for non-tipped employees under age 18. Failed 104,185 to 256,686.