



## South Dakota 2025 Issues Poll Summary

The Center for Excellence in Polling recently surveyed likely voters in South Dakota on a range of issues from education to election integrity.

In addition to supporting reforms on taxes and fees, school choice, and state investing, voters support reforms that **move people from welfare to work** and **make it easy to vote and hard to cheat** in South Dakota's elections.

### South Dakotans support reforms to unemployment insurance designed to move people quickly back into the workforce.

**65%** ...of likely voters support requiring individuals on unemployment to **perform at least one meaningful work-search activity** each business day. An identical number of South Dakotans say they support requiring the state to **verify unemployment work-search activity** reports.

**60%** ...of likely voters support **unemployment indexing**, a practice of tying the duration of unemployment eligibility to the state's unemployment rate. Indexing is supported by nearly three in four (72%) Republicans, a majority (57%) of Independents, and a plurality (44%) of Democrats.

### Six in ten voters support commonsense reforms to bolster the security of South Dakota's elections.

**61%** ...of likely voters support creating a special **unit that investigates election law violations**. An overwhelming number of Republican voters—82 percent—support this measure, while a 13-point plurality of Independents are in favor.

**59%** ...of likely voters support requiring the state to **conduct a comprehensive voter roll audit** twice per year. A large majority of Republicans (78%) and Independents (51%) express support for this election integrity reform.

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**Voters are in favor of requiring able-bodied adults to work, train, or volunteer part time as a condition of receiving taxpayer-funded Medicaid benefits.**

**60%** ...of likely voters support requiring able-bodied adults to spend at least 20 hours per week **working, training, or volunteering to remain eligible for Medicaid.** Support for Medicaid work requirements is strongest among Republican voters (78%), while a plurality (46%) of Independents also express support.

## **The bottom line**

South Dakota lawmakers have the opportunity to pass meaningful, commonsense reforms that **enjoy broad support from voters.** These reforms would move South Dakota in a direction that aligns with voters' conservative, work-centric values.