

## North 2 Field Education Unit Population Profile – Cooperative Extension Service

Extension’s North Field Education Unit consists of 3 counties – Beadle, Spink and Hand. Beadle County is classified as a **micropolitan** County, while Spink and Hand are both **non-core**. The total population is 28,218 and includes 3.7% of all South Dakota residents.

Beadle County’s economy is classified as **non-specialized**, while the economy in Spink and Hand counties is classified as **farming-dependent**. USDA’s Economic Research Service classifies all three counties as population loss counties. Hand is classified as an Older Population County.

The three counties are home to eight Hutterite Colonies. A new employer in Huron is Dakota Turkey Growers (DTG), a turkey processing plant owned by 44 Hutterite Colonies. DTG opened with approximately 400 employees in 2006, and expects to employ 1000 workers.

	<b>Beadle</b>	<b>Hand</b>	<b>Spink</b>
<b>Population</b>	17,023	3,741	7,454
<b>Under 18</b>	4,199	919	1,906
<b>Over 65</b>	3,296	904	1,412
<b>Median Age</b>	40.1	43.6	39.9
<b>% White</b>	96.9	99.3	97.6
<b>Per capita income</b>	\$17,832	\$18,735	\$15,728
<b>Med Household income</b>	\$30,510	\$32,377	\$31,717
<b>BS, BA or higher</b>	18.3%	15.6%	14.4%
<b>Fertility rate</b>	59.9	53.1	63.2
<b>Farms</b>	728	480	682
<b>Average Farm Size</b>	1,112 acres	1,809 acres	1,336 acres
<b>Avg Income per farm 2002</b>	\$21,486	\$38,915	\$49,463
<b>Commute to work in county</b>	7.0%	17.8%	16.2%
<b>Commute to work from county</b>	6.9%	5.0%	11.6%
<b>Language other than English spoken at home</b>	5.5%	5.8%	8.2%

### **Population Indices Beadle County**

general dependency ratio	64.01	sex ratio	96.57
youth dependency ratio	32.27	Child/woman ratio	307.96
aged dependency ratio	31.75	young adult ratio	29.60
index of aging	98.39	median age	41.1

### **Population Indices Hand County**

general dependency ratio	77.05	sex ratio	96.7
youth dependency ratio	34.26	Child/woman ratio	336.21
aged dependency ratio	42.78	young adult ratio	21.82
index of aging	124.86	median age	43.6

### **Population Indices Spink County**

general dependency ratio	65.09	sex ratio	107.23
youth dependency ratio	33.82	Child/woman ratio	327.09
aged dependency ratio	31.27	young adult ratio	28.38
index of aging	92.47	Median age	39.9

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