

## DATA FEATURE

**Empowering Our Community Through Comprehensive Strategies.** 

### Economic Stability: Income & Wages

24.4%

LIVING WAGE

30.7%

MEDIAN INCOME 1.5%

WAGE GAP

is the approximate combined increase in the living wage (for 1 parent & 2 children) for Woodbury County in Iowa, Dakota County in Nebraska, and Union County in South Dakota, from 2018 to 2024, averaging \$36.56 in 2018 to \$45.45 in 2024.

- COUNTY HEALTH RANKINGS, 2024

is the approximate combined increase in median household income for Woodbury County in Iowa, Dakota County in Nebraska, and Union County in South Dakota, from 2016 to 2022, averaging \$51,308 in 2016 to \$67,073 in 2022.

- CENSUS 'QUICK FACTS', 2022

is the approximate combined decrease in income inequality for Woodbury County in lowa, Dakota County in Nebraska, and Union County in South Dakota, from 2018 to 2024, averaging 4.03 in 2018 to 3.97 in 2024. This decrease is driven by a significant decline (0.6) in income inequality in Dakota County from 2018 to 2024.

- COUNTY HEALTH RANKINGS, 2024



# INCOME: PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES IN SIOUXLAND

#### Implications of Rising Living Wages

A 24.4% rise in the living wage from 2018 to 2024 signals higher costs of living, requiring households to earn more to meet basic needs. While this reflects economic adjustments, it also highlights the pressure on lower-income households to keep pace with these changes, emphasizing the need for wage growth aligned with living expenses.

#### Increasing Median Household Income

Median household income rose by 30.7% between 2016 and 2022, demonstrating improved earnings for families across the region. This trend suggests stronger economic opportunities and greater financial stability, but the pace of income growth must align with rising costs to ensure sustainable living conditions.

#### **Decreased Income Inequality**

A 1.5% decline in income inequality from 2018 to 2024 reflects progress in narrowing the wealth gap, driven by significant improvements in Dakota County. This shift suggests more equitable distribution of resources, though disparities persist in regions like Woodbury County, where inequality slightly increased.

#### **ABOUT US**

Source For Siouxland is a collaborative, strategic community planning initiative for a vibrant, safe, and healthy Siouxland. We measure the Economic Stability, Education, Health, Safety, and Quality of Life of the Siouxland Area in order to identify opportunities to build a stronger and more engaged community, prioritize the opportunities, and lead collective impact teams that will improve community outcomes.

#### INFORMATION BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE SFS LEADERSHIP TEAM:

Catholic Charities Great Plains
ToP Growing Community
Connections Helios Foundation
One Siouxland SHIP Siouxland
CARES Siouxland Community
Foundation Siouxland District
Health Department United Way
of Siouxland

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