



2016 Tourism Advertising Evaluation and Image Study

Table of Contents



Background	3
Research Objectives	4
Research Method	5
Image Study Summary	8
Travel Motivators & Hot Buttons	26
South Dakota's Image vs. Competitors	30
South Dakota's Project Delivery	72
Creative	88
Impact of Advertising on Image	90
Bottom Line Advertising Impacts	93
The "Halo Effect" of South Dakota's Tourism Advertising	101

Background



- Longwoods International was engaged by Explore South Dakota Tourism to undertake an evaluation of their spring/summer 2016 tourism advertising campaign.
- The campaign employed TV, Print, Digital, Out-of-Home and Social Media
- The ads were designed to:
 - Promote leisure travel to South Dakota
- South Dakota's advertising markets included:
 - Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Colorado, Nebraska, North Dakota, Montana and Wyoming
- Campaign spending totaled \$3.3 million.

Research Objectives



- The purpose of this research is to provide:
 - fundamental strategic insights about the image of South Dakota and its key competitors with respect to key destination choice factors;
 - an evaluation of the spring/summer 2016 tourism advertising campaign in terms of:
 - top line measures:
 - awareness of the advertising
 - o impact on South Dakota's image as a travel destination
 - the bottom line return on South Dakota's investment in the campaign in terms of:
 - incremental travel to South Dakota
 - incremental traveler spending in South Dakota
 - incremental state and local taxes

Research Method



- The study was conducted among a representative sample of adult travelers (18+) residing in South Dakota's advertising markets.
 - 'Travelers' means respondents had taken a day and/or overnight pleasure trip anywhere in the past 3 years and intend to take another in the next 2 years.
- The survey was conducted via a major online consumer panel which is demographically balanced to represent the population in the markets surveyed.
 - 1,419 individuals responded to the research

Research Method (Cont'd)



- The questionnaire addressed three key areas:
 - South Dakota's Image as a Travel Destination
 - respondents rated South Dakota and selected competitive destinations across an extensive list of characteristics or destination attributes.

Travel to South Dakota

 respondents reported the number of day and overnight trips they took to South Dakota during and shortly after the advertising campaign.

Advertising awareness

- actual creative from the 2016 campaign was exposed and respondents reported recall of each.
 - we use this forced exposure approach to ensure that we are measuring the state-sponsored advertising only – not that of South Dakota's attractions and accommodation facilities.

Research Method (Cont'd)



ROI calculation:

- the Longwoods R.O.EYE™ method quantifies the relationship between awareness of campaign elements and trip taking.
- a baseline measure is generated to estimate the level of visitation that would have occurred in the absence of advertising activity.
- using the principles and techniques of experimental design, we control for the effects of internal and external factors that could otherwise influence the result.



Image Study Summary

Travel Motivators



- In the survey, respondents were asked to evaluate several destinations overall and on a series of detailed image attributes.
- Through statistical analysis, we have derived the relative importance of each attribute in determining people's overall interest in the destinations.
- Then, in order to better communicate the results, the data have been grouped into 10 broader categories, or travel motivators, and ranked from more important to less important.



- The more important a travel motivator is, the more important it should be for a destination to communicate that message about itself, taking into consideration its ability to deliver on the promise with its product.
- Within each travel motivator category, the image attributes that make up that category are also presented in their order of importance.
- When evaluating South Dakota's image and product delivery, and those of the competitive set, it is critical to keep the relative importance of each attribute in mind.



- For travelers, the top motivators for getting on the destination wish list are exciting, followed by adult vacation, uniqueness and having a family atmosphere:
 - the notion of excitement comes from being seen as fun, with a sense of adventure and a must-see destination
 - adult vacation, the perceived suitability for adults, is important because they are paying for the trip
 - uniqueness, offering a unique vacation experience
 - family atmosphere refers to a destination's perceived appeal for kids and families



- Several factors are of moderate importance individually; but they include some of the key rational features that bring to life the emotional excitement that attracts people to a destination:
 - popularity as a tourist destination in general
 - a worry-free environment, because being perceived as relaxed and friendly is important
 - good sightseeing, particularly the overall variety of things to see and do, and beautiful scenery



- Relatively low on the priority list are:
 - the opportunities for entertainment, including theater and the arts, live music, and casinos
 - affordability refers to the costs associated with getting to and staying at a destination:
 - although relatively unimportant at the wish list stage, cost usually rises in importance the closer one gets to closing the sale
 - opportunities for sports and recreation

South Dakota's Image



- South Dakota's Competitive Set includes North Dakota, Minnesota, Wyoming, Wisconsin, Missouri, and Colorado
- South Dakota's image strengths versus these competitors as a group are:
 - Most aspects of sightseeing
 — well-known landmarks, Native
 American Culture, authentic historical sites, noted for its history,
 excellent national/state parks, great place for a Classic American
 Road trip, truly unique scenery, and different cultures/ways of life
 - Must-see destination

South Dakota's Image (Cont'd)



- Nonetheless, travelers perceive some disadvantages to visiting South Dakota relative to the competition:
 - Most aspects of water-related outdoor adventure great for boating/water sports, excellent canoeing/kayaking/paddleboarding, fishing, as well as snowmobiling
 - Urban experiences such as interesting food and drink options, great for theater and the arts, and great live music
 - Not too far away for a vacation

South Dakota's Image vs North Dakota



- A more detailed analysis of South Dakota's image vs. the image of the individual competitive states evaluated in this study reveals the following:
- North Dakota South Dakota edges out North Dakota in all fourteen hot button areas: well-known destination, popular with vacationers, great place for a Classic American Road trip, must-see destination, unique scenery and vacation experience, vacation there is a real adventure, lots to see and do, fun place to vacation, children would enjoy, exciting place, excellent vacation value, good for adult vacation, and good place to relax.
- South Dakota has no statistically significant weaknesses relative to North Dakota

South Dakota's Image vs Minnesota



- Minnesota— South Dakota's image strengths include the key areas of unique scenery, great place for a Classic American Road trip, providing a vacation with real adventure, must-see and well known destination, popular with vacationers, unique vacation experience, and excellent vacation value.
- Minnesota's image strengths relative to South Dakota are many aspects of water-related outdoor adventure including boating/water sports, excellent fishing, canoeing/kayaking/paddleboarding, and snowmobiling. Strengths also include urban amenities such as theater and the arts, interesting food and drink options, great live music and exciting casinos, as well as not being too far away for a vacation.

South Dakota's Image vs Wyoming



- Wyoming— South Dakota's advantages over Wyoming include eight hot buttons: well-known destination, popular with vacationers, a fun place for vacation, lots to see and do, must-see destination, great place for a Classic American Road trip, good for adult vacation and children would enjoy. South Dakota's top strengths versus Wyoming also include well-known landmarks, noted for its history, authentic historical sites, and Native American Cultural.
- Wyoming's advantages over South Dakota include the less critical areas of great wilderness areas and excellent hunting.

South Dakota's Image vs Wisconsin



- Wisconsin Relative to Wisconsin, South Dakota's perceived advantages include the key areas of must-see destination, truly unique scenery, vacation there is a real adventure, and great place for a Classic American Road trip. South Dakota also has an advantage in well-known landmarks, Native American Culture, authentic historical sites, noted for its history, and excellent national/state parks.
- Wisconsin's strengths in comparison include being a place children would enjoy and having lots to see and do. In addition, Wisconsin is recognized for many aspects of water-related outdoor adventure including great for boating/water sports, canoeing/kayaking/paddleboarding, fishing and snowmobiling.

South Dakota's Image vs Missouri



- Missouri Relative to Missouri, South Dakota's perceived advantages include eight of the hot buttons: truly unique scenery, great place for a Classic American Road trip, vacation there is a real adventure, must-see destination, unique vacation experience, popular with vacationers, an exciting place, and good place to relax. South Dakota also gets the nod for Native American Culture, well-known landmarks, authentic historical sites and most outdoor aspects including national/state parks, snowmobiling, wilderness areas, hiking, beautiful scenery, hunting, camping, and viewing wildlife/birds.
- Missouri's strengths compared to South Dakota include great for boating/water sports, not too far away for a vacation, and the urban aspects of great live music, theater and the arts, and interesting food and drink options.

South Dakota's Image vs Colorado



- Colorado Relative to Colorado, South Dakota's perceived advantages include Native American Culture, affordable accommodations, authentic historical sites, and well-known landmarks.
- Colorado's strengths in comparison include thirteen of the hot buttons: a fun place for vacation, lots to see and do, popular with vacationers, an exciting place, good for adult vacation, well-known destination, vacation there is a real adventure, must-see destination, truly unique scenery, children would enjoy, unique vacation experience, good place to relax, and great place for a Classic American Road trip.



- The image ratings we just discussed looked at perceptions of South Dakota and the competition among the broad population of potential travelers in South Dakota's target markets. Within that broad population are some people who have visited South Dakota in the recent past, i.e. who have experienced South Dakota's product, and some who haven't.
- The analysis that follows examines recent visitors' image of South Dakota based on recent experience ("product delivery") compared to the image ratings of those who have never actually visited, i.e., whose perceptions are based on "pure image".



This is essentially the difference between the expectations of those who have not been to South Dakota vs. the experiences of those who have. When the experience falls short of expectations, there may be a problem with the product. When experience exceeds expectations, there is a great opportunity to educate those who don't know how wonderful South Dakota is.



- In this survey people who have visited South Dakota in the past two years gave South Dakota substantially higher ratings for every one of the many attributes on which they evaluated the state than people who had never visited.
- In other words, the first time visitor is very pleasantly surprised by what they experience in South Dakota.
- The difference is in many cases so large that it is clear that South Dakota's product delivers, consistently exceeding visitor expectations. The conclusion one could draw is that with such a good product, South Dakota has more of an awareness problem than a product problem.



- The greatest differences in "perception vs. reality" are:
 - The all-important "hot button" attributes related to being a well-known destination, providing an excellent vacation value, being a great place for a Classic American Road trip, a unique, must-see destination, a place with lots to see and do for both adults and children.
 - South Dakota's historical and cultural offerings: noted for its history, well-known landmarks, authentic historical sites, and Native American Culture.
 - The outdoor activities such as national/state parks, hunting, cycling/off-road biking, camping, and beautiful scenery.



Travel Motivators & Hot Buttons

Travel Motivators

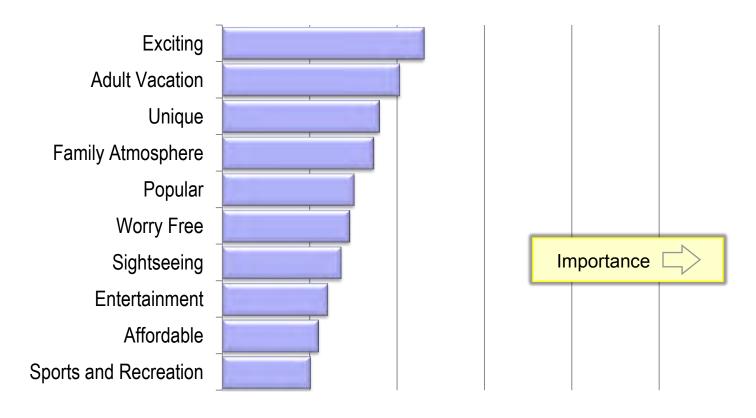


- In order to determine the key factors that motivate travel and destination of choice, respondents are asked to rate selected states across a robust list of attributes or characteristics.
- Statistical correlations are then used to establish the degree of association between each attribute and the overall rating, "A place I would really enjoy visiting."
 - A high correlation reveals an attribute to be an important motivator. The attributes with the highest correlations are referred to as 'Hot Buttons'.
 - A lower correlation reveals an attribute to be of lesser importance.
- The Travel Motivating factors are calculations that reflect the aggregated importance across attributes related by subject.

Travel Motivators



Base: Residents of South Dakota's Regional Advertising Markets



Relative Importance*

Hot Buttons



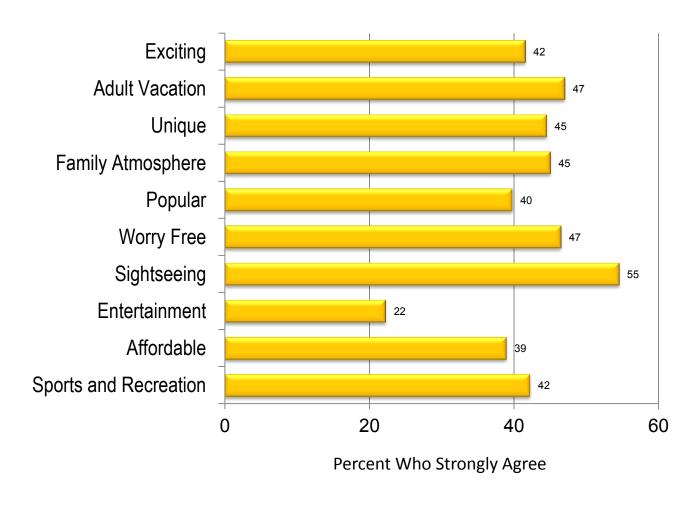
Top 14 Hot Buttons		
A fun place for a vacation	Popular with vacationers	
An exciting place	Unique vacation experience	
Must-see destination	Truly unique scenery	
Lots to see and do	Excellent vacation value	
Good for an adult vacation	Great place for a Classic American Road trip	
Vacation there is a real adventure	Well-known destination	
Children would enjoy	Good place to relax	



South Dakota's Image vs. Competitors

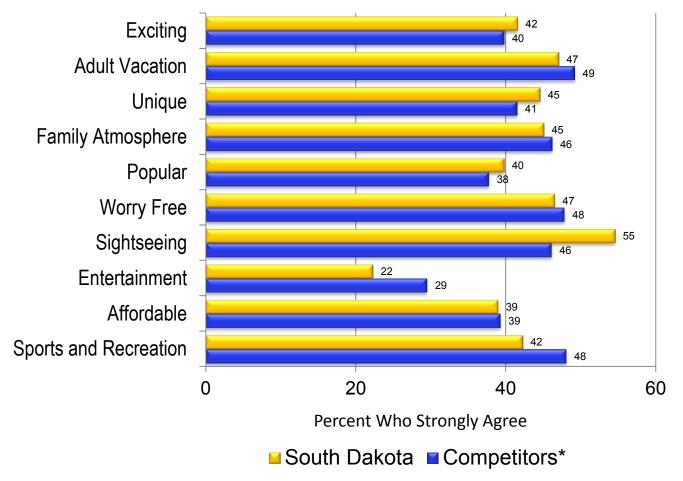
South Dakota's Overall Image





South Dakota's Overall Image vs. Competitors

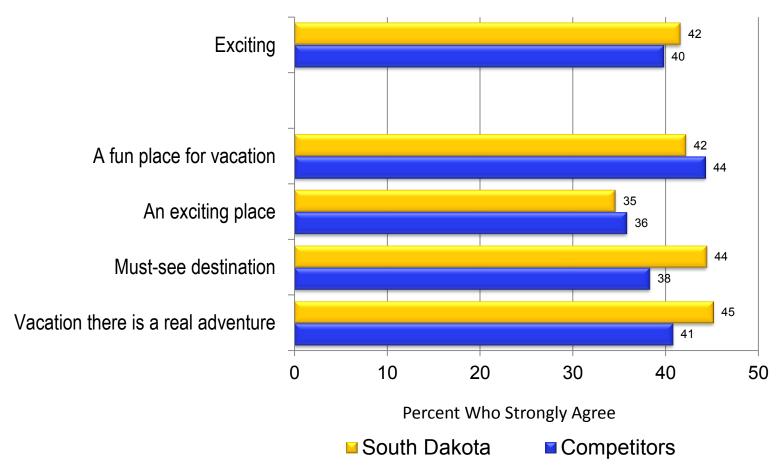




^{*} Competitors include: North Dakota, Minnesota, Wyoming, Wisconsin, Missouri, Colorado

South Dakota's Image vs. Competitors — Exciting

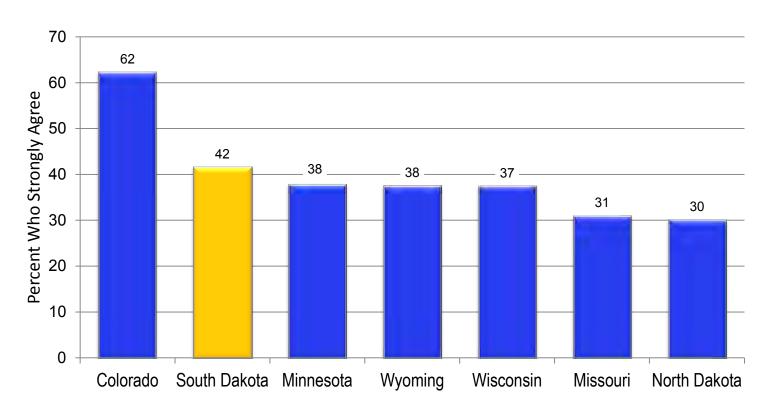




^{*} Competitors include: North Dakota, Minnesota, Wyoming, Wisconsin, Missouri, Colorado

South Dakota's Image vs. Competitors — Exciting

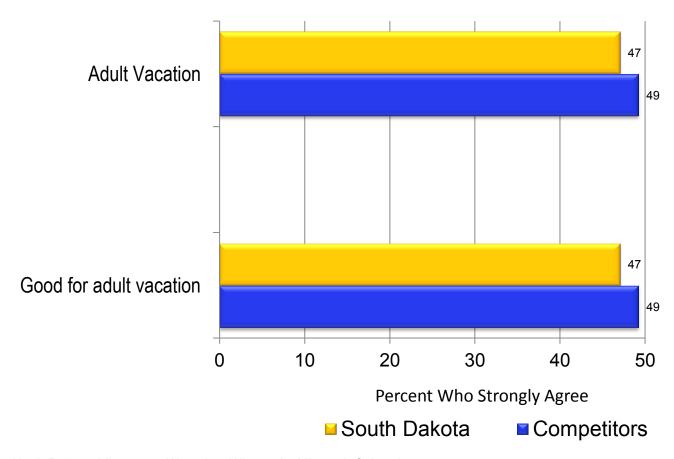




South Dakota's Image vs. Competitors — Adult Vacation



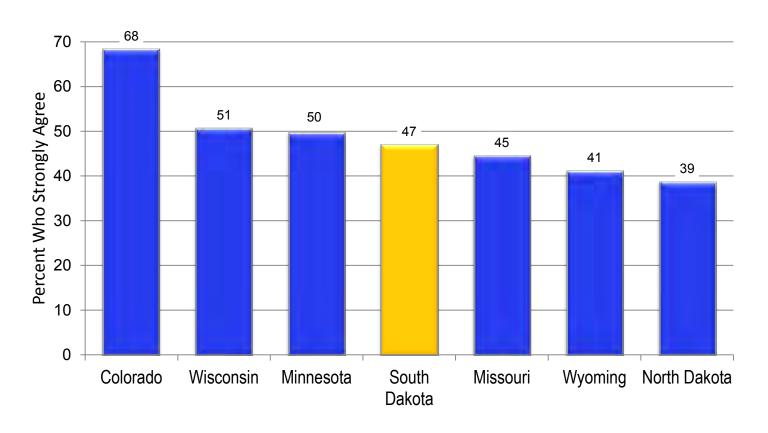
Base: Residents of South Dakota's Regional Advertising Markets



35

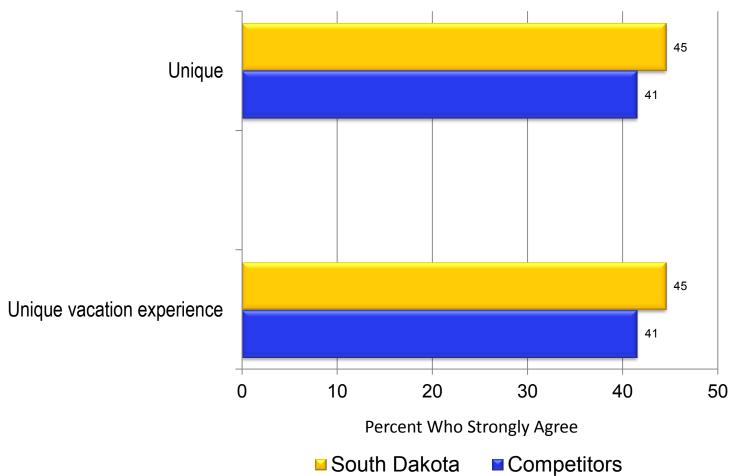
South Dakota's Image vs. Competitors — Adult Vacation





South Dakota's Image vs. Competitors — Unique

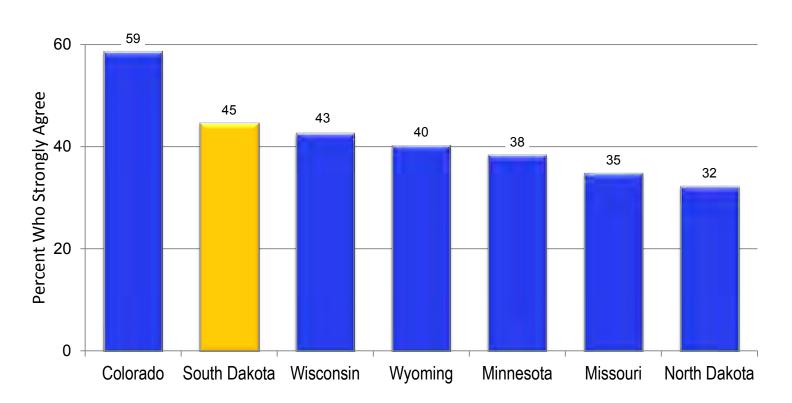




^{*} Competitors include: North Dakota, Minnesota, Wyoming, Wisconsin, Missouri, Colorado

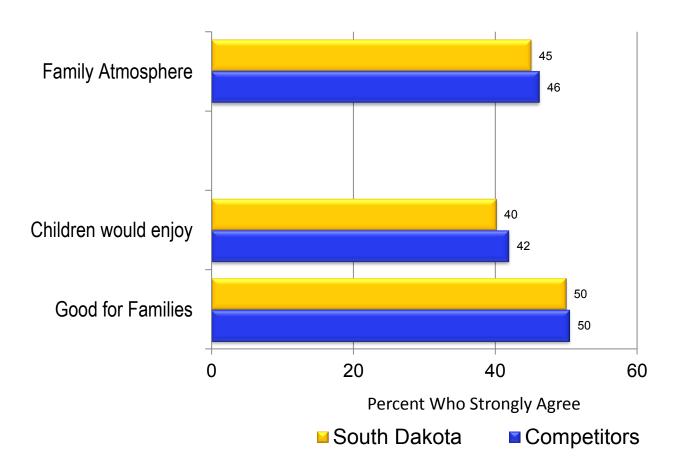
South Dakota's Image vs. Competitors — Unique





South Dakota's Image vs. Competitors — Family Atmosphere

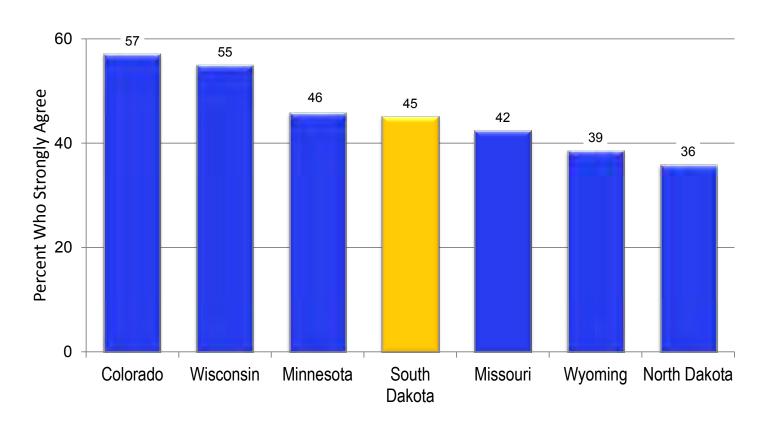




³⁹

South Dakota's Image vs. Competitors — Family Atmosphere

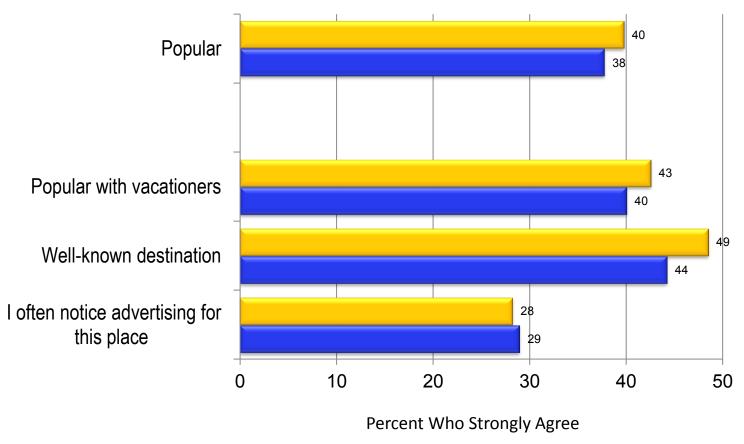




South Dakota's Image vs. Competitors — Popular



Base: Residents of South Dakota's Regional Advertising Markets



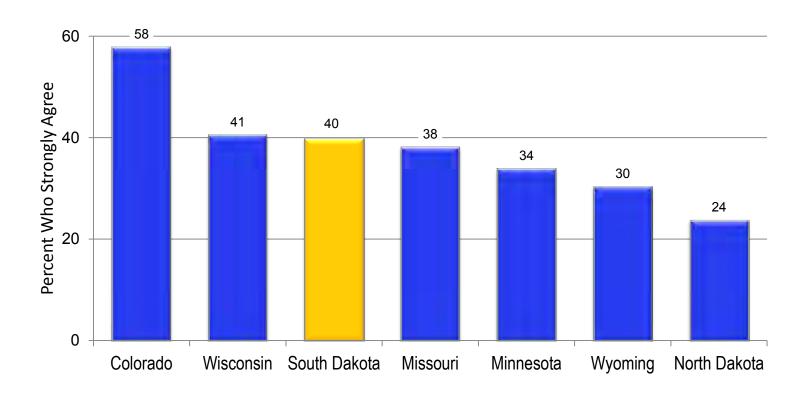
■ South Dakota

Competitors

^{*} Competitors include: North Dakota, Minnesota, Wyoming, Wisconsin, Missouri, Colorado

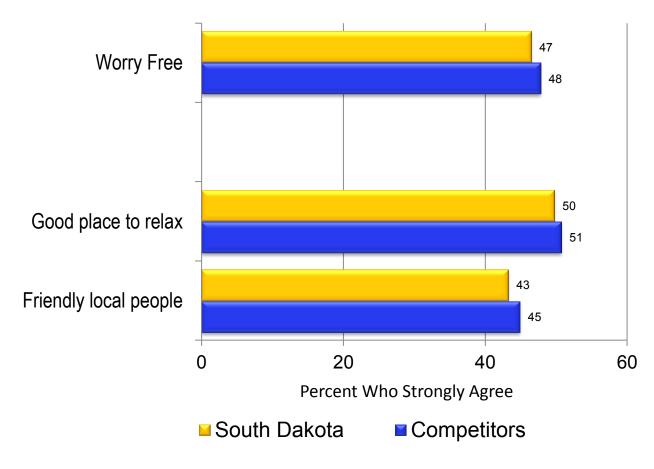
South Dakota's Image vs. Competitors — Popular





South Dakota's Image vs. Competitors — Worry Free

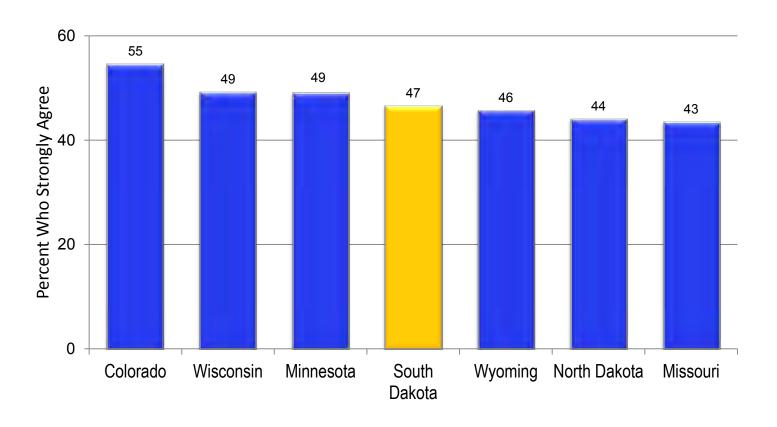




⁴³

South Dakota's Image vs. Competitors — Worry Free

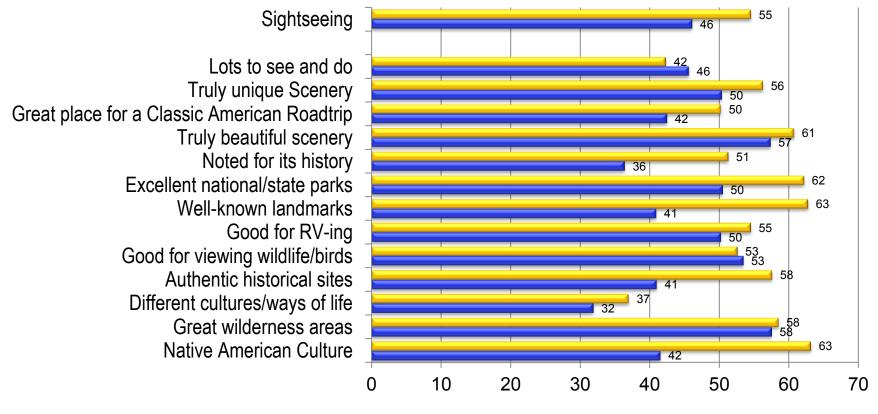




South Dakota's Image vs. Competitors — Sightseeing



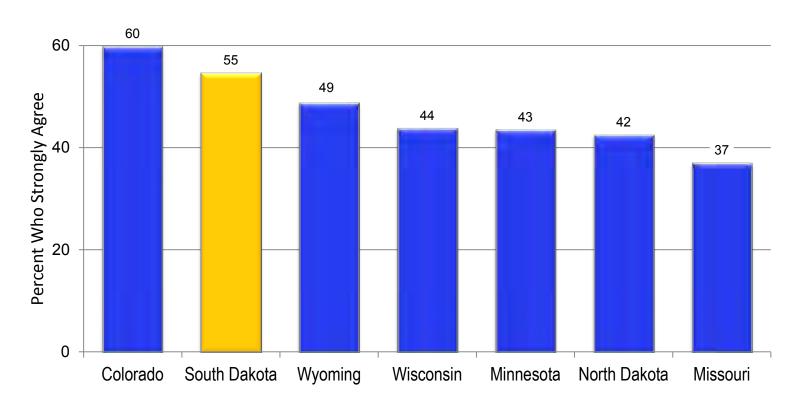
Base: Residents of South Dakota's Regional Advertising Markets



Percent Who Strongly Agree

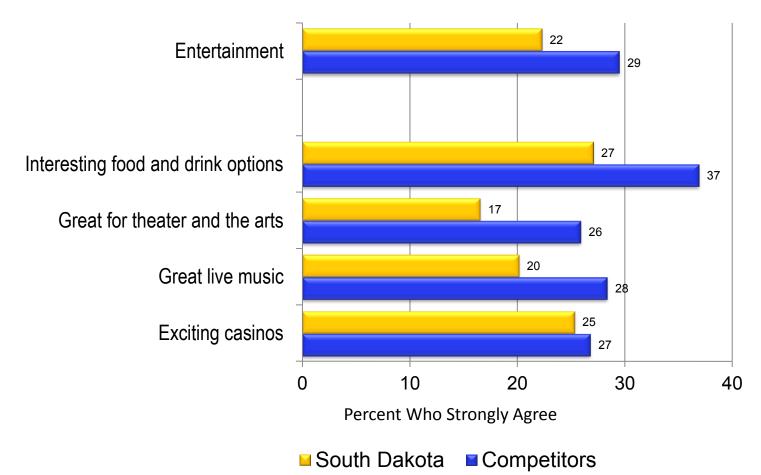
South Dakota's Image vs. Competitors — Sightseeing





South Dakota's Image vs. Competitors — Entertainment

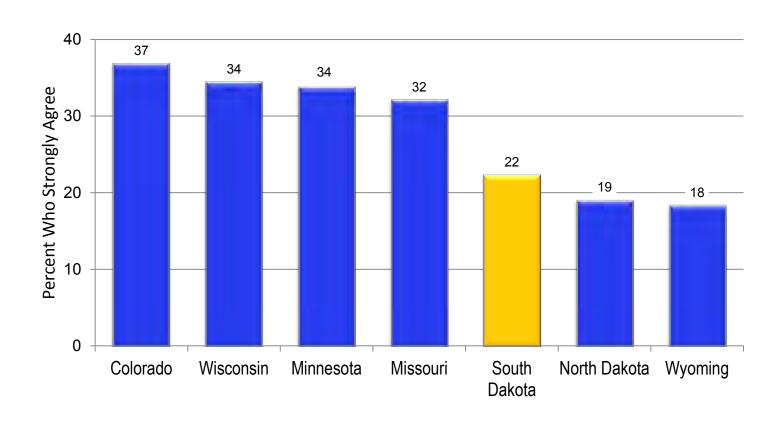




^{*} Competitors include: North Dakota, Minnesota, Wyoming, Wisconsin, Missouri, Colorado

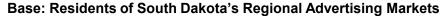
South Dakota's Image vs. Competitors — Entertainment

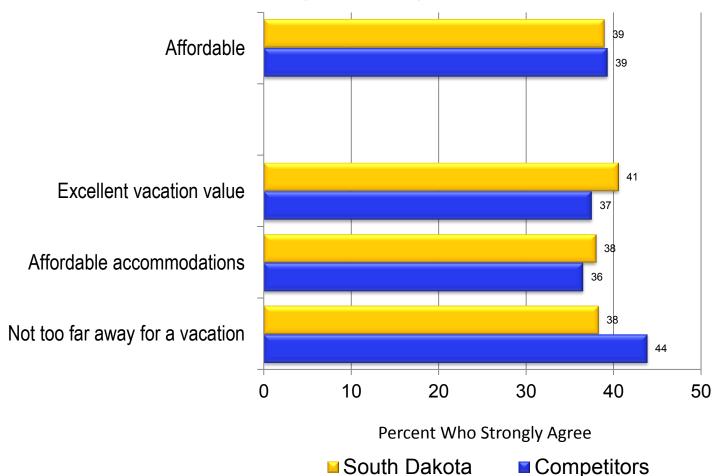




South Dakota's Image vs. Competitors — Affordable



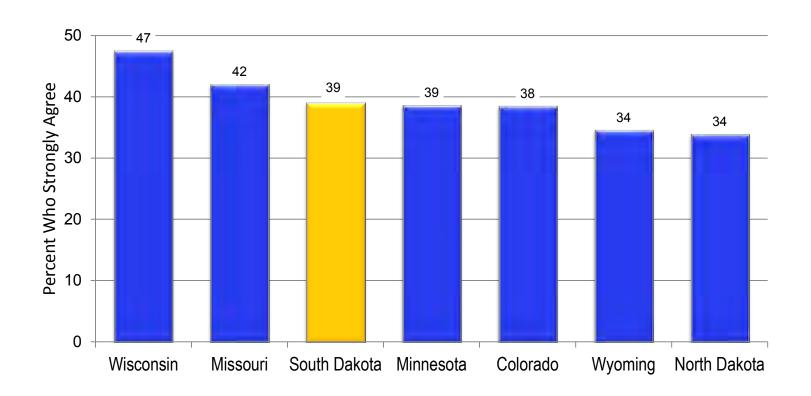




^{*} Competitors include: North Dakota, Minnesota, Wyoming, Wisconsin, Missouri, Colorado

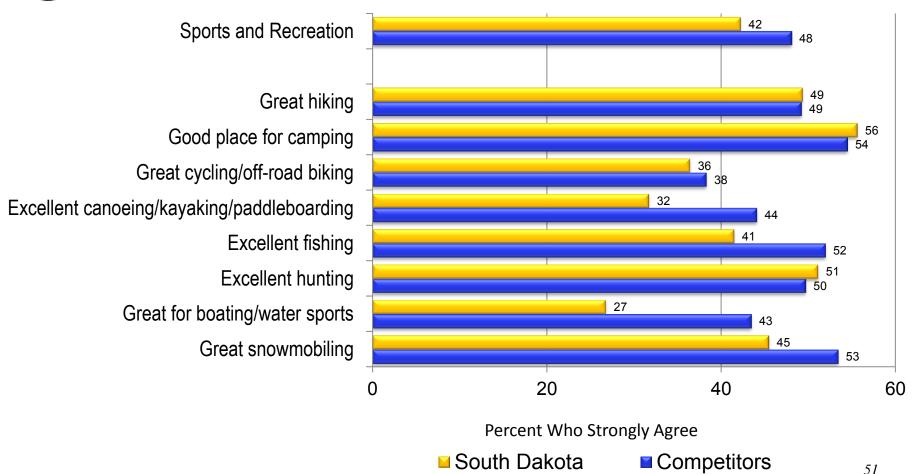
South Dakota's Image vs. Competitors — Affordable





South Dakota's Image vs. Competitors — Sports & Recreation

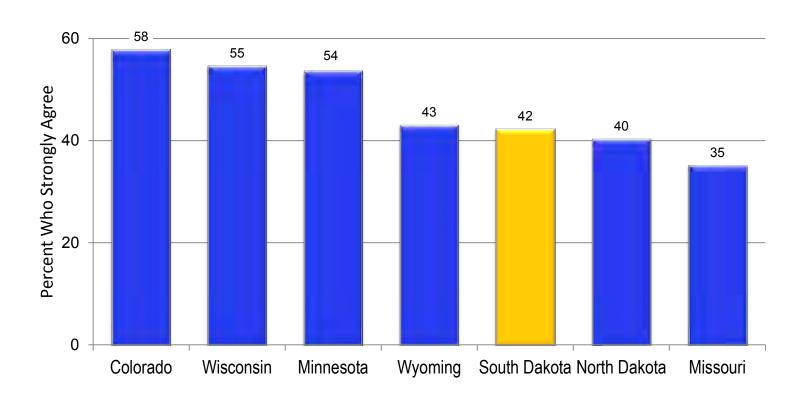




^{*} Competitors include: North Dakota, Minnesota, Wyoming, Wisconsin, Missouri, Colorado

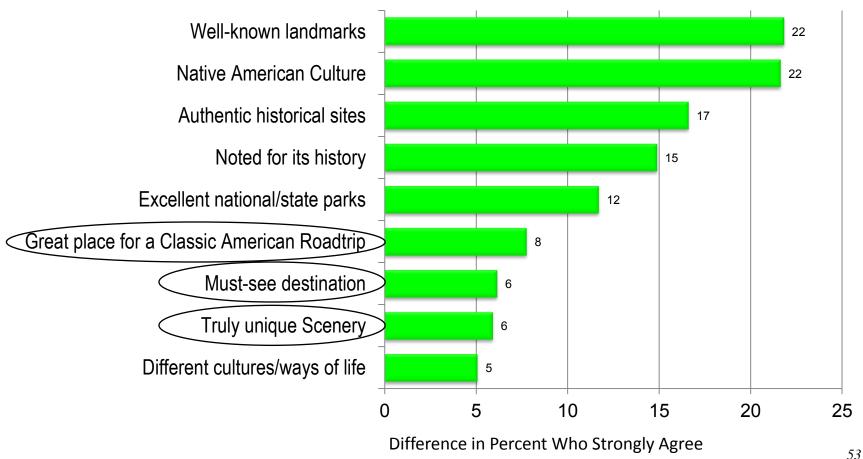
South Dakota's Image vs. Competitors — Sports & Recreation





South Dakota's Image Strengths vs. Competitors





South Dakota's Image Weaknesses vs. Competitors



Base: Residents of South Dakota's Regional Advertising Markets

Great for boating/water sports

Excellent canoeing/kayaking/paddleboarding

Excellent fishing

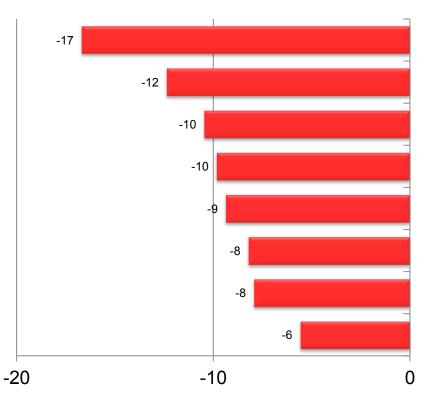
Interesting food and drink options

Great for theater and the arts

Great live music

Great snowmobiling

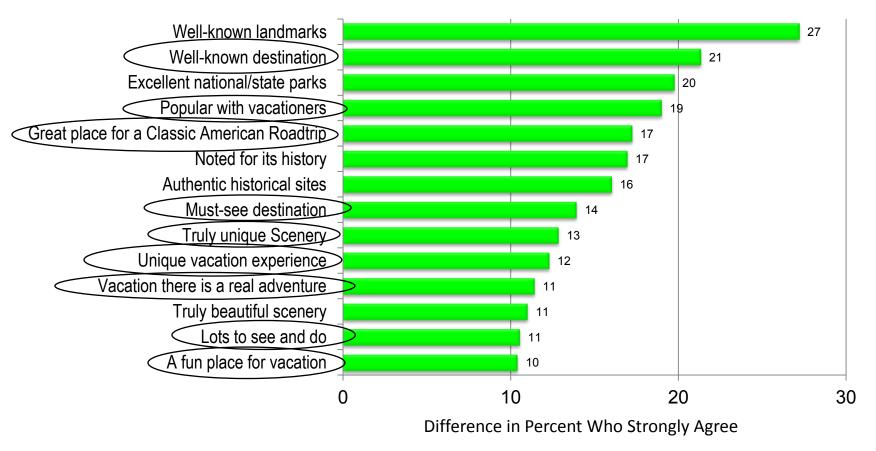
Not too far away for a vacation



Difference in Percent Who Strongly Agree

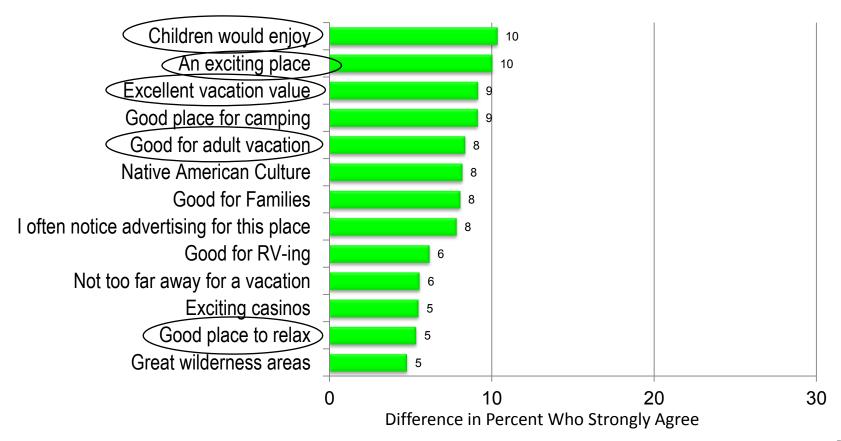
South Dakota's Image Strengths vs. North Dakota





South Dakota's Image Strengths vs. North Dakota (Cont'd)





South Dakota's Image Weaknesses vs. North Dakota



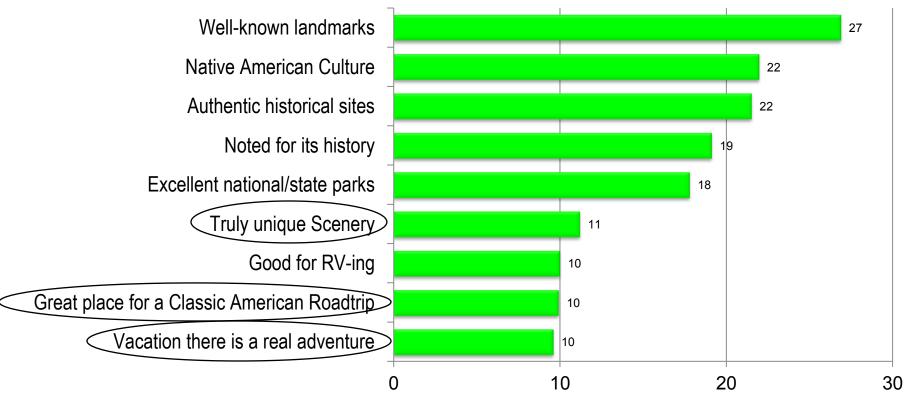
Base: Residents of South Dakota's Regional Advertising Markets

No Image Weaknesses vs. North Dakota

South Dakota's Image Strengths vs. Minnesota



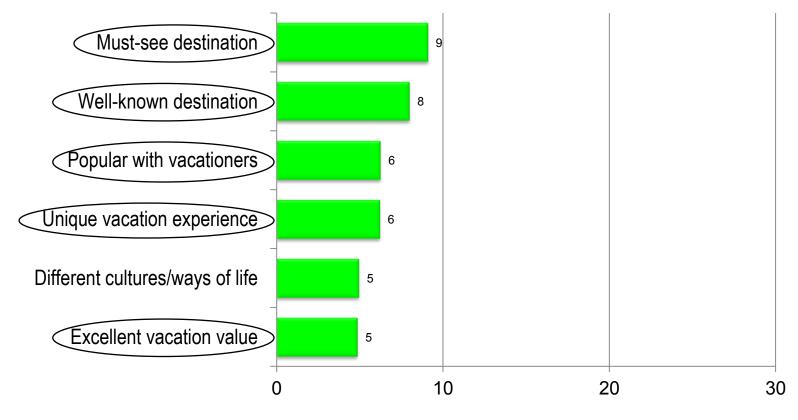
Base: Residents of South Dakota's Regional Advertising Markets



Difference in Percent Who Strongly Agree

South Dakota's Image Strengths vs. Minnesota (Cont'd)





South Dakota's Image Weaknesses vs. Minnesota



Base: Residents of South Dakota's Regional Advertising Markets

Great for boating/water sports

Excellent fishing

Excellent canoeing/kayaking/paddleboarding

Great snowmobiling

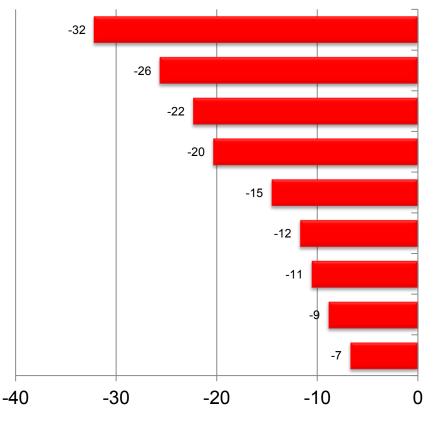
Great for theater and the arts

Interesting food and drink options

Great live music

Exciting casinos

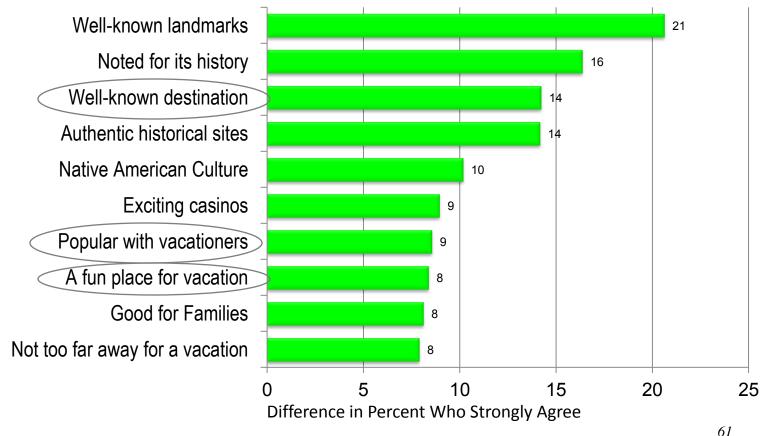
Not too far away for a vacation



Difference in Percent Who Strongly Agree

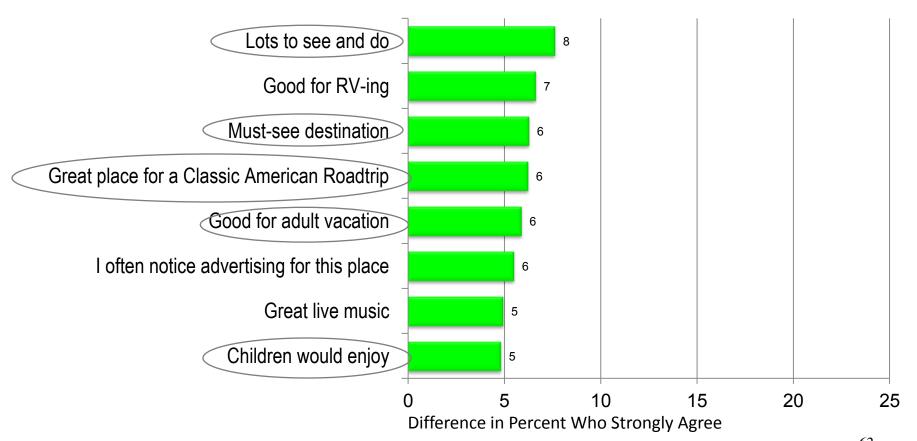
South Dakota's Image Strengths vs. Wyoming





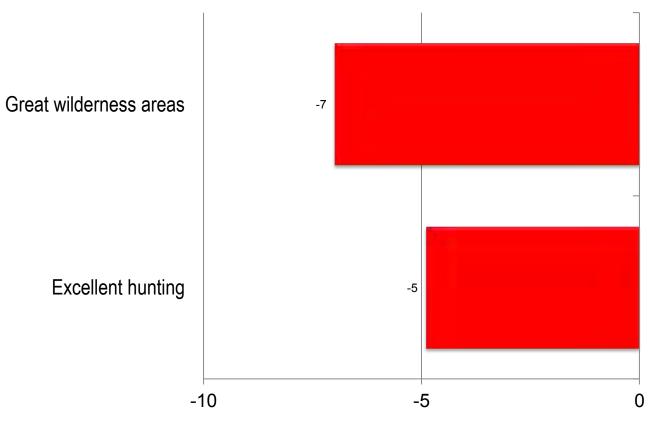
South Dakota's Image Strengths vs. Wyoming (Cont'd)





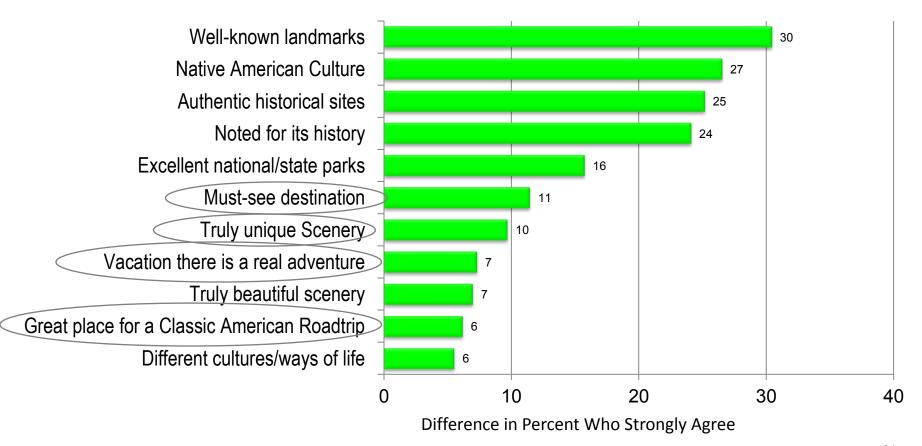
South Dakota's Image Weaknesses vs. Wyoming





South Dakota's Image Strengths vs. Wisconsin



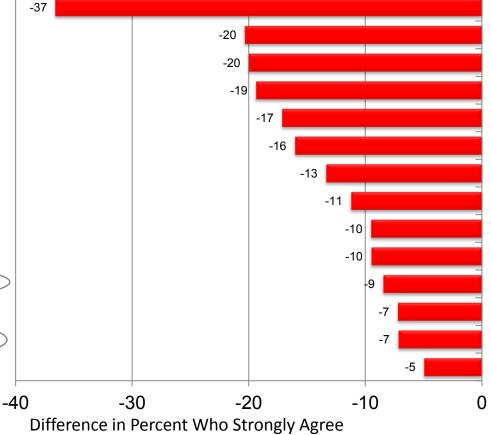


South Dakota's Image Weaknesses vs. Wisconsin



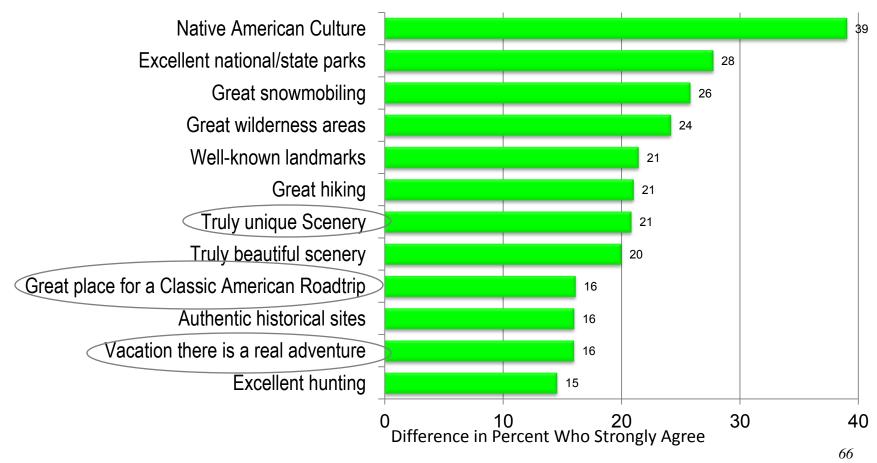
Base: Residents of South Dakota's Regional Advertising Markets

Great for boating/water sports Excellent canoeing/kayaking/paddleboarding **Excellent fishing** Not too far away for a vacation Great snowmobiling Interesting food and drink options Great for theater and the arts Good for Families Exciting casinos Great live music Children would enjoy Affordable accommodations Lots to see and do I often notice advertising for this place



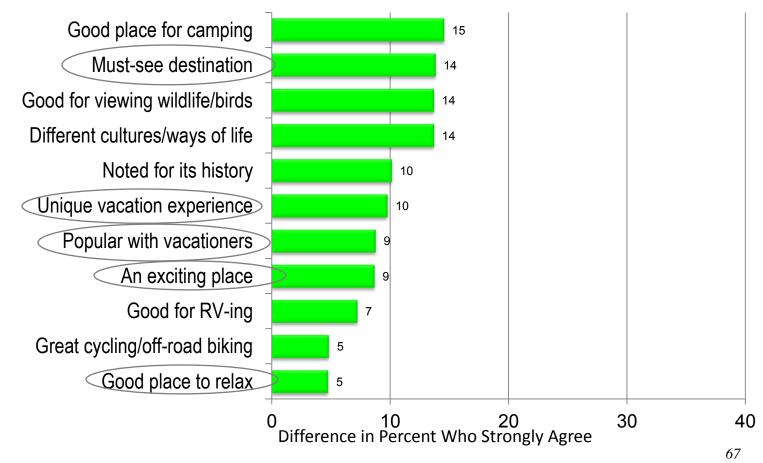
South Dakota's Image Strengths vs. Missouri





South Dakota's Image Strengths vs. Missouri (Cont'd)





South Dakota's Image Weaknesses vs. Missouri



Base: Residents of South Dakota's Regional Advertising Markets

Great for boating/water sports

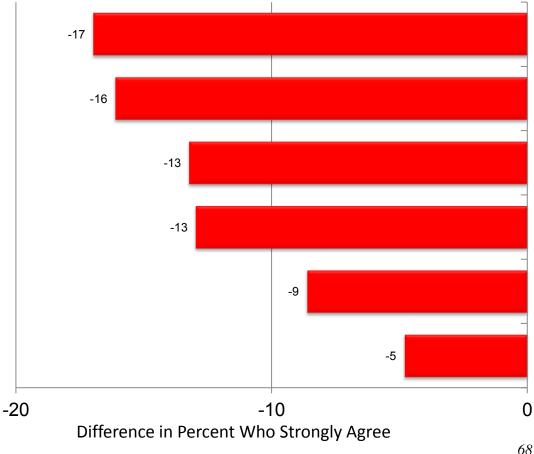
Great live music

Not too far away for a vacation

Great for theater and the arts

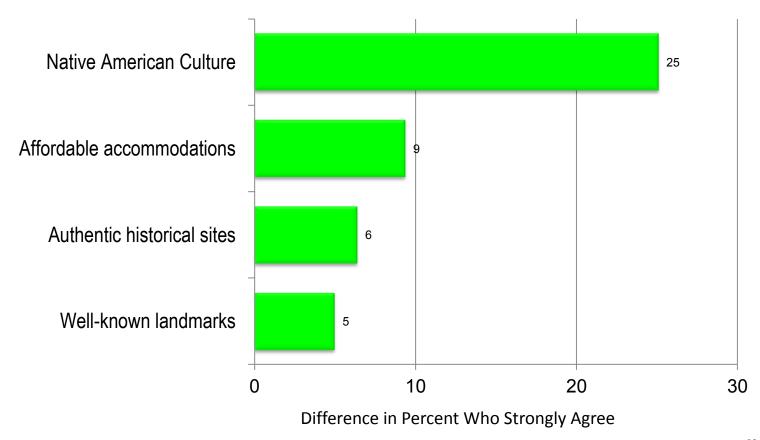
Interesting food and drink options

I often notice advertising for this place



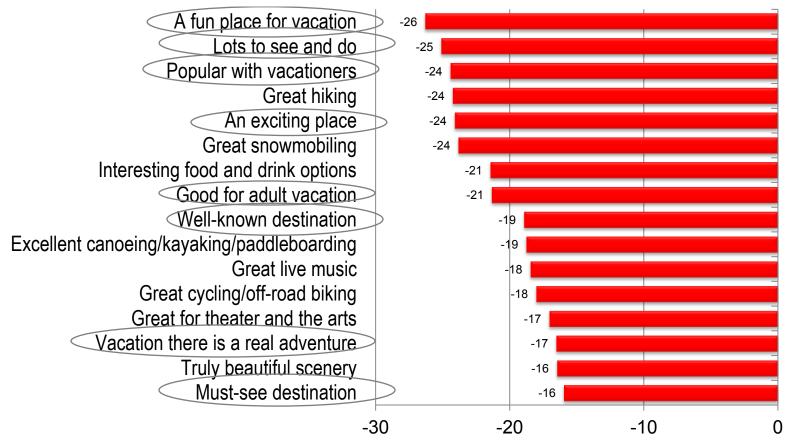
South Dakota's Image Strengths vs. Colorado





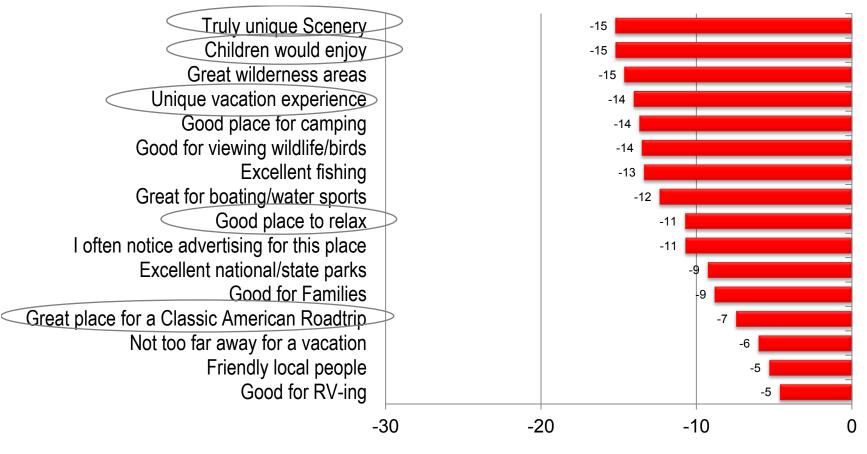
South Dakota's Image Weaknesses vs. Colorado





South Dakota's Image Weaknesses vs. Colorado (Cont'd)



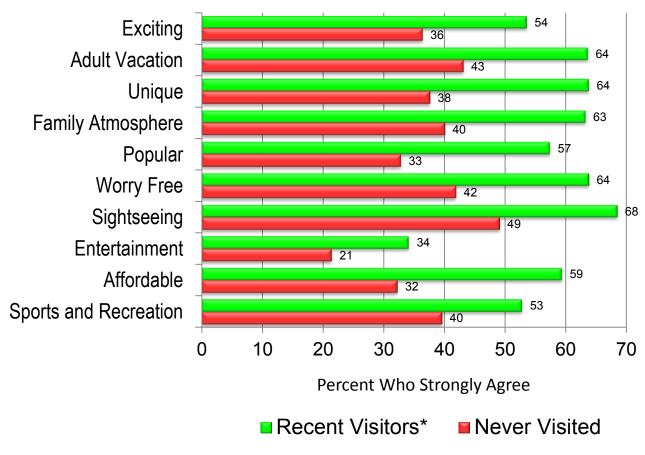




South Dakota's Product Delivery

South Dakota's Product vs. Image

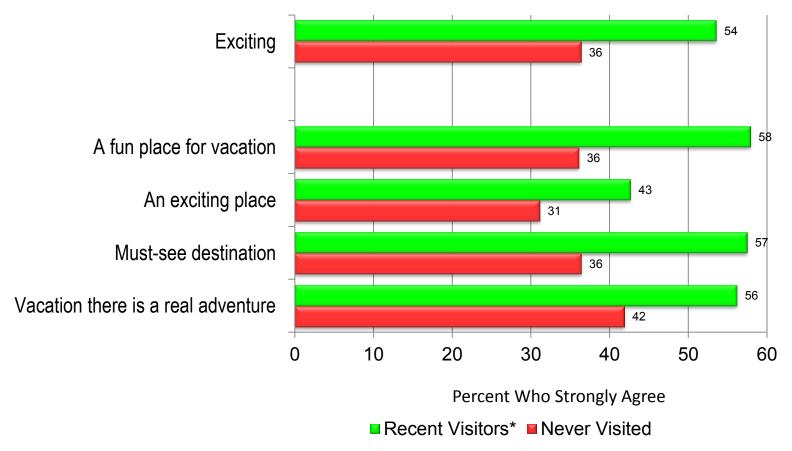




⁷³

South Dakota's Product Delivery vs. Image — Exciting

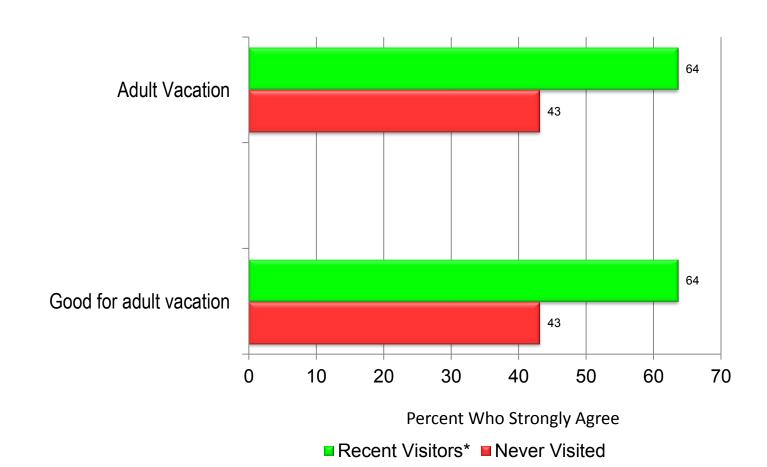




^{*} Visited in past two years

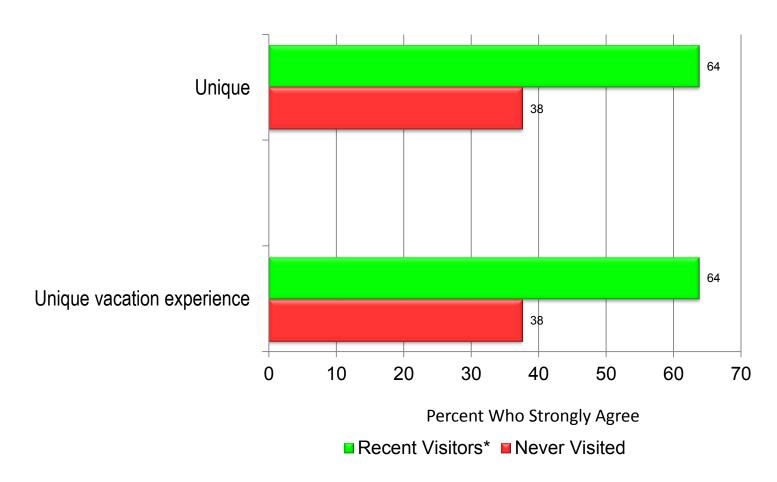
South Dakota's Product Delivery vs. Image — Adult Vacation





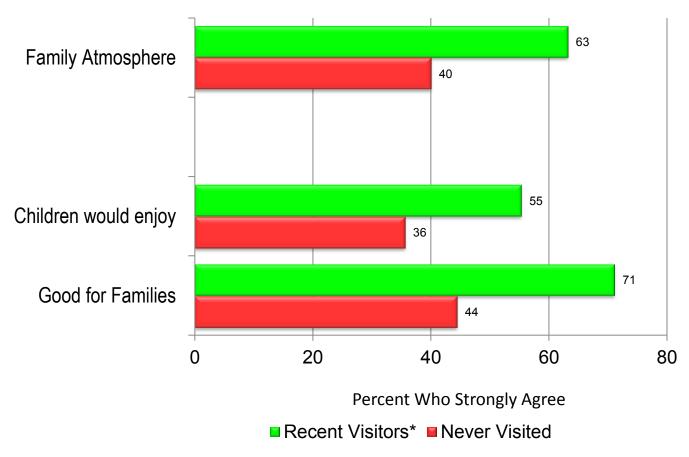
South Dakota's Product Delivery vs. Image — Unique





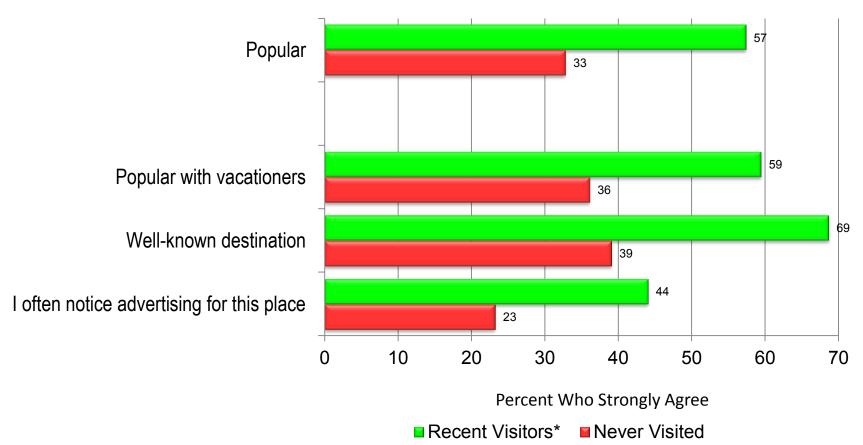
South Dakota's Product Delivery vs. Image — Family Atmosphere





South Dakota's Product Delivery vs. Image — Popular

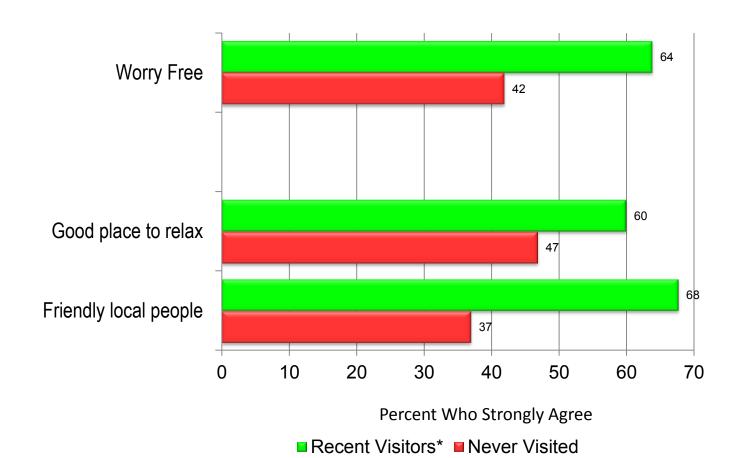




⁷⁸

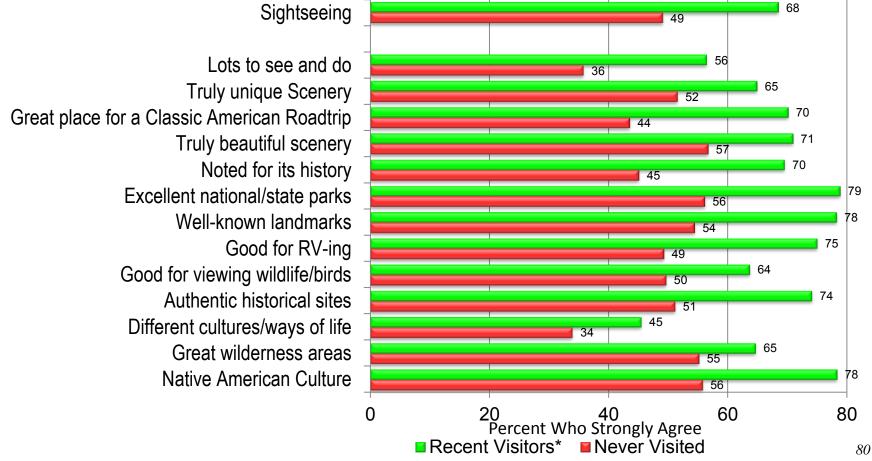
South Dakota's Product Delivery vs. Image — Worry Free





South Dakota's Product Delivery vs. Image — Sightseeing

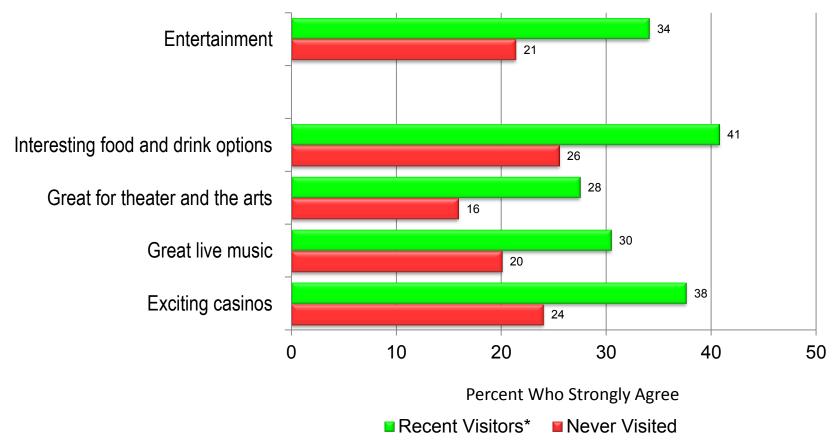




^{*} Visited in past two years

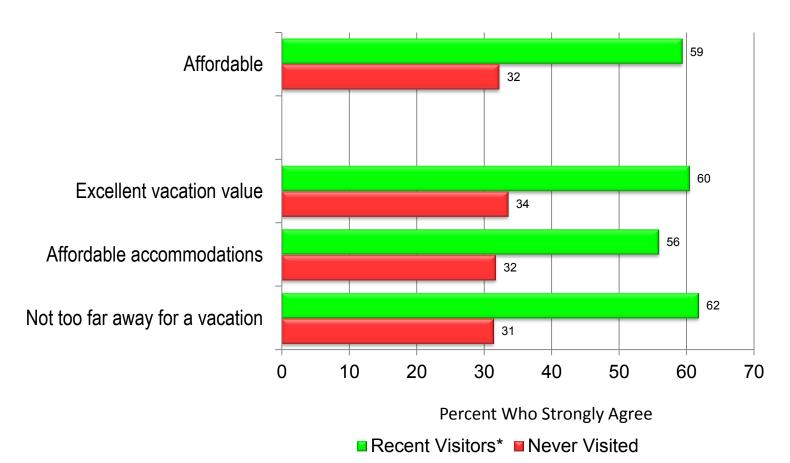
South Dakota's Product Delivery vs. Image — Entertainment





South Dakota's Product Delivery vs. Image — Affordable

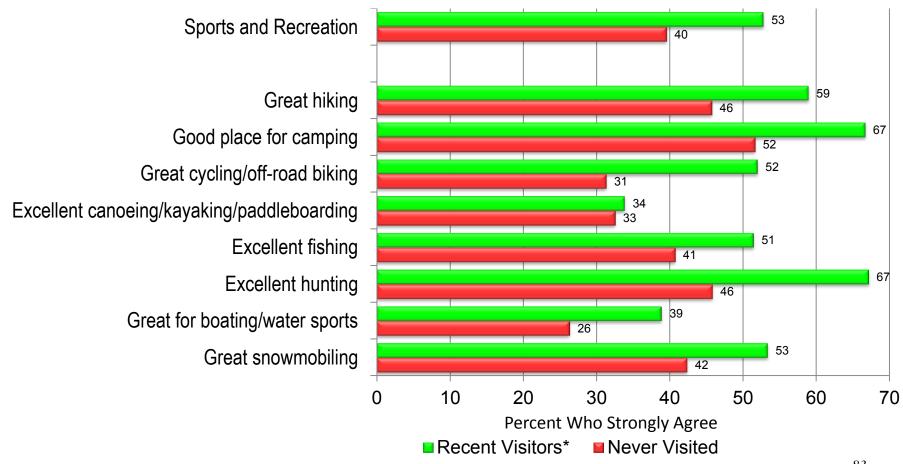




⁸²

South Dakota's Product Delivery vs. Image — Sports and Recreation

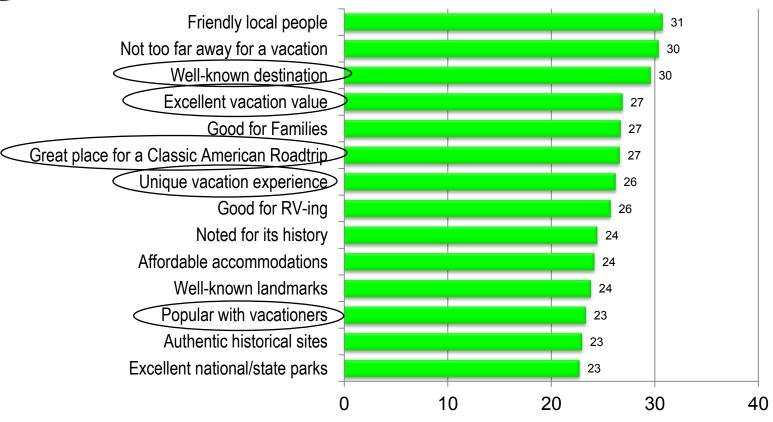




South Dakota's Main Product Strengths vs. Image



Base: Residents of South Dakota's Regional Advertising Markets

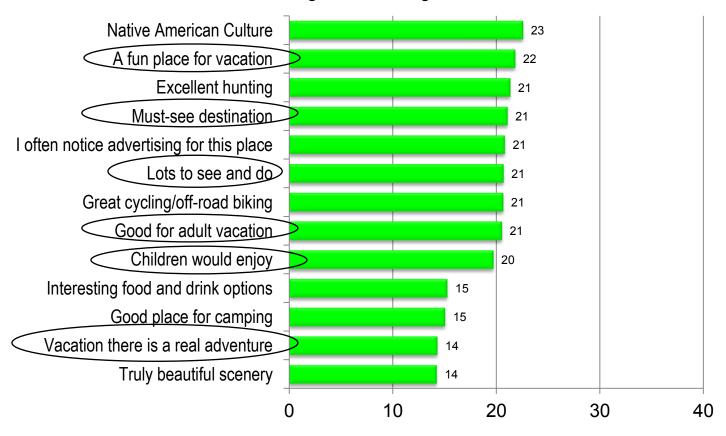


Difference in % Who Strongly Agree – Recent vs. Non-visitors

South Dakota's Main Product Strengths vs. Image (Cont'd)



Base: Residents of South Dakota's Regional Advertising Markets

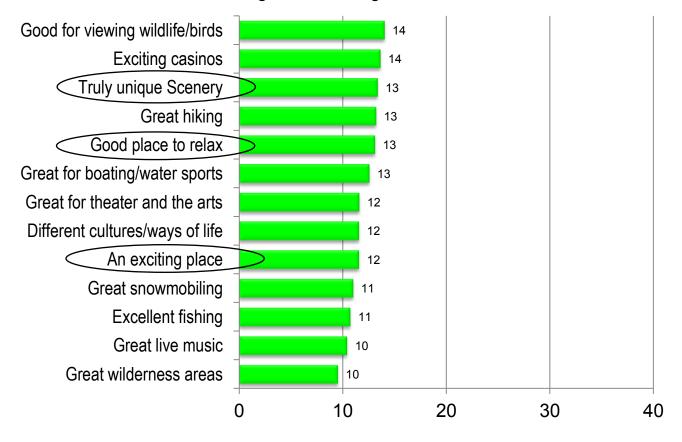


Difference in % Who Strongly Agree – Recent vs. Non-visitors

South Dakota's Main Product Strengths vs. Image (Cont'd)



Base: Residents of South Dakota's Regional Advertising Markets



Difference in % Who Strongly Agree – Recent vs. Non-visitors

South Dakota's Product Weaknesses vs. Image



No Product Weaknesses vs. Image



Creative

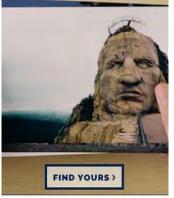
2016 Spring/Summer Ads













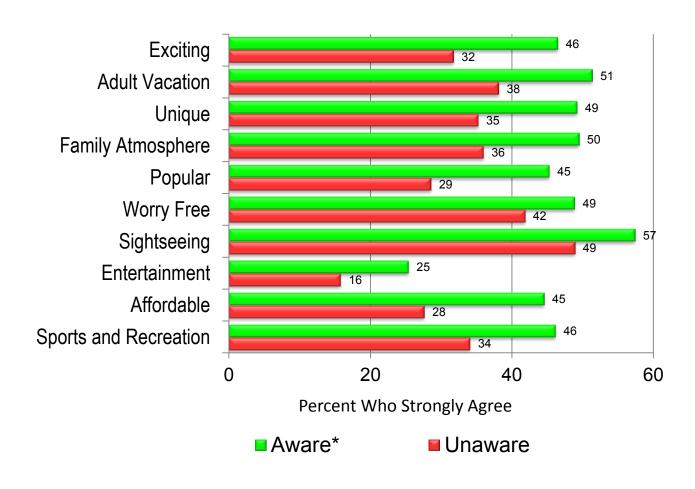




Impact of Advertising on Image

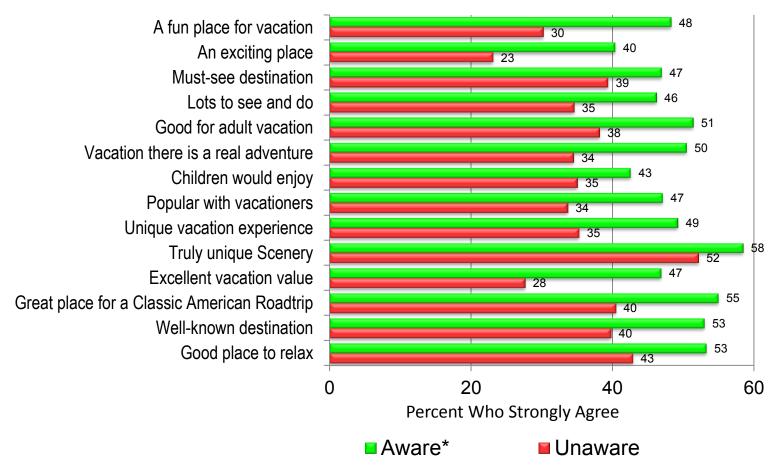
Impact of Advertising on Image – All Advertising Markets





Impact of Advertising on South Dakota's Hot Buttons







Bottom Line Advertising Impacts

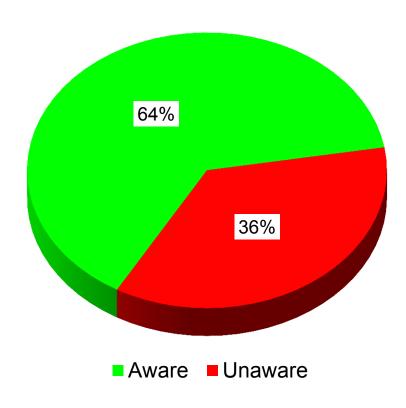
Advertising Impacts

- 64% of all respondents were aware of at least one of Explore South Dakota Tourism's ads.
- Among those who saw South Dakota ads in several types of media, ad recall was highest for Print ads (44%), followed by Digital ads (40%). Among those who only saw ads in one medium, Print ads also had the highest recall (7%), followed by Digital and Out-of-Home, tied at 3%.
- The campaign generated 1.3 million incremental trips that would not otherwise have taken place, which brought \$166.7 million in incremental visitor spending and \$11.9 million in state and local taxes.
- It cost \$2.45 in advertising to generate each incremental trip.
- Every \$1 invested in the South Dakota ad campaign in the evaluated markets generated \$51 in visitor spending and \$4 in tax revenue for the benefit of South Dakota residents.
- In addition to the short-term impacts, we estimate that the advertising has influenced the planning of a further 4 million trips to South Dakota in 2017. Although not all of these trips will happen, we expect that a sizeable proportion will convert, adding significantly to the return on South Dakota's investment in tourism marketing.

Awareness of South Dakota's 2016 Advertising

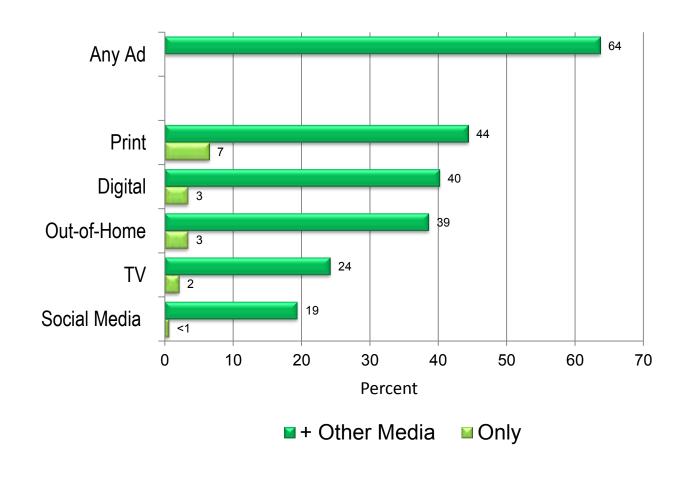


Base: South Dakota's Advertising Markets



Awareness by Media





Incremental Trips, Spending and Taxes Due to Advertising



	2016 Ad Campaign
Ad Investment	\$ 3.2M
Incremental Trips	1.3M
Incremental Visitor Spending	\$ 166.7M
Incremental Taxes	\$ 11.9M

- Ad Investment excludes Production/Other Costs
- Effective state & local tax rate developed from 2016 SD TSA Analysis: 7.15%

Campaign Efficiency



	2016 Ad Campaign
Ad \$'s per Trip	\$2.45
Trips per Ad \$	0.4

The Bottom Line in 2016



	2016 Ad Campaign
Spending ROI	\$51
Tax ROI	\$4

Longer-term Impact of Advertising – Intent to Visit South Dakota



Intend to Visit South Dakota in Next 12 Months*	
Overnight Trip Intenders	2.3M
Day Trip Intenders	1.7M
Total Intenders	4.0M

^{*} Among those who did not visit South Dakota in 2016





2016 Tourism Advertising Halo Effect

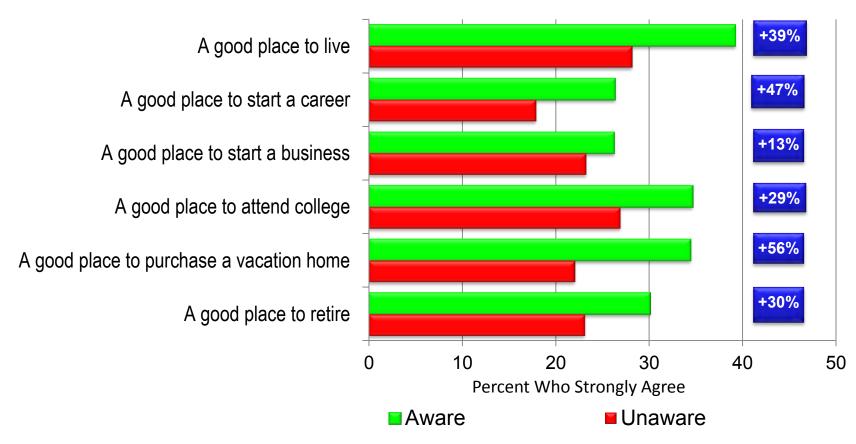
South Dakota's "Halo Effect"



- The following analysis takes the psychological concept of the "halo effect", which posits that "our judgements of a person's character can be influenced by our overall impression of them" and applies it to tourism promotion advertising.
- There is significant evidence that the gains in image from South Dakota's tourism advertising extend beyond South Dakota's image as a place to visit to other areas, such as a place to live, do business, attend college and retire.
- South Dakota's success in attracting visitors to the state has a direct benefit for the state's economic development objectives.

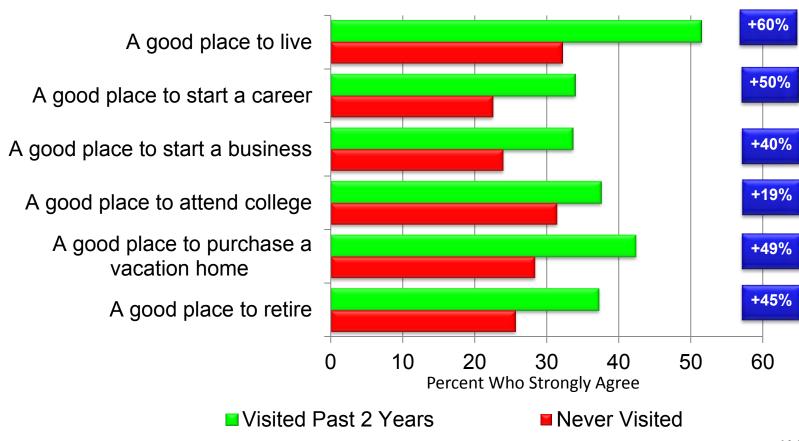
Impact of South Dakota's 2016 Tourism Campaign on State's Economic Development Image





Impact of *Visitation* on South Dakota's Economic Development Image

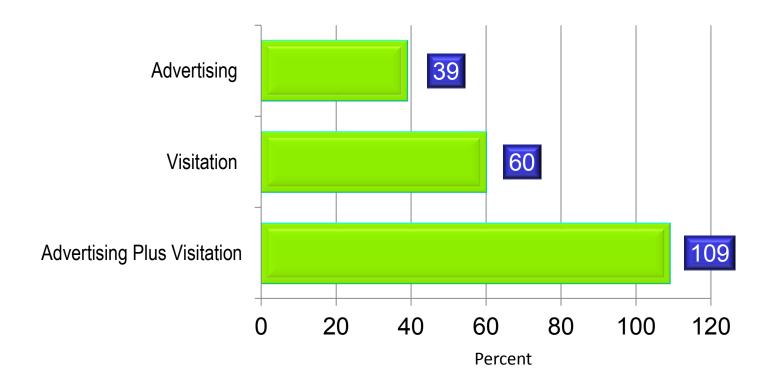




A Good Place to Live

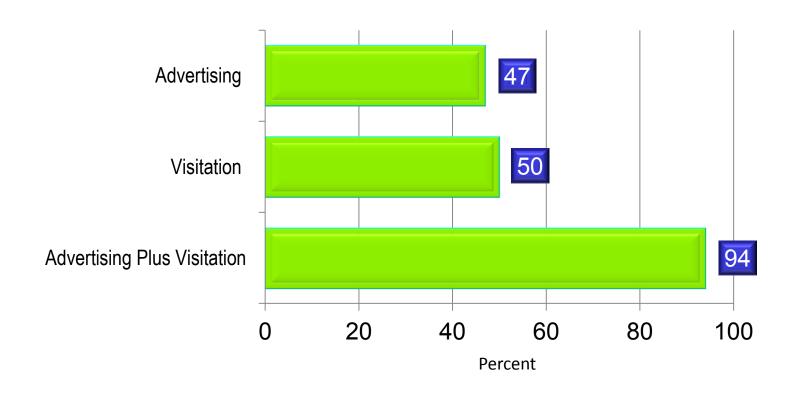






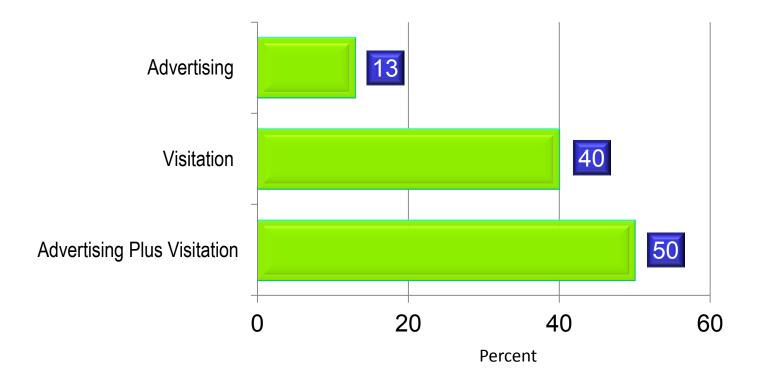
A Good Place to Start a Career





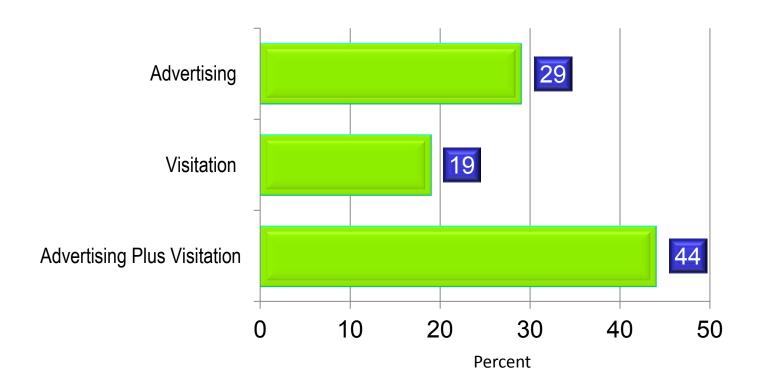
A Good Place to Start a Business





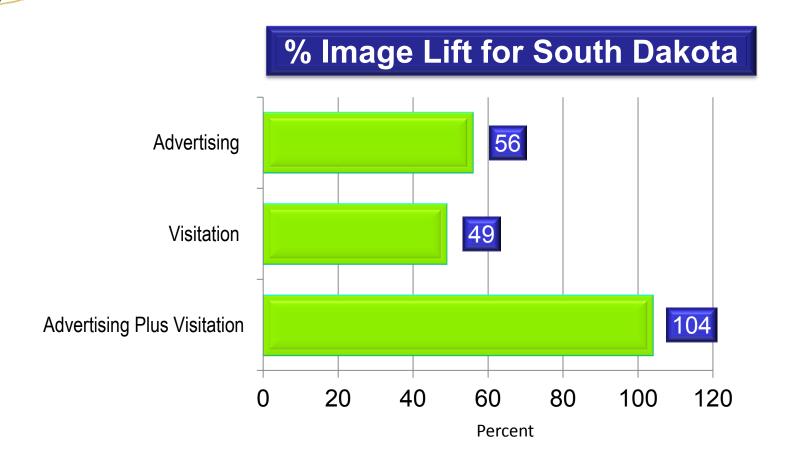
A Good Place to Attend College





A Good Place to Purchase a Vacation Home





A Good Place to Retire



