Introduction to Regional Profiles

The following regional profiles offer a snapshot of selected indicators of child and family well-being for each of Vermont’s 12 regions, which line up with the Agency of Human Services Districts. Each indicator represents the most high-quality, up-to-date data that is available at the regional level and includes the same data from five years prior for comparison.

Each profile includes a highlight of a Regional Council success as well as five key data points: 1. The estimated population of children under 10, 2. The percentage of children under 12 living in households with incomes below 185% of the Federal Poverty Level (the benchmark for many benefit programs), 3. The number of children under 9 living in out-of-home custody, 4. The percentage of children ready for kindergarten, and 5. The percentage of third grade children reading at or above "proficient."

Current Status of All Vermont Children

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHILD POPULATION¹ (2021)</th>
<th>CHILDREN LIVING IN POVERTY²* (2020)</th>
<th>CHILDREN IN OUT OF HOME CUSTODY³ (2022)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>60,364 children under 10</td>
<td>30.4% children under 12 (22,125)</td>
<td>541 children under 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decreased from 62,535 in 2016</td>
<td>Decreased from 35.1% in 2015 (26,732)</td>
<td>Decreased from 618 in 2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Under 185% of the Federal Poverty Level

Educational Assessments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VERMONT STUDENTS</th>
<th>KINDERGARTEN READINESS⁴ (FALL 2021)</th>
<th>3RD GRD READING PROFICIENCY⁵ (SPRING 2021)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Students</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>42.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>39.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>45.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free and Reduced Lunch Eligible</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>25.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Free and Reduced Lunch Eligible</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>54.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attended Publicly Funded PreK</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Did Not Attend Publicly Funded PreK</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historically Marginalized</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>27.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Historically Marginalized</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>59.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Addison

Mary Jane Broughton (1951-2022) was a teacher in Addison County for more than 40 years. She taught, encouraged, and mentored other teachers as she continued her own education in instructional best practices. The Addison Regional Council was inspired by Mary Jane’s passion for supporting the early childhood workforce and her deep devotion to mentorship. She was a dedicated teacher who loved children and loved to see them grow. Her passing in March inspired the Addison Regional Council to create a scholarship fund to support professional development for early childhood educators working with children birth to age 8 in community or public school programs. Priority is given to applicants looking to further their knowledge in the area of social-emotional learning. The recipients in the fund’s first year included a new teacher working in a nature-based program and two family child care providers and former colleagues of Mary Jane who are building on work the three of them did together.

**Current Status**

**CHILD POPULATION**¹ (2021)

3,116 children under 10

Decreased from 3,328 in 2016

**CHILDREN LIVING IN POVERTY**² (2020)

22.5% children under 12 (874)

Decreased from 35.3% in 2015 (1,486)

**CHILDREN IN OUT OF HOME CUSTODY**³ (2022)

29 children under 9

Decreased from 32 in 2017

*Under 185% of the Federal Poverty Level

**Educational Assessments**

**SUPERVISORY UNION / SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**KINDERGARTEN READINESS**⁴ (FALL 2021)

Addison Central SD 91%

Addison Northwest SU 86%

Addison Rutland Unified Union SD / Slate Valley Unified Union SD 95%

Addison Northeast Unified SD / Mount Abraham Union SD 86%

**3RD GRD READING PROFICIENCY**⁵ (SPRING 2021)

49.5%

60.7%

28.2%

47.6%
Building Bright Futures’ Regional Councils bring together early childhood stakeholders to identify gaps, share expertise and resources, elevate regional and family voices, and implement strategies in each respective region. These strategies include identifying gaps for children and families and aiming to improve access to services and supports across early care, health, and education for young children and families in their communities. Regional Council members are crucial to each stage of this process, both in official convenings of the Regional Councils and within the early childhood system more broadly.

The 12 Regional Councils are mandated to support an integrated system of early care, health, and education at the local level under Vermont Statute Title 33 § Chapter 46. In alignment with, and with support from, the State Advisory Council, Regional Councils are tasked with coordinating and implementing services in accordance with system and regional priorities. Regular Regional Council meetings are just one way that this mandate is fulfilled.

Early childhood stakeholders from across Vermont bring their perspectives together through Regional Councils 8-10 times a year. Participants at regional tables include professionals in physical and mental health, social services, basic needs, early childhood care and education, and preK-12 education; families of children under 9; and community members invested in the well-being of young children.

Annually, each Regional Council sets two regional priorities to guide their work. The map below illustrates the top two priorities of each region, showcasing the similarities and differences among the 12 regions in Vermont.

More information about each region, including Regional Council meetings, can be found at buildingbrightfutures.org/what-we-do/regional-councils/