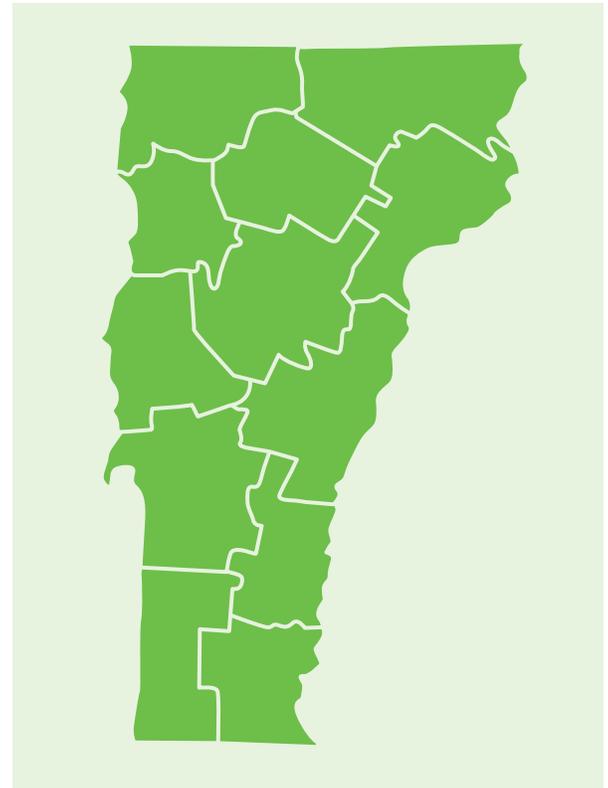


# Introduction to Regional Profiles

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

### CHILD POPULATION<sup>1</sup> (2021)

**60,364** children under 10

Decreased from 62,535 in 2016

### CHILDREN LIVING IN POVERTY<sup>2\*</sup> (2020)

**30.4%** children under 12 (22,125)

Decreased from 35.1% in 2015 (26,732)

### CHILDREN IN OUT OF HOME CUSTODY<sup>3</sup> (2022)

**541** children under 9

Decreased from 618 in 2017

*\*Under 185% of the Federal Poverty Level*

## Educational Assessments

### VERMONT STUDENTS

### KINDERGARTEN READINESS<sup>4</sup> (FALL 2021)

### 3RD GRD READING PROFICIENCY<sup>5</sup> (SPRING 2021)

|                                     |     |       |
|-------------------------------------|-----|-------|
| All Students                        | 85% | 42.5% |
| Male                                | 82% | 39.3% |
| Female                              | 89% | 45.9% |
| Free and Reduced Lunch Eligible     | 74% | 25.4% |
| Not Free and Reduced Lunch Eligible | 91% | 54.2% |
| Attended Publicly Funded PreK       | 87% | NA    |
| Did Not Attend Publicly Funded PreK | 80% | NA    |
| Historically Marginalized           | NA  | 27.4% |
| Not Historically Marginalized       | NA  | 59.1% |

# Franklin & Grand Isle

The Franklin Grand Isle Regional Council identified two priorities for 2022: supporting families' access to basic needs and building a more integrated system of care. Given challenges identified by the community, including the high cost of owning a vehicle and the shortage of public transportation options in this region, a pilot project during 2022 has helped families address transportation barriers by providing financial assistance with vehicle repairs, inspections, winter tire purchases, and gas cards. Led by Franklin Grand Isle Community Action, Head Start and the Parent Child Center of Northwestern Counseling and Support Services (NCSS), and supported by the Vermont Early Childhood Fund, these financial supports and services related to transportation are filling a critical need and supporting mobility for families in this region of the state. As a recent participant of the program noted, "At a time when fuel prices are soaring and significantly impacting the financial stability of families, to have funding to support this significant expense has been an incredible blessing."



## Current Status

### CHILD POPULATION<sup>1</sup> (2021)

**6,544** children under 10

Decreased from 6,712 in 2016

### CHILDREN LIVING IN POVERTY<sup>2\*</sup> (2020)

**21.6%** children under 12 (1,748)

Decreased from 32.2% in 2015 (2,547)

### CHILDREN IN OUT OF HOME CUSTODY<sup>3</sup> (2022)

**62** children under 9

Decreased from 84 in 2017

*\*Under 185% of the Federal Poverty Level*

## Educational Assessments

### SUPERVISORY UNION / SCHOOL DISTRICT

Franklin Northeast SU

Franklin West SU

Grand Isle SU

Maple Run SD

Missisquoi Valley SD

### KINDERGARTEN READINESS<sup>4</sup> (FALL 2021)

82%

91%

86%

93%

90%

### 3RD GRD READING PROFICIENCY<sup>5</sup> (SPRING 2021)

33.5%

42.6%

34.0%

25.7%

53.5%

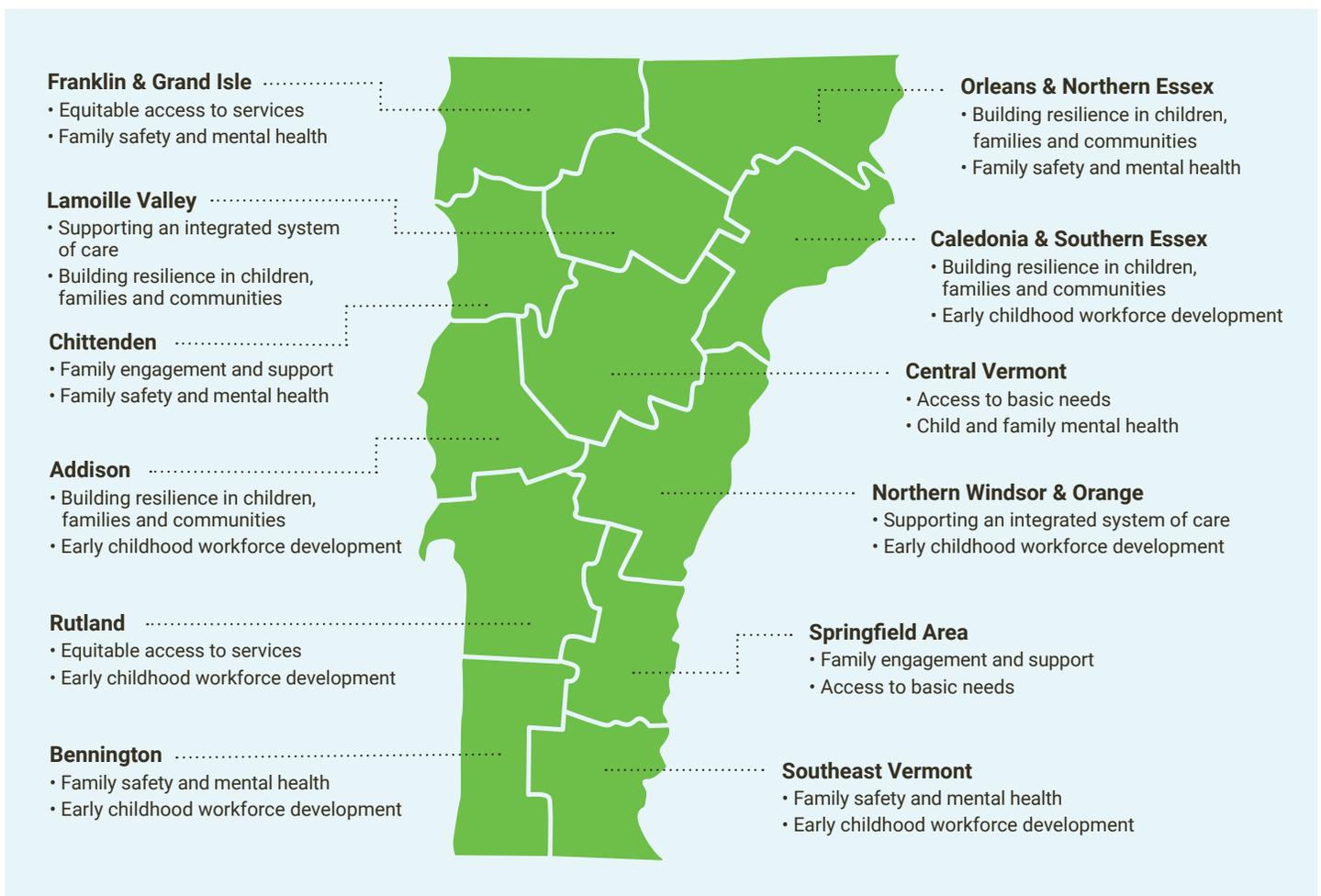
# ABOUT REGIONAL COUNCILS

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/](https://buildingbrightfutures.org/what-we-do/regional-councils/)