

Vermont's Population-Level Outcomes and Indicators

I. Overview and History of Amendments

A. Report. The Chief Performance Officer's (CPO) annual State Outcome Report on population-level outcomes and indicators is due September 30th. [3 V.S.A. § 2311\(a\)](#).

B. Outcomes.

(1) *Revision process.* Outcomes are set forth in statute in [3 V.S.A. § 2311\(b\)](#) and therefore can only be amended via legislation.

(2) *History of amendments.*

1. [2014, No. 186, Sec. 2](#) established eight outcomes, codified at 3 V.S.A. § 2311(b). Outcome #6 (Vermont's children and young people achieve their potential) has five sub-outcomes.
2. [2016, No. 124, Sec. 2](#) amended Outcome #8 and added Outcome #9.
3. [2017, No. 6, Sec. 2](#):
 - a. Amended Outcome #4 (Vermont is a safe place to live);
 - b. Removed all the Suboutcomes from Outcome #6 (Vermont's children and young people achieve their potential);
 - c. Separated and amended former Outcome #7 (re: elders and people with disabilities) into Outcomes #7 and #8; and
 - d. Amended Outcome #9 (Vermont has open, effective, and inclusive government).

C. Indicators.

(1) *Revision process.*

- Legislation is not required to revise indicators, although revising them through legislation is an option.
- [3 V.S.A. § 2311\(c\)](#) provides an informal process to revise indicators. That process is as follows:
 - Annually, on or before March 1st, a committee of jurisdiction or the CPO may submit to the GAC a request that an indicator be revised.
 - If that request is approved by the GAC, the CPO shall use those revised indicators in his or her next annual report.

(2) *History of amendments.*

1. [2014, No. 186, Sec. 3](#) established in session law initial indicators for each of the outcomes. *See also* [Attachment A](#).
2. [2016, No. 124, Sec. 3](#) amended 2014's initial indicators, including adding indicators for new Outcome #9. *See also* [Attachment B](#).
3. At its meeting on May 5, 2016, GAC approved revisions to the indicators for Outcome #3 (environment is clean and sustainable) that were proposed by the CPO in consultation with the Department of Environmental Conservation. *See* [Attachment C](#).
4. At its meeting on August 3, 2016, GAC approved adding to Outcome #1 (prosperous economy) current indicators (F) (average wage), (H) (gross domestic product), and (I) (gross domestic product per capita), which were proposed by members of House Commerce and discussed by GAC and members of ACCD at GAC's July 6, 2016 meeting.
5. At its meeting on September 7, 2016, GAC approved all the revisions to the indicators proposed by AHS in [this document](#) (*see also* [Attachment D](#)) and also approved adding the three Judiciary indicators (pg. 2 of [this document](#); *see also* [Attachment E](#)) to Outcome #8 (open and effective government).
6. At its meeting on October 5, 2016, GAC approved the following revisions:
 - a. In Outcome #1 (prosperous economy), in Indicator (G) (poverty), by striking out "and below 400% of the federal poverty level".
 - b. In Outcome #4 (communities are safe and supportive):
 - In Indicator (E), (housing), by substituting "housing they can afford" for "affordable housing"; and
 - By moving Indicators (D) (abuse reports re: vulnerable adults) and (E) (housing) to Outcome #5 (families).
 - c. In Outcome #5, by adding new Indicator (E) ("percent of Vermont households with food insecurity") *as a placeholder*.
 - d. In Suboutcome #6(B) (children are ready for school), by moving Indicator (i) (children receiving vaccines) to Suboutcome #6(A) (pregnant women and young people thrive).

- e. In Outcome #8 (open and effective government), in Indicator (H) (felony cases), by inserting “established” preceding “timeframe”.
7. Via [2017, No. 6, Sec. 2](#), eff. [March 29, 2017](#):
- a. In Outcome #6 (children and young people achieve potential), since all Suboutcomes were repealed, all Suboutcome Indicators were moved under this overall Outcome.
- b. Since former Outcome #7 (re: elders and people with disabilities) was separated into Outcomes #7 and #8, each applicable Indicator was moved to the appropriate Outcome.
8. At its meeting on [September 19, 2017](#), GAC approved the following revisions:
- a. **TENTATIVE** In Outcome #1 (economy), deleted former Indicators:
- (C) (med. house price);
 - (E) (annualized unemployment rate);
 - (F) (ave. wage);
 - (I) (GDP per capita);
 - (J) (working lands);
 - (K) (farm sales);
 - (L) (fruit and veggie sales); and
 - (M) (farmers’ markets).
- b. **TENTATIVE** In Outcome #6 (children and young people achieve potential):
- Deleted former Indicators:
 - (ii) (preterm live births);
 - (iii) (infant mortality);
 - (vi) (children w/subsidies in high quality programs);
 - (vii) (school attendance);
 - (xv) (Family Ct. delinquencies);
 - (xvi) (DOC supervision); and
 - (xvii) (Medicaid enrollees; well-care visits);
 - Moved former Indicator (iv) (vaccines) to Outcome #2 (health);
 - Combined (ix) and (xix) (re: high school graduation and post-school plans); and
 - Combined (x)-(xiv) (re: risky youth behavior (pregnancy, cigarettes, marijuana, binge drinking)).

- c. In Outcome #7 (elders):
- Deleted sole Indicator (A) (employment rate); and
 - Added [DAIL's 1st and 4th recommended indicators](#) as new Indicators (A) (re: AARP ranking) and (B) (re: hospice enrollment). *See also* [Attachment F](#).
- d. In Outcome #8 (people with disabilities), revised sole Indicator (A) (employment rate) with the more specific language set forth in [DAIL's 2nd recommended indicator](#). *See also* [Attachment G](#).
- e. **TENTATIVE** In Outcome #9 (open, effective, and inclusive government):
- Deleted former Indicators:
 - (A) (State employee survey);
 - (B) (State employees voluntarily leaving job);
 - (F) (LEAN); and
 - (G)-(I) (Judiciary dispositions);
 - In former Indicator (C)/new Indicator (A) (general election voters), insert “and eligible voters” following “registered voters”;
 - Combined former Indicators (D) and (E) (State contracts and grants with performance measures) as new Indicator (B); and
 - Added new Indicators (C) (online payments), (D) (website templates), and (E) (response time policy).
9. At its meeting on November 14, 2017, GAC approved the following **TENTATIVE** revisions:
- a. In accordance with AHS PAL recommendations, in Outcome #1 (economy), in Indicator (D) (poverty level), following “percent of population living”, substituted “at or below 185% of the federal poverty level” for “below the federal poverty level and below 200% of the federal poverty level (children, adults, people with disabilities of working age, and adults over age 65)”.

- b. In accordance with AHS PAL recommendations, in Outcome #2 (health):
- Deleted former Indicators:
 - (C) (older Vermonters drinking at level of risk);
 - (D) (persons over 12 needing, not receiving alcohol treatment);
 - (E) (persons over 12 needing, not receiving illicit drug use treatment);
 - (F) (persons over 12 misusing pain Rx in last year);
 - (H) (adults with health insurance);
 - (I) (children with health insurance);
 - (M) (food recall incidents); and
 - (N) (children 19-35 mos. receiving recommended vaccines); and
 - Added new Indicator (C) (adults binge drinking).
- c. In accordance with DEC Commissioner and PAL recommendations, in Outcome #3 (environment):
- Moved former Indicator (C) (retail electric sales from renewable energy) to Outcome #10 (infrastructure);
 - Deleted former Indicators (E) (% of Lake Champlain meeting water quality standards) and (I) (Brownfields Program);
 - Clarified Indicator (C) (inland waters) to specifically exclude Lake Champlain from “inland waters”; and
 - In Indicator (E) (air quality), following “air quality”, substituted “in Vermont that poses a moderate or greater risk to sensitive populations” for “alerts”.
- d. In accordance with AHS PAL recommendations, in Outcome #6 (children and young people):
- In Indicator (D) (high school seniors), deleted “rate of high school graduations per 1,000 high school students and” preceding “rate of high school seniors with plans . . .”;
 - In Indicator (E) (adolescents using marijuana), following “percent of adolescents”, substituted “in grades 9-12 using marijuana within last 30 days” for “engaging in risky

behavior (pregnancy, smoking cigarettes, using marijuana, or binge drinking)”; and

- In Indicator (F) (adolescent suicide), following “suicide”, substituted “plan” for “attempt that required medical attention”.
- e. In Outcome #9 (open, effective, and inclusive government), in Indicator (A) (voters), substituted “eligible and registered voters” for “registered voters and eligible voters”.

II. Current Outcomes and Indicators as of November 14, 2017¹

- (1) Vermont has a prosperous economy.**
- (A) percent or rate per 1,000 jobs of nonpublic sector employment;
 - (B) median household income;
 - (C) rate of resident unemployment per 1,000 residents;
 - (D) percent of population living at or below 185% of the federal poverty level; and
 - (E) gross domestic product.
- (2) Vermonters are healthy.**
- (A) percent of adults 20 years of age and older who are obese;
 - (B) percent of adults who smoke cigarettes;
 - (C) percent of Vermonters age 18 and older who binge drank in last month;
 - (D) number of persons who are homeless (adults and children);
 - (E) rate of suicide per 100,000 Vermonters;
 - (F) fall-related deaths per 100,000 adults age 65 and older; and
 - (G) percent of adults with any mental health condition receiving treatment.
- (3) Vermont's environment is clean and sustainable.**
- (A) percent of public drinking water supplies in compliance with health-based standards;
 - (B) total greenhouse gas emissions per capita, in units of annual metric tons of equivalent carbon dioxide per capita;
 - (C) percent of Vermont's inland waters (excluding Lake Champlain) that meet State water quality standards;
 - (D) changes in total phosphorus loading to the segments of Lake Champlain from Vermont source;
 - (E) total number of days with air quality in Vermont that poses a moderate or greater risk to sensitive populations; and
 - (F) disposal rate of municipal solid waste in pounds per person per day.
- (4) Vermont is a safe place to live.**
- (A) rate of petitions granted for relief from domestic abuse per 1,000 residents;
 - (B) rate of violent crime per 1,000 crimes;
 - (C) rate of sexual assault committed against residents per 1,000 residents;
 - (D) recidivism rate;
 - (E) incarceration rate per 100,000 residents; and
 - (F) number of first-time entrants into the corrections system.
- (5) Vermont's families are safe, nurturing, stable, and supported.**
- (A) rate of substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect per 1,000 children;
 - (B) rate of children and youth in out-of-home care per 1,000 children and youth;

¹ **Highlighting** = tentative changes. See History of Indicator Amendments for more information.

- (C) rate of reports of abuse, neglect, and/or exploitation of vulnerable adults recommended for substantiation per 1,000 vulnerable adults;
- (D) percent of residents living in housing they can afford; and
- (E) percent of Vermont households with food insecurity [*placeholder*].

(6) Vermont's children and young people achieve their potential.

- (A) percent of women who receive first trimester prenatal care;
- (B) percent of children ready for school in all four domains of healthy development;
- (C) percent of children below the basic level of fourth grade reading achievement under State standards;
- (D) percent of high school seniors with plans for education, vocational training, or employment;
- (E) percent of adolescents in grades 9–12 using marijuana within the last 30 days; and
- (F) percent of adolescents in grades 9–12 who had a suicide plan.

(7) Vermont's elders live with dignity and in settings they prefer.

- (A) AARP State ranking on long-term services and supports for older adults, people with physical disabilities, and family caregivers; and
- (B) hospice enrollment: percent of chronically ill Medicare decedents age 65 and older who were enrolled in hospice during the last six months of life.

(8) Vermonters with disabilities live with dignity and in settings they prefer.

- (A) estimated employment rate of Vermonters age 21-64 with all disabilities.

(9) Vermont has open, effective, and inclusive government.

- (A) percent of eligible and registered voters voting in the general election;
- (B) percent of State contracts and grants awarded that include performance measures;
- (C) number or percent of departments that are able to accept online payments;
- (D) number or percent of agencies or departments using an up-to-date website template; and
- (E) number of agencies and departments that have a policy regarding response time.

(10) Vermont's State infrastructure meets the needs of Vermonters, the economy, and the environment.

- (A) percent of Vermont covered by state-of-the-art telecommunications infrastructure;
- (B) percent of structurally-deficient bridges, as defined by the Agency of Transportation; and
- (C)** percent of Vermont retail electric sales from renewable energy.