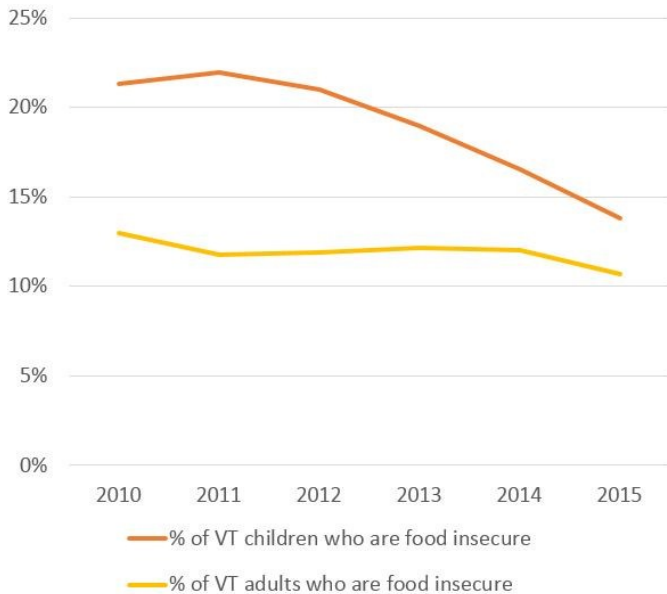


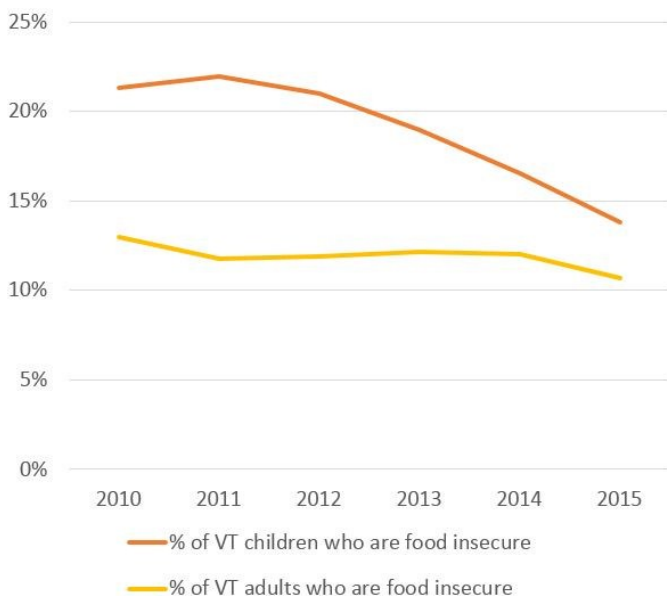
CHILD HUNGER IS ON THE DECLINE



WHY?

- Last school year, VT kids ate 13,449,972 school meals.
- 13,800 VT students now have access to universal school meals.
- School meal nutrition & quality have improved.
- Farm to School programs have expanded.
- The number of summer meal sites has nearly doubled, with an 83% increase in meals served.
- There are eight times the number of afterschool meal programs, serving over 7,000 students.
- Hundreds of school nutrition professionals are dedicated every day to student health and success.

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**OUR WORK IS NOT DONE:
OVER 17,000 VERMONT CHILDREN STILL LIVE IN FAMILIES THAT CAN'T
ALWAYS AFFORD TO PUT FOOD ON THE TABLE**



For more information:
www.hungerfreevt.org | fconte@hungerfreevt.org

Kids who struggle with hunger face real barriers to growing up healthy and succeeding in school

They are at a greater risk for:

- Poor quality diets and nutrient deficiencies
- Chronic illnesses and increased hospital visits
- Cognitive, physical and emotional delays
- Lack of school readiness
- Increased, aggression, depression, and hyperactive behavior
- Diminished academic achievement
- Earning low wages as adults, perpetuating the cycle of food insecurity and poverty

Eating school meals decreases these barriers & helps kids succeed

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