



STATE PROFILE VERMONT

PROSPERITY NOW SCORECARD

OUTCOME RANK

1

POLICIES ADOPTED

27

out of 53

OUTCOME HIGHLIGHTS

10.4%

of Vermont households live in income poverty

19.7%

of the Vermont labor force own a microenterprise

7.1%

of Vermont workers are underemployed

15.7%

of jobs in Vermont are low-wage jobs

POLICY HIGHLIGHTS



Has state eliminated TANF asset test?



Does state offer a universal, automatic CSA program with an incentive (e.g., seed, match, or refundable tax credit)?



Has state enacted an EITC that is refundable and at least 15% of the federal credit?



Has state enacted a refundable CTC?

About the Prosperity Now Scorecard

The *Prosperity Now Scorecard* is a comprehensive resource featuring data on family financial health and policy recommendations to help put all U.S. households on a path to prosperity. The Scorecard equips advocates, policymakers and practitioners with national, state, county and city data to jump-start a conversation about solutions and policies that put households on stronger financial footing across five issue areas: Financial Assets & Income, Businesses & Jobs, Homeownership & Housing, Health Care and Education.

OUTCOME MEASURES

The *Scorecard* ranks 56 outcome measures from best to worst; #1 is the most desirable, #51 is the least desirable. Data for an additional 4 measures are published but not ranked due to insufficient data at the state level. Issue area ranks are calculated by averaging the ranks of measures within the issue area; overall ranks are calculated by averaging all of the outcome measures ranks. Grades are given on a curve: states ranked 1-10 get As, ranked 11-20 get Bs, ranked 21-36 get Cs, ranked 37-47 get Ds and those ranked 48-51 get Fs.

Financial Assets & Income

ISSUE AREA RANK: 2

GRADE A

OUTCOME MEASURE	STATE DATA	US DATA	STATE RANK
Liquid Asset Poverty Rate	—	36.8%	—
Asset Poverty Rate	—	25.5%	—
Net Worth	—	\$76,708	—
Households with Zero Net Worth	—	16.9%	—
Emergency Savings	61.9%	56.3%	16
Income Poverty Rate	10.4%	13.8%	5
Income Poverty by Race	2.2x higher for HHs of color	2.1x higher for HHs of color	28
Income Inequality	4.5x as high for top 20%	4.9x as high for top 20%	18
Income Volatility	21.9%	20.9%	29
Unbanked Households	1.5%	7.0%	1
Underbanked Households	12.8%	19.9%	1
Households with Savings Accounts	79.2%	70.8%	10
Consumers with Prime Credit	61.7%	51.0%	1
On-Time Payers	84.4%	79.7%	9
Access to Revolving Credit	74.7%	71.9%	19
Bankruptcy Rate (per 1,000 people)	0.9	2.4	3

Businesses & Jobs

ISSUE AREA RANK: 7

GRADE A

OUTCOME MEASURE	STATE DATA	US DATA	STATE RANK
Microenterprise Ownership Rate	19.7%	18.2%	3
Small Business Ownership Rate	1.85%	1.47%	4
Business Ownership by Race	1.53x as high for white workers	1.22x as high for white workers	30
Business Ownership by Gender	1.5x as high for men	1.3x as high for men	46
Business Value by Race	1.5x as high for white bus. owners	2.9x as high for white bus. owners	3
Business Value by Gender	3.3x as high for men	3x as high for men	37
Unemployment Rate	3.3%	4.9%	4
Unemployment by Race	1.2x as high for workers of color	1.6x as high for workers of color	6
Underemployment Rate	7.1%	9.6%	5
Low-Wage Jobs	15.7%	24.2%	6
Average Annual Pay	\$43,709	\$52,942	46
Employers Offering Health Insurance	40.6%	45.7%	45

Homeownership & Housing

ISSUE AREA RANK: 18

GRADE B

OUTCOME MEASURE	STATE DATA	US DATA	STATE RANK
Homeownership Rate	70.7%	63.0%	6
Homeownership by Race	1.5x as high for white HHs	1.6x as high for white HHs	20
Homeownership by Income	2x as high for top 20%	2.2x as high for top 20%	10
Homeownership by Gender	1.02x as high for single women	1.03x as high for single women	—
Homeownership by Family Structure	1.5x higher for 2-parent HHs	1.9x higher for 2-parent HHs	2
Foreclosure Rate	2.18%	1.55%	42
Delinquent Mortgage Loans	1.17%	1.41%	19
High-Cost Mortgage Loans	2.8%	7.6%	5
Affordability of Homes (value/income)	3.9x higher than median income	3.5x higher than median income	38
Housing Cost Burden - Homeowners	34.7%	29.6%	46
Housing Cost Burden - Renters	50.5%	50.6%	39

Health Care

ISSUE AREA RANK: 2

GRADE A

OUTCOME MEASURE	STATE DATA	US DATA	STATE RANK
Uninsured Rate	4.6%	10.9%	3
Uninsured by Race	1.1x as high for white people	2.1x as high for people of color	2
Uninsured by Income	1.2x as high for poorest 20%	4.5x as high for poorest 20%	1
Uninsured by Gender	1.7x as high for men	1.2x as high for men	50
Uninsured Low-Income Children	0.8%	6.6%	1
Employer-Provided Insurance Coverage	60.2%	58.1%	25
Employee Share of Premium	27.5%	27.2%	26
Forgoing Doctor Visit Due to Cost	7.6%	13.3%	2
Poor or Fair Health Status	12.6%	17.5%	5

Education

ISSUE AREA RANK: 1

GRADE A

OUTCOME MEASURE	STATE DATA	US DATA	STATE RANK
Early Childhood Education Enrollment	46.7%	47.6%	19
Math Proficiency - 8th Grade	42.1%	32.1%	5
Reading Proficiency - 8th Grade	43.8%	34.3%	3
High School Graduation Rate	87.7%	83.2%	11
Disconnected Youth	7.4%	12.3%	4
Four-Year College Degree	36.9%	30.6%	8
Four-Year Degree by Race	1.1x higher for white adults	1.5x higher for white adults	2
Four-Year Degree by Income	3.1x as high for top 20%	4.4x as high for top 20%	8
Four-Year Degree by Gender	1.15x as high for women	1.02x as high for women	—
Average College Graduate Debt	\$28,283	\$30,100	29
College Graduates with Debt	62%	68%	29
Student Loan Default Rate	7.2%	11.3%	3

For a complete description of *Scorecard* measures and sources, including how the grades and ratings were assigned, go to <http://scorecard.prosperitynow.org>.

* Indicates that the margin of error is greater than 25% of the estimate, and as such, this estimate is too imprecise to rank. Caution should be used when using this data.

** Indicates that estimate is unable to be ranked because the ranks are too closely clustered to say with confidence how the state compares to other states.

— Indicates that no data is available, or data is suppressed due to a margin of error that is greater than 50% of the estimate.

POLICY

The *Scorecard* includes 53 policies organized into 36 groups. States are assessed based on whether they have adopted each policy; a ✓ indicates the state has adopted the policy; a ✗ indicates the state has not. Policy adoption is assessed on policies enacted during calendar year 2016.

Financial Assets & Income

10 OF 20 POLICIES ADOPTED

Asset Limits in Public Benefit Programs	✗	Has state eliminated TANF asset test?
	✓	Has state eliminated SNAP asset test?
	✓	Has state eliminated LIHEAP asset test?
Child and Child Care Tax Credits	✓	Has state enacted a CDCTC?
	✗	Has state enacted a refundable CTC?
Debt Collection Protections	✓	Does state adequately protect consumers' assets from debt collection?
	✗	Does state adequately protect consumers from abusive debt-buying practices?
EITC State Funding	✓	Has state enacted an EITC that is refundable and at least 15% of the federal credit?
Individual Development Accounts	✓	Does state provide funding for IDAs?
Predatory Small-Dollar Lending Protections	✓	Does state protect against payday lending?
	✓	Does state protect against car-title lending?
	✗	Does state protect against high-cost installment loans?
Prize-Linked Savings	✗	Does state allow for prize-linked savings?
Property Tax Relief	✓	Does the state provide property tax relief via a well-targeted circuit breaker?
Retirement Security	✗	Has state enacted an Automatic-Enrollment Individual Retirement Account program?
Tax Fairness	✓	Does state have an income tax?
	✗	Is state's effective state tax rate for bottom 20% of earners lower than for top 1% of earners?
Tax Prep Regulations	✗	Does state regulate paid tax preparers?
	✗	Does state prohibit add-on fees for refund anticipation checks?
Unemployment Comp. Using Prepaid Cards	✗	Does state offer a quality unemployment prepaid card with few fees?













Businesses & Jobs

7 OF 10 POLICIES ADOPTED

Microbusiness Support	✓	Does state use federal CDBG funding to support low-income entrepreneurs and microbusiness development?
	✓	Does state use federal TANF or WIOA funding to support low-income entrepreneurs and microbusiness development?
Minimum Wage	✓	Will state's minimum wage be at least \$15 by 2022 or is it indexed for inflation?
	✗	Are agricultural, domestic and tipped workers covered by state's minimum wage?
Paid Leave	✓	Does state require employers to offer paid medical, family or sick leave?
	✓	Does state expand FMLA to cover more workers?
Unemployed Entrepreneur Support	✓	Has state implemented a Self-Employment Assistance program?
Unemployment Benefits	✗	Is state's average weekly benefit at least 50% of state's average weekly wage?
	✓	Has state expanded eligibility for unemployment benefits?
Workforce Development	✗	Does state allocate adequate WIA funding for workforce training?



Homeownership & Housing

8 OF 12 POLICIES ADOPTED

First-Time Homebuyer Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Does state provide downpayment assistance through grants, second mortgages or resources financed with premium bonds?  Does state offer direct lending programs to first-time homebuyers?  Does state fund homeownership counseling?
Foreclosure Regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Are foreclosures reviewed in the presence of a neutral third party?  Does state regulate mortgage servicers?
Housing Trust Funds	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Does state have a statewide housing trust fund in place?
Post-Foreclosure Protections	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Has state abolished or limited deficiency judgments?
Protection from Discrimination for Low-Income Renters	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Does state protect Section 8 voucher-holders from discrimination in the housing market?
Redeveloping Foreclosed Properties	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Has state enacted comprehensive legislation to enable land banking?
Resident Ownership, Titling and Zoning of Manufactured Homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Does state encourage resident ownership of manufactured home communities via an effective pre-sale notice, tax incentive or both?  Does state's titling or zoning laws treat manufactured homes the same as site-built homes?
Tenant Protections from Foreclosure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Does state provide foreclosure protections for tenants?










Health Care

1 OF 2 POLICIES ADOPTED





Limitations on Hospital Charges, Billing and Collections	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Does state limit hospital charges, billing or collections?
Medicaid Expansion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Has state expanded Medicaid to at least 138% or more of federal poverty level?

Education

1 OF 9 POLICIES ADOPTED

Children's Savings Accounts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Does state offer a universal, automatic CSA program with an incentive (e.g., seed, match, or refundable tax credit)?
Financial Aid for Postsecondary Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Is state funding for financial aid above national average of \$752 per undergraduate?  Is state financial aid targeted to high-need students?
Financial Education in Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Adequate requirement for personal finance education?
Full-Day Kindergarten	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Does state require districts to offer full-day kindergarten?
Head Start State Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Does state provide a supplemental Head Start grant?
In-State Tuition for Undocumented Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Does state extend in-state tuition to undocumented students?
Postsecondary Education Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Does state allocate 10% or more of its budget to public colleges & universities?
Universal Pre-Kindergarten	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Does the state universally require Pre-Kindergarten (Pre-K) to all age-eligible children without restrictions?

VERMONT POLITICAL REPRESENTATION

Executive		State Legislature		US Congress	
Governor		Senate	House	Senate	House
		21	83	1	1
	Phil Scott	7	53	0	0
		2	14	1	0
		0	0	0	0

 Democrat  Republican  Independent/Nonpartisan/Other  Vacant

VERMONT

DEMOGRAPHICS



POPULATION
625,904








HOUSEHOLDS
257,004

HOUSEHOLD INCOME QUINTILES






Lowest Quintile	\$0 to \$24,631
2nd Quintile	\$24,632 to \$46,058
3rd Quintile	\$46,059 to \$72,692
4th Quintile	\$72,693 to \$108,137
Highest Quintile	Over \$108,137

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME \$56,990

RACE AND ETHNICITY

White		94.1%
Black		1.0%
Asian		1.3%
Latino		1.6%
Other		2.2%

AGE

Under 18		19.7%
18 to 24		10.6%
25 to 44		23.1%
45 to 64		30.4%
65 and Over		16.3%

PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY 13.7%

PROSPERITY NOW COMMUNITY

Prosperity Now is committed to continuing our support of and partnerships with our movement of committed advocates and practitioners seeking to create a clear path to financial stability, wealth and prosperity. The Prosperity Now Community expands our reach, creates strong connections between those in our community and mobilizes advocates to create lasting social change.

The Prosperity Now Community facilitates learning, creates connections and inspires action to create and improve programs and policies that foster opportunity, especially for those who have not had it before. Our unwavering commitment to creating prosperity includes efforts on a wide range of issues, such as consumer protections, equity in the tax code, increasing affordable housing and removing barriers to saving and building wealth.

To Join the Community, visit prosperitynow.org/get-involved

COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS IN VERMONT

Capstone Community Action
Barre, VT

Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity
Burlington, VT



ABOUT PROSPERITY NOW

Prosperity Now (formerly CFED) believes that everyone deserves a chance to prosper. Since 1979, we have helped make it possible for millions of people, especially people of color and those of limited incomes, to achieve financial security, stability and, ultimately, prosperity. We offer a unique combination of scalable practical solutions, in-depth research and proven policy solutions, all aimed at building wealth for those who need it most.