

## Vermont State Colleges System

for the benefit of Vermont



### We are committed to Vermont



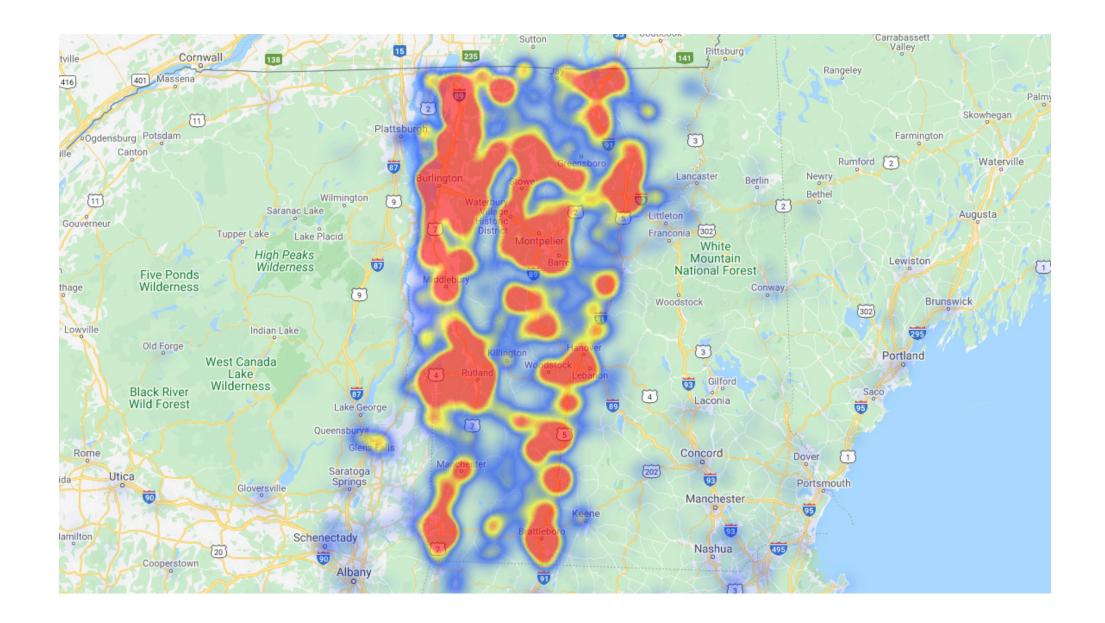














## What 1<sup>st</sup> Generation Means to Me

"Being a first-generation student shows strength, resilience, and drive. At NVU-Johnson, I was able to find mentorship through staff and faculty to learn my strengths and create my own path to success. Being first-generation means you may have to work while attending school, and you may have to face daunting tasks like completing the FAFSA on your own. You've got this. There are so many helpful faces on campus, and alumni, such as myself, are always willing to lend a hand for guidance or mentorship. If I could do it, so can you!

I have been working in ICU and general practice as a veterinary assistant in the Burlington area since graduating in 2019. I was recently accepted into veterinary school and will begin in fall 2021 to pursue my Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree."

~ Jessica Malskis





#### **Adult Learners**

Jeff Patterson graduated from CCV in 2017 with a degree in STEM Studies. Today, he's a critical care flight paramedic for the University of Vermont Health Network's Critical Care Transport team.

"[My degree] was something that I had been working on and self-conscious about in this industry...it's always hard to admit when you didn't have a degree. Now I don't have to do that, and I'll continue to work toward my bachelor's and possibly master's after this."

"The best thing about my job is I get to help people," Patterson says. "I've wanted to be involved in the flight medicine aspect since I joined EMS in 1998. It's a continual challenge, there's always new things to learn, new diseases, as we're seeing now with coronavirus."



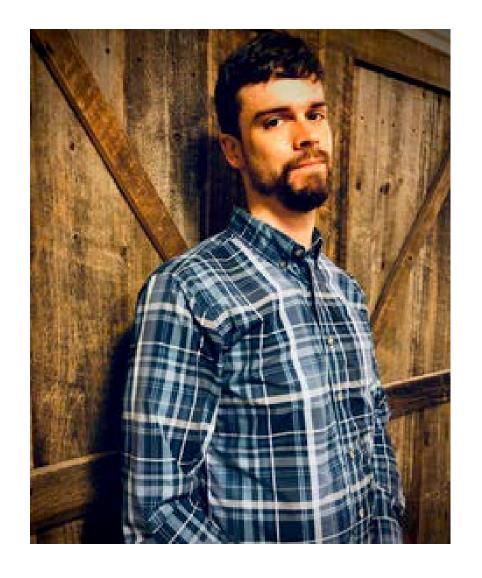


## Vermonters who need a second chance

Kyle Wolfe refuses to let his past dictate his future. In 2007, he was trying to figure out what he wanted to do with his life. He took two classes at CCV but failed both due to his substance use disorder and criminal deviance. After years of substance abuse and a 30-day incarceration, he came into recovery in 2015 with help from the federal government.

"It was more humanizing than my addiction...it's what I needed," Kyle said about the time he served.

Since then, **Kyle has used his experiences as** motivation to get an education and help others. He graduated from CCV at the end of summer 2020 with an associate degree in Human Services and is currently a full-time student at Castleton where he's pursuing a degree in Social Work.





#### **Veterans**

Sean Connolly served in the Army on an antiterrorism team whose focus was to respond to future terror attacks on our country. After Sean's service with the Army ended at the age of 30, he enrolled at CCV and completed his degree at Vermont Tech.

"I found the transition from the Army to being a college student challenging. There are many cultural differences between the two but my ability to adapt to changing environments lessened the difficulty of the transition."

"I found profound satisfaction from serving in the Army and for the Department of Homeland Security. I plan to use my degree to further myself in the federal workforce and continue to serve the country. The skills and knowledge I will gain from Vermont Tech will prove to set me apart from my peers."

"Vermont Tech is a military friendly place and has an overwhelming feeling of a close-knit community."





## Vermonters from rural communities

Rachael Burt came to Vermont Tech from an extremely small town. She admits that when she first came to college, she felt some trepidation.

Others who had left her hometown had suggested higher education would be overwhelming and exhausting, but Rachael quickly learned that this was not the case.

"When I finally got here and started, I knew that it was just a small, sometimes difficult, step to the rest of my life."

She came to college to get a degree and a job in a field that she loves, Dairy Farm Management. She heard about Vermont Tech's 2+2 program from a friend who had recently graduated and knew it was a perfect match.

"I could get the hands-on experience and the intense classroom experience that I needed to penetrate the Agricultural Industry."









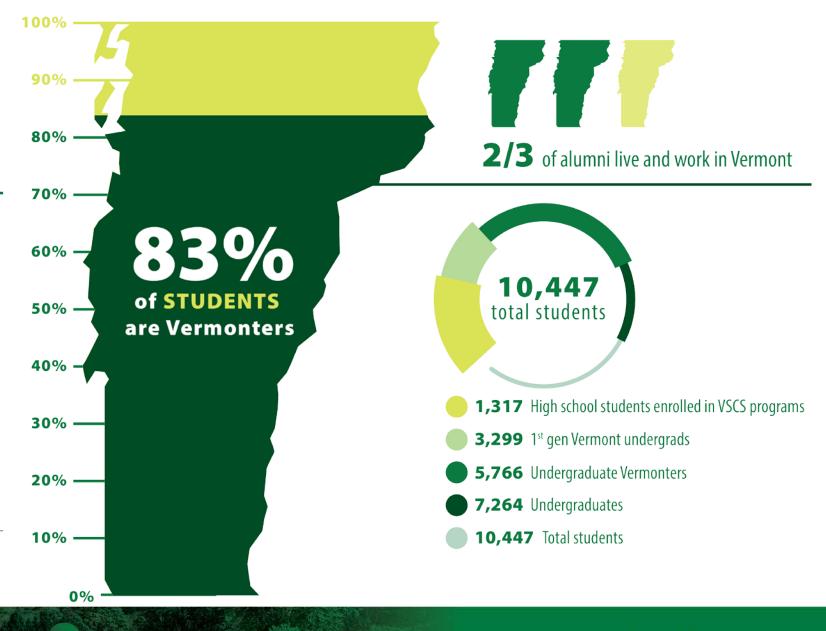
Graduated 1,805 Vermonters into the workforce in 2020 with degrees or certificates

1st Generation Vermonters are enrolled in our undergraduate programs this fall.

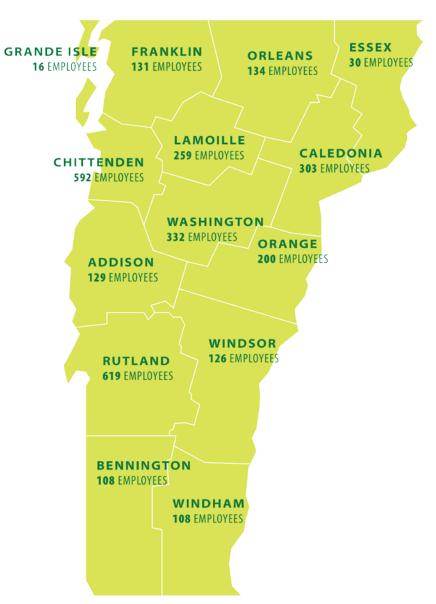


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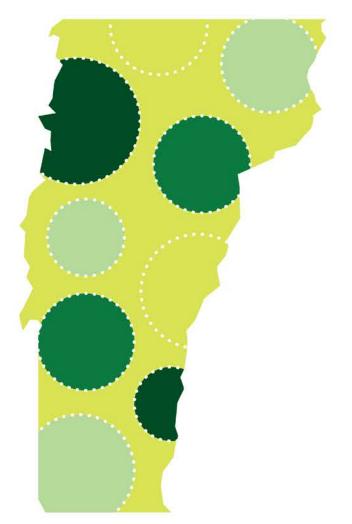
That's 57% of undergraduate Vermonters and 45% of all undergraduates.



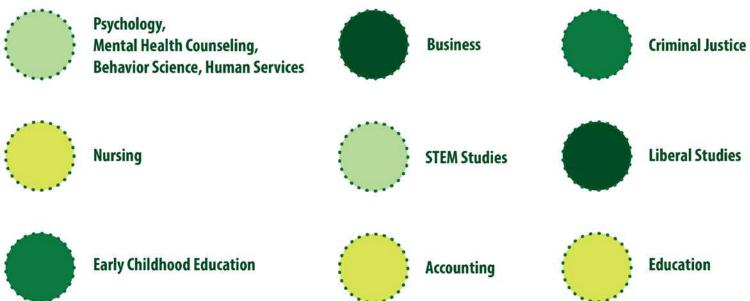








# Top Enrolled Programs Align with Vermont's Workforce Needs









## Thank You

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