

## **House Education Committee**

Tom Cheney, Executive Director February 17, 2021

### State Goal: 70x2025

"It shall be the goal of the State of Vermont that not less than 70 percent of working age Vermonters will hold a credential of value, as defined by the State Workforce Development Board, by the year 2025" – Act 80 of 2019

"70 percent by 2025 is a big goal, but one I believe that we can reach by working together and using Vermont's power of cooperation, collective wisdom and action."

PHIL SCOTT GOVERNOR, STATE OF VERMONT

# What is a Credential of Value (COV)?

- → Certificate, degree, industry recognized credential, occupational license, or registered apprenticeship
- → A means of verifying skills and competencies
- → Has value in current and/or future labor market
- → Stackable, transferable



# **Act 80 Policy Priorities to Achieve Goal**



Promote awareness of career pathways and the value of postsecondary education and training



Expand access to postsecondary education and training to students of all ages



Increase completion of postsecondary education and training programs by ensuring Vermonters have the supports they need to succeed



Maximize partnerships across and within sectors to achieve State workforce development and education goals



### **Advance Vermont**

#### Who We Are:

A statewide organization driving action among business, education, government, nonprofit, and philanthropy to increase educational attainment in Vermont.



### **Mission:**

Advance the civic and economic vitality of Vermont by growing the number of Vermonters with education and training after high school, increasing equity in educational attainment, and strengthening connections between education, training, and employment.



### **Our Work**



#### **CHANGE THE NARRATIVE**

Build awareness of the importance of postsecondary education and training, and the diversity of education and career pathways.



#### ADVOCATE

Promote equitable policy and programming that expands access to and the completion of postsecondary education and training for students of all ages and backgrounds.



#### CONVENE

Mobilize stakeholders to achieve systems-level change by increasing communication, coordination, and sharing of knowledge and best practices.



#### MEASURE

Track progress toward Vermont's postsecondary attainment goal, identify where equity-related gaps exist, and share state- and national- level, data, research, and trends.



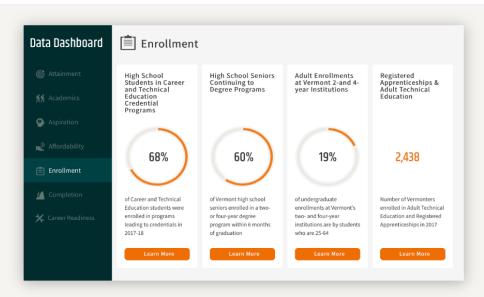
### **Check out our Dashboard**

### Data Dashboard

Education beyond high school has become a key determinant of economic opportunity and social mobility. Yet access and success aren't equitable.

The Advance Vermont Data Dashboard aims to measure progress toward Vermont's postsecondary attainment goal, illuminate where gaps exist, and prompt action toward increasing Vermont's postsecondary attainment rate.

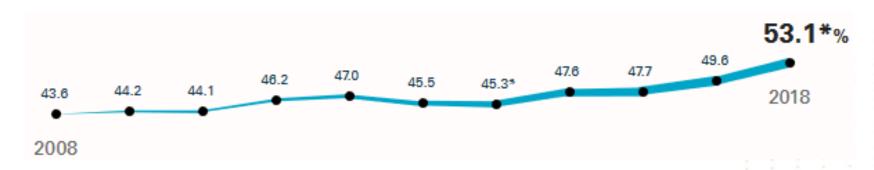
EXPLORE THE DASHBOARD



**Learn more:** <u>advancevermont.org/data</u>



# How are we doing with attainment?



→ 60,000 Vermonters short of goal



### **Opportunity Segments**

- → 3,000 H.S. senior class noncontinuing
- → **47,000** 18-24 year-olds with some college
- → **60,000** 25-64 year-olds with some college
- → 92,000 25-64 year-olds with no college experience



# **Key Policy Considerations**

- → The economy and communities depend on a skilled workforce
- → Demand is high, barriers are higher
- → Today's students juggle responsibilities like never before
- → Students are looking for career connections
- → Vermonters need navigation help and credential transparency



### **Economy Depends on Skilled Workforce**



100% of Vermont's high-pay, high-demand jobs require education and

training beyond high school.



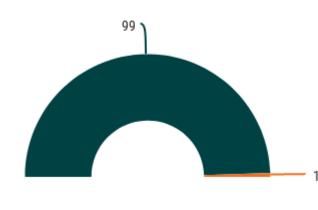
2 in 3
employers report difficulty
hiring for available positions.

Jobs Created After Great Recession



**65%** 

of all jobs in the Vermont require postsecondary education or training.





More than High School

High School Diploma or Less

# **Communities Depend on Skilled Workforce**



Education is the most effective way to break the cycle of poverty.



More likely to vote



More likely to have healthy families



More likely to be engaged in the community



Less likely to be food insecure



Less likely to experience homelessness







\$26M in estimated income tax revenue from higher levels of attainment

# Demand is high, barriers are higher



88%

of those without posthigh school credential view them as valuable; **63%** are interested in pursuing one.

Only **34 percent** of Vermonters without a postsecondary degree believe degree and credential programs are affordable.





1 in 3 Americans believe they would need more education or training to replace a job lost due to the pandemic.



44%

of Americans say they have access to the education and training they want.



# Demand is high, barriers are higher



Before financial aid, an average Vermont family would spend **95 percent** of its household income to send one person to college.

34 percent of Vermont's indigenous population holds a bachelor's degree, compared to 37 percent of their white peers.





Only **16 percent** of Vermont's Class of 2012 first-generation boys obtained a degree within 4 years of high school graduation.



1 in 4 Vermonters do not have access to fixed, high-speed broadband internet, which disproportionately affects those in rural areas.



## Students juggle responsibilities like never before



are **30** or **OLDER** 



WORK and 25% WORK FULL-TIME





are PARENTS



**55%** 

COMMUTE



attend PART-TIME



38%

attend **ONLINE** 

# Students juggle responsibilities like never before



experience
HOUSING INSECURITY



35%

experience FOOD INSECURITY



13%

are NEW AMERICANS



are
FIRST GENERATION
STUDENTS



**52%** 

receive little to no
FINANCIAL SUPPORT
from families



10%

are VETERANS or ACTIVE DUTY

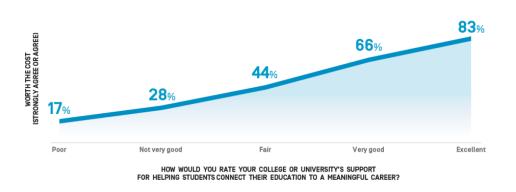


Learn more:

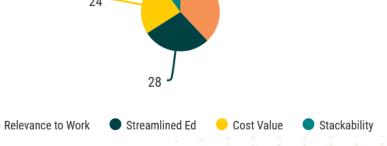
advancevermont.org/todays-students

# **Student are Looking for Career Connections**

When students have the support to connect their education to a career, they are more likely to say their education will be worth the cost.



#### What Students Look for in Ed/Training



38



### **Vermonters Need Navigation Help**



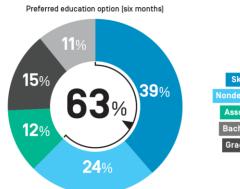
#### Fewer than 1 in 3

Americans say they understand available career pathways, valuable skills, and details about potential education programs "very well."



91%

of Vermonters see the value in an online hub for career and education resources.



Skills training

Nondegree credential

Associate degree

Bachelor's degree

Graduate degree



**1 million** unique credentials nationwide.



# **Coming Next Month: MyFutureVT**

→ A free one-stop online resource providing Vermonters with the information they need to make informed and empowered decisions about their education and career pathways.





### **MyFutureVT Details**

### Web one-stop for education and career resources in Vermont.

- Detailed information on Vermont's high-pay, high-demand careers.
- → Searchable listing of the education and training programs for these careers in Vermont
- → A clearinghouse of resources to support the exploration and pursuit of education and career pathways

#### **Audience:**

→ Job seekers, prospective students, navigators, with focus on underserved populations.







## My Path. My Future.

MyFutureVT

You define success. And it's never too late to change its meaning for you.





Explore Careers >



Find Programs >



Get Support >



# **Vermont Credential Transparency Project**

**Goal:** Inventory all postsecondary credentials available in Vermont by 2022 for the benefit of prospective students, workers, employers, education and trainer providers, and state leaders.









Badge



Certificate



Certification



Degree



Diploma



License



Micro-Credential



# **Credential Info is Hard to Navigate**



#### IT Service Desk Specialist, Certificate

- Available at
- Description
- Preparation For
- Recognized By
- Requires
- Competencies
- Duration
- Occupation Type



# Computer Information Systems, Bachelor of Science

- Available at
- Description
- Preparation For
- Recognized By
- Requires
- Competencies
- Duration
- Occupation Type

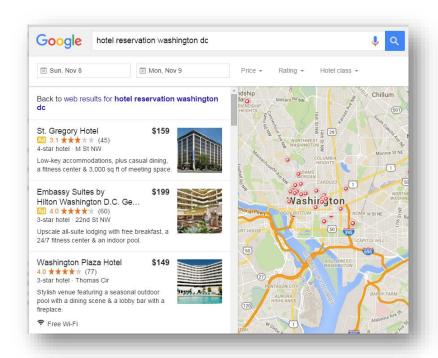


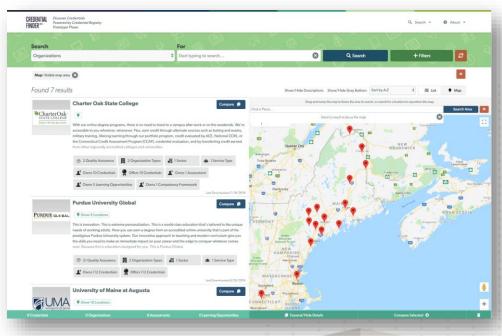
#### Computer Science, PhD

- Available at 🗸
- Description ✓
- · Preparation For
- Recognized By
- Requires
- Competencies
- Duration
- Occupation Type



### Can it be like Searching for a Hotel?









### Individuals

Access to clear and accurate program information empowers students and workers to find the credential that works best for their education and career goals.

### **Employers**



Increased knowledge of the credential options leads to new partnerships with education and training providers, and more informed hiring decisions.



### Policymakers

Comprehensive program and credential information helps inform workforce development and education policy decisions.

### **Education and Training Providers**



New marketing opportunities for regional and national exposure to Vermont's programs and new data to make informed choices about program offerings and delivery models.

# **Policy Priorities in the Time of COVID**

- → Support those impacted by COVID-19, including adult learners and those historically underserved
- → Make education and training more affordable
- → Increase funding for higher education
- → Align education and workforce development efforts

- → Address basic needs such as housing, food, child care, emergency expenses, and transportation
- → Incentivize development of short-term programs, competency-based learning, and other flexible offerings
- → Strengthen transition from high school to ed/training



# **Advance Vermont Budget Requests**

→ **Build state capacity to increase state attainment** through public-private partnership with Advance Vermont

Request: \$250,000

→ Support MyFutureVT as part of COVID-19 Recovery

Request: \$100,000





# Thank you!



Visit <u>advancevermont.org</u> for more information

Follow us on <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Facebook</u> @advancevt Tom Cheney, Executive Director Cheney@vsac.org 802.233.1378