

Benchmarks Data

Submitted By: Department For Children and Families

Presented By: Deputy Commissioner, Miranda Gray

October 4, 2024

Benchmarks Data 2016 to 2023

Indicator	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
The number of children living in families at 50 percent of the federal poverty level	10,000	6,000	7,000	5,000		7,000	4,000	4000	
The percentage of children living in families at 50 percent of the federal poverty level	8%	5%	6%	5%		6%	4%	4%	
The number of children living in families at 100 percent of the federal poverty level	17,000	16,000	14,000	11,000		12,000	13,000	10,000	
The percentage of children living in families at 100 percent of the federal poverty level	15%	14%	12%	10%		10%	12%	9%	
The number of children living in families at 200 percent of the federal poverty level	37,000	40,000	34,000	33,000		31,000	34,000	28,000	
The percentage of children living in families at 200 percent of the federal poverty level	32%	35%	30%	30%		27%	30%	25%	
The number of children living in families paying more than 30 percent of their cash income for housing and related expenses	35,000	37,000	30,000	28,000		28,000	29,000		
The percentage of children living in families paying more than 30 percent of their cash income for housing and related expenses	30%	31%	26%	24%		24%	25%		

Indicator	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
The number of children living in poverty according to the Supplemental Poverty Measure (3 year average)	12,000	13,000	12,000	13,000	11,000	8,000	6,000	7,000	
The percentage of children living in poverty according to the Supplemental Poverty Measure (3 year average)	10%	11%	10%	11%	10%	7%	5%	6%	
The number of children experiencing homelessness on a given night	257	306	292	251	216	360	401	654	737
The number of children whose parents lack secure employment	32,000	29,000	31,000	28,000		28,000	29,000		
The percentage of children whose parents lack secure employment	27%	25%	27%	25%		24%	26%		

This data is collected through the Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Center [Vermont Child and Family Well-Being \(aecf.org\)](https://www.aecf.org)

Follow up questions:

1. **Homelessness definition from the Vermont annual PIT count:** “The Vermont annual Point in Time count includes people staying in an emergency shelter, transitional housing for homeless people, a place not meant for human habitation, or staying in a motel paid for by General Assistance Emergency Housing”
 - a. Definition from the 2023 PIT Count Report summary pg. 2 footnote: <https://helpingtohousevt.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/2023-Vermont-Point-in-Time-Report-6-6-23.pdf>

2. **Supplemental Poverty Measure definition:** “While the official poverty measure is based on pretax cash income, the Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM) accounts for a broader range of family resources, such as noncash benefits (e.g., food and housing assistance) and tax credits. It also factors in necessary household expenses and regional variation in cost of living. By accounting for safety net benefits, the SPM provides an important opportunity to gauge the effectiveness of government anti-poverty interventions.”
 - a. Of particular interest is that the SPM is not standardized between states due to geographic differences, such as housing costs—this may make the SPM of more relevance to Vermont as a trend over time given the large economic impact of housing costs here.
 - b. Definition from the Supplemental Poverty Measure data notes (<https://datacenter.aecf.org/data/tables/11230-children-in-poverty-according-to-the-supplemental-poverty-measure?loc=47&loct=2#detailed/2/47/false/2554,2479,2097,1985/any/21624,21625>) from the Annie E. Casey Foundation Data Center; note the specific methodology is rather complicated, more information from the U.S. Census Bureau can be found on their poverty measure information page: https://www.census.gov/library/visualizations/2021/demo/poverty_measure-how.html

Reach Up Program Update

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Reach Up Update

How many people are served?

SFY24 Reach Up Participation	
Households	5,102
Recipients	13,314

What is the breakdown of the number of infants, children, and youth served?

SFY24 Reach Up Participation by Age	
Under Age 1	479
Ages 1 - 5	2698
Ages 6 - 18	5585
Total	8762

How long do participants generally stay on the program?

SFY24 Average Length of Time on Reach Up	
AVG. # of Months (without 0 month cases)	50

*Child only cases are excluded because they do not accumulate countable months on Reach Up

Ratable Reduction Report Results

[Reach-Up-Ratable-Reduction-Mar-2024.pdf \(vermont.gov\)](#)

Can you present the results of the ratable reduction report, including next steps toward removing the ratable reduction?

SFY	Ratable	Annual Cost**	Increase
2024	0.496	\$26,791,808.20	\$ -
2025	0.600	\$32,795,461.62	\$5,577,012.00
2027	0.700	\$38,569,519.12	\$10,940,744.00
2028	0.800	\$44,347,707.15	\$16,308,313.00
2029	0.900	\$50,125,383.84	\$21,675,407.00
2030	1.000	\$55,514,571.06	\$26,681,619.00

General Assistance Housing Program Update

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Monthly legislative report: <https://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Legislative-Reports/Act-113-DCF-Housing-Report-9.30.2024.pdf>

General Assistance Housing Information: <https://dcf.vermont.gov/Addressing-and-Preventing-Unsheltered-Homelessness>