

### **VAH**HS Hospital Workforce Initiatives

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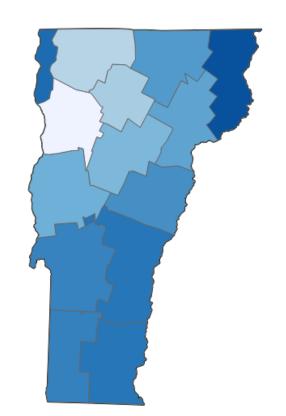
January 25, 2022



#### Vermont Landscape: Rural and Aging Population

- According to the 2020 census, Vermont is the most rural state in the nation, with 65% of population residing in rural areas
- Vermont is also one of the oldest states in the nation with aging individuals disbursed throughout the state

#### 2020 Census, Median Age

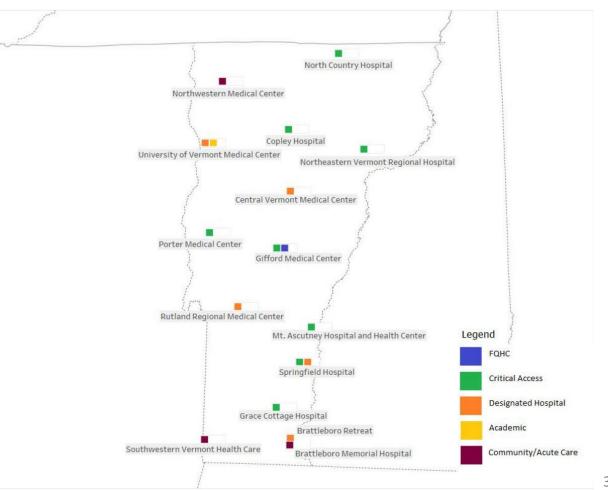






#### Vermont's Nonprofit Hospital System

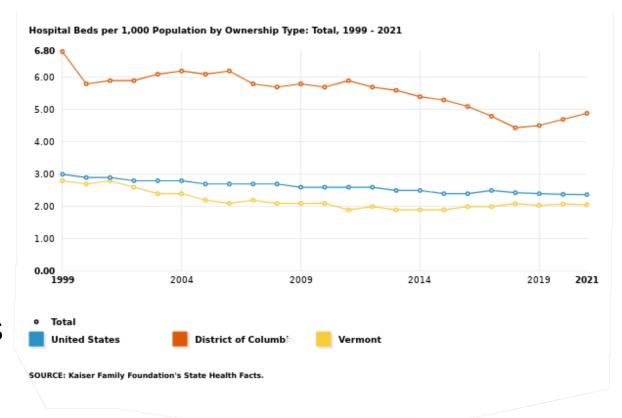
- 16 Hospitals
- 8 Critical Access Hospitals
- 1 Academic Medical Center
- 7 Inpatient Psychiatric Care
- 1 Veteran's Affairs Hospital





#### **Vermont's Hospitals in Context**

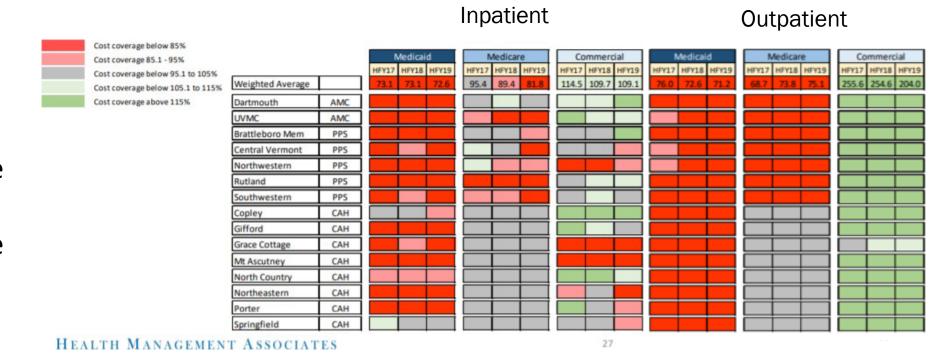
- Half the beds per capita of Washington D.C., despite similar-sized population
- Lower per capita for beds than the national average
- Vermont consistently ranks as one of top five healthiest states





#### **Hospital Financial Picture**

- 9 out of 14 hospitals have negative operating margins
  - 65% of expenses are labor
  - 30% of expenses are medical and surgical supplies and pharmaceuticals





#### **Health Care System in Crisis**



- 30 people needing mental health care boarding in EDs, half for longer than 24 hours
- 25 patients boarding in ED waiting for a medical surgical bed
- Increase in workplace violence



# ICU/Medical Surgical

- Last week, medical surgical beds were over 97% full
- Largest hospitals were at 100% capacity
- 3-6 ICU beds available



## Sub-Acute Care

- Last week, 137 patients waiting for discharge because there are no placement options
- Hospitals have seen 35% of inpatient beds filled by patients waiting to be discharged

**Emergency Dept.** 



#### **Invest in Workforce**

- Survey of 5 hospitals revealed over 500 open positions
- Sec. 23:
  - \$5/hr incentive for nurses to train nursing students
    - \$450k for Critical Access Hospitals → ?? For all health care providers
  - \$2.5M for pipeline programs  $\rightarrow$  more flexible requirements but ?? funding
- Question of funding— if there is no funding available, then there will be no investment in future workforce