

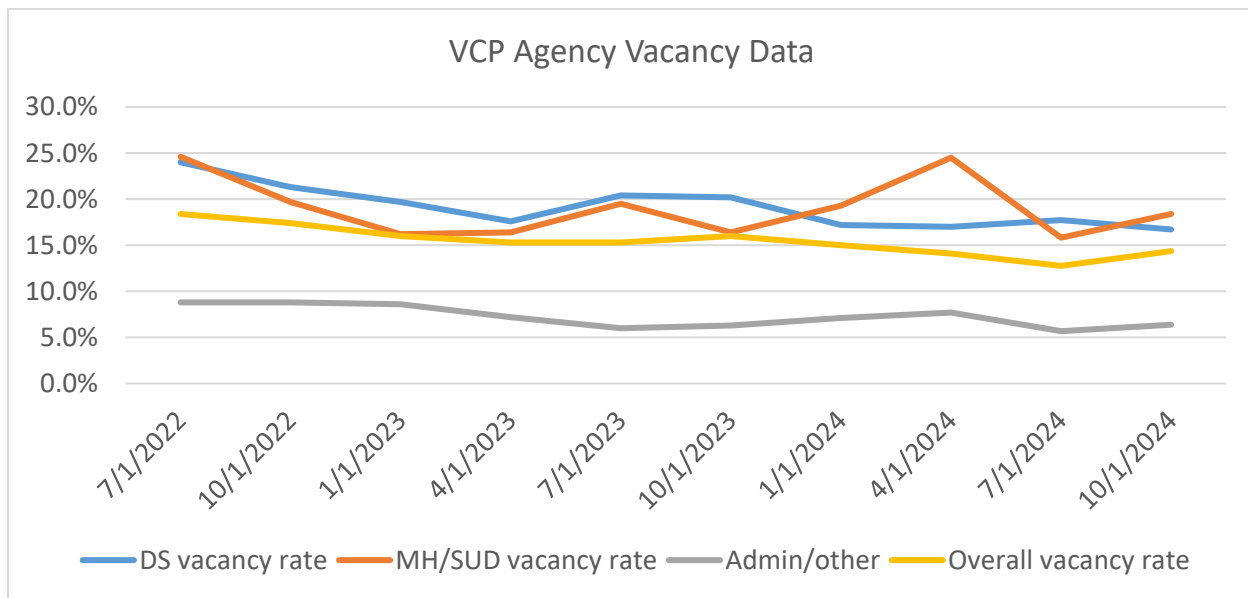
MEMORANDUM

TO: House Committee on Health Care
FROM: Emily Hawes, Commissioner, Department of Mental Health
DATE: February 18, 2025
RE: Follow-up to February 13th Testimony: Vacancy Rates; Milton Family Medicine; Howard Center Community Outreach

During the Department’s (DMH’s) February 13th testimony, the Committee requested additional information on the following:

1. Data regarding the proportion of administrative and clinical vacancies across the Designated Agency system:

The most recent vacancy report submitted to DMH contains point-in-time data from October 1, 2024.



The average vacancy rate on October 1, 2024 across all VCP member agencies was **14.4%**, with 913 out of 6,029 positions open. The range in overall vacancy rates by agency ranged from a low of 5% to a high of 26%.



For clinical positions related to Mental Health and Substance Use, the average vacancy rate on October 1, 2024 was **18.4%**, with rates ranging from 12.5% to 30.48% across agencies.

For positions in the Administrative/Other category, the average vacancy rate on October 1, 2024, was **6.4%**, with rates ranging from 0.0% to 11.5% across agencies.

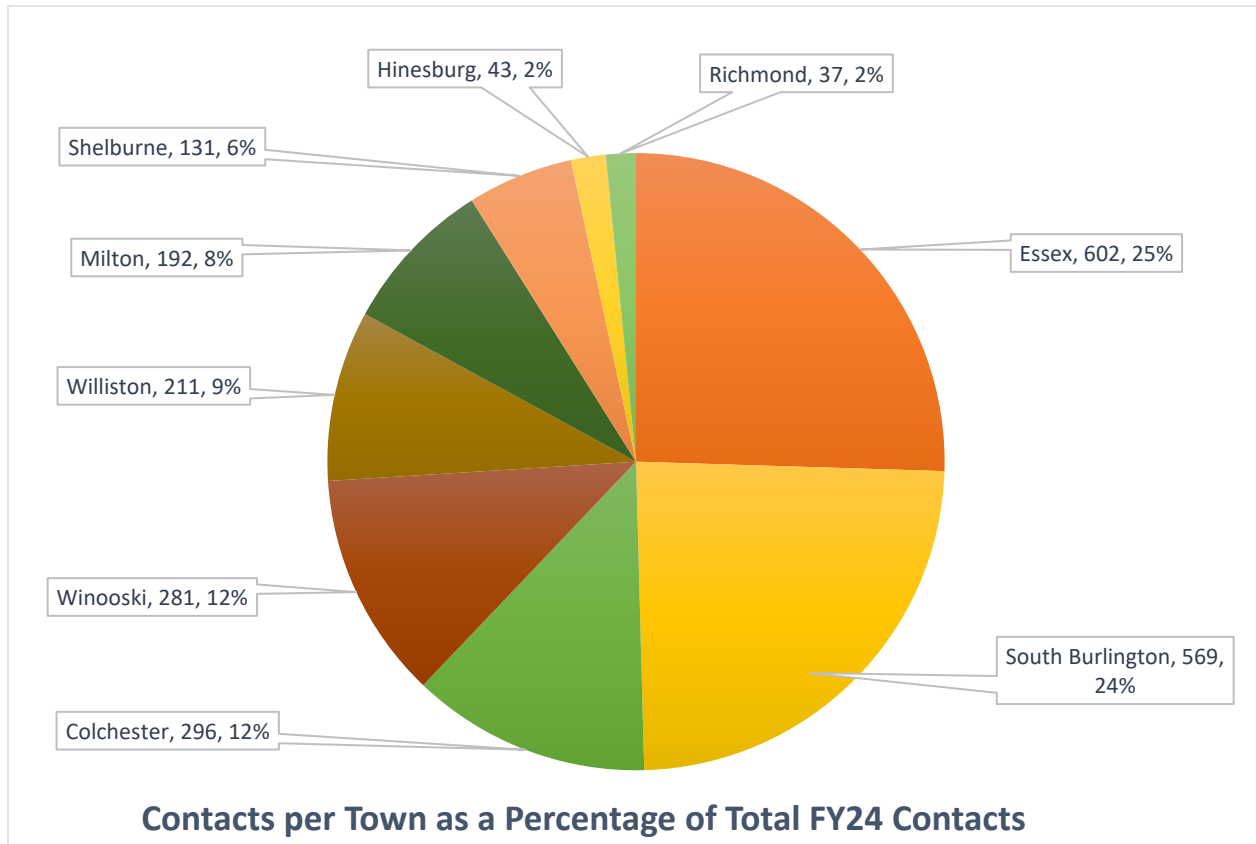
2. Milton Family Medicine’s Blueprint for Health status:

The [University of Vermont Health Network Family Medicine – Milton](#) practice is enrolled in the Blueprint for Health as a Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) and as a Spoke in the Blueprint’s Hub and Spoke program. Additionally, Family Medicine – Milton is engaged in the Blueprint’s Mental Health and Substance Use Integration Expansion and Pregnancy Intention programs.

3. Additional data on Howard Center’s Community Outreach Program:

For FY24, HC Community Outreach had 2256 total contacts. 1494 (66%) were phone calls, and 762 (34%) were in person. Of 2256 total contacts, there were 891 individuals contacted.

HC Community Outreach is active in 9 towns: Winooski, Williston, South Burlington, Shelburne, Richmond, Milton, Hinesburg, Essex, and Colchester.



The four most common reasons for HC Community Outreach service are:

1. Emotional/Behavioral/Mental Health concern - 1459 total contacts - (65%)
2. Family conflict – 129 total contacts - (5.7%)
3. Housing instability – 92 total contacts - (4.0%)
4. Unhoused – 88 total contacts - (3.9%)

