



# Vermont State Colleges Update to Senate Education

Dr. Elizabeth K. Mauch, Chancellor

Sharron Scott, Chief Financial and Operating Officer

# “For the benefit of Vermont”

The system embraces this idea in every action we take.

*- VSC mission statement*

Imagine a future where every Vermonter can access relevant, affordable, flexible education that empowers new career paths, economic growth, and statewide social well-being.

*-Vision 2030*

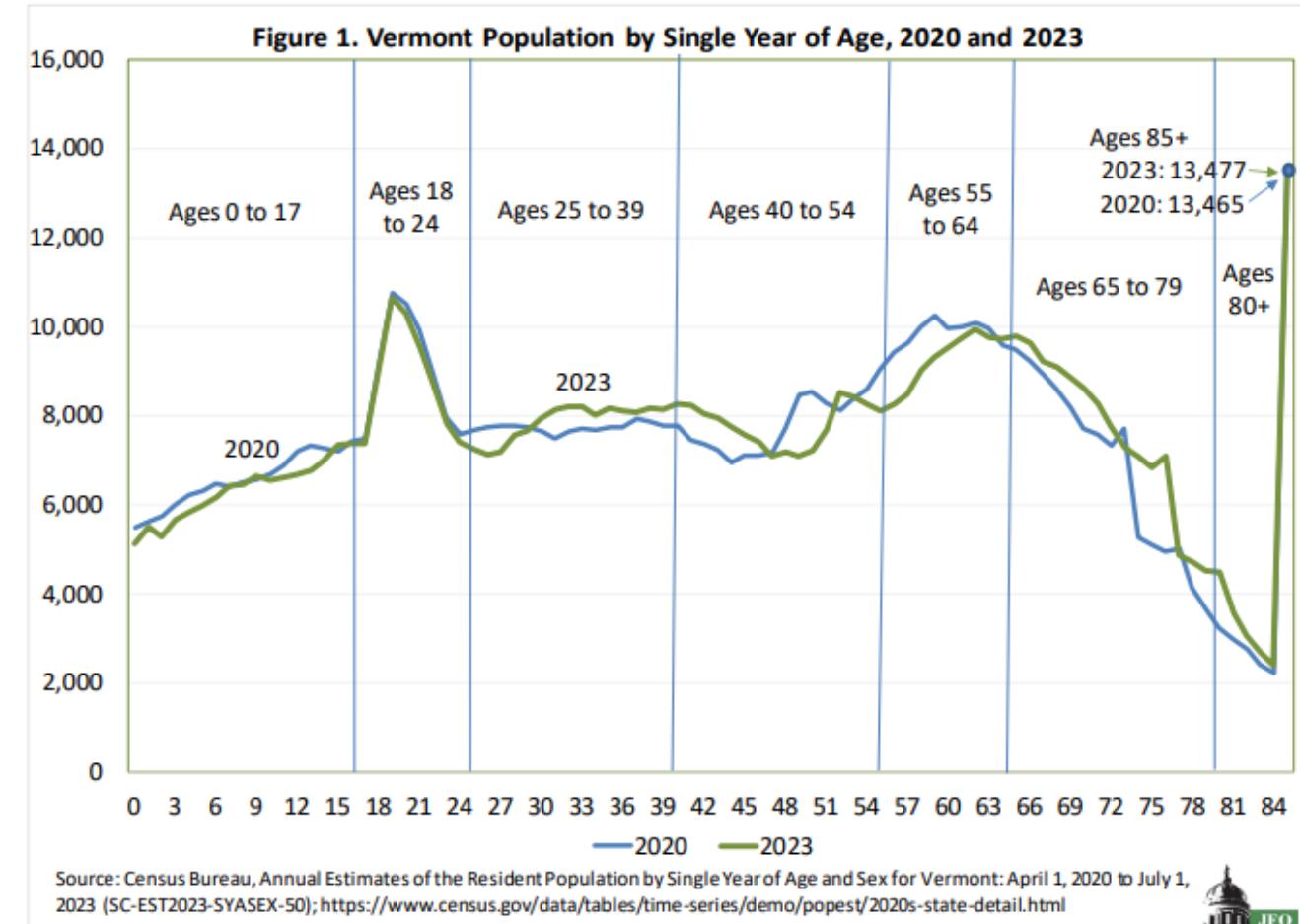


# The Vermont State Colleges are Thriving

- More than 83% of all students are Vermonters
- Overall enrollment is up 1.4% since fall 2024
- Online enrollment continues to surge – up 10% year-over-year, highlighting demand for flexible, accessible learning
- Lyndon, Williston & Satellite campuses all saw enrollment growth
- Notable growth in key programs including Elementary Education (+58%), Health Science (+26%), and Mechanical Engineering (+46%)

# Commitment to our Students

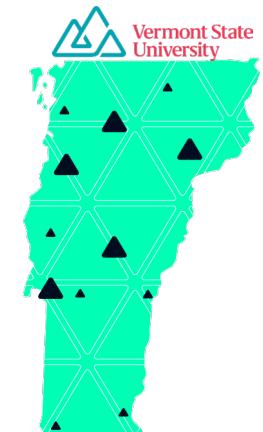
- Vermont is aging and our students' needs are changing too
- Students are older than they used to be with an average age of more than 27
- Concerned about paying for college experience
- Want flexibility and choice





# Commitment to our Communities

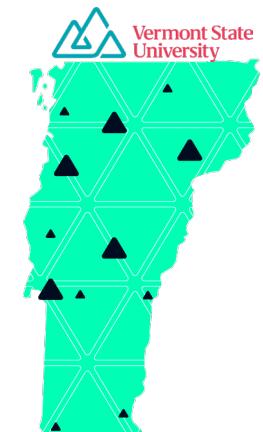
- Agency of Commerce & Community Development awarded \$6.5 million to Downstreet to create senior housing and apartments in the **McClelland Building of Vermont State University** paving the way for much needed senior housing in Johnson
- Johnson Health Center is actively working with the Vermont State University to relocate operations from the village to the **Johnson campus** in spring 2026
- Actively engaging with Kingdom East Supervisory Union to potentially relocate operations to the Lyndon Campus of Vermont State University in summer 2026
- Where compatible with the University's academic mission, exploring short & long-term housing arrangements
- Developing an apartment concept, if implemented in Johnson could free up 49 apartments to the open market





# Solutions for Business

- Created **Career Pathway Entry Program (CPEP)** employer-first model including job shadows, on-the-job training, classroom instruction with 21 employers statewide
- Enrollment in the university's **plumbing and electrical apprenticeship programs** continued their multi-year growth trend, jumping 3% in headcount
- Joined **Science & Technology Research Initiative** for the Vermont Economy (STRIVE) emphasizing career entry pathways and workforce initiatives in science and technology fields
- Developed **English for Healthcare** course supports students who may have healthcare experience from another country but need help navigating language and culture of the American system



# FY2027 Budget Request

General Fund	VSC FY2026	VSC FY27 Request	Increase \$	Increase %
B.602: Vermont State Colleges	52,468,692	54,042,753	1,574,061	3%
B.603: Allied Health - General Fund	297,087	306,000	8,913	3%
<b>Total Ongoing</b>	<b>52,765,779</b>	<b>54,348,752</b>	<b>1,582,973</b>	<b>3%</b>
<b>One-Time Sources</b>				
B.1100(k)(1): Bridge Funding	5,000,000	-	(5,000,000)	-100%
B.1110: Rural Micro Credential & Certificate Expansion	-	1,500,000	1,500,000	0%
<b>Total One-Time Sources</b>	<b>5,000,000</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>	<b>(3,500,000)</b>	<b>-70%</b>
<b>Total General Fund</b>	<b>57,765,779</b>	<b>55,848,752</b>	<b>(1,917,027)</b>	<b>-3%</b>
 Grants				
B.603: Allied Health - Global Commitment	1,500,000	3,894,000	2,394,000	160%
<b>Total All Sources</b>	<b>59,265,779</b>	<b>59,742,752</b>	<b>476,973</b>	<b>1%</b>
 Capital Bill Act 33 / H9494 of 2025 as enacted	FY2026	FY2027	Increase \$	Increase %
Sec. 8 (a)(1), (a)(2): Major Maintenance	1,500,000	1,500,000	-	0%
Sec. 8 (b)(1), (b)(2): Johnson, Central Plant Replacement	1,500,000	3,500,000	-	0%
 Capital Planning & Pre-Development Costs for Housing		1,000,000	1,000,000	



# Workforce Education: Rural Micro Credential & Certificate Expansion

- Fill critical **paraeducator** shortage
- Upskill workers in rural areas into in demand fields like **health professions** and **auto repair**
- Short-stackable **credentials** and **apprenticeships** with direct career pathways
- Scalable with right investment
- Retain & attract talented Vermonters

**\$1.5 million one-time investment**

# Freedom & Unity



- Free last dollar standard tuition at Vermont State University
- Administered by VSAC
- Currently offered to families with an AGI of \$65,000 or less
- In fall 2025 supported nearly 200 students
- Program allows students to achieve their bachelors or technical associates degree

**Vermont State Colleges is strongly supportive of VSAC's request for expansion to \$2.3 million in base appropriation for this important project**

# Flexible Pathways

- **Dual Enrollment:** eligible Vermont high school students to take up to two college courses tuition-free. Courses may be offered on a college campus, online, and on-site at a participating high school
- **Early College Program:** allows eligible 12th grade students to enroll full-time for one academic year at one of the participating and approved higher education institutions tuition-free. Students who successfully complete an ECP earn college credits while simultaneously meeting secondary school proficiencies
- **Vermont Academy of Science and Technology (VAST):** an independent, accredited high school exclusively for high school seniors located at VTSU Randolph and Williston. Students receive a high school diploma and complete a year of college simultaneously.
- **Fast Forward:** students in career technical education programs earn college credit for concurrent enrollment classes offered at their regional CTE center

Dual Enrollment	22-23	23-24	24-25
Course Placements	6,780	7,203	7,515
Number of Students Enrolled	2,713	3,139	3,129
Early College	22-23	23-24	24-25*
Students Enrolled	334	355	358

\*24-25 data is estimated as of 1/14/2026

# Vermont State Colleges

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# Thank you!

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