

# Washington County

VERMONT KIDS COUNT

2009

total population	58,817
children under 18	11,793
median income	\$55,150
children living in poverty <sup>2</sup>	1,627
% children living in poverty <sup>2</sup>	13.8%

## Economic Security

	2000			2009 <sup>1</sup>			% change in County rates, 2000 - most recent	County rate compared to state rate
	County total	County rate	State rate	County total	Current rate	State rate		
Food Stamps	1,558	11.4	12.6	1,830	15.5	18.3	36.1%	15.1% lower
Dr. Dynasaur/Medicaid <sup>3</sup>	4,693	34.4	35.7	4,861	41.2	43.9	20.0%	6.0% lower
TANF (Reach-up) <sup>4</sup>	1,000	7.3	7.6	725	6.2	6.6	-16.0%	6.2% lower
School Meals <sup>5</sup>	2,263	23.9	25.9	3,034	34.9	38.0	45.9%	8.2% lower
New Families at Risk <sup>6</sup>	16	5.9	8.4	13	4.8	6.1	-18.6%	20.8% lower

### ECONOMIC SECURITY

At \$55,150, the median household income was 7% higher than the state median of \$51,555.

34.9% of public school students were approved for School Meals Programs, a 46% increase since 2000.

15.5% of children received 3SquaresVT (food stamp) benefits, compared to 18.3% statewide.

Rates of 3SquaresVT enrollments and students approved for School Meals have both increased since 2000—which may be related to increased child poverty as well as improved outreach.

41.2% of children were enrolled in Dr. Dynasaur/Medicaid, compared to the state average of 43.9%.

With the exception of poverty, median income estimates, and school meals, all rates and counts are based on three-year averages. For example, the year 2009 represents the average of 2007-2009.

<sup>1</sup> 2009 data except School Meals (2010) and New Families at Risk (2008).

<sup>2</sup> Since the estimates are not based on direct counts, county data should not be compared. Smaller population areas have wider confidence intervals and should be used with caution. For more details and cautions, see: <http://www.census.gov/cgi-bin/saige/saige.cgi>. The 2009 Federal Poverty Threshold was \$21,756 for a family with two adults and two children.

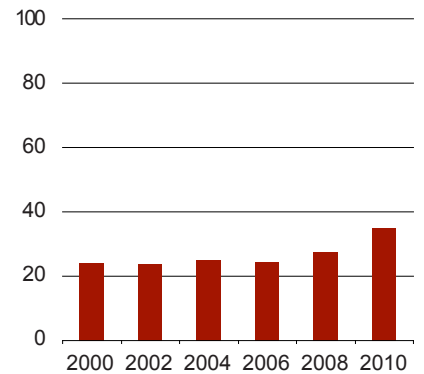
<sup>3</sup> Dr. Dynasaur, Vermont's public health insurance program for children and pregnant women.

<sup>4</sup> The Reach-Up Program is Vermont's version of TANF, the federal Temporary Aid to Needy Families Program.

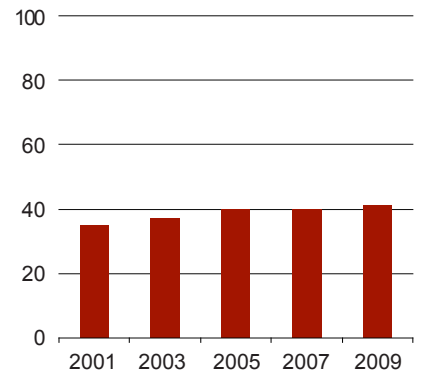
<sup>5</sup> Public school students approved for free and reduced-price Federal School Meals.

<sup>6</sup> Percentage of first births to unmarried women under 20 with less than 12 years of education.

Percent of Students Approved for Federal School Meals

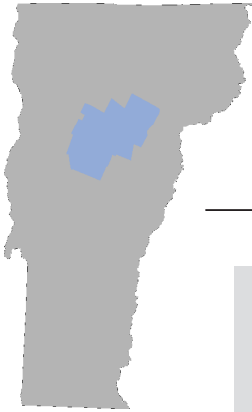


Percent of Children Enrolled in Dr. Dynasaur/Medicaid



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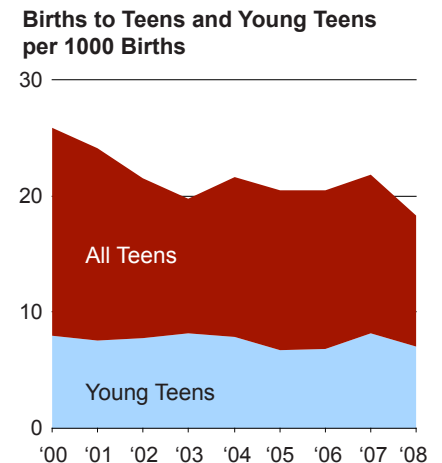
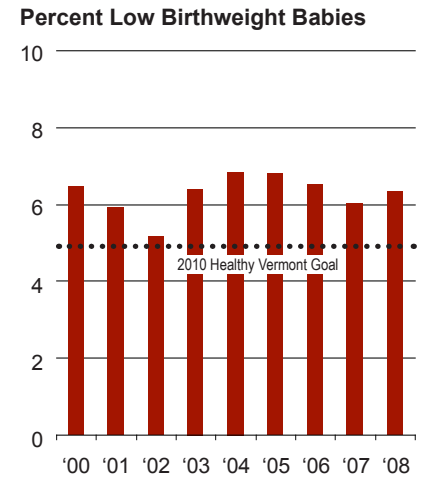
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## Health Indicators

	2000			2008		
	County total	County rate	State rate	County total	County rate	State rate
Population <18 <sup>1</sup>	13,659	23.7	24.3	11,793	20.1	20.7
Early Prenatal care <sup>2</sup>	480	81.8	80.8	495	82.6	83.2
Low Birthweight <sup>3</sup>	39	6.4	6.1	39	6.4	6.7
Infant Mortality <sup>4</sup>	6	10.5	6.2	5	7.7	5.1
Child Deaths <sup>5</sup>	0	3.2	16.4	1	10.6	14.3
Teen Deaths <sup>6</sup>	5	111.5	71.9	2	48.9	47.4
Young Teen Births <sup>7</sup>	10	7.9	11.3	8	7.1	8.1
All Teen Births <sup>7</sup>	49	25.9	23.9	35	18.3	21.4



### HEALTH

Between 2000 and 2009, the number of children in Washington County declined by 13.6%. During that same time period, the state child population declined by 12.8%.

Babies with low birth weight—under 5.5 pounds—are at risk of respiratory conditions, cognitive and developmental delays, and long-term conditions. Our *Healthy Vermonters 2010* goal is to reduce the percentage of low birth weight babies to 5.0%. Washington County's rate was 6.4% of all live births, the same as in 2000.

Teen birth rates were 18.3 per 1,000 teen girls aged 15-19, which is 30% lower than in 2000.

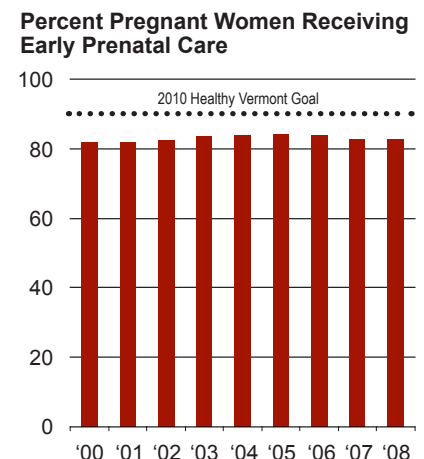
The percent of pregnant women receiving prenatal care within the first trimester was 82.6%, compared to the *Healthy Vermonters 2010* goal of 90%.

2008 data except population (2009); 2008 data are from the Vermont Department of Health. All health rates and counts are based on three-year averages. For example, the year 2008 represents the average of 2006-2008. Rates based on small counts should be used with caution. Such rates may change significantly from one period to the next—even if the actual count only increased from 1 to 2.

- 1 Children ages 0-17 as percent of total population.
- 2 Pregnant women who seek early prenatal care (within first trimester), per 100 live births.
- 3 Infants weighing less than 5.5 pounds at birth per 100 live births.
- 4 Infant deaths less than one year of age per 1,000 live births.
- 5 Child deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14.
- 6 Teen deaths per 100,000 youths ages 15-19.
- 7 Young Teen Births refer to mothers ages 15-17; All Teen Births refers to mothers ages 15-19. Rates are per 1,000 females of the same age.

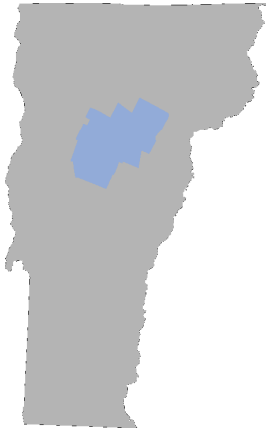
For definitions and sources: <http://www.voicesforvtrkids.org/wp-content/uploads/kidscount/sources.pdf>

Vermont KIDS COUNT research is funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation. We thank them for their support but acknowledge that the findings presented in these county pages are those of Voices for Vermont's Children alone, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Foundation.



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# Washington County

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## Barre SU

Barre City Middle School  
Barre Town Middle School  
Spaulding High School

## Montpelier SD

Main Street Middle School  
Montpelier High School

## Washington Central SU

U-32 Jr./Sr. High School

## Washington Northeast SU

Cabot School  
Twinfield Union School District

## Washington South SU

Northfield Middle/High School

## Washington West SU

Crossett Brook Middle School  
Harwood Union High School

## Youth Risk Behaviors and Assets

### Cigarettes

Percent of all students, grades 8-12, who had smoked cigarettes during the past 30 days

	2003	2005	2007	2009
Barre SU	18	10	13	16
Montpelier SD	20	14	17	20
Washington Central SU	15	17	13	18
Washington NE SU	18	24	22	21
Washington South SU	10	17	20	24
Washington West SU	14	16	13	16
Vermont	20	16	16	16

### Alcohol

Percent of all students, grades 8-12, who had used alcohol during the past 30 days

	2003	2005	2007	2009
Barre SU	39	27	36	45
Montpelier SD	36	29	43	40
Washington Central SU	36	37	40	41
Washington NE SU	39	42	40	43
Washington South SU	26	26	36	45
Washington West SU	40	42	35	37
Vermont	39	37	39	36

### Marijuana

Percent of all students, grades 8-12, who had used marijuana during the past 30 days

	2003	2005	2007	2009
Barre SU	21	12	15	27
Montpelier SD	30	23	26	28
Washington Central SU	24	19	23	30
Washington NE SU	23	33	30	26
Washington South SU	12	20	20	34
Washington West SU	25	26	19	25
Vermont	25	22	21	22

### Inhalants

Percent of all students, grades 8-12, who had ever used inhalants

	2003	2005	2007	2009
Barre SU	13	9	12	12
Montpelier SD	11	10	10	12
Washington Central SU	8	10	11	10
Washington NE SU	14	18	14	11
Washington South SU	11	15	19	14
Washington West SU	12	14	9	10
Vermont	13	12	12	10

### Depression

Percent of students who felt so sad or hopeless almost every day for at least 2 weeks that they stopped doing some normal activities

	2003	2005	2007	2009
Barre SU	24	24	21	24
Montpelier SD	27	23	20	19
Washington Central SU	24	22	18	20
Washington NE SU	28	22	20	17
Washington South SU	24	23	27	25
Washington West SU	21	22	21	17
Vermont	23	22	20	21

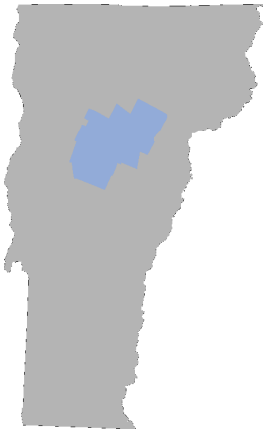
### Sex

Percent of all students, grades 8-12, who have ever had sexual intercourse

	2003	2005	2007	2009
Barre SU	39	33	37	46
Montpelier SD	34	25	33	33
Washington Central SU	32	27	37	40
Washington NE SU	41	43	38	41
Washington South SU	40	38	43	47
Washington West SU	35	36	30	34
Vermont	35	36	37	40

#### ABOUT THE VERMONT YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR SURVEY:

The Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey is a voluntary survey of 8th-12th graders attending Vermont middle- and high-schools (and elementary schools that include 8th grade) that seeks to monitor trends in student health and risk behaviors. Administered every two years since 1993, in 2009 nearly 30,000 8th-12th grade students representing 143 schools and 55 supervisory unions were surveyed. The resulting data in the report is based on a representative sample to accurately reflect state demographic distribution, with a +/-5% error rate. Although the report offers data down to the supervisory union level, comparing the numbers of one supervisory union to another or to the state should be done with caution, because while the statewide percentages are "weighted," individual supervisory union percentages are not. It is possible that apparent differences, especially small differences, are due to demographic characteristics, rather than true differences in prevalence.



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## Youth Risk Behaviors and Assets

	Bullying			
	<i>Percent of students who were bullied during the past 30 days</i>			
	2003	2005	2007	2009
Barre SU	NA	17	17	17
Montpelier SD	NA	15	17	18
Washington Central SU	NA	20	15	14
Washington NE SU	NA	19	27	19
Washington South SU	NA	17	22	22
Washington West SU	NA	23	25	23
Vermont	NA	18	17	17

	Bullying			
	<i>Percent of students who bullied someone during the past 30 days</i>			
	2003	2005	2007	2009
Barre SU	NA	20	22	21
Montpelier SD	NA	20	18	20
Washington Central SU	NA	24	17	15
Washington NE SU	NA	28	37	21
Washington South SU	NA	34	31	27
Washington West SU	NA	26	22	18
Vermont	NA	21	21	20

	Physical Activity			
	<i>Percent of students, grades 8-12, who vigorously exercised 3 or more times per week</i>			
	2003	2005	2007*	2009
Barre SU	65	65	48	45
Montpelier SD	71	72	43	52
Washington Central SU	70	70	56	39
Washington NE SU	72	68	60	43
Washington South SU	76	71	45	45
Washington West SU	66	70	51	50
Vermont	67	67	49	45

Barre SU  
Montpelier SD  
Washington Central SU  
Washington NE SU  
Washington South SU  
Washington West SU  
Vermont

	Parents Talk			
	<i>Percent of all students, grades 8-12, whose parents talk with them about school weekly or more often</i>			
	2003	2005	2007	2009
Barre SU	75	77	76	73
Montpelier SD	80	77	80	86
Washington Central SU	78	79	82	79
Washington NE SU	72	72	73	74
Washington South SU	71	73	79	72
Washington West SU	79	75	78	79
Vermont	75	78	79	77

	Students Decide			
	<i>Percent of all students, grades 8-12, who report that students help decide what goes on in their school</i>			
	2003	2005	2007	2009
Barre SU	37	43	49	45
Montpelier SD	48	47	52	45
Washington Central SU	40	45	48	47
Washington NE SU	63	57	54	48
Washington South SU	43	48	33	47
Washington West SU	61	56	49	55
Vermont	46	46	51	50

	Volunteer			
	<i>Percent of all students, grades 8-12, who spend 1 or more hours per week volunteering in their community</i>			
	2003	2005	2007	2009
Barre SU	45	46	44	42
Montpelier SD	46	40	39	47
Washington Central SU	39	41	34	40
Washington NE SU	49	39	53	45
Washington South SU	45	38	41	39
Washington West SU	43	44	46	43
Vermont	45	46	45	42

Barre SU  
Montpelier SD  
Washington Central SU  
Washington NE SU  
Washington South SU  
Washington West SU  
Vermont

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\* Survey question changed to 5 or more times for 60 minutes in 2007

Barre SU  
Montpelier SD  
Washington Central SU  
Washington NE SU  
Washington South SU  
Washington West SU  
Vermont

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	Youths Valued			
	<i>Percent of all students, grades 8-12, who report they feel valued by their community</i>			
	2003	2005	2007	2009
Barre SU	40	42	43	39
Montpelier SD	43	40	52	62
Washington Central SU	42	44	46	49
Washington NE SU	48	45	50	51
Washington South SU	36	42	40	40
Washington West SU	42	41	46	52
Vermont	42	45	47	47

	Clubs			
	<i>Percent of all students, grades 8-12, who spend 1 or more hours per week in clubs/organizations outside of school</i>			
	2003	2005	2007	2009
Barre SU	29	28	27	24
Montpelier SD	43	34	28	36
Washington Central SU	26	28	22	22
Washington NE SU	27	22	30	26
Washington South SU	36	24	28	33
Washington West SU	26	28	23	26
Vermont	28	31	30	27