

# 2017 **ecos** Annual Report

## The State of Chittenden County

Achieving our vision for a healthy, inclusive, and prosperous future

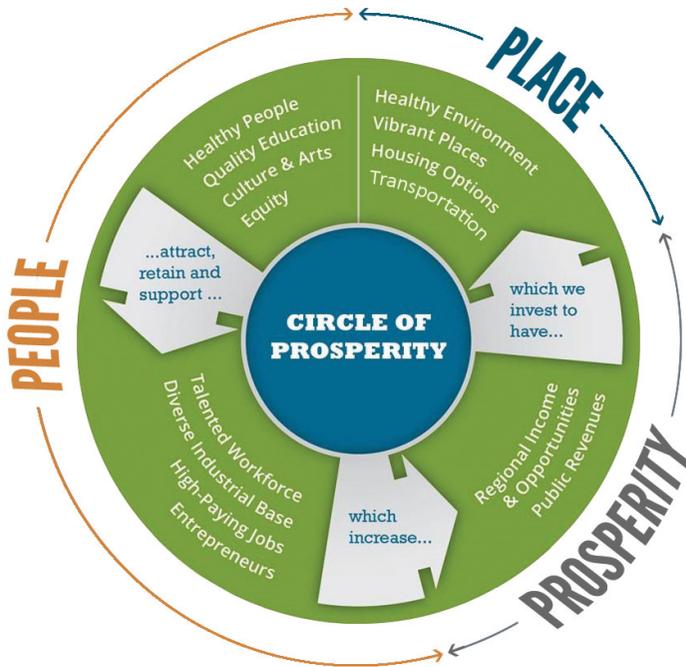


Prepared by CCRPC  
on behalf of the  
ECOS Partnership



# INTRODUCTION & DEMOGRAPHICS

Five years since the adoption of the [ECOS Plan](#) the ECOS Partners remain invested in making progress toward accomplishing the plan's vision for a healthy, prosperous, and inclusive Chittenden County. The challenges we face are multi-faceted and often interrelated. We keep working to break down silos and ensure that our efforts are mutually supportive in achieving our goals. This interdependence is reflected in the Circle of Prosperity below.



Elements of the [ECOS Plan](#) are integrated into each partner organization's work plans, and the partners approach work differently as a result of implementing the principles of collective impact.

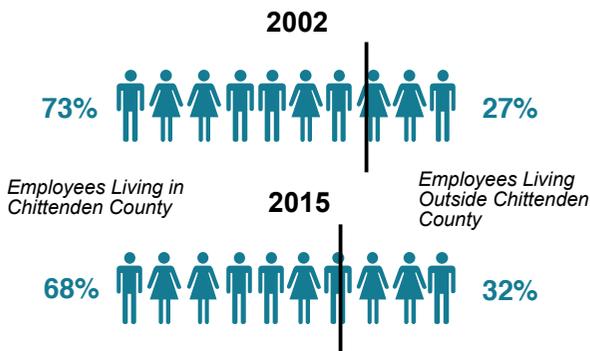
In an effort to monitor and build on successes, bring new information to the legislature and community leaders, and continue to work on areas that need improvement, the ECOS Partnership prepares this Annual Report and an online data Scorecard each year. These data-driven resources provide insight into current and future needs in Chittenden County, and allow us to focus on long-term solutions rather than just treating short-term symptoms.

In this report, the ECOS Partnership has selected a few key indicators from the ECOS Plan. They are not intended to be inclusive of all the goals; the full set of goals, as well as more detail, can be found in the [ECOS Scorecard](#).

## RESIDENCY

**More county employees are living here.**

For the first time in 10+ years, the percent of people working and living in Chittenden County is increasing (65% in 2014 to 68% in 2015). We would like this trend to continue and are aiming for 75% to lessen carbon emissions, reduce stress on our transportation system, and limit sprawl.



Source: U.S. Census Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics

## 2018 ECOS PLAN UPDATE

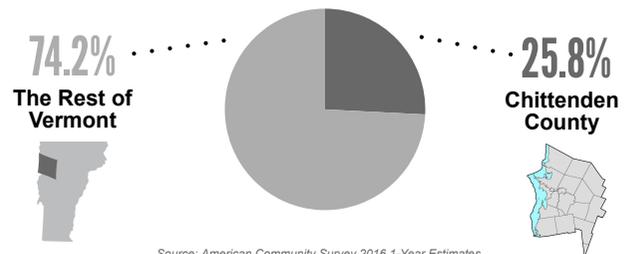
The CCRPC is in the process of updating the 2013 ECOS Plan, with anticipated adoption in June 2018. This update focuses mainly on updates to the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, and will serve as the Region's Enhanced Energy Plan. More information, including drafts, can be found at <http://www.ecosproject.com>.

## POPULATION

**Chittenden County continues to grow.**

Chittenden County grew from 156,705 in 2010 to 161,531 in 2016 and makes up over a quarter of Vermont's overall population. While Chittenden County is growing, Vermont's annual growth rate without Chittenden County's population has been relatively flat over the past 10 years.

**Chittenden County Population Within Vermont**



Source: American Community Survey 2016 1-Year Estimates

## DIVERSITY

**We are growing increasingly more diverse.**

**94%** of the population growth in the last six years has been non-white and Hispanic. This equates to 4,529 of the additional 4,826 people from 2010-2016. For many business owners, such immigrant workers have been a vital reason why their businesses have been able to thrive in recent years.

Source: 2016 American Community Survey 2010, 2015 1-Year Estimates

# PEOPLE

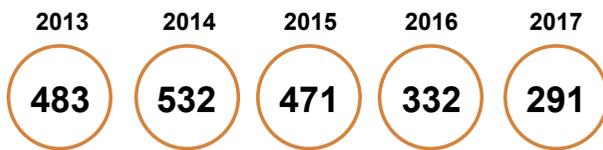


## HOMELESSNESS

The 2017 homeless Annual Point-in-Time Count decreased significantly. There has been some decrease in homeless families: 247 families in 2016 to 230 in 2017.

This decrease is a direct result of the Homeless Alliance and partners' efforts, including the "Housing is Health Care" approach to address chronic homelessness.

### Number of Homeless Individuals



Source: Point-in-Time Count - Burlington Continuum of Care Report & UW Chittenden County

## HEALTH

A change in only three behaviors can have a major influence on the health of Vermonters.

Many efforts are underway to keep Vermonters healthy from the start, to prevent chronic disease and lower health care costs. These include the Vermont Department of Health's 3-4-50 campaign, the all payer model, and businesses focused on prevention -- such as Trudell Consulting Engineers of Williston.



39% Do NOT get the Recommended Physical Activity (2015)

77% Do NOT Eat 5 Servings of Fruits & Vegetables Per Day (2015)

13% Currently Smoke (2016)

### In Chittenden County:

6% Diagnosed w/ Cancer (2016)

6% Diagnosed w/ Cardiovascular Diseases (2016)

6% Diagnosed with Diabetes (2016)

12% Diagnosed with Lung Disease (2016)

24% Deaths from Cancer

20% Deaths from Cardiovascular Diseases

3% Deaths from Diabetes

7% Deaths from Lung Diseases

= 54% of Total Deaths

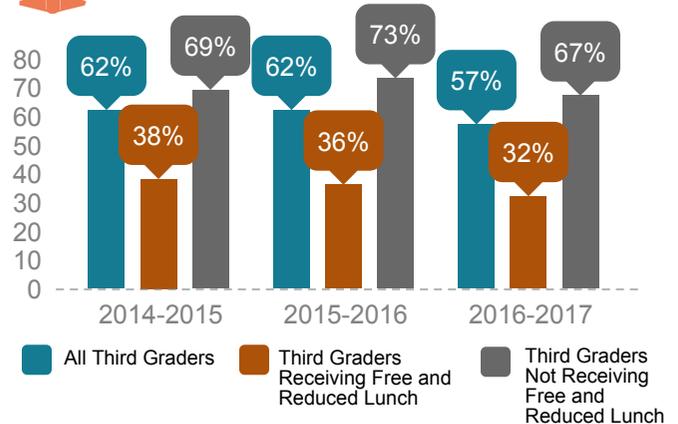
Source: Vermont Department of Health

## READING PROFICIENCY

Limited proficiency in reading by third grade places students at very high risk for poor long-term outcomes such as incarceration, unemployment, and poor health outcomes.



### Third Graders Proficient in Reading



Source: Agency of Education

### Infants & Toddlers with Access to Quality Child Care



77%

of infants likely to need care don't have access to high-quality (4- or 5-star) programs.



47%

of toddlers likely to need care don't have access to high-quality (4- or 5-star) programs.

Source: Let's Grow Kids 'Stalled at the Start,' 2018

## OPIOID CRISIS



The Governor's Opioid Coordination Council released its first report on recommendations needed to address the opioid crisis which focus on prevention, treatment, recovery and enforcement.



In 2016, there were **24 accidental opioid overdose fatalities** which was a **20% increase**, or 4 more fatalities compared to 2015. As of Nov., there were 33 accidental overdose fatalities in 2017.



The number of prescribers of Medication-assisted Treatment (MAT) in Chittenden County increased from 38 to 74 between March 2016 and January 2018.



The waitlist for MAT has fluctuated over time, reaching monthly levels as high as 302. However, in September 2017 the **waitlist reached zero** and has been at zero for the remainder of the year.



A new service hub in Franklin County opened in 2017, which provides MAT for substance use disorders.

Source: Chittenden County Opioid Alliance

**HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN DO!**



Learn how to start a conversation with your kids about substance abuse.

Watch video tips from Vermont parents at [parentupvt.org](http://parentupvt.org).



Create a healthy workplace.

Use the Vermont Worksite Wellness Resource to get started:

[healthvermont.gov/local-health-offices/burlington/worksite-wellness](http://healthvermont.gov/local-health-offices/burlington/worksite-wellness)

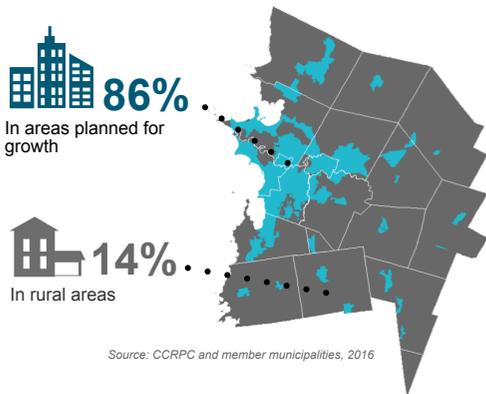
# PLACE

## SMART GROWTH

We've continued to invest in the centers of our communities.

While development in existing communities can be difficult, infill in the right places will have lasting positive benefits of increased inclusivity and strength to our economy. The goal for 80% of new development to occur in areas planned for growth has been met for the fifth year in a row.

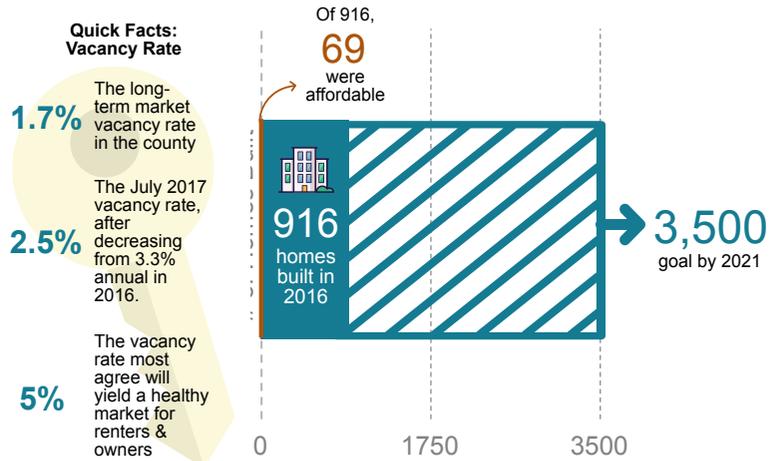
### 5-Year Average of Homes Built in Chittenden County



## HOUSING

The **Building Homes Together** campaign seeks to build 3,500 new homes by 2021. **2016 goal:** 700 total homes including 140 affordable.

### Homes Built in Chittenden County in 2016



Gov. Phil Scott signed into law a **\$35M bond** to fund rental and home ownership opportunities for 550-660 low- and moderate-income Vermonters.

## CLEAN WATER

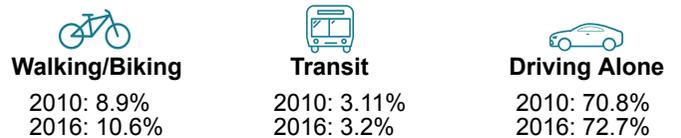
We continue to work toward the goal of reducing excess phosphorus in Lake Champlain by 34% statewide. Stormwater runoff from roads is a notable phosphorus input to the Lake.

The level of effort needed on our roads to reduce phosphorus inputs to Lake Champlain includes:

- 15%** of our non-curbed roadway miles need improvement (approx. 105 miles out of an estimated 707)
- 14%** of our curbed road outfalls need improvement (approx. 72 out of 501 outfalls)

## TRAVEL MODES

The goal is to reduce single occupant vehicle travel and increase – through targeted investment in active transportation facilities and transit services – walking, biking and transit trips. Transit ridership is largely dependent on gas prices; nationwide, we have seen a reduction in transit, assumed to be related to a decrease in gas prices.



Source: American Community Survey 2015 1-Year Estimates

## ENERGY

Vermont's **Comprehensive Energy Plan** calls for 90% of the state's energy needs to be met with renewable energy resources by 2050.

**Target: 89% of vehicles should be electric by 2050.**



**Target: 89% of homes should be weatherized by 2050.**



**HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN DO!**



Capture rain on your property to prevent stormwater runoff. Visit [RethinkRunoff.org](http://RethinkRunoff.org) for more information.



Make your commute more fun! Visit [GoVermont.org](http://GoVermont.org) for more information.

# PROSPERITY

## WHILE OUR ECONOMY IS STRONG, IMPROVEMENT IS NEEDED



**Chittenden County is the economic engine of Vermont.**

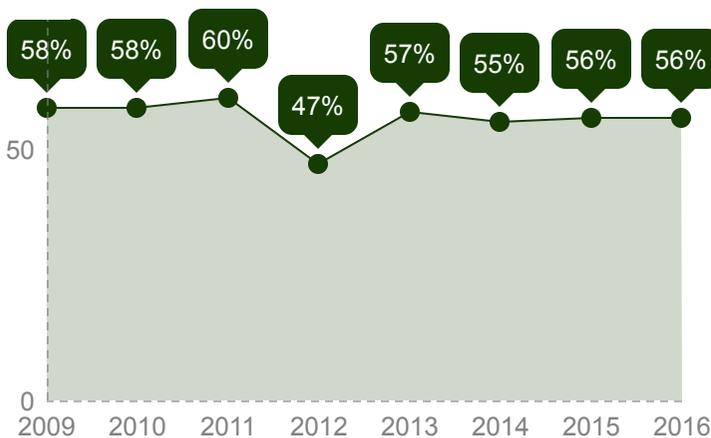
It makes up over 25% of Vermont's population, sales tax revenue and private businesses, and over 35% of the state's gross domestic product (GDP) and income tax revenue.



**Many parts of the Chittenden County economy have recovered strongly since the 2009 recession.**

The unemployment rate has dropped, median household income has risen, and 9,547 new jobs have been created. However, housing costs are still too high for many people.

**Percentage of Renters who are Cost Burdened**  
(those who spend over 30% of their income on housing)



**Although the unemployment rate is low in Chittenden County (2.5%) and Vermont (3.3%) compared to the U.S. (4.9%), there are important caveats to this:**

**13%**

of Vermonters aged 20-24 are unemployed and looking for work, compared to 3.3% for the general population. A lack of job experience for young Vermonters undermines the future workforce and leaves them without a strong basis for future work.

**7%**

of Vermonters are under-employed, meaning they have become discouraged and stopped looking for work, or they work part-time but would prefer to work full-time.

**40%**

of graduating high school seniors in Vermont do not go on to any further education or training after leaving school.

**59%**

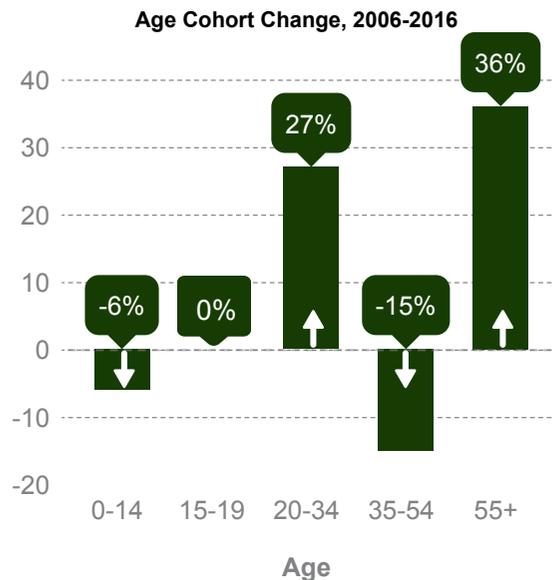
of Chittenden County residents are participating in the labor force in 2016, down slightly from 60% in 2010.

## WORKFORCE DEMOGRAPHICS



**Chittenden County is experiencing a decline in the workforce population due to demographic shifts: An aging population, low birth rates, the out-migration of young adults and the high cost of housing.**

In addition to our demographic challenges, what our economic and labor market now faces can best be described as a skills gap, where work opportunities are not able to be met by the available labor force. Based on work from the Vermont Futures Project, we estimate a workforce gap in Chittenden County of around 3,500+/year when we account for employment growth relative to employment exits.



Source: American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate

**HERE'S  
WHAT YOU  
CAN DO!**

**Know which careers show the most promise.**



Visit Pathways to Promising Careers to review 54 high-pay, high-demand careers projected for Vermont:  
[mcculturevt.org/pathways](http://mcculturevt.org/pathways)



**Learn about programs and resources that can help your business and employees.**

Working Bridges, a public-private, multi-sector employer collaborative seeks business solutions for job retention and decreased absenteeism and uses the workplace as a platform for social services:  
[unitedwaynwvt.org/Working-Bridges](http://unitedwaynwvt.org/Working-Bridges)



Environment. Community. Opportunity. Sustainability.

..... [ecosproject.com](http://ecosproject.com) .....

Visit the ECOS Scorecard to view all the indicators  
measuring progress toward the ECOS Plan goals.