

**Vermont Child Poverty Council Benchmarks – Working Group Poverty Reduction Measures**  
*Policy Research Shop – Rockefeller Center for Public Policy of Dartmouth College*

<b>Category</b>	<b>Benchmark</b>	<b>Description</b>
1.General	<i>NAS Model</i>	Vermont children living in poverty, using NAS model
	<i>ACS Children in Poverty</i>	Children living in families below 50%, 100%, and 200% of federal poverty line, using American Community Survey (ACS) data
	<i>JFO Basic Needs Budget</i>	Vermont Joint Fiscal Office Basic (JFO) Needs Budget update; % of Vermont families earning income to meet that budget
2.Safety Net	<i>Homelessness</i>	Homeless families and children using “Any given night” survey and transition time to stable housing
	<i>Housing and Utilities</i>	Families paying over 30% of their income for housing and utilities
	<i>Reach-Up</i>	Reach-Up enrollment rate
	<i>3SquaresVT</i>	3SquaresVT enrollment rate (+ average wait time)
	<i>Uninsured Children</i>	Uninsured children eligible for public insurance
3.Education	<i>Pre-K</i>	All children and low-income children in Pre-K
	<i>Kindergarten Readiness</i>	Children entering kindergarten fully ready for school, disparities between lower and higher-poverty schools
	<i>Aspiration Rate</i>	Post-secondary aspiration rate among high school seniors, overall and by gender, parental educational attainment
	<i>Seniors Taking the SAT</i>	High school seniors taking the SAT, by gender, family income, and highest level of parental education
	<i>19 Year Olds in College</i>	19 yr olds enrolled in college, disaggregated by family income
	<i>Cohort Graduation Rates</i>	Cohort graduation rates, overall, and disaggregated by gender, poverty, disability, and English Language Learners (ELL) status
	<i>NECAP<sup>1</sup></i>	3-8 & 11 <sup>th</sup> graders proficient or higher on NECAP assessments, overall, and by gender, poverty, disability, ELL status
	<i>NAEP<sup>2</sup></i>	4 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> graders proficient or higher on NAEP assessments, overall, and by gender, poverty, or disability status
	<i>Post-secondary Education</i>	Number of Individuals with post-secondary education
4.Employment	<i>Not In School, And Not Working</i>	Percent of teens not in school and not working
	<i>Not In School, No High School Degree</i>	Percent of teens not in school and not high school graduates
	<i>Job Payment</i>	Number and percent of jobs paying above poverty earnings
	<i>Median Income</i>	Median income by state and county
5.Economic Stability	<i>NCCP Benefit Cliffs</i>	Benefit cliffs using National Center for Children in Poverty (NCCP) Family Resource Simulator
	<i>Child Care Schedules</i>	Availability of child care for nontraditional work schedules
	<i>Child Care Subsidy</i>	Track how the child care subsidy rates compares to market rates
	<i>Child Care Assistance</i>	Economically insecure families with young children receiving child care assistance
6.Strengthening Families	<i>Births To Unmarried Mothers</i>	Percentage of first births to unmarried mothers under 20 with less than 12 years of education
	<i>YRBS Survey</i>	Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance (YRBS) Survey Results

<sup>1</sup> New England Common Assessment Program

<sup>2</sup> National Assessment of Educational Progress

Vermont Child Poverty Council Benchmarks – Most Recent Data Examples  
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Category	Benchmark	Most Recent Data Examples		
1.General	<i>NAS Model</i>	<i>Not Available</i>		
	<i>ACS Children in Poverty ('09)</i>	Under 50%: 7,167	Under 100%: 16,470	Under 200%: 39,000
	<i>JFO Basic Needs Budget</i>	<i>Not Available</i>		
2.Safety Net	<i>Homelessness ('10)</i>	“Any given night”: 497 families, 766 under 17		
	<i>Housing and Utilities ('09)</i>	Owners: 38.2%	Renters: 51.3%	
	<i>Reach-Up ('08)</i>	8,082 (6.2%)		
	<i>3SquaresVT ('08)</i>	20,590 (15.7%)		
	<i>Uninsured Children ('09)</i>	76.9% (Total Uninsured Children = 3,869)		
3.Education	<i>Pre-K ('09)</i>	Enrollment of 3 and 4 yr olds in State-funded Pre-K: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4,651 (35.4% of all 12,938)</li> </ul> Enrollment in Average Daily Membership (ADM) funded Pre-K and Early Education Initiative (EEI): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 45% of 4 year olds and 13% of 3 year olds</li> </ul>		
	<i>Kindergarten Readiness ('09)</i>	Children who were rated “practicing” or “performing independently” in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social and Emotional Development (77.4%)</li> <li>• Approaches to Learning (79.3%)</li> <li>• Communication (84.2%)</li> <li>• Cognitive Development (72.9%)</li> <li>• Wellness (79.1%)</li> </ul>		
	<i>Aspiration Rate ('08)</i>	Post-Secondary Aspiration Rate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Males (70.6%), Females (81.8%)</li> </ul>		
	<i>Seniors Taking the SAT ('10)</i>	Number of Test-takers: 5,164		
	<i>19 Year Olds in College</i>	<i>Not Available</i>		
	<i>Cohort Graduation Rates ('08)</i>	Cohort Graduation Rate: 85.6%		
		Male: 83.5% of 3,767	Female: 87.7% of 3,767	
	<i>NECAP ('09)</i>	(11 <sup>th</sup> ) Reading: 69%	Math: 35%	Writing: 51%
		(3-8 <sup>th</sup> ) Reading: 67%	Math: 66%	Not Available
	<i>NAEP ('09)</i>	(4 <sup>th</sup> ) Reading: 41%	Math: 51%	
(8 <sup>th</sup> ) Reading: 41%		Math: 43%		
<i>Post-secondary Education</i>	<i>Not Available</i>			
4.Employment	<i>Not In School, And Not Working ('08)</i>	6%		
	<i>Not In School, No High School Degree ('08)</i>	4%		
	<i>Median Income ('08)</i>	\$77,127 for a family of 4		
5.Economic Stability	<i>Child Care Schedules</i>	<i>Not Available</i>		
	<i>Child Care Assistance ('08)</i>	\$4,800 monthly		
6.Strengthening Families	<i>Births To Unmarried Mothers ('08)</i>	22 per 1,000 females		