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ABSTRACT

This KIDS COUNT factbook presents statistical data and examines trends for several indicators of children's well-being in Vermont. Four groups of indicators are examined: (1) economic security, including child population, child poverty, number of children receiving Aid to Needy Families with Children (ANFC) and food stamps, number of children approved for free and reduced lunches, and regulated child care slots; (2) education, including number of dropouts; (3) family health, including child deaths, teen violent deaths, infant mortality, low-birthweight babies, prenatal care, new families at risk, and births to teens; and (4) child protection, including child abuse and neglect and children in custody. Section 1 of the report, "Introduction," introduces Vermont KIDS COUNT and gives an overview of the indicators. Section 2, "Overview and Findings," defines the indicators and presents statistical data for each of them. In addition, a summary of 1990 census indicators is included that relates to ethnic and racial diversity, median family income, children in single-parent families, working mothers, teens not in school and not in the labor force, and educational attainment of adults. Section 3 of the report, "County by County," presents the trends of indicators for each of the 12 counties of the state. Finally, the appendix includes notes on statistics and methodology. (AA)

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The State of Our Children

1991
Distribution

Kids Count in Vermont

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a project of The Vermont Children's Forum,
funded by The Annie Casey Foundation.**

Vermont KIDS COUNT is a collaborative effort with the Vermont Agency of Human Services and Department of Education, and the Center for Rural Studies at the University of Vermont.

Additional copies of *The State of our Children: Kids Count in Vermont* are available for \$10 each from: Vermont KIDS COUNT
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Internet Information

The 1994 Kids Count Data Book can also be found on the University of Vermont's gopher server at gopher.uvm.edu. At the main menu, choose "Vermont Gophers and Information Resources," then "Center for Rural Studies Community Development Information." Or try the Center for Rural Studies World Wide Web page at <http://www.uvm.edu/~cdae/crs>.

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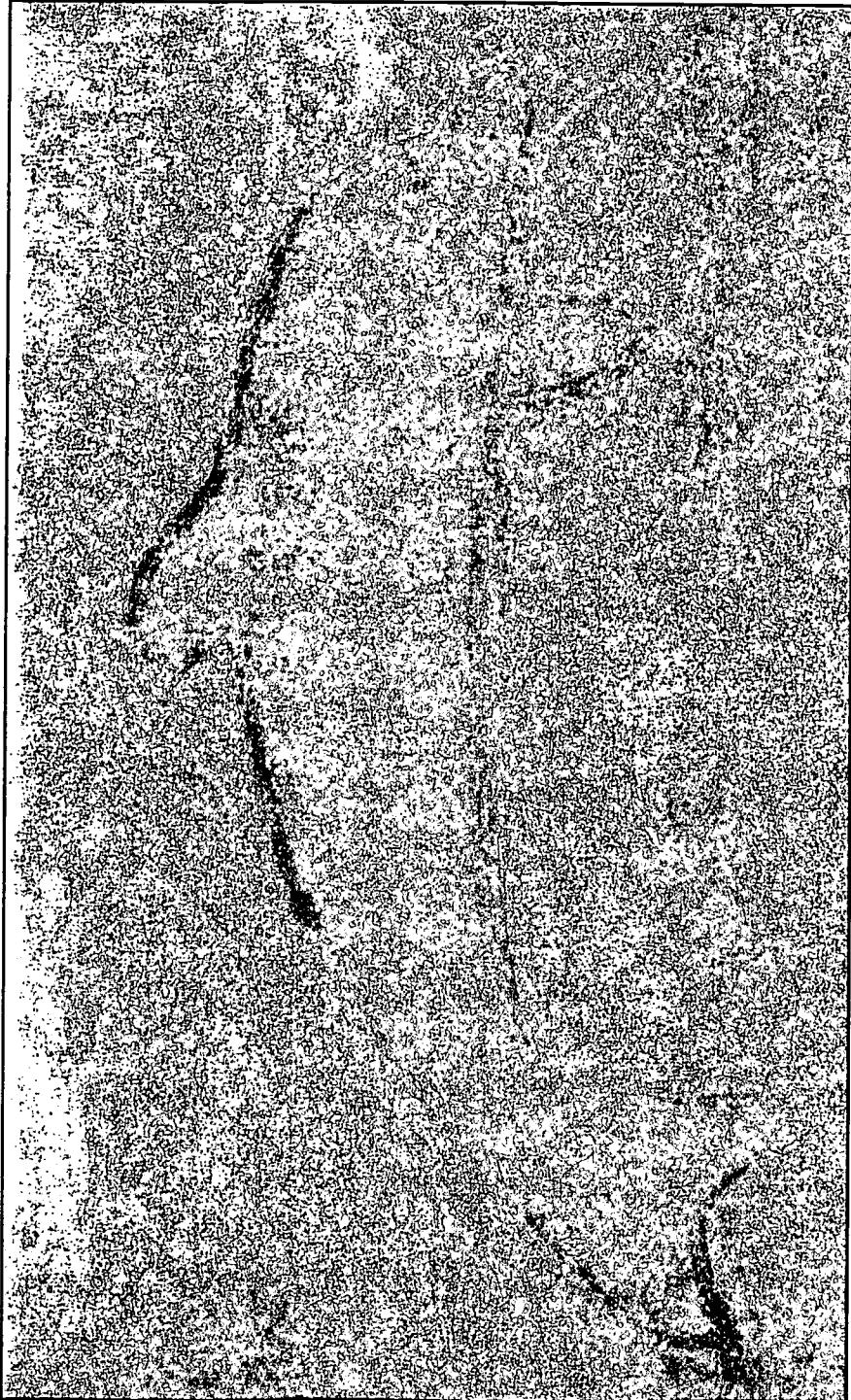
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The State of Our Children

1994
Data Book

*Kids Count
in Vermont*



*Prepared by
The Vermont
Children's Forum*

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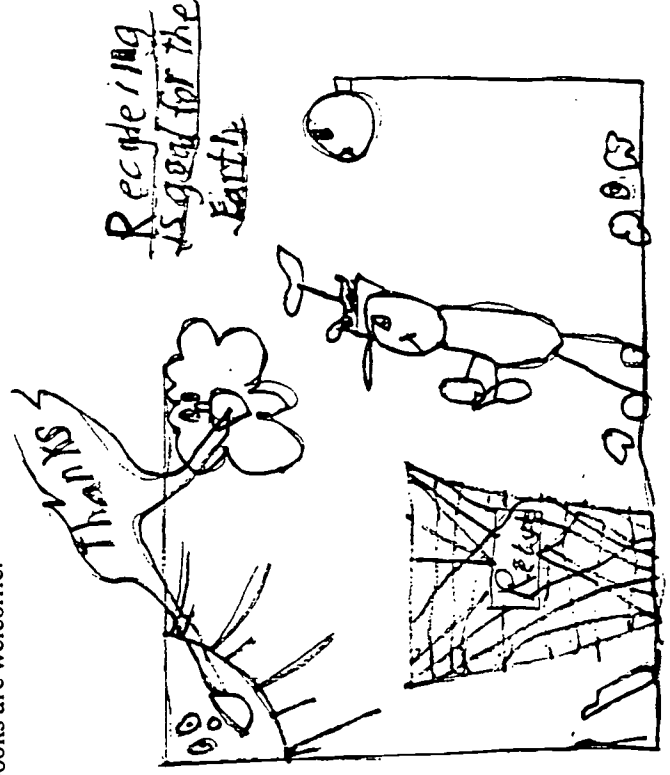
Introduction

Kids and Vermont KIDS COUNT

Part of KIDS COUNT outreach includes working with children to get their perspective and hear their voices. Thus, art work, photography and words throughout this book are theirs. In this publication we asked children around Vermont to tell us how they would make the world a better place.

Vermont KIDS COUNT: Future Plans

Future plans for KIDS COUNT include assistance with the development of statewide community outreach and planning through *An Agenda for Vermont's Children and Families* and implementation of a Kids Count Indicators database. Future plans also involve publication of special reports on childhood hunger, a summary compilation of Vermont services which work to solve problems highlighted by the Kids Count Indicators and the inclusion of additional indicators in future data books. Comments about this report and suggestions for future data books are welcome.



About Vermont KIDS COUNT

Vermont KIDS COUNT is a four year project to collect and analyze state data on child welfare. It is funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, the nation's largest funding institution committed to support for disadvantaged children. Vermont KIDS COUNT is a project of the Vermont Children's Forum, the state's only private non-partisan child advocacy organization.

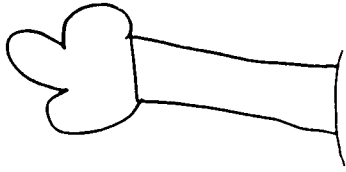
Vermont KIDS COUNT is a unique collaborative effort of the Vermont Agency of Human Services, the Vermont Department of Education and the University of Vermont's Center for Rural Studies. Volunteer committees have guided the selection of the indicators and the design and distribution of the data book. KIDS COUNT volunteers include representatives of private, non-profit, government and educational agencies, as well as business people and individuals.

Goals of Vermont KIDS COUNT

The goals of Vermont KIDS COUNT include the creation of an on-line database; publication of this annual report of social, economic, health and educational data; development of a campaign to increase public awareness of issues affecting child well-being, including a series of special reports; and participation in the Vermont Children's Forum's Agenda for Vermont's Children and Families.

This is the second annual Vermont Kids Count Data Book which examines child well-being data on both the state and local levels. Local and state analysis is critical to identifying the problems faced by Vermont's children and families which may be overshadowed by national studies which tend to rank the status of Vermont's children high compared with other states. *The State of Our Children* offers a more in-depth look at the needs of Vermont's children and families through data reported in numbers, percentages and by comparison over time.

We asked Vermont children to answer the question:
How would you make things better for kids? One child answered:



What would make a better world:

- Clean up the trash.
- Donate food to people.
- Fix up the playground.
- Donate water to people.
- Donate milk to people.
- Help people walk.
- Be good to animals.
- Help people work.
- Help people learn things.



The insight and awareness of the children's voices in this book show a clear understanding of their own needs and the needs of others in today's world. Their thoughtful drawings and responses give a human face to the facts and numbers reported in this data book. These facts and numbers reveal the troubling trend of increasing child poverty in Vermont and, therefore, a higher risk of poor outcomes for our children. If we truly believe that children are our future, we must be vigilant about their present.

The *State of Our Children, 1994 Data Book* compiles and summarizes 23 indicators of child well-being in the areas of economic security, education, child protection, and family health. Kids Count indicators are data which present information on specific aspects of child well-being. The 1994 data book includes nine new indicators of child well-being as well as fourteen of the fifteen indicators included in the 1993 edition. All the indicators have been updated with the exception of data based on the 1990 Census.

The book is divided into three sections: Overview and Findings, County-by-County and Appendix. The Overview and Findings section includes descriptions of new and updated indicators and 1990 Census data. The County-By-County pages present snapshots of data by county* and the

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Foreword

Appendix contains information on data sources and methodology. The indicators selected for analysis in this book are:

Child Protection

- Child Abuse and Neglect
- Children in Custody

Economic Security

- Children Eligible to Receive Free and Reduced Lunches
- Children in Households Receiving ANFC
- Children in Households Receiving Food Stamps
- Child Poverty Rate
- Regulated Child Care Slots

Education

- Drop Outs per High School

Family Health

- Births to Teens
- Births to Single Teens
- Child Deaths
- Early Prenatal Care
- Infant Mortality
- Low Birthweight Babies
- New Families at Risk
- Teen Violent Deaths

1990 Census Data

- Children in Single-Parent Families
- Educational Attainment of Adults
- Median Family Income
- Teens Not in School and Not in the Labor Force
- Working Parents

* *Essex County and Orleans County data and Franklin County and Grand Isle County data have been combined in this edition.*

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Data Information

Introduction to the Indicators

Throughout this book, the term "indicators" describes data which help identify child and family well-being. KIDS COUNT does not conduct surveys or gather direct data. All indicators are collected from existing data from a number of sources, including the U.S. Bureau of the Census and Vermont state agencies.

KIDS COUNT facts are collected on a town, rather than a state or county level, to allow for flexibility in presenting information. For this report, town data are combined to show both county and state perspectives.

New Data on Child Economic Well-Being

One of the problems of providing accurate data is the lack of up-to-date information, especially on child poverty. The source of child poverty facts in the United States is the Census. Census data are measured in two ways: once a decade (decennial) survey, and in much smaller surveys of the population, every year. The difficulty with using annual data based on small population samples is that, in states like Vermont with modest populations, the results may not be reliable for the state as a whole. That is why data from the decennial Census are used as benchmarks.

Last year's 1993 Kids Count Data Book showed a decline in Vermont's child poverty rate between 1979 and 1989, the most recent years measured by the decennial census. However, this year's report presents mathematical estimates of annual child poverty figures, calculated by the KIDS COUNT Project's data analyst, showing a steady increase in child poverty rates between 1989 and 1993. This trend is consistent with patterns shown by our other new indicators of child economic well-being: children in households receiving ANFC benefits; children in households receiving Food Stamp benefits; and children eligible for free and reduced lunches.

Understanding Kids Count Information

Averaging Numbers

For the 1994 Data Book, KIDS COUNT reviewed the trends of indicators during the 1980s and early 1990s. For many indicators, data for several years were averaged or aggregated to provide more reliable figures for data that may fluctuate greatly from year to year. Numbers for some of

the indicators may refer to aggregation of data for a three-year period. For example, the number of infant deaths in the 1980 to 1982 period is presented as the average number of infant deaths for the years 1980, 1981, and 1982. The infant mortality rate for the same period is calculated by summing the total number of infant deaths in 1980, 1981, and 1982, dividing by the sum of live births in 1980, 1981, and 1982, and multiplying by 1,000.

Numbers that were averaged across years have been rounded off, while most rates have been carried out to one decimal place. Readers can refer to the tables or the Appendix for specific information such as the years used for averaging and methodology.

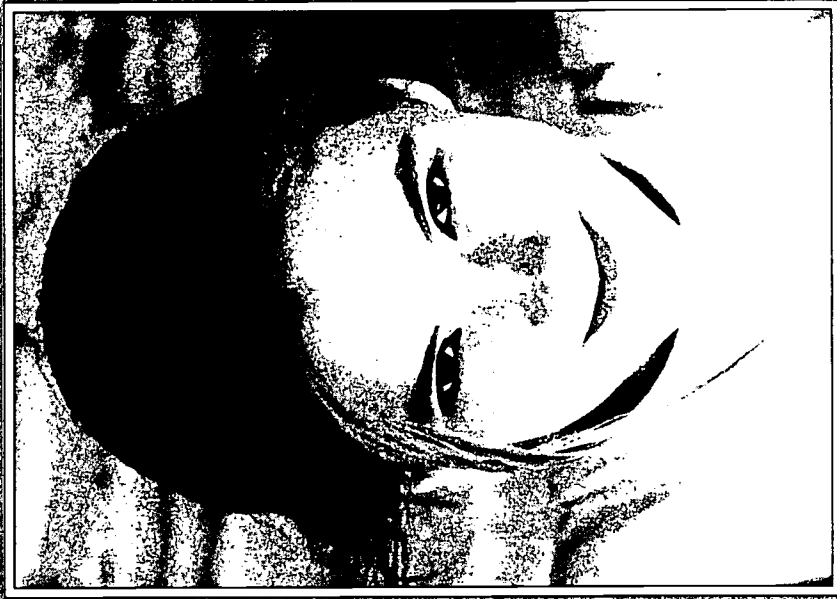
Combining County Data

Small populations in areas of the state provide us with two challenges. First is the issue of reliability. The number of children classified within some of our indicator categories is often too small to provide reliable information. Second is the issue of confidentiality. Providing information showing a very small number of children with certain characteristics can lead to their actual identification locally. Because Essex and Grand Isle have very small populations, Vermont KIDS COUNT has combined data from these counties with data from adjoining counties. State agency reports often combine Essex with Orleans and Grand Isle with Franklin for these same reasons, and we follow their convention in this data book.

A Caution About Drawing Conclusions

The key in the evaluation of statistics is to examine everything in context. The data challenge stereotypes, pushing us to look beyond the surface for the less obvious reasons for the numbers. Individual indicators, like the rest of life's concerns, don't exist in a vacuum and can't be reduced to a set of best and worst counties.

Where county level data are presented, readers can see whether rates are "high" or "low", relative to the state rate, or in comparison with other county rates. However, while regional rates do provide a useful "snapshot" of conditions for a particular time-period, their reliability in inferring stable differences between one region and another is uncertain. For this report, the significance of any such differences was not subjected to statistical testing.



Overview and Findings

Overview

Vermont is a wonderful state with traditions of innovative thinking, direct participation in government and often, fierce independence. The Vermont Constitution was the first to ban slavery and provide for a system of public education. The first Headstart program in the nation was launched in a small town in Franklin County and numerous other firsts are spread throughout our state.

The purpose of this report is to provide data on indicators of child well-being. We are a state that historically has dedicated resources to improving the lives of children. And, as the data show, we must continue to provide leadership in caring for our children because there is still much more to do.

For most of Vermont's children our state is a good place for children to live and grow. According to national KIDS COUNT data, Vermont compares favorably with the majority of national indicators of child well-being. Yet despite our good record and a rank of seven among all states, we know there are thousands of Vermont children facing serious problems. They are some of the many children who live in poverty, are victims of abuse and neglect, drop out of school or start life at risk due to low birthweight or because their mothers are themselves children.

Additional and updated indicators for this data book reveal the effects of declining economic conditions on Vermont children and families that became evident by the early 1990s. In 1989 more than 16,000 children were living in poverty and during the subsequent four years the number of children living in poverty has increased to over 23,000 children. This is supported by increasing numbers of children living in households that received assistance through Aid to Needy Families with Children (ANFC). Similar increases were even stronger for children receiving Food Stamps and in the numbers of children approved by schools for free or reduced-price lunches.

This report also highlights other indicators of family stress. Children are entering state custody in record numbers throughout Vermont. Our low birthweight rate does not show significant improvement. Finally, the *New Families at Risk* indicator reveals an alarming increase in the number of single teen mothers, young women who are the least likely to receive early prenatal care. They are also the most likely to have low birthweight babies and be at high risk of not completing high school.

The data tell the story that the number of Vermont children living in poverty has been increasing through the 1990s. Many of the indicators in this data book reflect poor outcomes which occur more frequently in poor families. Very often poor outcomes are interconnected, leaving children at risk for multiple problems. Teen child bearing, infant mortality, malnutrition, incidents of abuse and neglect, dropping out of high school, poorer health indicators during childhood are outcomes many of our children now experience or are at risk for in the future.

As the status of children in Vermont continues to deteriorate, the challenge we face as parents, community members, employers and public officials is to maintain our enduring commitment to children and work collaboratively on their behalf. This data book is dedicated to Vermont's unique history of independent thinking and neighbor helping neighbor.

"Let us put our minds together and see what life we will make for our children"

Sitting Bull, Lakota Sioux

I think children's lives would be better if adults sat down with their children and listened to the child's ideas and took them into consideration rather than just listening thinking it was dumb, and forgetting about it.

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Findings

Economic Security

Child Population

Children and youth make up a little more than a quarter of the population in Vermont. In this report, children are defined as residents 17 years old and younger. Child Poverty and Child Population Tables reveal two important trends. First, while the child population figures declined slightly throughout the 1980s and into the 1990s, both the number and rate of children living in poverty has increased during the 1990s. Increased numbers of children receiving ANFC and Food Stamp benefits (Tables 3 and 4) reveal other indicators of declining child well-being.

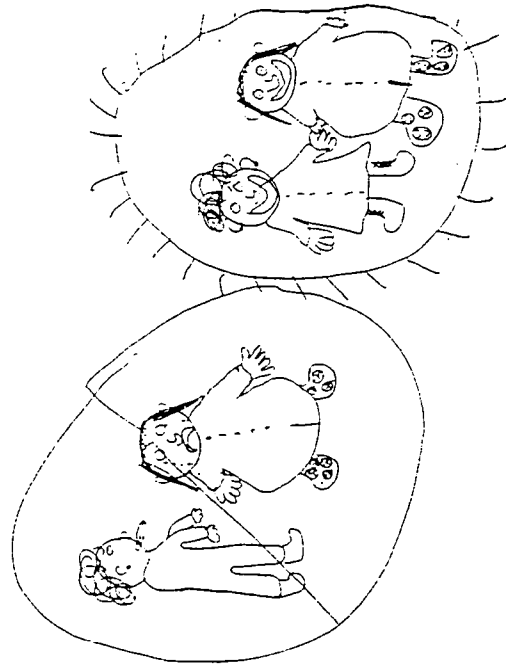
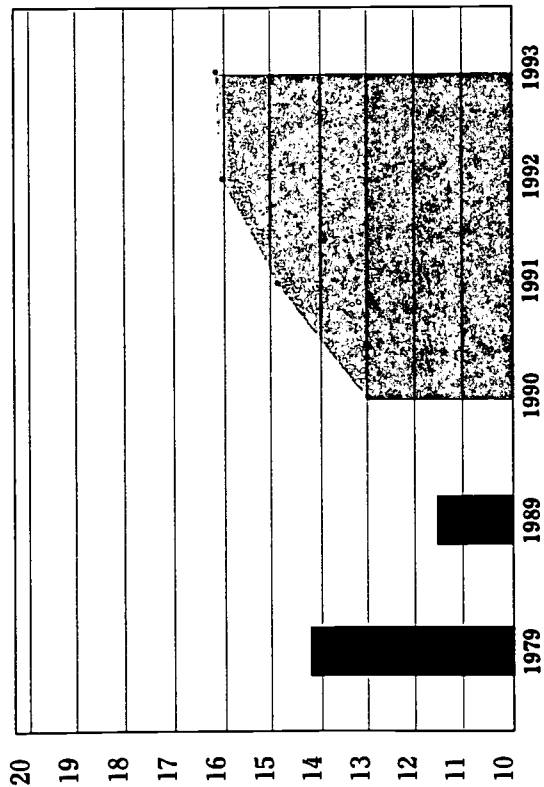


Table 1

| County | 1980 | | 1990 | | 1993 | | Percent change in rate |
|---------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|------------------------|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | |
| Addison | 8,616 | 29.3 | 8,601 | 26.1 | 8,687 | 24.8 | 1.0 ↕ |
| Bennington | 9,330 | 28.0 | 8,993 | 25.1 | 8,981 | 25.1 | -0.1 ↕ |
| Caledonia | 7,585 | 29.4 | 7,680 | 27.6 | 7,758 | 27.5 | 1.0 ↕ |
| Chittenden | 31,792 | 27.5 | 30,816 | 23.4 | 31,179 | 22.8 | 1.2 ↕ |
| Essex-Orleans | 9,627 | 31.1 | 8,532 | 28.0 | 8,485 | 27.1 | -0.6 ↕ |
| Franklin-Grand Isle | 12,638 | 32.1 | 13,191 | 29.1 | 13,399 | 28.3 | 1.6 ↕ |
| Lamoille | 4,830 | 28.8 | 5,072 | 25.7 | 5,121 | 24.8 | 1.0 ↕ |
| Orange | 6,845 | 30.1 | 7,242 | 27.7 | 7,432 | 28.4 | 2.6 ↕ |
| Rutland | 15,825 | 27.1 | 14,993 | 24.1 | 14,932 | 23.8 | -0.4 ↕ |
| Washington | 14,642 | 27.9 | 13,940 | 25.4 | 13,929 | 24.9 | -0.1 ↕ |
| Windham | 10,055 | 27.2 | 10,630 | 25.6 | 10,646 | 25.1 | 0.2 ↕ |
| Windsor | 13,893 | 27.2 | 13,393 | 24.8 | 13,416 | 25.2 | 0.2 ↕ |
| Vermont | 145,318 | 28.4 | 143,083 | 25.4 | 143,965 | 25.0 | 0.6 ↕ |

It would be better for kids like me if kids wouldn't tense other kids about the way they looked or acted and everybody would try to be friends with everybody else. I could help make it that way by being nice to everybody else and hopefully they would be nice in return.

Child Poverty in Vermont
Percentage of children under 18 in poverty



Child Poverty

Over 23,000 Vermont children are living below the poverty threshold, an increase of 43 percent in the number of Vermont children living in poverty between 1989 and 1993.

"We're learning that poverty imperils children in so many ways. We are really talking about the health and productivity of the next generation."

Arloc Sherman, Analyst, Children's Defense Fund

The percent of children living in poverty is a vital indicator of overall child well-being because it is a significant predictor of poor outcomes for children. Poverty has devastating effects. Children who are poor face a greater likelihood of poor health, inadequate nutrition and developmental delays. Children who grow up in poverty are more than twice as likely to experience such problems as stunted growth, severe physical or mental disabilities, iron deficiency and severe asthma. Poor children are more than twice as likely to not complete high school as

Table 2

Child Poverty
Percentage of children under 18 in poverty

| County | 1989 | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | Percent change 1989-1993 |
|---------------------|------|------|------|------|------|--------------------------|
| Addison | 11.3 | 12.0 | 12.3 | 14.3 | 14.1 | 19.9 ↑ |
| Bennington | 16.1 | 15.7 | 17.5 | 18.5 | 17.9 | 10.1 ↑ |
| Caledonia | 15.7 | 17.1 | 19.5 | 20.1 | 20.4 | 23.0 ↑ |
| Chittenden | 8.0 | 9.3 | 11.0 | 12.1 | 11.8 | 32.2 ↑ |
| Essex-Orleans | 18.2 | 18.6 | 20.8 | 21.8 | 22.3 | 18.4 ↑ |
| Franklin-Grand Isle | 12.6 | 13.9 | 15.5 | 15.9 | 16.6 | 24.1 ↑ |
| Lamoille | 12.0 | 17.2 | 17.8 | 19.0 | 19.6 | 38.8 ↑ |
| Orange | 11.2 | 14.1 | 17.0 | 17.7 | 17.8 | 37.1 ↑ |
| Rutland | 10.8 | 13.0 | 15.4 | 16.7 | 17.4 | 37.9 ↑ |
| Washington | 9.9 | 11.9 | 14.2 | 15.3 | 15.2 | 34.9 ↑ |
| Windham | 12.2 | 14.4 | 16.2 | 17.4 | 16.9 | 27.8 ↑ |
| Windsor | 10.9 | 11.2 | 14.1 | 15.4 | 15.5 | 29.7 ↑ |
| Vermont | 11.5 | 13.0 | 14.9 | 16.0 | 16.1 | 28.6 ↑ |

other children. Even when researchers took into account other factors influencing school performance, like parents' educational levels, living in a single-parent home, or having a teen parent, data show that each year a child lives in poverty increases by two percentage points the chances that he or she will fall behind in school and reduces two percentage points the likelihood that the child will finish high school by age 19. (*The State of America's Children: 1995 Yearbook*, Children's Defense Fund.)

The chart above at left clearly shows the increasing number of Vermont children living in poverty. In 1979 almost 14 percent of Vermont Children lived in poverty, dropping to 11.3 percent in 1989. Yet during the 1990s Vermont's child poverty rate has steadily increased to an alarming 16.1 percent, or over 23,000 Vermont children, living in poverty.

For a detailed report on child poverty please see the Vermont Children's Forum publication, *Children and Poverty in Vermont*.

Children Receiving ANFC and Food Stamp Benefits

The 1993 Kids Count Data Book could only present 1989 data on child poverty from the U.S. Census, but noted that child poverty rates in subsequent years were likely to be much higher due to the economic recession that began in the 1990s. Consistent with our data on children receiving ANFC, Food Stamps and Free and Reduced Lunches, our recently calculated estimates show a steady decline in child well-being since the last official census measure of child poverty in 1989.

The number and percent of Vermont children receiving ANFC benefits increased substantially in the early 1990s. Similar trends were more pronounced for the Food Stamp program. Between 1990 and 1993,

both the number and percentage of children in households receiving Food Stamps increased by 50 percent. In 1993, 61 percent of all ANFC recipients were children and in the same year 44 percent of all Food Stamp recipients were children.

Don't make your friends feel sad.

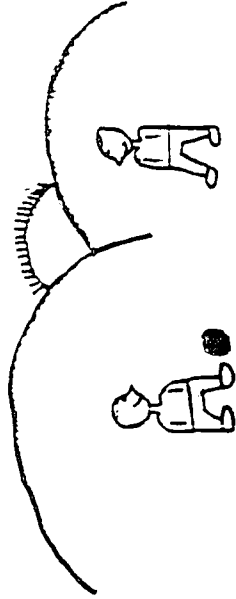


Table 3

| County | 1990 | | 1993 | | Percent change in rate |
|---------------|--------|---------|--------|---------|------------------------|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | |
| Addison | 593 | 6.9 | 738 | 8.5 | 23.2 ↑ |
| Bennington | 1,068 | 11.8 | 1,200 | 13.4 | 13.6 ↑ |
| Caledonia | 905 | 11.8 | 1,136 | 14.6 | 23.7 ↑ |
| Chittenden | 2,661 | 8.6 | 3,352 | 10.8 | 25.6 ↑ |
| Essex-Orleans | 1,137 | 13.3 | 1,378 | 16.2 | 21.8 ↑ |
| Franklin-G.I. | 1,434 | 10.8 | 1,731 | 12.9 | 19.4 ↑ |
| Lamoille | 451 | 8.9 | 547 | 10.7 | 20.2 ↑ |
| Orange | 607 | 8.4 | 863 | 11.6 | 38.1 ↑ |
| Rutland | 1,559 | 10.4 | 2,159 | 14.5 | 39.4 ↑ |
| Washington | 1,255 | 9.0 | 1,664 | 11.9 | 32.2 ↑ |
| Windham | 1,188 | 11.1 | 1,391 | 13.1 | 18.0 ↑ |
| Windsor | 1,142 | 8.5 | 1,657 | 12.4 | 45.9 ↑ |
| Vermont | 14,110 | 9.8 | 17,980 | 12.5 | 27.6 ↑ |

Table 4

Children Under 18 in Households Receiving Food Stamp Benefits

| County | 1990 | | 1993 | | Percent change in rate |
|---------------------|--------|------|--------|------|------------------------|
| | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | |
| Addison | 812 | 9.4 | 1,263 | 14.5 | 54.3 ↑ |
| Bennington | 1,284 | 14.2 | 1,719 | 19.1 | 34.5 ↑ |
| Caledonia | 1,197 | 15.5 | 1,788 | 23.0 | 48.4 ↑ |
| Chittenden | 2,748 | 8.9 | 4,217 | 13.5 | 51.7 ↑ |
| Essex-Orleans | 1,586 | 18.6 | 2,260 | 26.6 | 43.0 ↑ |
| Franklin-Grand Isle | 1,811 | 13.7 | 2,570 | 19.2 | 40.1 ↑ |
| Lamoille | 625 | 12.3 | 912 | 17.8 | 44.7 ↑ |
| Orange | 815 | 11.2 | 1,358 | 18.3 | 63.4 ↑ |
| Rutland | 1,871 | 12.4 | 3,043 | 20.4 | 64.5 ↑ |
| Washington | 1,542 | 11.0 | 2,294 | 16.5 | 50.0 ↑ |
| Windham | 1,441 | 13.5 | 1,971 | 18.5 | 37.0 ↑ |
| Windsor | 1,376 | 10.3 | 2,315 | 17.3 | 68.0 ↑ |
| Vermont | 17,232 | 12.0 | 25,876 | 18.0 | 50.0 ↑ |



Students Approved to Receive Free and Reduced Lunches

The school lunch program is a federally funded program designed to address the serious problem of childhood hunger and undernutrition. Studies have shown a definite correlation between nutrition and learning in children. School lunch has been shown to positively effect children's attendance and improved achievement test results (when children received adequate caloric intake). School lunch also helps address behavioral concerns that can be caused by hunger by helping to reduce nervousness, irritability, lethargy and an inability to concentrate.

In order to be approved for free and reduced-price lunches a student's household income must meet specific federal poverty guidelines. Household income must be below 130 percent of the poverty level for no cost

lunches and below 185 percent of guidelines for reduced-price lunches. This indicator therefore provides one more measure of children in economically distressed families. Consistent with the annual estimates of child poverty rates (table 2), the percent of children approved for free and reduced lunches increased dramatically during the early 1990s. For the state as a whole, the percent of eligible children increased by nearly one third (32.3 percent) between 1989 and 1993. More than 7,000 children became eligible during that period.

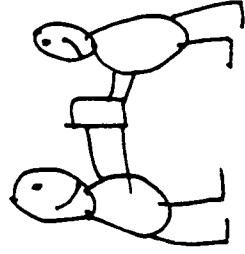
While the data show a 32 percent increase in free and reduced lunch-eligible students it is important to note that the number of students receiving lunches would have been even higher for two main reasons. First, not all families who are eligible apply, some because of the fear of being stigmatized and some because families lack information about the program. Second, in 1993, 46 schools did not participate in the school lunch program in Vermont. We know a percentage of the approximately 6,000 children enrolled in these schools would be eligible for free or reduced-priced lunches.

Students Receiving School Lunch Program *Number and percentage of students approved for free and reduced price lunches*

| County | 1989 | | 1993 | | Percent change in rate |
|---------------------|--------|------|--------|------|------------------------|
| | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | |
| Addison | 637 | 14.5 | 1,129 | 24.3 | 67.6 ↑ |
| Bennington | 862 | 16.3 | 1,222 | 23.8 | 46.0 ↑ |
| Caledonia | 1,124 | 27.5 | 1,645 | 33.7 | 22.5 ↑ |
| Chittenden | 2,340 | 12.2 | 3,279 | 16.4 | 34.4 ↑ |
| Essex-Orleans | 1,719 | 34.4 | 2,523 | 40.2 | 16.9 ↑ |
| Franklin-Grand Isle | 1,957 | 21.7 | 2,699 | 28.4 | 30.9 ↑ |
| Lamoille | 670 | 19.9 | 1,035 | 28.0 | 40.7 ↑ |
| Orange | 1,021 | 22.6 | 1,698 | 30.8 | 36.3 ↑ |
| Rutland | 1,636 | 18.1 | 2,503 | 24.5 | 35.4 ↑ |
| Washington | 1,610 | 17.4 | 2,010 | 20.8 | 19.5 ↑ |
| Windham | 831 | 23.5 | 1,324 | 25.1 | 6.8 ↑ |
| Windsor | 1,432 | 16.7 | 2,057 | 22.0 | 31.7 ↑ |
| Vermont | 15,839 | 18.6 | 23,124 | 24.6 | 32.3 ↑ |

Table 5

Sharing food



Regulated Child Care Slots

Regulated child care refers to licensed early childhood centers or registered family day care homes which are regulated by the state of Vermont. Family day care homes are registered through a self-certification process which determines compliance with state health and safety regulations; early childhood centers must also meet state regulations to receive a three year renewable license.

Between 1989 and 1992, the number of regulated child care slots in Vermont increased by 24 percent. This trend reflects a response to the growing need for quality child care that was documented in the 1993 KIDS COUNT Data Book. Increases in the number and percentage of mothers in the workforce and children in single parent families (see tables 25-27) illustrate the dramatic changes in family economics that have been taking place since the early 1980s.

Quality child care² services are a critical requirement of an increasing number of Vermont families and children. A recent study³ determined that to provide good quality child care, programs must ensure that the health and safety needs of the children are met, all children receive warmth and support from adults and learning takes place in many ways through fun and interesting activities. Vermont's regulations for licensed and registered care assist in the process of promoting quality day care services. Unfortunately, data showing what percentage of all Vermont child care services are regulated are not available.



I would give kids flashlights because kids are scared of the dark.

Table 6

| Regulated Child Care Slots 1989-1992 | | | | |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| County | 1989 | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 |
| Addison | 550 | 742 | 923 | 997 |
| Bennington | 793 | 983 | 1,064 | 1,098 |
| Caledonia | 889 | 1,006 | 1,060 | 1,059 |
| Chittenden | 5,214 | 5,784 | 6,317 | 6,397 |
| Essex-Orleans | 784 | 929 | 963 | 925 |
| Franklin-G.I. | 1,083 | 1,287 | 1,488 | 1,445 |
| Lamoille | 722 | 803 | 883 | 843 |
| Orange | 565 | 605 | 657 | 627 |
| Rutland | 1,218 | 1,302 | 1,536 | 1,506 |
| Washington | 2,191 | 2,332 | 2,512 | 2,541 |
| Windham | 1,251 | 1,370 | 1,505 | 1,563 |
| Windsor | 1,264 | 1,412 | 1,477 | 1,555 |
| Vermont | 16,524 | 18,555 | 20,385 | 20,556 |

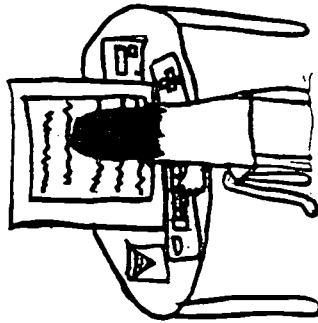


Education

Number of Dropouts

Vermont's dropout rate*, for any given school year, has remained steady for the past ten years, rising slightly from 4.3 percent to 4.7 percent between 1982 and 1992.

For the nearly one in twenty Vermont students who drop out of high school, in any given year, the potential economic and social consequences are extremely alarming. Compared with high school graduates, dropouts are twice as likely to be unemployed and live in poverty⁴. A 1989 report by the Vermont Governor's Team on Dropout Prevention,



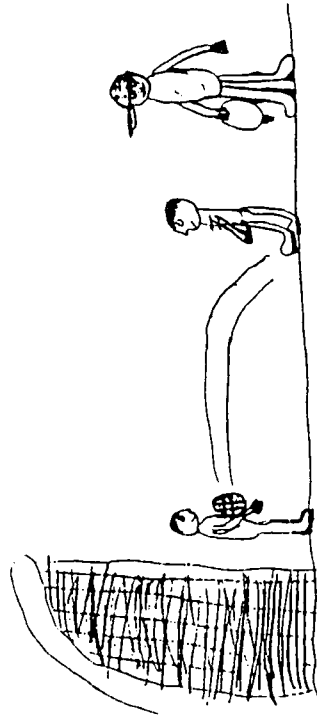
I would make things better for kids by teaching them more about the computer so they can learn more.

32

"Dropouts in Vermont, A Charge for Action", reveals that annual earnings of high school dropouts are substantially lower than graduates⁵ and we know this income disparity continues to increase annually. The 1993 Annual Report by the Vermont Department of Education, "The Condition of Education in Vermont" notes that 80 percent of incarcerated Vermonters are high school dropouts and the same percent of runaways in Vermont have dropped out of school while 35 percent of welfare recipients also did not complete high school.

**According to the Vermont Department of Education, the dropout rate is closer to 18 percent when each class (from grade 9 through grade 12) is tracked over a four year period.*

I think there should be more sports projects and equipment also I think there should be longer recesses



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Table 7

Dropouts per High School

| Location of High School | Name of High School | 1982 ¹ | | 1992 ² | | Location of High School | Name of High School | 1982 ¹ | | 1992 ² | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|---------|-------------------|---------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|---------|-------------------|---------|
| | | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | | | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Arlington | Arlington Memorial H.S. | 5 | 3.0 | 5 | 3.3 | Manchester | Burr & Burton Seminary | 13 | 3.3 | 7 | 2.3 |
| Barre | Spaulding High School | 53 | 4.6 | | | Marshfield | Twinfield UHSD #33 | 9 | 5.2 | 3 | 2.4 |
| Barton | Spaulding UHSD #41 | 15 | 3.7 | 53 | 5.9 | Middlebury | Middlebury UHSD #3 | 30 | 3.9 | 39 | 5.8 |
| Bennington | Lake Region UHSD #24 | 78 | 5.7 | 20 | 4.5 | Milton | Milton H.S. | 24 | 4.0 | 28 | 5.2 |
| Bethel | Mt. Anthony UHSD #14 | 5 | 3.5 | 87 | 7.2 | Montpelier | Montpelier H.S. | 18 | 3.5 | 13 | 3.4 |
| Bradford | Whitcomb H.S. | 9 | 2.6 | 5 | 3.8 | Morrisville | Peoples Academy | 14 | 4.6 | 7 | 2.4 |
| Brandon | Oxbow UHSD #30 | 26 | 5.3 | 16 | 4.3 | Newport | North Country UHSD #22 | 43 | 4.2 | 57 | 5.7 |
| Brattleboro | Otter Valley UHSD #8 | 49 | 4.6 | 25 | 5.6 | Northfield | Northfield H.S. | 8 | 2.5 | 3 | 1.3 |
| Bristol | Brattleboro UHSD #6 | 22 | 4.3 | 64 | 7.0 | Poultney | Poultney H.S. | 6 | 2.7 | 5 | 3.7 |
| Burlington | Mt. Abraham UHSD #28 | 106 | 7.7 | 27 | 5.6 | Proctor | Proctor H.S. | 3 | 1.7 | 2 | 1.8 |
| Cabot | Burlington H.S. | 4 | 5.9 | 97 | 9.6 | Randolph | Randolph UHSD #2 | 23 | 5.9 | 25 | 6.9 |
| Canaan | Cabot H.S. | 3 | 2.2 | 1 | 1.6 | Richford | Richford H.S. | 10 | 5.1 | 11 | 5.6 |
| Chelsea | Canaan Memorial H.S. | 1 | 1.1 | 4 | 3.5 | Rochester | Rochester H.S. | 6 | 6.0 | 3 | 3.7 |
| Chester | Chelsea H.S. | 19 | 6.1 | 5 | 3.3 | Rockingham | Bellows Falls UHSD #27 | 32 | 5.9 | 23 | 5.6 |
| Clarendon | Green Mountain UHSD #35 | 15 | 2.7 | 12 | 4.1 | Royalton | South Royalton H.S. | 4 | 2.5 | 3 | 2.0 |
| Colchester | Mill River UHSD #40 | 39 | 4.1 | 14 | 2.6 | Rutland | Rutland Jr./Sr. H.S. | 55 | 5.7 | 22 | 3.0 |
| Concord | Colchester H.S. | 10 | 8.6 | 24 | 3.4 | St. Albans | Bellows Free Academy | 49 | 5.3 | 74 | 7.7 |
| Craftsbury | Concord H.S. | 2 | 2.5 | 3 | 3.0 | St. Johnsbury | St. Johnsbury Academy | 13 | 2.1 | 14 | 5.0* |
| Danville | Craftsbury Academy | 3 | 1.7 | 1 | 1.1 | South Burlington | South Burlington H.S. | 36 | 4.1 | 23 | 3.1 |
| Duxbury | Danville H.S. | 28 | 5.1 | 17 | 3.5 | Springfield | Springfield H.S. | 28 | 3.5 | 33 | 5.6 |
| East Montpelier | Harwood UHSD #19 | 27 | 4.9 | 18 | 3.1 | Stowe | Stowe H.S. | 3 | 1.7 | 5 | 2.9 |
| Enosburg Falls | UHSD #32 | 9 | 3.7 | 7 | 2.7 | Swanton | Missisquoi Valley UHSD #7 | 35 | 5.1 | 64 | 8.6 |
| Essex Junction | Enosburg Falls H.S. | 55 | 3.8 | 35 | 3.0 | Thetford | Thetford Academy | 5 | 2.2 | 8 | 4.2 |
| Fair Haven | Essex Junction H.S. | 15 | 2.9 | 25 | 4.8 | Townshend | Leland & Gray UHSD #34 | 7 | 3.5 | 8 | 4.0 |
| Fairfax | Fair Haven UHSD #16 | 9 | 3.5 | 6 | 2.4 | Vergennes | Vergennes UHSD #5 | 8 | 1.9 | 15 | 4.3 |
| Hardwick | Bellows Free Academy | 16 | 5.6 | 10 | 3.8 | Wells River | Blue Mountain UHSD #21 | 5 | 2.6 | 2 | 1.0 |
| Hartford | Hazen UHSD #26 | 37 | 5.7 | 44 | 6.9 | West Rutland | West Rutland H.S. | 1 | 0.4 | 4 | 3.7 |
| Hinesburg | Hartford H.S. | 13 | 1.3 | 15 | 2.0 | Whitingham | Whitingham H.S. | 5 | 4.0 | 4 | 5.3 |
| Hyde Park | Champlain Valley UHSD #15 | 42 | 8.7 | 20 | 4.0 | Williamstown | Williamstown H.S. | 11 | 4.4 | 8 | 4.8 |
| Jericho | Lamoille UHSD #18 | 19 | 2.4 | 17 | 2.5 | Wilmington | Wilmington H.S. | 4 | 3.5 | 4 | 3.2 |
| Ludlow | Mt. Mansfield UHSD #17 | 10 | 5.3 | 5 | 3.1 | Windsor | Windsor H.S. | 16 | 5.0 | 10 | 4.1 |
| Lyndon Center | Black River UHSD #39 | 23 | 4.3 | 18 | 3.3 | Winooski | Winooski H.S. | 19 | 5.8 | 14 | 7.5 |
| | Lyndon Institute | | | | | Woodstock | Woodstock UHSD #4 | 9 | 2.3 | 13 | 3.2 |
| | Vermont | 1320 | 4.3 | 1271 | 4.7 | | | | | | |

¹ Average of school years 1980-1981, 1981-1982, 1982-1983 ² Average of school years 1990-1991, 1991-1992, 1992-1993 * Average of school years 1990-1991, 1992-1993

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Family Health

Child Deaths

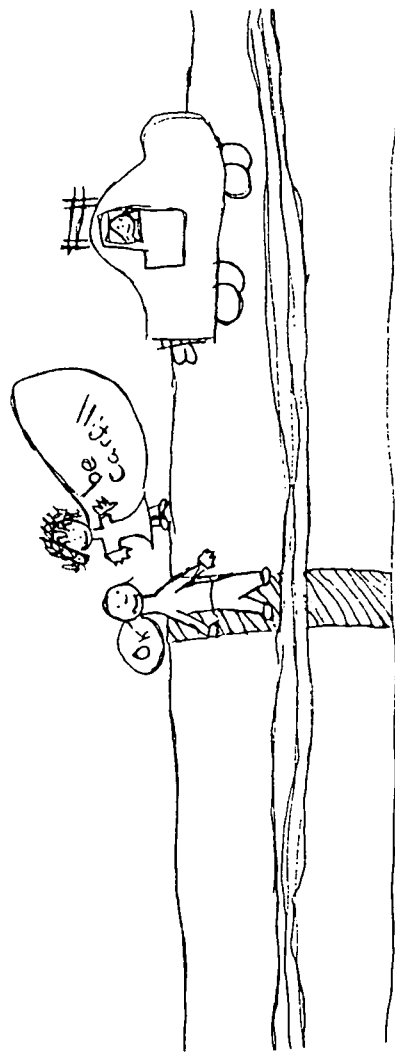
Between 1980 and 1992 the rate of child deaths declined by 45.5 percent. Every county demonstrated a decline over the same period. The most common causes of death were disease and trauma. The leading causes of trauma deaths were motor vehicle accidents, drowning and fires⁶.

Safer Children 2000 recommends primary prevention objectives⁷ to help further reduce child trauma deaths:

- Increase use of safety restraints to 100 percent of motor vehicle occupants under age 19 and decrease substance impaired driving to reduce motor vehicle deaths to no more than 10 per 100,000.
- Increase use of working smoke detectors and fire safety products and increase awareness and use of home fire safety measures to reduce fire deaths of children to zero.
- Increase supervision of young children and awareness and use of water safety habits to reduce drowning death rates to no more than 1.8 per 100,000 children.

Table 8

| County | 1981 ¹ | | 1986 ² | | 1991 ³ | | Percent change in rate | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | | |
| Addison | 2 | 30.7 | 1 | 20.3 | 2 | 29.5 | -3.9 ↓ | |
| Bennington | 3 | 42.8 | 1 | 14.2 | 3 | 34.7 | -12.6 ↓ | |
| Caledonia | 2 | 35.3 | 3 | 51.7 | 2 | 33.1 | -6.2 ↓ | |
| Chittenden | 8 | 35.3 | 6 | 23.9 | 4 | 17.7 | -49.9 ↓ | |
| Essex-Orleans | 6 | 81.6 | 2 | 34.4 | 2 | 34.2 | -58.1 ↓ | |
| Franklin-Grand Isle | 3 | 34.6 | 3 | 33.5 | 2 | 22.1 | -36.1 ↓ | |
| Lamoille | 2 | 45.2 | 1 | 34.7 | 1 | 16.3 | -63.9 ↓ | |
| Orange | 2 | 38.6 | 2 | 30.6 | 1 | 17.4 | -54.9 ↓ | |
| Rutland | 6 | 51.0 | 2 | 20.0 | 2 | 19.6 | -61.6 ↓ | |
| Washington | 5 | 45.7 | 4 | 39.7 | 2 | 20.9 | -54.3 ↓ | |
| Windham | 3 | 39.5 | 2 | 24.9 | 2 | 23.4 | -40.8 ↓ | |
| Windsor | 5 | 51.7 | 3 | 32.0 | 3 | 28.0 | -45.8 ↓ | |
| Vermont | 47 | 43.5 | 32 | 28.7 | 27 | 23.7 | -45.5 ↓ | |
| ¹ Average 1980-1982(1981) | | | | | | | ² Average 1985-1987 (1986) | ³ Average 1990-1992 (1991) |



Teen Violent Deaths

The rate of teen violent deaths declined by 25.4 percent between 1980 and 1992. The Vermont Child Fatality Review Committee designates violent deaths as unintentional and intentional. The leading cause of unintentional deaths among 15 to 19 year olds was motor vehicle crashes. Teen violent deaths that are categorized as intentional are suicide and homicide. Between 1990 and 1992 firearms were used in 68 percent of suicides committed by this age group and in all the homicides of 15 to 19 year olds⁸. According to the Vermont Children's Forum, guns pose the greatest risk for teenage intentional violent death. "The impulsiveness and immediacy of teen life lead to a greater likelihood of suicide by gun when a gun is easily accessible"⁹. Increased information about gun safety should be provided throughout the community and schools.

Table 9

Teen Violent Deaths by County

Number and rate of teen violent deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19

| County | 1981 ¹ | | 1986 ² | | 1991 ³ | | Percent change in rate | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-------|-------------------|-------|-------------------|-------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | | |
| Addison | 4 | 128.9 | 3 | 96.3 | 1 | 36.6 | -71.6 ↓ | |
| Bennington | 2 | 55.6 | 3 | 112.5 | 1 | 58.6 | 5.4 ↓ | |
| Caledonia | 3 | 109.2 | 2 | 87.7 | <1 | 16.3 | -85.1 ↓ | |
| Chittenden | 6 | 43.4 | 6 | 45.3 | 5 | 44.0 | 1.4 ↓ | |
| Essex-Orleans | 3 | 126.4 | 3 | 142.7 | 1 | 64.9 | -48.7 ↓ | |
| Franklin-Grand Isle | 1 | 37.4 | 3 | 90.0 | 4 | 119.7 | 220.1 ↓ | |
| Lamoille | 4 | 244.2 | 1 | 41.8 | <1 | 22.3 | -90.9 ↓ | |
| Orange | 4 | 174.4 | 3 | 149.1 | <1 | 18.2 | -89.6 ↓ | |
| Rutland | 3 | 54.4 | 4 | 81.7 | 2 | 48.3 | -11.2 ↓ | |
| Washington | 2 | 40.9 | 3 | 70.7 | 3 | 74.4 | 81.9 ↓ | |
| Windham | 4 | 143.6 | 1 | 48.4 | 3 | 109.5 | -23.7 ↓ | |
| Windsor | 3 | 72.8 | 2 | 56.4 | 3 | 89.8 | 23.4 ↓ | |
| Vermont | 39 | 78.5 | 34 | 75.1 | 23 | 58.6 | -25.4 ↓ | |
| ¹ Average 1980-1982(1981) | | | | | | | ² Average 1985-1987 (1986) | ³ Average 1990-1992 (1991) |

How I Will Make Things Better For kids!

I would take alcohol away from everyone and make it a law that everyone would get a big fine for drinking. I'd put signs up about it, too!

I want to do this because kids could die from it and pick up the habit from their parents. They can grow up and get drunk a lot. Some people have kids and beat them because they get drunk. I think that's really dumb. If you drink, please stop, for me.

Table 10

Infant Mortality

Number and rate of deaths per 1,000 live births

| County | 1981 ¹ | | 1986 ² | | 1991 ³ | | Percent change in rate |
|---------------------|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|------------------------|
| | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | |
| Addison | 4 | 7.7 | 4 | 9.1 | 4 | 8.7 | 13.0 ↑ |
| Bennington | 6 | 12.0 | 5 | 8.9 | 1 | 1.4 | -88.3 ↓ |
| Caledonia | 5 | 11.6 | 4 | 9.3 | 2 | 6.4 | -44.8 ↓ |
| Chittenden | 15 | 9.1 | 15 | 7.7 | 14 | 7.2 | -20.9 ↓ |
| Essex-Orleans | 5 | 9.6 | 2 | 4.9 | 2 | 5.7 | -40.6 ↓ |
| Franklin-Grand Isle | 6 | 9.0 | 6 | 8.6 | 4 | 5.0 | -44.4 ↓ |
| Lamoille | 2 | 7.2 | 2 | 8.2 | 2 | 8.0 | 11.1 ↑ |
| Orange | 2 | 6.2 | 4 | 9.6 | 1 | 3.6 | -41.9 ↓ |
| Rutland | 8 | 9.2 | 8 | 8.8 | 5 | 5.7 | -38.0 ↓ |
| Washington | 9 | 10.9 | 6 | 8.4 | 7 | 9.5 | -12.8 ↓ |
| Windham | 6 | 9.9 | 10 | 17.0 | 3 | 4.5 | -54.5 ↓ |
| Windsor | 7 | 8.9 | 7 | 9.4 | 6 | 8.3 | -6.7 ↓ |
| Vermont | 74 | 9.4 | 73 | 9.0 | 51 | 6.4 | -31.9 ↓ |

¹ Average 1980-1982(1981)

² Average 1985-1987 (1986)

³ Average 1990-1992 (1991)

Infant Mortality

A basic indicator of the overall health and welfare of a nation is the infant mortality rate which measures the number and rate of infant deaths (prior to age one) for every 1000 live births. Since 1988 Vermont has met national and state goals¹⁰ of seven deaths or less for every 1,000 live births.

Major causes of infant deaths during the period 1990-1992 were congenital anomalies (largely non-preventable birth defects), Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and complications of prematurity.



Low Birthweight

Low birthweight is a major contributing cause of infant mortality. Defined as weighing less than five and one-half pounds at birth, low birthweight also increases the likelihood of children experiencing developmental problems. Low birthweight is higher among women who smoke. In 1992, 30 percent of low birthweight babies were born to mothers who smoke compared with 19 percent of all Vermont infants born to mothers who smoke. Table 11 reveals an initial decline in the number and percent of low birthweight babies in the mid 1980s but the overall trend since then doesn't show much improvement.

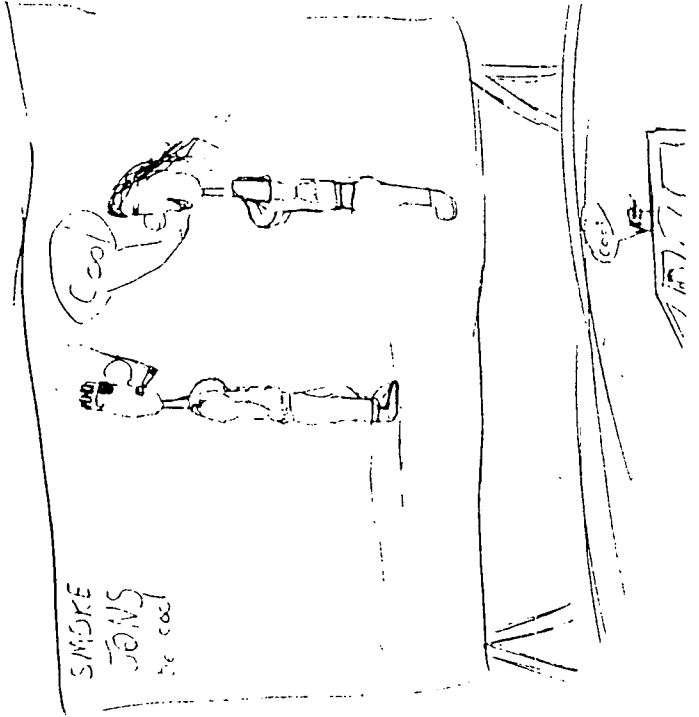


Table 11

| County | 1981 ¹ | | 1986 ² | | 1991 ³ | | Percent change in rate |
|---------------------|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|------------------------|
| | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | |
| Addison | 30 | 6.3 | 24 | 5.1 | 30 | 5.9 | ↓ 6.3 |
| Bennington | 28 | 5.4 | 16 | 3.0 | 26 | 5.5 | ↑ 1.9 |
| Caledonia | 21 | 5.2 | 20 | 5.1 | 13 | 3.6 | ↓ 30.8 |
| Chittenden | 100 | 6.0 | 97 | 5.1 | 106 | 5.5 | ↓ 8.3 |
| Essex-Orleans | 27 | 5.6 | 24 | 6.0 | 29 | 7.1 | ↑ 26.8 |
| Franklin-Grand Isle | 42 | 6.0 | 44 | 6.3 | 44 | 5.5 | ↓ 8.3 |
| Lamoille | 20 | 7.1 | 16 | 5.8 | 12 | 4.2 | ↓ 40.8 |
| Orange | 20 | 5.4 | 23 | 6.1 | 16 | 4.3 | ↓ 20.4 |
| Rutland | 60 | 7.1 | 55 | 6.3 | 46 | 5.6 | ↓ 21.1 |
| Washington | 50 | 6.3 | 44 | 5.8 | 45 | 6.1 | ↓ 3.2 |
| Windham | 36 | 6.0 | 34 | 5.6 | 32 | 5.4 | ↓ 10.0 |
| Windsor | 41 | 5.4 | 45 | 5.7 | 42 | 6.2 | ↑ 14.8 |
| Vermont | 474 | 6.0 | 442 | 5.5 | 441 | 5.5 | ↓ 8.3 |

¹ Average 1980-1982 (1981)

² Average 1985-1987 (1986)

³ Average 1990-1992 (1991)

My idea is to stop smoking add. I think they should stop smoking add. I see add. or smoking with for the canal and if you smoke you will go to pairdis and get girl friends smoking in inclosed areas with children could be clogh. because second hand smoking.

Prenatal Care

Prenatal care improves outcomes for mothers and infants and helps reduce the number of low birthweight babies and thus infant deaths. Effective prenatal care begins early, within the first three months, and is continuous and comprehensive. Three basic components are necessary for comprehensive care: one, early and continuous risk assessment, for example: monitoring blood pressure, blood sugar levels and nutritional condition. Two, health education including information about the effects of smoking, drugs, alcohol or diet during pregnancy and three, when necessary, medical and/or psychological intervention¹. The Vermont Department of Health's *Year 2,000 Goals* call for 90 percent of all pregnant women to begin prenatal care in the first trimester. In Vermont the number of pregnant women receiving early prenatal care has steadily increased since the 1980s. This increase reflects progress for all ages however, teenagers still lag behind all other pregnant women in receiving early prenatal care². When coupled with teens higher risk for having low birthweight babies, specific attention to teens beginning early care is critical.

Cleaner waters would
make it better
for kids to
swim in.

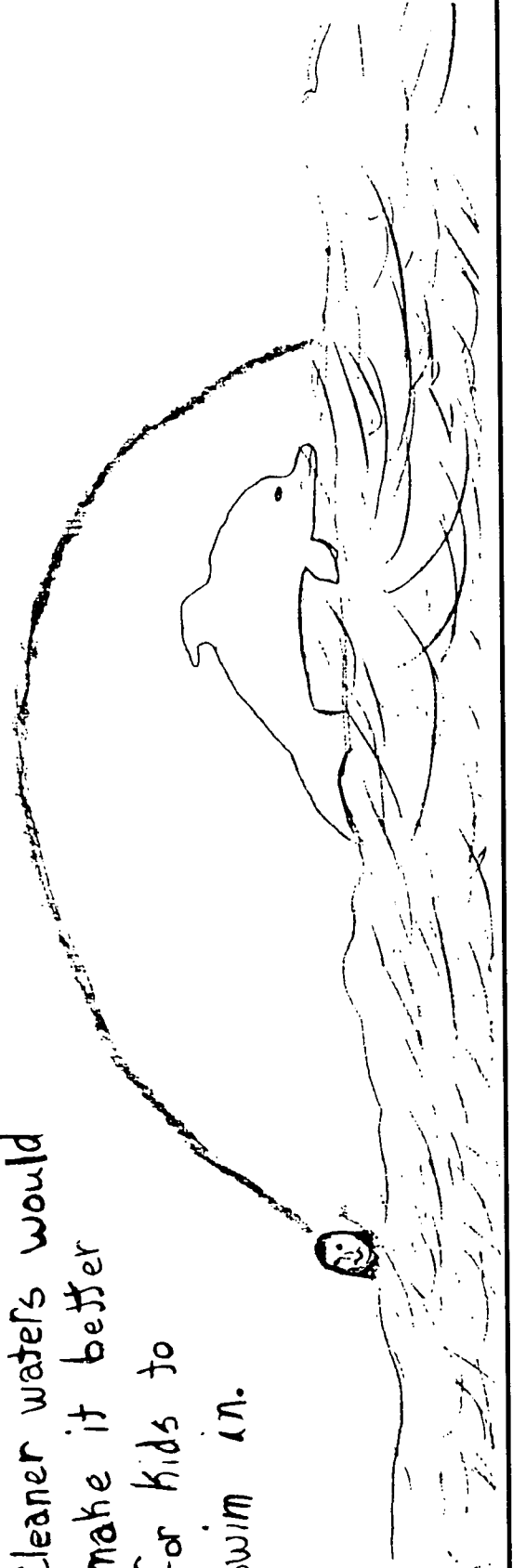


Table 12

Prenatal Care

Mothers receiving prenatal care in the first trimester

| County | 1981 ¹ | | 1986 ² | | 1991 ³ | | Percent change in rate |
|---------------------|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|------------------------|
| | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | |
| Addison | 381 | 81.1 | 357 | 79.1 | 395 | 82.7 | 2.0 ↑ |
| Bennington | 385 | 74.4 | 400 | 77.1 | 376 | 81.5 | 9.5 ↑ |
| Caledonia | 314 | 78.4 | 307 | 79.7 | 300 | 84.8 | 8.2 ↑ |
| Chittenden | 1437 | 85.8 | 1462 | 81.6 | 1592 | 86.1 | 0.3 ↓ |
| Essex-Orleans | 322 | 67.9 | 293 | 74.0 | 324 | 82.7 | 21.8 ↑ |
| Franklin-Grand Isle | 533 | 77.3 | 498 | 75.7 | 633 | 83.4 | 7.9 ↑ |
| Lamoille | 210 | 75.9 | 214 | 78.4 | 239 | 85.2 | 12.3 ↑ |
| Orange | 296 | 80.4 | 301 | 83.3 | 303 | 84.7 | 5.3 ↓ |
| Rutland | 627 | 76.0 | 634 | 76.1 | 621 | 78.1 | 2.8 ↓ |
| Washington | 653 | 82.6 | 607 | 82.1 | 624 | 87.2 | 5.6 ↓ |
| Windham | 451 | 75.2 | 452 | 76.6 | 452 | 80.7 | 7.3 ↓ |
| Windsor | 584 | 78.8 | 594 | 81.3 | 538 | 80.9 | 2.7 ↓ |
| Vermont | 6194 | 79.1 | 6119 | 79.1 | 6398 | 83.4 | 5.4 ↓ |

¹ Average 1980-1982(1981)

² Average 1985-1987 (1986)

³ Average 1990-1992 (1991)

New Families at Risk

New Families at Risk identifies the single largest group at risk of poverty¹³. Vermont Kids Count combines three indicators of future economic hardship to characterize New Families at Risk: first births to single teen women with less than 12 years of schooling. Like the increase in the child poverty rate in the 1990s, the number and percent of new families at risk in Vermont declined from the early-to-mid-1980s, but increased to an even higher level by the early 1990s. The children in New Families at Risk are at substantial risk of poor outcomes like their mothers. Children of teens are at higher risk for health and developmental problems in infancy, and behavioral and academic problems later on. Children whose mothers were single teens are more likely to become teen parents.

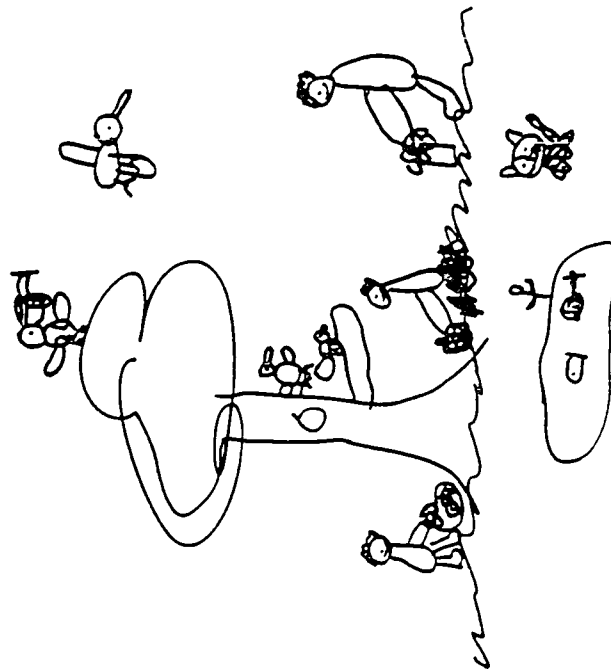


Table 13

New Families at Risk

First births to single women under 20 who have not completed high school

| County | 1981 ¹ | | 1986 ² | | 1991 ³ | | Percent change in rate |
|---------------------|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|------------------------|
| | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | |
| Addison | 10 | 5.1 | 13 | 6.2 | 15 | 7.5 | 47.1 ↑ |
| Bennington | 19 | 8.0 | 17 | 8.2 | 21 | 11.6 | 45.0 ↑ |
| Caledonia | 12 | 7.3 | 14 | 8.8 | 18 | 13.1 | 79.5 ↑ |
| Chittenden | 45 | 5.6 | 53 | 6.3 | 51 | 6.2 | 10.7 ↑ |
| Essex-Orleans | 15 | 7.4 | 13 | 8.1 | 18 | 11.8 | 59.5 ↑ |
| Franklin-Grand Isle | 32 | 10.4 | 18 | 6.7 | 27 | 9.0 | -13.5 ↓ |
| Lamoille | 10 | 7.9 | 9 | 7.8 | 11 | 9.6 | 21.5 ↑ |
| Orange | 11 | 7.1 | 7 | 5.1 | 13 | 8.9 | 25.4 ↑ |
| Rutland | 27 | 7.6 | 27 | 7.2 | 26 | 8.4 | 10.5 ↑ |
| Washington | 25 | 7.1 | 17 | 5.2 | 19 | 6.3 | -11.3 ↓ |
| Windham | 18 | 6.6 | 15 | 5.9 | 19 | 8.0 | 21.2 ↑ |
| Windsor | 25 | 7.2 | 17 | 5.6 | 18 | 6.8 | -5.6 ↓ |
| Vermont | 250 | 7.1 | 219 | 6.5 | 257 | 8.1 | 14.1 ↑ |

¹ Average 1980-1982(1981) ² Average 1985-1987 (1986) ³ Average 1990-1992 (1991)





Births to Teens

The birthrate for all Vermont teens has recently declined overall. However, data also show an increase in births to single teens. These trends are similar to national data showing a 70 percent increase in single teen births from the 1960s to 1992 while the overall teen birthrate has declined. Fewer teens are having children but a higher percentage of the teens who do have children are single.

Yes ↓ Love

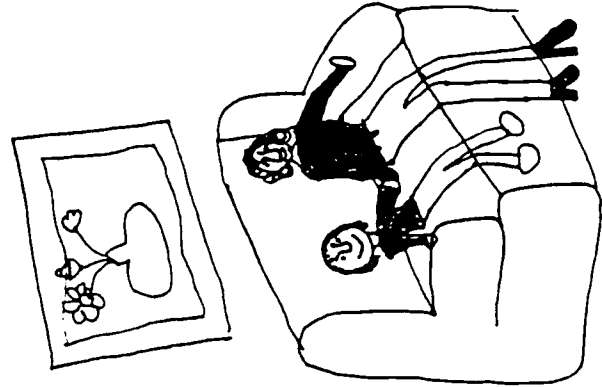


Table 14

Births to Teens Births to women under 20

| County | 1981 ¹ | | 1986 ² | | 1991 ³ | | Percent change in rate |
|--|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|------------------------|
| | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | |
| Addison | 43 | 9.0 | 40 | 8.4 | 36 | 7.2 | ↓ -20.0 |
| Bennington | 77 | 14.7 | 60 | 11.5 | 55 | 11.6 | ↓ -21.1 |
| Caledonia | 51 | 12.6 | 44 | 11.0 | 46 | 12.6 | ↓ 0.0 |
| Chittenden | 160 | 9.5 | 141 | 7.4 | 134 | 6.9 | ↓ -27.4 |
| Essex-Orleans | 69 | 14.2 | 45 | 11.1 | 54 | 13.0 | ↓ -8.5 |
| Franklin-Grand Isle | 106 | 15.1 | 66 | 9.4 | 69 | 8.7 | ↓ -42.4 |
| Lamoille | 39 | 14.1 | 28 | 10.0 | 30 | 10.2 | ↓ -27.7 |
| Orange | 43 | 11.6 | 36 | 9.5 | 42 | 11.2 | ↓ -3.4 |
| Rutland | 100 | 11.9 | 88 | 10.1 | 69 | 8.4 | ↓ -29.4 |
| Washington | 98 | 12.3 | 66 | 8.7 | 57 | 7.7 | ↓ -37.4 |
| Windham | 79 | 13.0 | 50 | 8.3 | 51 | 8.6 | ↓ -33.8 |
| Windsor | 93 | 12.4 | 64 | 8.2 | 58 | 8.5 | ↓ -31.5 |
| Vermont | 958 | 12.1 | 727 | 9.0 | 701 | 8.8 | ↓ -27.3 |
| ¹ Average 1980-1982(1981) ² Average 1985-1987 (1986) ³ Average 1990-1992 (1991) | | | | | | | |

Table 15

Births to Single Teens Number and percent of all births

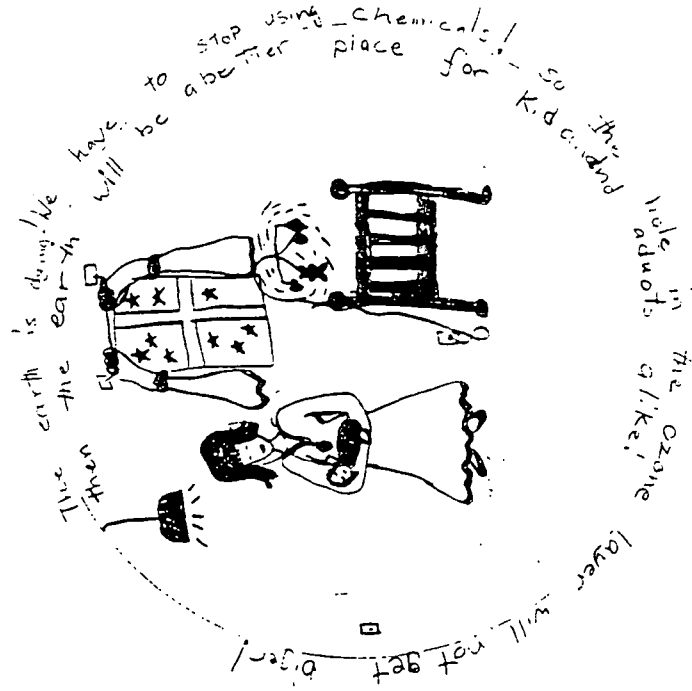
| County | 1981 ¹ | | 1986 ² | | 1991 ³ | | Percent change in rate | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | | | | |
| Addison | 18 | 3.7 | 25 | 5.2 | 26 | 5.2 | 40.5 ↑ | | | |
| Bennington | 38 | 7.2 | 44 | 8.3 | 41 | 8.6 | 19.4 ↑ | | | |
| Caledonia | 20 | 5.0 | 27 | 6.8 | 33 | 9.0 | 80.0 ↑ | | | |
| Chittenden | 81 | 4.8 | 95 | 5.0 | 102 | 5.3 | 10.4 ↑ | | | |
| Essex-Orleans | 24 | 5.0 | 25 | 6.2 | 38 | 9.2 | 84.0 ↑ | | | |
| Franklin-Grand Isle | 56 | 8.0 | 41 | 5.8 | 49 | 6.1 | -23.8 ↓ | | | |
| Lamoille | 16 | 5.6 | 19 | 6.7 | 20 | 6.7 | 19.6 ↑ | | | |
| Orange | 18 | 4.8 | 21 | 5.4 | 29 | 7.8 | 62.5 ↑ | | | |
| Rutland | 49 | 5.8 | 56 | 6.4 | 50 | 6.1 | 5.2 ↑ | | | |
| Washington | 42 | 5.3 | 40 | 5.3 | 39 | 5.3 | 0.0 | | | |
| Windham | 34 | 5.7 | 32 | 5.4 | 39 | 6.5 | 14.0 ↑ | | | |
| Windsor | 51 | 6.8 | 37 | 4.7 | 42 | 6.1 | -10.3 ↓ | | | |
| Vermont | 447 | 5.6 | 461 | 5.7 | 507 | 6.3 | 12.5 ↑ | | | |
| ¹ Average 1980-1982(1981) | | | | | | | ² Average 1985-1987 (1986) | | ³ Average 1990-1992 (1991) | |

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Pregnant and parenting teens, single or married, face difficult health, educational and economic outcomes. As we have said, pregnant teens are the least likely to receive early prenatal care¹⁴ and more likely to have low birthweight babies. They often experience interruptions in their education and drop out of school, and are less apt to complete high school or attend college than women who delay childbirth. Teen mothers, married or single, face a future of lower wages and chronic unemployment. Married teens with children may also experience a significant degree of instability: the rate of separation and divorce is twice as high as that for women who marry in their twenties¹⁵.



Child Protection

Child Abuse and Neglect

Vermont statutes (33 V.S.A. § 4912) define an abused or neglected child as one "whose physical or mental health or welfare is harmed or is at substantial risk of harm by the acts or omissions of his parent or other persons responsible for the child's welfare." Abuse and neglect also means a "child who is sexually abused by any person".

Table 16

Child Abuse and Neglect

Number of confirmed reports and rate per 10,000 children under 18

| County | 1985 ¹ | | 1988 ² | | 1991 ³ | | Percent change in rate |
|---------------------|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|------------------------|
| | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | |
| Addison | 63 | 74 | 58 | 67 | 50 | 58 | ↓ -21.6 |
| Bennington | 86 | 95 | 80 | 88 | 82 | 91 | ↓ -4.2 |
| Caledonia | 86 | 113 | 71 | 93 | 89 | 115 | ↑ 1.8 |
| Chittenden | 271 | 87 | 302 | 97 | 315 | 101 | ↑ 16.1 |
| Essex-Orleans | 110 | 125 | 99 | 114 | 104 | 121 | ↓ -3.2 |
| Franklin-Grand Isle | 94 | 73 | 174 | 134 | 151 | 112 | ↑ 53.4 |
| Lamoille | 35 | 71 | 38 | 76 | 32 | 63 | ↓ -11.3 |
| Orange | 80 | 115 | 73 | 103 | 57 | 78 | ↓ -32.2 |
| Rutland | 132 | 87 | 120 | 80 | 98 | 65 | ↓ -25.3 |
| Washington | 178 | 126 | 199 | 141 | 159 | 113 | ↓ -10.3 |
| Windham | 165 | 161 | 159 | 151 | 163 | 152 | ↓ -5.6 |
| Windsor | 176 | 131 | 173 | 128 | 175 | 130 | ↓ -0.8 |
| Vermont | 1477 | 103 | 1,545 | 108 | 1,473 | 102 | ↓ -1.0 |

¹ Average 1984-1986 (1985) ² Average 1987-1989 (1988) ³ Average 1990-1992 (1991)

I think that all the people in Vermont can stop violence and drugs by having more town meetings and I think that what the way at the meetings they should do. I hope that this will convince you. To

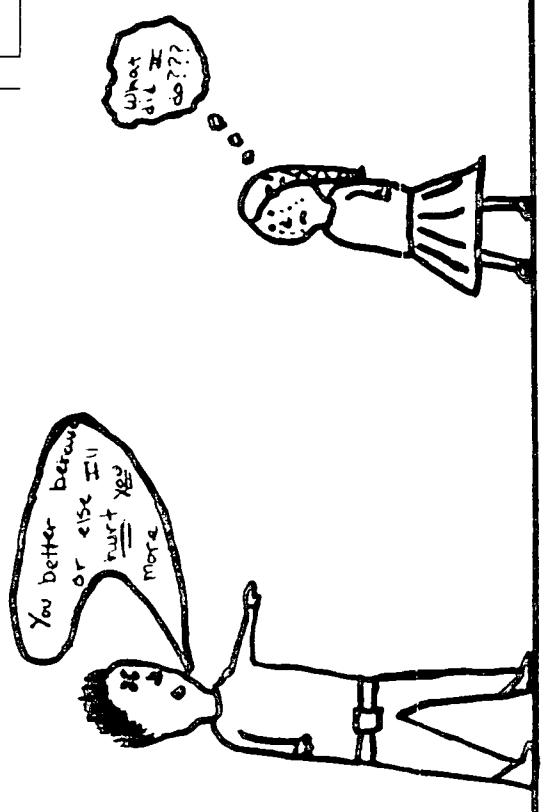


It is important to note that the overall rate of confirmed reports of abuse and neglect began to decline in the 1990s. The decline in the rate and number of substantiated reports of physical abuse (Table 17) between 1990 and 1992 in all counties in Vermont strongly contributes to the overall decline noted in Table 16. Tables 18 and 19 indicate the rate and number of substantiated reports of sexual abuse and neglect for Vermont have continued to rise in the early 1990s. The number of confirmed reports of neglect, alone, increased from an average of 203 per year between 1984 and 1986 to an average of 400 per year from 1990 through 1992.

Table 17

| County | 1985 ¹ | | 1988 ² | | 1991 ³ | | Percent change in rate |
|---------------------|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|------------------------|
| | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | |
| Addison | 30 | 35 | 22 | 25 | 15 | 17 | -51.4 ↓ |
| Bennington | 31 | 34 | 19 | 21 | 17 | 19 | -44.1 ↓ |
| Caledonia | 33 | 44 | 22 | 28 | 20 | 26 | -40.9 ↓ |
| Chittenden | 124 | 40 | 108 | 35 | 105 | 34 | -15.0 ↓ |
| Essex-Orleans | 41 | 47 | 38 | 44 | 16 | 19 | -59.6 ↓ |
| Franklin-Grand Isle | 43 | 34 | 62 | 47 | 43 | 32 | -5.9 ↓ |
| Lamoille | 13 | 26 | 14 | 29 | 12 | 23 | -11.5 ↓ |
| Orange | 37 | 54 | 24 | 34 | 18 | 25 | -53.7 ↓ |
| Rutland | 40 | 26 | 33 | 22 | 23 | 15 | -42.3 ↓ |
| Washington | 89 | 63 | 81 | 58 | 41 | 29 | -54.0 ↓ |
| Windham | 75 | 73 | 63 | 60 | 55 | 52 | -28.8 ↓ |
| Windsor | 94 | 69 | 81 | 60 | 51 | 38 | -44.9 ↓ |
| Vermont | 651 | 46 | 567 | 40 | 416 | 29 | -37.0 ↓ |

¹ Average 1984-1986 (1985) ² Average 1987-1989 (1988) ³ Average 1990-1992 (1991)



How I would make things better for kids:
To stop all child abuse



Table 18

Sexual Abuse

Number of confirmed reports and rate per 10,000 children under 18

| County | 1985 ¹ | | 1988 ² | | 1991 ³ | | Percent change in rate |
|---------------------|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|------------------------|
| | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | |
| Addison | 25 | 29 | 29 | 34 | 27 | 31 | 6.9 ↑ |
| Bennington | 46 | 51 | 43 | 48 | 45 | 51 | 0.0 |
| Caledonia | 33 | 44 | 36 | 47 | 49 | 64 | 45.5 ↓ |
| Chittenden | 97 | 31 | 123 | 40 | 149 | 48 | 54.8 ↓ |
| Essex-Orleans | 45 | 51 | 45 | 52 | 76 | 89 | 74.5 ↑ |
| Franklin-Grand Isle | 35 | 27 | 81 | 62 | 88 | 66 | 144.4 ↓ |
| Lamoille | 18 | 36 | 19 | 39 | 17 | 33 | -8.3 ↓ |
| Orange | 35 | 51 | 42 | 59 | 32 | 44 | -13.7 ↓ |
| Rutland | 62 | 40 | 63 | 41 | 57 | 38 | -5.0 ↓ |
| Washington | 74 | 52 | 97 | 69 | 86 | 61 | 17.3 ↓ |
| Windham | 58 | 57 | 57 | 54 | 65 | 61 | 7.0 ↓ |
| Windsor | 50 | 37 | 67 | 50 | 85 | 64 | 73.0 ↓ |
| Vermont | 578 | 41 | 701 | 49 | 777 | 54 | 31.7 ↑ |

¹ Average 1984-1986 (1985) ² Average 1987-1989 (1988) ³ Average 1990-1992 (1991)

I would like to tell you how I think kids in Vermont should be treated. My first idea is to get a center if kids have problems they just go to the center and tell their problems to who they feel comfortable with. I don't think kids should be abused. Kids should be treated the same as adults because we're just as special as them. The age for drinking should be raised. Acids in cigarettes and alchole make kid's bodies work harder.

Children who are abused and neglected face immediate and long term effects which can include: low self esteem, destructive habits towards self and others, extreme aggressive or passive behaviors and feelings of guilt and self-blame for the abuse. Undetected and/or untreated, child abuse has a significant impact on a child, the effects often lasting throughout adulthood. Children who are abused can be robbed of their innocence, mental health, and their ability to have successes in life. Prevention, support and intervention services are documented to help stop inter-generational cycles of abuse, and reduce future incidents and the effects of child abuse and neglect.

Table 19

Neglect

Number of confirmed reports and rate per 10,000 children under 18

| County | 1985 ¹ | | 1988 ² | | 1991 ³ | | Percent change in rate |
|---------------------|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|------------------------|
| | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | |
| Addison | 9 | 11 | 11 | 12 | 11 | 13 | 18.2 ↑ |
| Bennington | 10 | 11 | 19 | 21 | 22 | 25 | 127.3 ↑ |
| Caledonia | 13 | 18 | 15 | 20 | 26 | 33 | 83.3 ↑ |
| Chittenden | 35 | 11 | 69 | 22 | 83 | 27 | 145.5 ↑ |
| Essex-Orleans | 24 | 27 | 24 | 28 | 23 | 26 | -3.7 ↓ |
| Franklin-Grand Isle | 13 | 10 | 42 | 32 | 31 | 23 | 130.0 ↑ |
| Lamoille | 4 | 8 | 7 | 15 | 7 | 13 | 62.5 ↑ |
| Orange | 6 | 9 | 10 | 14 | 12 | 17 | 88.9 ↑ |
| Rutland | 23 | 15 | 27 | 18 | 25 | 17 | 13.3 ↑ |
| Washington | 20 | 14 | 46 | 33 | 51 | 37 | 164.3 ↑ |
| Windham | 30 | 29 | 45 | 43 | 58 | 54 | 86.2 ↑ |
| Windsor | 15 | 11 | 32 | 24 | 50 | 38 | 245.5 ↑ |
| Vermont | 203 | 14 | 349 | 24 | 400 | 28 | 100.0 ↑ |

¹ Average 1984-1986 (1985) ² Average 1987-1989 (1988) ³ Average 1990-1992 (1991)

Dear People of The World,

I have written a poem for the kids of the world and how their life is like and how we can help. This is my poem to all of you out their.

Life can be hard for kids
 And ice creams can't change it
 You and I won't fix it
 But we can help
 Not even AMERICA can change it
 But they can help
 To make a kid's life better
 We could try and decrease the violence
 That they see around them
 Life could be easier for kids this way

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Children in Custody

Abuse/Neglect, Unmanageable and Delinquent Children in Custody Cases

Children come into the custody of Vermont's Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services as a Child in Need of Supervision (CHINS) or because a child has committed a delinquent act⁶. The three classifications of children in custody are those who are abused and neglected; those who are deemed unmanageable, and delinquent children.

The average daily numbers and average daily rates of custody cases increased substantially in each classification between the 1989-1990 and

the 1991-1992 periods. In fact, average daily numbers and average daily rates increased in all counties for all three categories of custodial children. Of the three, the greatest increase was in children deemed unmanageable. The unprecedented increases in children entering custody over this four-year period has already begun to seriously impact the system that serves these children¹⁷.

Children in custody are placed in Vermont's protective services which focus on successful return to their families whenever possible. The majority of children in custody are placed in foster care, for emergency care and/or as a long term arrangement. Depending on their needs, children in foster care may live with a licensed foster care parent(s) or reside in therapeutic foster care homes, residential groups homes or in a

Table 20

| County | 1989-1990 ¹ | | 1991-1992 ² | | Percent change in rate |
|---------------------|------------------------|------|------------------------|------|--------------------------------|
| | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | |
| Addison | 40 | 47 | 71 | 82 | 74.5 ↑ |
| Bennington | 49 | 54 | 64 | 72 | 33.3 ↑ |
| Caledonia | 73 | 95 | 105 | 136 | 43.2 ↑ |
| Chittenden | 95 | 31 | 192 | 62 | 100.0 ↑ |
| Essex-Orleans | 72 | 84 | 89 | 103 | 22.6 ↑ |
| Franklin-Grand Isle | 131 | 99 | 184 | 136 | 37.4 ↑ |
| Lamoille | 30 | 58 | 37 | 72 | 24.1 ↑ |
| Orange | 33 | 45 | 37 | 51 | 13.3 ↑ |
| Rutland | 86 | 57 | 105 | 70 | 22.8 ↑ |
| Washington | 94 | 67 | 122 | 86 | 28.4 ↑ |
| Windham | 43 | 40 | 59 | 55 | 37.5 ↑ |
| Windsor | 69 | 52 | 105 | 78 | 50.0 ↑ |
| Vermont | 815 | 57 | 1169 | 81 | 42.1 ↑ |
| | | | | | ¹ Average 1989-1990 |
| | | | | | ² Average 1990-1992 |

Table 21

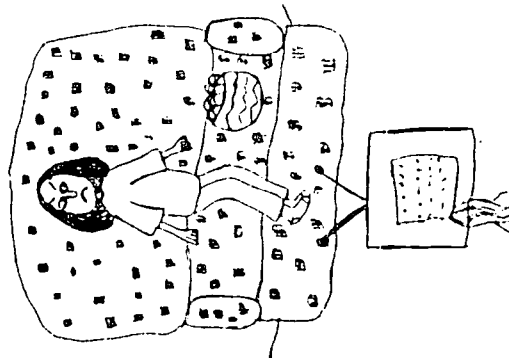
| County | 1989-1990 ¹ | | 1991-1992 ² | | Percent change in rate |
|---------------------|------------------------|------|------------------------|------|--------------------------------|
| | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | |
| Addison | 8 | 10 | 20 | 24 | 140.0 ↑ |
| Bennington | 20 | 22 | 24 | 27 | 22.7 ↑ |
| Caledonia | 6 | 8 | 11 | 14 | 75.0 ↑ |
| Chittenden | 53 | 17 | 73 | 24 | 41.2 ↑ |
| Essex-Orleans | 15 | 17 | 29 | 34 | 100.0 ↑ |
| Franklin-Grand Isle | 16 | 12 | 32 | 23 | 91.7 ↑ |
| Lamoille | 4 | 8 | 10 | 20 | 150.0 ↑ |
| Orange | 4 | 6 | 9 | 12 | 100.0 ↑ |
| Rutland | 35 | 23 | 48 | 32 | 39.1 ↑ |
| Washington | 23 | 16 | 33 | 24 | 50.0 ↑ |
| Windham | 19 | 18 | 32 | 30 | 66.7 ↑ |
| Windsor | 14 | 11 | 15 | 11 | 0.0 ↑ |
| Vermont | 217 | 15 | 336 | 23 | 53.3 ↑ |
| | | | | | ¹ Average 1989-1990 |
| | | | | | ² Average 1990-1992 |

treatment center. Less frequently children may be placed in an out-of-state treatment program. Intensive family-based services and WrapAround Services are programs tailored to the child and family. These services help avoid out-of-home placements; they enable children to stay in their communities or facilitate a child's return home. Transitional services assist the older youth in custody to develop skills for independent living.



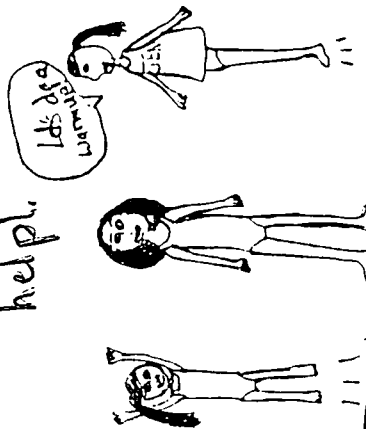
Without your help!

help!



With your help,

help!



6 Ft.

Table 22

Unmanageable Custody Cases

Average daily number and average daily rate per 10,000 children under 18

| County | 1989-1990 ¹ | | 1991-1992 ² | | Percent change in rate |
|---------------------|------------------------|------|------------------------|------|------------------------|
| | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | |
| Addison | 22 | 25 | 29 | 34 | 36.0 ↑↑ |
| Bennington | 14 | 15 | 24 | 27 | 80.0 ↑↑ |
| Caledonia | 14 | 18 | 24 | 31 | 72.2 ↑↑ |
| Chittenden | 80 | 26 | 161 | 52 | 100.0 ↑↑ |
| Essex-Orleans | 8 | 9 | 15 | 17 | 88.9 ↑↑ |
| Franklin-Grand Isle | 22 | 17 | 42 | 31 | 82.4 ↑↑ |
| Lamoille | 10 | 19 | 14 | 26 | 36.8 ↑↑ |
| Orange | 4 | 6 | 10 | 13 | 116.7 ↑↑ |
| Rutland | 49 | 33 | 72 | 48 | 45.5 ↑↑ |
| Washington | 21 | 15 | 24 | 17 | 13.3 ↑↑ |
| Windham | 15 | 14 | 25 | 23 | 64.3 ↑↑ |
| Windsor | 27 | 20 | 35 | 26 | 30.0 ↑↑ |
| Vermont | 285 | 20 | 474 | 33 | 65.0 ↑↑ |

¹ Average 1989-1990

² Average 1990-1992

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Summary of Indicators Based on 1990s Census Data

The tables in this section shows snapshots of Vermont families through demographic, economic and education indicators. These tables are based on 1990s Census data and use the same figures* and descriptions found in the 1993 KIDS COUNT Data Book.

* Due to small populations in Essex and Grand Isle Counties, Essex and Orleans Counties data and Franklin and Grand Isle Counties data have been combined in this year's data book.

Racial and Ethnic Diversity of Vermont Children

The ethnic and racial diversity of Vermont's child population increased more than 40 percent since 1980 yet in terms of total population, the proportion of minority children rose only slightly, from 1.8 percent to 2.6 percent. Hispanic children represent the largest percentage of all minority children, followed by Asian or Pacific Islander, African American, Native American, Eskimo or Aleut and the remaining percent categorized as other. The largest increases are in Asian or Pacific Islanders and African Americans.



Table 23

| County | Racial and Ethnic Diversity of Vermont Children (ages 0-17) population | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|---|---------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------|---|---|---|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | 1980 White | 1990 White | 1980 African American | 1990 African American | 1980 Hispanic | 1990 Hispanic | 1980 American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut | 1990 American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut | 1980 Asian or Pacific Islander | 1990 Asian or Pacific Islander | 1980 Other race | 1990 Other race | 1980 Total | 1990 Total |
| Addison | 8,564 | 8,479 | 9 | 30 | 49 | 50 | 7 | 35 | 17 | 50 | 19 | 7 | 8,616 | 8,601 |
| Bennington | 9,239 | 8,872 | 21 | 39 | 52 | 71 | 13 | 15 | 34 | 57 | 23 | 10 | 9,330 | 8,993 |
| Caledonia | 7,549 | 7,585 | 11 | 27 | 38 | 27 | 2 | 33 | 10 | 25 | 13 | 10 | 7,585 | 7,680 |
| Chittenden | 31,236 | 29,982 | 159 | 262 | 250 | 317 | 44 | 65 | 224 | 408 | 129 | 99 | 31,792 | 30,816 |
| Essex-Orleans | 9,215 | 8,441 | 0 | 25 | 37 | 63 | 7 | 15 | 11 | 34 | 34 | 17 | 9,267 | 8,532 |
| Franklin-C.I. | 12,375 | 12,874 | 19 | 29 | 37 | 49 | 191 | 219 | 16 | 51 | 37 | 18 | 12,638 | 13,191 |
| Lamoille | 4,793 | 5,015 | 7 | 12 | 30 | 22 | 7 | 17 | 6 | 21 | 17 | 7 | 4,830 | 5,072 |
| Orange | 6,788 | 7,149 | 18 | 23 | 40 | 31 | 5 | 21 | 21 | 31 | 13 | 18 | 6,845 | 7,242 |
| Rutland | 15,696 | 14,818 | 23 | 56 | 98 | 96 | 12 | 17 | 41 | 65 | 53 | 37 | 15,825 | 14,993 |
| Washington | 14,518 | 13,713 | 24 | 83 | 219 | 174 | 12 | 34 | 45 | 86 | 43 | 24 | 14,642 | 13,940 |
| Windham | 9,951 | 10,434 | 24 | 60 | 77 | 114 | 12 | 23 | 20 | 83 | 48 | 30 | 10,055 | 10,630 |
| Windsor | 13,751 | 13,135 | 44 | 44 | 57 | 89 | 26 | 48 | 41 | 127 | 31 | 39 | 13,893 | 13,393 |
| Vermont | 143,675 | 140,497 | 359 | 690 | 984 | 1,103 | 338 | 542 | 486 | 1,038 | 460 | 316 | 145,318 | 143,083 |

Family Data

Family data are important in evaluating the changing economic status of Vermont's families. Most single-parent families are headed by women, and as other data indicate, by the 1990s the vast majority of mothers in both single and two-parent families were working in the paid labor force.

Median Family Income

Median income represents the dollar amount above which half of Vermont's families earn more, and half our families earn less. Median family income increased by 18.2 percent in ten years. However during the same period, Vermonters experienced a 65.8 percent increase in the cost of living. Thus the average value of family income decreased overall by 47.6 percent during this period.

Table 24

| County | Constant 1989 dollars | | Percent change in income |
|---------------|-----------------------|--------|--------------------------|
| | 1979 | 1989 | |
| Addison | 28,297 | 34,561 | 22.1 ↑ |
| Bennington | 28,868 | 33,513 | 16.1 ↑ |
| Caledonia | 26,074 | 29,877 | 14.6 ↑ |
| Chittenden | 35,830 | 43,972 | 22.7 ↑ |
| Essex-Orleans | 24,508 | 26,283 | 7.2 ↑ |
| Franklin-G.I. | 27,562 | 32,951 | 19.6 ↑ |
| Lamoille | 26,960 | 31,772 | 17.8 ↑ |
| Orange | 24,846 | 31,066 | 25.0 ↑ |
| Rutland | 29,193 | 32,743 | 12.2 ↑ |
| Washington | 29,080 | 35,396 | 21.7 ↑ |
| Windham | 28,259 | 32,593 | 15.3 ↑ |
| Windsor | 30,435 | 34,691 | 14.0 ↑ |
| Vermont | 29,421 | 34,780 | 18.2 ↑ |

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Children in Single-Parent Families

In this book, families are defined as one or more related people living together. During a ten year period, the number of children in single parent-families in Vermont increased by more than 25 percent. About one child in five children lives in a single-parent family.

I would give a cat to every kid because there a good friend

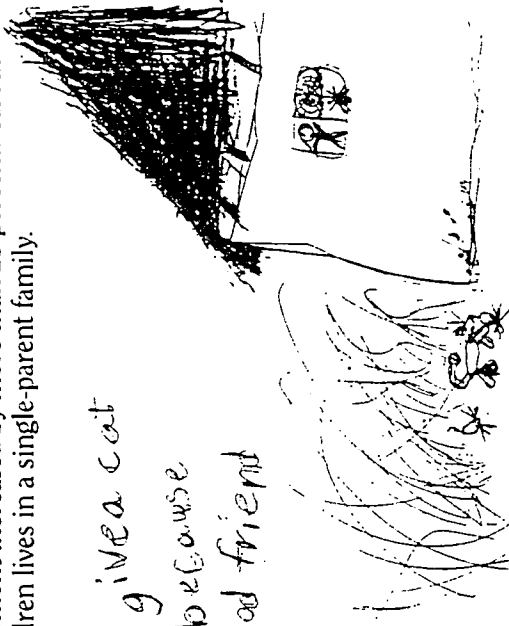


Table 25

| County | 1980 | | 1990 | | Percent change in rate |
|---------------|--------|---------|--------|---------|------------------------|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | |
| Addison | 1,102 | 12.8 | 1,348 | 15.7 | 22.7 ↑ |
| Bennington | 1,496 | 16.1 | 1,806 | 20.1 | 24.8 ↑ |
| Caledonia | 1,114 | 14.7 | 1,518 | 19.8 | 34.7 ↑ |
| Chittenden | 4,469 | 14.1 | 5,496 | 17.8 | 26.2 ↑ |
| Essex-Orleans | 1,221 | 13.2 | 1,562 | 18.3 | 38.6 ↑ |
| Franklin-G.I. | 1,833 | 14.5 | 2,277 | 17.3 | 19.3 ↑ |
| Lamoille | 672 | 13.9 | 940 | 18.5 | 33.1 ↑ |
| Orange | 891 | 13.0 | 1,273 | 17.6 | 35.4 ↑ |
| Rutland | 2,330 | 14.7 | 2,682 | 17.9 | 21.8 ↑ |
| Washington | 2,374 | 16.2 | 2,661 | 19.1 | 17.9 ↑ |
| Windham | 1,708 | 17.0 | 2,219 | 20.9 | 22.9 ↑ |
| Windsor | 2,186 | 15.8 | 2,527 | 18.9 | 19.6 ↑ |
| Vermont | 21,396 | 14.7 | 26,309 | 18.4 | 25.2 ↑ |

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Working Mothers

Since 1980, a major societal change has occurred at the work place and home. In every county of Vermont, the majority of children now have mothers who work. In the mid 1980s, only 46 percent of all mothers whose youngest children were under age six were in the paid labor force. In 1990, two-thirds of these mothers had jobs in the paid labor force, exceeding national figures.

The percentage of working mothers whose youngest children are age six to seventeen is even higher. 82.2 percent of these mothers work outside the home.

Table 26

| County | 1980 | | 1990 | | Percent change in numbers |
|---------------|--------|---------|--------|---------|---------------------------|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | |
| Addison | 828 | 48.1 | 1,358 | 67.5 | 64.0 ↑ |
| Bennington | 1,013 | 54.0 | 1,455 | 65.7 | 43.6 ↑ |
| Caledonia | 766 | 46.3 | 1,008 | 59.2 | 31.6 ↑ |
| Chittenden | 3,290 | 49.9 | 5,322 | 66.0 | 61.8 ↑ |
| Essex-Orleans | 850 | 44.1 | 1,066 | 62.0 | 40.1 ↑ |
| Franklin-G.I. | 1,026 | 37.9 | 1,893 | 62.1 | 63.9 ↑ |
| Lamoille | 590 | 54.3 | 785 | 65.6 | 33.1 ↑ |
| Orange | 678 | 46.2 | 1,164 | 67.6 | 71.7 ↑ |
| Rutland | 1,569 | 48.4 | 2,411 | 63.6 | 53.7 ↑ |
| Washington | 1,462 | 51.6 | 2,218 | 70.1 | 51.7 ↑ |
| Windham | 1,064 | 47.8 | 1,594 | 66.5 | 49.8 ↑ |
| Windsor | 1,333 | 48.3 | 2,299 | 72.0 | 72.5 ↑ |
| Vermont | 14,469 | 48.1 | 22,573 | 66.0 | 56.0 ↑ |

We can make things better for kids by making our cities, towns, and neighborhoods safer for us to live in and less violent. Kids have less freedom because if we go places by ourselves we constantly have to worry about how safe we are. If our streets were safer we wouldn't worry as much. That also gives us less freedom. We should have more freedom to do what we please.

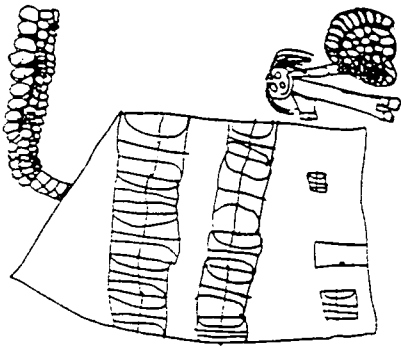
Table 27

| County | 1980 | | 1990 | | Percent change in numbers |
|---------------|--------|---------|--------|---------|---------------------------|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | |
| Addison | 1,396 | 62.7 | 1,851 | 82.0 | 32.6 ↑ |
| Bennington | 1,895 | 75.6 | 1,936 | 83.6 | 2.2 ↑ |
| Caledonia | 1,259 | 66.4 | 1,759 | 82.6 | 39.7 ↑ |
| Chittenden | 5,800 | 65.5 | 6,883 | 82.7 | 18.7 ↑ |
| Essex-Orleans | 1,414 | 60.8 | 1,874 | 79.3 | 30.4 ↑ |
| Franklin-G.I. | 1,865 | 61.4 | 2,626 | 77.3 | 24.9 ↑ |
| Lamoille | 800 | 68.7 | 1,083 | 82.2 | 35.4 ↑ |
| Orange | 1,168 | 69.4 | 1,574 | 83.3 | 34.8 ↑ |
| Rutland | 3,041 | 69.1 | 3,351 | 81.5 | 10.2 ↑ |
| Washington | 3,010 | 72.6 | 3,433 | 84.2 | 14.1 ↑ |
| Windham | 1,929 | 71.2 | 2,340 | 82.1 | 21.3 ↑ |
| Windsor | 2,669 | 68.5 | 3,149 | 84.9 | 18.0 ↑ |
| Vermont | 26,246 | 67.6 | 31,859 | 82.2 | 21.4 ↑ |



Teens Ages 15 to 19 Not in School and Not in the Labor Force

The percentage of 15 to 19 year olds who dropped out of school and who were not working declined during the 1980s from 5.6 to 4.0.



You should take out your garbage, so the world can get clean. We should clean the world so it will stay clean. I like a clean world.

Table 28

| County | 1980 | | 1990 | | Percent change in rate |
|---------------|--------|---------|--------|---------|------------------------|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | |
| Addison | 144 | 5.1 | 178 | 6.9 | 35.3 ↑ |
| Bennington | 101 | 4.1 | 117 | 5.9 | 43.9 ↑ |
| Caledonia | 166 | 8.1 | 52 | 3.0 | -63.0 ↓ |
| Chittenden | 461 | 3.8 | 216 | 2.2 | -42.1 ↓ |
| Essex-Orleans | 156 | 7.5 | 114 | 4.0 | -46.7 ↓ |
| Franklin-G.I. | 222 | 8.0 | 104 | 4.2 | -47.5 ↓ |
| Lamoille | 86 | 6.4 | 58 | 4.2 | -34.4 ↓ |
| Orange | 88 | 5.0 | 79 | 5.1 | 2.0 ↑ |
| Rutland | 287 | 6.1 | 146 | 3.9 | -36.1 ↓ |
| Washington | 184 | 4.6 | 125 | 4.1 | -10.9 ↓ |
| Windham | 257 | 10.9 | 82 | 4.1 | -62.4 ↓ |
| Windsor | 196 | 5.8 | 127 | 5.2 | -10.3 ↓ |
| Vermont | 2348 | 5.6 | 1,398 | 4.0 | -28.6 ↓ |

Educational Attainment of Adults

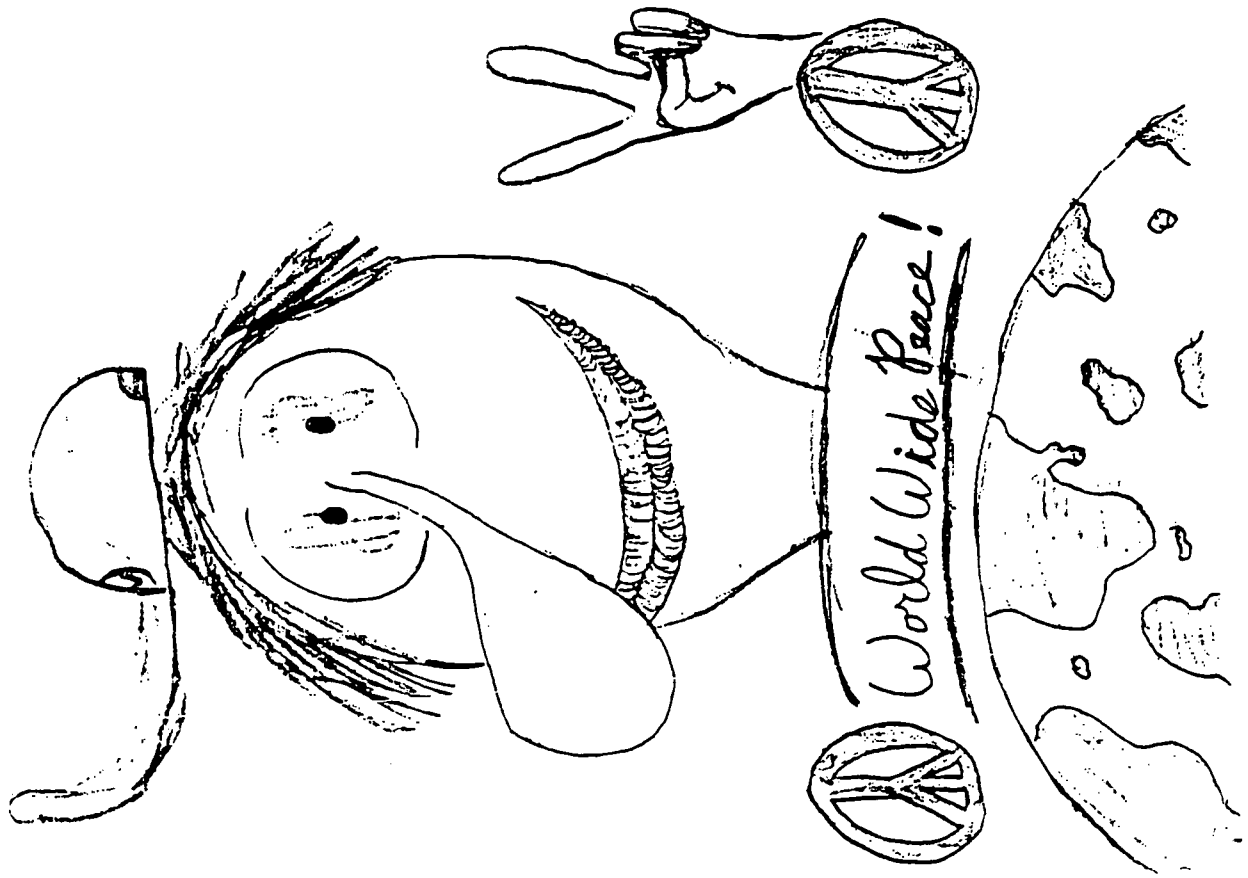
The number of adults 25 or older who have completed high school sometimes influences educational patterns and goals of the next generation. In particular, there is a strong correlation between a mother's high school completion and that of her children's. While the rate for this indicator improved by more than 13 percent by 1990, almost one in five Vermont adults had not finished high school or received a GED (General Equivalency Diploma) which is similar to Department of Education estimates of a dropout rate of almost one in five students.

Table 29

| County | 1980 | | 1990 | | Percent change in rate |
|---------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|------------------------|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | |
| Addison | 11,149 | 70.4 | 16,287 | 82.0 | 16.5 ↑ |
| Bennington | 13,637 | 68.2 | 18,251 | 77.8 | 14.1 ↑ |
| Caledonia | 10,280 | 68.3 | 13,520 | 77.4 | 13.3 ↑ |
| Chittenden | 47,775 | 78.3 | 68,841 | 86.7 | 10.7 ↑ |
| Essex-Orleans | 10,286 | 59.3 | 13,686 | 70.1 | 18.2 ↑ |
| Franklin-G.I. | 13,504 | 60.1 | 21,279 | 75.3 | 25.3 ↑ |
| Lamoille | 6,861 | 72.0 | 9,855 | 80.2 | 11.4 ↑ |
| Orange | 9,110 | 69.1 | 13,318 | 80.4 | 16.4 ↑ |
| Rutland | 24,502 | 70.0 | 32,196 | 79.4 | 13.4 ↑ |
| Washington | 22,575 | 72.8 | 28,951 | 81.3 | 11.7 ↑ |
| Windham | 16,445 | 72.0 | 22,451 | 81.7 | 13.5 ↑ |
| Windsor | 23,418 | 73.6 | 29,973 | 81.3 | 10.5 ↑ |
| Vermont | 209,542 | 71.0 | 288,608 | 80.8 | 13.8 ↑ |

Educational Attainment of Adults

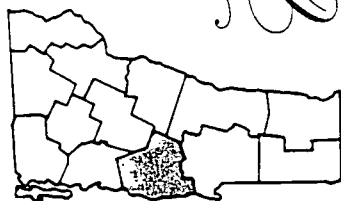
Adults 25 years or older who have completed high school or GED





Country-by-Country

Vermont Kids Count



Addison County

The southern most county in the Champlain Lowlands, Addison County offers beautiful views of Lake Champlain and the Adirondacks, and access to over 86,000 acres of national forest land.

Two notable Addison County homes provide revealing information about early Vermont. This country's first school of higher education for women was started by Emma Willard in her home in Middlebury; and Rokeby, now a museum, was the home of Rachael and Rowland Robinson of Ferrisburgh and had served as an important stop along the western Vermont route of the Underground Railroad.

Data Notes: Following statewide trends, abuse and neglect have declined while sexual abuse and neglect have risen. However, both are well below the state average. The number and percent of children receiving Food Stamps has increased substantially in this county.

| Population | | | |
|--|--------|--------|--------------------------|
| | 1980 | 1990 | 1993 |
| Children under 18 | 8,616 | 8,601 | 8,687 |
| Total population | 29,406 | 32,953 | 35,060 |
| Children as a percentage of total population | 29.3 | 26.1 | 24.8 |
| | | | Percent change 1990-1993 |
| | | | 1.0 |
| | | | 6.4 |

Children in Custody

| | 1989 ¹ | 1991 ² | Percent change | Vermont 1989 ¹ | Vermont 1991 ² |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Abuse/Neglect Custody Cases | | | | | |
| Average daily number | 41 | 71 | | | |
| Average daily rate | 47 | 82 | 74.5 | 57 | 81 |
| Delinquent Custody Cases | | | | | |
| Average daily number | 8 | 20 | | | |
| Average daily rate | 10 | 24 | 140.0 | 15 | 23 |
| Unmanageable Custody Cases | | | | | |
| Average daily number | 22 | 29 | | | |
| Average daily rate | 25 | 34 | 36.0 | 20 | 33 |

¹ Average 1989-1990

² Average 1991-1992

Child Abuse and Neglect

Confirmed reports of child abuse by type

| | 1985 ¹ | 1991 ² | Percent change | Vermont 1985 ¹ | Vermont 1991 ² |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Child Abuse and Neglect | | | | | |
| Total Victims | 63 | 50 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 74 | 58 | -21.6 | 103 | 102 |
| Physical Abuse | | | | | |
| Physical Abuse Victims | 30 | 15 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 35 | 17 | -51.4 | 46 | 29 |
| Sexual Abuse | | | | | |
| Sexual Abuse Victims | 25 | 27 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 29 | 31 | 6.9 | 40 | 54 |
| Neglect | | | | | |
| Neglect Victims | 9 | 11 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 11 | 13 | 18.2 | 14 | 28 |

¹ Average 1984-1986

² Average 1990-1992

Addison County

Family Health

| | Number 1981 ¹ | Rate 1981 ¹ | Number 1991 ² | Rate 1991 ² | Percent change in rate 1981-1991 | Vermont Rate 1981 ¹ | Vermont Rate 1991 ² |
|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Early prenatal care | 381 | 81.1 | 395 | 82.7 | 2.0 | 79.1 | 83.4 |
| Low birthweight babies | 30 | 6.3 | 30 | 5.9 | -6.3 | 6.0 | 5.5 |
| Infant mortality | 4 | 7.7 | 4 | 8.7 | 13.0 | 9.4 | 6.4 |
| Births to single teens | 18 | 3.7 | 26 | 5.2 | 40.5 | 5.6 | 6.3 |
| Births to all teens | 43 | 9.0 | 36 | 7.2 | -20.0 | 12.1 | 8.8 |
| Child deaths | 2 | 30.7 | 2 | 29.5 | -3.9 | 43.5 | 23.7 |
| Teen violent deaths | 4 | 128.9 | 1 | 36.6 | -71.6 | 78.5 | 58.6 |
| New families at risk | 10 | 5.1 | 15 | 7.5 | 47.1 | 7.1 | 8.1 |

Rates for most of the indicators listed in these tables are expressed as percentages. Rates for some of the indicators, however, are presented using different metrics because percentages would show very small values. Rates for KIDS COUNT indicators not expressed as percentages are presented below:

Abuse/Neglect custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
 Delinquent custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
 Unmanageable custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
 Infant mortality = Infant deaths per 1,000 live births.
 Child deaths = Deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14.
 Teen violent deaths = Deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19.

Economic Security

| | 1989 | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | Vermont Rate 1990 | Vermont Rate 1993 | Percent change in rate 1990-1993 | Percent change in rate 1990-1993 |
|---|------------------|-------------------|-------|------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Child poverty rate | 11.3 | 12.0 | 12.3 | 14.3 | 14.1 | 9.8 | 12.5 | 27.6 | 27.6 |
| Vermont child poverty rate | 11.5 | 13.0 | 14.9 | 16.0 | 16.1 | 12.0 | 18.0 | 50.0 | 50.0 |
| Children dependent on ANFC | 593 | 6.9 | 738 | 8.5 | 23.2 | 18.6 ³ | 24.6 | 32.3 ⁴ | 32.3 ⁴ |
| Children dependent on food stamps | 812 | 9.4 | 1,263 | 14.5 | 54.3 | | | | |
| Children receiving free and reduced lunches | 637 ² | 14.5 ³ | 1,129 | 24.3 | 67.6 ⁴ | | | | |

Some of the years listed in the tables represent an average of three years.

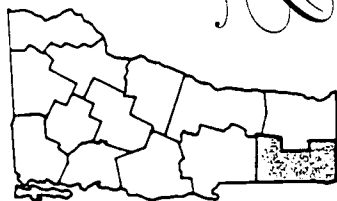
¹1981 = Average of 1980 - 1982
²1991 = Average of 1990 - 1992
³1989
⁴1989-1993

New Families at Risk:
 First births to single teenage mothers with less than 12 years of schooling.

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Vermont Kids Count



*Bennington
County*

Located in Vermont's Southwest Region, Bennington County is bordered by the Taconic Range on the west and on the east by the Green Mountains. This diverse valley includes the largest tract of Green Mountain National Forest land in Vermont near Mount Tabor, more than 123,000 acres.

Bennington County played a significant role in Vermont's early history. In a Dorset tavern, the Green Mountain Boys declared Vermont's independence in 1776. The Battle of Bennington is commemorated in a monument on a hill within the Bennington city limits. Dorset lays claim to being the first marble quarry mined in North America.

***Data Notes:** The percentage of mothers receiving prenatal care in the first trimester has increased substantially, reflecting state trends. Births to teens have been dropping here but are still above the state average.*

| Population | | | |
|--|--------|--------|--------------------------|
| | 1980 | 1990 | 1993 |
| Children under 18 | 9,330 | 8,993 | 8,981 |
| Total population | 33,345 | 35,845 | 35,740 |
| Children as a percentage of total population | 28.0 | 25.1 | 25.1 |
| | | | Percent change 1990-1993 |
| | | | -0.1 |
| | | | -0.3 |

Children in Custody

| | 1989 ¹ | 1991 ² | Percent change | Vermont 1989 ¹ | Vermont 1991 ² |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Abuse/Neglect Custody Cases | | | | | |
| Average daily number | 49 | 64 | | 57 | 81 |
| Average daily rate | 54 | 72 | 33.3 | | |
| Delinquent Custody Cases | | | | | |
| Average daily number | 20 | 24 | | 15 | 23 |
| Average daily rate | 22 | 27 | 22.7 | | |
| Unmanageable Custody Cases | | | | | |
| Average daily number | 14 | 24 | | 20 | 33 |
| Average daily rate | 15 | 27 | 80.0 | | |

¹ Average 1989-1990

² Average 1991-1992

Child Abuse and Neglect
Confirmed reports of child abuse by type

| | 1985 ¹ | 1991 ² | Percent change | Vermont 1985 ¹ | Vermont 1991 ² |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Child Abuse and Neglect | | | | | |
| Total Victims | 86 | 82 | | 103 | 102 |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 95 | 91 | -4.2 | | |
| Physical Abuse | | | | | |
| Physical Abuse Victims | 31 | 17 | | 46 | 29 |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 34 | 19 | -44.1 | | |
| Sexual Abuse | | | | | |
| Sexual Abuse Victims | 46 | 45 | | 40 | 54 |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 51 | 51 | 0 | | |
| Neglect | | | | | |
| Neglect Victims | 10 | 22 | | 14 | 28 |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 11 | 25 | 127.3 | | |

¹ Average 1984-1986

² Average 1990-1992



Bennington County

Family Health

| | Number 1981 ¹ | Rate 1981 ¹ | Number 1991 ² | Rate 1991 ² | Percent change in rate 1981-1991 | Vermont Rate 1981 ¹ | Vermont Rate 1991 ² |
|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Early prenatal care | 385 | 74.4 | 376 | 81.5 | 9.5 | 79.1 | 83.4 |
| Low birthweight babies | 28 | 5.4 | 26 | 5.5 | 1.9 | 6.0 | 5.5 |
| Infant mortality | 6 | 12.0 | 1 | 1.4 | -88.3 | 9.4 | 6.4 |
| Births to single teens | 38 | 7.2 | 41 | 8.6 | 19.4 | 5.6 | 6.3 |
| Births to all teens | 77 | 14.7 | 55 | 11.6 | -21.1 | 12.1 | 8.8 |
| Child deaths | 3 | 42.8 | 3 | 37.4 | -12.6 | 43.5 | 23.7 |
| Teen violent deaths | 2 | 55.6 | 1 | 58.6 | 5.4 | 78.5 | 58.6 |
| New families at risk | 19 | 8.0 | 21 | 11.6 | 45.0 | 7.1 | 8.1 |

Rates for most of the indicators listed in these tables are expressed as percentages. Rates for some of the indicators, however, are presented using different metrics because percentages would show very small values. Rates for KIDS COUNT indicators not expressed as percentages are presented below:

Abuse/Neglect custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
 Delinquent custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
 Unmanageable custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
 Infant mortality = Infant deaths per 1,000 live births.
 Child deaths = Deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14.
 Teen violent deaths = Deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19.

Economic Security

| | 1989 | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | Vermont Rate 1990 | Vermont Rate 1993 | Percent change in rate 1990-1993 | Percent change in rate 1990-1993 |
|---|------------------|-------------------|-------|------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Child poverty rate | 16.1 | 15.7 | 17.5 | 18.5 | 17.9 | 18.1 | 18.5 | 13.6 | 27.6 |
| Vermont child poverty rate | 11.5 | 13.0 | 14.9 | 16.0 | 16.1 | 9.8 | 12.5 | 50.0 | 32.3 ⁴ |
| Children dependent on ANFC | 1,068 | 11.8 | 1,200 | 13.4 | 13.6 | 12.0 | 18.0 | 50.0 | 50.0 |
| Children dependent on food stamps | 1,284 | 14.2 | 1,719 | 19.1 | 34.5 | 18.6 ³ | 24.6 | 46.0 ⁴ | 32.3 ⁴ |
| Children receiving free and reduced lunches | 862 ³ | 16.3 ³ | 1,222 | 23.8 | 46.0 ⁴ | 18.6 ³ | 24.6 | 46.0 ⁴ | 32.3 ⁴ |

Some of the years listed in the tables represent an average of three years.
¹1981 = Average of 1980 - 1982
²1991 = Average of 1990 - 1992
³1989
⁴1989-1993

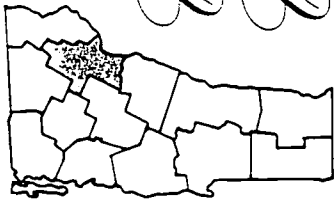
New Families at Risk:
 First births to single teenage mothers with less than 12 years of schooling.

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Vermont Kids Count



Caledonia County

Caledonia County is the southern most border of the region dubbed the "Northeast Kingdom" by Vermont's late Senator George Aiken. As part of the region known as Vermont's "outback", Caledonia County is abundant in state forest and park acres.

Home of the platform scale invented by Thaddeus Fairbanks in 1830, Caledonia County boasts the Historic District of St. Johnsbury which includes the Athenaeum, a museum containing the nation's oldest art gallery in its authentic condition and the Fairbanks Museum of Natural History and planetarium.

Data Notes: Contrary to the Vermont trend, there has been no change in the rate of births to all teens. There has been a substantial decrease of physical abuse.

| | Population | | | Percent change 1990-1993 |
|--|------------|--------|--------|--------------------------|
| | 1980 | 1990 | 1993 | |
| Children under 18 | 7,585 | 7,680 | 7,758 | 1.0 |
| Total population | 25,808 | 27,846 | 28,202 | 1.3 |
| Children as a percentage of total population | 29.4 | 27.6 | 27.5 | |

Children in Custody

| | 1989 ¹ | 1991 ² | Percent change | Vermont 1989 ¹ | Vermont 1991 ² |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Abuse/Neglect Custody Cases | | | | | |
| Average daily number | 73 | 105 | | | |
| Average daily rate | 95 | 136 | 43.2 | 57 | 81 |
| Delinquent Custody Cases | | | | | |
| Average daily number | 6 | 11 | | | |
| Average daily rate | 8 | 14 | 75.0 | 15 | 23 |
| Unmanageable Custody Cases | | | | | |
| Average daily number | 14 | 24 | | | |
| Average daily rate | 18 | 31 | 72.2 | 20 | 33 |

¹ Average 1989-1990 ² Average 1991-1992

Child Abuse and Neglect
Confirmed reports of child abuse by type

| | 1985 ¹ | 1991 ² | Percent change | Vermont 1985 ¹ | Vermont 1991 ² |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Child Abuse and Neglect | | | | | |
| Total Victims | 86 | 89 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 113 | 115 | 1.8 | 103 | 102 |
| Physical Abuse | | | | | |
| Physical Abuse Victims | 33 | 20 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 44 | 26 | -40.9 | 46 | 29 |
| Sexual Abuse | | | | | |
| Sexual Abuse Victims | 33 | 49 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 44 | 64 | 45.5 | 40 | 54 |
| Neglect | | | | | |
| Neglect Victims | 13 | 26 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 18 | 33 | 83.3 | 14 | 28 |

¹ Average 1984-1986 ² Average 1990-1992



Caledonia County

Family Health

Rates for most of the indicators listed in these tables are expressed as percentages. Rates for some of the indicators, however, are presented using different metrics because percentages would show very small values. Rates for KIDS COUNT indicators not expressed as percentages are presented below:

Abuse/Neglect custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
 Delinquent custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
 Unmanageable custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
 Infant mortality = Infant deaths per 1,000 live births.
 Child deaths = Deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14.
 Teen violent deaths = Deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19.

| | Number 1981 ¹ | Rate 1981 ¹ | Number 1991 ² | Rate 1991 ² | Percent change in rate 1981-1991 | Vermont Rate 1981 ¹ | Vermont Rate 1991 ² |
|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Early prenatal care | 314 | 78.4 | 300 | 84.8 | 8.2 | 79.1 | 83.4 |
| Low birthweight babies | 21 | 5.2 | 13 | 3.6 | -30.8 | 6.0 | 5.5 |
| Infant mortality | 5 | 11.6 | 2 | 6.4 | -44.8 | 9.4 | 6.4 |
| Births to single teens | 20 | 5.0 | 33 | 9.0 | 80.0 | 5.6 | 6.3 |
| Births to all teens | 51 | 12.6 | 46 | 12.6 | 0 | 12.1 | 8.8 |
| Child deaths | 2 | 35.3 | 2 | 33.1 | -6.2 | 43.5 | 23.7 |
| Teen violent deaths | 3 | 109.2 | <1 | 16.3 | -85.1 | 78.5 | 58.6 |
| New families at risk | 12 | 7.3 | 18 | 13.1 | 79.5 | 7.1 | 8.1 |

Economic Security

Some of the years listed in the tables represent an average of three years.

¹1981 = Average of 1980 - 1982
²1991 = Average of 1990 - 1992
³1989
⁴1989-1993

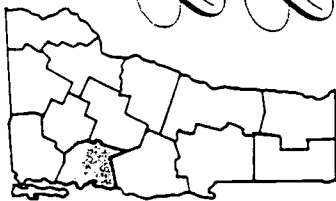
New Families at Risk:
 First births to single teenage mothers with less than 12 years of schooling.

| | 1989 | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | Vermont Rate 1990 | Vermont Rate 1993 | Percent change in rate 1990-1993 | Vermont Rate 1990 | Vermont Rate 1993 | Percent change in rate 1990-1993 |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|-------|------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| Child poverty rate | 15.7 | 17.1 | 19.5 | 20.1 | 20.4 | | | | | | |
| Vermont child poverty rate | 11.5 | 13.0 | 14.9 | 16.0 | 16.1 | 9.8 | 12.5 | 27.6 | 9.8 | 12.5 | 27.6 |
| Children dependent on ANFC | 905 | 11.8 | 1,136 | 14.6 | 23.7 | 12.0 | 18.0 | 50.0 | 12.0 | 18.0 | 50.0 |
| Children dependent on food stamps | 1,197 | 15.5 | 1,788 | 23.0 | 48.4 | 18.6 ³ | 24.6 | 32.3 ⁴ | 18.6 ³ | 24.6 | 32.3 ⁴ |
| Children receiving free and reduced lunches | 1,124 ³ | 27.5 ³ | 1,645 | 33.7 | 22.5 ⁴ | | | | | | |

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Vermont Kids Count



Chittenden County

One of four counties which comprise the Lake Champlain Lowlands, Chittenden County is home to Vermont's largest urban center where approximately one fourth of the population of the state reside. It is a diverse region of open farmlands, mountain vistas and lake beaches as well as urban and suburban residential areas.

In keeping with this county's mix of urban and rural history, the first factory heated by steam was located in Chittenden County and it was also home to Wilson (Snowflake) Bentley, who successfully photographed two natural phenomenon abundant in Vermont: snowflakes and raindrops.

Data Notes: While the percent of births that are to teens has dropped substantially here, and is now the lowest in the state, the rate of Unmanageable Children in Custody is very high.

| Population | | | |
|--|---------|---------|--------------------------|
| | 1980 | 1990 | 1993 |
| Children under 18 | 31,792 | 30,816 | 31,179 |
| Total population | 115,534 | 131,761 | 136,773 |
| Children as a percentage of total population | 27.5 | 23.4 | 22.8 |
| | | | Percent change 1990-1993 |
| | | | 1.2 |
| | | | 3.8 |

Children in Custody

| | 1989 ¹ | 1991 ² | Percent change | Vermont 1989 ¹ | Vermont 1991 ² |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Abuse/Neglect Custody Cases | 95 | 192 | | | |
| Average daily number | 31 | 62 | 100.0 | 57 | 81 |
| Average daily rate | | | | | |
| Delinquent Custody Cases | 53 | 73 | | | |
| Average daily number | 17 | 24 | 41.2 | 15 | 23 |
| Average daily rate | | | | | |
| Unmanageable Custody Cases | 80 | 161 | | | |
| Average daily number | 26 | 52 | 100.0 | 20 | 33 |
| Average daily rate | | | | | |

¹ Average 1989-1990

² Average 1991-1992

Child Abuse and Neglect
Confirmed reports of child abuse by type

| | 1985 ¹ | 1991 ² | Percent change | Vermont 1985 ¹ | Vermont 1991 ² |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Child Abuse and Neglect | | | | | |
| Total Victims | 271 | 315 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 87 | 101 | 16.1 | 103 | 102 |
| Physical Abuse | | | | | |
| Physical Abuse Victims | 124 | 105 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 40 | 34 | -15.0 | 46 | 29 |
| Sexual Abuse | | | | | |
| Sexual Abuse Victims | 97 | 149 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 31 | 48 | 54.8 | 40 | 54 |
| Neglect | | | | | |
| Neglect Victims | 35 | 83 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 11 | 27 | 145.5 | 14 | 28 |

¹ Average 1984-1986

² Average 1990-1992

Chittenden County

Family Health

| | Number 1981 ¹ | Rate 1981 ¹ | Number 1991 ² | Rate 1991 ² | Percent change in rate 1981-1991 | Vermont Rate 1981 ¹ | Vermont Rate 1991 ² |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Early prenatal care | 1,437 | 85.8 | 1,592 | 86.1 | 0.3 | 79.1 | 83.4 |
| Low birthweight babies | 100 | 6.0 | 106 | 5.5 | -8.3 | 6.0 | 5.5 |
| Infant mortality | 15 | 9.1 | 14 | 7.2 | -20.9 | 9.4 | 6.4 |
| Births to single teens | 81 | 4.8 | 102 | 5.3 | 10.4 | 5.6 | 6.3 |
| Births to all teens | 160 | 9.5 | 134 | 6.9 | -27.4 | 12.1 | 8.8 |
| Child deaths | 8 | 35.3 | 4 | 17.7 | -49.9 | 43.5 | 23.7 |
| Teen violent deaths | 6 | 43.4 | 5 | 44.0 | 1.4 | 78.5 | 58.6 |
| New families at risk | 45 | 5.6 | 51 | 6.2 | 10.7 | 7.1 | 8.1 |

Rates for most of the indicators listed in these tables are expressed as percentages. Rates for some of the indicators, however, are presented using different metrics because percentages would show very small values. Rates for KIDS COUNT indicators not expressed as percentages are presented below:

Abuse/Neglect custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
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 Unmanageable custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.

Infant mortality = Infant deaths per 1,000 live births.
 Child deaths = Deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14.
 Teen violent deaths = Deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19.

Economic Security

| | 1989 | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | Vermont Rate 1990 | Vermont Rate 1993 | Percent change in rate 1990-1993 | Percent change in rate 1990-1993 |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|-------|------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--|--|
| Child poverty rate | 8.0 | 9.3 | 11.0 | 12.1 | 11.8 | 9.8 | 12.5 | 27.6 | 27.6 |
| Vermont child poverty rate | 11.5 | 13.0 | 14.9 | 16.0 | 16.1 | 12.0 | 18.0 | 50.0 | 50.0 |
| Children dependent on ANFC | 2,661 | 8.6 | 3,352 | 10.8 | 25.6 | 18.6 ³ | 24.6 | 32.3 ⁴ | 32.3 ⁴ |
| Children dependent on food stamps | 2,748 | 8.9 | 4,217 | 13.5 | 51.7 | | | | |
| Children receiving free and reduced lunches | 2,340 ³ | 12.2 ³ | 3,279 | 16.4 | 34.4 ⁴ | | | | |

Some of the years listed in the tables represent an average of three years.

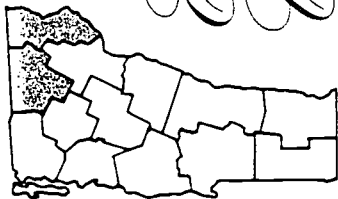
¹1981 = Average of 1980 - 1982
²1991 = Average of 1990 - 1992
³1989
⁴1989-1993

New Families at Risk:
 First births to single teenage mothers with less than 12 years of schooling.

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Vermont Kids Count



Essex-Orleans Counties

These two counties equal more than 1400 square miles of the Northeast Kingdom and offer access to more lakes than anywhere else in Vermont. Vermont's lowest temperature of -50° F was recorded here.

In keeping with Vermont's unique history, this region has been a leader in the field of education. The nation's first Normal School for the sole purpose of training teachers was founded in Essex County. Orleans County preserves the Old Stone House Museum, a school designed and built by hand of solid granite blocks by its teacher, Reverend Alexander Twilight. He is believed to be this country's first African American college graduate and state legislator.

Data Notes: These counties show a low rate of unmanageable custody cases but a continuing rise in new families at risk. (Due to the small populations of these neighboring counties Essex and Orleans data have been combined.)

| | Population | | | Percent change 1990-1993 |
|--|------------|--------|--------|--------------------------|
| | 1980 | 1990 | 1993 | |
| Children under 18 | 9,267 | 8,532 | 8,485 | -0.6 |
| Total population | 29,753 | 30,458 | 31,278 | 2.7 |
| Children as a percentage of total population | 31.1 | 28.0 | 27.1 | |

Children in Custody

| | 1989 ¹ | 1991 ² | Percent change | Vermont 1989 ¹ | Vermont 1991 ² |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Abuse/Neglect Custody Cases | | | | | |
| Average daily number | 72 | 89 | | | |
| Average daily rate | 84 | 103 | 22.6 | 57 | 81 |
| Delinquent Custody Cases | | | | | |
| Average daily number | 15 | 29 | | | |
| Average daily rate | 17 | 34 | 100.0 | 15 | 23 |
| Unmanageable Custody Cases | | | | | |
| Average daily number | 8 | 15 | | | |
| Average daily rate | 9 | 17 | 88.9 | 20 | 33 |

¹ Average 1989-1990 ² Average 1991-1992

Child Abuse and Neglect

Confirmed reports of child abuse by type

| | 1985 ¹ | 1991 ² | Percent change | Vermont 1985 ¹ | Vermont 1991 ² |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Child Abuse and Neglect | | | | | |
| Total Victims | 110 | 104 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 125 | 121 | -3.2 | 103 | 102 |
| Physical Abuse | | | | | |
| Physical Abuse Victims | 41 | 16 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 47 | 19 | -59.6 | 46 | 29 |
| Sexual Abuse | | | | | |
| Sexual Abuse Victims | 45 | 76 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 51 | 89 | 74.5 | 40 | 54 |
| Neglect | | | | | |
| Neglect Victims | 24 | 23 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 27 | 26 | -3.7 | 14 | 28 |

¹ Average 1984-1986 ² Average 1990-1992



Essential Issues Counties

Family Health

| | Number 1981 ¹ | Rate 1981 ¹ | Number 1991 ² | Rate 1991 ² | Percent change in rate 1981-1991 | Vermont Rate 1981 ¹ | Vermont Rate 1991 ² |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Early prenatal care | 322 | 67.9 | 324 | 82.7 | 21.8 | 79.1 | 83.4 |
| Low birthweight babies | 27 | 5.6 | 29 | 7.1 | 26.8 | 6.0 | 5.5 |
| Infant mortality | 5 | 9.6 | 2 | 5.7 | -40.6 | 9.4 | 6.4 |
| Births to single teens | 24 | 5.0 | 38 | 9.2 | 84.0 | 5.6 | 6.3 |
| Births to all teens | 69 | 14.2 | 54 | 13.0 | -8.5 | 12.1 | 8.8 |
| Child deaths | 6 | 81.6 | 2 | 34.2 | -58.1 | 43.5 | 23.7 |
| Teen violent deaths | 3 | 126.4 | 1 | 64.9 | -48.7 | 78.5 | 58.6 |
| New families at risk | 15 | 7.4 | 18 | 11.8 | 59.5 | 7.1 | 8.1 |

Rates for most of the indicators listed in these tables are expressed as percentages. Rates for some of the indicators, however, are presented using different metrics because percentages would show very small values. Rates for KIDS COUNT indicators not expressed as percentages are presented below:

Abuse/Neglect custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
 Delinquent custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
 Unmanageable custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
 Infant mortality = Infant deaths per 1,000 live births.
 Child deaths = Deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14.
 Teen violent deaths = Deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19.

Economic Security

| | 1989 | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | Vermont Rate 1990 | Vermont Rate 1993 | Percent change in rate 1990-1993 | Percent change in rate 1990-1993 |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|-------|------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--|--|
| Child poverty rate | 18.2 | 18.6 | 20.8 | 21.8 | 22.3 | | | | |
| Vermont child poverty rate | 11.5 | 13.0 | 14.9 | 16.0 | 16.1 | | | | |
| Children dependent on ANFC | 1,137 | 13.3 | 1,378 | 16.2 | 21.8 | 9.8 | 12.5 | 27.6 | |
| Children dependent on food stamps | 1,586 | 18.6 | 2,260 | 26.6 | 43.0 | 12.0 | 18.0 | 50.0 | |
| Children receiving free and reduced lunches | 1,719 ³ | 34.4 ³ | 2,523 | 40.2 | 16.9 ⁴ | 18.6 ³ | 24.6 | 32.3 ⁴ | |

Some of the years listed in the tables represent an average of three years.

¹1981 = Average of 1980 - 1982
²1991 = Average of 1990 - 1992
³1989
⁴1989-1993

New Families at Risk:
 First births to single teenage mothers with less than 12 years of schooling.



Vermont Kids Count



Franklin-Grand Isle Counties

Franklin and Grand Isle Counties are, respectively, the most northern and western counties of the Lake Champlain Lowland region. Franklin is home to Vermont's only federal wildlife habitat, the Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge. Grand Isle promises beautiful views and easy access to Lake Champlain with varied recreational activities available.

Both counties share significant early history with Vermont's first permanent European settlement established at Fort St. Anne on Isle LaMotte. It is also home to the region's oldest Native American settlement in Swanton, populated now by members of the Abenaki nation.

Data Notes: *New data on custody cases show increases in all categories during the 1990s, while the percentage of all births to women under twenty dropped substantially. (Due to the small population of Grand Isle County data has been combined with Franklin County.)*

| Population | | | |
|--|--------|--------|--------------------------|
| | 1980 | 1990 | 1993 |
| Children under 18 | 12,638 | 13,191 | 13,399 |
| Total population | 39,401 | 45,298 | 47,305 |
| Children as a percentage of total population | 32.1 | 29.1 | 28.3 |
| | | | Percent change 1990-1993 |
| | | | 1.6 |
| | | | 4.4 |

| Children in Custody | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| | 1989 ¹ | 1991 ¹ | Percent change | Vermont 1989 ¹ |
| Abuse/Neglect Custody Cases | | | | |
| Average daily number | 131 | 184 | | |
| Average daily rate | 99 | 136 | 37.4 | 57 |
| Delinquent Custody Cases | | | | |
| Average daily number | 16 | 32 | | |
| Average daily rate | 12 | 23 | 91.7 | 15 |
| Unmanageable Custody Cases | | | | |
| Average daily number | 22 | 42 | | |
| Average daily rate | 17 | 31 | 82.4 | 20 |

¹ Average 1989-1990 ² Average 1991-1992

| Child Abuse and Neglect Confirmed reports of child abuse by type | | | | |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| | 1985 ¹ | 1991 ¹ | Percent change | Vermont 1985 ¹ |
| Child Abuse and Neglect Total Victims | 94 | 151 | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 73 | 112 | 53.4 | 103 |
| Physical Abuse | | | | |
| Physical Abuse Victims | 43 | 43 | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 34 | 32 | -5.9 | 46 |
| Sexual Abuse | | | | |
| Sexual Abuse Victims | 35 | 88 | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 27 | 66 | 144.4 | 40 |
| Neglect | | | | |
| Neglect Victims | 13 | 31 | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 10 | 23 | 130.0 | 14 |

¹ Average 1984-1986 ² Average 1990-1992



Franklin County, State Counties

Family Health

Notes for most of the indicators listed in these tables are expressed as percentages. Rates for some of the indicators, however, are presented using different metrics because percentages would show very small values. Rates for KIDS COUNT indicators not expressed as percentages are presented below:

Abuse/Neglect custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
Delinquent custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
Unmanageable custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.

Infant mortality = Infant deaths per 1,000 live births.
Child deaths = Deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14.
Teen violent deaths = Deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19.

| | Number 1981 ¹ | Rate 1981 ¹ | Number 1991 ² | Rate 1991 ² | Percent change in rate 1981-1991 | Vermont Rate 1981 ¹ | Vermont Rate 1991 ² |
|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Early prenatal care | 533 | 77.3 | 633 | 83.4 | 7.9 | 79.1 | 83.4 |
| Low birthweight babies | 42 | 6.0 | 44 | 5.5 | -8.3 | 6.0 | 5.5 |
| Infant mortality | 6 | 9.0 | 4 | 5.0 | -44.4 | 9.4 | 6.4 |
| Births to single teens | 56 | 8.0 | 49 | 6.1 | -23.8 | 5.6 | 6.3 |
| Births to all teens | 106 | 15.1 | 69 | 8.7 | -42.4 | 12.1 | 8.8 |
| Child deaths | 3 | 34.6 | 2 | 22.1 | -36.1 | 43.5 | 23.7 |
| Teen violent deaths | 1 | 37.4 | 4 | 120 | 220.1 | 78.5 | 58.6 |
| New families at risk | 32 | 10.4 | 27 | 9.0 | -13.5 | 7.1 | 8.1 |

Economic Security

Some of the years listed in the tables represent an average of three years.

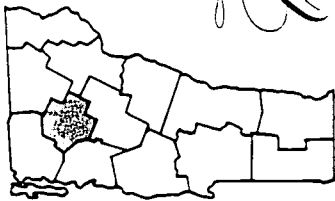
1981 = Average of 1980 - 1982
1991 = Average of 1990 - 1992
1989
1989-1993

New Families at Risk: First births to single teenage mothers with less than 12 years of schooling.

| | 1989 | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 |
|----------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Child poverty rate | 12.6 | 13.9 | 15.5 | 15.9 | 16.6 |
| Vermont child poverty rate | 11.5 | 13.0 | 14.9 | 16.0 | 16.1 |

| | Number 1990 | Rate 1990 | Number 1993 | Rate 1993 | Percent change in rate 1990-1993 | Vermont Rate 1990 | Vermont Rate 1993 | Percent change in rate 1990-1993 |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|-------------|-----------|----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| Children dependent on ANFC | 1,434 | 10.8 | 1,731 | 12.9 | 19.4 | 9.8 | 12.5 | 27.6 |
| Children dependent on food stamps | 1,811 | 13.7 | 2,570 | 19.2 | 40.1 | 12.0 | 18.0 | 50.0 |
| Children receiving free and reduced lunches | 1,957 ³ | 21.7 ³ | 2,699 | 28.4 | 30.9 ⁴ | 18.6 ³ | 24.6 | 32.3 ⁴ |

Vermont Kids Count



Lamoille County

Creating the northernmost boundaries of the Central Vermont Region, Lamoille County is among the region's most rural 476 square miles of scenic and hilly terrain which boasts Vermont's highest peak, Mt. Mansfield.

Not surprisingly, Lamoille County is home to Stowe, one of the first ski resort areas in the U.S. In 1940 the first chair lift was constructed. Long before Mt. Mansfield had resort status, the mountain region was used to smuggle cattle to Canada during the 1808-1809 trade embargo with England. Today, an important resort area still bears the name Smuggler's Notch.

Data Notes: Increases took place in all custody indicators though Lamoille's figures are still below the state average. Statewide negative economic trends were especially evident here.

| Population | | | |
|--|--------|--------|--------------------------|
| | 1980 | 1990 | 1993 |
| Children under 18 | 4,830 | 5,072 | 5,121 |
| Total population | 16,767 | 19,735 | 20,612 |
| Children as a percentage of total population | 28.8 | 25.7 | 24.8 |
| | | | Percent change 1990-1993 |
| | | | 1.0 |
| | | | 4.4 |

Children in Custody

| | 1989 ¹ | 1991 ² | Percent change | Vermont 1989 ¹ | Vermont 1991 ² |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Abuse/Neglect Custody Cases | 30 | 37 | | | |
| Average daily number | 58 | 72 | 24.1 | 57 | 81 |
| Average daily rate | | | | | |
| Delinquent Custody Cases | 4 | 10 | | | |
| Average daily number | 8 | 20 | 150.0 | 15 | 23 |
| Average daily rate | | | | | |
| Unmanageable Custody Cases | 10 | 14 | | | |
| Average daily number | 19 | 26 | 36.8 | 20 | 33 |
| Average daily rate | | | | | |

¹ Average 1989-1990 ² Average 1991-1992

Child Abuse and Neglect

Confirmed reports of child abuse by type

| | 1985 ¹ | 1991 ² | Percent change | Vermont 1985 ¹ | Vermont 1991 ² |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Child Abuse and Neglect | | | | | |
| Total Victims | 35 | 32 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 71 | 63 | -11.3 | 103 | 102 |
| Physical Abuse | | | | | |
| Physical Abuse Victims | 13 | 12 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 26 | 23 | -11.5 | 46 | 29 |
| Sexual Abuse | | | | | |
| Sexual Abuse Victims | 18 | 17 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 36 | 33 | -8.3 | 40 | 54 |
| Neglect | | | | | |
| Neglect Victims | 4 | 7 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 8 | 13 | 62.5 | 14 | 28 |

¹ Average 1984-1986 ² Average 1990-1992

Sherburne County



Family Health

| | Number 1981 ¹ | Rate 1981 ¹ | Number 1991 ² | Rate 1991 ² | Percent change in rate 1981-1991 | Vermont Rate 1981 ¹ | Vermont Rate 1991 ² |
|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Early prenatal care | 210 | 75.9 | 239 | 85.2 | 12.3 | 79.1 | 83.4 |
| Low birthweight babies | 20 | 7.1 | 12 | 4.2 | -40.8 | 6.0 | 5.5 |
| Infant mortality | 2 | 7.2 | 2 | 8.0 | 11.1 | 9.4 | 6.4 |
| Births to single teens | 16 | 5.6 | 20 | 6.7 | 19.6 | 5.6 | 6.3 |
| Births to all teens | 39 | 14.1 | 30 | 10.2 | -27.7 | 12.1 | 8.8 |
| Child deaths | 2 | 45.2 | <1 | 16.3 | -63.9 | 43.5 | 23.7 |
| Teen violent deaths | 4 | 244.2 | <1 | 22.3 | -90.9 | 78.5 | 58.6 |
| New families at risk | 10 | 7.9 | 11 | 9.6 | 21.5 | 7.1 | 8.1 |

Rates for most of the indicators listed in these tables are expressed as percentages. Rates for some of the indicators, however, are presented using different metrics because percentages would show very small values. Rates for KIDS COUNT indicators not expressed as percentages are presented below:

Abuse/Neglect custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
 Delinquent custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
 Unmanageable custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.

Infant mortality = Infant deaths per 1,000 live births.
 Child deaths = Deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14.
 Teen violent deaths = Deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19.

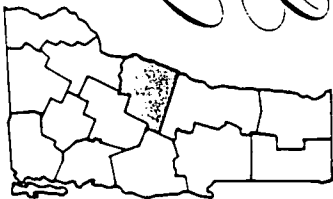
Economic Security

| | 1989 | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | Vermont Rate 1990 | Vermont Rate 1993 | Percent change in rate 1990-1993 |
|---|------------------|-------------------|-------|------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| Child poverty rate | 12.0 | 17.2 | 17.8 | 19.0 | 19.6 | | | |
| Vermont child poverty rate | 11.5 | 13.0 | 14.9 | 16.0 | 16.1 | | | |
| Children dependent on ANFC | 451 | 8.9 | 547 | 10.7 | 20.2 | 9.8 | 12.5 | 27.6 |
| Children dependent on food stamps | 625 | 12.3 | 912 | 17.8 | 44.7 | 12.0 | 18.0 | 50.0 |
| Children receiving free and reduced lunches | 670 ³ | 19.9 ³ | 1,035 | 28.0 | 40.7 ⁴ | 18.6 ³ | 24.6 | 32.3 ⁴ |

Some of the years listed in the tables represent an average of three years.
 '1981 = Average of 1980 - 1982
 '1991 = Average of 1990 - 1992
 '1989
 '1989-1993

New Families at Risk:
 First births to single teenage mothers with less than 12 years of schooling.

Vermont Kids Count



Orange County

Orange County is the only county in the Central Region to border New Hampshire. As part of a region known for its high elevations, this county also provides the region's lowland which is found along the scenic Connecticut River, its eastern border.

Some of Orange County's many historic sites include a rare, floating bridge in Brookfield, the Homestead of Senator Justin Smith Morrill who authored the Acts establishing Land Grant Colleges in the United States and the hometown of Samuel Morey, inventor of steam and gas engines.

Data Notes: Births to all teens shows little change in Orange County and remains high, well above the state average. Bucking the Vermont trend of slower growth in child population, Orange County's child population actually increased substantially between 1990 and 1993.

| Population | | | |
|--|--------|--------|--------------------------|
| | 1980 | 1990 | 1993 |
| Children under 18 | 6,845 | 7,242 | 7,432 |
| Total population | 22,739 | 26,149 | 26,180 |
| Children as a percentage of total population | 30.1 | 27.7 | 28.4 |
| | | | Percent change 1990-1993 |
| | | | 2.6 |
| | | | 0.1 |

Children in Custody

| | 1989 ¹ | 1991 ² | Percent change | Vermont 1989 ¹ | Vermont 1991 ² |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Abuse/Neglect Custody Cases | 33 | 37 | | | |
| Average daily number | 45 | 51 | 13.3 | 57 | 81 |
| Average daily rate | | | | | |
| Delinquent Custody Cases | 4 | 9 | | | |
| Average daily number | 6 | 12 | 100.0 | 15 | 23 |
| Average daily rate | | | | | |
| Unmanageable Custody Cases | 4 | 10 | | | |
| Average daily number | 6 | 13 | 116.7 | 20 | 33 |
| Average daily rate | | | | | |

¹ Average 1989-1990 ² Average 1991-1992

Child Abuse and Neglect

Confirmed reports of child abuse by type

| | 1985 ¹ | 1991 ² | Percent change | Vermont 1985 ¹ | Vermont 1991 ² |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Child Abuse and Neglect | | | | | |
| Total Victims | 80 | 57 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 115 | 78 | -32.2 | 103 | 102 |
| Physical Abuse | | | | | |
| Physical Abuse Victims | 37 | 18 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 54 | 25 | -53.7 | 46 | 29 |
| Sexual Abuse | | | | | |
| Sexual Abuse Victims | 35 | 32 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 51 | 44 | -13.7 | 40 | 54 |
| Neglect | | | | | |
| Neglect Victims | 6 | 12 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 9 | 17 | 88.9 | 14 | 28 |

¹ Average 1984-1986 ² Average 1990-1992



Orange County

Family Health

| | Number 1981 ¹ | Rate 1981 ¹ | Number 1991 ² | Rate 1991 ² | Percent change in rate 1981-1991 | Vermont Rate 1981 ¹ | Vermont Rate 1991 ² |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Early prenatal care | 296 | 80.4 | 303 | 84.7 | 5.3 | 79.1 | 83.4 |
| Low birthweight babies | 20 | 5.4 | 16 | 4.3 | -20.4 | 6.0 | 5.5 |
| Infant mortality | 2 | 6.2 | 1 | 3.6 | -41.9 | 9.4 | 6.4 |
| Births to single teens | 18 | 4.8 | 29 | 7.8 | 62.5 | 5.6 | 6.3 |
| Births to all teens | 43 | 11.6 | 42 | 11.2 | -3.4 | 12.1 | 8.8 |
| Child deaths | 2 | 38.6 | 1 | 17.4 | -54.9 | 43.5 | 23.7 |
| Teen violent deaths | 4 | 174.4 | <1 | 18.2 | -89.6 | 78.5 | 58.6 |
| New families at risk | 11 | 7.1 | 13 | 8.9 | 25.4 | 7.1 | 8.1 |

Notes for most of the indicators listed in these tables are expressed as percentages. Rates for some of the indicators, however, are presented using different metrics because percentages would show very small values. Rates for KIDS COUNT indicators not expressed as percentages are presented below:

Abuse/Neglect custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
Delinquent custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
Inmanageable custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.

Infant mortality = Infant deaths per 1,000 live births.
Child deaths = Deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14.
Teen violent deaths = Deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19.

Economic Security

| | 1989 | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | Vermont Rate 1990 | Vermont Rate 1993 | Percent change in rate 1990-1993 | Percent change in rate 1990-1993 |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|-------|------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--|--|
| Child poverty rate | 11.2 | 14.1 | 17.0 | 17.7 | 17.8 | | | | |
| Vermont child poverty rate | 11.5 | 13.0 | 14.9 | 16.0 | 16.1 | | | | |
| Children dependent on ANFC | 607 | 8.4 | 863 | 11.6 | 38.1 | 9.8 | 12.5 | 27.6 | |
| Children dependent on food stamps | 815 | 11.2 | 1,358 | 18.3 | 63.4 | 12.0 | 18.0 | 50.0 | |
| Children receiving free and reduced lunches | 1,021 ³ | 22.6 ³ | 1,698 | 30.8 | 36.3 ⁴ | 18.6 ³ | 24.6 | 32.3 ⁴ | |

Some of the years listed in the tables represent an average of three years.

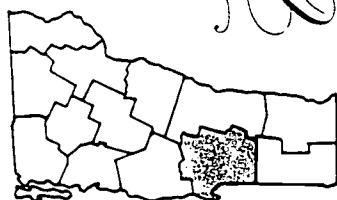
¹1981 = Average of 1980 - 1982
²1991 = Average of 1990 - 1992
³1989
⁴1989-1993

*New Families at Risk:
 First births to single teenage mothers with less than 12 years of schooling.*

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Vermont Kids Count



Rutland County

Rutland is the Southwest Region's northernmost county. Over 5,600 acres of Green Mountain National Forest keep company with Lake Bomoseen, the state's largest lake located entirely within the borders of Vermont.

Rutland County shares in the Southwest Region's early history with the only Revolutionary War battle taking place in Hubbardton on July 7, 1777. Only 13 years later, the first U.S. patent was issued to Samuel Hopkins of Pittsford. This county also boasts the birthplace of this country's first state symphony orchestra.

Data Notes: Custody indicators show high rates of delinquent and unmanageable children cases in Rutland County. Although there is an increase in the county's rate of child neglect, it is still one of lowest in the state.

| Population | | | |
|--|--------|--------|--------------------------|
| | 1980 | 1990 | 1993 |
| Children under 18 | 15,825 | 14,993 | 14,932 |
| Total population | 58,347 | 62,142 | 62,849 |
| Children as a percentage of total population | 27.1 | 24.1 | 23.8 |
| | | | Percent change 1990-1993 |
| | | | -0.4 |
| | | | 1.1 |

| Children in Custody | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| | 1989 ¹ | 1991 ² | Percent change | Vermont 1989 ¹ |
| Abuse/Neglect Custody Cases | 86 | 105 | | |
| Average daily number | 57 | 70 | 22.8 | 57 |
| Average daily rate | | | | 81 |
| Delinquent Custody Cases | 35 | 48 | | |
| Average daily number | 23 | 32 | 39.1 | 15 |
| Average daily rate | | | | 23 |
| Unmanageable Custody Cases | 49 | 72 | | |
| Average daily number | 33 | 48 | 45.5 | 20 |
| Average daily rate | | | | 33 |

¹ Average 1989-1990 ² Average 1991-1992

| Child Abuse and Neglect Confirmed reports of child abuse by type | | | | |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| | 1985 ¹ | 1991 ² | Percent change | Vermont 1985 ¹ |
| Child Abuse and Neglect Total Victims | 132 | 98 | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 87 | 65 | -25.3 | 103 |
| Physical Abuse | | | | |
| Physical Abuse Victims | 40 | 23 | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 26 | 15 | -42.3 | 46 |
| Sexual Abuse | | | | |
| Sexual Abuse Victims | 62 | 57 | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 40 | 38 | -5.0 | 40 |
| Neglect | | | | |
| Neglect Victims | 23 | 25 | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 15 | 17 | 13.3 | 14 |

¹ Average 1984-1986 ² Average 1990-1992



Rutland County

Family Health

Rates for most of the indicators listed in these tables are expressed as percentages. Rates for some of the indicators, however, are presented using different metrics because percentages would show very small values. Rates for KIDS COUNT indicators not expressed as percentages are presented below:

Abuse/Neglect custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
 Delinquent custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
 Unmanageable custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
 Infant mortality = Infant deaths per 1,000 live births.
 Child deaths = Deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14.
 Teen violent deaths = Deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19.

| | Number 1981 ¹ | Rate 1981 ¹ | Number 1991 ² | Rate 1991 ² | Percent change in rate 1981-1991 | Vermont Rate 1981 ¹ | Vermont Rate 1991 ² |
|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Early prenatal care | 627 | 76.0 | 621 | 78.1 | 2.8 | 79.1 | 83.4 |
| Low birthweight babies | 60 | 7.1 | 46 | 5.6 | -21.1 | 6.0 | 5.5 |
| Infant mortality | 8 | 9.2 | 5 | 5.7 | -38.0 | 9.4 | 6.4 |
| Births to single teens | 49 | 5.8 | 50 | 6.1 | 5.2 | 5.6 | 6.3 |
| Births to all teens | 100 | 11.9 | 69 | 8.4 | -29.4 | 12.1 | 8.8 |
| Child deaths | 6 | 51.0 | 2 | 19.6 | -61.6 | 43.5 | 23.7 |
| Teen violent deaths | 3 | 54.4 | 2 | 48.3 | -11.2 | 78.5 | 58.6 |
| New families at risk | 27 | 7.6 | 26 | 8.4 | 10.5 | 7.1 | 8.1 |

Economic Security

Some of the years listed in the tables represent an average of three years.

¹1981 = Average of 1980 - 1982
²1991 = Average of 1990 - 1992
³1989
⁴1989-1993

New Families at Risk:
 First births to single teenage mothers with less than 12 years of schooling.

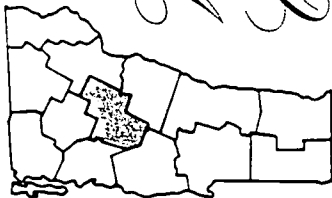
| | 1989 | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 |
|----------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Child poverty rate | 10.8 | 13.0 | 15.4 | 16.7 | 17.4 |
| Vermont child poverty rate | 11.5 | 13.0 | 14.9 | 16.0 | 16.1 |

| | Number 1990 | Rate 1990 | Number 1993 | Rate 1993 | Percent change in rate 1990-1993 | Vermont Rate 1990 | Vermont Rate 1993 | Percent change in rate 1990-1993 |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|-------------|-----------|----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| Children dependent on ANFC | 1,559 | 10.4 | 2,159 | 14.5 | 39.4 | 9.8 | 12.5 | 27.6 |
| Children dependent on food stamps | 1,871 | 12.4 | 3,043 | 20.4 | 64.5 | 12.0 | 18.0 | 50.0 |
| Children receiving free and reduced lunches | 1,636 ³ | 18.1 ³ | 2,503 | 24.5 | 35.4 ⁴ | 18.6 ³ | 24.6 | 32.3 ⁴ |

A10

A11

Vermont Kids Count



Washington County

The centermost of three counties comprising the Central Vermont Region, Washington County has its share of hills and peaks with almost 6,000 acres of National Forest Land.

This county shares Vermont's largest granite quarries of Barre with the nation's smallest state capital, Montpelier. Consuelo Northrup Bailey, the United State's first female Lieutenant Governor, took office here in the mid 1950's.

Data Notes: Washington County's child neglect rate increased between the mid-1980s and the early 1990s. Births to all teens decreased substantially here.

| Population | | | | |
|--|--------|--------|--------|--------------------------|
| | 1980 | 1990 | 1993 | Percent change 1990-1993 |
| Children under 18 | 14,642 | 13,940 | 13,929 | -0.1 |
| Total population | 52,393 | 54,928 | 55,938 | 1.8 |
| Children as a percentage of total population | 27.9 | 25.4 | 24.9 | |

| Children in Custody | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| | 1989 ¹ | 1991 ² | Percent change | Vermont 1989 ¹ | Vermont 1991 ² |
| Abuse/Neglect Custody Cases | 94 | 122 | | | |
| Average daily number | 67 | 86 | 28.4 | 57 | 81 |
| Average daily rate | | | | | |
| Delinquent Custody Cases | 23 | 33 | | | |
| Average daily number | 16 | 24 | 50.0 | 15 | 23 |
| Average daily rate | | | | | |
| Unmanageable Custody Cases | | | | | |
| Average daily number | 21 | 24 | | 20 | 33 |
| Average daily rate | 15 | 17 | 13.3 | | |

¹ Average 1989-1990

² Average 1991-1992

| Child Abuse and Neglect | | | | | |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Confirmed reports of child abuse by type | | | | | |
| | 1985 ¹ | 1991 ² | Percent change | Vermont 1985 ¹ | Vermont 1991 ² |
| Child Abuse and Neglect Total Victims | 178 | 159 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 126 | 113 | -10.3 | 103 | 102 |
| Physical Abuse | | | | | |
| Physical Abuse Victims | 89 | 41 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 63 | 29 | -54.0 | 46 | 29 |
| Sexual Abuse | | | | | |
| Sexual Abuse Victims | 74 | 86 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 52 | 61 | 17.3 | 40 | 54 |
| Neglect | | | | | |
| Neglect Victims | 20 | 51 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 14 | 37 | 164.3 | 14 | 28 |

¹ Average 1984-1986

² Average 1990-1992

Washington County

Family Health

| | Number 1981 ¹ | Rate 1981 ¹ | Number 1991 ² | Rate 1991 ² | Percent change in rate 1981-1991 | Vermont Rate 1981 ¹ | Vermont Rate 1991 ² |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Early prenatal care | 653 | 82.6 | 624 | 87.2 | 5.6 | 79.1 | 83.4 |
| Low birthweight babies | 50 | 6.3 | 45 | 6.1 | -3.2 | 6.0 | 5.5 |
| Infant mortality | 9 | 10.9 | 7 | 9.5 | -12.8 | 9.4 | 6.4 |
| Births to single teens | 42 | 5.3 | 39 | 5.3 | 0 | 5.6 | 6.3 |
| Births to all teens | 98 | 12.3 | 57 | 7.7 | -37.4 | 12.1 | 8.8 |
| Child deaths | 5 | 45.7 | 2 | 20.9 | -54.3 | 43.5 | 23.7 |
| Teen violent deaths | 2 | 40.9 | 3 | 74.4 | 81.9 | 78.5 | 58.6 |
| New families at risk | 25 | 7.1 | 19 | 6.3 | -11.3 | 7.1 | 8.1 |

Rates for most of the indicators listed in these tables are expressed as percentages. Rates for some of the indicators, however, are presented using different metrics because percentages would show very small values. Rates for KIDS COUNT indicators not expressed as percentages are presented below:

Abuse/Neglect custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
 Delinquent custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
 Unmanageable custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
 Infant mortality = Infant deaths per 1,000 live births.
 Child deaths = Deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14.
 Teen violent deaths = Deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19.

Economic Security

| | 1989 | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | Vermont Rate 1990 | Vermont Rate 1993 | Percent change in rate 1990-1993 |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|-------|------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Child poverty rate | 9.9 | 11.9 | 14.2 | 15.3 | 15.2 | 9.8 | 12.5 | 27.6 |
| Vermont child poverty rate | 11.5 | 13.0 | 14.9 | 16.0 | 16.1 | 12.0 | 18.0 | 50.0 |
| Children dependent on ANFC | 1,255 | 9.0 | 1,664 | 11.9 | 32.2 | 18.6 ³ | 24.6 | 32.3 ⁴ |
| Children dependent on food stamps | 1,542 | 11.0 | 2,294 | 16.5 | 50.0 | | | |
| Children receiving free and reduced lunches | 1,610 ³ | 17.4 ³ | 2,010 | 20.8 | 19.5 ⁴ | | | |

Some of the years listed in the tables represent an average of three years.

¹1981 = Average of 1980 - 1982
²1991 = Average of 1990 - 1992
³1989
⁴1989-1993

New Families at Risk:
 First births to single teenage mothers with less than 12 years of schooling.

Vermont Kids Count



Windham County

Bordered on the west by rolling, hilly land called the Vermont Piedmont, and on the east by the Connecticut River and south by Massachusetts, Windham County is home to about 31,000 acres of the Green Mountain National Forest.

Windham County shares Vermont's history of progressive thought and activities. Windham County was home to Clarina Howard Nichols, one of the nation's first woman newspaper editors and activists. She was also the first woman to address the Vermont Legislature, on the topic of Women's Suffrage. Her effort spearheaded legislation passed which granted Vermont's first property rights guaranteed to married women.

Data Notes: *In line with statewide trends, the percent of births to teens dropped substantially between the early 1980s and the early 1990s. However all four child abuse and neglect indicators remain above the state average.*

| Population | | | |
|--|--------|--------|--------------------------|
| | 1980 | 1990 | 1993 |
| Children under 18 | 10,055 | 10,630 | 10,646 |
| Total population | 36,933 | 41,588 | 42,426 |
| Children as a percentage of total population | 27.2 | 25.6 | 25.1 |
| | | | Percent change 1990-1993 |
| | | | 0.2 |
| | | | 2.0 |

Children in Custody

| | 1989 ¹ | 1991 ² | Percent change | Vermont 1989 ¹ | Vermont 1991 ² |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Abuse/Neglect Custody Cases | 43 | 59 | | | |
| Average daily number | 40 | 55 | 37.5 | 57 | 81 |
| Average daily rate | | | | | |
| Delinquent Custody Cases | 19 | 32 | | | |
| Average daily number | 18 | 30 | 66.7 | 15 | 23 |
| Average daily rate | | | | | |
| Unmanageable Custody Cases | 15 | 25 | | | |
| Average daily number | 14 | 23 | 64.3 | 20 | 33 |
| Average daily rate | | | | | |

¹ Average 1989-1990

² Average 1991-1992

Child Abuse and Neglect
Confirmed reports of child abuse by type

| | 1985 ¹ | 1991 ² | Percent change | Vermont 1985 ¹ | Vermont 1991 ² |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Child Abuse and Neglect Total Victims | 165 | 163 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 161 | 152 | -5.6 | 103 | 102 |
| Physical Abuse | | | | | |
| Physical Abuse Victims | 75 | 55 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 73 | 52 | -28.8 | 46 | 29 |
| Sexual Abuse | | | | | |
| Sexual Abuse Victims | 58 | 65 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 57 | 61 | 7.0 | 40 | 54 |
| Neglect | | | | | |
| Neglect Victims | 30 | 58 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 29 | 54 | 86.2 | 14 | 28 |

¹ Average 1984-1986

² Average 1990-1992



Windham County

Family Health

| | Number 1981 ¹ | Rate 1981 ¹ | Number 1991 ² | Rate 1991 ² | Percent change in rate 1981-1991 | Vermont Rate 1981 ¹ | Vermont Rate 1991 ² |
|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Early prenatal care | 451 | 75.2 | 452 | 80.7 | 7.3 | 79.1 | 83.4 |
| Low birthweight babies | 36 | 6.0 | 32 | 5.4 | -10.0 | 6.0 | 5.5 |
| Infant mortality | 6 | 9.9 | 3 | 4.5 | -54.5 | 9.4 | 6.4 |
| Births to single teens | 34 | 5.7 | 39 | 6.5 | 14.0 | 5.6 | 6.3 |
| Births to all teens | 79 | 13.0 | 51 | 8.6 | -33.8 | 12.1 | 8.8 |
| Child deaths | 3 | 39.5 | 2 | 23.4 | -40.8 | 43.5 | 23.7 |
| Teen violent deaths | 4 | 143.6 | 3 | 109.5 | -23.7 | 78.5 | 58.6 |
| New families at risk | 18 | 6.6 | 19 | 8.0 | 21.2 | 7.1 | 8.1 |

Rates for most of the indicators listed in these tables are expressed as percentages. Rates for some of the indicators, however, are presented using different metrics because percentages would show very small values. Rates for KIDS COUNT indicators not expressed as percentages are presented below:

Abuse/Neglect custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
 Delinquent custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
 Unmanageable custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.

Infant mortality = Infant deaths per 1,000 live births.
 Child deaths = Deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14.
 Teen violent deaths = Deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19.

Economic Security

| | 1989 | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | Vermont Rate 1990 | Vermont Rate 1993 | Percent change in rate 1990-1993 | Percent change in rate 1990-1993 |
|---|------------------|-------------------|-------|------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Child poverty rate | 12.2 | 14.4 | 16.2 | 17.4 | 16.9 | | | | |
| Vermont child poverty rate | 11.5 | 13.0 | 14.9 | 16.0 | 16.1 | | | | |
| Children dependent on ANFC | 1,188 | 11.1 | 1,391 | 13.1 | 18.0 | 9.8 | 12.5 | 27.6 | |
| Children dependent on food stamps | 1,441 | 13.5 | 1,971 | 18.5 | 37.0 | 12.0 | 18.0 | 50.0 | |
| Children receiving free and reduced lunches | 831 ³ | 23.5 ³ | 1,324 | 25.1 | 6.8 ⁴ | 18.6 ³ | 24.6 | 32.3 ⁴ | |

Some of the years listed in the tables represent an average of three years.

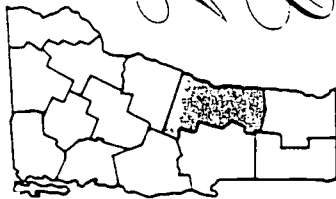
¹1981 = Average of 1980 - 1982
²1991 = Average of 1990 - 1992
³1989
⁴1989-1993

New Families at Risk:
 First births to single teenage mothers with less than 12 years of schooling.

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Vermont Kids Count



Windsor County

One of the two counties which comprise the southeast region, Windsor County is nestled between the Green Mountains to the west and the scenic Connecticut River to the east. More than 21,000 acres of county land are a part of the Green Mountain National Forest.

In 1777 delegates met in a Windsor tavern to adopt Vermont's Constitution, supporting Windsor's claim to being the "birthplace of Vermont." Vermont's Constitution was the first one of the states to prohibit slavery and establish universal suffrage for men. In addition, many inventions were spawned here and Springfield became world renowned for the skills of its machine tool and manufacturing industry workers.

Data Notes: Rates of sexual abuse and neglect increased substantially between the mid-1980s and early 1990s. While Windsor's rate of physical abuse dropped during that period, it remains above the state average.

| Population | | | |
|--|--------|--------|--------------------------|
| | 1980 | 1990 | 1993 |
| Children under 18 | 13,893 | 13,393 | 13,416 |
| Total population | 51,030 | 54,055 | 53,328 |
| Children as a percentage of total population | 27.2 | 24.8 | 25.2 |
| | | | Percent change 1990-1993 |
| | | | 0.2 |
| | | | -1.3 |

Children in Custody

| | 1989 ¹ | 1991 ² | Percent change | Vermont 1989 ¹ | Vermont 1991 ² |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Abuse/Neglect Custody Cases | 69 | 105 | | | |
| Average daily number | 52 | 78 | 50.0 | 57 | 81 |
| Delinquent Custody Cases | 14 | 15 | | | |
| Average daily number | 11 | 11 | 0 | 15 | 23 |
| Unmanageable Custody Cases | 27 | 35 | | | |
| Average daily number | 20 | 26 | 30.0 | 20 | 33 |
| ¹ Average 1989-1990 ² Average 1991-1992 | | | | | |

Child Abuse and Neglect
Confirmed reports of child abuse by type

| | 1985 ¹ | 1991 ² | Percent change | Vermont 1985 ¹ | Vermont 1991 ² |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Child Abuse and Neglect Total Victims | 176 | 175 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 131 | 130 | -0.8 | 103 | 102 |
| Physical Abuse Physical Abuse Victims | 94 | 51 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 69 | 38 | -44.9 | 46 | 29 |
| Sexual Abuse Sexual Abuse Victims | 50 | 85 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 37 | 64 | 73.0 | 40 | 54 |
| Neglect Neglect Victims | 15 | 50 | | | |
| Rate per 10,000 children under 18 | 11 | 38 | 245.5 | 14 | 28 |
| ¹ Average 1984-1986 ² Average 1990-1992 | | | | | |



Windham County

Family Health

| | Number 1981 ¹ | Rate 1981 ¹ | Number 1991 ² | Rate 1991 ² | Percent change in rate 1981-1991 | Vermont Rate 1981 ¹ | Vermont Rate 1991 ² |
|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Early prenatal care | 584 | 78.8 | 538 | 80.9 | 2.7 | 79.1 | 83.4 |
| Low birthweight babies | 41 | 5.4 | 42 | 6.2 | 14.8 | 6.0 | 5.5 |
| Infant mortality | 7 | 8.9 | 6 | 8.3 | -6.7 | 9.4 | 6.4 |
| Births to single teens | 51 | 6.8 | 42 | 6.1 | -10.3 | 5.6 | 6.3 |
| Births to all teens | 93 | 12.4 | 58 | 8.5 | -31.5 | 12.1 | 8.8 |
| Child deaths | 5 | 51.7 | 3 | 28.0 | -45.8 | 43.5 | 23.7 |
| Teen violent deaths | 3 | 72.8 | 3 | 89.8 | 23.4 | 78.5 | 58.6 |
| New families at risk | 25 | 7.2 | 18 | 6.8 | -5.6 | 7.1 | 8.1 |

Rates for most of the indicators listed in these tables are expressed as percentages. Rates for some of the indicators, however, are presented using different metrics because percentages would show very small values. Rates for KIDS COUNT indicators not expressed as percentages are presented below:

Abuse/Neglect custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
 Delinquent custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
 Inmanageable custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
 Infant mortality = Infant deaths per 1,000 live births.
 Child deaths = Deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14.
 Teen violent deaths = Deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19.

Economic Security

| | 1989 | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | Vermont Rate 1990 | Vermont Rate 1993 | Percent change in rate 1990-1993 |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|-------|------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| Child poverty rate | 10.9 | 11.2 | 14.1 | 15.4 | 15.5 | 9.8 | 12.5 | 27.6 |
| Vermont child poverty rate | 11.5 | 13.0 | 14.9 | 16.0 | 16.1 | 12.0 | 18.0 | 50.0 |
| Children dependent on ANFC | 1,142 | 8.5 | 1,657 | 12.4 | 45.9 | 18.6 ³ | 24.6 | 32.3 ⁴ |
| Children dependent on food stamps | 1,376 | 10.3 | 2,315 | 17.3 | 68.0 | | | |
| Children receiving free and reduced lunches | 1,432 ³ | 16.7 ³ | 2,057 | 22.0 | 31.7 ⁴ | | | |

Some of the years listed in the tables represent an average of three years.
¹1981 = Average of 1980 - 1982
²1991 = Average of 1990 - 1992
³1989
⁴1989-1993

New Families at Risk:
 First births to single teenage mothers with less than 12 years of schooling.

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Appendix

Notes on Statistics and Methodology

Abuse/Neglect Custody

Data on children in custody as a result of abuse and/or neglect were provided by the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Child population data were calculated from the 1990 Census of Population and Housing and Vermont Department of Health estimates between Census surveys. The number of abused and neglected children in custody represents an average daily number of custody cases averaged again for the years 1989-1990 and 1991-1992.

The Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services determines average daily custody cases by calculating the number of custody days (days between opening and closing dates) for each case, totaling the number of custody days for all cases, and dividing by the number of days in the year. Annual numbers of average daily custody cases were averaged by Vermont KIDS COUNT for the years 1989-1990 and 1991-1992. Average daily rates of abused and neglected children in custody were calculated by summing the average daily number of custody cases for the two time periods and dividing by the sum of child population totals for the corresponding years. The resulting proportion was then multiplied by 10,000 to show the rate of abused and neglected children in custody per 10,000 children under 18.

Births to Teens

Data on births to teens were obtained from vital statistics files from the Vermont Department of Health, Division of Public Health Analysis and Policy. Births to teens are defined as live births that occur to women under age 20. Data are reported by the mother's residence. The number of births to teens represents a three-year average. The percentage of all births that are to teens was calculated by summing the

number of births to teens over a three-year period, dividing by the total number of live births for that same period, and multiplying by 100.

Births to Single Teens

Data on births to single teens were obtained from vital statistics of the Vermont Department of Health, Division of Public Health Analysis and Policy. Births to single teens are defined as live births that occur to unmarried women under age 20. Data are reported by the mother's residence. The number of births to single teens is shown as a three-year average. The percentage of all births that are to single teens was calculated by summing the number of births to single teens over a three-year period, dividing by the total number of live births for that same period, and multiplying by 100.

Child Abuse

Child abuse data were provided by the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Child population data used in the calculation of rates are from the 1990 Census of Population and Housing and Health Department estimates for inter-censal years. Child abuse cases are defined as substantiated cases of physical abuse, sexual abuse, or neglect involving children under 18. The number of child abuse cases represents a three-year average. Child abuse rates were calculated using the total number of child abuse cases in a three-year period divided by the total of the child population for the corresponding years. The calculated proportion was multiplied by 10,000 to show the child abuse rate per 10,000 children under 18.

Child Deaths

Data on child deaths were taken from vital statistics of the Vermont Department of Health, Division of Public Health Analysis and Policy. Child population

data used in the calculation of rates were taken from both the decennial U.S. Census of Population and Housing (1980 and 1990) and Health Department population estimates for inter-censal years. Child deaths include deaths from all causes to children ages 1 to 14. The number of child deaths is shown as a three-year average. The total number of child deaths in a three-year period was divided by the sum of the child populations for the corresponding years. The calculated proportion was multiplied by 100,000 to show the child death rate per 100,000 children ages 1 through 14.

Child Population

Data on child population are from the Census of Population and Housing STF1 (Summary Tape File), 1980 and 1990 and Health Department population estimates for inter-censal years. The number of children is defined as the total resident population under 18. Children as a percent of the total population is the total resident population under 18 divided by the total resident population, multiplied by 100.

Child Poverty

In addition to the 1989 child poverty rates taken from the 1990 Census of Population and Housing, annual county-level estimates of child poverty have been calculated for the years 1990 through 1993. Statistical relationships between the number of children in poverty in 1989 and the number of ANFC and Food Stamp recipients for that year were determined using regression analysis techniques. The number of ANFC recipients and Food Stamp recipients variables were found to explain over 97 percent of the variance for the number of children in poverty. Average percent errors for the 12 counties' predicted values were very low, which indicated a



good fit for the 1989 model. Numbers of ANFC and Food Stamp recipients for the years 1990, 1991, 1992 and 1993 were then substituted to provide annual estimates of the number of children in poverty. These estimates were then divided by county-level estimates of child populations produced by the Vermont Department of Health. The resulting proportion was then multiplied by 100 percent to provide annual county-level estimates of the percent of children living in poverty.

Children in Households Receiving ANFC Benefits

Data for children in households receiving ANFC benefits were provided by the Vermont Department of Social Welfare. Child population data were used in the denominator for rate calculations, and were obtained from the Census of Population and Housing for 1990 and Health Department estimates for 1993. The number of children in households receiving ANFC benefits refers to "snapshots" of April 1990 and April 1993. The percent of children in households receiving ANFC Benefits is calculated as the number of children in these households divided by the total child population and multiplied by 100.

Children in Households Receiving Food Stamp Benefits

Same as above, but substitute Food Stamps for ANFC.

Children in Single-Parent Families

Data for children in single-parent families are from the Census of Population and Housing STF1, 1980 and 1990. Children in single-parent families were counted in 1980 and 1990, and include all related children under 18 who live in families headed by a person without a spouse present in the home. The percent of children in single-parent families

represents the number of children in single-parent families divided by the total resident population under 18, multiplied by 100.

Delinquent Children in Custody

Data on delinquent children in custody were provided by the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Child population data used in rate calculations are from the 1990 Census of Population and Housing and Vermont Department of Health estimates between Census surveys. The number of delinquent children in custody represents an average daily number of custody cases averaged again for the years 1989-1990 and 1991-1992. The Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services determines average daily custody cases by calculating the number of custody days (days between opening and closing dates) for each case, summing custody days for all cases, and dividing by the number of days in the year. Annual numbers of average daily custody cases were averaged for the years 1989-1990 and 1991-1992. Average daily rates of delinquent children in custody were calculated by adding the average daily number of custody cases for the two time periods and dividing by the sum of child population totals for the corresponding years. The resulting proportion was then multiplied by 10,000 to show the rate of delinquent children in custody per 10,000 children under 18.

Early Prenatal Care

Data on early prenatal care were obtained from Vermont Department of Health, Division of Public Health Analysis and Policy vital statistics files. Early prenatal care is defined as prenatal care received within the first trimester (three months) of pregnancy. Data are reported by the mother's residence. The number of mothers receiving early prenatal care is shown as a three-year average. The number of mothers who received early prenatal care was added for three-year periods and divided by the total number of live births for which prenatal care information was available. The resulting proportions were multiplied by 100 to indicate the percent of all

mothers that received early prenatal care.

Educational Attainment of Adults

Data for the number and percent of people 25 years of age or older who have completed high school or a General Equivalency Diploma are from the Census of Population and Housing STF3, 1980 and 1990. These indicators include the number and percent of people 25 years of age or older whose highest degree was a high school diploma or its equivalent, persons who attended college or professional school, and persons who received a college, university, or professional degree. Persons who reported completing the 12th grade but not receiving a diploma are not included.

High School Dropouts

High school dropout data were provided by the Vermont Department of Education. The numbers of dropouts are shown as three-year averages for the school years 1980-1981 through 1982-1983 and 1990-1991 through 1992-1993. The total number of high school dropouts was added for the three-year periods and divided by the three-year totals of adjusted enrollments (enrollments adjusted for transfers and deaths). The calculated proportion was multiplied by 100 to show the percent of high school students who dropped out during the specified periods.

Infant Mortality

Data for infant mortality were compiled using vital statistics files of the Vermont Department of Health, Division of Public Health Analysis and Policy. Infant deaths include all deaths of babies less than one year of age. The number of infant deaths is shown as a three-year average. Infant mortality rates were calculated using the total number of infant deaths for three-year periods divided by the total number of live births for the same periods and the calculated proportion was multiplied by 1,000 to show the number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births.

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Low-Birthweight Babies

Data for low-birthweight babies were compiled using Vermont Department of Health, Division of Public Health Analysis and Policy vital statistics files. Low birthweight was defined as less than 5 1/2 pounds (2500 grams), and data were reported by mother's residence. The number of low-birthweight babies represents a three-year average. The total numbers of low-birthweight babies born in the three-year periods were added and then divided by the total number of live births for which birthweight information was available in the corresponding time periods. The calculated proportions were multiplied by 100 to indicate the percent of all babies that were born of low birthweight.

Neglect

Neglect data were provided by the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Child population data used in rate calculations are from the 1990 Census of Population and Housing and Health Department estimates for inter-censal years. The number of neglect cases represents a three-year average. Neglect rates were calculated using the total number of neglect cases in three-year periods and divided by the sum of the child populations for the corresponding years. The calculated proportion was multiplied by 10,000 to show the neglect rate per 10,000 children under 18.

New Families at Risk

Data for this indicator were compiled from vital statistics files of the Vermont Department of Health, Division of Public Health Analysis and Policy. First births to unmarried women under the age of 20 with less than 12 years of schooling represent the formation of "high-risk" families. The number of first births with these three risk factors is expressed as a three-year average. The total number of first births with three risk factors was summed for the three-year periods and used

in the numerator for rate calculations. The total number of all first births for which complete data on mother's age, education, and marital status were available was used in the denominator. The calculated proportion was multiplied by 100 to show the percent of all new families formed at high socioeconomic risk.

Physical Abuse

Physical abuse data were provided by the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Child population data used in rate calculations are from the 1990 Census of Population and Housing and Health Department estimates for inter-censal years. The number of physical abuse cases represents a three-year average. Physical abuse rates were calculated using the total number of physical abuse cases in three-year periods divided by the sum of the child populations for the corresponding years. The calculated proportion was multiplied by 10,000 to show the physical abuse rate per 10,000 children under 18.

Racial and Ethnic Composition of Child Population

Data on race and ethnicity of children are from the Census of Population and Housing STF1, 1980 and 1990. Counts of children under 18 in 1980 and 1990 are shown for five Census Bureau race categories and Hispanic ethnicity. Because Hispanics comprise an ethnic group, they can be of any race. The sum of children in the five race categories equals the total number of children. Hispanic children are included within the race categories, but are also counted separately in the Hispanic ethnicity group.

Sexual Abuse

Sexual abuse data were provided by the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Child population data used in the calculation of rates are from the 1990 Census of Population and Housing and Health Department estimates for inter-censal years. The number of sexual abuse cases represents a three-year

average. Sexual abuse rates were calculated using the total number of sexual abuse cases in three-year periods divided by the sum of the child populations for the corresponding years. The calculated proportion was multiplied by 10,000 to show the sexual abuse rate per 10,000 children under 18.

Students Approved for Free and Reduced Lunches

Data on school meals programs were provided by the Vermont Department of Education, and represent the number and percent of public school students approved for free and reduced lunches in 1989 and 1993. Percentages were calculated by dividing the number of children approved for free and reduced lunches by total enrollment and multiplying by 100.

Teen Violent Deaths

Data for teen violent deaths were compiled from death record files provided by the Vermont Department of Health, Division of Public Health Analysis and Policy. Population data used in the calculation of rates were taken from the U.S. Census of Population and Housing for the years 1980 and 1990. Population data for inter-censal years were taken from population estimates provided by the Vermont Department of Health. Teen violent deaths are defined as deaths of teens ages 15 through 19 that occurred by accident, suicide, or homicide. The number of teen violent deaths is shown as a three-year average. The total numbers of teen violent deaths that occurred during three-year periods were added and divided by the total number of teens in the 15-19 age group for the corresponding years. The calculated proportion was multiplied by 100,000 to show the rate of violent deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15 through 19.

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Teens Not In School and Not in the Labor Force

Data for the number and percent of teens not in school and not in the labor force are from the Census of Population and Housing STF3, 1980 and 1990. Teens included in this indicator are those between the ages of 16 and 19 who were not enrolled in school (full or part-time); not in the labor force; and not in the Armed Forces. The percent of teens not in school and not in the labor force was calculated using the population ages 16 through 19 in the denominator and multiplying by 100.

Unmanageable Custody

Data on unmanageable children in custody were provided by the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Child population data used in rate calculations are from the 1990 Census of Population and Housing and Vermont Department of Health estimates between Census surveys. The number of unmanageable children in custody represents an average daily number of custody cases averaged again for the years 1989-1990 and 1991-1992. The Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services determines average daily custody cases by calculating the number of custody days (days between opening and closing dates) for each case, summing custody days for all cases, and dividing by the number of days in the year. Annual numbers of average daily custody cases were averaged for 1989-1990 and 1991-1992. Average daily rates of unmanageable children in custody were calculated by summing the average daily number of custody cases for the two time periods and dividing by the sum of child population totals for the corresponding years. The resulting proportion was then multiplied by 10,000 to show the rate of unmanageable children in custody per 10,000 children under 18.

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Working Mothers with Youngest Child Under Age 6

Data for the number and percent of women in the labor force with youngest child under age 6 are from the Census of Population and Housing STF3, 1980 and 1990. This indicator measures the number and percent of women ages 16 and over (regardless of marital status) who are in the paid labor force, and whose youngest child is under age 6.

Working Mothers with Youngest Child Ages 6-17

Data for the number and percent of women in the labor force with youngest child ages 6-17 are from the Census of Population and Housing STF3, 1980 and 1990. This indicator measures the number and percent of women ages 16 and over (regardless of marital status) who are in the paid labor force, and whose youngest child is between the ages of 6 and 17.

Vermont Kids Count Data Book Internet Access

An important objective of Vermont KIDS COUNT is to make data on child well-being easily accessible. Last year's KIDS COUNT data book was one of the first state data books made available on the Internet. This year's data book will also be available on the Internet, and can be found by accessing the University of Vermont's gopher server at gopher.uvm.edu. At the main menu, choose "Vermont Gophers and Information Resources." On the next screen, choose "Center for Rural Studies Community Development Information." Kids Count data books are provided along with several other sources of data on your local community. Kids Count data books can also be found at the Center for Rural Studies World Wide Web page

at <http://www.uvm.edu/~cdae/crs>.

Data files used to compile the information provided in the Kids Count data books are available to state government researchers and planners through an electronic database housed at the Vermont Department of Health. This database represents a significant movement toward increased collaboration and data sharing among the University of Vermont, state agencies, and the Vermont Children's Forum. Data are stored at the town level, and can therefore be easily aggregated to counties, supervisory unions, and program service areas.

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Historical information is based on material in *Vermont, An Illustrated History*, by John Duffy, produced in cooperation with the Vermont Historical Society, published by Windsor Publication Inc., Northridge, Ca., 1985; *Vermont Almanac and Government Guide*, published by The Vermont Republican Party, Montpelier, Vt 1992 and 1994; and *Vermont, Portrait of the Land and its People*, American Geographic Publishing, Helena MT, 1987.

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Endnotes

1. National Health/Education Consortium. "Eat to Learn, Learn to Eat: The Link Between Nutrition and Learning in Children." Washington, DC, June 1993.
2. Part of the Vermont Children's Day Care Unit's (CDCU) mission is "to promote a positive and developmentally appropriate child care environment for Vermont's children.... to ensure the health, safety and well being of children, and to encourage a working partnership among parents, providers and the CDCU...." Agency of Human Services. "Regulations For Family Day Care Homes and Children's Day Care Licensing Programs." April 1993
3. University of Colorado at Denver, University of California at Los Angeles, University of North Carolina, Yale University. "Cost, Quality and Child Outcomes in Child Care Centers, Executive Summary." Jan 1995
4. Schorr, L.B. *Within Our Reach, Breaking the Cycle of Disadvantage*. Doubleday, U.S.A. 1989
5. A Report by the Governor's Team on Dropout Prevention. "Dropouts in Vermont, A Charge for Action." March 1989.
6. Vermont Child Fatality Review Committee. "A Review of Deaths of Vermont Children." 1993 and 1994 Annual Reports.
7. Vermont SafeKids Coalition. "Safer Children: 2000 A Vermont Child Safety Plan. 1993. Primary prevention involves using all the necessary steps to prevent a disease, condition or poor outcome from occurring.
8. Vermont Department of Health. "Vital Statistics." 1990, 1991, 1992.
9. Vermont Children's Forum. "Injury Death Fact Sheet." 1994
10. In the 1990s the U.S. Public Health Service issued health objectives for the nation for the year 2000. Vermont issued the same goals for the year 2000.
11. The Future of Children. "Effectiveness of Health Care Services for Pregnant Infants and Children." Vol.2, No.2, U.S.A.
12. In 1992, 85 percent of Vermont women began prenatal care in the first trimester. However, only 71.5 percent of pregnant teens entered prenatal care in the first trimester. (VT Dept. of Health)
13. According to the National Governor's Association Task Force on Teen Pregnancy, babies born to teenagers and their very young mothers are the single largest group at risk of poverty. Report of the Governor's Task Force for Prevention of Teen Pregnancy. "A Better Future for Vermont Teens." 1987
14. In 1992, 85 percent of Vermont women began prenatal care in the first trimester. However, only 71.5 percent of pregnant teens entered prenatal care in the first trimester. (VT Dept. of Health)
15. Children's Defense Fund. "Preventing Children Having Children." Clearinghouse Paper NO 1
16. According to 33 VSA Chapter 55 Child in Need of Supervision (CHINS) means "a child who has been abandoned or abused by his parents, guardian or other custodian; or is without proper parental care or subsistence, education, medical, or other care necessary for his well-being; or is without or beyond the control of his parents, guardian or other custodian..... (unmanageable)." "Delinquent act" means an act designated a crime under the laws of the state.
17. Family Preservation and Support Initiative summary notes that:
 - a.) Current workload for social workers is 33% above capacity.
 - b.) The overall number of children in custody has risen 16% between 1990 and 1993.
 - c.) Current group residential services are fully utilized. Vermont Agency of Human Services.
 "Family Preservation Initiative." February 1994



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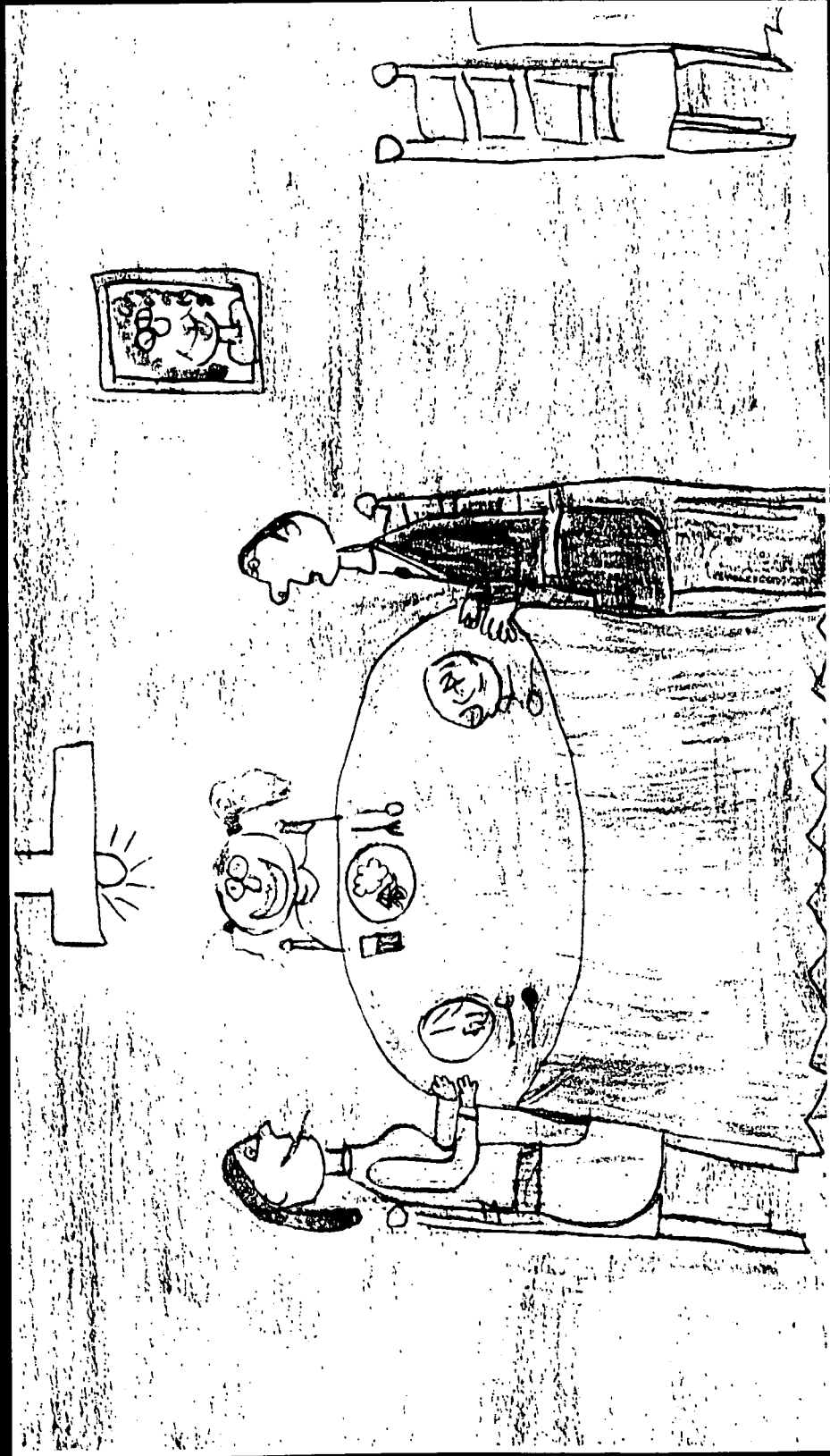
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I would make the world better for kids
by having the parents spend more time with
they're kids and let them know that they
love them.



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