

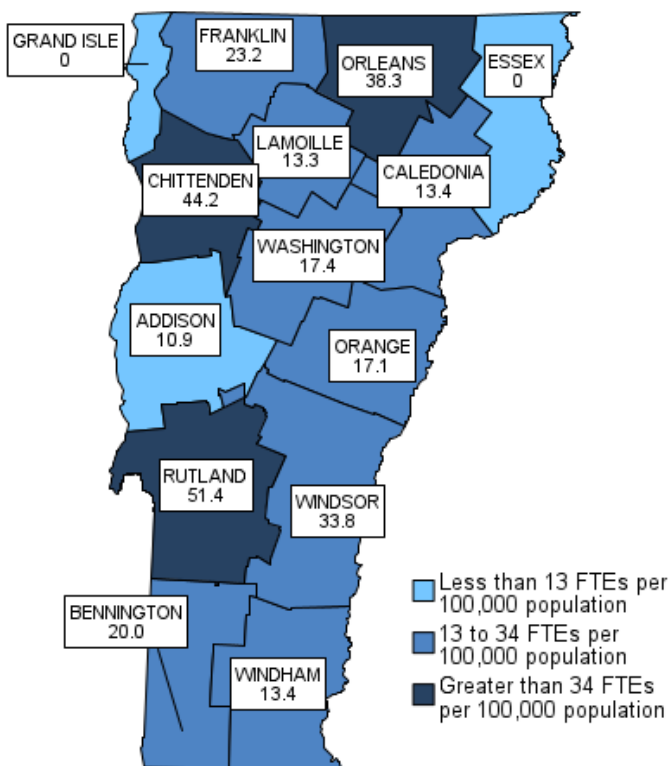
Overview

This Respiratory Therapists report is part of the Vermont Department of Health's health care provider data program, which is used to monitor and measure the supply of health care providers in Vermont over time.

Vermont professionals are relicensed every two years. Data for this report were obtained during the November 2022 relicensing period and represent a snapshot of the profession at that time.

Respiratory therapists care for patients who have trouble breathing—for example, from a chronic respiratory disease, such as asthma or emphysema, or from a short-term disease, such as pneumonia. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of respiratory therapists is projected to grow much faster than the average for all occupations. Growth in the middle-aged and elderly population will lead to an increased incidence of respiratory conditions.

Respiratory therapist FTEs per 100,000 population by county



In Brief

Workforce

Survey period: November 2022
Response Rate: 100%
Licenses renewed: 424
Active in VT: 268
VT Full-time Equivalents: 191.9

Demographics

% Female: 61%
Median Age: 45
% 60 or older: 16%

Education and Training

% Associate or bachelor's degree: 96%
% Educated in Vermont: 50%
% Educated in Northeast: 80%

Main Specialties

Adult Acute Care: 39%
General Practice: 27%

Current Employment

% Full-time at main site: 55%
% Planning to increase hours: 7%
% Planning to decrease hours: 5%

Geographic Distribution

(FTEs per 100,000 population)
Highest: 51.4 Rutland County
Lowest: No FTEs reported in Essex and Grand Isle Counties

Trends in Statewide FTEs

2018: 207.8
2020: 185.8
2022: 191.9

Workforce

- 424 respiratory therapists renewed their licenses during the survey period and 424 of these completed the workforce survey for a response rate of 100%.
- Out of the 424 respondents, 268 (63%) indicated they were actively practicing as respiratory therapists in Vermont.
- Of the 156 respondents reporting a non-active status, 118 (76%) indicated they were planning to start or resume working as a respiratory therapist in Vermont within the next 12 months.
- The remainder of this report is based on the 268 respiratory therapists who reported being actively working in Vermont.

Full Time Equivalent (FTEs)

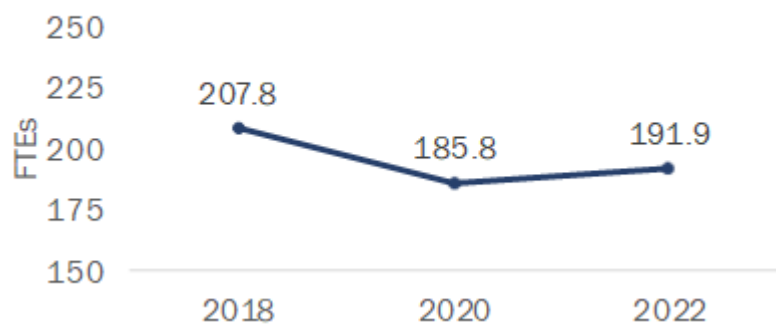
- 268 respiratory therapists provided 191.9 total FTEs.
- 28.0 FTEs, or 15% of total FTEs, were provided by 42 respiratory therapists aged 60 or older.
- 55% (146) of respiratory therapists worked 40 or more hours per week at their main site.

Average weekly hours – at main site	Number	Percent
Less than 20 hours	46	17%
20-39 hours	76	28%
40 hours or more	146	55%

Trends in Statewide FTEs

- Respiratory therapist FTEs decreased by 15.9 from 207.8 in 2018 to 191.9 in 2022.
- From 2020 to 2022, FTEs increased by 6.1.

Respiratory Therapist FTEs by Year



Demographics

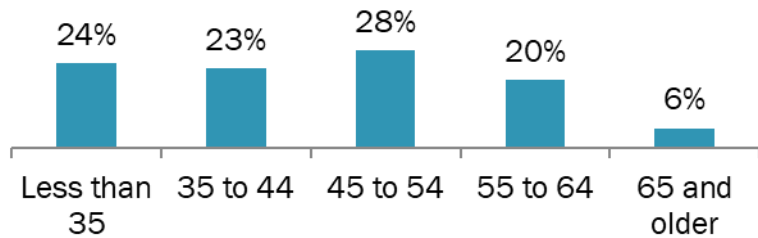
Gender

- 38% of the respiratory therapists in Vermont (102) were male.
- 61% (163) were female.
- 2 were another gender, and 1 person preferred not to answer.

Age

- The median age was 45.
- 25% of respiratory therapists were younger than 35.

Age Distribution of VT Respiratory Therapists



Race and Ethnicity

Respondents were asked to select their race and could select multiple responses or choose not to answer. Therefore, numbers may not equal the total number of podiatrists.

- 232 respiratory therapists were white (87%), 3% were Black, 0.7% were Asian, 2% were American Indian or Alaskan Native, <0.5% were Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, and 2% preferred to self-describe their race. 22 preferred not to answer or were missing data for race.
- 10 respiratory therapists (4%) were Hispanic, Latino/a, or of Spanish origin, and 238 (90%) were not. 20 respiratory therapists preferred not to answer the question or were missing data for ethnicity.

Education and Training

The 268 respiratory therapists active in Vermont in 2022 completed their degrees in the regions as seen in the table to the right

- 96% of respiratory therapists had earned an associate or bachelor's degree

Region where training/educ. occurred	Number	Percent
Vermont	116	50%
New Hampshire	29	12%
Northeast except VT & NH	41	18%
South	15	6%
Central	13	6%
West	19	8%
* Missing data from 35 individuals		

Respiratory Therapists 2022

Practice Characteristics

Practice Setting

- 79% (212) of respiratory therapists worked in a hospital setting.

Number of sites

- 93% (249) of respiratory therapists practiced at a single site.
- 7% (19) worked at two or more sites.

Specialties

- 39% (104) of respiratory therapists reported adult acute care as their specialty.

Main Setting	Number	Percent
Hospital	212	79%
Durable Medical Equipment	25	9%
Home Health	11	4%
Nursing home/extended care/ assisted living facility	9	3%
Other setting	11	4%

Specialty at main location	Number	Percent
Adult Acute Care	104	39%
General practice/ no specialty	73	27%
Home Care	23	9%
Diagnostic	11	4%
Sleep	11	4%
Continuing Care/ Rehab	9	3%
Neonatal/Pediatrics	8	3%
Education	7	3%
Long-Term care	5	2%
Other	17	6%

Current Experience and Future Plans

- The median years licensed as a respiratory therapist is 10 years.
- 18% of respiratory therapists have been licensed for over 20 years.
- 82% plan to continue working the same number of hours in the next 12 months.
- 7% plan to increase their hours.
- 5% plan to reduce their hours.

Years Licensed	Number	Percent
0 to 5 years	94	36%
6 to 10 years	46	18%
11 to 15 years	47	18%
16 to 20 years	28	11%
21 to 25 years	13	5%
Over 25 years	33	13%

* Missing data from 7 individuals

Key Takeaways

- Respiratory therapist FTEs have decreased, with a decrease of 15.9 FTEs between 2018 and 2022.
- Relative to population, respiratory therapists were most common in Rutland, Chittenden and Orleans counties.
- Respiratory therapists in Vermont were predominately female and relatively young, with a median age of 45.
- 80% of respiratory therapists received their training in the Northeast.

For more information, contact: AHS.VDHPhysicianCensus@vermont.gov

Appendix

Active Respiratory Therapist

A respiratory therapist who reported working in Vermont as a respiratory therapist (regardless of how many hours) is considered active.

Census

The census was taken during the biennial relicensing process which ended on November 30, 2022. The data include all licensed respiratory therapists except for new licensees enrolled less than three months before the renewal date (September – November 2022), as their license was valid until the next renewal date of November 30, 2024. Copy of census questions available upon request.

Full Time Equivalent (FTE)

Full time is defined as 40 or more working hours in Vermont per week, 48 weeks or more per year. Reporting more than 40 hours per week is defined as one FTE regardless of the number of hours over 40 per week worked.

Hours per Week

Average weekly hours are based on hours and weeks reported, adjusted to a full-time 48-week working year (hours * (weeks/48)). Thus, the average weekly hours for an individual working 40 hours a week for half the year (24 weeks) is 20.

Limitations

Accuracy of setting data is difficult to interpret since many respiratory therapists employed at the same location chose different settings to describe the same work location.

Main Practice, Site, Setting, and Specialty

The main practice, site, setting, or specialty refer to the practice in which the respiratory therapist worked the greatest number of annual hours.

Map Quartiles

For county maps, colors define quartiles. The lowest 25% of FTE equivalents to population ratio is displayed in the lightest color, the middle 50% in medium, and highest 25% in the darkest color.

Missing Data

Unless otherwise noted, missing data are excluded from tables. Thus, totals may vary from table to table.

Population Estimates

Population estimates are for July 2022 and were provided by the Department of Health.

Respiratory Therapists 2022

States

States were grouped into the following regions:

Northeast	Midwest	South		West
Connecticut	Illinois	Alabama	North Carolina	Alaska
Maine	Indiana	Arkansas	Oklahoma	Arizona
Massachusetts	Iowa	Delaware	South Carolina	California
New Hampshire	Kansas	Florida	Tennessee	Colorado
New Jersey	Michigan	Georgia	Texas	Hawaii
New York	Minnesota	Kentucky	Virginia	Idaho
Pennsylvania	Missouri	Louisiana	Washington DC	Montana
Rhode Island	Nebraska	Maryland	West Virginia	Nevada
Vermont	North Dakota	Mississippi		New Mexico
	Ohio			Oregon
	South Dakota			Utah
	Wisconsin			Washington
				Wyoming