

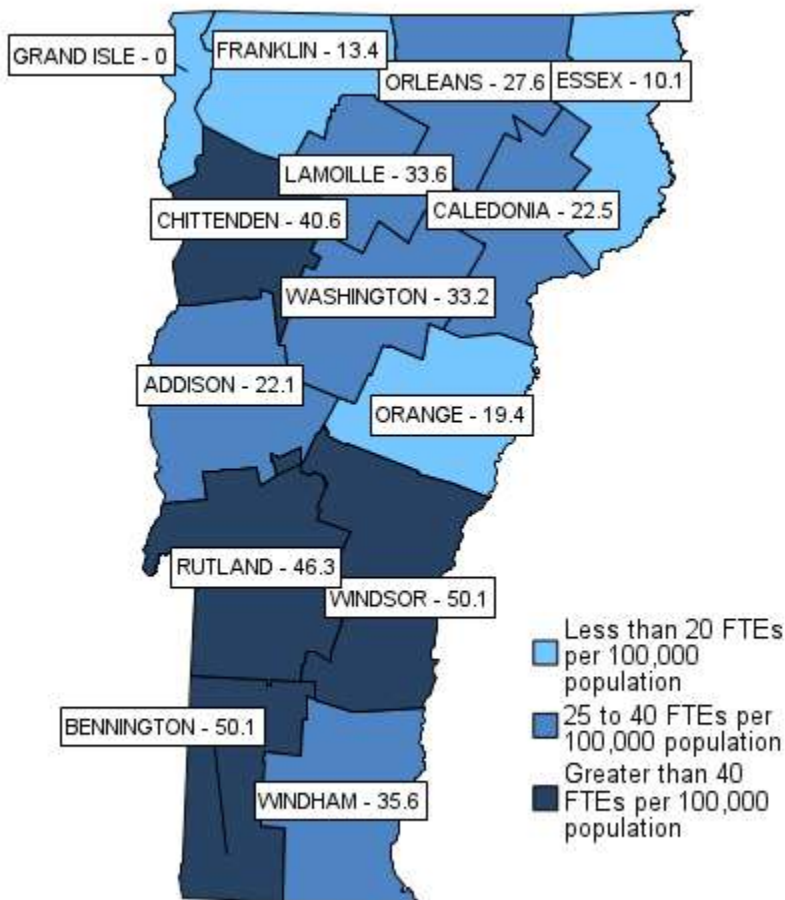
Overview

This Occupational Therapist census 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 May 2020 relicensing period and represent a snapshot of the profession at that time.

Occupational Therapists (OTs) promote independence, meaningful occupations, and patients' functional ability. They assist individuals in regaining skills as well as in increasing their abilities and decreasing limitations or disabilities. They recommend, as needed, adaptive equipment and training in its use, guidance, and education for family members and caregivers.

Full time equivalents per 100,000 population by county



In Brief

Workforce

Survey period: May 2020
 Response Rate: 99.8%
 Licenses renewed: 412
 Active in VT: 313
 Full-time Equivalents: 216.9

Demographics

% Female: 91.7%
 Median Age: 43
 % 60 or older: 14.4%

Education and Training

% educated in VT: 2.5%
 % educated in Northeast: 72.7%

Main Settings

School or college system: 25.9%
 Home health: 18.2%
 Skilled nursing facility: 14.1%

Current Employment

Full time hours at main site: 26.9%
 Full time hours (all sites): 28.1%
 Plans to reduce hours: 2.9%
 Plans to retire: 1.9%

Geographic Distribution

FTEs per 100,000 population:
 Statewide: 34.8
 Highest: 50.1, Bennington & Windsor Counties
 Lowest: 0, Grand Isle County

Trends in Statewide FTEs

2016: 193.5
 2018: 215.5
 2020: 216.9

Workforce

- 412 Occupational Therapists renewed their Vermont license in 2020.
- Data were obtained for 411 OTs, and 313 (76.2%) indicated that they were active and providing direct patient care in Vermont.
- Of the 98 that renewed but were not active in Vermont, 40 said they expect to resume Vermont activity within a year.
- The remainder of this report is based on the 313 OTs active in Vermont.

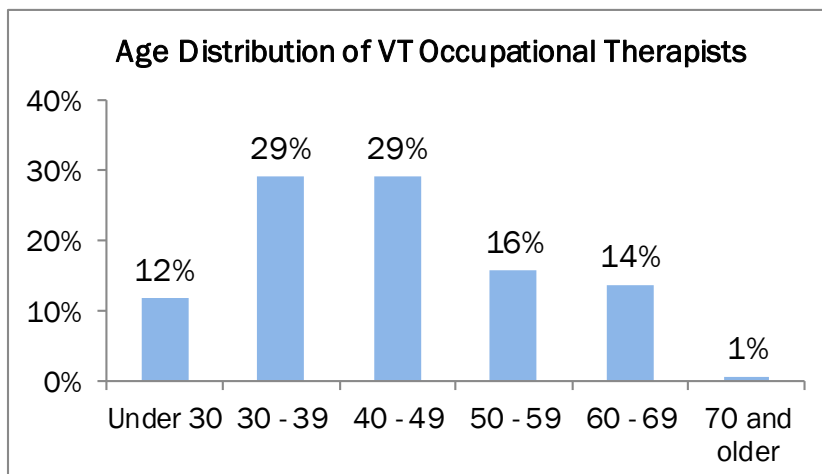
Demographics

Sex

- 91.7% of OTs in Vermont (287) were female.
- 8.3% (26) were male.

Age

- Half of OTs active in Vermont were younger than age 43.
- 58.2% of OTs were between the ages of 30 and 49.



Race and Ethnicity

- OTs were asked to select their race and could select multiple responses or choose not to answer, so numbers may not equal the total number of OTs.
- 302 OTs were white (96.5%), 3 were Asian (1.0%), 2 were Black (0.6%), and 1 was Native American or Alaska Native (0.3%). Two OTs selected another race that was not listed (0.6%), and 6 preferred not to answer or did not answer (1.9%).
- Five OTs (1.6%) were Hispanic, Latino/a, or of Spanish origin, and 301 OTs (96.2%) were not. Seven OTs preferred not to answer or were missing data for ethnicity (2.2%).

Education and Training

Most of the 313 OTs active in Vermont in 2020 completed their degrees in the Northeast (72.6%), as seen in the table.

Highest degree awarded in...	Number	Percent
Northeast	207	72.6%
South	26	9.1%
Midwest	21	7.4%
West	15	5.3%
Outside US	16	5.6%

Practice Characteristics

Practice setting

For OTs' main practice location, the most common settings were:

- a school or college system (25.9%)
- home health (18.2%)
- a skilled nursing facility (14.1%)
- an outpatient clinic (12.8%)
- a hospital or medical center (9.9%)

Number of sites

- 10.9% of OTs practiced at 2 or more locations.

Full Time Equivalent (FTEs)

- 216.9 total FTEs were provided by the 313 total OTs.
- 26.9% worked 40 hours or more per week at their main site.
- 28.1% worked 40 hours or more per week at all their work sites combined.
- 78.9% worked at least 20 hours per week at all their work sites combined.
- 26.3 FTEs, or 12.1% of total FTEs, were age 60 and older (45 individuals).

Average weekly hours – main site	Number	Percent
Less than 20 hours	69	22.0%
20 to 39 hours	160	51.1%
40 hours or more	84	26.9%

Current Experience

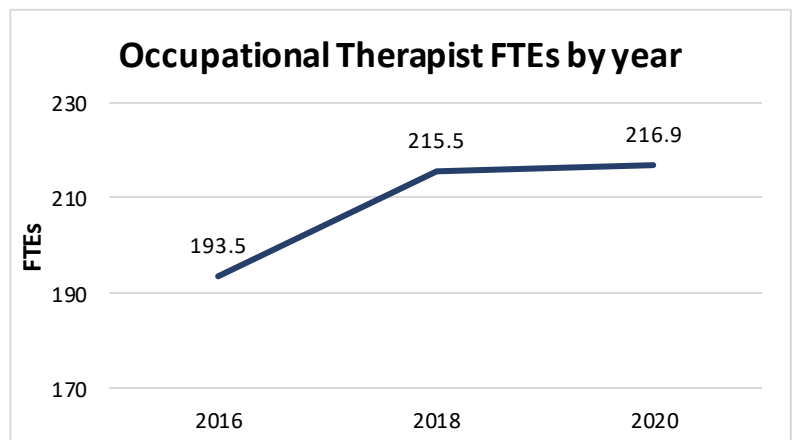
Median time since first licensed as an occupational therapist: 17 years.

Future Plans

- 6 OTs (1.9%) planned to retire in the next 12 months.
- 9 (2.9%) planned to reduce their hours in the next 12 months.

Trends in Statewide FTEs

- OT FTEs increased by 22 from 193.5 in 2016 to 215.5 in 2018.
- From 2018 to 2020, FTEs increased by just 1.4.



Key Takeaways

- OTs in Vermont are predominantly female and relatively young, with a median age of 43.
- The most common settings for OTs are schools, home health, and skilled nursing facilities.
- Relative to population, OTs are most common in Chittenden County and the southern half of the state.
- OTs saw an increase in FTEs between 2016 and 2018 and remained steady between 2018 and 2020.

For more information, contact:

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Appendix

Active Occupational Therapist

An OT who reported working in Vermont as such (regardless of how many hours) is considered active.

Census

The census was taken during the biennial OT relicensing process which ended on May 31, 2020. Census questions available upon request.

Main Practice, Site, Setting, and Specialty

The main practice site, setting, or specialty of an individual refers to the practice site, setting, or specialty with the greatest number of reported annual hours.

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.

Maps

For county map, 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 2019 and were provided by the Department of Health.

Weekly Hours

Average weekly hours is 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.