

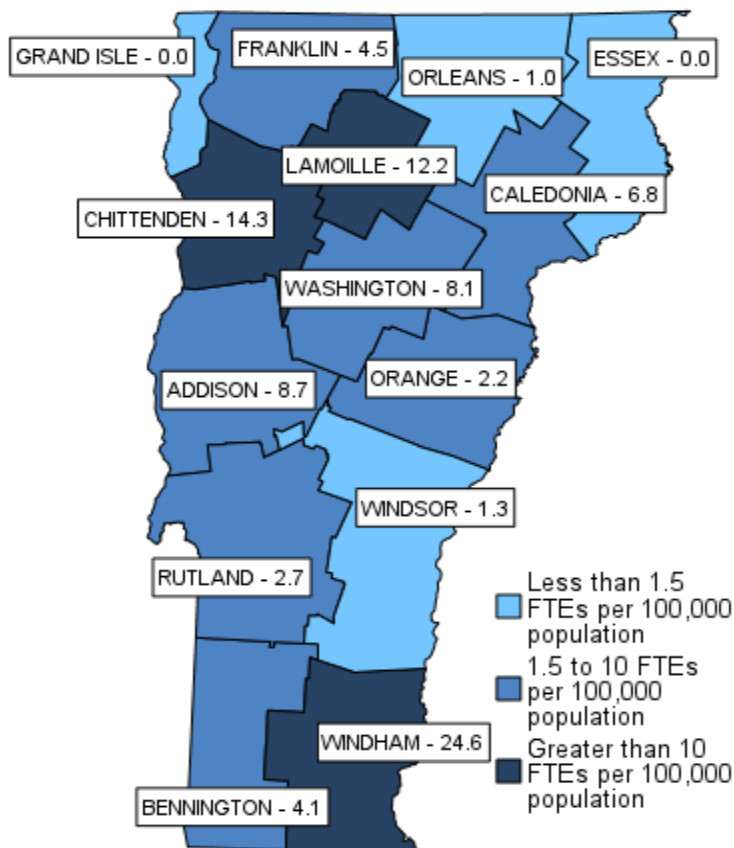
Overview

This Naturopathic Physician (ND) 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 was obtained during the September 2020 relicensing period and represents a snapshot of the profession at that time.

The American Association of Naturopathic Physicians defines naturopathic medicine as a distinct primary health care profession, emphasizing prevention, treatment, and optimal health through the use of therapeutic methods and substances that encourage individuals' inherent self-healing process. The practice of naturopathic medicine includes modern and traditional, scientific, and empirical methods.

Naturopathic Physicians FTEs per 100,000 population by county



In Brief

Workforce

Survey period: September 2020
 Response Rate: 99.7%
 Licenses renewed: 333
 Active in VT: 82
 VT Full-time Equivalents: 55.8

Demographics

% Female: 72.0%
 Median Age: 44
 % 60 or older: 7.3%

Education and Training

% Educated in VT: 0%
 % Educated in Northeast: 13.6%
 % Educated in West: 80.2%

Main Specialties

General practice: 73.2%
 Family medicine: 14.6%

Current Employment

% Accepting new patients: 96.3%
 % Full-time at main site: 29.3%
 % Full-time at all sites: 29.3%
 % Planning to reduce hours: 2.5%
 % Planning to retire: none

Geographic Distribution

(FTEs per 100,000 population)
 Highest: 24.6, Windham County
 Lowest: 0.0, Essex & Grand Isle Counties

Trends in Statewide FTEs

2016: 45.4
 2018: 53.6
 2020: 55.8

Workforce

- 333 renewed their licenses during the surveyed period and 332 of these completed the workforce survey for a response rate of 99.7%.
- Out of the 332 respondents, 82 (24.7%) indicated they were actively practicing as a naturopathic physician in Vermont.
- Of the 250 respondents reporting a non-active status, 24 (9.6%) indicated they were planning to start working as a naturopathic physician in Vermont within the next 12 months.
- The remainder of this report is based on the 82 naturopathic physicians who reported actively working in Vermont.

Demographics

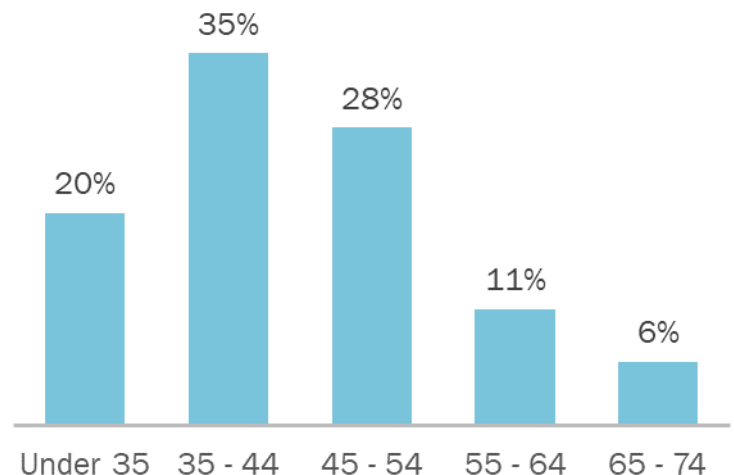
Gender

- 72.0% of the naturopathic physicians in Vermont (59) were female.
- 28.0% (23) were male.

Age

- The median age of naturopathic physicians was 44.
- 19.5% (16) were under 35 years of age.
- 63.4% (52) were between 35 and 54 years of age.
- 17.1% (14) were 55 years of age and older.

Age Distribution of VT Naturopathic Physicians



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 naturopathic physicians.

- 71 naturopathic physicians were white (86.6%), 2.4% were Black, 2.4% were Asian, 0% were American Indian or Alaskan Native, and 0% were Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander. 3 naturopathic physicians selected another race that was not listed (3.6%), and 6 preferred not to answer.
- 1.2% of naturopathic physicians were Hispanic, Latino/a, or of Spanish origin, and 92.7% were not. 5 naturopathic physicians preferred not to answer or were missing data for ethnicity.

Education and Training

- There are a limited number of Naturopathy Colleges/Universities in the US. The 82 naturopathic physicians active in Vermont in 2020 completed their degrees in the states shown in the table to the right.
- Naturopathic physicians can have additional credentials in other fields. Of the 82 active NDs in Vermont, 41 had the additional credentials, including acupuncture and craniosacral therapy.

| Highest degree awarded in: | Number | Percent |
|----------------------------------|--------|---------|
| Oregon | 31 | 37.8% |
| Washington | 24 | 29.3% |
| Connecticut | 11 | 13.4% |
| Arizona | 10 | 12.2% |
| Illinois | 4 | 4.9% |
| Canada | 1 | 1.2% |
| * Missing data from 1 individual | | |

| Current credentials: | Number | Percent |
|----------------------|--------|---------|
| Acupuncture | 15 | 18.3% |
| Chiropractic | 1 | 1.2% |
| Craniosacral therapy | 7 | 8.5% |
| Massage therapy | 3 | 3.7% |
| Nursing | 3 | 3.7% |
| Nutrition | 6 | 7.3% |
| Other | 6 | 7.3% |

Practice Characteristics

Practice Setting

- 91.5% (75) of naturopathic physicians worked in private outpatient or group practice settings.

| Main Setting | Number | Percent |
|--|--------|---------|
| Private outpatient office or group practice | 75 | 91.5% |
| Telemedicine | 4 | 4.8% |
| Hospital-based outpatient facility or clinic | 1 | 1.2% |
| Patients' home /home care | 1 | 1.2% |
| Federally Qualified Health Center | 1 | 1.2% |

Number of sites

- 96.3% (79) of naturopathic physicians practiced at a single practice site.
- 3.7% (3) worked at two or more sites.

Specialties

- The most common primary specialty of naturopathic physicians was General Practice 73.2% (60), followed by Family Medicine 14.6% (12).

Access to Care

- 96.3% (78) of naturopathic physicians were accepting new patients.
- 80.8% participated in Medicaid, and 74.4% accepted new Medicaid clients.

| % of Naturopathic Physicians that | Number | Percent |
|-----------------------------------|--------|---------|
| Accept new patients | 78 | 96.3% |
| Participate in Medicaid | 63 | 80.8% |
| Accept new Medicaid patients | 61 | 74.4% |

Full Time Equivalent (FTEs)

- 82 naturopathic physicians provided 55.8 total FTEs.
- 3.3 FTEs, or 5.9% of total FTEs, were provided by 6 naturopathic physicians aged 60 or older.
- 29.3% (24) of naturopathic physicians worked 40 or more hours per week at their main site.

| Average weekly hours – at main site | Number | Percent |
|-------------------------------------|--------|---------|
| Less than 20 hours | 20 | 24.4% |
| 20-39 hours | 38 | 46.3% |
| 40 hours or more | 24 | 29.3% |

Current Experience and Future Plans

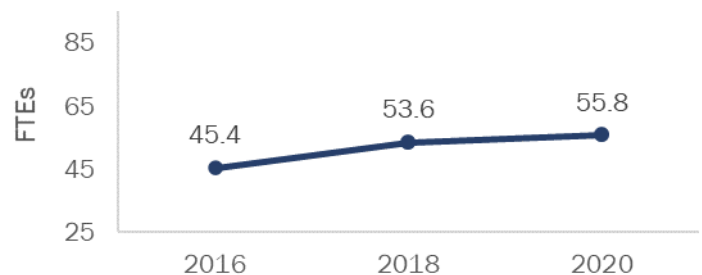
- Median years licensed in Vermont was 7 years.
- 7.4% of naturopathic physicians have been licensed in Vermont for over 20 years.
- 80.2% planned to continue working the same number of hours in the next 12 months.
- 14.8% planned to increase their hours.
- 2.5% planned to reduce their hours.

| Years Licensed in Vermont | Number | Percent |
|---------------------------|--------|---------|
| 0 to 5 years | 36 | 43.9% |
| 6 to 10 years | 22 | 26.8% |
| 11 to 15 years | 12 | 14.6% |
| 16 to 20 years | 6 | 7.3% |
| 21 to 25 years | 3 | 3.7% |
| Over 25 years | 3 | 3.7% |

Trends in Statewide FTEs

- Naturopathic Physician FTEs increased by 10.4 from 45.4 in 2016 to 58.8 in 2020.
- From 2018 to 2020, FTEs increased by 2.2.

Naturopathic Physicians FTEs by Year



Key Takeaways

- Naturopathic physicians in Vermont were predominately female and had a median age of 44.
- The most common settings for naturopathic physicians were private outpatient or group practices.
- Relative to population, naturopathic physicians were most common in Windham, Chittenden, and Lamoille Counties.
- The majority of naturopathic physicians were younger than 55.
- Most naturopathic physicians licensed in Vermont were not actively working in the state.

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

Appendix

Active Naturopathic Physicians

A ND who reported working in Vermont as a naturopathic physician (regardless of how many hours) is considered active.

Census

The census was taken during the biennial relicensing process which ended on July 31, 2020. The data includes all licensed naturopathic physicians except for new licensees enrolled less than three months before the renewal date (August – October 2020), as their license was valid until the next renewal date of July 31, 2022. 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.

Limitations

Accuracy of setting data is difficult to interpret since many naturopathic physicians 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 naturopathic physician 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 2020 and were provided by the Department of Health.

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 |

Naturopathic Physicians, 2020

| | | | | |
|--------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|------------|
| 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 |

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.