

# Worksite Wellness – Data Brief (1 of 4)

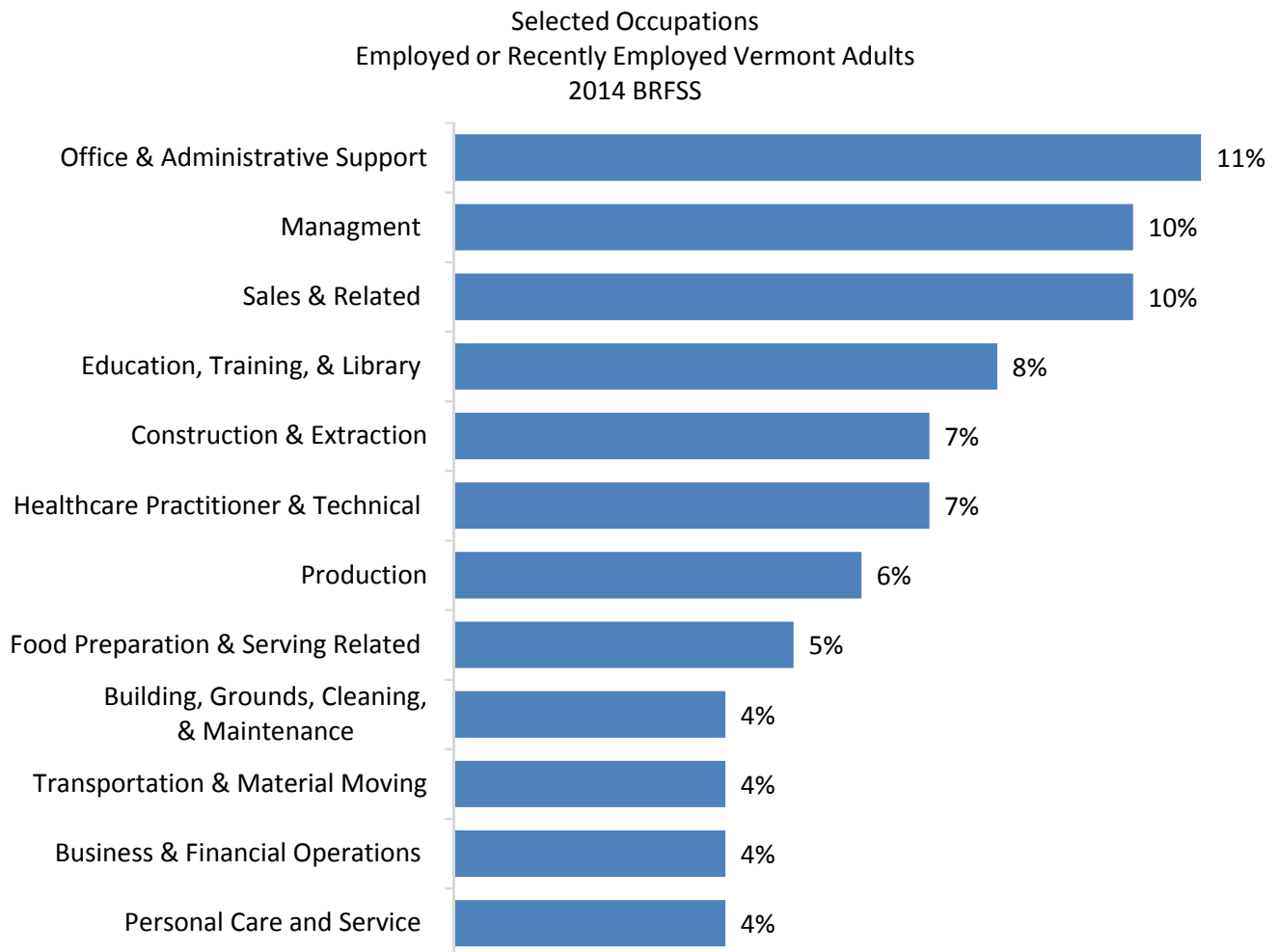
## 2014 Vermont Behavioral Risk Factor Survey (BRFSS)

### Background

In 2014, the Vermont BRFSS included, a question specifically on respondent occupation<sup>1</sup>. Respondents employed for wages or self-employed (63% of Vermont adults) were asked to provide the kind of work they do. This detailed information about Vermont’s workforce provides an opportunity to better understand the demographics of specific occupations.

### Overall

Among working adults, the most commonly reported occupations are office and administrative support, management, sales and related occupations, with about 10% reporting each occupation. Education, training, and library occupations are reported by eight percent, while healthcare practitioner and technical, and construction/extraction occupations are reported by seven percent of employed Vermonters. The least commonly reported occupations are life, physical, & social services, legal, occupations, farming, fishing, & forestry, and military specific occupations (1% or less each, not shown).



<sup>1</sup> Free text occupation responses were coded to the Standard Occupational Classification System.

## Demographics

Looking at the 12 most commonly reported occupations, there are significant differences in occupation type by demographic category.

Men are significantly more likely than women to report physical occupations such as construction, production, and transportation/material moving. In contrast, women are more likely to report working in education, office/administrative support, healthcare, and personal care.

There are few differences in occupation or industry by age group. Any differences are largely between those 18-24 and older adults. Younger adults, those 18-24, are significantly more likely than adults 25-64 to report working in sales and food preparation or serving occupations. As might be expected, older adults 25-64 are more likely to report work in management. They also are more likely to report working in education, training, and library occupations.

Reported occupation varies by education level. Adults with a college education are significantly less likely than those with some college or less to work in the fields of office and administrative support, construction, production, food preparation, building and grounds, cleaning and maintenance, and personal care. Conversely, those with higher education levels are more likely to work in the occupations of management, education, training & library, or be a health care practitioner.

Adults of a racial or ethnic minority are significantly less likely than White, non-Hispanic adults to work in the construction and extraction fields (2% vs. 8%).

Selected Occupations by Demographics Employed or Recently Employed Vermont Adults 2014 BRFSS							
Occupation	Male	Female	18-24	25-64	High School or Less	Some College	College or More
Office & Administrative Support	5%	19%*	11%	11%	11%#	17%#	8%#
Management	12%	9%	3%	11%*	8%	9%	13%^
Sales & Related	9%	10%	20%*	8%	11%	11%	7%
Education, Training, & Library	4%	11%*	2%	8%*	1%	3%	17%^
Construction & Extraction	13%*	<1%	5%	7%	11%#	8%	2%^
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	3%	11%*	4%	7%	1%#	7%#	12%#
Production	9%*	2%	7%	6%	11%#	5%#	2%#
Food Preparation & Serving Related	5%	5%	16%*	3%	7%	5%	2%^
Building & Grounds, Cleaning & Maintenance	6%*	3%	3%	5%	9%#	3%#	1%#
Transportation & Material Moving	6%*	1%	6%	3%	7%#	3%#	1%#
Business and Financial Operations	2%	5%*	N/A	4%	2%	3%	5%^
Personal Care & Services	1%	6%*	3%	3%	4%	5%	2%^

\*Significantly higher.

#All differences by education are statistically significant.

^Significantly different from other education levels.

Note: Reported occupation and industry among adults 25-44 is similar to that among adults ages 45-64. For this reason, comparisons are only reported between adults 18-24 and those 25 and older. Adults 65 and older are excluded since a significant portion of this population is retired.

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