



EDUCATION FACT SHEET

ESSEX COUNTY

Fiscal Year 2024, unless otherwise noted

VSAC Services

Services to individuals

	County	State
Vermont Grants		
Recipients (full-time, part-time, 802 Opportunity, Advancement ⁱ)	158	10,254
Total amount awarded	\$296,935	\$22,400,664
Vermont Grant recipients who attended out-of-state schools (full-time, part-time, Advancement)		
Number of Grant recipients	65	3,088
Percent of Grant recipients	41%	30%
Grant dollars	\$94,848	\$5,629,796
Percent of Grant dollars	32%	23%
VSAC Advantage Loans ⁱⁱ		
Borrowers	7	1,736
Average loan amount per borrower	\$13,317	\$18,447
Total amount borrowed	\$93,221	\$32,024,160
Number of Scholarships disbursed to students ⁱⁱⁱ		
Scholarships disbursed	34	3,423
Average scholarship	\$2,543	\$3,646
Total amount disbursed	\$94,097	\$12,481,667
VSAC Outreach students	80	5,489
Vermont Higher Education Investment Plan Participants ^{iv}		
Number of beneficiaries	42	24,396
Average beneficiary account balance	\$10,394	\$24,544

Educational Attainment

High School Seniors (various cohorts)

	County	State
Planned to enroll immediately after high school graduation ^v		
Total Class of 2024	64.2%	72.2%
First-Generation ^{vi}		58.0%
Second-Generation		82.3%
Enrolled at a two- or four- year school immediately after graduation ^{vii}		
Total Class of 2022	39.1%	53.5%
First-Generation		39.5%
Second-Generation		66.5%
Persistence rate: after having enrolled fall 2022, re-enrolled fall 2023 ^{viii}		
Total Class of 2022	88.9%	87.1%
First-Generation		76.9%
Second-Generation		92.0%
Completion rate: after having enrolled full-time at a 4-year school, graduated with a two-or four-year degree ^{ix}		
Total Class of 2018	60.0%	62.7%
First-Generation		57.2%
Second-Generation		66.1%

Persons 25 years or older

Bachelor's degree or higher, % of persons 25+ years ^x	21.2%	42.6%
Associate degree or higher, % of persons 25+ years ^{xi}	29.9%	51.1%

Population

	County	State
Population estimates ^{xii}	6,010	647,464
Percent of overall population	1%	
First-generation students, Class of 2024	40.9%	39.7%
Students enrolled in the Free and Reduced-Price School Meals Program ^{xiii}	44%	34%

Access & Affordability

VT Incentive Grant recipients

Full-time dependent students at four-year schools

	County	State
Average family income	\$45,778	\$48,966
Average total college costs	\$43,825	\$48,505
Average college costs after grant aid and scholarships have been subtracted ^{xiv}	\$15,776	\$20,211
Percent of family income needed to cover these costs	34%	41%

VSAC's Financial Aid Distributed to Students Enrolled at Postsecondary Institutions located in this County

Total aid from VSAC (grants, loans, forgivable loans, scholarships) to students enrolled at institutions in this county		\$35,055,445
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ⁱ Previously the Vermont Non-Degree Grant

ⁱⁱ Reflects Vermont resident accounts only

ⁱⁱⁱ Includes work-force development forgivable loan programs such as nursing, early childhood education and trades.

^{iv} Reflects Vermont resident accounts holders only

^v The percentage of the Class of 2024 graduates who planned to continue their education or training in the fall of 2024, also called the aspiration rate.

^{vi} First-generation: the percentage of graduates who reported neither of their parents had obtained a bachelor's degree.

^{vii} The percentage of the Class of 2022 graduates who enrolled at a two- or four-year institution in the fall of 2022, also called continuation rate.

^{viii} The percentage of Class of 2022 graduates who, after having enrolled in the fall of 2022 at a two- or four-year institution, remained enrolled the fall of 2023.

^{ix} The percentage of the Class of 2018 who, after having enrolled full-time at a four-year school in the fall of 2018, completed a two- or four-year degree within four years.

^x U.S. Census Bureau, 2019-2023 Quick Facts

^{xi} U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 American Community Survey 5-year estimates

^{xii} U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 Population estimates, March 30, 2023

^{xiii} County Health Rankings and Roadmaps, 2024

^{xiv} Average college cost is the sum of tuition, fees, and room and board expenses for full-time, dependent grant recipients at four-year public or private institutions. Grant aid and scholarships include Pell, Vermont State Grants, school grants, SEOG, and scholarships.