

Vermont School Readiness Indicators

**Economic*

- Child poverty
- Families with children, headed by a single parent
- Children receiving ANFC
- Children receiving Food Stamps
- Child care need vs. capacity
- New families at risk

**Health and Safety*

- Early prenatal care
- Low birthweight babies
- Infant mortality
- Children and youth with disabilities
- Child abuse and neglect

†Pregnant Women and Young Children Thrive

- Percent early prenatal care
- Percent low birthweight
- Infant and child mortality rates
- Rate of injuries (0-9) resulting in hospitalizations

†*Children Are Ready For School*

- Percent of kindergartners fully immunized, i.e. percent of students meeting the recommended schedule (*data source: VT Department of Health, Immunization Program*)
- Percent of first-graders screened for vision and hearing problems, i.e. percent of reported first grade enrollment reported screened for vision, hearing (*data source: VT Department of Education*)
- Percent of children ready for kindergarten, i.e. percent rated as "practicing" or "performing independently" by kindergarten teachers, 4-6 weeks into the school year, on all items within each of four domains: social-emotional development, approaches to learning, communication, and cognitive development and general knowledge (*data sources: VT Agency of Human Services and VT Department of Education, "Ready Kindergartners" Questionnaire*)
- Percent of standards met for "Ready Schools" in each of four dimensions: smooth transitions to school, instruction and staff development, resources, and partnership with community (*data sources: VT Agency of Human Services and VT Department of Education, "Ready Kindergartners" Questionnaire*)

* from *The State of Our Children: Kids Count in Vermont* (2001). The 2001 Vermont KIDS COUNT Data Book. Vermont KIDS COUNT, The Vermont Children's Forum.

† from *Improving the Well-Being of Vermont's Young Children and Their Families: Benchmarks, Accomplishments, and Next Steps—Working Draft* (March 2002). Vermont Early Childhood Steering Committee.