

Health drivers

- 25% of Vermonters **have a disability**.
- About half of Vermont residents with a disability have **multiple disabilities**.
- People with disabilities are:
 - Less likely to use **preventative healthcare** services
 - More likely to **struggle finding jobs** and attending school
 - Faced with more **difficulties getting around** in their community
- 7% of high schoolers have a **physical disability** or long-term health problem.

"People who have a disability have a hard time seeing, hearing, walking, using stairs, getting dressed, washing, focusing, or making choices. People with a disability may also have a hard time going out to shop because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition."

-VT Dept. of Health data pages

Median earnings in 2021
With a disability **\$24,088**
Without **\$41,073**

- BIPOC high school students** are more likely than white, non-Hispanic students to have a disability or long-term health problem.

- LGBTQ+ high school students** are more likely than heterosexual, cisgendered students to have a long-term health problem or disability.
- 88% of Vermonters with a disability make **less than \$50,00 annually**.
- Treatment for disabilities account for 36% of Vermont's **health care costs**.

Demographics of adult Vermonters with disabilities

- 56% of people with incomes less than \$25,000/year
- 36% of those with a **high school education**
- 32% of the **BIPOC community**
- 34% of the **LGBTQ+ community**

Health conditions

- Vermonters with disabilities are less likely to get **adequate exercise** and are **more likely to be obese** than non-disabled Vermonters.

33% of Vermonters with disabilities report poor mental health, **twice that** of non-disabled Vermonters.

- Vermonters with disabilities are more likely to experience **physical violence** from an intimate partner (24% to 15%) and to be made to engage in **non-consensual sex** (23% to 16%).
- Colorectal and breast cancer screening rates are **8-9% lower** for people with disabilities in Vermont.

Health status	Fair or poor health	Health care access delays due to cost	Arthritis	Obesity	Depressive disorder
All US	16%	10%	25%	34%	19%
All VT	12%	6%	29%	30%	24%
With disabilities	34%	12%	48%	41%	43%

- People with disabilities are **twice as likely to smoke** as all US residents.

Key themes:

- More accessible public environments
- Increased healthcare needs
- Financial challenges
- Accessible, responsive mental health services

Data Sources used in this document

- ✔ [CARES database](#), University of Missouri
 - Data compilation is from many resources, including and not limited to:
 - US Census Bureau
 - the American Community Survey (ACS) 2017-202
 - Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
 - United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
 - Department of Transportation
 - Federal Bureau of Investigations
- ✔ [Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System \(BFRSS 2021\)](#)
- ✔ VT Cancer Data Pages, VT Dept of Health, Feb 2023, https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/document/HSI_Cancer_Data_Pages_2023.pdf
- ✔ [The Health of Vermonters Living with Disabilities](#), Vermont Department of Health, August 2018
- ✔ [US Dept of Health and Human Services Health People 2030](#)
- ✔ [Youth Risk Behavior Survey](#)
- ✔ [Vermont: why arthritis matters from the Arthritis foundation](#)
- ✔ Disability-associated healthcare expenditures are presented in 2017 dollars as reported by Khavjou, et al. State-level health care expenditures associated with disability. 2021 Public Health rep.
- ✔ [3>4>50 Vermont](#), VT Dept of Health