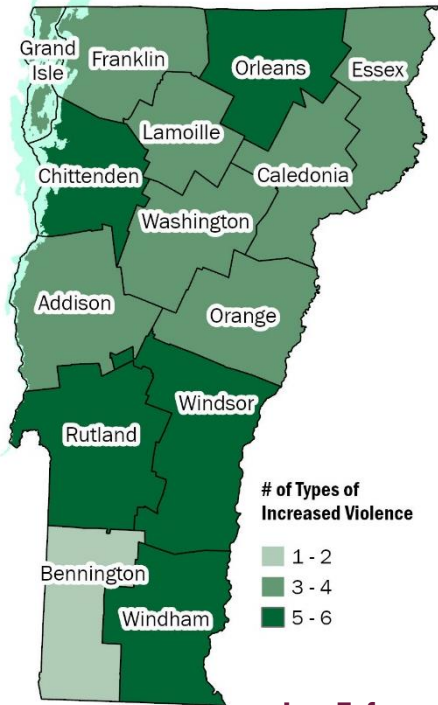


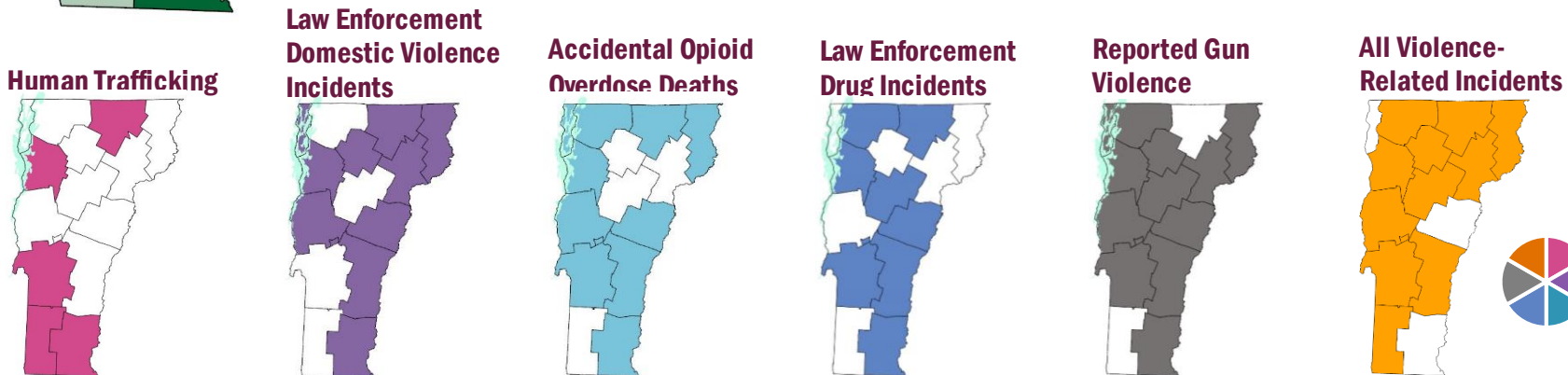
Vermont Counties Experiencing a Recent Increase in Violence



[Vermont's 2023 Legislative Act 23 \(S.4\)](#) establishes Community Violence Prevention Program grants. Communities experiencing an increase in violence associated with illegal drug sales and trafficking, gang activity, or human trafficking will be given grant preference. The data in this document supports communities in demonstrating a recent increase in violence and other violence-related measures.

When looking across violence types and data sources, all Vermont counties have seen some type of recent increase in violence. Specific data on illegal drug sales and trafficking, gang activity and human trafficking are either not captured or known to be an underestimate. In lieu of these data, law enforcement and health data are presented to identify high burden communities. These data include human trafficking trends as assessed by law enforcement, domestic violence incidents involving law enforcement, accidental opioid overdose by county of death, drug incidents involving law enforcement, reported gun violence and all types of violence-related incidents involving law enforcement. Chittenden, Orange, Rutland, Windham and Windsor Counties have seen an increase in at least five of these indicators.

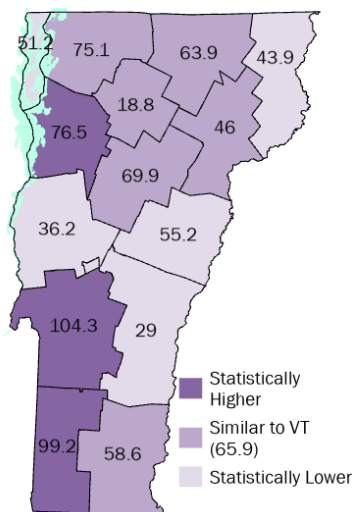
Additional violence indicators and data resources are provided in the following pages. Applicants may also use data sources not provided in this document.



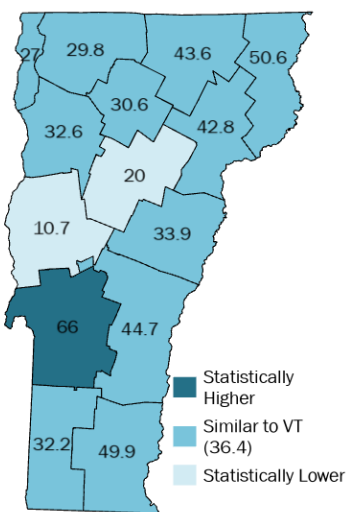
Vermont Counties Experiencing Higher Rates of Violence

While the maps above show recent increases in violence, some counties experience violence at a higher rate than others, even if this is not a recent change. The darkest colored counties on the maps below highlight counties that have statistically higher rates of that type of violence-related measure when compared to Vermont overall. All rates are per 10,000 Vermonters except overdose deaths which are per 100,000 Vermonters.

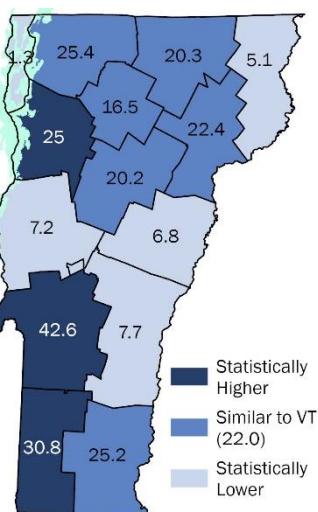
Domestic Violence-Related Law Enforcement Incidents, 2022-2023



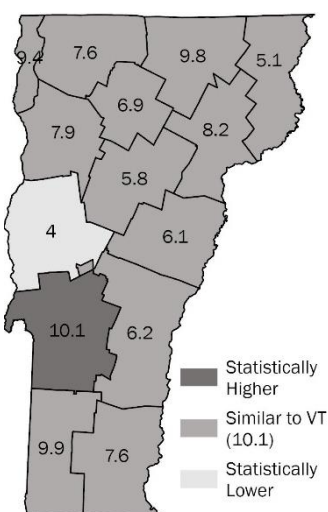
Accidental Opioid Overdose by County of Death, 2022



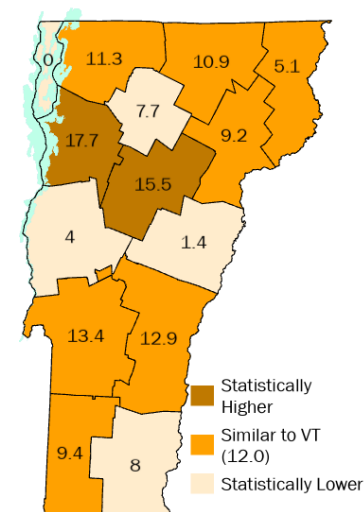
Drug-Related Law Enforcement Incidents, 2022-2023



Gun Violence Incidents Reported to Law Enforcement, 2022



All Violence-Related Incidents, 2021



Morbidity and mortality data related to these violence topics can be found in the pages below. Additional data resources available include, but are not limited to:

- [Vermont Social Vulnerability Index](#): socioeconomic, demographic, housing, and transportation data mapped by census tract
- [Vermont Network Against Domestic & Sexual Violence](#): member organization reports capture services provided in their region
- [CARES interactive community map](#): economic, social, educational, environmental and health data mapped by various geographies
- [Gun Violence Archive Atlas](#): interactive map of gun-related injuries and deaths
- [FBI Crime Data Explorer](#): State level crime data submitted to the Federal Bureau of Investigation

Mortalityⁱ

- The rate of **homicide** deaths in Vermont has remained steady from 2012 – 2021 and **increased in 2022** (2012-2021 average rate 2.4 per 100,000 Vermonters, vs 4.0 in 2022). This increase is not statistically significant.
- In 2022, 26 people died by homicide in Vermont (4.0 per 100,000 Vermonters). More than one in three of these deaths were **out-of-state residents (38%)**. This is an increase from the average 11% of Vermont homicide deaths that were out-of-state residents from 2012-2021, though not statistically significant.

Vermont Resident Homicides

- **Males are more than two times as likely to die by homicide** than females (3.1 and 1.3 per 100,000 respectively from 2012-2022).
 - Since 2020, the risk of homicide death has shifted to males even more. From 2020-2022 males were 4.5 times more likely to die by homicide than females. (3.3 and 0.7 per 100,000 respectively).
- Risk for death by **homicide increases with age** and has not changed over time. From 2012-2022 homicide rates were 1.1 per 100,000 for youth under 18, 1.6 for 18–24-year-olds, and 2.6 for adults 25 and older. The homicide rate for youth has decreased to 0.3 from 2017 to 2022, though this change is not statistically significant.
- While varying year-to-year due to small numbers, **county-level homicide rates remain unchanged** from 2012 to 2022. Addison County (0.7 per 100,000) consistently has a lower homicide rate than Vermont overall, but this is not statistically significant.
- **Firearms are the primary cause of homicide deaths** (56% of homicide deaths 2012-2022). In recent years, firearms have caused a larger portion of homicide deaths increasing to 60% in 2017-2019 and to 64% in 2020-2022, though this is not a statistically significant change.

Fatal Overdoses

- **Fatal overdoses among Vermonters have increased** more than 500% from 2010 to 2022. Vermonters experience fatal overdoses at a rate 37.0 deaths per 100,000 people. Males and adults ages 30-49 experience the highest overdose mortality rate (2022).

Morbidity

- Vermonters seek care at a hospital due to an assault an average of 1,420 times per year (2018-2020, a rate of 22.8 hospital visits per 10,000 Vermonters).ⁱⁱ
 - About 370 of these visits each year are due sexual or intimate partner violence emergency department visits (2021 – July 2023).ⁱⁱⁱ

- **Males and females have similar rates of assault-related hospital visits** (21.8 visits vs 23.8 per 10,000 Vermonters respectively). These rates have remained consistent over time.ⁱⁱ
- The majority of assault-related hospital visits are due to the patient being struck by or against something (66%). Three percent of visits are due to cuts, less than 1% are due to firearms, and the rest are due to other causes.ⁱⁱ

Intimate Partner, Sexual Violence, and Human Trafficking

- One in three high school students were in a controlling or emotionally abusive relationship in the past year. Students who identify as **females, LGBTQ+ or BIPOC are statistically more likely to have experienced a controlling relationship** (37%, 43% and 34% respectively, 2021).^{iv}
 - One in 12 high school students experienced physical dating violence in the past year (8%, 2021). Students who identify as LGBTQ+ or BIPOC are more likely to experience dating violence (13% and 14% respectively).
- One in six Vermont adults have ever been physically hurt by an intimate partner (15%, 2021), and 16% have ever been forced to experience a non-consensual sexual activity. Vermonters who are **female, have a disability, identify as BIPOC or LGBTQ+, or have a low income are more likely to report having experienced intimate partner or sexual violence.**^v
- **Nearly half of students who slept away from home in the past month have ever had someone do sexual things to them that they did not want** (45%, 2019). This is three times higher than students who primarily slept at their parent's/guardian's home (16%).^{iv}

Adolescent Violence^{iv}

- One in six high school students were in a physical fight in the last year (16%; 2021). **Males and BIPOC students are more likely to be in a fight** (21% and 23% respectively).
- Seven percent of high school students were threatened with a weapon, while 4% carried a weapon to school in the past year. Students identifying as **BIPOC or LGBTQ+ are more likely to be threatened** (10% each), and **males and BIPOC students are more likely to carry a weapon** (6% and 7%; 2021).
- **Females and LGBTQ+ students were more likely to be bullied** in the last 30 days, than other students (21% and 26% vs. 17% for all students, 2021).

Firearm Access^v

- Nearly half of all Vermont households have a firearm in or around their home (44%, 2020). **Males and individuals with a high school education or less are more likely to have a firearm** (51% each).

Community Safety

- One in six high school students have ever seen someone physically attacked, beaten, stabbed, or shot in their neighborhood (16%; 2021). Students identifying as **BIPOC and LGBTQ+ are more likely to report seeing an attack** (23% and 20% respectively).^{iv}
- One in 10 high school students **felt unsafe on their way to or at school** in the past month (9%; 2021). **Females and students identifying as LGBTQ+ or BIPOC are more likely** to have had this experience (11%, 14% and 12% respectively).^{iv}
- One in 10 adults feel their community is not safe for walking (10%). This is especially true for Vermonters with a low income, with a disability, identify as LGBTQ or BIPOC, or are female (18%, 17%, 15%, 18%, 12%; 2019).^v

Student Supports^{iv}

- Half of students feel valued in their community (52%). **Females, BIPOC and LGBTQ students are less likely to feel valued** (47%, 46%, and 36% respectively).
- One in three students **feel they can get the help they need when feeling angry or anxious** (33%). **BIPOC and LGBTQ+ students are less likely** to feel they can get that help (28% and 25%).
- Half of students believe there are rules and consequences for behaviors at school (55%). Females and LGBTQ+ students are less likely to believe there are clear rules (48% and 44%).

Naloxone Distribution and Administration^{vi}

- In 2022, VDH distributed 51,289 doses of naloxone to community members and first responders.
- EMS agencies administered naloxone to 818 individuals. **Males were administered naloxone at twice the rate of females**, and most patients were between ages 30-59 (2022).

County	Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence				Adolescent Physical Violence				Firearm Access
	HS students who have ever had sexual things done to them that they did not want (YRBS 2021)	HS students experienced physical dating violence, past year (YRBS 2021)	Adults ever physically hurt by intimate partner (BRFSS 2017, 2021)	ED visits for IPV or sexual violence (ESSENCE 2021-July 2023)	HS students experienced bullying, past 30 days (YRBS 2021)	HS students threatened/injured on school property, past 30 days (YRBS 2021)	HS students in a physical fight, past 30 days (YRBS 2021)	HS students that carried a weapon on school property, past 30 days (YRBS 2021)	Households with a firearm in or around the home (BRFSS 2018-2020)
Addison	17%	6%	9%	2.3	17%	4%	13%	5%	50%
Bennington	20%	8%	16%	4.0	17%	11%	16%	4%	43%
Caledonia	23%	7%	13%	13.6	16%	6%	18%	5%	55%
Chittenden	19%	7%	11%	3.5	12%	5%	14%	3%	30%
Essex	14%	8%	23%	6.5	12%	*	14%	*	54%
Franklin	22%	11%	18%	4.8	20%	7%	17%	5%	55%
Grand Isle	24%	5%	*	3.1	22%	12%	18%	*	46%
Lamoille	26%	10%	15%	1.8	20%	7%	16%	4%	49%
Orange	23%	8%	19%	2.2	19%	7%	18%	7%	60%
Orleans	23%	9%	12%	2.8	22%	8%	18%	7%	59%
Rutland	23%	11%	16%	9.7	20%	9%	21%	5%	49%
Washington	21%	6%	19%	4.7	15%	5%	14%	3%	40%
Windham	25%	8%	16%	5.0	17%	16%	17%	3%	38%
Windsor	22%	7%	17%	3.1	17%	5%	16%	3%	47%
Vermont	21%	8%	15%	4.7	17%	7%	16%	4%	44%

*Data suppressed; green indicates statistically better than Vermont; orange indicates statistically worse than Vermont

County	Lack of Community Safety			Naloxone Administration	Mortality		Student Supports		
	HS students did not go to school due to feeling unsafe at or going to school, past 30 days (YRBS 2021)	HS students ever saw someone physically attacked, beaten, stabbed or shot in their neighborhood (YRBS 2021)	Adults who feel their community is not safe for walking (BRFSS 2017, 2019)	EMS calls involving naloxone administration per 10,000 residents (SIREN 2022)	Accidental or undetermined opioid-related OD deaths by county of residence, rate per 100,000 Vermont residents (Vital Statistics, 2022 preliminary)	Homicide death rate per 100,000 Vermonters in VT (Vital Statistics 2020-2022, preliminary)	HS students feel like they matter to their community (YRBS 2021)	HS students can get the help they need when feeling angry or anxious (YRBS 2021)	HS students think school has clear rules/ consequences for behavior (YRBS 2019)
Addison	6%	11%	*	6.2	18.8	0.0	57%	37%	54%
Bennington	14%	18%	11%	11.0	45.6	2.7	48%	29%	52%
Caledonia	5%	15%	9%	13.2	36.2	3.3	53%	29%	66%
Chittenden	5%	12%	8%	13.1	28.4	1.6	57%	35%	60%
Essex	*	10%	11%	*	50.6	0.0	47%	40%	74%
Franklin	7%	18%	12%	13.7	35.8	2.0	51%	33%	53%
Grand Isle	4%	11%	8%	*	27.0	9.0	49%	29%	59%
Lamoille	8%	23%	4%	5.7	30.6	5.1	55%	32%	50%
Orange	4%	15%	7%	10.8	30.5	3.4	44%	33%	55%
Orleans	17%	20%	9%	12.7	43.6	2.4	47%	29%	48%
Rutland	8%	22%	15%	14.5	56.1	1.1	43%	29%	48%
Washington	5%	12%	13%	9.3	23.3	1.7	50%	30%	54%
Windham	39%	22%	9%	21.3	56.4	1.4	49%	31%	43%
Windsor	5%	13%	9%	14.8	51.5	1.7	53%	38%	61%
Vermont	9%	16%	10%	12.5	37.0	2.0	52%	33%	55%

*Data suppressed; green indicates statistically better than Vermont; orange indicates statistically worse than Vermont

Data Notes

- Law enforcement incident data for drug/narcotics incidents and domestic violence are from 9/8/2022 – 9/9/2023.
- Human trafficking information was provided by the Vermont State Police based on their assessment of recent activity. They noted that human trafficking in Vermont is closely tied to the opiate epidemic and is often seen in areas with high volumes of drug traffic and drug violence.
- Reported gun violence was provided by the Vermont Intelligence Center.
- All violence-related incidents come from the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Incident-Based Reporting System.
- Accidental or undetermined overdose deaths are presented here as county of death, which can vary from county of residence.

ⁱ All Mortality data is from Vermont Vital Statistics. 2021 & 2022 data are preliminary and subject to change.

ⁱⁱ Vermont Uniform Hospital Discharge Data Set

ⁱⁱⁱ Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-Based Epidemics

^{iv} Youth Risk Behavior Survey

^v Vermont Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

^{vi} Vermont Statewide Incident Reporting Network