

# **Health Care Workforce Census** Podiatrists, 2021

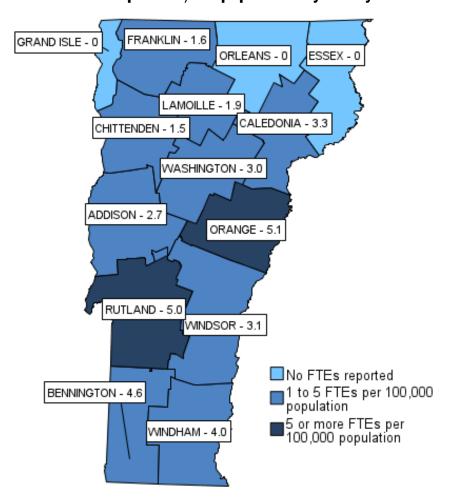
August 2024

# **Overview**

This Podiatrist census is part of the Vermont Department of Health's healthcare provider data program, which is used to monitor and measure the supply of health care providers in Vermont over time. Vermont podiatrists are recertified every two years. Data for this report was obtained during the June 2021 recertification period and represents a snapshot of the profession at that time.

Podiatrists treat a wide variety of foot and lower extremity conditions, through nonsurgical and surgical approaches. Podiatrists' roles include dealing with bone and joint disorders such as arthritis, as well as neurological and circulatory diseases and skin and nail disorders.

# Podiatrists FTEs per 100,000 population by county



#### In Brief

#### Workforce

Survey period: June 2021 Response rate: 100% Licenses renewed: 31

Active in VT: 25

Full-time equivalents (FTEs): 17.5

# **Demographics**

% Female: 24% Median Age: 54 % 60 or older: 36%

### **Education and Training**

% doctoral level (DPM): 100% % educated in Northeast: 28%

#### **Main Specialties**

Primary podiatric medicine and orthopedics: 61% Podiatric surgery: 29%

### **Current Employment**

% Accepting new patients: 100%

% Full-time at main site: 40% % Planning to increase hours: 8%

% Planning to decrease hours: 12%

# **Geographic Distribution**

(FTEs per 100,000 population)

Highest: 5.1, Orange County; 5.0

**Rutland County** 

Lowest: 0, Essex, Grand Isle, and

**Orleans Counties** 

#### **Trends in Statewide FTEs**

2015: 17.5 2017: 19.4 2019: 19.1

2021: 17.5

# **Workforce**

- 31 podiatrists renewed their licenses during the surveyed period, and all completed the workforce census for a response rate of 100%.
- Out of 31 respondents, 25 (81%) indicated they were actively practicing as podiatrists in Vermont.
- Two podiatrists that are not currently providing care in Vermont indicated they planned to start or resume working as a podiatrist in Vermont within the next 12 months.
- The remainder of this report is based on the 25 podiatrists who reported actively providing care in Vermont.

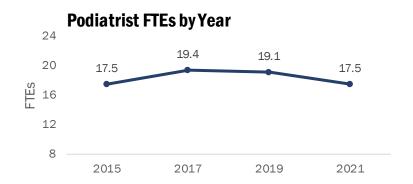
# **Full Time Equivalents (FTEs)**

- 25 podiatrists provided 17.5 total FTEs.
- 4.8 FTEs, or 27.2% of total FTEs, were provided by 9 podiatrists aged 60 or older.
- 40% (10) of podiatrists worked 40 or more hours per week at their main site.

Average weekly hours – at main site	Number	Percent
Less than 20 hours	5	20%
20-39 hours	10	40%
40 hours or more	10	40%

# **Trends in Statewide FTEs**

- Podiatrists FTEs remained steady from 17.5 in 2015 to 17.5 in 2021.
- From 2019 to 2021, FTEs decreased by 1.6.



# **Demographics**

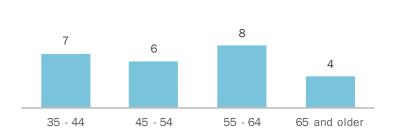
### Gender

- 72% of the podiatrists in Vermont (18) are male.
- 24% (6) are female.
- 4% (1) preferred not to answer the question.

# Age

The median age is 54.

# **Number of VT Podiatrists by Age**



### **Race and Ethnicity**

Podiatrists were asked to select their race and could select multiple responses or choose not to answer, so numbers may not equal the total number of podiatrists.

- 92% of podiatrists are white, 4% are Black, and none selected Asian, American Indian or Alaskan Native, or Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander. One preferred not to answer.
- 96% of podiatrists are not Hispanic, Latino/a, or of Spanish origin. One preferred not to answer.

# **Education and Training**

There are only a few podiatry schools in the United State. The podiatrists completed their degrees in Pennsylvania, Illinois, Iowa, New York, and Ohio, as seen in the table.

- 100% of podiatrists have a Doctorate of Podiatric Medicine (DPM).
- 84% (21) are board certified.

Highest degree awarded in	Number
Pennsylvania	7
Illinois	5
Iowa	5
New York	5
Ohio	3

# **Practice Characteristics**

# **Practice Setting**

• 72% (18) of podiatrists work in outpatient practice.

### **Number of sites**

- 92% (23) of podiatrists practice at a single site.
- 8% (2) work at two sites.

Main Setting	Number	Percent
Ambulatory/outpatient practice	18	72%
Long term care facility/nursing home	2	8%
Hospital: outpatient	2	8%
Hospital: inpatient and outpatient	2	8%
Other setting	1	4%

# **Specialties**

 Most podiatrists report primary podiatric medicine and orthopedics as their specialty.

Specialty	Number	Percent
Primary podiatric medicine and orthopedics	19	76%
Podiatric surgery	5	20%
Wound care	1	4%

### **Access to Care**

- 100% are accepting new patients.
- 88% accepted Medicaid, and 80% are accepting new Medicaid patients.
- 96% accepted Medicare, and 96% are accepting new Medicare patients.

# **Current Experience and Future Plans**

# **Podiatrists 2021**

- Median years licensed as a podiatrist is 21 years.
- 52% of podiatrists have been licensed for over 20 years.
- 72% plan to continue working the same number of hours in the next 12 months.
- 8% plan to increase their hours.
- 12% plan to reduce their hours.

Years Licensed	Number	Percent
0 to 5 years	6	24%
6 to 10 years	2	8%
11 to 15 years	2	8%
16 to 20 years	2	8%
21 to 25 years	4	16%
Over 25 years	9	36%

# **Key Takeaways**

- There was a slight decrease in podiatrist FTEs in Vermont between 2019 and 2021, from 19.1 to 17.5, dropping FTEs to 2015 levels.
- Due to the small numbers, one person leaving or arriving can substantially change access to podiatric care in Vermont.
- Relative to population, podiatrists are most common in Orange and Rutland Counties, while there are no podiatrists practicing in Essex or Grand Isle Counties.
- All podiatrists actively practicing in Vermont are accepting new patients.

For more information, contact: <a href="mailto:AHS.VDHPhysicianCensus@vermont.gov">AHS.VDHPhysicianCensus@vermont.gov</a>

# **Appendix**

#### **Active Podiatrist**

A podiatrist who reported working in Vermont as a podiatrist (regardless of how many hours) is considered active.

#### Census

The census was taken during the biennial relicensing process which ended on June 30, 2021. The data include all licensed podiatrists except for new licensees enrolled less than three months before the renewal date (April – June 2021), as their license was valid until the next renewal date of June 30, 2023. Copy of census questions available upon request.

### **Full Time Equivalent (FTE)**

Full time is defined as 40 or more working hours in Vermont per week, 48 weeks or more per year. Reporting more than 40 hours per week is defined as <u>one</u> FTE regardless of the number of hours over 40 per week worked.

### Main Practice, Site, Setting, and Specialty

The main practice, site, setting, or specialty refer to the practice in which the podiatrist worked the greatest number of annual hours.

#### **Maps**

For county maps, colors define quartiles. The lowest 25% of FTEs to population ratio is displayed in the lightest color, the middle 50% in medium, and highest 25% in the darkest color.

## Missing data

Unless otherwise noted, missing data are excluded from tables. Thus, totals may vary from table to table.

## **Population Estimates**

Population estimates are for July 2021 and were provided by the Department of Health.

#### **States**

States were grouped into the following regions:

Northeast	Midwest	South		West
Connecticut	Illinois	Alabama	North Carolina	Alaska
Maine	Indiana	Arkansas	Oklahoma	Arizona
Massachusetts	Iowa	Delaware	South Carolina	California
New Hampshire	Kansas	Florida	Tennessee	Colorado
New Jersey	Michigan	Georgia	Texas	Hawaii
New York	Minnesota	Kentucky	Virginia	Idaho
Pennsylvania	Missouri	Louisiana	Washington DC	Montana
Rhode Island	Nebraska	Maryland	West Virginia	Nevada
Vermont	North Dakota	Mississippi		New Mexico
	Ohio			Oregon
	South Dakota			Utah
	Wisconsin			Washington
				Wyoming

#### **Weekly Hours**

Average weekly hours are based on hours and weeks reported, adjusted to a full-time 48-week working year (hours \* (weeks/48)). Thus, the average weekly hours for an individual working 40 hours a week for half the year (24 weeks) is 20.