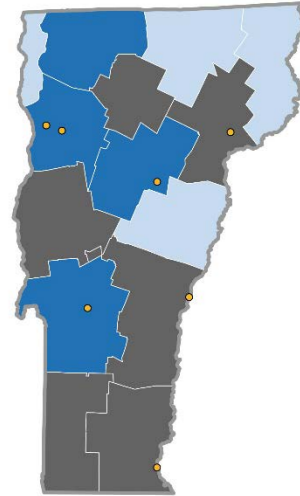


Vermont Agency of Human Services

The Vermont Department of Health (VDH) is a state agency that has been a statewide Title X grant recipient since the 1970s. It delivers services to approximately 9,000 clients annually through one subrecipient operating freestanding family planning clinics across Vermont.¹

Stats at a Glance²

- ▶ Number of family planning (FP) encounters – 1,054
- ▶ FP users with incomes below 100% Federal Poverty Level (FPL) – 2,056 (29%); all FP users with incomes below 250% of FPL – 4,396 (62%)
- ▶ Number of tests performed for gonorrhea – 3,609, syphilis – 453, and HIV – 624
- ▶ Number of female users who received a chlamydia test – 2,507 or a Pap test – 285







• Clinic locations

Pop. per sq. mi. ■ Less than 45 ■ 45 - 59 ■ 60 or more

Overview of Services Offered

As a Title X recipient, the Vermont Department of Health provides a broad range of FP services including pregnancy prevention and birth spacing, pregnancy testing and counseling, assistance to achieve pregnancy, basic infertility services, sexually transmitted infection (STI) services, and other preconception health services. The services are voluntary, confidential, and provided regardless of ability to pay.³ The infographic below is an Overview of Services Offered within the VDH network. The data shown below are not specific to any particular site but rather are representative of the broader grantee network. For information on services available at individual service sites, please refer to the [OPA clinic locator](#).

 Pregnancy assistance and counseling	 Contraceptive services	 STI services	 Other preventative health services
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Counseling on achieving pregnancy ● Pre-conception health services ● Pregnancy testing and counseling ◐ Basic infertility services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● FDA approved long-acting contraceptives ● FDA approved short-acting contraceptives ● Natural family planning methods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● STI and HIV education and counseling ● STI and HIV screening and testing ● STI and HIV treatment ● STI self-testing ● Expedited partner therapy ● PrEP counseling and risk assessment ● PrEP prescription services ● PEP counseling ● PEP prescription services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Screening for breast cancer ● Screening for cervical cancer ● HPV vaccinations ● Screening for intimate partner violence ● Screening for mental health issues ● Screening for obesity ● Screening for smoking, drug, and alcohol use ● Adolescent-friendly health services
<p>LEGEND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Available at all service sites ◐ Available at service sites and through referrals ○ Available through referral only 			

¹ Source: Data collected by Mathematica in 2023 for the Title X Implementation Study.

² Source: Family Planning Annual Report (FPAR): [2022 National Summary](#).

³ See the [Title X Service Grants web page](#) for more information on the requirements and regulations guiding Title X projects.

Equity in Practice



In May 2023, VDH's Title X subrecipient, Planned Parenthood of Northern New England (PPNNE), launched the Disability Community Advisory Board (CAB). The purpose is to center the experience of people with disabilities to improve access and quality of sexual and reproductive health education and care. The group includes about 10 community members from VT, NH, and ME, and PPNNE staff. The Disability CAB created video interviews with its community members about their lived experience as disabled people accessing health care in our region. The videos were shared with PPNNE health center staff to raise awareness about the importance of accessibility in our health care settings.

Innovations in Practice



Vermont state law requires that condoms be made available to students in secondary schools (grades 7-12). To support the successful implementation and sustainability of this initiative, VDH and the Agency of Education (AOE) partnered with PPNNE, to create guidance for schools called the "Condom Availability Programs: Recommendations for Supervisory Unions/Districts and Schools". The purpose of this document is to provide helpful information for Supervisory Unions/Supervisory Districts (SUs/SDs) and schools regarding the law. The AOE, in collaboration VDH and PPNNE, has collected background information, identified steps for Sus/SDs and schools to implement condom availability in their schools, and created a template for schools to use when developing condom availability procedures. Since the law was implemented in July 2021, PPNNE supplied condoms and other safer sex supplies to more than 33 schools and supervisory unions across the state. They also provide assistance to develop policies and procedures as needed.

Did You Know?



In 2022, the state of Vermont passed Proposal 5, the Reproductive Liberty Amendment. This amendment codified reproductive autonomy in Vermont as a constitutional and fundamental right, making Vermont one of the first states in the nation to do so. This reaffirmed Vermont as a state that protects reproductive autonomy.



VDH continues to monitor changing client needs and fill access gaps. In 2024, VDH plans to perform a statewide needs assessment to measure the potential need for FP services in Vermont. This needs assessment will be based on multiple data sets including the Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System, the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, and the Youth Risk Behavior Survey, as well as data from focus groups, in-depth interviews, and past needs assessments. Results of this needs assessment will be integrated into VDH's continuous quality improvement process.



Improving contraceptive access is a VDH priority. To this end, the grantee has partnered with the Department of Vermont Health Access (DVHA), also within the state's Agency of Human Services. DVHA is responsible for administering the Vermont Medicaid health insurance program and the state-based exchange for health insurance. DVHA created the Pregnancy Intention Initiative (PII). This initiative is designed to address needs identified by a broad group of community organizations and health care providers. VDH collaborates on the PII while PPNNE, the Title X subrecipient, and its health centers, participate in the PII. In particular, the initiative focuses on reducing barriers to the full range of contraceptive methods, including LARC access, by ensuring that providers and PII counselors offer in-depth contraceptive counseling and screening for social determinants of health. The initiative also focuses on ensuring LARCs are adequately stocked at all grantee clinics, that providers are properly trained on LARC placements, including immediate postpartum insertions.

About the Title X Program

The Title X Family Planning Program, created in 1970 and authorized under Title X of the Public Health Service Act, is administered by the Office of Population Affairs (OPA) in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. For more information, please refer to OPA's [website](#).

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