

# Vermont Child Poverty Council

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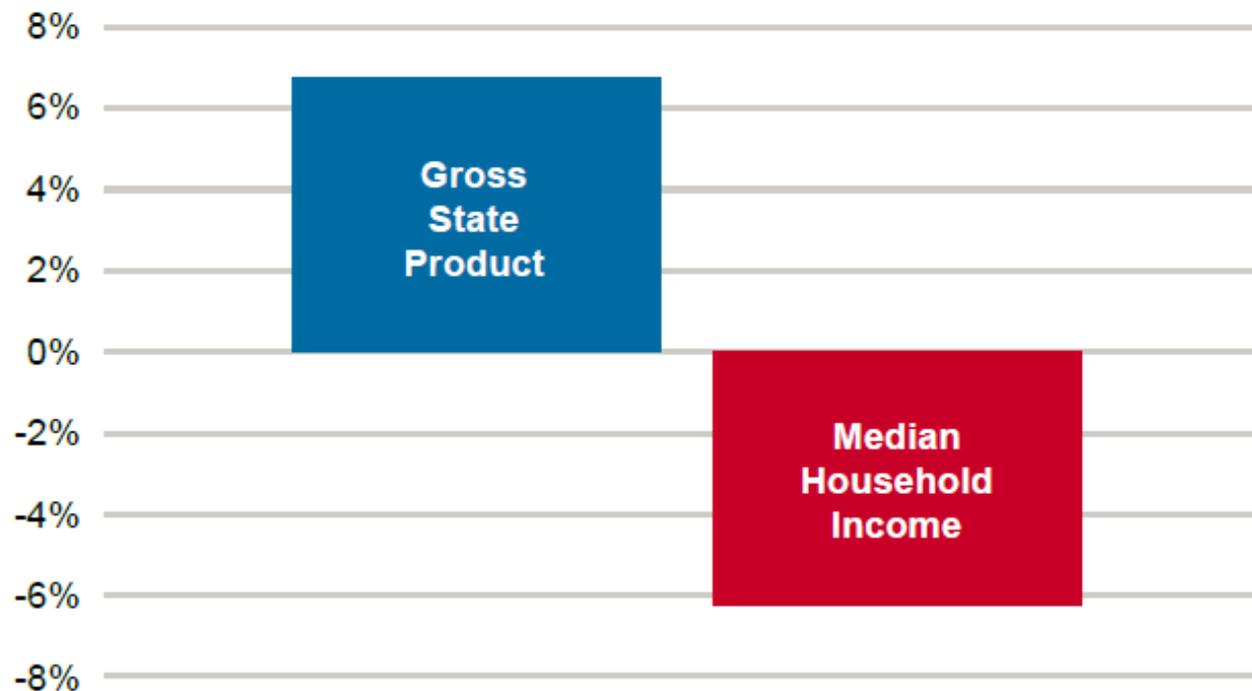
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# State of Working Vermont 2014



## Vermont's Economy Has Grown, but Incomes Have Fallen

Change in gross state product and median household income, adjusted for inflation, 2009-13

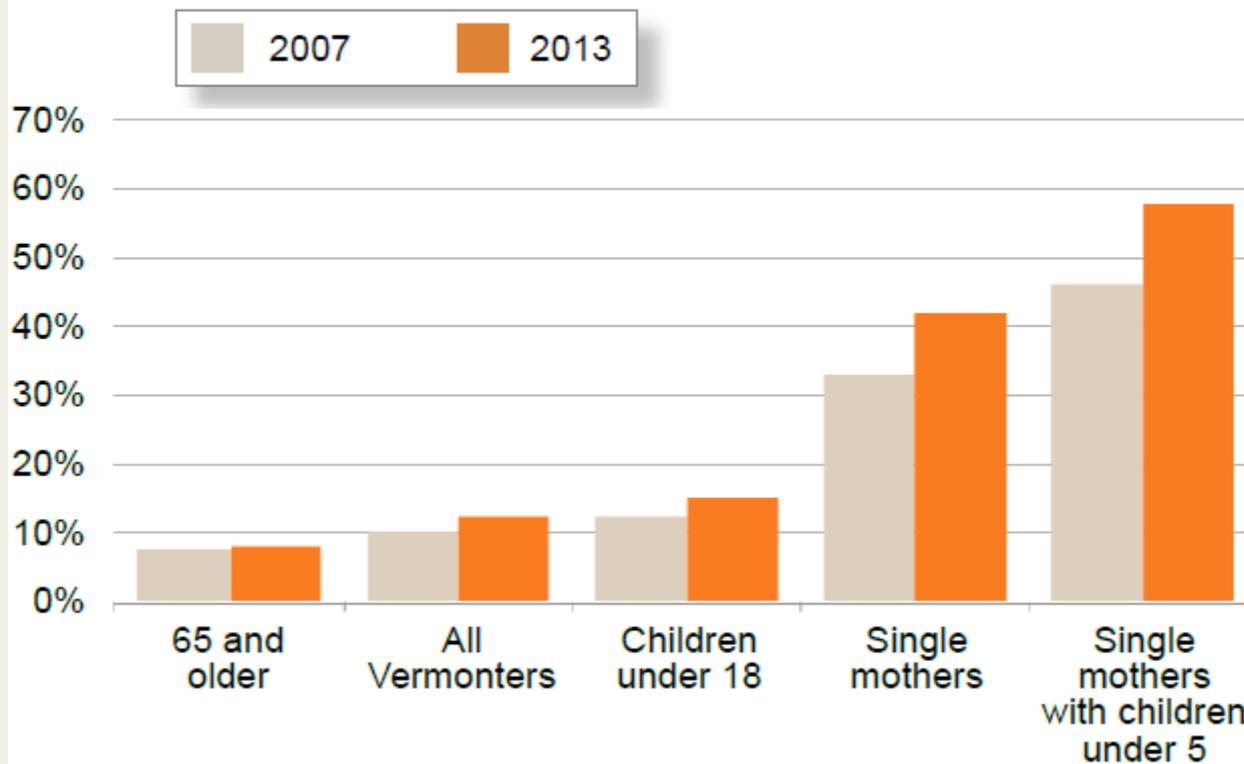


Data sources: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis; Economic Policy Institute analysis of U.S. Census, American Community Survey data

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## Poverty Rose, Especially for Single Mothers and Young Children

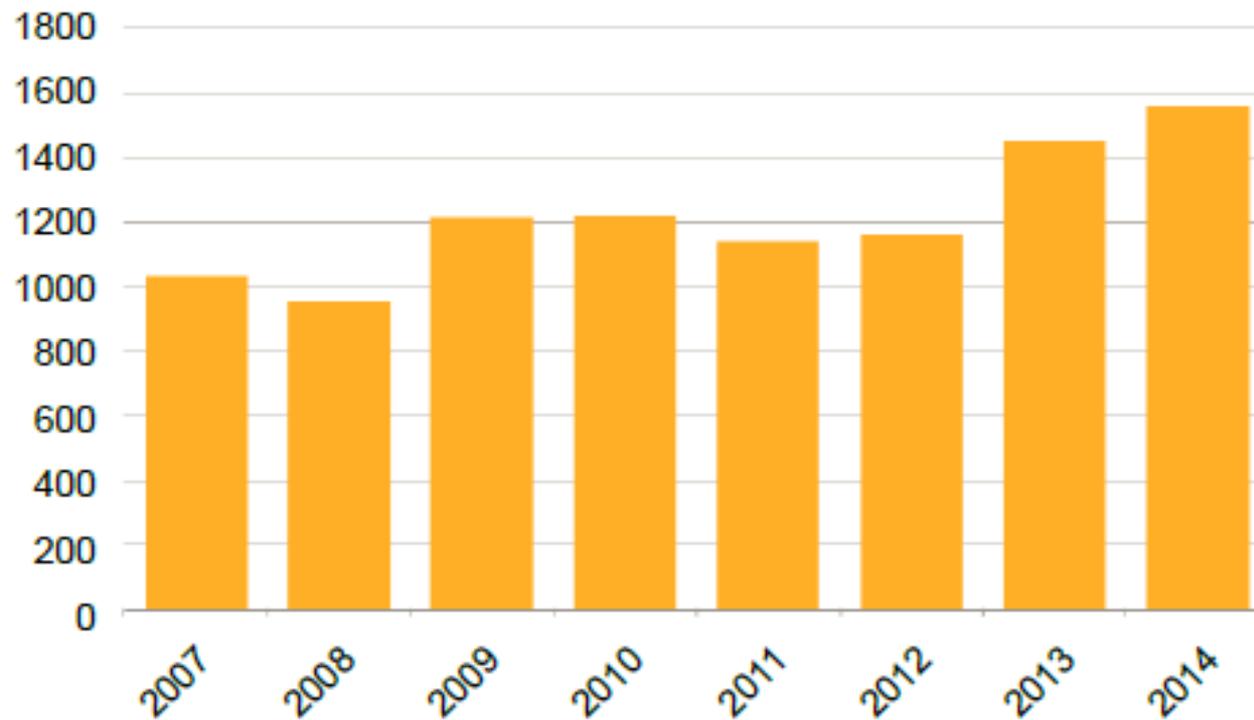
Percentage of selected group living at or below the federal poverty level, 2007 & 2013



Data source: U.S. Census, American Community Survey, 2007 & 2013, 1-year estimates

## More Vermonters Lack a Roof Over their Heads

Homeless count reported on a single night in January, 2007-2014

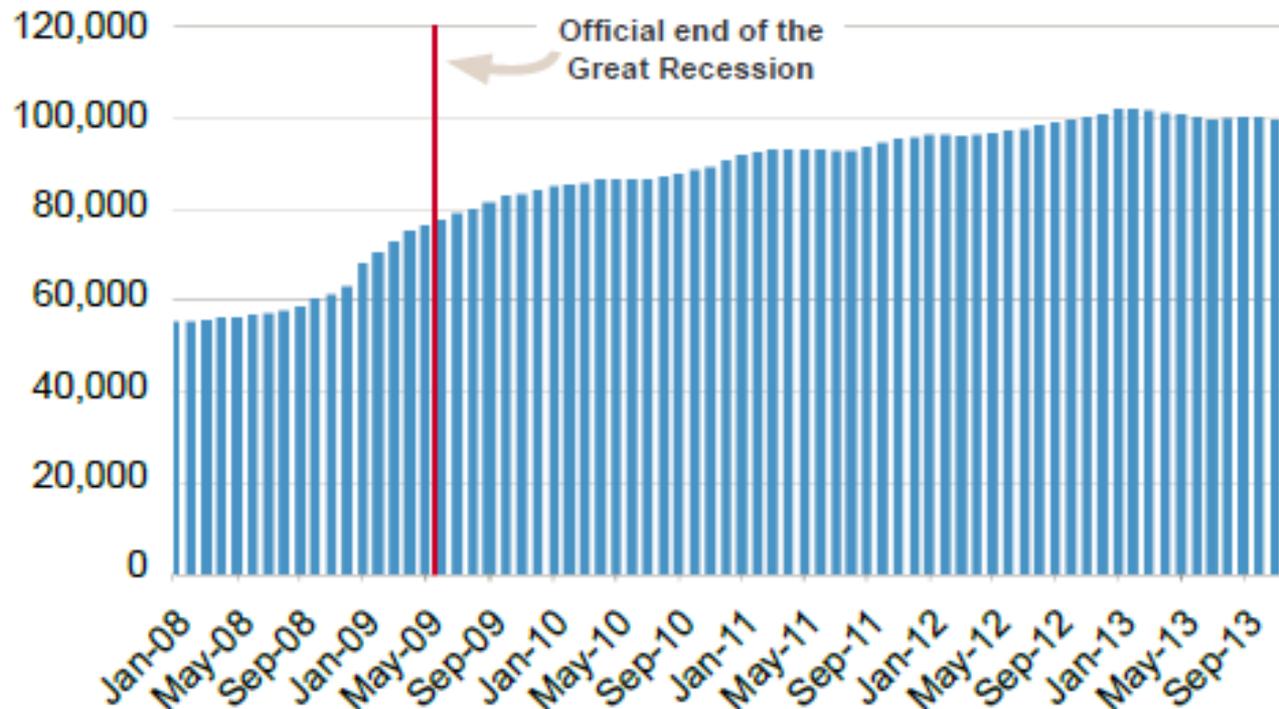


Data source: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 2007-2014 Point-In-Time Estimates of Homelessness

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## Hunger Didn't End when the Recession Was Officially Over

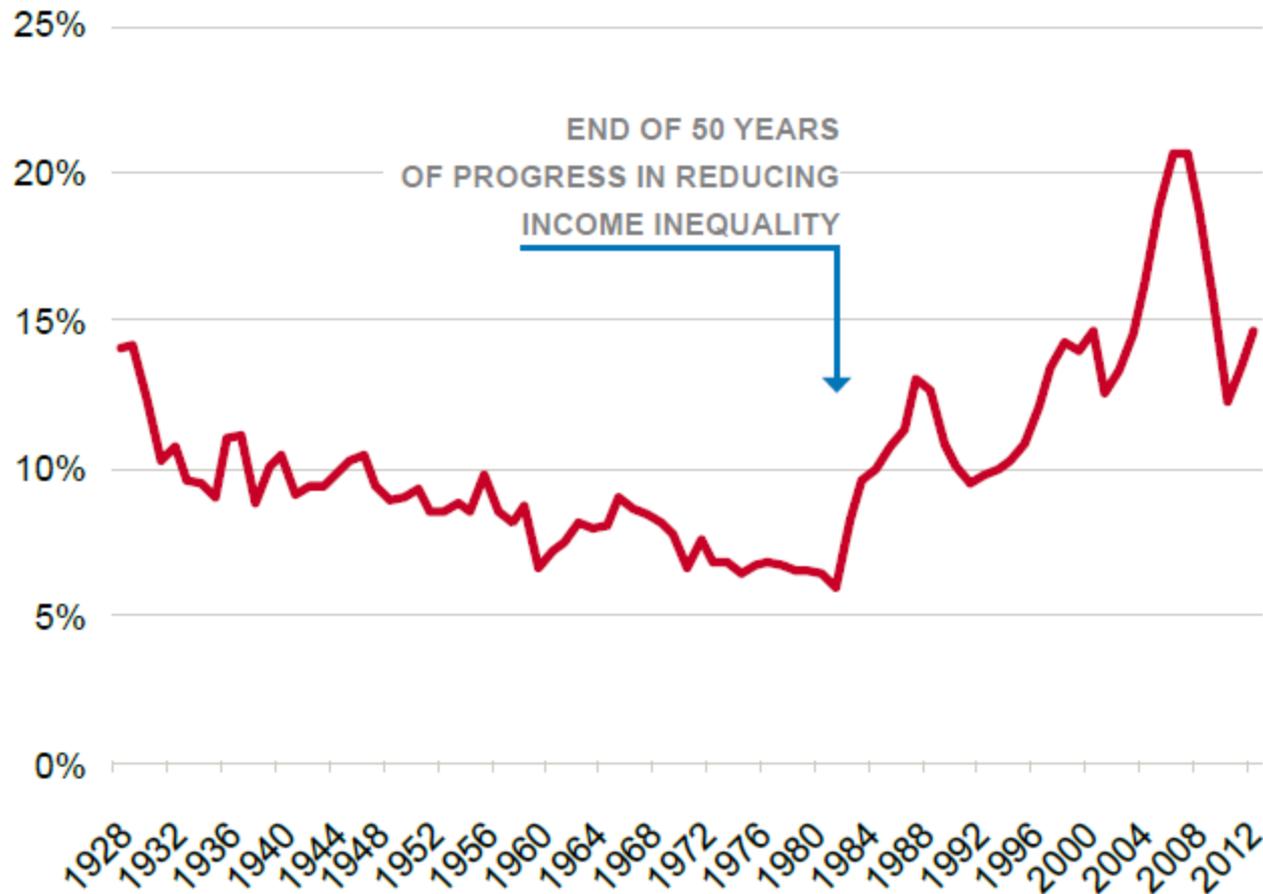
Vermonters receiving food stamp benefits each month through 3SquaresVT, Jan. 2008—Dec. 2013



Data source: Vermont Department for Children and Families, Economic Services Division  
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## Vermont's 1 Percent Received a Bigger Share of the Pie

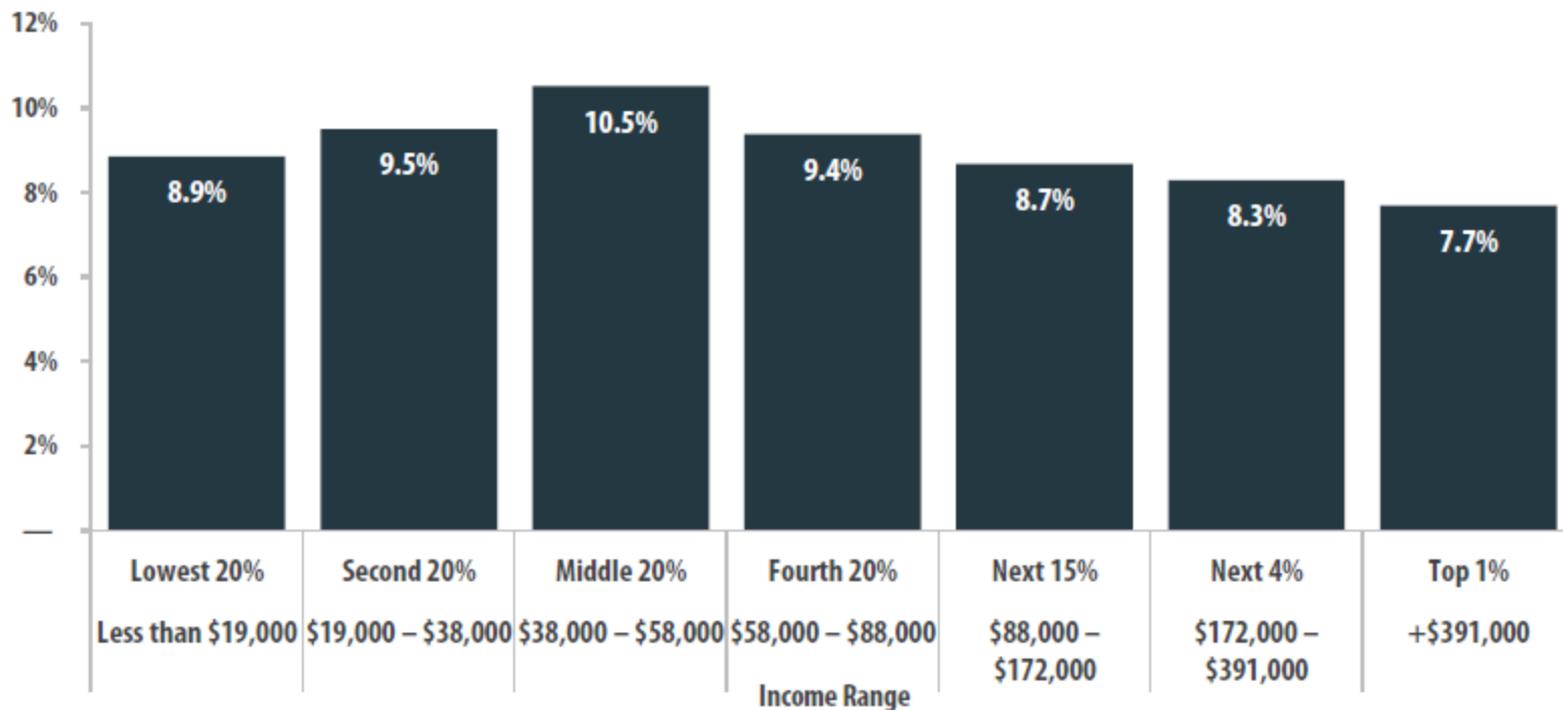
Percentage of income received by top 1 percent, 1928-2012



Data source: Mark W. Frank, Professor of Economics, Sam Houston State University  
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## As a Share of Income, Total Taxes are Lowest for Vermont's Wealthiest

Projected 2015 state and local taxes as a percentage of 2012 income, by income range



Data source: Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy

## 32 VSA § 306a. PURPOSE OF THE STATE BUDGET

(a) Purpose of the state budget. The state budget, consistent with Chapter I, Article 7 of Vermont's constitution, should "be instituted for the common benefit, protection, and security of the people, nation, or community..." The state budget should be designed to address the needs of the people of Vermont in a way that advances human dignity and equity.

(b) Spending and revenue policies will seek to promote economic well-being among the people of Vermont, and foster a vibrant economy. Integral to achieving the purpose of the state budget is continuous evaluation of the raising and spending of public funds by systems of outcome measurement based on indicators that measure success in accomplishing the purposes of the state budget.

(c) Spending and revenue policies will reflect the public policy goals established in state law and recognize every person's need for health, housing, dignified work, education, food, social security, and a healthy environment.

(d) As consistent with state law and in conjunction with the federal government, the budget will reflect support for economic development, public safety, transportation, and other infrastructure needs.

(e) Revenue measures shall also be based on the principles of sustainability and stability. The administration shall develop budget and revenue proposals as part of a transparent and accountable process with direct and meaningful participation from Vermont residents.

## **33 VSA § 1102**

### **Purpose**

#### **(a) The purpose of the Reach Up program is:**

(6) to improve the well-being of children by providing for their immediate basic needs, including food, housing, and clothing;

## **Current Services Budget:**

a projection of the real cost of the public services that our elected officials have committed the state to provide.