



## FACT: VERMONT HAS A PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE AND IT IS GETTING WORSE

As of 2022, Vermont now has a shortage of 115 primary care physicians compared to national benchmarks – see charts below:

- Based on demand modeling previously commissioned by the State of Vermont, the aging demographics in Vermont will only exacerbate the need. Our current supply of primary care physicians is **369.7 FTEs** short of what we will need in **2030 – 112 short in family medicine, 190 short in internal medicine, 52 short in OBGYN and 2 short in pediatrics.**
- Vermont has previously had several areas that met the strict federal criteria to qualify for designation as a Health Profession Shortage Areas and a number are currently pending for approval.

A recent out of state consultant report claims that Vermont has “enough primary care providers for well into the future” and that “HRSA recognizes no Health Profession Shortage Areas in Vermont.”

### VERMONT’S PROJECTED SHORTAGE OF PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIANS BETWEEN 2022 & 2030

Aging demographics



Projected future demand



**2022–2030**

Vermont’s primary care needs

#### 2030 Projected PCP Shortage

- 112 FAMILY MEDICINE**
- 190 INTERNAL MEDICINE**
- 52 OBGYN**
- 2 PEDIATRICIANS**

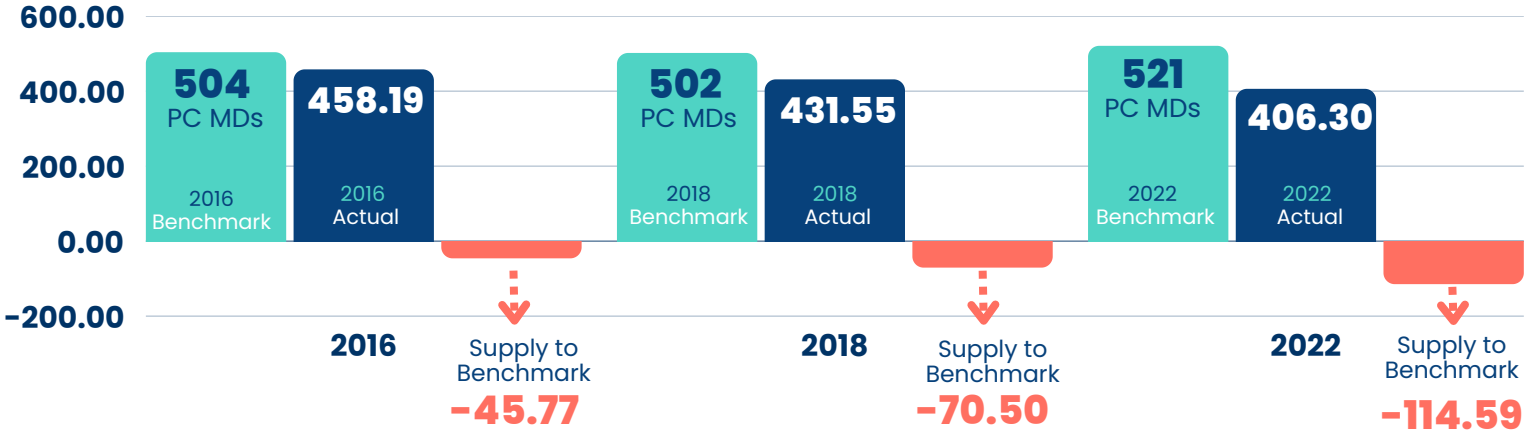


[Click here](#) for VMS’ strategies to address Vermont’s primary care physician shortage.



# Vermont's Primary Care Shortage – State Level 2022

■ Benchmark # of PC MDs   
 ■ Actual # of PC MDs in FTEs  
■ Supply to Benchmark



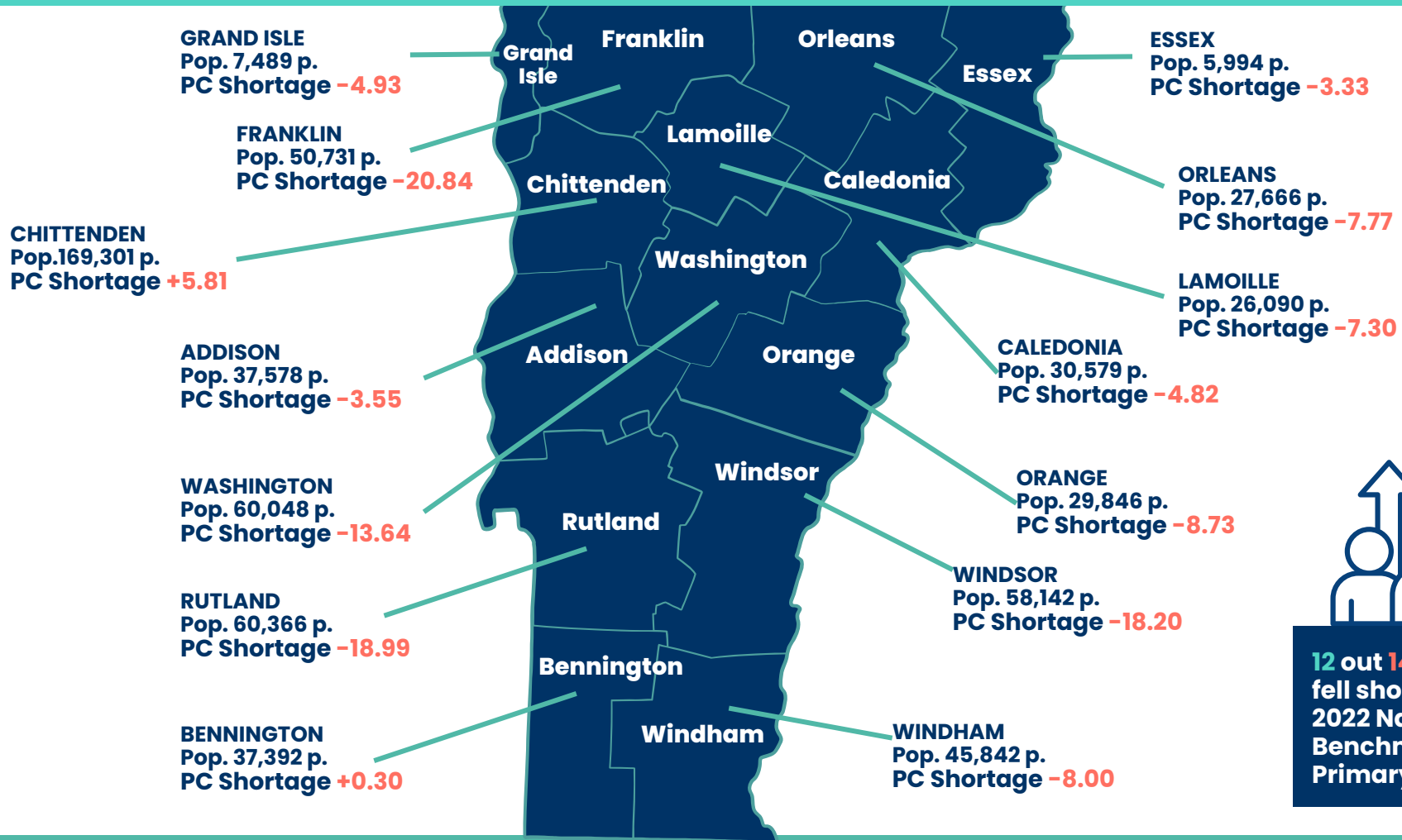
115

pc mds short of benchmark



Compared to the 2022 National Benchmarks, **Vermont's Primary Care Shortage is 115**, which represents a **22% gap**.

# Vermont Primary Care Shortage - County Level 2022



**12 out of 14 counties fell short of the 2022 National Benchmark for Primary Care MDs**



## VMS 2025 PRIMARY CARE WORKFORCE POLICY NEEDS NOW



- **Support** ongoing state funding for the new VT Area Health Education Center (AHEC) Medical Student Incentive Scholarship launched in summer 2021 to sunset in 2027;
- **Sustain** increased funding for Vermont's primary care loan forgiveness programs beyond the current HRSA funding award and ensure PCPs from all employment settings are eligible;
- **Support** Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education Planning & Development Grant to establish a new rural family practice residency program in collaboration with Federally Qualified Health Centers and area hospitals;
- **Advocate** for Congressional changes to HRSA scoring, which disadvantages VT opportunities for loan repayment, public health service slots and residency (GME) programs;
- **Fully fund** initiatives to bolster the existing mental health workforce capacity through collaborative care models, such as the Blueprint expansion and the Vermont Child Psychiatry Access Program (CPAP).

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