About the Vermont State Data Center

• The VT State Data Center is part of a national network of liaisons between the U.S. Census Bureau and local data users and producers.

• The VT SDC
  • Conducts Data Trainings
  • Responds to Data Requests
  • Assists with Census Bureau Data Collection Programs
  • Participates in Data Advocacy & Network Development
  • Advocates for VT Data Needs at the Census Bureau
Vermont’s **Northeast Kingdom (NEK)**- a name coined by former VT governor George Aiken in 1950- consists generally of Essex, Orleans and Caledonia counties.

Population centers include Derby/Newport on the Canadian border, Hardwick, and Lyndon/Saint Johnsbury to the South.

The NEK is home to about **64,500 residents**, or about **10% of VT’s population**.

The Northeast Kingdom also has about **7,200 firms** (2012)- About **9.5% of VT’s total**.
The Northeast Kingdom Counties are among the least populous counties in Vermont.
The NEK Counties are among the lowest density counties in VT.
The Kingdom Counties are experiencing population loss like much of the state. Essex’s population loss is particularly high relative to most other counties.

2007-2011 to 2012-2016
NEK Migration Snapshot 2011-2015

Caledonia County
- Movers from a different state: 1,092
- Movers to a different state: 659
- Movers from a different county, same state: 1,080
- Movers to a different county, same state: 705
- Movers from abroad: 81

Essex County
- Movers from a different state: 221
- Movers to a different state: 218
- Movers from a different county, same state: 147
- Movers to a different county, same state: 266
- Movers from abroad: 8

Orleans County
- Movers from a different state: 612
- Movers to a different state: 453
- Movers from a different county, same state: 551
- Movers to a different county, same state: 627
- Movers from abroad: 62
The NEK Counties have the lowest Labor Force Participation rates in Vermont.
There has been an overall increase in the number of paid employees in the NEK, but this is not the complete story.
The NEK Counties have relatively high Unemployment. Especially Essex County.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Unemployment Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essex</td>
<td>10.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>9.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Windham</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rutland</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caledonia</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bennington</td>
<td>7.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Isle</td>
<td>7.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addison</td>
<td>6.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orleans</td>
<td>6.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vermont</td>
<td>6.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chittenden</td>
<td>5.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Windsor</td>
<td>5.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>5.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin</td>
<td>5.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>5.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lamoille</td>
<td>4.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The NEK Counties have the lowest Median Household Incomes in Vermont.
The NEK Counties have the highest poverty rates in Vermont.
Essex County workers are leaving the County to go to work.
• We want to better understand...
  • The Northeast Kingdom, the counties within the NEK, and the individual communities are not all the same.
• There are places in the NEK that are hubs of activity.
• Places where population and jobs are focused.
• These hubs may look very different from their surrounding communities.
  • And may look more like other places in Vermont.
• And these places may serve as leverage points within the NEK.
## Population Centers in the NEK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Town</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St. Johnsbury</td>
<td>7535</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lyndon town</td>
<td>5948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Derby town</td>
<td>4529</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newport city</td>
<td>4493</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hardwick town</td>
<td>2949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barton town</td>
<td>2726</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danville town</td>
<td>2203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newport town</td>
<td>1773</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barnet town</td>
<td>1632</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burke town</td>
<td>1570</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Five Greatest NEK Town Population Increases/Decreases between 2010-2015 - by percent

- Norton town: -32.9%
- Brunswick town: -25.8%
- Victory town: -24.1%
- East Haven town: -23.4%
- Peacham town: -22.3%
- Wheelock town: 25.5%
- Granby town: 31.9%
- Maidstone town: 46.9%
- Lemington town: 50.5%
- Jay town: 75.6%
Changes in the number of jobs is highly variable across the NEK.

2005-2015 Percent Change in Resident Jobs in Towns with more than 1,000 Resident Jobs in 2015.

- Danville town: -7.5%
- Barton town: -7.0%
- Hardwick town: 24.1%
- Derby town: 16.5%
- Newport city: 2.8%
- Lyndon town: 26.4%
- St. Johnsbury town: -15.1%
Poverty inside the Kingdom

2015 NEK Towns with Lowest and Highest Poverty Rates

- Waterford town: 2.8
- Lemington town: 6.7
- Danville town: 7
- Peacham town: 7.6
- Barnet town: 7.9
- Coventry town: 20.2
- Morgan town: 20.3
- Brunswick town: 25.8
- Newport city: 26
- Stannard town: 26.1
What We Now Know About the NEK

- The NEK is comprised of some of the least populous, least densely-settled counties in a state with one of the most rural populations in the country.

- **Poverty and Unemployment rates are higher** than State averages, but similar to U.S levels.

- **Median Incomes track significantly lower** than both Vermont and U.S. Median Incomes.

- Essex County lacks the population centers found in Orleans and Caledonia Counties.
  - Essex County differences are often more pronounced than Orleans’ and Caledonia’s.

- There are large differences among the NEK towns with regard to most indicators.
Thank You

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