



“In my administration, there will be room for everybody that has a good idea that will make the economy stronger and the state more affordable.”

— Gov.-elect Phil Scott, from his victory speech Nov. 9 in Montpelier

Gov. Phil Scott (R)

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Vermont

Pop. (2016): 644,954

Median household income: \$53,650

Credit Rating: AA+/Stable

Pop. growth 2016–2021: 0.43%

Median age: 42.8

Right-to-work state: No

Legislative Update

- The Vermont Employment Growth Incentive (yes, it's called VEGI) was extended through 2021, but the state's Enterprise Fund was eliminated.
- Then-Gov. Peter Shumlin in March signed into law a measure guaranteeing paid personal leave for private-sector workers, making the state the fifth with such a law. By Jan. 1, 2017, any firm employing five or more people had to offer up to three days of paid time off to permanent employees. That number goes to five days on Jan. 1, 2018.
- In June, Shumlin, a Democrat, vetoed a bill designed to give local communities more say in the siting of wind and solar power projects. Shumlin said he objected to strict limits it placed on sound from wind turbines. The fight has pitted some renewable energy supporters against each other, as some object to both the sight of and the noise from wind-driven turbines.



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Business Tax Climate Rank Change 2016-2017: **0**



47

Higher Ed. R&D Expenditure: **\$119,663**



27

Number of NCRCs: **2,692** | Percent Improvement 2016-2017: **6%**



12

College Attainment Percent: **45.3%**



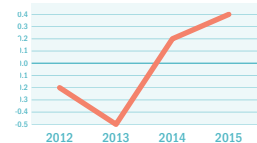
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Lowest Electric Power Cost (cents/kWh): **10.37**



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GDP
50th



2015 GDP
(in millions of current US\$)
\$30,038