

# **P-2315 Work Participation Rate (WPR) and Work Requirements (B21-08)**

## **Work Participation Rate (WPR)**

Vermont receives funds through the federal Temporary Aid for Needy Families (TANF) program for the [Reach Up program](#). TANF requires states to be accountable for meeting a federally set work participation rate (WPR). Calculating the WPR for a state is a complicated process. Part of the process is ensuring that a portion of the households receiving Reach Up benefits take part in a specific set of countable work activities.

In order to receive credit towards the WPR, the hours of participation must be monitored and documented. In Vermont, much of the WPR is met through the enrollment in the [Reach Ahead program](#).

Meeting the federally set WPR preserves Vermont's federal funding level. The state would face financial penalties based on how short of the target rate we fell. Less federal money would mean lower benefits and services to households. Economic Services Division (ESD) and the Reach Up program are committed to meeting the federal work participation rates without compromising a commitment to providing service in ways that demonstrate professionalism, caring, respect, mutual responsibility, and hope.