

# VERMONT

## *FRUIT & VEGETABLE STATE PROFILE*

### **STATE FRUIT & VEGETABLE PRODUCTION**

- Fruits, Tree Nuts & Berries – Farms: 578; Acres: 4,253; Value: \$15,875,000
- Vegetables, Potatoes & Melons – Farms: 494; Acres: 2,855; Value: \$13,192,000

### **PRODUCE BUSINESS & EMPLOYMENT**

- 3 produce shippers, wholesalers and businesses
- 56 farmers markets selling fresh fruits and vegetables
- 5,301 FTE produce industry employment impact from producer to retailer

### **NEED FOR FRUIT AND VEGETABLE CONSUMPTION**

- Prevalence of adult obesity: 23.5%; National Rank: 45
- Prevalence of childhood obesity: 12.9%; National Rank: 37
- Prevalence of diabetes: 6.5%; Increase 1995-2010: 32.7%

### **OPPORTUNITY FOR BETTER HEALTH**

- 22,231 children participating in school breakfast
- 55,144 children participating in school lunch
- 16,804 participants in the Women, Infants and Children Program
- 85,538 participants in SNAP Program (Formerly Known as Food Stamp Program)

### **IMPACT OF FEDERAL FRUIT & VEGETABLE PROGRAMS**

- Farm Bill Specialty Crop Block Grants provided \$536,854 from 2008-2010 used to fund 37 projects to increase competitiveness and profitability of Vermont producers
- Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Program provides Vermont \$1,734,894 to fund fruit and vegetable snacks in 93 elementary schools this year
- WIC provides Vermont participants an estimated \$1.6 million annually in fruit and vegetable vouchers

#### **Sources**

USDA 2007 Agriculture Census; USDA, FNS; USDA, AMS; Blue Book Services; Produce Marketing Association Economic Reach and Impact of the Fresh Produce and Floral Industry; F as in Fat: How Obesity Threatens America's Future 2011