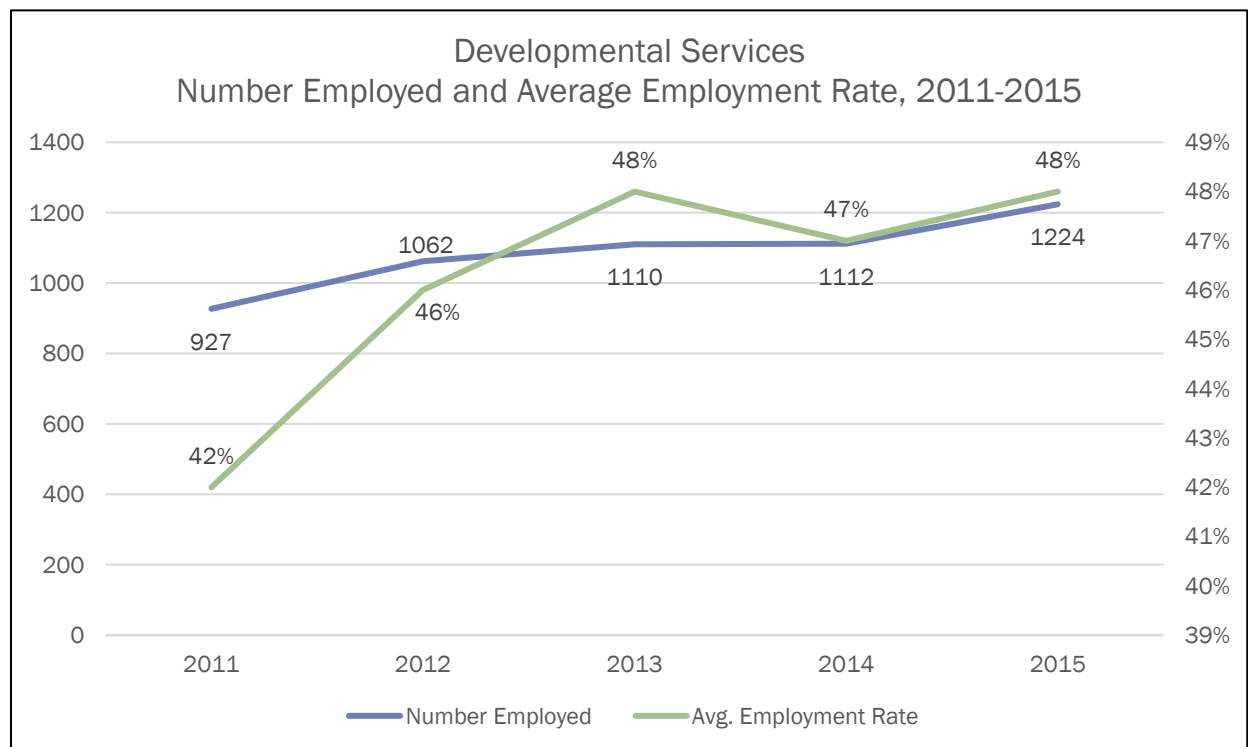
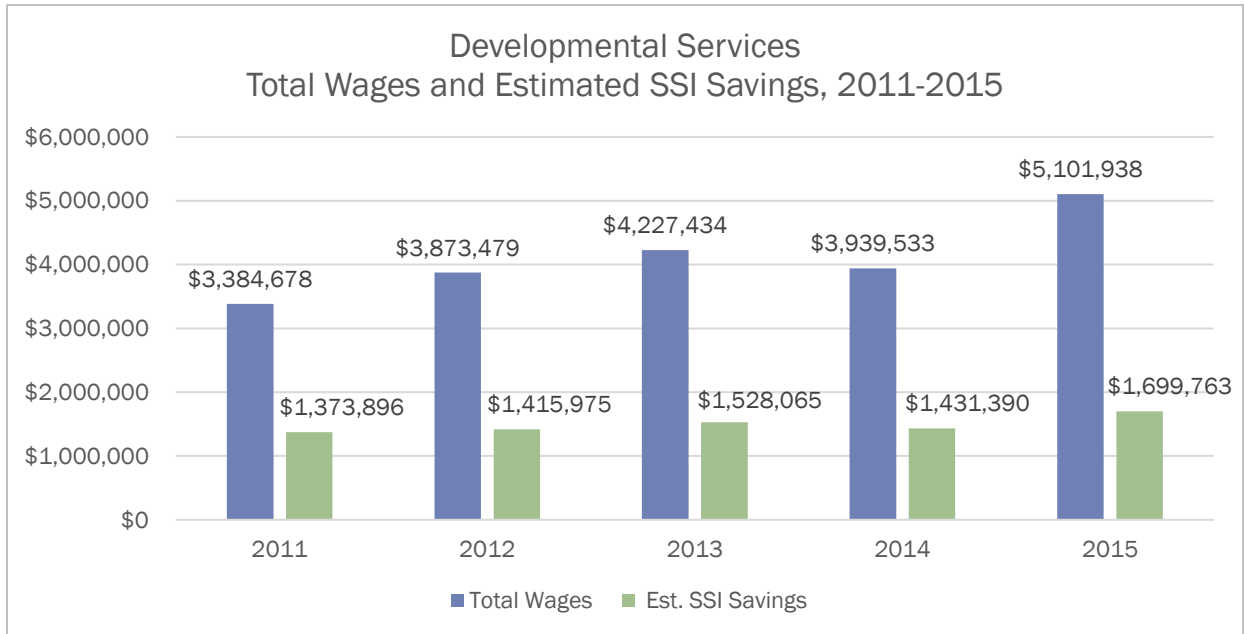


## DDSD Supported Employment

### How Services Affect Vermonters

- ~Workers benefit from specialized job matching and training not available elsewhere in the job training/labor system for people with DD/ID
- ~Employers are better able to hire because of the specialized services provided by DDS
- ~Business/DDS partnerships have increased cultural diversity in Vermont businesses
- ~Employment rate has steadily increased since 2011 by the total number of people employed and the percentage of people served by DDS who are employed [Chart 1]
- ~Recipients of DDS are employed at an all-time high. In 2015 almost half (48%) of adults of working age served in the DDS program were employed through SE supports
- ~DDS SE has a real economic impact: In 2015 DDS consumers earned in total \$5.1 million in real competitive jobs [chart 2]
- ~SE reduces dependence on benefits. In 2015 the Social Security disability benefits paid to DDS consumers were reduced by an estimated \$1.7 million [chart 2]
- ~People paid an estimated \$6,843,826 in payroll taxes since 2005, contributing to the tax base
- ~Implementation of DDS post-secondary education supports and business hosted training programs are highly effective with an 83% employment rate at end of 2016 school year





**Vermont leads the Nation in employment of workers with DD/ID**

~Vermont ranks #1 in the nation for the # of people who receive SE services and work per 100,000 of the state population with the highest employment rate @ 48% (DDSD Annual report 2016)

~ Vermont was the first state in 2003 to eliminate segregated work models and prohibit use of state funds for segregated models paying substandard wages

~Vermont is known nationally as a resource to others looking to replicate the VT SE model

Technical Assistance has been provided to:

- SGenable of Singapore
- State of Rhode Island
- President’s Council on Employment of People with Disabilities
- President’s Council on Economic Security
- Public Interest Law Center of PA
- State of Illinois
- Garten Services of Oregon
- Jewish Educational and Vocational Services of PA
- Developmental Services Center of Illinois
- State of Connecticut
- Govt. of Essex, United Kingdom

Feature articles published about Vermont DDS Supported Employment

Minneapolis Star Tribune 3-part series

Pittsburgh Penn

Baltimore Sun,

Toronto Star

**Vermont DDS SE received 2017 International award at the United Nations – Vienna**

State of Vermont DDS SE was recognized by the *Zero Project and World Future Council* at its 2/23/2017 conference hosted by the United Nations in Vienna. These international organizations seek out models worldwide that improve the daily lives and legal rights of persons with disabilities.

The State of Vermont was chosen for its long-enduring and effective DDS SE program. 100 worldwide states, countries, and organizations of which only 11 were chosen were assessed for the Innovative **Policy 2017 on Employment, Work, and Vocational Education Award**.

The award recognizes innovative practices that embed disability inclusive efforts through sustained government or organizational policies. The positive impact to individuals, the scalability of its model, and the ability to sustain and enhance employment services are factors that lead to the prestigious award. The awards are selected for work that aligns with the mission of The Zero Project and the World Future Council; working for a world with zero barriers for people with disabilities.

Vermont's delegation comprised of UVM and DDS providers presented "**Vermont Supported Employment Program of 1983 Innovation**" to more than 500 participants from 70 different countries on 2/23/17 at the United Nations.

Zero Project will feature Vermont's Innovation on its website for the benefit of others.