

A new GMCB Public Comment has been received.

Submit Time: 08/05/2024

Name: Angelo Lynn

Affiliation: Addison County Independent, Vermont Sports magazine, Vermont Ski & Ride Magazine

Town/City: Middlebury

Topic: Community Engagement

Comment:

Hi,

During Dr. Hamony's presentation in Middlebury last week, he presented a striking slide showing the projected population changes for Addison County — basically that the population declined by 8% over the next 16 years and that the older age group will move from 12% to 24% and that the working population (20-64) will move from 53% to 40%.

It's one reason the future of health care looks so bleak in Vermont.

While I don't doubt those figures and the trend that's relied on to make those estimates, they are after all, an estimate. What then would happen if Vermont lost 4% instead of 8%, or achieved parity, or even gained 4% population, and, say the 20-64 group stayed at 50%?

I bring this up because it's one of the ways to get Vermont to focus on population growth (particularly in the 20-64 age group) as part of the solution, and how much good that would do for the state's economy and the affordability of our healthcare system.

To that end, when Dr. Hamony's group does its report this fall, it would be instructive if they would include a slide with a range of consequences for a population base that doesn't represent a death spiral, but that has some realistic measure of optimistic growth.

With thanks,

Angelo Lynn

Angelo Lynn
editor/publisher
Addison County Independent
Vermont Sports magazine
Vermont Ski & Ride Magazine
58 Maple Street
Middlebury, Vt. 05753

Post Comment: Yes