



# **Looking Ahead: Vermonters' Values and Concerns Online Survey Results**

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## Introduction

The Council on the Future of Vermont (CFV), a project of the Vermont Council on Rural Development, is in the midst of a statewide public dialogue on the values, challenges, opportunities, priorities and visions for the future of the state. The council's mission is to answer the questions: "What do these challenges and opportunities mean to Vermonters?" and "What do they believe we will need to do to meet the future with confidence?"

As part of this process, the Center for Rural Studies at the University of Vermont implemented statewide online and telephone surveys to gauge Vermonters' opinions on a specific set of values and challenges initially identified during a series of public forums hosted by CFV.

Respondents were asked to state their level of agreement with a series of statements related to values and then their level of concern about a series of statements related to challenges. Their answers give insight into the prevailing values and concerns that Vermonters consider important in their daily lives in 2008 and beyond. The statements were drafted by the Council on the Future of Vermont with expert design from the Center for Rural Studies. The survey was meant to measure level of agreement with ideas that had already been heard throughout the Council on the Future of Vermont project through the public forums and listening sessions.

This report details the results of the online survey.

Section I presents a descriptive (univariate) analysis of the 37 closed-ended variables as well as the demographic variables.

Section II presents a bivariate analysis to investigate the relationships between the 12 value and 24 challenge statements and the demographics.

Section III presents the results of the open-ended questions. The responses were categorized, collapsed and tallied to show the top categories and subcategories identified by respondents as the important goals for the future in Vermont and the steps for achieving those goals.

The results of the telephone survey as well as notes from public forums, are available online at [www.futureofvermont.org](http://www.futureofvermont.org) or by contacting the Vermont Council on Rural Development at [cfv@sover.net](mailto:cfv@sover.net), or 802-223-6098.

## Methodology

The data used in this report were collected by the Center for Rural Studies from Feb. 12 to Aug. 25, 2008. The online poll was hosted on the Center for Rural Studies web site (<http://crs.uvm.edu>), with a link from the Council on the Future of Vermont site ([www.futureofvermont.org](http://www.futureofvermont.org)). There were 829 valid responses.

***The results reported here are a summary of how the respondents answered the questions and how the responses differed among demographic groups, but it is important to note that this type of online survey does not yield a random sample and therefore the results cannot be generalized to the population as a whole in a statistically significant way.<sup>1</sup>***

The survey instrument consisted of a series of 37 closed-response questions, two open-response questions and a demographic question set. For the closed-ended questions, respondents were asked to state their level of agreement with a series of statements related to values and their level of concern about a series of statements related to challenges. For the open-ended questions, respondents were free to answer in any way they liked. (See Appendix 1 for the survey instrument.)

## Key Findings

Survey respondents were asked for their input on a series of 12 values and 24 challenges. The overall greatest value (92.5%) was placed on *the state's working landscape and heritage*. Together with the second and third-ranked values – *I value Vermont's spirit of independence* and *I value the small size and scale of the state* – these statements provide a picture of the most compelling attributes of the state that bring Vermonters together. Respondents to the phone survey, which was implemented March 10-17, 2008, also placed the greatest value (97.2%) on *I value the working landscape and its heritage*, with the second and third rated values of *I am proud of being from or living in Vermont* and *I value Vermont's spirit of independence*.

Online respondents expressed high level of concern about the *increasing cost of living* (75.3% said they were “very concerned”), *the increasing gap between high-income and low-income populations* (60.2% very concerned) and *pressure to convert open lands to residential, commercial or other development* (57.9% very concerned). In comparison, 82 percent of respondents to the phone survey were very concerned about *the increasing costs of living*, 69.4 percent were very concerned about *the health and viability of Vermont farms and the agricultural sector* and 62.9 percent were very concerned about *the tax rate in Vermont*.

Ninety-three point six percent of online respondents reported being either “very concerned” or “moderately concerned” about *the increasing costs of living, such as transportation, heating and electricity*. This reveals the common theme of affordability expressed by Vermonters throughout this survey. Three of the top five combined “very to moderately concerned challenges” relate to affordability (increasing costs of living, shortage of affordable housing and increasing gap between the high and low-income populations).

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<sup>1</sup> This online survey was posted on a public web site and was open to anyone with computer access. Several different sites linked to the survey and it was promoted through a variety of methods (e-mail, web links, newspapers, verbally at forums, etc.). Since a sampling frame of all online users cannot be identified, the sampling of respondents was not random and it is impossible to track non-response rate, these results cannot be generalized to the population as a whole. Consequently, the results and analysis in this report pertain to the actual survey respondents, not to the general population.

The fourth highest-ranked, combined “very to moderately concerned” statement: *The health and viability of Vermont farms and the agricultural sector* (81.8%), further verifies the high level of agreement with the *working landscape and its heritage* value statement (92.5% combined strongly agree and agree). When considering these two together it is interesting to note that working landscape resonated highly with respondents, both as a source of concern for its future and as a source of value.

Conversely, high percentages of Vermonters reported low levels of concern about some of the challenges identified through the CFV public forums. Forty percent of respondents were “slightly” or “not at all” concerned about *the level of engagement of Vermonters in their local governments*. This is interesting, especially because in the open-ended questions, nearly a quarter of respondents identified some form of increased civic action as a next step for addressing Vermont’s most important future goals. The fact that respondents expressed a low level of concern can be interpreted in at least two ways: they may not be worried about the issue, or they may believe that the level of engagement in local governments is high enough so that they do not see it as concerning.

Similarly, more than 60 percent of respondents were “slightly” or “not at all” concerned about *public safety*, 42.2 percent were “slightly” or “not at all concerned” with *the potential for an increased rate of population growth in Vermont*, 41.3 and 41.2 percent were “slightly” or “not at all” concerned with *the increase in the average age of the Vermont population* and *the level of engagement in local communities* respectively. These findings verify that some challenges identified through the public forums are not of as great concern to Vermonters as others. They could also be seen as an expression of confidence in Vermont’s public safety, future demographics and level of engagement in communities and the state’s ability to respond to the challenges of the future.

The open-response questions near the end of this survey provided a way for Vermonters to express their concerns in a very specific way. When asked: *What do you see as the most important goal for Vermont in the next generation?* Vermonters responded with a range of answers related to issues of affordability, the economy and Vermont’s physical environment. Their answers included commentary on tax rates, affordable healthcare, education and other services and the need for more jobs and higher wages. These concerns reflect the current increases in cost of living being experienced by Vermonters and others across the country.

The survey revealed a number of interesting demographic trends among some of the values and challenges. For example, as a respondent’s education level increased, the more likely they were to agree with the following value statements: *I value Vermont’s spirit of independence*, *I value the participatory government in Vermont*, *I value the accessibility of government in Vermont* and *I value the small size and scale of the state*. In general, female respondents were more likely to agree with the value statements than males. With regard to demographic trends among the challenges, one interesting finding is that respondents with income above the median for the state reported lower levels of concern for every statistically significant challenge than those at or below median income.

A proxy for rural respondents was created using all Northeast Kingdom Counties respondents and an urban proxy was created using Chittenden County respondents. One example of the differences between these demographic groups is that rural respondents reported trust in their neighbors at a (statistically insignificant) lower rate than their urban counterparts (76.2% and 78.8%, respectively) yet these rural respondents reported valuing their privacy at a significantly higher rate than urban respondents (87.8% and 75%, respectively).

The full listing of statistically significant crosstabulations of value and challenge statements with the respondents’ demographics is on pages 27 to 69.

## Demographics

The general demographic characteristics of the respondents are roughly in line with those of the state as a whole. However, the online respondents were generally of a slightly higher age and income level and a much higher education level than the general population.<sup>2</sup>

The age of the respondents ranged from 16 to 85 with a median age of 50 (mean: 48). This is 9 years higher than the median age of Vermonters, 41 years. Respondents were split along gender lines with 56 percent being female and 43 percent being male. Statewide, the split is 51 female and 49 male. Approximately 1 percent of respondents identified themselves as transgender or other.

Respondents reported an average of 2.5 household members, with a range of one to nine, and the average number of household members under the age of 18 of 1.7, with a range of zero to six. The average household size for the state is 2.4 people.

The total number of years respondents reported having lived in Vermont, including all earlier periods, ranged from one to 83 years, with an overall average of 25 years. Of the survey respondents, 1.5 percent had lived in Vermont for fewer than two years, nearly 25% had lived in Vermont for two to 10 years and just over 73% had lived in Vermont for more than 11 years. The average number of years living in Vermont for all respondents was 25; overall this survey group could be said to have long experience with the state and its issues.

Almost all the respondents (99.6 percent) had graduated high school and 74.2 percent had a Bachelor's or higher degree. However, according to the U.S. Census, 89.8 percent of Vermonters aged 25 and older are high school graduates and 32.4 percent have Bachelor's or higher degree.

Table 1  
*Education level*

	Frequency	Percent
9-12 grade (no diploma)	3	0.4
High school graduate (incl. GED)	31	3.8
Some college (no degree)	116	14.2
Associates/technical	61	7.5
Bachelor	265	32.5
Post-graduate/professional	340	41.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>816</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

<sup>2</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey

The majority of respondents (65 percent) had household incomes above the median for Vermont; 35 percent of respondents had household incomes equal to or lower than the median household income for Vermont.<sup>3</sup>

Table 2  
*Income*

	Frequency	Percent
<\$25,000	79	10.5
\$25,000-\$34,999	75	10.0
\$35,000-\$49,999	109	14.5
\$50,000-\$74,999	196	26.1
>\$75,000	292	38.9
Total	751	100

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

<sup>3</sup> \$47,665 with a margin of error of +/- \$1,270, Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey (2006 inflation-adjusted dollars)

Respondents were spread throughout the state, roughly in line with the population. The one exception was that there were a higher percentage of respondents from Chittenden County.

Table 3  
*Respondent town of residence by county*

County	Frequency	Percent	Percent of Vermont population <sup>4</sup>
Addison	64	7.9	5.9
Bennington	25	3.1	5.9
Caledonia	48	5.9	4.9
Chittenden	296	36.5	24.1
Essex	9	1.1	1.1
Franklin	21	2.6	7.7
Grand Isle	11	1.4	1.2
Lamoille	17	2.1	3.9
Orange	28	3.5	4.7
Orleans	28	3.5	4.4
Rutland	74	9.1	10.2
Washington	96	11.8	9.6
Windham	33	4.1	7.0
Windsor	60	7.4	9.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>810</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>)  
2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

(N=829)

<sup>4</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 population estimate



# Results

## Section I: Closed-ended questions

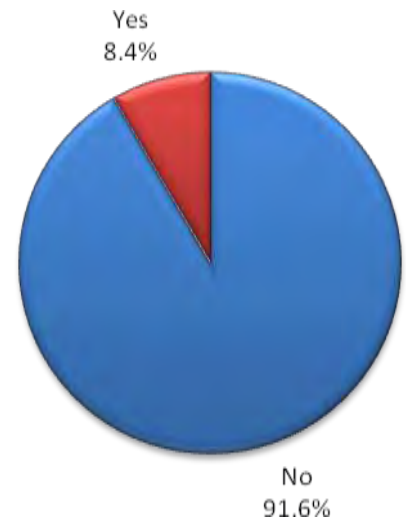
This section shows the results from the the closed-ended questions. This includes the value statements, about which respondents were asked to state their level of agreement, and the challenge statements, about which they were asked to state their level of concern. Each question is listed with the frequency and percentage of responses.

Just under nine percent of respondents had attended one of the public forums (See Table 4)..

Table 4  
*Have you attended a Conversation on the Future of Vermont forum?*

	Frequency	Percent
No	719	91.6
Yes	66	8.4
Total	785	100.0

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey



## Values

For the next 12 questions, respondents were presented with a range of some of the values that Vermonters identified at the Council on the Future of Vermont’s community forums and asked to state their level of agreement with these values. Respondents could choose from among the following categories: “Strongly Agree,” “Agree,” “Neutral,” “Disagree,” “Strongly Disagree” and “Don’t Know.”

The statement *I value the working landscape and its heritage* received the highest percentage of “strongly agree” responses (70.9%) and *I believe that private property rights are well respected in Vermont* received the highest percentage of “strongly disagree” responses (3.1%). See Tables 5 and 6 for the statements that received the top five percentages in each of these categories.

Table 5  
Highest percentage of “strongly agree” responses

Statement	Percent
I value the working landscape and its heritage	70.9
I am tolerant of diverse lifestyles in Vermont	67.2
I am proud of being from or living in Vermont	66.3
I value the small size and scale of the state	65.9
I value Vermont’s spirit of independence	65.3

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>)  
2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey (N=829)

Table 6  
Highest percentage of “strongly disagree” responses

Statement	Percent
I believe that private property rights are well respected in Vermont	3.1
I am proud of being from or living in Vermont	3.1
I believe there is a strong sense of community where I live	2.4
I value the accessibility of government in Vermont	2.3
I value the participatory government in Vermont	2.3

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>)  
2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey (N=829)

More generally, the statement with the highest percentage of overall agreement (“strongly agree” and “agree” combined) was *I value the working landscape and its heritage* (92.5%) and the statement with the highest percentage of overall disagreement (“strongly disagree” and “disagree” combined) was *I believe that private property rights are well respected in Vermont* (15.4%). See Tables 7 and 8 for all the statements ranked by percentage for both of these grouped categories.

Table 7  
*Ranked percentage of combined “strongly agree” and “agree” responses*

Statement	Percent
I value the working landscape and its heritage	92.5
I value Vermont’s spirit of independence	89.8
I value the small size and scale of the state	89.7
I believe Vermont’s creative communities are valuable to the state	87.0
I am proud of being from or living in Vermont	86.8
I value the accessibility of government in Vermont	86.6
I am tolerant of diverse lifestyles in Vermont	86.5
I value the privacy I get in Vermont	81.7
I trust my neighbors	80.1
I value the participatory government in Vermont	76.8
I believe there is a strong sense of community where I live	72.1
I believe that private property rights are well respected in Vermont	69.9

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) 2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey (N=829)

Table 8  
*Ranked percentage of combined “strongly disagree” and “disagree” responses*

Statement	Percent
I believe that private property rights are well respected in Vermont	15.4
I believe there is a strong sense of community where I live	10.7
I am proud of being from or living in Vermont	6.8
I trust my neighbors	5.4
I am tolerant of diverse lifestyles in Vermont	4.8
I value the accessibility of government in Vermont	4.7
I value the privacy I get in Vermont	4.7
I value the participatory government in Vermont	4.4
I believe Vermont’s creative communities are valuable to the state	4.1
I value the small size and scale of the state	3.8
I value Vermont’s spirit of independence	2.7
I value the working landscape and its heritage	2.1

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) 2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey (N=829)

Tables 9 to 20 show the total responses for each statement.

Table 9

*I value Vermont's spirit of independence.*

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly agree	536	65.3
Agree	201	24.5
Neutral	62	7.6
Disagree	15	1.8
Strongly disagree	7	0.9
Total	821	100.0

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

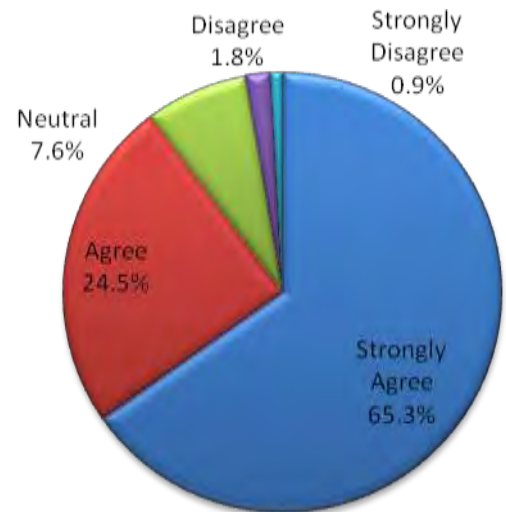


Table 10

*I am proud of being from or living in Vermont.*

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly agree	543	66.3
Agree	168	20.5
Neutral	53	6.5
Disagree	30	3.7
Strongly disagree	25	3.1
Total	819	100.0

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

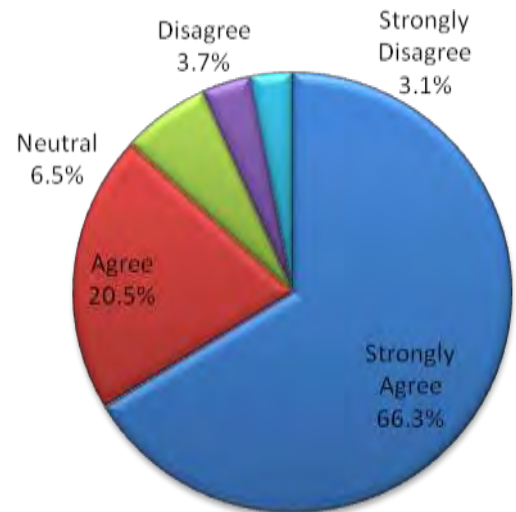


Table 11

*I trust my neighbors.*

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly agree	256	31.5
Agree	395	48.6
Neutral	117	14.4
Disagree	36	4.4
Strongly disagree	8	1.0
Total	812	100.0

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

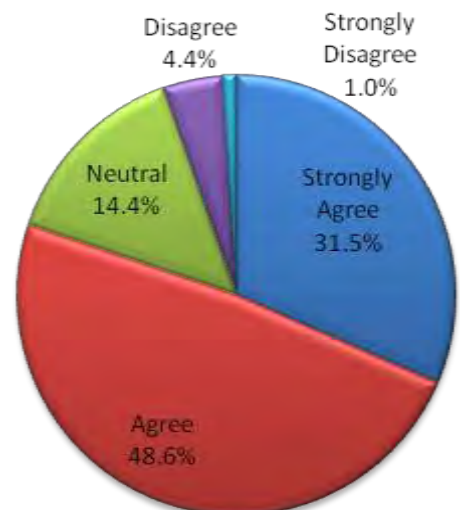


Table 12  
*I value the privacy that I get in Vermont.*

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly agree	360	44.7
Agree	298	37.0
Neutral	110	13.6
Disagree	31	3.8
Strongly disagree	7	0.9
Total	806	100.0

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
 2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

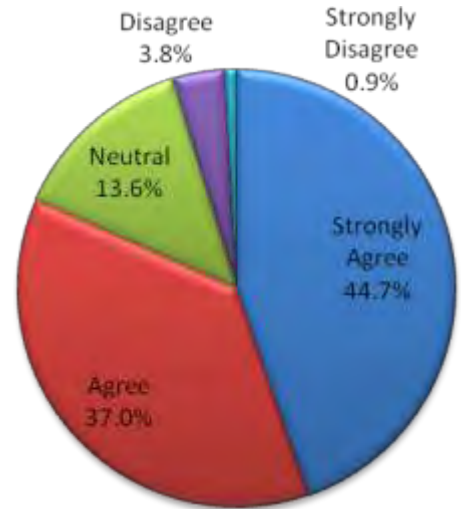


Table 13  
*I am tolerant of diverse lifestyles in Vermont.*

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly agree	553	67.2
Agree	159	19.3
Neutral	71	8.6
Disagree	29	3.5
Strongly disagree	11	1.3
Total	823	100.0

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
 2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

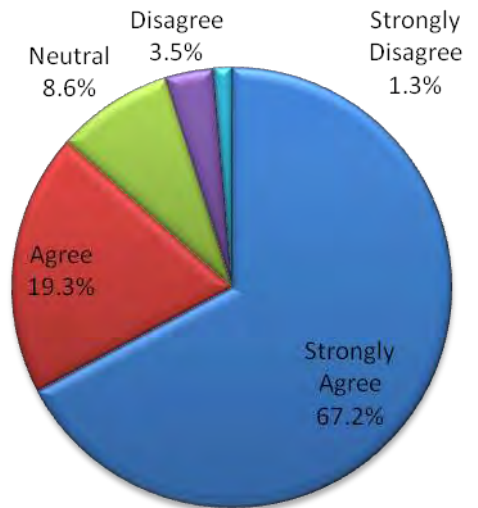


Table 14  
*I believe there is a strong sense of community where I live.*

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly agree	247	30.2
Agree	342	41.9
Neutral	140	17.1
Disagree	68	8.3
Strongly disagree	20	2.4
Total	817	100.0

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
 2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

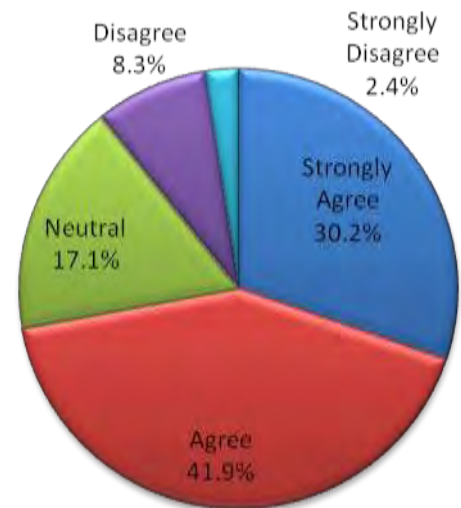


Table 15

*I believe that Vermont's creative communities are valuable to the state.*

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly agree	507	61.5
Agree	210	25.5
Neutral	73	8.9
Disagree	24	2.9
Strongly disagree	10	1.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>824</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

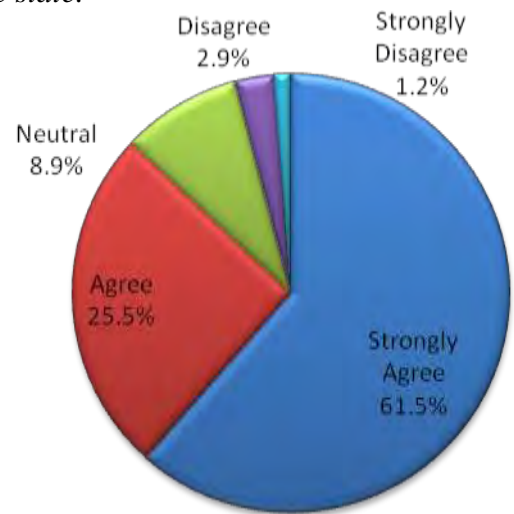


Table 16

*I value the working landscape and its heritage.*

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly agree	582	70.9
Agree	177	21.6
Neutral	45	5.5
Disagree	12	1.5
Strongly disagree	5	0.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>821</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

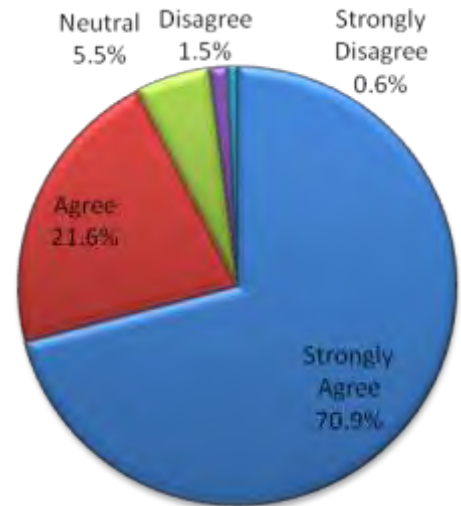


Table 17

*I value the participatory government in Vermont.*

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly agree	486	59.2
Agree	227	27.6
Neutral	72	8.8
Disagree	17	2.1
Strongly disagree	19	2.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>821</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

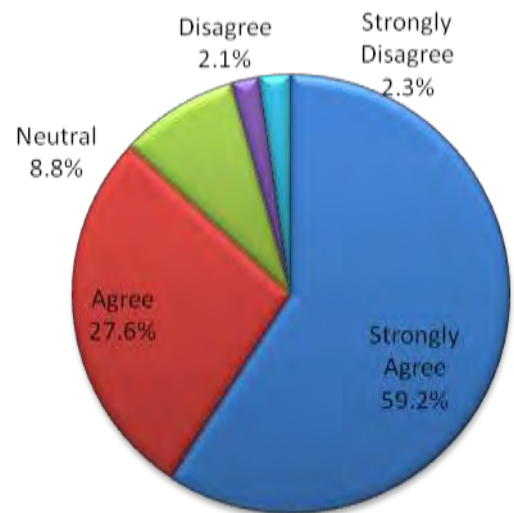


Table 18  
*I value the accessibility of government in Vermont.*

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly agree	474	57.8
Agree	236	28.8
Neutral	71	8.7
Disagree	20	2.4
Strongly disagree	19	2.3
Total	820	100.0

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
 2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

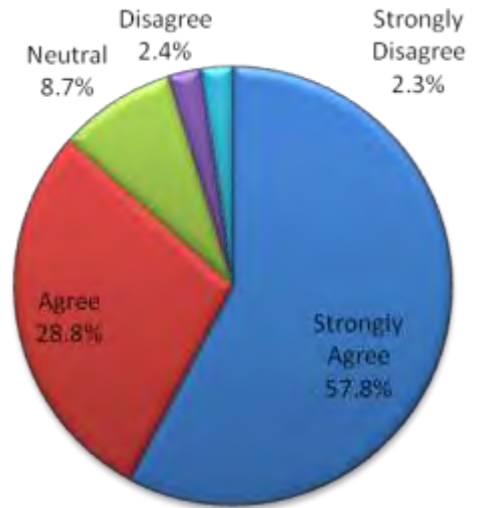


Table 19  
*I value the small size and scale of the state.*

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly agree	543	65.9
Agree	196	23.8
Neutral	54	6.6
Disagree	18	2.2
Strongly disagree	13	1.6
Total	824	100.0

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
 2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

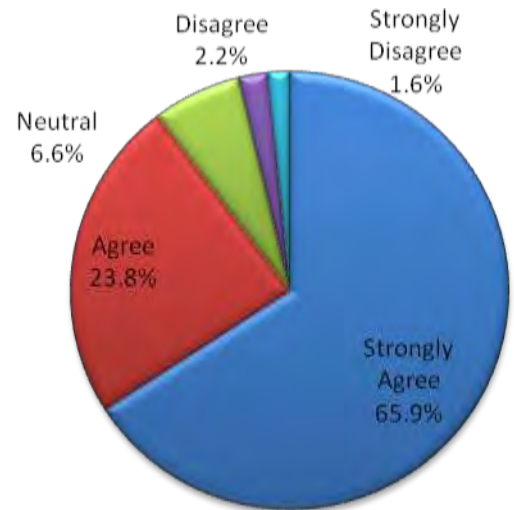
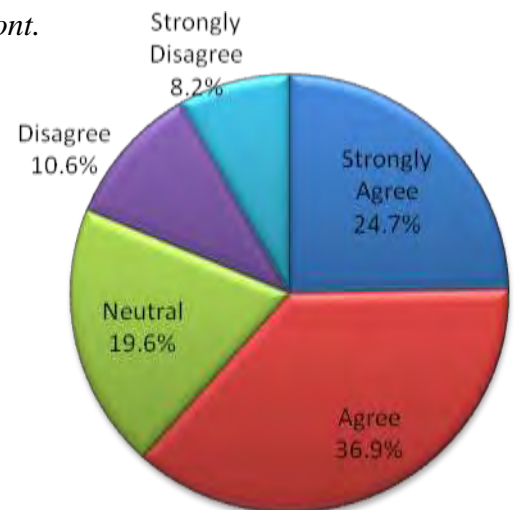


Table 20  
*I believe that private property rights are well respected in Vermont.*

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly agree	192	24.7
Agree	287	36.9
Neutral	152	19.6
Disagree	82	10.6
Strongly disagree	64	8.2
Total	777	100.0

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
 2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey



## Challenges

For the next 24 questions, respondents were presented with a range of some of the challenges that Vermonters identified at the Council on the Future of Vermont’s community forums and asked to state their level of concern about them. Respondents could choose from among the following categories: “Very Concerned,” “Moderately Concerned,” “Neutral,” “Slightly Concerned,” “Not at all Concerned” and “Don’t Know.”

The challenge that generated the highest percentage of “very concerned” responses was *The increasing costs of living, such as transportation, heating and electricity* (75.3%). The highest percentage of “moderately concerned” responses came from *An increase in the average age of the Vermont population* (38.5%), the highest percentage of “slightly concerned” responses came from *The level of engagement of Vermonters in their local government* (26.3%) and the highest percentage of “not at all concerned” responses came from *Public safety in Vermont* (24.2%). See Tables 21 through 24 for the challenges that received the top five percentages for each level of concern.

Table 21  
*Highest percentage of “very concerned” responses*

Statement	Percent
The increasing costs of living, such as transportation, heating and electricity	75.3
An increasing gap between high-income and low-income populations	60.2
Pressure to convert open lands to residential, commercial or other development	57.9
The changes in the earth’s climate and their potential impacts on the Vermont landscape and seasons	57.8
The health and viability of Vermont farms and the agricultural sector	57.3

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) 2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey (N=829)

Table 22  
*Highest percentage of “moderately concerned” responses*

Statement	Percent
An increase in the average age of the Vermont population	38.5
A shortage of available housing	38.3
The level of engagement of Vermonters in their local communities	37.0
The level of engagement of Vermonters in their local governments	36.1
The state’s existing public infrastructure and its future maintenance	35.5

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) 2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey (N=829)



Table 23  
*Highest percentage of “slightly concerned” responses*

Statement	Percent
Public safety in Vermont	36.0
The level of engagement of Vermonters in their local governments	26.3
An increase of the average age of the Vermont population	25.8
The level of engagement of Vermonters in their local communities	25.6
A shortage of available housing	25.1

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) 2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey (N=829)

Table 24  
*Highest percentage of “not at all concerned” responses*

Statement	Percent
Public safety in Vermont	24.2
The potential for an increased rate of population growth in Vermont	21.9
The quality of health care	21.3
The level of engagement of Vermonters in their local communities	15.7
An increase in the average age of the Vermont population	15.5

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) 2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey (N=829)

More generally, the statement with the highest percentage of overall concern (“very concerned” and “moderately concerned” combined) was *The increasing costs of living, such as transportation ,heating and electricity* (93.6%). See Table 25 for all the statements ranked by percentage for the grouped categories.

Table 25  
*Ranked percentage of combined “very concerned” and “moderately concerned” responses*

Challenge Statement	Percent
Increasing costs of living	93.6
Public infrastructure and its future maintenance	84.3
Shortage of affordable housing	83.3
Health and viability of Vermont farms and ag sector	81.8
Increasing gap between high- and low-income populations	81.0
Way Vermont finances public education	79.0
Pressure to convert open lands	78.3
Future renewable and alternative energy infrastructure	78.3
Increasing price of land	77.3
Accessibility of healthcare	76.9
Development of an adequate workforce	75.4
Quality of education	74.8
Changes in the earth's climate	74.5
Maintenance of healthy downtowns and village centers	74.5
Tax rate	70.9
Rate of business development	70.7
Limited availability of high speed internet and wireless telecommunications	63.3
Shortage of available housing	62.8
Quality of health care	59.9
Level of engagement in local government	59.5
Level of engagement in local communities	58.8
Increase in average age of population	58.7
Increased rate of population growth	57.8
Public safety	39.7

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) 2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey (N=829)

Tables 26 to 49 show the total responses for each statement.

Table 26  
*A shortage of affordable housing.*

	Frequency	Percent
Very concerned	454	55.5
Moderately concerned	227	27.8
Slightly concerned	92	11.2
Not at all concerned	45	5.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>818</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

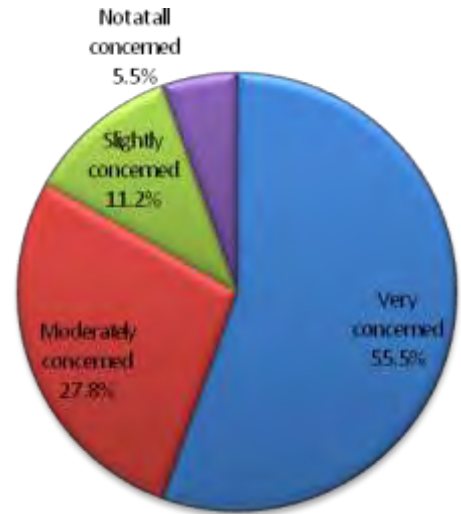


Table 27  
*A shortage of available housing.*

	Frequency	Percent
Very concerned	195	24.6
Moderately concerned	304	38.3
Slightly concerned	199	25.1
Not at all concerned	96	12.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>794</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

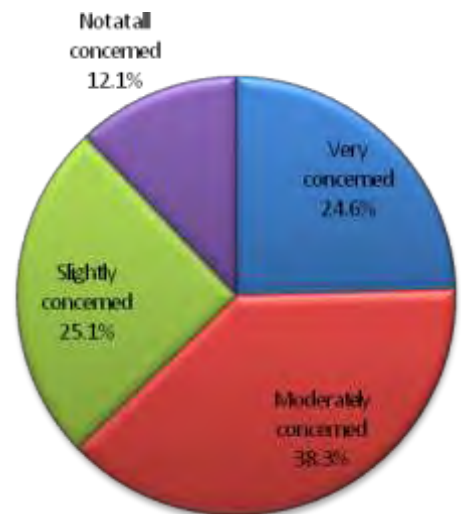


Table 28  
*The accessibility of health care.*

	Frequency	Percent
Very concerned	420	52.4
Moderately concerned	196	24.5
Slightly concerned	100	12.5
Not at all concerned	85	10.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>801</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

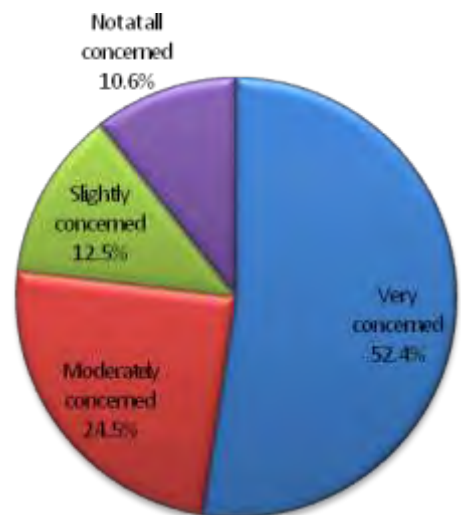
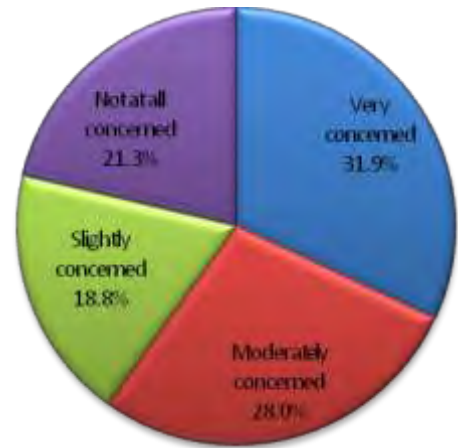


Table 29  
*The quality of health care.*

	Frequency	Percent
Very concerned	255	31.9
Moderately concerned	224	28.0
Slightly concerned	150	18.8
Not at all concerned	170	21.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>799</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
 2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey



Question 30  
*The rate of business development in Vermont.*

	Frequency	Percent
Very concerned	300	37.9
Moderately concerned	260	32.8
Slightly concerned	160	20.2
Not at all concerned	72	9.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>792</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
 2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

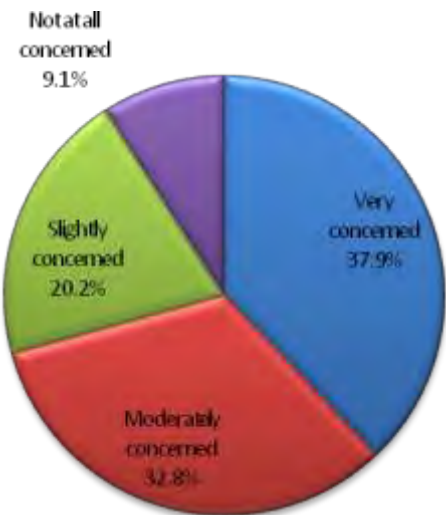


Table 31  
*The development of an adequate workforce for the future.*

	Frequency	Percent
Very concerned	340	42.6
Moderately concerned	262	32.8
Slightly concerned	152	19.0
Not at all concerned	44	5.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>798</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
 2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

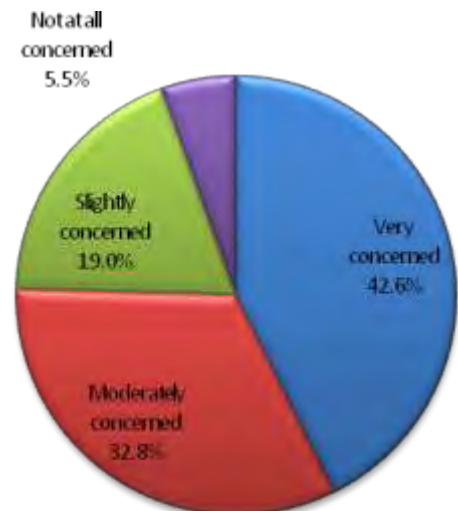


Table 32  
*The increasing costs of living, such as transportation, heating and electricity.*

	Frequency	Percent
Very concerned	620	75.3
Moderately concerned	150	18.2
Slightly concerned	45	5.5
Not at all concerned	8	1.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>823</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
 2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

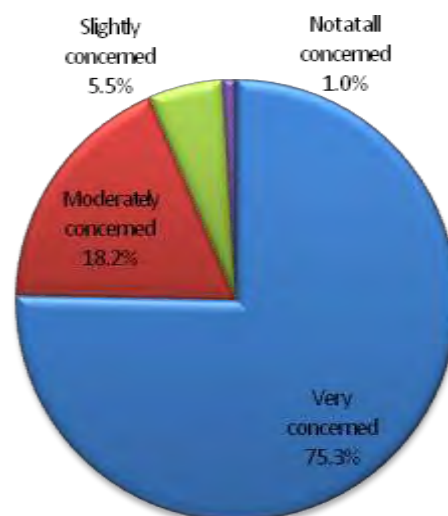


Table 33  
*The quality of education.*

	Frequency	Percent
Very concerned	358	44.4
Moderately concerned	245	30.4
Slightly concerned	126	15.6
Not at all concerned	77	9.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>806</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
 2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

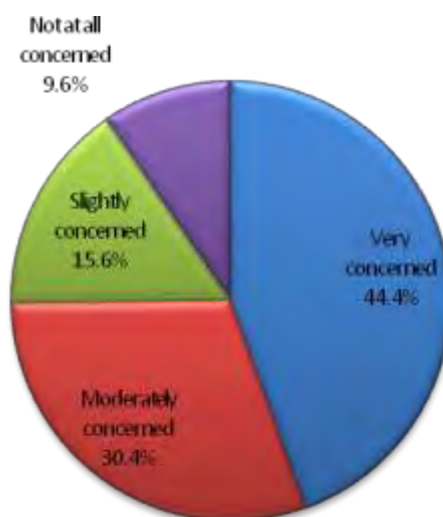


Table 34  
*The way Vermont finances public education.*

	Frequency	Percent
Very concerned	397	51.2
Moderately concerned	216	27.8
Slightly concerned	124	16.0
Not at all concerned	39	5.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>776</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
 2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

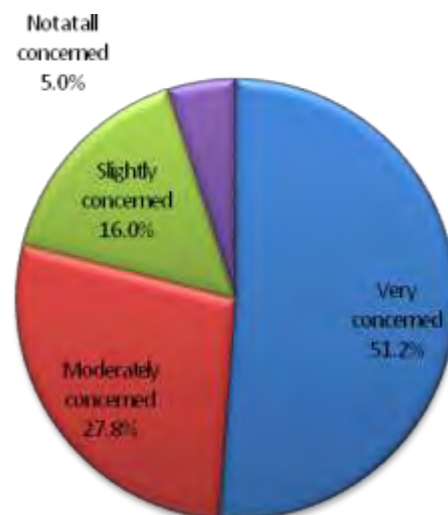


Table 35

*Pressure to convert open lands to residential, commercial, or other development.*

	Frequency	Percent
Very concerned	471	57.9
Moderately concerned	166	20.4
Slightly concerned	99	12.2
Not at all concerned	78	9.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>814</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

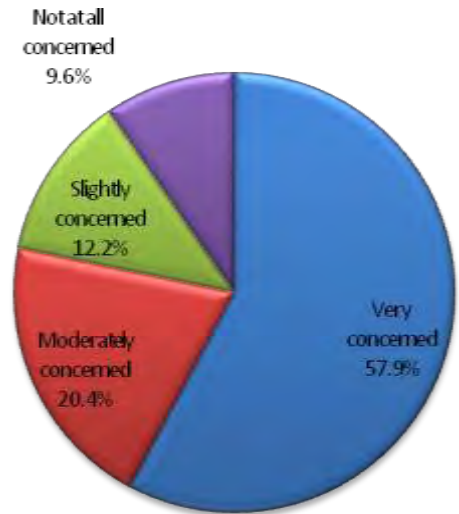


Table 36

*The changes in the earth's climate and their potential impacts on the Vermont landscape and seasons.*

	Frequency	Percent
Very concerned	472	57.8
Moderately concerned	137	16.8
Slightly concerned	90	11.0
Not at all concerned	118	14.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>817</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

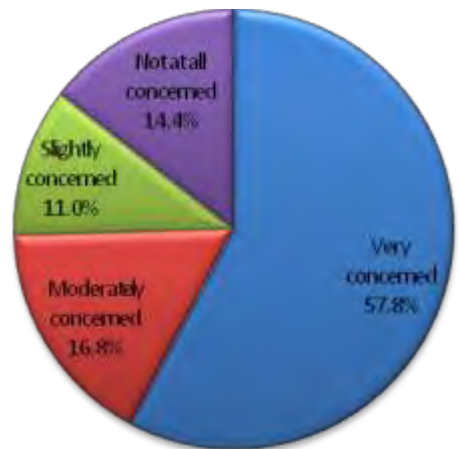


Table 37

*The increasing price of land in Vermont.*

	Frequency	Percent
Very concerned	359	44.6
Moderately concerned	263	32.7
Slightly concerned	128	15.9
Not at all concerned	55	6.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>805</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

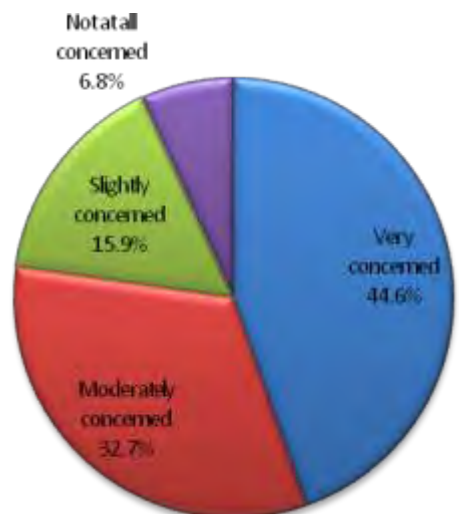


Table 38  
*The potential for an increased rate of population growth in Vermont.*

	Frequency	Percent
Very concerned	223	28.0
Moderately concerned	237	29.8
Slightly concerned	162	20.4
Not at all concerned	174	21.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>796</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
 2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

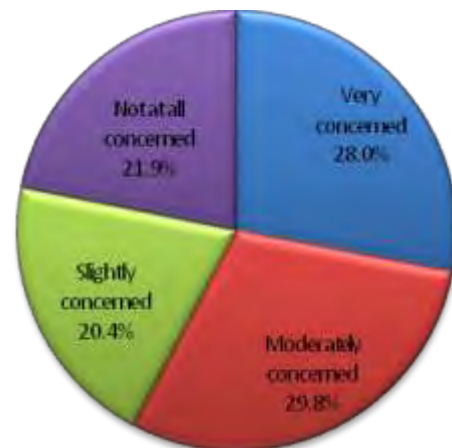


Table 39  
*An increase in the average age of the Vermont population.*

	Frequency	Percent
Very concerned	163	20.2
Moderately concerned	310	38.5
Slightly concerned	208	25.8
Not at all concerned	125	15.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>806</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
 2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

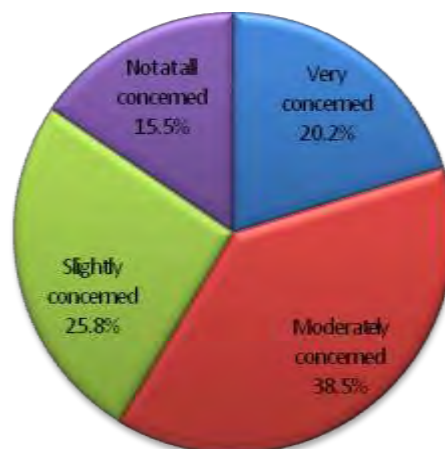


Table 40  
*The limited availability of high speed Internet connections and wireless telecommunications in Vermont.*

	Frequency	Percent
Very concerned	281	34.4
Moderately concerned	237	29.0
Slightly concerned	191	23.3
Not at all concerned	109	13.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>818</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
 2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

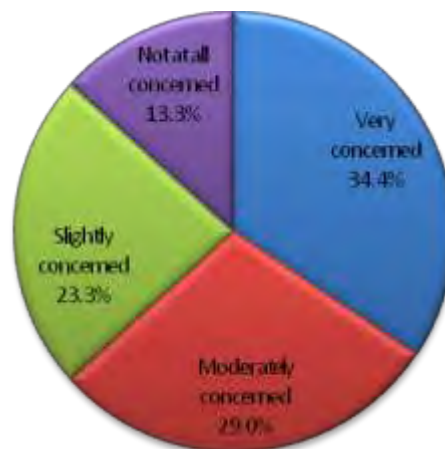


Table 41

*An increasing gap between high-income and low-income populations.*

	Frequency	Percent
Very concerned	494	60.2
Moderately concerned	170	20.7
Slightly concerned	87	10.6
Not at all concerned	69	8.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>820</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

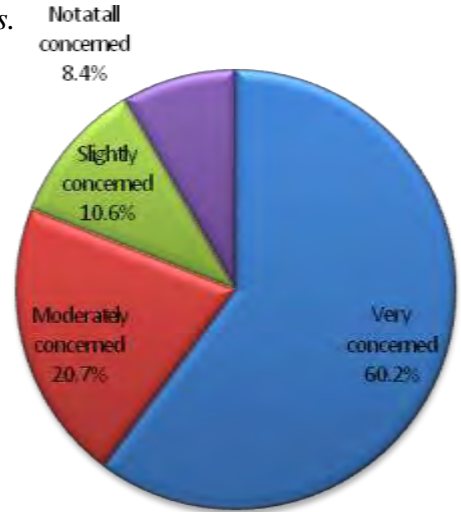


Table 42

*The health and viability of Vermont farms and the agricultural sector.*

	Frequency	Percent
Very concerned	469	57.3
Moderately concerned	200	24.4
Slightly concerned	104	12.7
Not at all concerned	45	5.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>818</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

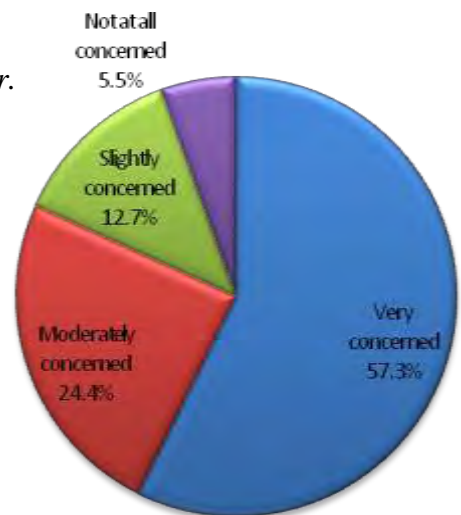


Table 43

*The level of engagement of Vermonters in their local communities.*

	Frequency	Percent
Very concerned	176	21.7
Moderately concerned	300	37.0
Slightly concerned	207	25.6
Not at all concerned	127	15.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>810</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

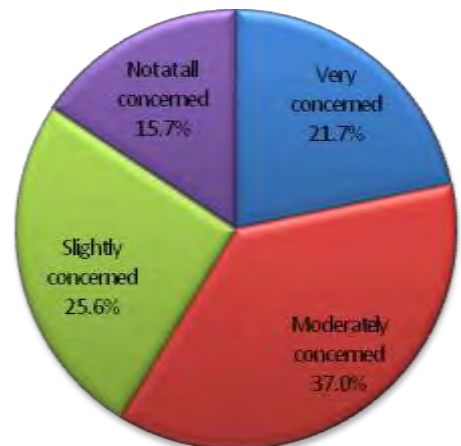




Table 44

*The level of engagement of Vermonters in their local governments.*

	Frequency	Percent
Very concerned	188	23.4
Moderately concerned	290	36.1
Slightly concerned	211	26.3
Not at all concerned	114	14.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>803</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

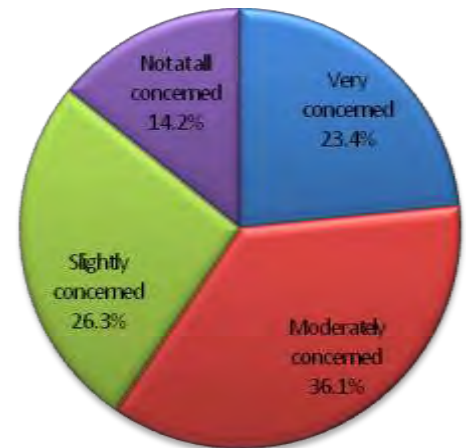


Table 45

*The tax rate in Vermont.*

	Frequency	Percent
Very concerned	356	44.7
Moderately concerned	209	26.2
Slightly concerned	143	17.9
Not at all concerned	89	11.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>797</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

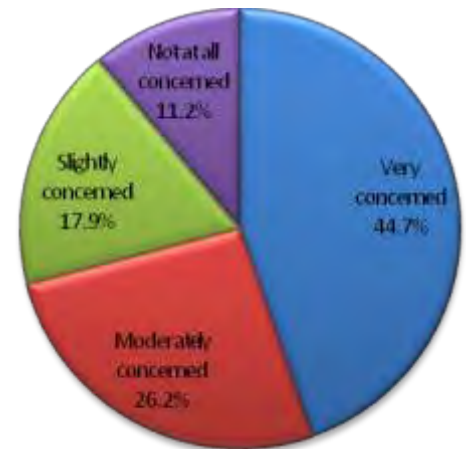


Table 46

*The state's existing public infrastructure and its future maintenance.*

	Frequency	Percent
Very concerned	394	48.8
Moderately concerned	287	35.5
Slightly concerned	114	14.1
Not at all concerned	13	1.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>808</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

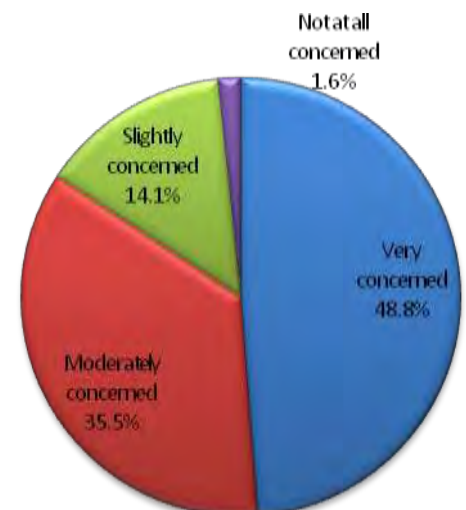


Table 47  
Public safety in Vermont.

	Frequency	Percent
Very concerned	112	13.8
Moderately concerned	211	26.0
Slightly concerned	293	36.0
Not at all concerned	197	24.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>813</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

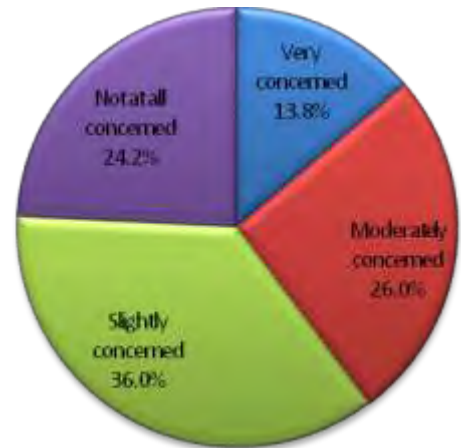


Table 48  
The future of Vermont's renewable and alternative energy infrastructure.

	Frequency	Percent
Very concerned	446	54.4
Moderately concerned	196	23.9
Slightly concerned	116	14.1
Not at all concerned	62	7.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>820</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey

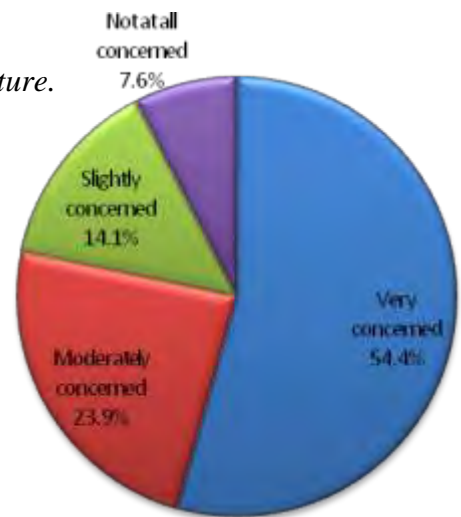
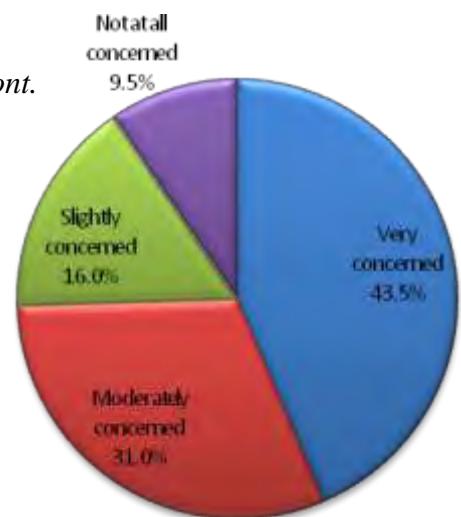


Table 49  
The maintenance of healthy downtowns and village centers in Vermont.

	Frequency	Percent
Very concerned	357	43.5
Moderately concerned	254	31.0
Slightly concerned	131	16.0
Not at all concerned	78	9.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>820</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) (N=829)  
2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey



## Section II: Crosstabs

A bivariate analysis was used to investigate the relationships between the 12 value and 24 challenge statements and the demographics. The levels of agreement and concern were collapsed for this portion of the analysis. “strongly agree” and “agree” were combined, as were “strongly disagree” and “disagree.” Similarly, “very concerned” and “moderately concerned” were combined, as were “slightly concerned” and “not at all concerned.” This section includes only the bivariate analyses with statistically significant results.

It is important to remember that while these cross-tabulations were included due to the high probability of a relationship between the responses, the results cannot be generalized to the Vermont population. This Web-based survey is limited in its ability to provide generalizable results due to self-selection, non-random and non-probabilistic sampling.

### Values

When cross-tabulating the demographic indicators with the values statements, the following results were statistically significant (which means there is at least a 90 percent probability that the relationship between the demographic indicator and the response did not occur by chance):

- Value spirit of independence by Highest level of education
- Value spirit of independence by Gender
- Value spirit of independence by Years lived in Vermont
- Proud of being from or living in Vermont by Highest level of education
- Proud of being from or living in Vermont by Gender
- Proud of being from or living in Vermont by Years lived in Vermont
- Proud of being from or living in Vermont by Age by categories
- Trust neighbors by Urban vs. Rural
- Trust neighbors by Below or above median income
- Value privacy by Urban vs. Rural
- Value privacy by Years lived in Vermont
- Value privacy by Age by categories
- Tolerant of diverse lifestyles by Highest level of education
- Tolerant of diverse lifestyles by Gender
- Tolerant of diverse lifestyles by Urban vs. Rural
- Tolerant of diverse lifestyles by Years lived in Vermont
- Tolerant of diverse lifestyles by Age by categories
- Strong sense of community by Gender
- Strong sense of community by Urban vs. Rural
- Creative communities are valuable to the state by Highest level of education
- Creative communities are valuable to the state by Gender
- Creative communities are valuable to the state by Urban vs. Rural
- Creative communities are valuable to the state by Years lived in Vermont
- Creative communities are valuable to the state by Age by categories
- Value working landscape and its heritage by Highest level of education
- Value working landscape and its heritage by Gender
- Value participatory government by Highest level of education
- Value participatory government by Gender
- Value participatory government by Urban vs. Rural
- Value participatory government by Age by categories

- Value accessibility of government by Highest level of education
- Value accessibility of government by Gender
- Value accessibility of government by Urban vs. Rural
- Value accessibility of government by Below or above median income
- Value accessibility of government by Years lived in Vermont
- Value accessibility of government by Age by categories
- Value small size and scale of the state by Highest level of education
- Value small size and scale of the state by Gender
- Value small size and scale of the state by Urban vs. Rural
- Value small size and scale of the state by Age by categories
- Believe private property rights are well respected by Highest level of education
- Believe private property rights are well respected by Gender
- Believe private property rights are well respected by Urban vs. Rural
- Believe private property rights are well respected by Below or above median income
- Believe private property rights are well respected by Years lived in Vermont
- Believe private property rights are well respected by Age by categories

Table 50

**Value spirit of independence by Highest level of education (P=.095)**

			Highest level of education						
			9-12 grade (no diploma)	High school graduate (incl. GED)	Some college (no degree)	Associate/technical	Bachelor	Post-graduate/professional	Total
Value spirit of independence	Agree	Count	2	24	98	52	238	313	727
		Percent	66.7%	80.0%	86.0%	86.7%	90.8%	92.3%	100.0%
	Neutral	Count	1	3	13	5	17	20	59
		Percent	33.3%	10.0%	11.4%	8.3%	6.5%	5.9%	7.3%
	Disagree	Count	0	3	3	3	7	6	22
		Percent	.0%	10.0%	2.6%	5.0%	2.7%	1.8%	2.7%
Total		Count	3	30	114	60	262	339	808
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

A clear trend presents itself here. As education level increased, respondents were more likely to agree that they value Vermont’s spirit of independence (from 66.7% for respondents with 9-12 grade education and no diploma to 92.3% for post-grads/professionals).

Table 51

**Value spirit of independence by Gender (P=.001)**

			Gender			
			Female	Male	Other	Total
Value spirit of independence	Agree	Count	417	294	7	718
		Percent	93.9%	85.0%	100.0%	90.1%
	Neutral	Count	21	36	0	57
		Percent	4.7%	10.4%	.0%	7.2%
	Disagree	Count	6	16	0	22
		Percent	1.4%	4.6%	.0%	2.8%
Total		Count	444	346	7	797
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents who identified themselves as “other” in the gender category were most likely to value Vermont’s spirit of independence (100%), compared to 83.9 percent of females and 85 percent of males.

Table 52

**Value spirit of independence by Years lived in Vermont (P=.027)**

			Years lived in Vermont					Total
			<2	2-5	6-10	11-20	>21	
Value spirit of independence	Agree	Count	8	96	88	135	383	710
		Percent	66.7%	94.1%	91.7%	88.2%	89.9%	90.0%
	Neutral	Count	4	6	5	13	29	57
		Percent	33.3%	5.9%	5.2%	8.5%	6.8%	7.2%
	Disagree	Count	0	0	3	5	14	22
		Percent	.0%	.0%	3.1%	3.3%	3.3%	2.8%
Total		Count	12	102	96	153	426	789
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

No clear trend presents here, though those living in Vermont for less than two years were least likely to agree with the value (66.7%).

Table 53

**Proud of being from or living in Vermont by Highest level of education (P=.060)**

			Highest level of education					Total	
			9-12 grade (no diploma)	High school graduate (incl. GED)	Some college (no degree)	Associates /technical	Bachelor		Post-graduate/ professional
Proud of being from or living in Vermont	Agree	Count	3	24	92	48	227	308	702
		Percent	100.0%	80.0%	81.4%	80.0%	86.3%	91.4%	87.1%
	Neutral	Count	0	2	8	5	20	17	52
		Percent	.0%	6.7%	7.1%	8.3%	7.6%	5.0%	6.5%
	Disagree	Count	0	4	13	7	16	12	52
		Percent	.0%	13.3%	11.5%	11.7%	6.1%	3.6%	6.5%
Total		Count	3	30	113	60	263	337	806
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Education level does not show a clear trend for being proud of being from or living in Vermont, though those with lowest and highest educational attainment were the most likely to agree (100% and 91.4%, respectively).

Table 54

**Proud of being from or living in Vermont by Gender (P=.000)**

			Gender			
			Female	Male	Other	Total
Proud of being from or living in Vermont	Agree	Count	416	273	6	695
		Percent	93.7%	79.4%	85.7%	87.4%
	Neutral	Count	18	30	1	49
		Percent	4.1%	8.7%	14.3%	6.2%
	Disagree	Count	10	41	0	51
		Percent	2.3%	11.9%	.0%	6.4%
Total		Count	444	344	7	795
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Female respondents were most likely to be proud of being from or living in Vermont (93.7%), compared to 85.7 percent of those who identified themselves as other and 79.4 percent of males.

Table 55

**Proud of being from or living in Vermont by Years lived in Vermont (P=.088)**

			Years lived in Vermont					Total
			<2	2-5	6-10	11-20	>21	
Proud of being from or living in Vermont	Agree	Count	9	91	87	133	367	687
		Percent	75.0%	90.1%	92.6%	86.4%	86.6%	87.5%
	Neutral	Count	3	6	3	11	23	46
		Percent	25.0%	5.9%	3.2%	7.1%	5.4%	5.9%
	Disagree	Count	0	4	4	10	34	52
		Percent	.0%	4.0%	4.3%	6.5%	8.0%	6.6%
Total		Count	12	12	101	94	154	424
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Those respondents having lived in Vermont less than two years were least likely to be proud of being from or living in Vermont (75%).

Table 56

**Proud of being from or living in Vermont by Age by categories (P=.000)**

			Age by categories					Total
			18-24	25-44	45-59	60-74	>75	
Proud of being from or living in Vermont	Agree	Count	45	233	257	146	13	694
		Percent	78.9%	90.3%	89.5%	81.6%	81.3%	87.1%
	Neutral	Count	9	19	10	11	1	50
		Percent	15.8%	7.4%	3.5%	6.1%	6.3%	6.3%
	Disagree	Count	3	6	20	22	2	53
		Percent	5.3%	2.3%	7.0%	12.3%	12.5%	6.6%
Total		Count	57	57	258	287	179	16
		Percent	7.2%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

The 25-44 and 45-59 age categories were most likely (90.3% and 89.5%, respectively) to be proud of being from or living in Vermont.

Table 57

**Trust neighbors by Urban vs. Rural (P=.078)**

			Urban vs. Rural		
			Urban (Chittenden County)	Rural (Northeast Kingdom)	Total
Trust neighbors	Agree	Count	227	64	291
		Percent	78.8%	76.2%	78.2%
	Neutral	Count	46	10	56
		Percent	16.0%	11.9%	15.1%
	Disagree	Count	15	10	25
		Percent	5.2%	11.9%	6.7%
Total		Count	288	84	372
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

No significant difference exists between the urban and rural surrogate respondents for trust neighbors.

Table 58

**Trust neighbors by Below or above median income (P=.067)**

			Below or above median income		
			At or below median income	Above median income	Total
Trust neighbors	Agree	Count	197	398	595
		Percent	77.0%	83.1%	81.0%
	Neutral	Count	41	63	104
		Percent	16.0%	13.2%	14.1%
	Disagree	Count	18	18	36
		Percent	7.0%	3.8%	4.9%
Total		Count	256	479	735
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents above median income were slightly more likely to trust their neighbors than those at or below median income (83.1% and 77%, respectively).

Table 59

**Value privacy by Urban vs. Rural (P=.044)**

			Urban vs. Rural		Total
			Urban (Chittenden County)	Rural (Northeast Kingdom)	
Value privacy	Agree	Count	216	72	288
		Percent	75.0%	87.8%	77.8%
	Neutral	Count	56	7	63
		Percent	19.4%	8.5%	17.0%
	Disagree	Count	16	3	19
		Percent	5.6%	3.7%	5.1%
Total		Count	288	82	370
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Rural respondents were more likely to value privacy than urban respondents (87.8% and 75%, respectively).

Table 60

**Value privacy by Years lived in Vermont (P=.000)**

			Years lived in Vermont					Total
			<2	2-5	6-10	11-20	>21	
Value privacy	Agree	Count	6	74	67	127	356	630
		Percent	50.0%	73.3%	70.5%	84.1%	85.8%	81.4%
	Neutral	Count	6	22	22	18	40	108
		Percent	50.0%	21.8%	23.2%	11.9%	9.6%	14.0%
	Disagree	Count	0	5	6	6	19	36
		Percent	.0%	5.0%	6.3%	4.0%	4.6%	4.7%
Total		Count	12	101	95	151	415	774
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents living in Vermont for less than two years were significantly less likely to value privacy than all other respondents (50%).

Table 61

**Value privacy by Age by categories (P=.002)**

			Age by categories					Total
			18-24	25-44	45-59	60-74	>75	
Value privacy	Agree	Count	44	187	235	158	16	640
		Percent	78.6%	74.2%	82.7%	89.3%	94.1%	81.4%
	Neutral	Count	11	52	33	12	1	109
		Percent	19.6%	20.6%	11.6%	6.8%	5.9%	13.9%
	Disagree	Count	1	13	16	7	0	37
		Percent	1.8%	5.2%	5.6%	4.0%	.0%	4.7%
Total		Count	56	252	284	177	17	786
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

A trend presents itself regarding age and valuing privacy. The tendency to agree with “value privacy” increased as age level increases.

Table 62

**Tolerant of diverse lifestyles by Highest level of education (P=.000)**

			Highest level of education						Total
			9-12 grade (no diploma)	High school graduate (incl. GED)	Some college (no degree)	Associates /technical	Bachelor	Post-graduate/ professional	
Tolerant of diverse lifestyles	Agree	Count	3	20	89	44	230	315	701
		Percent	100.0%	66.7%	78.1%	73.3%	87.1%	92.9%	86.5%
	Neutral	Count	0	5	17	7	24	16	69
		Percent	.0%	16.7%	14.9%	11.7%	9.1%	4.7%	8.5%
	Disagree	Count	0	5	8	9	10	8	40
		Percent	.0%	16.7%	7.0%	15.0%	3.8%	2.4%	4.9%
Total		Count	3	30	114	60	264	339	810
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents at both ends of the education level spectrum were the most likely to be tolerant of diverse lifestyles.

Table 63

**Tolerant of diverse lifestyles by Gender (P=.000)**

			Gender			Total
			Female	Male	Other	
Tolerant of diverse lifestyles	Agree	Count	420	263	7	690
		Percent	94.2%	76.0%	100.0%	86.4%
	Neutral	Count	20	50	0	70
		Percent	4.5%	14.5%	.0%	8.8%
	Disagree	Count	6	33	0	39
		Percent	1.3%	9.5%	.0%	4.9%
Total		Count	446	346	7	799
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents who identified themselves as other in the gender category were most likely to be tolerant of diverse lifestyles (100%), compared to 94.2 percent of females and 76 percent of males.



Table 64

**Tolerant of diverse lifestyles by Urban vs. Rural (P=.053)**

			Urban vs. Rural		Total
			Urban (Chittenden County)	Rural (Northeast Kingdom)	
Tolerant of diverse lifestyles	Agree	Count	263	68	331
		Percent	89.5%	80.0%	87.3%
	Neutral	Count	21	13	34
		Percent	7.1%	15.3%	9.0%
	Disagree	Count	10	4	14
		Percent	3.4%	4.7%	3.7%
Total		Count	294	85	379
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Urban respondents were more likely to be tolerant of diverse lifestyles than rural respondents (89.5% and 80%, respectively).

Table 65

**Tolerant of diverse lifestyles by Years lived in Vermont (P=.002)**

			Years lived in Vermont					Total
			<2	2-5	6-10	11-20	>21	
Tolerant of diverse lifestyles	Agree	Count	12	98	85	140	345	680
		Percent	100.0%	96.1%	89.5%	90.3%	81.2%	86.2%
	Neutral	Count	0	3	7	12	47	69
		Percent	.0%	2.9%	7.4%	7.7%	11.1%	8.7%
	Disagree	Count	0	1	3	3	33	40
		Percent	.0%	1.0%	3.2%	1.9%	7.8%	5.1%
Total		Count	12	102	95	155	425	789
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

As years lived in Vermont increased, the tendency to be tolerant of diverse lifestyles decreased.

Table 66

**Tolerant of diverse lifestyles by Age by categories (P=.035)**

			Age by categories					Total
			18-24	25-44	45-59	60-74	>75	
Tolerant of diverse lifestyles	Agree	Count	49	235	250	148	12	694
		Percent	86.0%	90.4%	86.5%	83.1%	70.6%	86.6%
	Neutral	Count	8	14	27	17	4	70
		Percent	14.0%	5.4%	9.3%	9.6%	23.5%	8.7%
	Disagree	Count	0	11	12	13	1	37
		Percent	.0%	4.2%	4.2%	7.3%	5.9%	4.6%
Total		Count	57	260	289	178	17	801
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

The 25-44 age category was most likely to be tolerant of diverse lifestyles (90.4%).

Table 67

**Strong sense of community by Gender (P=.011)**

			Gender			Total
			Female	Male	Other	
Strong sense of community	Agree	Count	340	229	6	575
		Percent	77.1%	66.2%	85.7%	72.4%
	Neutral	Count	63	70	0	133
		Percent	14.3%	20.2%	.0%	16.8%
	Disagree	Count	38	47	1	86
		Percent	8.6%	13.6%	14.3%	10.8%
Total		Count	441	346	7	794
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents who identified themselves as other in the gender category were most likely agree that there is a strong sense of community where they live (85.7%), compared to 77.1 percent of females and 66.2 percent of males.

Table 68

**Strong sense of community by Urban vs. Rural (P=.002)**

			Urban vs. Rural		Total
			Urban (Chittenden County)	Rural (Northeast Kingdom)	
Strong sense of community	Agree	Count	214	53	267
		Percent	73.3%	65.4%	71.6%
	Neutral	Count	60	13	73
		Percent	20.5%	16.0%	19.6%
	Disagree	Count	18	15	33
		Percent	6.2%	18.5%	8.8%
Total		Count	292	81	373
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Urban respondents were more likely than rural to agree that there is a strong sense of community where they live (73.3% and 65.4%, respectively).

Table 69

**Creative communities are valuable to the state by Highest level of education (P=.038)**

			Highest level of education						Total
			9-12 grade (no diploma)	High school graduate (incl. GED)	Some college (no degree)	Associates /technical	Bachelor	Post- graduate/ professional	
Creative communities are valuable to the state	Agree	Count	3	24	92	49	232	307	707
		Percent	100.0%	77.4%	80.0%	81.7%	87.9%	90.8%	87.2%
	Neutral	Count	0	4	16	10	21	19	70
		Percent	.0%	12.9%	13.9%	16.7%	8.0%	5.6%	8.6%
	Disagree	Count	0	3	7	1	11	12	34
		Percent	.0%	9.7%	6.1%	1.7%	4.2%	3.6%	4.2%
Total		Count	3	31	115	60	264	338	811
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents with no high school degree and those with post graduate/professional degrees were most likely to agree that creative communities are valuable to the state” (100% and 90.8%, respectively).

Table 70

**Creative communities are valuable to the state by Gender (P=.000)**

			Gender			Total
			Female	Male	Other	
Creative communities are valuable to the state	Agree	Count	418	275	6	699
		Percent	93.5%	79.3%	85.7%	87.3%
	Neutral	Count	25	43	1	69
		Percent	5.6%	12.4%	14.3%	8.6%
	Disagree	Count	4	29	0	33
		Percent	.9%	8.4%	.0%	4.1%
Total		Count	447	347	7	801
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Females were most likely to agree that creative communities are valuable to the state (93.5%).

Table 71

**Creative communities are valuable to the state by Urban vs. Rural (P=.000)**

			Urban vs. Rural		Total
			Urban (Chittenden County)	Rural (Northeast Kingdom)	
Creative communities are valuable to the state	Agree	Count	270	63	333
		Percent	91.8%	74.1%	87.9%
	Neutral	Count	19	15	34
		Percent	6.5%	17.6%	9.0%
	Disagree	Count	5	7	12
		Percent	1.7%	8.2%	3.2%
Total		Count	294	85	379
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Urban respondents were much more likely than rural respondents to agree that creative communities are valuable to the state (91.8% and 74.1%, respectively).

Table 72

**Creative communities are valuable to the state by Years lived in Vermont (P=.023)**

			Years lived in Vermont					Total
			<2	2-5	6-10	11-20	>21	
Creative communities are valuable to the state	Agree	Count	11	96	90	138	353	688
		Percent	91.7%	94.1%	93.8%	89.6%	82.9%	87.1%
	Neutral	Count	1	5	3	12	47	68
		Percent	8.3%	4.9%	3.1%	7.8%	11.0%	8.6%
	Disagree	Count	0	1	3	4	26	34
		Percent	.0%	1.0%	3.1%	2.6%	6.1%	4.3%
Total		Count	12	102	96	154	426	790
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents living in Vermont from 2-5 years were most likely to agree that creative communities are valuable to the state followed by those who had lived in Vermont 6-10 years (94.1% and 93.8%, respectively).

Table 73

**Creative communities are valuable to the state by Age by categories (P=.067)**

			Age by categories					Total
			18-24	25-44	45-59	60-74	>75	
Creative communities are valuable to the state	Agree	Count	52	234	254	148	14	702
		Percent	89.7%	90.0%	88.5%	81.8%	87.5%	87.5%
	Neutral	Count	5	15	23	25	0	68
		Percent	8.6%	5.8%	8.0%	13.8%	.0%	8.5%
	Disagree	Count	1	11	10	8	2	32
		Percent	1.7%	4.2%	3.5%	4.4%	12.5%	4.0%
Total		Count	58	260	287	181	16	802
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents in the 25-44 age category were most likely to agree that creative communities are valuable to the state (90%). Overall there was little variation between age groups.

Table 74

**Value working landscape and its heritage by Highest level of education (P=.018)**

			Highest level of education					Total	
			9-12 grade (no diploma)	High school graduate (incl. GED)	Some college (no degree)	Associates /technical	Bachelor		Post-graduate/ professional
Value working landscape and its heritage	Agree	Count	3	25	100	54	245	322	749
		Percent	100.0%	83.3%	88.5%	90.0%	93.2%	95.0%	100.0%
	Neutral	Count	0	5	8	6	10	13	42
		Percent	.0%	16.7%	7.1%	10.0%	3.8%	3.8%	100.0%
	Disagree	Count	0	0	5	0	8	4	17
		Percent	.0%	.0%	4.4%	.0%	3.0%	1.2%	100.0%
Total		Count	3	30	113	60	263	339	808
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents without high school degrees and those with post secondary/professional degrees were most likely to value the working landscape and its heritage (100% and 95%, respectively).

Table 75

**Value working landscape and its heritage by Gender (P=.000)**

			Gender			Total
			Female	Male	Other	
Value working landscape and its heritage	Agree	Count	429	304	7	740
		Percent	96.4%	88.1%	100.0%	92.8%
	Neutral	Count	11	29	0	40
		Percent	2.5%	8.4%	.0%	5.0%
	Disagree	Count	5	12	0	17
		Percent	1.1%	3.5%	.0%	2.1%
Total		Count	445	345	7	797
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents who identified themselves as other in the gender category were most likely to value the working landscape and its heritage (100%), compared to 96.4 percent of females and 88.1 percent of males.

Table 76

**Value participatory government by Highest level of education (P=.000)**

			Highest level of education					Total	
			9-12 grade (no diploma)	High school graduate (incl. GED)	Some college (no degree)	Associates /technical	Bachelor		Post-graduate/ professional
Value participatory government	Agree	Count	2	22	88	48	235	310	705
		Percent	66.7%	71.0%	77.2%	82.8%	89.0%	91.7%	100.0%
	Neutral	Count	0	7	16	8	16	22	69
		Percent	.0%	22.6%	14.0%	13.8%	6.1%	6.5%	100.0%
	Disagree	Count	1	2	10	2	13	6	34
		Percent	33.3%	6.5%	8.8%	3.4%	4.9%	1.8%	100.0%
Total		Count	3	31	114	58	264	338	808
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

The level of agreement with “value participatory government” increased as education level increased.

Table 77

**Value participatory government by Gender (P=.000)**

			Gender			Total
			Female	Male	Other	
Value participatory government	Agree	Count	407	283	6	696
		Percent	91.9%	81.3%	85.7%	87.2%
	Neutral	Count	28	41	0	69
		Percent	6.3%	11.8%	.0%	8.6%
	Disagree	Count	8	24	1	33
		Percent	1.8%	6.9%	14.3%	4.1%
Total		Count	443	348	7	798
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Female respondents were more likely to value participatory government than their male and other counterparts.

Table 78

**Value participatory government by Urban vs. Rural (P=.075)**

			Urban vs. Rural		Total
			Urban (Chittenden County)	Rural (Northeast Kingdom)	
Value participatory government	Agree	Count	257	71	328
		Percent	88.3%	83.5%	87.2%
	Neutral	Count	26	7	33
		Percent	8.9%	8.2%	8.8%
	Disagree	Count	8	7	15
		Percent	2.7%	8.2%	4.0%
Total		Count	291	85	376
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

There was little difference between urban and rural respondents for “value participatory government.”

Table 79

**Value participatory government by Age by categories (P=.002)**

			Age by categories					Total
			18-24	25-44	45-59	60-74	>75	
Value participatory government	Agree	Count	42	226	259	155	13	695
		Percent	73.7%	88.3%	89.6%	85.6%	81.3%	87.0%
	Neutral	Count	11	22	17	20	0	70
		Percent	19.3%	8.6%	5.9%	11.0%	.0%	8.8%
	Disagree	Count	4	8	13	6	3	34
		Percent	7.0%	3.1%	4.5%	3.3%	18.8%	4.3%
Total		Count	57	256	289	181	16	799
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents in the 45-59 age category were most likely to value participatory government (89.6%).

Table 80

**Value accessibility of government by Highest level of education (P=.000)**

			Highest level of education					Total	
			9-12 grade (no diploma)	High school graduate (incl. GED)	Some college (no degree)	Associates /technical	Bachelor		Post-graduate/professional
Value accessibility of government	Agree	Count	2	17	82	46	241	313	701
		Percent	66.7%	54.8%	74.5%	79.3%	90.9%	92.1%	100.0%
	Neutral	Count	0	10	20	10	11	19	70
		Percent	.0%	32.3%	18.2%	17.2%	4.2%	5.6%	100.0%
	Disagree	Count	1	4	8	2	13	8	36
		Percent	33.3%	12.9%	7.3%	3.4%	4.9%	2.4%	100.0%
Total		Count	3	31	110	58	265	340	807
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Generally, agreement with “value the accessibility of government” increased as education level increased.

Table 81

**Value accessibility of government by Gender (P=.000)**

			Gender			Total
			Female	Male	Other	
Value accessibility of government	Agree	Count	408	278	6	692
		Percent	92.1%	80.3%	85.7%	86.9%
	Neutral	Count	27	44	0	71
		Percent	6.1%	12.7%	.0%	8.9%
	Disagree	Count	8	24	1	33
		Percent	1.8%	6.9%	14.3%	4.1%
Total		Count	443	346	7	796
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Female respondents were more likely to value the accessibility of government (92.1%) than their male and other counterparts (80.3% and 85.7%, respectively).

Table 82

**Value accessibility of government by Urban vs. Rural (P=.013)**

			Urban vs. Rural		Total
			Urban (Chittenden County)	Rural (Northeast Kingdom)	
Value accessibility of government	Agree	Count	246	66	312
		Percent	84.5%	79.5%	83.4%
	Neutral	Count	34	7	41
		Percent	11.7%	8.4%	11.0%
	Disagree	Count	11	10	21
		Percent	3.8%	12.0%	5.6%
Total		Count	291	83	374
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Urban respondents had a higher level of agreement with “value the accessibility of government” than their rural counterparts (84.5% and 79.5%, respectively).

Table 83

**Value accessibility of government by Below or above median income (P=.029)**

			Below or above median income		Total
			At or below median income	Above median income	
Value accessibility of government	Agree	Count	232	420	652
		Percent	89.2%	86.6%	87.5%
	Neutral	Count	13	48	61
		Percent	5.0%	9.9%	8.2%
	Disagree	Count	15	17	32
		Percent	5.8%	3.5%	4.3%
Total		Count	260	485	745
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Income level did not have a significant effect upon level of agreement with “value accessibility of government.”

Table 84

**Value accessibility of government by Years lived in Vermont (P=.002)**

			Years lived in Vermont					Total
			<2	2-5	6-10	11-20	>21	
Value accessibility of government	Agree	Count	7	89	89	135	367	687
		Percent	58.3%	89.0%	93.7%	87.1%	86.4%	87.3%
	Neutral	Count	5	7	2	14	36	64
		Percent	41.7%	7.0%	2.1%	9.0%	8.5%	8.1%
	Disagree	Count	0	4	4	6	22	36
		Percent	.0%	4.0%	4.2%	3.9%	5.2%	4.6%
Total		Count	12	100	95	155	425	787
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

No clear trend presents itself regarding years lived in Vermont and value for accessibility of government, though respondents living in Vermont from 6-10 years had the highest level of agreement (93.7%).

Table 85

**Value accessibility of government by Age by categories (P=.001)**

			Age by categories					Total
			18-24	25-44	45-59	60-74	>75	18-24
Value accessibility of government	Agree	Count	37	226	257	158	15	693
		Percent	67.3%	87.6%	89.5%	87.3%	88.2%	86.8%
	Neutral	Count	13	24	17	16	0	70
		Percent	23.6%	9.3%	5.9%	8.8%	.0%	8.8%
	Disagree	Count	5	8	13	7	2	35
		Percent	9.1%	3.1%	4.5%	3.9%	11.8%	4.4%
Total		Count	55	258	287	181	17	798
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

18-24 year-old respondents were least likely to value accessibility of government (67.3%).

Table 86

**Value small size and scale of the state by Highest level of education (P=.001)**

			Highest level of education					Total	
			9-12 grade (no diploma)	High school graduate (incl. GED)	Some college (no degree)	Associates /technical	Bachelor		Post-graduate/ professional
Value small size and scale of the state	Agree	Count	2	23	94	50	237	323	729
		Percent	66.7%	79.3%	82.5%	83.3%	89.4%	95.0%	89.9%
	Neutral	Count	1	5	11	7	18	11	53
		Percent	33.3%	17.2%	9.6%	11.7%	6.8%	3.2%	6.5%
	Disagree	Count	0	1	9	3	10	6	29
		Percent	.0%	3.4%	7.9%	5.0%	3.8%	1.8%	3.6%
Total		Count	3	29	114	60	265	340	811
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Agreement with “value the small size and scale of the state” increased as respondents’ education level increased.

Table 87

**Value small size and scale of the state by Gender (P=.001)**

			Gender			Total
			Female	Male	Other	
Value small size and scale of the state	Agree	Count	418	295	7	720
		Percent	93.7%	84.8%	100.0%	89.9%
	Neutral	Count	20	33	0	53
		Percent	4.5%	9.5%	.0%	6.6%
	Disagree	Count	8	20	0	28
		Percent	1.8%	5.7%	.0%	3.5%
Total		Count	446	348	7	801
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents who identified themselves as other in the gender category were most likely to value the small size and scale of the state (100%), followed by female (93.7%) and male respondents (84.8%).



Table 88

**Value small size and scale of the state by Urban vs. Rural (P=.011)**

				Urban vs. Rural		Total
				Urban (Chittenden County)	Rural (Northeast Kingdom)	
Value small size and scale of the state	Agree	Count	260	69	329	
		Percent	88.4%	83.1%	87.3%	
	Neutral	Count	27	6	33	
		Percent	9.2%	7.2%	8.8%	
	Disagree	Count	7	8	15	
		Percent	2.4%	9.6%	4.0%	
Total		Count	294	83	377	
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

Urban respondents were more likely to value the small scale and size of the state than rural respondents (88.4% and 83.1%, respectively).

Table 89

**Value small size and scale of the state by Age by categories (P=.000)**

			Age by categories					Total
			18-24	25-44	45-59	60-74	>75	
Value small size and scale of the state	Agree	Count	42	231	268	163	17	721
		Percent	72.4%	89.2%	93.4%	90.1%	100.0%	89.9%
	Neutral	Count	8	20	12	12	0	52
		Percent	13.8%	7.7%	4.2%	6.6%	.0%	6.5%
	Disagree	Count	8	8	7	6	0	29
		Percent	13.8%	3.1%	2.4%	3.3%	.0%	3.6%
Total		Count	58	259	287	181	17	802
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Generally, respondents were more likely to value the small size and scale of the state as their ages increased.

Table 90

**Believe private property rights are well respected by Highest level of education (P=.002)**

			Highest level of education					Total	
			9-12 grade (no diploma)	High school graduate (incl. GED)	Some college (no degree)	Associates /technical	Bachelor		Post- graduate/ professional
Believe private property rights are well respected	Agree	Count	2	13	56	25	161	216	473
		Percent	66.7%	44.8%	52.3%	44.6%	63.9%	68.1%	61.9%
	Neutral	Count	0	6	27	13	44	60	150
		Percent	.0%	20.7%	25.2%	23.2%	17.5%	18.9%	19.6%
	Disagree	Count	1	10	24	18	47	41	141
		Percent	33.3%	34.5%	22.4%	32.1%	18.7%	12.9%	18.5%
Total		Count	3	29	107	56	252	317	764
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Level of education shows no trend for respondents' level of agreement with "I believe private property rights are well-respected."

Table 91

**Believe private property rights are well respected by Gender (P=.000)**

			Gender			Total
			Female	Male	Other	
Believe private property rights are well respected	Agree	Count	273	187	5	465
		Percent	66.7%	55.0%	83.3%	61.6%
	Neutral	Count	90	56	1	147
		Percent	22.0%	16.5%	16.7%	19.5%
	Disagree	Count	46	97	0	143
		Percent	11.2%	28.5%	.0%	18.9%
Total		Count	409	340	6	755
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Male respondents were least likely to believe that private property rights are well-respected in Vermont (55%), compared to 66.7 percent of females 83.3% of those who identified themselves as other.

Table 92

**Believe private property rights are well respected by Urban vs. Rural (P=.053)**

			Urban vs. Rural		Total
			Urban (Chittenden County)	Rural (Northeast Kingdom)	
Believe private property rights are well respected	Agree	Count	160	47	207
		Percent	59.0%	56.6%	58.5%
	Neutral	Count	71	15	86
		Percent	26.2%	18.1%	24.3%
	Disagree	Count	40	21	61
		Percent	14.8%	25.3%	17.2%
Total		Count	271	83	354
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

There was little difference between urban and rural respondents regarding “I believe private property rights are well-respected.”

Table 93

**Believe private property rights are well respected by Below or above median income (P=.047)**

			Below or above median income		Total
			At or below median income	Above median income	
Believe private property rights are well respected	Agree	Count	148	292	440
		Percent	61.7%	62.8%	62.4%
	Neutral	Count	56	78	134
		Percent	23.3%	16.8%	19.0%
	Disagree	Count	36	95	131
		Percent	15.0%	20.4%	18.6%
Total		Count	240	465	705
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

There was little difference between respondents at or below and above median income levels regarding “I believe private property rights are well-respected”.

Table 94

**Believe private property rights are well respected by Years lived in Vermont (P=.000)**

			Years lived in Vermont					Total
			<2	2-5	6-10	11-20	>21	
Believe private property rights are well respected	Agree	Count	5	58	58	96	245	462
		Percent	45.5%	65.2%	65.9%	66.7%	59.5%	62.1%
	Neutral	Count	6	23	22	25	67	143
		Percent	54.5%	25.8%	25.0%	17.4%	16.3%	19.2%
	Disagree	Count	0	8	8	23	100	139
		Percent	.0%	9.0%	9.1%	16.0%	24.3%	18.7%
Total		Count	11	89	88	144	412	744
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents living in Vermont for less than two years were least likely to believe private property rights are well-respected in Vermont (45.5%).

Table 95

**Believe private property rights are well respected by Age by categories (P=.004)**

			Age by categories					Total
			18-24	25-44	45-59	60-74	>75	
Believe private property rights are well respected	Agree	Count	37	138	175	111	8	469
		Percent	71.2%	58.2%	64.3%	61.7%	50.0%	62.0%
	Neutral	Count	9	64	48	23	3	147
		Percent	17.3%	27.0%	17.6%	12.8%	18.8%	19.4%
	Disagree	Count	6	35	49	46	5	141
		Percent	11.5%	14.8%	18.0%	25.6%	31.3%	18.6%
Total		Count	52	237	272	180	16	757
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents in the 18-24 category were most likely to believe that private property rights are well-respected in Vermont (71.2%) and the 75 and older respondents were least likely to agree (50%).

## Concerns

The following crosstabulations of concerns and demographics were found to be statistically significant (which means there is at least a 90 percent probability that the relationship between the demographic indicator and the response did not occur by chance):<sup>5</sup>

- Shortage of affordable housing by Gender
- Shortage of affordable housing by Urban vs. Rural
- Shortage of affordable housing by Below or above median income
- Shortage of available housing by Gender
- Shortage of available housing by Below or above median income
- Accessibility of healthcare by Highest level of education
- Accessibility of healthcare by Gender
- Quality of health care by Gender
- Quality of health care by Age by categories
- Rate of business development by Highest level of education
- Rate of business development by Urban vs. Rural
- Rate of business development by Years lived in Vermont
- Rate of business development by Age by categories
- Development of an adequate workforce by Years lived in Vermont
- Development of an adequate workforce by Age by categories
- Increasing costs of living by Years lived in Vermont
- Increasing costs of living by Age by categories
- Quality of education by Gender
- Quality of education by Age by categories
- Way Vermont finances public education by Years lived in Vermont
- Pressure to convert open lands by Highest level of education
- Pressure to convert open lands by Gender
- Pressure to convert open lands by Urban vs. Rural
- Pressure to convert open lands by Below or above median income
- Pressure to convert open lands by Age by categories
- Changes in the earth's climate by Highest level of education
- Changes in the earth's climate by Gender
- Changes in the earth's climate by Urban vs. Rural
- Changes in the earth's climate by Below or above median income
- Changes in the earth's climate by Years lived in Vermont
- Changes in the earth's climate by Age by categories
- Increasing price of land by Gender
- Increasing price of land by Below or above median income
- Increasing price of land by Age by categories
- Increased rate of population growth by Below or above median income
- Increased rate of population growth by Age by categories

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<sup>5</sup> It is important to remember that while these cross-tabulations were included due to the high probability of a relationship between the responses, the results cannot be generalized to the Vermont population. Web-based surveys are limited in their ability to provide generalizable results due to self-selection, non-random and non-probabilistic sampling.

- Increase in average age of population by Age by categories
- Limited availability of high speed internet and wireless telecommunications by Age by categories
- Increasing gap between high- and low-income populations by Highest level of education
- Increasing gap between high- and low-income populations by Gender
- Increasing gap between high- and low-income populations by Below or above median income
- Increasing gap between high- and low-income populations by Age by categories
- Health and viability of Vermont farms and ag sector by Highest level of education
- Health and viability of Vermont farms and ag sector by Gender
- Health and viability of Vermont farms and ag sector by Below or above median income
- Health and viability of Vermont farms and ag sector by Age by categories
- Level of engagement in local communities by Below or above median income
- Level of engagement in local communities by Years lived in Vermont
- Level of engagement in local government by Urban vs. Rural
- Level of engagement in local government by Below or above median income
- Level of engagement in local government by Years lived in Vermont
- Level of engagement in local government by Age by categories
- Tax rate by Highest level of education
- Tax rate by Urban vs. Rural
- Tax rate by Years lived in Vermont
- Tax rate by Age by categories
- Public infrastructure and its future maintenance by Highest level of education
- Public infrastructure and its future maintenance by Years lived in Vermont
- Public infrastructure and its future maintenance by Age by categories
- Public safety by Below or above median income
- Public safety by Years lived in Vermont
- Public safety by Age by categories
- Future renewable and alternative energy infrastructure by Gender
- Future renewable and alternative energy infrastructure by Urban vs. Rural
- Future renewable and alternative energy infrastructure by Below or above median income
- Maintenance of healthy downtowns and village centers by Highest level of education
- Maintenance of healthy downtowns and village centers by Gender
- Maintenance of healthy downtowns and village centers by Urban vs. Rural
- Maintenance of healthy downtowns and village centers by Years lived in Vermont
- Maintenance of healthy downtowns and village centers by Age by categories

Table 96

**Shortage of affordable housing by Gender (P=.000)**

			Gender			Total
			Female	Male	Other	
Shortage of affordable housing	Very to moderately concerned	Count	401	259	6	666
		Percent	90.7%	75.1%	85.7%	83.9%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	41	86	1	128
		Percent	9.3%	24.9%	14.3%	16.1%
Total		Count	442	345	7	794
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Female respondents were most concerned about the shortage of affordable housing (90.7%).

Table 97

**Shortage of affordable housing by Urban vs. Rural (P=.000)**

			Urban vs. Rural		Total
			Urban (Chittenden County)	Rural (Northeast Kingdom)	
Shortage of affordable housing	Very to moderately concerned	Count	253	52	305
		Percent	86.9%	61.9%	81.3%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	38	32	70
		Percent	13.1%	38.1%	18.7%
Total		Count	291	84	375
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

The urban (Chittenden County) group was more concerned about the shortage of affordable housing than the rural (Northeast Kingdom) group (86.9% and 61.9%, respectively).

Table 98

**Shortage of affordable housing by Below or above median income (P=.000)**

			Below or above median income		Total
			At or below median income	Above median income	
Shortage of affordable housing	Very to moderately concerned	Count	236	387	623
		Percent	90.8%	79.6%	83.5%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	24	99	123
		Percent	9.2%	20.4%	16.5%
Total		Count	260	486	746
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents at or below median income were more concerned with the shortage of affordable housing than those above median income (90.8% and 79.6%, respectively).

Table 99

**Shortage of available housing by Gender (P=.012)**

			Gender			Total
			Female	Male	Other	
Shortage of available housing	Very to moderately concerned	Count	285	195	5	485
		Percent	67.5%	57.2%	71.4%	63.0%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	137	146	2	285
		Percent	32.5%	42.8%	28.6%	37.0%
Total		Count	422	341	7	770
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Male respondents were least concerned with the shortage of available housing (57.2%).

Table 100

**Shortage of available housing by Below or above median income (P=.003)**

			Below or above median income		Total
			At or below median income	Above median income	
Shortage of available housing	Very to moderately concerned	Count	177	277	454
		Percent	70.0%	58.9%	62.8%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	76	193	269
		Percent	30.0%	41.1%	37.2%
Total		Count	253	470	723
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents at or below median income were more concerned about the shortage of available housing than those above median income (70% and 58.9%, respectively).

Table 101

**Accessibility of healthcare by Highest level of education (P=.057)**

			Highest level of education					Total	
			9-12 grade (no diploma)	High school graduate (incl. GED)	Some college (no degree)	Associates /technical	Bachelor		Post-graduate/ professional
Accessibility of healthcare	Very to moderately concerned	Count	3	24	74	45	188	273	607
		Percent	100.0%	80.0%	69.8%	73.8%	73.7%	82.0%	77.0%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	0	6	32	16	67	60	181
		Percent	.0%	20.0%	30.2%	26.2%	26.3%	18.0%	23.0%
Total		Count	3	30	106	61	255	333	788
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents with some college education were least concerned about the accessibility of healthcare (69.8%).

Table 102

**Accessibility of healthcare by Gender (P=.000)**

			Gender			Total
			Female	Male	Other	
Accessibility of healthcare	Very to moderately concerned	Count	371	222	5	598
		Percent	86.1%	65.5%	71.4%	77.0%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	60	117	2	179
		Percent	13.9%	34.5%	28.6%	23.0%
Total		Count	431	339	7	777
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Female respondents were most concerned about the accessibility of healthcare (86.1%).

Table 103

**Quality of health care by Gender (P=.000)**

			Gender			Total
			Female	Male	Other	
Quality of health care	Very to moderately concerned	Count	284	172	6	462
		Percent	66.0%	50.7%	85.7%	59.5%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	146	167	1	314
		Percent	34.0%	49.3%	14.3%	40.5%
Total		Count	430	339	7	776
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Male respondents were least concerned about the quality of healthcare (50.7%).

Table 104

**Quality of health care by Age by categories (P=.076)**

			Age by categories					Total
			18-24	25-44	45-59	60-74	>75	
Quality of health care	Very to moderately concerned	Count	33	151	180	89	10	463
		Percent	68.8%	60.2%	62.7%	50.9%	62.5%	59.6%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	15	100	107	86	6	314
		Percent	31.3%	39.8%	37.3%	49.1%	37.5%	40.4%
Total		Count	48	251	287	175	16	777
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

The 18-24 age group was most concerned about the quality of healthcare (68.8%) and the 60-74 age group was least concerned (50.9%).



Table 105

**Rate of business development by Highest level of education (P=.001)**

			Highest level of education					Total	
			9-12 grade (no diploma)	High school graduate (incl. GED)	Some college (no degree)	Associates /technical	Bachelor		Post-graduate/ professional
Rate of business development	Very to moderately concerned	Count	1	28	81	47	183	210	550
		Percent	100.0%	93.3%	75.7%	82.5%	72.0%	63.6%	70.6%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	0	2	26	10	71	120	229
		Percent	.0%	6.7%	24.3%	17.5%	28.0%	36.4%	29.4%
Total		Count	1	30	107	57	254	330	779
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

The post-graduate/professional group was least concerned about the rate of business development (63.6%).

Table 106

**Rate of business development by Urban vs. Rural (P=.060)**

		Urban vs. Rural			
		Urban (Chittenden County)	Rural (Northeast Kingdom)	Total	
Rate of business development	Very to moderately concerned	Count	184	64	248
		Percent	66.2%	77.1%	68.7%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	94	19	113
		Percent	33.8%	22.9%	31.3%
Total		Count	278	83	361
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

The rural (Northeast Kingdom) group was more concerned with the rate of business development (77.1%) than the urban (Chittenden County) group (77.1% and 66.2%, respectively).

Table 107

**Rate of business development by Years lived in Vermont (P=.000)**

			Years lived in Vermont					Total
			<2	2-5	6-10	11-20	>21	
Rate of business development	Very to moderately concerned	Count	3	68	51	98	315	535
		Percent	33.3%	70.8%	55.4%	67.1%	75.7%	70.5%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	6	28	41	48	101	224
		Percent	66.7%	29.2%	44.6%	32.9%	24.3%	29.5%
Total		Count	9	96	92	146	416	759
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Individuals who lived in Vermont for more than 21 years were most concerned with the rate of business development (75.7%) compared to residents who lived in Vermont for less than two years (33.3%).

Table 108

**Rate of business development by Age by categories (P=.005)**

			Age by categories					Total
			18-24	25-44	45-59	60-74	>75	
Rate of business development	Very to moderately concerned	Count	24	169	207	134	11	545
		Percent	50.0%	67.9%	73.1%	76.6%	68.8%	70.7%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	24	80	76	41	5	226
		Percent	50.0%	32.1%	26.9%	23.4%	31.3%	29.3%
Total		Count	48	249	283	175	16	771
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents between the ages of 60-74 were most concerned about the rate of business development (76.6%) and those between the ages of 18-24 were least concerned (50.0%).

Table 109

**Development of an adequate workforce by Years lived in Vermont (P=.085)**

			Years lived in Vermont					Total
			<2	2-5	6-10	11-20	>21	
Development of an adequate workforce	Very to moderately concerned	Count	7	72	62	111	328	580
		Percent	1.2%	12.4%	10.7%	19.1%	56.6%	100.0%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	3	24	33	38	88	186
		Percent	1.6%	12.9%	17.7%	20.4%	47.3%	100.0%
Total		Count	10	96	95	149	416	766
		Percent	1.3%	12.5%	12.4%	19.5%	54.3%	100.0%

Respondents who lived in Vermont for more than 21 years were most concerned with the development of an adequate workforce, while those who lived in Vermont for less than 2 years were least concerned (56.6% compared to 1.2%).

Table 110

**Development of an adequate workforce by Age by categories (P=.045)**

			Age by categories					Total
			18-24	25-44	45-59	60-74	>75	
Development of an adequate workforce	Very to moderately concerned	Count	32	180	220	140	14	586
		Percent	70.0%	75.0%	65.3%	74.5%	78.8%	75.7%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	3	24	33	38	88	186
		Percent	30.0%	25.0%	34.7%	25.5%	21.2%	24.3%
Total		Count	51	251	284	176	16	778
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents over the age of 75 were most concerned with the development of adequate workforce (78.8%) compared to those between the ages of 45-59, who were least concerned (65.3%).

Table 111

**Increasing costs of living by Years lived in Vermont (P=.003)**

			Years lived in Vermont					Total
			<2	2-5	6-10	11-20	>21	
Increasing costs of living	Very to moderately concerned	Count	9	88	90	140	410	737
		Percent	75.0%	88.0%	93.8%	91.5%	95.8%	93.4%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	3	12	6	13	18	52
		Percent	25.0%	12.0%	6.3%	8.5%	4.2%	6.6%
Total		Count	12	100	96	153	428	789
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents who have lived in Vermont for less than 2 years were least concerned with the increasing costs of living (75.0%) while those living in Vermont for 21 years or more were the most concerned (95.8%).

Table 112

**Increasing costs of living by Age by categories (P=.001)**

			Age by categories					Total
			18-24	25-44	45-59	60-74	>75	
Increasing costs of living	Very to moderately concerned	Count	46	236	279	173	16	750
		Percent	82.1%	91.5%	96.5%	95.6%	94.1%	93.6%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	10	22	10	8	1	51
		Percent	17.9%	8.5%	3.5%	4.4%	5.9%	6.4%
Total		Count	56	258	289	181	17	801
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents between the ages of 45-59 were most concerned with the increasing costs of living (96.5%) compared to those between the ages of 18-24, who were least concerned (82.1%).

Table 113

**Quality of education by Gender (P=.045)**

			Gender			Total
			Female	Male	Other	
Quality of education	Very to moderately concerned	Count	334	244	6	584
		Percent	77.9%	70.3%	85.7%	74.6%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	95	103	1	199
		Percent	22.1%	29.7%	14.3%	25.4%
Total		Count	429	347	7	783
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents who identified themselves as other in the gender category were most likely to be concerned about the quality of education (85.7%), compared to 77.9 percent of female respondents and 70.3% of male respondents.

Table 114

**Quality of education by Age by categories (P=.026)**

			Age by categories					Total
			18-24	25-44	45-59	60-74	>75	
Quality of education	Very to moderately concerned	Count	33	181	223	135	15	587
		Percent	60.0%	72.7%	78.8%	75.0%	88.2%	74.9%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	22	68	60	45	2	197
		Percent	40.0%	27.3%	21.2%	25.0%	11.8%	25.1%
Total		Count	55	249	283	180	17	784
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents aged 18-24 were least concerned with the quality of education (60.0%) and those older than 75 were most concerned (88.2%).

Table 115

**Way Vermont finances public education by Years lived in Vermont (P=.001)**

			Years lived in Vermont					Total
			<2	2-5	6-10	11-20	>21	
Way Vermont finances public education	Very to moderately concerned	Count	8	62	63	110	344	587
		Percent	88.9%	70.5%	69.2%	74.8%	84.3%	79.0%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	1	26	28	37	64	156
		Percent	11.1%	29.5%	30.8%	25.2%	15.7%	21.0%
Total		Count	9	88	91	147	408	743
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents who have lived in Vermont for less than 2 years were the most concerned with the way Vermont finances public education (88.9%) and those who have lived in Vermont for 6-10 years were least concerned (69.2%).

Table 116

**Way Vermont finances public education by Age by categories (P=.000)**

			Age by categories					Total
			18-24	25-44	45-59	60-74	>75	
Way Vermont finances public education	Very to moderately concerned	Count	27	160	235	159	14	595
		Percent	60.0%	68.1%	83.3%	90.3%	87.5%	100.0%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	18	75	47	17	2	159
		Percent	40.0%	31.9%	16.7%	9.7%	12.5%	100.0%
Total		Count	45	235	282	176	16	754
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents between the ages of 60-74 were most concerned with the way Vermont finances public education (90.3%) and those between the ages of 18-24 were least concerned (60.0%).

Table 117

**Pressure to convert open lands by Highest level of education (P=.000)**

			Highest level of education					Total	
			9-12 grade (no diploma)	High school graduate (incl. GED)	Some college (no degree)	Associates /technical	Bachelor		Post-graduate/ professional
Pressure to convert open lands	Very to moderately concerned	Count	2	26	77	35	204	286	630
		Percent	66.7%	86.7%	68.8%	58.3%	78.5%	85.1%	100.0%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	1	4	35	25	56	50	171
		Percent	33.3%	13.3%	31.3%	41.7%	21.5%	14.9%	100.0%
Total		Count	3	30	112	60	260	336	801
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

The high school graduate group was the most concerned with the pressure to convert open lands (86.7%) and the associates/technical group was least concerned (58.3%).

Table 118

**Pressure to convert open lands by Gender (P=.000)**

			Gender			Total
			Female	Male	Other	
Pressure to convert open lands	Very to moderately concerned	Count	387	229	7	623
		Percent	88.4%	66.2%	100.0%	78.8%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	51	117	0	168
		Percent	11.6%	33.8%	.0%	21.2%
Total		Count	438	346	7	791
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Male respondents were least concerned with pressure to convert open lands (66.2%).

Table 119

**Pressure to convert open lands by Urban vs. Rural (P=.025)**

			Urban vs. Rural		Total
			Urban (Chittenden County)	Rural (Northeast Kingdom)	
Pressure to convert open lands	Very to moderately concerned	Count	227	58	285
		Percent	79.4%	68.2%	76.8%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	59	27	86
		Percent	20.6%	31.8%	23.2%
Total		Count	286	85	371
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

The urban (Chittenden County) group was more concerned with the pressure to convert open lands than the rural (Northeast Kingdom) was least concerned (79.4% and 68.2%, respectively).

Table 120

**Pressure to convert open lands by Below or above median income (P=.050)**

			Below or above median income		Total
			At or below median income	Above median income	
Pressure to convert open lands	Very to moderately concerned	Count	218	371	589
		Percent	83.5%	77.5%	79.6%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	43	108	151
		Percent	16.5%	22.5%	20.4%
Total		Count	261	479	740
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents at or below median income were more concerned with the pressure to convert open lands than those above median income (83.5% compared to 77.5%).

Table 121

**Pressure to convert open lands by Age by categories (P=.045)**

			Age by categories					Total
			18-24	25-44	45-59	60-74	>75	
Pressure to convert open lands	Very to moderately concerned	Count	42	206	236	129	11	624
		Percent	77.8%	80.8%	81.9%	71.7%	64.7%	78.6%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	12	49	52	51	6	170
		Percent	22.2%	19.2%	18.1%	28.3%	35.3%	21.4%
Total		Count	54	255	288	180	17	794
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents above the age of 75 were least concerned with the pressure to convert open lands (64.7%) and respondents between the ages of 45-59 were most concerned (81.9%).

Table 122

**Changes in the earth's climate by Highest level of education (P=.000)**

			Highest level of education					Total	
			9-12 grade (no diploma)	High school graduate (incl. GED)	Some college (no degree)	Associates /technical	Bachelor		Post-graduate/professional
Changes in the earth's climate	Very to moderately concerned	Count	2	20	79	29	199	275	604
		Percent	66.7%	66.7%	68.7%	47.5%	76.8%	81.8%	75.1%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	1	10	36	32	60	61	200
		Percent	33.3%	33.3%	31.3%	52.5%	23.2%	18.2%	24.9%
Total		Count	3	30	115	61	259	336	804
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents with associates or technical degrees were least concerned with changes in the earth's climate (47.5%).

Table 123

**Changes in the earth's climate by Gender (P=.000)**

			Gender			Total
			Female	Male	Other	
Changes in the earth's climate	Very to moderately concerned	Count	387	204	5	596
		Percent	86.8%	59.8%	71.4%	75.1%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	59	137	2	198
		Percent	13.2%	40.2%	28.6%	24.9%
Total		Count	446	341	7	794
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Female respondents were most concerned about changes in the earth's climate (86.8%).

Table 124

**Changes in the earth's climate by Urban vs. Rural (P=.007)**

			Urban vs. Rural		Total
			Urban (Chittenden County)	Rural (Northeast Kingdom)	
Changes in the earth's climate	Very to moderately concerned	Count	227	54	281
		Percent	78.0%	63.5%	74.7%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	64	31	95
		Percent	22.0%	36.5%	25.3%
Total		Count	291	85	376
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Urban respondents were more concerned about changes in the earth's climate than the rural respondents (78.0% and 63.5%, respectively).

Table 125

**Changes in the earth's climate by Below or above median income (P=.030)**

			Below or above median income		Total
			At or below median income	Above median income	
Changes in the earth's climate	Very to moderately concerned	Count	208	354	562
		Percent	80.6%	73.4%	75.9%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	50	128	178
		Percent	19.4%	26.6%	24.1%
Total		Count	258	482	740
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents at or below median income were slightly more concerned with changes in the earth's climate than those above median income (80.6% and 73.4%, respectively).

Table 126

**Changes in the earth's climate by Years lived in Vermont (P=.002)**

			Years lived in Vermont					Total
			<2	2-5	6-10	11-20	>21	
Changes in the earth's climate	Very to moderately concerned	Count	9	88	75	121	294	587
		Percent	75.0%	88.0%	78.9%	78.6%	69.7%	75.0%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	3	12	20	33	128	196
		Percent	25.0%	12.0%	21.1%	21.4%	30.3%	25.0%
Total		Count	12	100	95	154	422	783
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents who lived in Vermont for 6-10 years and those who lived in Vermont for 11-20 years were similar in their responses regarding the issue of “changes in the earth’s climate” (78.9% and 78.6%, respectively).

Table 127

**Changes in the earth's climate by Age by categories (P=.001)**

			Age by categories					Total
			18-24	25-44	45-59	60-74	>75	
Changes in the earth's climate	Very to moderately concerned	Count	46	209	217	113	12	597
		Percent	80.7%	80.7%	75.9%	63.5%	75.0%	75.0%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	11	50	69	65	4	199
		Percent	19.3%	19.3%	24.1%	36.5%	25.0%	25.0%
Total		Count	57	259	286	178	16	796
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents between the ages of 60-74 were less concerned (63.5% respectively) with changes in the earth’s climate than those between the ages of 18-24 and 25-44 (both 80.7%).

Table 128

**Increasing price of land by Gender (P.000)**

			Gender			Total
			Female	Male	Other	
Increasing price of land	Very to moderately concerned	Count	371	233	5	609
		Percent	86.1%	67.7%	71.4%	77.9%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	60	111	2	173
		Percent	13.9%	32.3%	28.6%	22.1%
Total		Count	431	344	7	782
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Male respondents were least concerned with the increasing price of land (67.7%).



Table 129

**Increasing price of land by Below or above median income (P.000)**

			Below or above median income		Total
			At or below median income	Above median income	
Increasing price of land	Very to moderately concerned	Count	215	357	572
		Percent	85.7%	74.4%	78.2%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	36	123	159
		Percent	14.3%	25.6%	21.8%
Total		Count	251	480	731
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents at or below median income were more likely to be concerned with the increasing price of land than those above median income (85.7% and 74.4%, respectively).

Table 130

**Increasing price of land by Age by categories (P.018)**

			Age by categories					Total
			18-24	25-44	45-59	60-74	>75	
Increasing price of land	Very to moderately concerned	Count	39	206	226	126	11	608
		Percent	76.5%	83.1%	78.7%	69.6%	68.8%	77.7%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	12	42	61	55	5	175
		Percent	23.5%	16.9%	21.3%	30.4%	31.3%	22.3%
Total		Count	51	248	287	181	16	783
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents between the ages 60-74 and respondents above the age of 75 were least likely to be concerned with the increasing price of land (69.6% and 68.8%, respectively), compared to those aged 25-44, who were most likely to be concerned (83.1%).

Table 131

**Increased rate of population growth by Gender (P.000)**

			Gender			Total
			Female	Male	Other	
Increased rate of population growth	Very to moderately concerned	Count	274	168	7	449
		Percent	63.9%	50.0%	100.0%	58.2%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	155	168	0	323
		Percent	36.1%	50.0%	.0%	41.8%
Total		Count	429	336	7	772
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Male respondents were least concerned with the increased rate of population growth (50%).

Table 132

**Increased rate of population growth by Below or above median income (P=.010)**

			Below or above median income		Total
			At or below median income	Above median income	
Increased rate of population growth	Very to moderately concerned	Count	166	260	426
		Percent	65.4%	55.4%	58.9%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	88	209	297
		Percent	34.6%	44.6%	41.1%
Total		Count	254	469	723
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents at or below median income were more concerned with the increased rate of population growth than those above median income (65.4% and 55.4%, respectively).

Table 133

**Increased rate of population growth by Age by categories (P=.067)**

			Age by categories					Total
			18-24	25-44	45-59	60-74	>75	
Increased rate of population growth	Very to moderately concerned	Count	31	161	161	90	8	451
		Percent	56.4%	65.4%	56.5%	52.6%	47.1%	58.3%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	24	85	124	81	9	323
		Percent	43.6%	34.6%	43.5%	47.4%	52.9%	41.7%
Total		Count	55	246	285	171	17	774
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

There was no significant age trend with the increase rate of population growth. Respondents older than 75 were the least concerned (47.1%).

Table 134

**Increase in average age of population by Age by categories (P=.002)**

			Age by categories					Total
			18-24	25-44	45-59	60-74	>75	
Increase in average age of population	Very to moderately concerned	Count	19	160	165	104	12	460
		Percent	35.2%	63.7%	57.7%	58.4%	75.0%	58.6%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	35	91	121	74	4	325
		Percent	64.8%	36.3%	42.3%	41.6%	25.0%	41.4%
Total		Count	54	251	286	178	16	785
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents older than 75 were most concerned (75%) about the increase in average age of the population and those aged 18-24 age were least concerned (35.2%).

Table 135

**Limited availability of high speed internet and wireless telecom by Age by categories (P=.022)**

			Age by categories					Total
			18-24	25-44	45-59	60-74	>75	
Limited availability of high speed internet and wireless telecommunications	Very to moderately concerned	Count	35	143	186	128	12	504
		Percent	63.6%	55.6%	64.8%	70.7%	70.6%	63.2%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	20	114	101	53	5	293
		Percent	36.4%	44.4%	35.2%	29.3%	29.4%	36.8%
Total		Count	55	257	287	181	17	797
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents between the ages of 25-44 were least likely to be concerned with the limited availability of high speed internet and wireless telecom and those between the ages 60-74 were most likely to be concerned (55.6% and 70.7%, respectively).

Table 136

**Increasing gap between high- and low-income populations by Highest level of education (P=.080)**

			Highest level of education					Total	
			9-12 grade (no diploma)	High school graduate (incl. GED)	Some college (no degree)	Associates /technical	Bachelor	Post-graduate/ professional	9-12 grade (no diploma)
Increasing gap between high- and low-income populations	Very to moderately concerned	Count	2	25	86	42	218	283	656
		Percent	66.7%	80.6%	74.8%	71.2%	83.2%	84.0%	81.3%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	1	6	29	17	44	54	151
		Percent	33.3%	19.4%	25.2%	28.8%	16.8%	16.0%	18.7%
Total		Count	3	31	115	59	262	337	807
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents in the post-graduate/professional group were the most concerned with the increasing gap between high- and low-income populations and the respondents in the 9-12 grade (no diploma) group were the least concerned (84.0% and 66.7%, respectively).

Table 137

**Increasing gap between high- and low-income populations by Gender (P=.000)**

			Gender			Total
			Female	Male	Other	
Increasing gap between high- and low-income populations	Very to moderately concerned	Count	407	235	7	649
		Percent	91.7%	68.1%	100.0%	81.5%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	37	110	0	147
		Percent	8.3%	31.9%	.0%	18.5%
Total		Count	444	345	7	796
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Male respondents were least concerned with the increasing gap between high- and low-income populations (68.1%, respectively).

Table 138

**Increasing gap between high and low-income populations by Below or above median income (P=.001)**

			Below or above median income		Total
			At or below median income	Above median income	
Increasing gap between high- and low-income populations	Very to moderately concerned	Count	231	383	614
		Percent	88.8%	79.3%	82.6%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	29	100	129
		Percent	11.2%	20.7%	17.4%
Total		Count	260	483	743
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents at or below median income were more concerned with the increasing gap between high- and low-income populations than those above median income (88.8% and 79.35, respectively).

Table 139

**Increasing gap between high- and low-income populations by Age by categories (P=.001)**

			Age by categories					Total
			18-24	25-44	45-59	60-74	>75	
Increasing gap between high- and low-income populations	Very to moderately concerned	Count	46	220	243	127	13	649
		Percent	80.7%	85.3%	85.0%	70.6%	76.5%	81.3%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	11	38	43	53	4	149
		Percent	19.3%	14.7%	15.0%	29.4%	23.5%	18.7%
Total		Count	57	258	286	180	17	798
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents between the ages of 24-44 were most likely to be concerned with the increasing gap between high- and low-income populations and respondents between the ages of 60-74 were least likely to be concerned (85.3% and 70.6%, respectively).

Table 140

**Health and viability of Vermont farms and ag sector by Highest level of education (P=.003)**

			Highest level of education					Total	
			9-12 grade (no diploma)	High school graduate (incl. GED)	Some college (no degree)	Associates /technical	Bachelor		Post-graduate/professional
Health and viability of Vermont farms and ag sector	Very to moderately concerned	Count	2	26	81	43	218	293	663
		Percent	66.7%	83.9%	72.3%	71.7%	83.2%	86.9%	82.4%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	1	5	31	17	44	44	142
		Percent	33.3%	16.1%	27.7%	28.3%	16.8%	13.1%	17.6%
Total		Count	3	31	112	60	262	337	805
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents from the 9-12 grade group were least concerned with the health and viability of Vermont farms and the agriculture sector (66.7%) and those from the post-graduate/professional group were most concerned (86.9%).

Table 141

**Health and viability of Vermont farms and ag sector by Gender (P=.000)**

			Gender			Total
			Female	Male	Other	
Health and viability of Vermont farms and ag sector	Very to moderately concerned	Count	395	254	7	656
		Percent	89.2%	73.8%	100.0%	82.6%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	48	90	0	138
		Percent	10.8%	26.2%	.0%	17.4%
Total		Count	443	344	7	794
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Male respondents were least concerned with the health and viability of Vermont farms and the agriculture sector (73.8%).

Table 142

**Health and viability of Vermont farms and ag sector by Below or above median income (P=.026)**

			Below or above median income		Total
			At or below median income	Above median income	
Health and viability of Vermont farms and ag sector	Very to moderately concerned	Count	226	394	620
		Percent	87.6%	81.2%	83.4%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	32	91	123
		Percent	12.4%	18.8%	16.6%
Total		Count	258	485	743
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents at or below median income were slightly more concerned with the health and viability of Vermont farms and the agriculture sector than those above median income (87.6% and 81.2%, respectively).

Table 143

**Health and viability of Vermont farms and ag sector by Age by categories (P=.003)**

			Age by categories					Total
			18-24	25-44	45-59	60-74	>75	
Health and viability of Vermont farms and ag sector	Very to moderately concerned	Count	38	210	254	137	15	654
		Percent	71.7%	82.0%	87.9%	75.7%	88.2%	82.2%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	15	46	35	44	2	142
		Percent	28.3%	18.0%	12.1%	24.3%	11.8%	17.8%
Total		Count	53	256	289	181	17	796
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents between the ages 18-24 were least concerned with the health and viability of Vermont farms and agriculture sector (71.7%) and those older than 75 were most concerned (71.7% and 88.2%, respectively).

Table 144

**Level of engagement in local communities by Below or above median income (P=.000)**

			Below or above median income		Total
			At or below median income	Above median income	
Level of engagement in local communities	Very to moderately concerned	Count	178	270	448
		Percent	69.5%	56.4%	61.0%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	78	209	287
		Percent	30.5%	43.6%	39.0%
Total		Count	256	479	735
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents above median income were less concerned with the level of engagement in local communities than those at or below the median income (56.4% and 69.5%, respectively).

Table 145

**Level of engagement in local communities by Years lived in Vermont (P=.044)**

			Years lived in Vermont					Total
			<2	2-5	6-10	11-20	>21	
Level of engagement in local communities	Very to moderately concerned	Count	3	58	51	80	265	457
		Percent	30.0%	58.0%	53.7%	53.0%	63.1%	58.9%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	7	42	44	71	155	319
		Percent	70.0%	42.0%	46.3%	47.0%	36.9%	41.1%
Total		Count	10	100	95	151	420	776
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents who lived in Vermont for less than 2 years were much less concerned with the level of engagement in local communities (30%) than those in the other groups.

Table 146

**Level of engagement in local government by Urban vs. Rural (P=.048)**

			Urban vs. Rural		Total
			Urban (Chittenden County)	Rural (Northeast Kingdom)	
Level of engagement in local government	Very to moderately concerned	Count	147	53	200
		Percent	51.6%	63.9%	54.3%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	138	30	168
		Percent	48.4%	36.1%	45.7%
Total		Count	285	83	368
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents living in rural areas were more likely to be concerned with the level of engagement in local government than those living in urban areas (63.9% and 51.6%, respectively).

Table 147

**Level of engagement in local government by Below or above median income (P=.000)**

			Below or above median income		Total
			At or below median income	Above median income	
Level of engagement in local government	Very to moderately concerned	Count	180	272	452
		Percent	71.4%	56.8%	61.8%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	72	207	279
		Percent	28.6%	43.2%	38.2%
Total		Count	252	479	731
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents at or below median income were more likely to be concerned with the level of engagement in local government than those above median income (71.4% and 56.8%, respectively).

Table 148

**Level of engagement in local government by Years lived in Vermont (P=.006)**

			Years lived in Vermont					Total
			<2	2-5	6-10	11-20	>21	
Level of engagement in local government	Very to moderately concerned	Count	3	55	47	82	273	460
		Percent	30.0%	57.3%	50.0%	54.7%	65.2%	59.8%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	7	41	47	68	146	309
		Percent	70.0%	42.7%	50.0%	45.3%	34.8%	40.2%
Total		Count	10	96	94	150	419	769
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents who lived in Vermont for 2 years or less were much less concerned with the level of engagement in local government than those in the other groups.

Table 149

**Level of engagement in local government by Age by categories (P=.004)**

			Age by categories					Total
			18-24	25-44	45-59	60-74	>75	
Level of engagement in local government	Very to moderately concerned	Count	24	135	175	120	13	467
		Percent	46.2%	53.8%	61.2%	68.2%	76.5%	59.7%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	28	116	111	56	4	315
		Percent	53.8%	46.2%	38.8%	31.8%	23.5%	40.3%
Total		Count	52	251	286	176	17	782
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

The level of concern about engagement in local government increased as age increased.

Table 150

**Tax rate by Highest level of education (P=.002)**

			Highest level of education					Total	
			9-12 grade (no diploma)	High school graduate (incl. GED)	Some college (no degree)	Associates /technical	Bachelor		Post-graduate/professional
Tax rate	Very to moderately concerned	Count	2	25	84	49	184	213	557
		Percent	66.7%	83.3%	80.0%	83.1%	72.7%	63.8%	71.0%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	1	5	21	10	69	121	227
		Percent	33.3%	16.7%	20.0%	16.9%	27.3%	36.2%	29.0%
Total		Count	3	30	105	59	253	334	784
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents in with high school diplomas and those with associates or technical degrees were most likely to be concerned about the tax rate (83.3% and 83.1%, respectively).

Table 151

**Tax rate by Urban vs. Rural (P=.087)**

			Urban vs. Rural		Total
			Urban (Chittenden County)	Rural (Northeast Kingdom)	
Tax rate	Very to moderately concerned	Count	185	64	249
		Percent	66.3%	76.2%	68.6%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	94	20	114
		Percent	33.7%	23.8%	31.4%
Total		Count	279	84	363
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Rural respondents were more likely to be concerned with the tax rate than the urban respondents (76.2% and 66.3%, respectively).

Table 152

**Tax rate by Years lived in Vermont (P=.000)**

			Years lived in Vermont					Total
			<2	2-5	6-10	11-20	>21	
Tax rate	Very to moderately concerned	Count	2	67	56	100	316	541
		Percent	22.2%	70.5%	61.5%	66.2%	75.8%	70.9%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	7	28	35	51	101	222
		Percent	77.8%	29.5%	38.5%	33.8%	24.2%	29.1%
Total		Count	9	95	91	151	417	763
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents who have lived in Vermont for over 21 years were much more concerned with the tax rate than respondents who have lived in for Vermont for less than two years (75.8% and 22.2%, respectively).



Table 153

**Tax rate by Age by categories (P=.006)**

			Age by categories					Total
			18-24	25-44	45-59	60-74	>75	
Tax rate	Very to moderately concerned	Count	24	165	209	139	12	549
		Percent	51.1%	67.3%	72.6%	77.2%	75.0%	70.7%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	23	80	79	41	4	227
		Percent	48.9%	32.7%	27.4%	22.8%	25.0%	29.3%
Total		Count	47	245	288	180	16	776
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents between the ages of 18-24 were least likely to be concerned with the tax rate (51.1%) and those between the ages of 60-74 were most concerned (77.2%).

Table 154

**Public infrastructure and its future maintenance by Highest level of education (P=.048)**

			Highest level of education					Total	
			9-12 grade (no diploma)	High school graduate (incl. GED)	Some college (no degree)	Associates /technical	Bachelor		Post-graduate/ professional
Public infrastructure and its future maintenance	Very to moderately concerned	Count	1	24	83	52	222	288	670
		Percent	100.0%	80.0%	74.1%	86.7%	86.4%	86.0%	100.0%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	0	6	29	8	35	47	125
		Percent	.0%	20.0%	25.9%	13.3%	13.6%	14.0%	100.0%
Total		Count	1	30	112	60	257	335	795
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents with some college were least concerned about the state's public infrastructure and its future maintenance (74.1%).

Table 155

**Public infrastructure and its future maintenance by Years lived in Vermont (P=.079)**

			Years lived in Vermont					Total
			<2	2-5	6-10	11-20	>21	
Public infrastructure and its future maintenance	Very to moderately concerned	Count	7	79	78	122	370	656
		Percent	63.6%	80.6%	82.1%	83.0%	87.5%	84.8%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	4	19	17	25	53	118
		Percent	36.4%	19.4%	17.9%	17.0%	12.5%	15.2%
Total		Count	11	98	95	147	423	774
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents who lived in Vermont for less than 2 years were least concerned with the state's public infrastructure and its future maintenance (63.6%) and those who lived in Vermont for more than 21 years were the most concerned (87.5%). The level of concern increased as the number of years lived in Vermont increased.

Table 156

**Public infrastructure and its future maintenance by Age by categories (P=.000)**

			Age by categories					Total
			18-24	25-44	45-59	60-74	>75	
Public infrastructure and its future maintenance	Very to moderately concerned	Count	31	198	256	163	15	663
		Percent	60.8%	78.3%	89.5%	90.1%	93.8%	84.2%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	20	55	30	18	1	124
		Percent	39.2%	21.7%	10.5%	9.9%	6.3%	15.8%
Total		Count	51	253	286	181	16	787
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

The level of concern about the state's public infrastructure and its future maintenance increased as the respondents' ages increased.

Table 157

**Public safety by Below or above median income (P=.020)**

			Below or above median income		Total
			At or below median income	Above median income	
Public safety	Very to moderately concerned	Count	119	182	301
		Percent	46.7%	37.8%	40.9%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	136	299	435
		Percent	53.3%	62.2%	59.1%
Total		Count	255	481	736
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents, overall, were less concerned with public safety than with the other challenges. Respondents at or below median income were slightly more likely to be concerned than those above median income.

Table 158

**Public safety by Years lived in Vermont (P=.041)**

			Years lived in Vermont					Total
			<2	2-5	6-10	11-20	>21	
Public safety	Very to moderately concerned	Count	3	32	29	59	188	311
		Percent	27.3%	33.0%	30.2%	39.1%	44.3%	39.9%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	8	65	67	92	236	468
		Percent	72.7%	67.0%	69.8%	60.9%	55.7%	60.1%
Total		Count	11	97	96	151	424	779
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents who have lived in Vermont for more than 21 years were most concerned with public safety (44.3%). Generally, the level of concern increased as time in Vermont increased.

Table 159

**Public safety by Age by categories (P=.007)**

			Age by categories					Total
			18-24	25-44	45-59	60-74	>75	
Public safety	Very to moderately concerned	Count	13	87	131	71	9	311
		Percent	23.6%	34.5%	45.6%	39.4%	52.9%	39.3%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	42	165	156	109	8	480
		Percent	76.4%	65.5%	54.4%	60.6%	47.1%	60.7%
Total		Count	55	252	287	180	17	791
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents older than 75 were most likely to be concerned about public safety (52.9%).

Table 160

**Future renewable and alternative energy infrastructure by Gender (P=.000)**

			Gender			Total
			Female	Male	Other	
Future renewable and alternative energy infrastructure	Very to moderately concerned	Count	383	236	6	625
		Percent	86.5%	68.2%	85.7%	78.5%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	60	110	1	171
		Percent	13.5%	31.8%	14.3%	21.5%
Total		Count	443	346	7	796
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Male respondents were least concerned about the state's future renewable and alternative energy infrastructure (68.2%).

Table 161

**Future renewable and alternative energy infrastructure by Urban vs. Rural (P=.038)**

			Urban vs. Rural		Total
			Urban (Chittenden County)	Rural (Northeast Kingdom)	
Future renewable and alternative energy infrastructure	Very to moderately concerned	Count	233	59	292
		Percent	80.1%	69.4%	77.7%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	58	26	84
		Percent	19.9%	30.6%	22.3%
Total		Count	291	85	376
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Urban respondents were more likely than rural respondents to be concerned about the state's future renewable and alternative energy infrastructure (80.1% and 69.4%. respectively).

Table 162

**Future renewable & alternative energy infrastructure by below or above median income (P=.002)**

			Below or above median income		Total
			At or below median income	Above median income	
Future renewable and alternative energy infrastructure	Very to moderately concerned	Count	223	368	591
		Percent	85.4%	76.0%	79.3%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	38	116	154
		Percent	14.6%	24.0%	20.7%
Total		Count	261	484	745
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents at or below median income were more concerned about the state's future renewable and alternative energy infrastructure than those above median income (85.4% and 76%, respectively).

Table 163

**Maintenance of healthy downtowns and village centers by Highest level of education (P=.000)**

			Highest level of education					Total	
			9-12 grade (no diploma)	High school graduate (incl. GED)	Some college (no degree)	Associates /technical	Bachelor		Post-graduate/professional
Maintenance of healthy downtowns and village centers	Very to moderately concerned	Count	2	22	69	41	193	278	605
		Percent	66.7%	71.0%	60.0%	67.2%	73.9%	82.7%	75.0%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	1	9	46	20	68	58	202
		Percent	33.3%	29.0%	40.0%	32.8%	26.1%	17.3%	25.0%
Total		Count	3	31	115	61	261	336	807
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents with post graduate or professional degrees were most likely (82.7%) to be concerned about the maintenance of healthy downtowns and village centers.

Table 164

**Maintenance of healthy downtowns and village centers by Gender (P=.000)**

			Gender			Total
			Female	Male	Other	
Maintenance of healthy downtowns and village centers	Very to moderately concerned	Count	355	235	7	597
		Percent	80.7%	67.3%	100.0%	75.0%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	85	114	0	199
		Percent	19.3%	32.7%	.0%	25.0%
Total		Count	440	349	7	796
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Male respondents were least concerned about the maintenance of healthy downtowns and village centers (67.3%).

Table 165

**Maintenance of healthy downtowns and village centers by Urban vs. Rural (P=.065)**

			Urban vs. Rural		Total
			Urban (Chittenden County)	Rural (Northeast Kingdom)	
Maintenance of healthy downtowns and village centers	Very to moderately concerned	Count	213	53	266
		Percent	73.4%	63.1%	71.1%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	77	31	108
		Percent	26.6%	36.9%	28.9%
Total		Count	290	84	374
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Urban respondents were more likely than rural respondents to be concerned about the maintenance of healthy downtowns and village centers (73.4% compared to 63.1%).

Table 166

**Maintenance of healthy downtowns and village centers by Years lived in Vermont (P=.038)**

			Years lived in Vermont					Total
			<2	2-5	6-10	11-20	>21	
Maintenance of healthy downtowns and village centers	Very to moderately concerned	Count	9	85	76	116	305	591
		Percent	75.0%	85.9%	80.0%	75.3%	71.6%	75.2%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	3	14	19	38	121	195
		Percent	25.0%	14.1%	20.0%	24.7%	28.4%	24.8%
Total		Count	12	99	95	154	426	786
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents who have lived in Vermont for 2-5 years were most concerned about the maintenance of healthy downtowns and village centers (85.9%) and those who lived in Vermont for more than 21 years were least concerned (71.6%).

Table 167

**Maintenance of healthy downtowns and village centers by Age by categories (P=.004)**

			Age by categories					Total
			18-24	25-44	45-59	60-74	>75	
Maintenance of healthy downtowns and village center	Very to moderately concerned	Count	35	195	233	124	12	599
		Percent	61.4%	76.5%	80.9%	68.5%	70.6%	75.1%
	Slightly to not at all concerned	Count	22	60	55	57	5	199
		Percent	38.6%	23.5%	19.1%	31.5%	29.4%	24.9%
Total		Count	57	255	288	181	17	798
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Respondents in the 18-24 age group were least concerned about the maintenance of healthy downtowns and village centers (61.4%) and those aged 45-59 were most concerned (80.9%).

### Section III: Open-ended questions

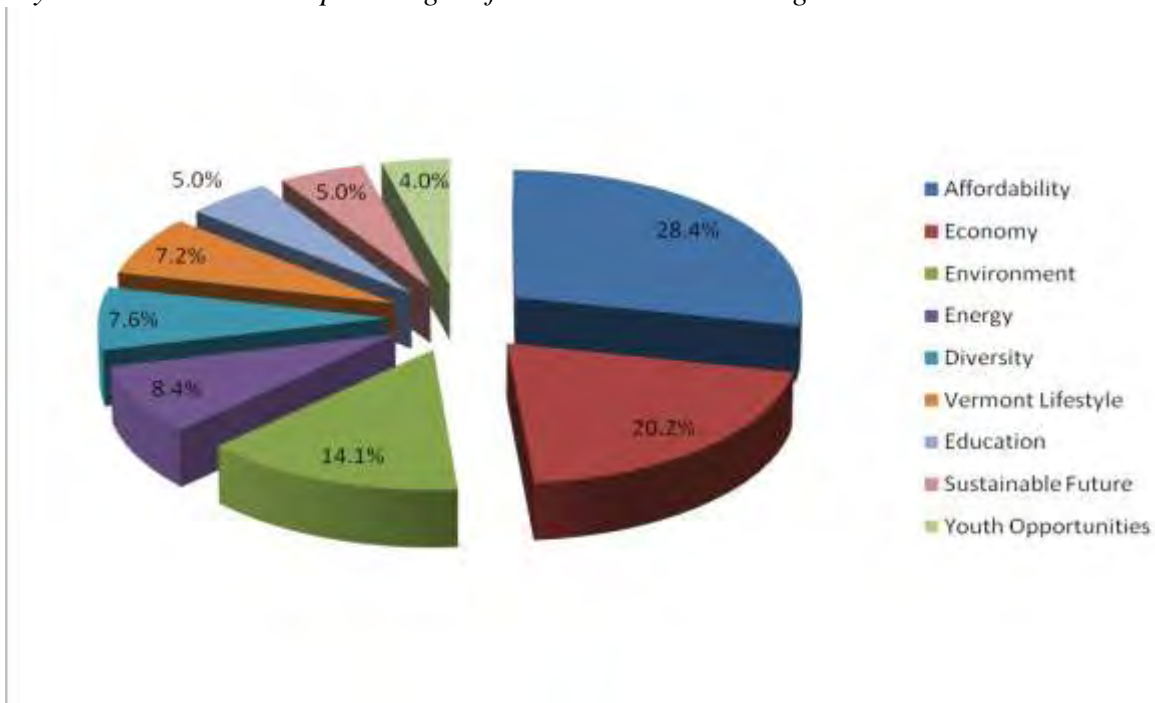
The survey included two open-response questions in which respondents were asked: *What do you see as the most important goal for Vermont in the next generation?* and *What would be the first step in achieving that goal?* These questions were asked near the end of the survey after the key survey themes had been introduced to respondents. The responses were collapsed and grouped into general categories (see Tables 168 and 169).

“Open- response” refers to those questions that respondents were free to answer in any way they liked. These responses were categorized into several general themes that emerged from among all the answers received. For example, the response “Attracting jobs that will keep young people in the state working” was categorized under “Economy” broadly and subcategorized under “Jobs for Youth”, whereas a response like “Keeping young people in the state” was categorized under “Youth Opportunities” because there was no specific mention of “jobs” in the statement.

Many responses included multiple goals. In these instances the respondent’s first goal mentioned was utilized in the count. For example the statement; “Energy, jobs, good, higher paying jobs” was categorized under “Energy” because this was the primary response listed.

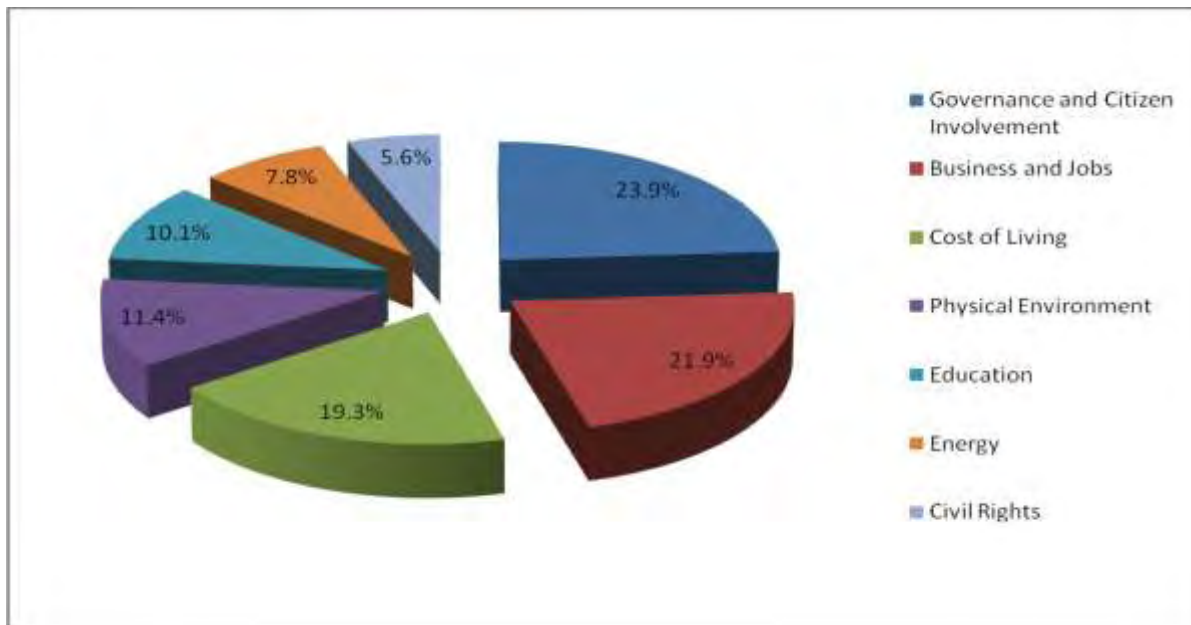
For the open-response question *What do you see as the most important goal for Vermont in the next generation?*, responses were collapsed into the following major categories: affordability, economy, environment, energy, education, diversity, Vermont lifestyle, sustainable future and youth opportunity. The pie chart below shows the percent of responses for each of these general categories and Table 168 provides a closer examination of some of the subcategories.

*What do you see as the most important goal for Vermont in the next generation?*



For the open-response question *What would be the first step in achieving that goal?*, responses were collapsed into the following major categories: governance and citizen involvement, business and jobs, cost of living, physical environment, education, energy and civil rights. Table 169 provides a closer examination of some of the subcategories.

*What would be the first step in achieving that goal?*



In Tables 168 and 169 “Frequency” refers to the actual number of respondents that indicated a particular topic. “Percent within Category” refers to the proportion of the response within each category. “Percent within all Responses” describes the proportion of each subcategory within the entire response set.

The range of answers in the web survey was larger than the range collected during the telephone survey thus lowering the percentages in categories while adding new categories. More than 28 percent of respondents specifically referred to topics of affordability as the most important goals for Vermont in the next generation. Of great interest were the addition of diversity, Vermont lifestyle, and sustainable future categories. These categories were present in the phone responses, but were less prevalent than in the web-based responses.

Also of interest is the great emphasis placed upon governance and citizen involvement as means to achieve future goals. Nearly a quarter (23.9%) of respondents identified some form of increased civic action as a next step for addressing their most important goal for Vermont in the next generation. Additionally, there was a high number of responses indicating a desire to legalize gay marriage in Vermont. The high level of response in this category was not apparent in the telephone survey.

Table 168: *What do you see as the most important goal for Vermont in the next generation?*

<b>Top Nine Response Categories</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent within Category</b>	<b>Percent within all Responses</b>
<b>Total Affordability</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>28.4%</b>
Affordable/Accessible/Universal Healthcare	45	26.6%	7.6%
Lower/Change Taxes	39	23.1%	6.6%
General Affordability/Accessibility	31	18.3%	5.2%
Cost of Living	20	11.8%	3.4%
Livable Wage	12	7.1%	2.0%
Affordable Housing/Land	13	7.7%	2.2%
Affordable/Accessible Education	9	5.3%	1.5%
<b>Total Economy</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>20.2%</b>
Attract Businesses and Jobs	38	31.7%	6.4%
Grow the Economy (Sustainable/Stable)	36	30.0%	6.1%
Business Friendly/Business Support	21	17.5%	3.5%
Green Economy/Industry	11	9.2%	1.8%
Create Jobs for Youth	8	6.7%	1.3%
Local Economy	6	5.0%	1.0%
<b>Total Environment</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>14.1%</b>
Protect/Preserve Environment	25	29.8%	4.2%
Smart Growth/Control Sprawl/Growth	15	17.9%	2.5%
Conserve/Preserve Land/Landscape	14	16.7%	2.4%
(Maintain) Rural Character	11	13.1%	1.8%
Open Space/Recreation	7	8.3%	1.2%
Downtown Development	7	8.3%	1.2%
Reduce Pollution/Climate Change	5	6.0%	0.8%
<b>Total Energy</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>8.4%</b>
Alternative/Renewable/Independent Energy	42	84.0%	7.1%
Increase Efficiency/Lower Consumption	8	16.0%	1.3%
<b>Total Diversity</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>7.6%</b>
Equal/Civil Rights for all	22	48.9%	3.7%
Same Sex Marriage rights	16	35.6%	2.7%
Support Diversity	7	15.6%	1.2%
<b>Total Vermont Lifestyle</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>7.2%</b>
Maintain Unique VT Character	25	58.1%	4.2%
Maintain Quality of Life	18	41.9%	3.0%
<b>Total Education</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>5.0%</b>
Increase the Quality of Education	15	50.0%	2.5%
Increase Education Funding	11	36.7%	1.8%
Create Education Opportunities	4	13.3%	0.7%
<b>Total Sustainable Future</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>5.0%</b>
Sustainable/Self-sufficient/Independent Future	30	100.0%	5.0%
<b>Total Youth Opportunities</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>4.0%</b>
Youth Opportunities	24	100.0%	4.0%
<b>Total for all Responses</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) 2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey (N=829)



Table 169

What would be the first step in achieving that goal?

Top 7 Response Categories		Frequency	Percent within Category	Percent within all Responses
<b>Total Governance and Citizen Involvement</b>		<b>132</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>23.9%</b>
	Change State/Federal government	30	22.7%	5.4%
	Increase citizen education/communication on the issues	30	22.7%	5.4%
	Increase community/civic participation	21	15.9%	3.8%
	Increase government action/leadership	18	13.6%	3.3%
	Work together	16	12.1%	2.9%
	Increase local planning/decision-making	9	6.8%	1.6%
	Reduce government/laws	8	6.1%	1.4%
<b>Total Business and Jobs</b>		<b>121</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>21.9%</b>
	Become more business friendly, remove business constraints	54	44.6%	9.8%
	Develop/support Agriculture	17	14.0%	3.1%
	Increase green/ alternative business	17	14.0%	3.1%
	Livable Wages	10	8.3%	1.8%
	Increase the number of well-paid jobs	9	7.4%	1.6%
	Local Business	6	5.0%	1.1%
	Economic Development Planning	8	6.6%	1.4%
<b>Total Cost of Living</b>		<b>107</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>19.3%</b>
	Change/decrease the tax structure/rate	48	44.9%	8.7%
	Create affordable/accessible/universal healthcare	37	34.6%	6.7%
	Develop affordable/accessible housing	18	16.8%	3.3%
	Lower/control costs/spending	4	3.7%	0.7%
<b>Total Physical Environment</b>		<b>63</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>11.4%</b>
	Reduce/control sprawl	15	23.8%	2.7%
	Strengthen land use planning	15	23.8%	2.7%
	Downtown development/vibrant communities	11	17.5%	2.0%
	Reduce permitting/development constraints	9	14.3%	1.6%
	Smart growth	8	12.7%	1.4%
	Land preservation/conservation	5	7.9%	0.9%
<b>Total Education</b>		<b>56</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>10.1%</b>
	Increase/change educational financing	29	51.8%	5.2%
	Increase/change education system/options	27	48.2%	4.9%
<b>Total Energy</b>		<b>43</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>7.8%</b>
	Increase alternative/renewable/energy efficiency options	43	100.0%	7.8%
<b>Total Civil Rights</b>		<b>31</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>5.6%</b>
	Marriage Equality/Legalize Gay Marriage	31	100.0%	5.6%
<b>Total for all Responses</b>		<b>553</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Center for Rural Studies (<http://crs.uvm.edu>) 2008 Council on the Future of Vermont Web Survey (N=829)

## Conclusion

This Council on the Future of Vermont survey gives a glimpse into the hearts and minds of Vermonters. When combined with the public forums, discussions with specific stakeholders and online survey and dialogues, it will allow the Council to describe a broad picture of the values and challenges that Vermonters share as well as document future priorities.

The three most significant values that emerged from the Council on the Future of Vermont survey are 1) independence, 2) community ties and 3) working landscape. Vermont residents are connected at a very intimate level with their environment and the heritage that exists in the state. It is clear from the close-ended questions, as well as the more flexible open-ended that these three values are found across demographic lines – to repeat, Vermont residents of all types respond that their independence, their communities and the working landscape are of great importance to them.

For three decades, the Center for Rural Studies has conducted the annual Vermonter Poll, a statewide telephone public opinion poll. Through its survey work, the Center has seen how economic, social, political and environmental trends are reflected in the population's goals and values. The fact that respondents to the Council on the Future of Vermont survey placed the most value on the state's working landscape and heritage confirm patterns observed by the Center for Rural Studies over the years. For example, respondents to the 2006 Vermont Land Trust Conservation Survey ranked having working farms as first in importance from a list of specific indicators. Similarly, in the 2007 Vermonter Poll, almost all respondents (96.2 percent) agreed with the statement "Developing agriculture that is both profitable and environmentally friendly is a priority in Vermont."

Vermonters have long perceived themselves as independent and community minded. These values are reflected in the survey work of the Council for the Future of Vermont and parallel the more focused concerns depicted on the Vermonter polls. These values are reflected in action as well. Consider the following selected statistics: we are a state with almost 80,000 reported small businesses/ economic activities,<sup>6</sup> more than 6,000 operating farms,<sup>7</sup> natural resource oriented endeavors include 30,500 woodlot managers<sup>8</sup> and a significant gardening culture.<sup>9</sup> In terms of community action we have an adult population where more than half acknowledge active community service.<sup>10</sup> These data suggest that, in action, Vermonters practice a variety of activities reflecting self-sufficiency and thus, the value of independence.

And yet we are reminded that this independence and self-sufficiency is constrained by the size of our place. Vermont is a very small state with just over 620,000 inhabitants in 2007<sup>11</sup> and is ranked 49<sup>th</sup> of

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<sup>6</sup> U.S. Census Bureau 2005 Statistics of U.S. Businesses and 2005 Nonemployee Statistics. This estimate is obtained by adding the 19,140 establishments employing fewer than 100 to the non-paid employee businesses (59,806) reported by Census for 2005. The non-paid employee category is often enterprise specific, e.g. there may be several businesses per respondent, typically self-employed individual operating very small unincorporated businesses. In 2005, U.S. Census reports that 86% of small business establishments (fewer than 100 employees) employed 26% of Vermont's paid employees (Census Bureau 2005 Statistics of U.S. Business, released in 2006).

<sup>7</sup> <http://crs.uvm.edu/agriculture/2005aghandbook.pdf>

<sup>8</sup> personal correspondence, Thom McEvoy, UVM Forest Resources Specialist

<sup>9</sup> National Gardening Association, 2005

<sup>10</sup> Center for Rural Studies Vermonter Polls

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates 2007, Washington, D.C. released., June, 2007

50, a small city by national standards.<sup>12</sup> Vermont is small in physical size as well (a “place” of less than 10,000 square miles, 45<sup>th</sup> of 50 states<sup>13</sup>). Here too, action compensates for size. Our citizenry routinely self-govern and vote in numbers which rank us among the highest performing populations of all the states. Local community participation is the venue of preference for both action and local allegiance. The 246 towns and cities each self-govern, mirroring national processes with judicial (Board of Civil Authority), legislative (town meeting) and administrative (selectboard and mayor or town managers) branches, complimented, in most places, by planning commissions and natural resource committees. The primacy of place – an allegiance to town of residence – is reflected in the value placed on community by Council on the Future study participants.

This Council on the Future of Vermont survey shows that Vermonters place a great deal of value on the working landscape, independence and community. However, these respondents are clearly aware of a number of forces that lie beyond local control. The results from this survey seem to reflect looming external factors include climate change and the price and availability of critical resources. Affordability and economy together made up nearly 60 percent of the responses to the open-ended questions in the telephone poll. It also seems that the very values that respondents hold may be the source of the challenges they see in the future.

These challenges (affordability and economy) have been identified by respondents in Vermonter Poll results over the past decade. Each year, one of the questions on the Vermonter Poll is “What do you feel is the most important problem facing Vermont in the coming decade?” In 2008, the economy, healthcare, employment, taxes and affordability were the top five issues.

The concern for affordability and the economy reflected by two thirds of the Council on the Future of Vermont poll respondents reflects a trend identified by demographers and economists who point to the most dramatic demographic change afoot in Vermont as those changes in the so-called “dependent population” – those too young and too old to be considered a part of the active labor force. Current trends will lead us, by 2030, to a situation with a quarter of our population over age of 65,<sup>14</sup> challenging health care, transportation, housing and, critically, capacity to contribute to the tax base. Close behind Vermont's graying population is a “shadow” trend, namely a marked decline of young people in both the proportion of our population and in absolute numbers. It would appear that this message has resonated with participants in the Council on the Future of Vermont and are reflected in concerns for affordability, as well as employment opportunities.

Demographic trends have significant ramifications for all services, especially health care, issues of infrastructure such as transportation and housing, and audiences for both formal and informal education. Although the younger age cohort (those under 18) will grow over time in absolute numbers by 2030, there will be 15,000 fewer under 18 in 2030 than in 2000; a loss of just over 10 percent. These trends portend significant changes in the coming decade. By 2030, for example the median age of Vermonters (44) is expected to exceed the national median age by some 5 years.<sup>15</sup> Consensus regarding the full implications of these demographic changes has not been found yet across the state. Debate has focused, for example, on the implications for housing, health costs, transportation and the quality, availability and quantity of work for youth as well as elders.<sup>16</sup> While respondents to the Council for the Future of

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<sup>12</sup> U.S. Census Bureau 2007 County and City Data Book 2007, 14<sup>th</sup> edition, Washington DC 2007

<sup>13</sup> U.S. Census Bureau 2007 County and City Data Book 2007, 14<sup>th</sup> edition, Washington DC 2007

<sup>14</sup> U.S. Census, Interim State Population Projections by Selected Age Groups: April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2030.

<sup>15</sup> 2007 VTrans, Long Term Business Plan, Working Paper 4.

<sup>16</sup> See for example, Vermont Housing Finance Agency, “Housing and the Needs of Vermont’s Aging Population, Summer, 2007; Wolf, Art and Richard Heaps, Northern Economic Consulting, <http://www.vteconomy.com/index.html>”; “Between a Rock and a Hard Place: Housing and Wages in Vermont; 2007, VTrans, Long Term Business Plan, Working Paper 4; or The

Vermont survey were not overly concerned with population growth and dynamics, they identified youth activities, job opportunities and retention of youth as a great concern for the future.

In terms of those economic issues best measured by income or wages, a persistent concern for Vermonters has been income levels. Household income level in Vermont has traditionally trailed U.S. and regional averages. This gap has steadily closed over the decades, moving Vermont from one of the very poorest rural states toward the middle.<sup>17</sup> To a degree, a legacy of isolation and frugality (“the use it up, wear it out” mentality) underpins our celebration of independence and self-sufficiency. Baring major national economic collapse, incomes are anticipated to continue a slow but steady increase here.<sup>18</sup> Of great concern, however, are the large number of households with incomes under \$35,000 and especially those headed by elders<sup>19</sup>. Declining household size is expected to level off at approximately 2.3 inhabitants, small compared to other states and with implications for both housing and transportation.<sup>20</sup>

In addition to demographic shifts and the slow growth of household income, yet another force in Vermont may help us to understand respondents marked concern for affordability and its counterpart, economic opportunity. As the state has grown, so too has the population spread evenly throughout our cherished 246 towns and cities. The communities of the Lake Champlain basin have witnessed the most dramatic growth, but this has been followed in the Connecticut River Valley, central Vermont and Rutland County. In similar fashion, southern Vermont, anchored east by Brattleboro and west by Bennington, has grown slowly but surely. Rarely have more than a dozen (5%) of our 246 towns experienced actual decline between 1960 and 2000<sup>21</sup>. The urban areas have been stable (occasional small declines), with growth most dramatic in the towns adjacent to urban population hubs.<sup>22</sup> However, as Vermont's population continues to disperse geographically, commuting has increased between both towns and counties and Vermonters are spending more time driving to and from work. More than 3 in 4 Vermont towns have a net export of day workers in recent decades, a pattern likely to fall in the face of rising fuel prices.<sup>23</sup>

Polling results reflecting Vermonters' concerns for affordability and economic opportunity may be in direct response to the current fuel situation and to the trend of residents moving into that cherished landscape which Vermonters value for its own sake. The expression of concern from an active citizenry around the cost of services, of transportation or of energy reflect the strong ties to communities of residence, a pride in living here and a valued working landscape in a time when outside forces are putting pressure on their preferred way of life.

This report, as well as the summary and complete results of the telephone survey are available online at the Council on the Future of Vermont's website: [www.futureofvermont.org](http://www.futureofvermont.org).

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Vermont Economy Newsletter, “Is Vermont’s Labor Force Already Shrinking?” Oct. 2007, Vol. 17, No. 10. among many other sources.

<sup>17</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, County and City Data Book, selected editions, Washington DC.

<sup>18</sup> New England Economic Partnership, November 2006: Vermont Economic Outlook.

<sup>19</sup> Vermont Housing Finance Agency, “Housing and the Needs of Vermont’s Aging Population”, Summer, 2007

<sup>20</sup> 2007 VTrans, Long Term Business Plan, Working Paper 4

<sup>21</sup> U.S. Census of the Population, 2000. (compiled by the CRS, 2007).

<sup>22</sup> Ibid.

<sup>23</sup> 2007 VTrans, Long Term Business Plan, Working Paper 4

# Appendix 1: Online Survey

Web Survey

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## Council on the Future of Vermont Survey

Thank you for taking this survey! It will ask you about challenges and opportunities for the coming generation and the values and visions that you have for the future. Your participation is voluntary and all your responses will remain confidential.

This is one way to contribute to our Conversations on the Future of Vermont.

Please take a moment at the end of the survey to fill in your contact information if you'd like us to update you on new events and results in the CFV project. Your contact information is optional and will not be associated with your survey responses.

Thank you!

1. Have you attended a Conversation on the Future of Vermont forum?

- No
- Yes

The next question lists 12 of the values that Vermonters have identified at the forums and asks you to state your level of agreement with these values.

2. Please state your level of agreement with the following statements:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
I value Vermont's spirit of independence (the state's history of political and cultural events and decisions)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am proud of being from or living in Vermont	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I trust my neighbors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I value the privacy that I get in Vermont	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am tolerant of diverse lifestyles	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I believe that there is a strong sense of community where I live	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I believe that Vermont's creative communities are valuable to the state (artists, writers, musicians, artisans, craft people, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I value the working landscape and its heritage	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I value the participatory government in Vermont	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I value the accessibility of government in Vermont	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I value the small size and scale of the state	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I believe that private property rights are well respected in Vermont	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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During our conversations around the state, Vermonters have identified many challenges that they believe the state will face in the next generation. The following 2 tables list some of these potential challenges and ask you to state your level of concern about them.

3. Please state your level of concern about the following challenges for Vermont:

	Very Concerned	Moderately Concerned	Slightly Concerned	Not at all Concerned	Don't Know
A shortage of affordable housing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A shortage of available housing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The accessibility of health care	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The quality of health care	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The rate of business development in Vermont	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The development of an adequate workforce for the future	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The increasing costs of living, such as transportation, heating and electricity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The quality of education	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The way Vermont finances public education	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pressure to convert open lands to residential, commercial and other development	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The changes in the earth's climate and their potential impacts on the Vermont landscape and seasons	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

	Very Concerned	Moderately Concerned	Slightly Concerned	Not at all Concerned	Don't Know
The increasing price of land in Vermont	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The potential for an increased rate of population growth in Vermont	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
An increase in the average age of the Vermont population	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The limited availability of high speed internet connections and wireless telecommunications in Vermont	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
An increasing gap between high-income and low-income populations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The health and viability of Vermont farms and the agricultural sector	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The level of engagement of Vermonters in their local communities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The level of engagement of Vermonters in their local governments	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The tax rate in Vermont	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The state's existing public infrastructure and its future maintenance (sewer, water, bridges, roads, transportation, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Public safety in Vermont	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The future of Vermont's renewable and alternative energy infrastructure (water, wind, biomass, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The maintenance of healthy downtown and village centers in Vermont	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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4. What do you see as the most important goal for Vermont in the next generation?

5. What would be the first step in achieving that goal?

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### Demographics

Please provide the following demographic information. All of your responses will be kept strictly confidential.

6. In what year were you born?

\_\_\_\_\_

7. In what town do you live?

8. Which of the following best represents the highest level of education that you have completed?

- Less than 9th grade
- 9th-12th grade (no diploma)
- High School Graduate (including GED)
- Some College (no degree)
- Associates or Technical Degree
- Bachelors Degree
- Graduate or Professional Degree
- Don't Know

9. How many members are there in your household?

10. How many household members are under the age of 18?

\_\_\_\_\_

11. How many total years have you lived in Vermont, including any earlier periods?

12. What was your household's total income in 2007?

- Less than \$25,000
- \$25,000 to \$34,999
- \$35,000 to \$49,999
- \$50,000 to \$74,999
- \$75,000 or more
- Don't Know

13. What is your gender?

### Optional Contact Information

Please fill out this section only if you would like to receive more information about the Council on the Future of Vermont. Your contact information is confidential and will not be associated with your survey responses.



First Name  
Last Name  
Position  
Organization  
Address  
City  
State  
Zip Code  
Phone  
E-mail

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