

Vermont Mobile Home Parks: Resident Demographics

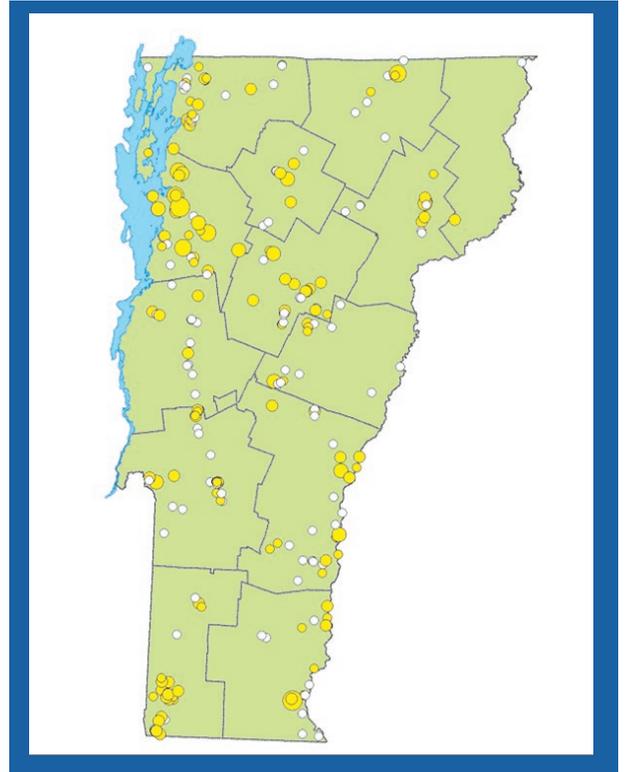
VERMONT MOBILE HOME PARK OVERVIEW

Mobile home parks provide an important affordable housing option to many Vermonters. In 2010, there were 22,317 mobile homes in Vermont—7% of the total housing stock². Nearly one-third of Vermont's mobile homes are sited in 248 parks¹ where homeowners pay for the monthly lease of the lot. The statewide average lot rent is \$302 per month¹.

2011 DISASTER RESILIENCE SURVEY

UVM and the CVOEO Mobile Home Program conducted a statewide door-to-door survey of mobile home park residents. The households were selected at random and every county in Vermont was represented. We asked 363 households in 127 parks about their levels of disaster awareness and preparedness as well as demographic questions. These survey responses demonstrate that mobile home park residents experience a greater degree of social and economic vulnerability to disasters than the average Vermonter. Vulnerabilities include: 1) lower incomes; 2) higher percentages of households with elderly individuals; 3) high instances of health conditions or disability; 4) lower education levels.

This fact sheet summarizes park resident demographic information from the 2011 survey and compares findings to data from the US Census Bureau's American Community Survey.



DEMOGRAPHICS: Mobile home parks are a source of long-term affordable housing for many Vermonters.

Average length of park residency:
11 years

When asked how long into the future residents saw themselves living in the park, 58% said for more than 5 years.

Median household size: 2.4 persons

Average age of respondents: 55 years



The University of Vermont



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HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS

26% of households have at least one child under age 18
Compared to: 30% statewide²

37% of households have at least one person over age 65
Compared to: 24% statewide²

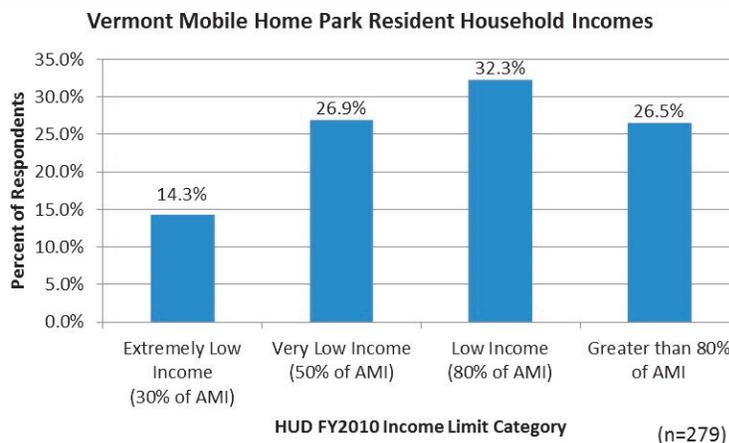
41% of households reported a person with a health condition or disability that would be a concern in an emergency situation.

41% of respondents had a high school degree or GED

25% had completed a graduate, bachelor, associate, or technical degree

64% of households had at least one person employed

32% of households had at least one retired senior



This survey found that more than 40% of households surveyed reported incomes that would be considered to be “extremely low” or “very low” according to the income limit categories set by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Note: Households of one person were considered in this analysis.

87% of households own their homes & 73% of those homeowners do not currently have a mortgage payment

ABOUT US: The University of Vermont Department of Community Development and Applied Economics and the Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity Mobile Home Program formed a research collaborative to increase knowledge of disaster vulnerabilities of Vermont's mobile home parks and to engage park residents in emergency management planning. This three-year research project is funded by the USDA's Disaster Resilience for Rural Communities Program.

To learn more about this work, visit www.uvm.edu/~cdaemhp

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¹ Vermont Department of Economic, Housing, and Community Development. (2012). Summary of 2011 Park Registration Data. Available at: http://accd.vermont.gov/strong_communities/housing/mobile_home_parks/facts

²US Census Bureau (2010). American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates for Vermont. Tables DP02, DP03, & HP03.