

VERMONT HOUSING AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

Question 1: "Are you a registered voter?"

Yes	301	100%
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Question 2: "Fine, and what county do you live in?"

Addison	17	5.6%
Bennington	18	6.0%
Caledonia	16	5.3%
Chittenden	65	21.6%
Essex	3	1.0%
Franklin	24	8.0%
Grand Isle	4	1.3%
Lamoille	15	5.0%
Orange	16	5.3%
Orleans	11	3.7%
Rutland	31	10.3%
Washington	30	10.0%
Windham	21	7.0%
Windsor	30	10.0%

Question 3: "Could you tell me which of the following factors was most important in the decision to live in your community?"

Convenient to work, schools, services	72	23.9%
Cost/quality of house	19	6.3%
Quality of schools	29	9.6%
Character community/neighborhood	77	25.6%
Other	104	34.6%

Question 4: "Do you work in the community that you live in?"

Yes	149	49.5%
No	148	49.2%
Refused	4	1.3%

Question 5: "And how far do you travel from home to work?"

0 to 5 miles	112	37.2%
5 to 10 miles	44	14.6%
10 to 15 miles	28	9.3%
15 to 25 miles	29	9.6%
Over 25 miles	37	12.3%
Refused	51	16.9%

Question 6: "Many communities across Vermont are finding a lack of housing to be a major issue. On a scale of one to five, with one being a very important issue and five being not important at all, how important do you think the lack of housing is in your community? If you are not sure, just say so."

Very Important	84	27.9%	
Somewhat Important	51	16.9%	44.8%
Neutral	68	22.6%	
Not Very Important	34	11.3%	
Not Important At All	38	12.6%	23.9%
Don't Know	26	8.6%	
Refused			

Question 7: "When you hear the term, 'affordable housing', what is the first thought that comes into your mind? If you are not sure just say so."

Not Sure	80	26.6%
Low Income	46	15.3%
Average Income Affordable	44	14.6%
Does Not Exist	23	7.6%
Welfare	14	4.7%
Cheap	13	4.3%
Subsidized	13	4.3%
Extremely Important	12	4.0%
Mobile Homes	11	3.7%
Families/Single Parents	8	2.7%
< 100k	7	2.3%
Poor Workmanship	6	2.0%
Affordable Apartment	5	1.7%
Too Expensive	5	1.7%
Within Income Range	3	1.0%
100-200k	3	1.0%
Starter Homes	2	.7%
Affordable for Seniors	1	.3%
Act 250	1	.3%
Need to be Employed	1	.3%
Higher Taxes	1	.3%
Cease Struggling	1	.3%
Increase Population	1	.3%

Great. I'd like to read to you a list of people who might benefit most from the increased availability of affordable housing. I'd like you to tell me on a scale of one to five, with one being most likely and five being least likely, which groups, in your mind, are most likely to need affordable housing."

Question 8: Senior Citizens

1 - Most Likely	177	58.8%
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2 - Somewhat Likely	38	12.6%	71.4%
3 - Neutral	35	11.6%	
4 - Somewhat Not Likely	16	5.3%	
5 - Not Likely	26	8.6%	13.9%
Do Not Know	9	3.0%	

Question 9: Young Families

1 - Most Likely	164	54.5%	
2 - Somewhat Likely	72	23.9%	78.4%
3 - Neutral	42	14.0%	
4 - Somewhat Not Likely	14	4.7%	
5 - Not Likely	5	1.7%	6.4%
Do Not Know	4	1.3%	

Question 10: Municipal employees such as police, fire and teachers

1 - Most Likely	43	14.3%	
2 - Somewhat Likely	45	15.0%	29.3%
3 - Neutral	104	34.6%	
4 - Somewhat Not Likely	49	16.3%	
5 - Not Likely	54	17.9%	34.2%
Do Not Know	6	2.0%	

Question 11: New Home Buyers

1 - Most Likely	71	23.6%	
2 - Somewhat Likely	58	19.3%	42.9%
3 - Neutral	85	28.2%	
4 - Somewhat Not Likely	33	11.0%	
5 - Not Likely	35	11.6%	22.6%
Do Not Know	19	6.3%	

Question 12: Retail Workers

1 - Most Likely	74	24.6%	
2 - Somewhat Likely	84	27.9%	52.5%
3 - Neutral	80	26.6%	
4 - Somewhat Not Likely	31	10.3%	
5 - Not Likely	17	5.6%	15.9%
Do Not Know	15	5.0%	

Question 13: "A number of people have said that Vermont is currently facing a severe shortage of affordable housing and that action must be taken to increase the amount of affordable housing stock in the state.

Generally speaking, would you say that you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with this statement?"

Strongly agree	124	41.2%	
Somewhat agree	114	37.9%	79.1%
Neutral	13	4.3%	
Somewhat disagree	32	10.6%	
Strongly disagree	14	4.7%	15.3%

Don't know 4 1.3%

"Now I'm going to read you a brief series of statements about the need for affordable housing in Vermont. I'd like you to tell me whether you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with each statement. Let's start with...."

Question 14: "The lack of housing is a key economic concern in Vermont and a potential economic threat."

Strongly agree	98	32.6%	
Somewhat agree	97	32.2%	64.8%
Neutral	14	4.7%	
Somewhat disagree	49	16.3%	
Strongly disagree	35	11.6%	27.9%
Don't know	7	2.3%	
Refused	1	.3%	

Question 15: "More housing will bring in additional school children, which will increase school costs and taxes. Once again, do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with that statement?"

Strongly agree	109	36.2%	
Somewhat agree	87	28.9%	65.1%
Neutral	12	4.0%	
Somewhat disagree	62	20.6%	
Strongly disagree	27	9.0%	29.6%
Don't know	3	1.0%	
Refuse	1	.3%	

Question 16: "Creating more affordable housing will put pressure on Vermont communities as they try to plan for responsible growth by attracting low-income out-of-towners."

Strongly agree	83	27.6%	
Somewhat agree	78	25.9%	53.5%
Neutral	22	7.3%	
Somewhat disagree	67	22.3%	
Strongly disagree	47	15.6%	37.9%
Don't know	3	1.0%	
Refuse	1	.3%	

Question 17: "Your community needs to look at the permitting process, and other tools to help promote housing development and rehabilitation"

Strongly agree	117	38.9%	
Somewhat agree	83	27.6%	66.5%
Neutral	29	9.6%	
Somewhat disagree	40	13.3%	
Strongly disagree	26	8.6%	21.9%
Don't know	5	1.7%	
Refuse	1	.3%	

Question 18: "The state should increase funding for housing."

Strongly agree	98	32.6%	
Somewhat agree	89	29.6%	62.2%
Neutral	21	7.0%	
Somewhat disagree	38	12.6%	
Strongly disagree	48	15.9%	28.5%
Don't know	5	1.7%	
Refuse	2	.7%	

Question 19: "We need to provide more housing in ways that do not contribute to sprawl, which is development that wastes land by scattering housing and other buildings across the country side in a poorly planned manner."

Strongly agree	169	56.1%	
Somewhat agree	60	19.9%	76%
Neutral	13	4.3%	
Somewhat disagree	19	6.3%	
Strongly disagree	32	10.6%	16.9%
Don't know	7	2.3%	
Refuse	1	.3%	

Question 20: "Creating more affordable housing will lower the value of existing homes in my community."

Strongly agree	31	10.3%	
Somewhat agree	51	16.9%	27.2%
Neutral	24	8.0%	
Somewhat disagree	90	29.9%	
Strongly disagree	95	31.6%	61.5%
Don't know	7	2.3%	
Refuse	3	1.0%	

Question 21: "Having more families with children would be a positive addition to my community."

Strongly agree	104	34.6%	
Somewhat agree	95	31.6%	66.2%
Neutral	28	9.3%	
Somewhat disagree	37	12.3%	
Strongly disagree	31	10.3%	22.6%
Don't know	4	1.3%	
Refuse	2	.7%	

"Now I'm going to read you a list of some of the types of affordable housing that can be created. I'd like you to tell me on a scale of 1 to 5 with 1 being something you would absolutely like to see and 5 being something you absolutely would not want to see, whether or not you would support this type of affordable housing in your community. If you are undecided, that's fine - just say so. Let's start with..."

Question 22: Single family homes

1 - Absolutely like to see	183	60.8%	
2 - Somewhat Like to see	63	20.9%	81.7%
3 - Neutral	30	10.0%	
4 - Somewhat not like to see	8	2.7%	
5 - Absolutely not like to see	11	3.7%	6.4%
Don't Know	4	1.3%	
Refused	1	.3%	
Undecided	1	.3%	

Question 23: Age restricted senior citizen homes

1 - Absolutely like to see	120	39.9%	
2 - Somewhat Like to see	73	24.3%	64.2%
3 - Neutral	49	16.3%	
4 - Somewhat not like to see	25	8.3%	
5 - Absolutely not like to see	27	9.0%	17.3%
Don't Know	5	1.7%	
Refused	1	.3%	
Undecided	1	.3%	

Question 24: Apartment buildings with four or fewer units

1 - Absolutely like to see	69	22.9%	
2 - Somewhat Like to see	79	26.2%	49.1%
3 - Neutral	59	19.6%	
4 - Somewhat not like to see	27	9.0%	
5 - Absolutely not like to see	59	19.6%	28.6%
Don't Know	3	1.0%	
Refused	2	.7%	
Undecided	3	1.0%	

Question 25: Apartment buildings with more than four

1 - Absolutely like to see	36	12.0%	
2 - Somewhat Like to see	31	10.3%	22.3%
3 - Neutral	40	13.3%	
4 - Somewhat not like to see	54	17.9%	
5 - Absolutely not like to see	131	43.5%	61.4%
Don't Know	4	1.3%	
Refused	3	1.0%	
Undecided	2	.7%	

Question 26: A combination of residential and commercial buildings to include low, moderate & high income housing

1 - Absolutely like to see	68	22.6%	
2 - Somewhat Like to see	64	21.3%	43.9%
3 - Neutral	57	18.9%	
4 - Somewhat not like to see	29	9.6%	
5 - Absolutely not like to see	69	22.9%	32.5%
Don't Know	9	3.0%	
Refused	4	1.3%	

Undecided	1	.3%	
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Question 27: Apartments in downtown or commercial buildings

1 – Absolutely like to see	91	30.2%	
2 – Somewhat Like to see	67	22.3%	52.5%
3 – Neutral	53	17.6%	
4 – Somewhat not like to see	23	7.6%	
5 – Absolutely not like to see	53	17.6%	15.2%
Don't Know	12	4.0%	
Refused	2	.7%	

“Now I'm going to read you a brief series of statements about the need for affordable housing. For each, I'd like you to tell me whether hearing each statement makes you much more likely, somewhat more likely, somewhat less likely, or much less likely to support new affordable housing. Let's start with....”

Question 28: “The lack of available housing hurts businesses by making it harder for them to attract and retain workers.”

Much more likely	91	30.2%	
Somewhat more likely	85	28.2%	58.4%
No difference	44	14.6%	
Somewhat less likely	33	11.0%	
Much less likely	32	10.6%	21.6%
Don't know	14	4.7%	
Refuse	2	.7%	

Question 25: “The lack of available housing in Vermont means that many people—teachers, bus drivers, police officers—you depend on in your communities cannot afford to live where they work.” Again, does that make you much more likely, somewhat more likely, somewhat less likely, or much less likely to support new affordable housing.

Much more likely	97	32.2%	
Somewhat more likely	91	30.2%	62.4%
No difference	37	12.3%	
Somewhat less likely	29	9.6%	
Much less likely	31	10.3%	19.9%
Don't know	14	4.7%	
Refuse	2	.7%	

Question 30: “Many younger families can not afford to live in the towns where they grew up because there is a lack of entry level housing.”

Much more likely	144	47.8%	
Somewhat more likely	74	24.6%	72.4%
No difference	29	9.6%	
Somewhat less likely	19	6.3%	
Much less likely	20	6.6%	12.9%
Don't know	12	4.0%	
Refuse	3	1.0%	

Question 31: "Now that you've heard arguments on both sides of the issue, generally speaking, would you say that you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose creating more affordable housing in Vermont?"

Strongly Favor	125	41.5%	
Somewhat Favor	127	42.2%	83.7%
Somewhat Oppose	8	2.7%	
Strongly Oppose	16	5.3%	8%
Do Not Know	15	5.0%	
Refuse	10	3.3%	

Question 32: "Fine, and what would you say is the major reason you feel this way?"

No Opinion/Comment	47	15.6%
Can Not Find	10	3.3%
Too Expensive Now	1	.3%
Employment Needs To	5	1.7%
Chance for Young Families	40	13.3%
No Need	56	18.6%
Needed/Benefit All	70	23.3%
Real Estate Too Costly	5	1.7%
Rent Too High	4	1.3%
Not State Funded	3	1.0%
Too Many Houses	1	.3%
Starter Family Homes	1	.3%
Already Affordable I	1	.3%
Wages Are Too Low	7	2.3%
Hard to Stay In Community	22	7.3%
Can Barely Afford No	6	2.0%
Need For Seniors	9	3.0%
Change Vermont Character	1	.3%
Outsiders Ruin For A	9	3.0%
Rules And Regulations	3	1.0%

"Fine, the final few questions are for statistical purposes only.

Question 33: "When you think about your own political positions, would you say that you are generally conservative, moderate, progressive or liberal?"

Conservative	103	34.2%
Moderate	87	28.9%
Progressive	23	7.6%
Liberal	67	22.3%
Don't Know	12	4.0%
Refused	9	3.0%

Question 34: "Which of the following age categories do you fall into? 18 to 29, 30 to 39, 40 to 49, 50 to 59, or over 60?"

18 - 29	22	7.3%
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30 - 39	54	17.9%
40 - 49	73	24.3%
50 - 59	86	28.6%
60 and over	62	20.6%

Question 35: "What is your current occupation?"

Professional	104	34.6%
White Collar	33	11.0%
Clerical or Administrative	17	5.6%
Municipal Employee (Police, fire, teacher)	8	2.7%
Unskilled Blue Collar	14	4.7%
Skilled Blue Collar	50	16.6%
Homemaker	14	4.7%
Unemployed	2	.7%
Retired	50	16.6%
Student	3	1.0%
Refuse	6	2.0%

Question 36: "What is the range of your annual household income?"

Less than \$25,000	42	14.0%
\$25,000 - 50,000	97	32.2%
\$50,000 - 75,000	49	16.3%
\$75,000 - 100,000	33	11.0%
Over \$100,000	23	7.6%
Refuse	57	18.9%

Question 33: "Do you rent or own you current residence?"

Rent	47	15.6%
Own	246	81.7%
Refuse	8	2.7%

Question 38: "How long have you lived in Vermont?"

1 - 5 years	23	7.6%
5 - 10 years	17	5.6%
10 - 20 years	33	11.0%
20 years and above	223	74.1%
Refused	5	1.7%

Question 39: "How long have you lived in your community?"

1 - 5 years	55	18.3%
5 - 10 years	37	12.3%
10 - 20 years	52	17.3%
20 years and above	153	50.8%
Refused	4	1.3%

"Thank-you very much for participating in this important research, good-bye."

Question 40: Gender

Male	140	46.5%
Female	161	53.5%