

MEMORANDUM

To: Emma Stuhl and Josh Kelly

From: Ted Siegler and Natalie Starr

Re: Submission of and Preliminary Conclusions Regarding Castleton Poling Institute Report on Backyard Composting

Date: August 30, 2018

DSM Environmental Services, Inc. (DSM) sub-contracted with the Castleton Polling Institute (CPI) to develop a survey of Vermont households to estimate participation in backyard composting of food waste.

Attached to this memorandum is CPI's report detailing their findings associated with the survey. DSM is submitting their report as written from CPI but expects to make some adjustments to these preliminary conclusions when preparing our final report to VT DEC this fall. The adjustments fall into three categories, as discussed further below:

- The impact of self-selection bias on survey participation;
- The impact of socially desirable behavior on participant's responses; and,
- Impact of seasonal behavior on volume estimates.

Self-Selection Bias

It stands to reason that households who participate in backyard composting of food waste would be more willing to take the time to read and complete the four-page mail-in survey than those who were not. Based on discussions with CPI, the fact that participation fits into the demographic profile of Vermont households and the significant number of responses that report no backyard composting, it is CPI and DSM's opinion that while some self-selection bias does exist, it probably has a relatively minor impact on the overall estimates.

Distortion Due to Perceived Socially Desirable Behavior

*"Social desirability is a term used to explain the tendency of people to answer questions in a socially acceptable manner during surveys...The behavior stems from the basic need and tendency of people to be in sync with the popular opinion, politically correct response, or the desirable response regarding a subject so that they are viewed in a more positive light....the social desirability bias is also observed in matters of littering and recycling."*¹

¹ <https://psychogenie.com/ways-to-reduce-social-desirability-bias>

DSM has always attempted to conduct studies and draw conclusions about recycling activity by collecting data on actual/observed behavior rather than reported behavior because we have learned over time that people over-report their behavior with respect to recycling (both participation in and the amount they recycle) when compared to how they actually performed recycling. For example, it was not uncommon for people who received curbside collection of refuse but had to drive to a drop-off to recycle to significantly over-report their use of the drop-off, and under-report how far they drove to use the drop-off; with estimates of as much as 30 percent of households recycling based on what they reported. However, when actual surveys of use of drop-offs were conducted by DSM in the same region, the actual percent of households using the drop-offs typically fell below 10 percent, and the amount of actual driving (to use the drop-offs) significantly increased.

Unfortunately, there was no way to efficiently obtain actual behavior data for backyard composting because the practice occurs at home as opposed to a public location. And the other options of in person interviews, or recruitment of households to fill out a diary of their behavior, do not control for answers based on socially desirable behavior and exacerbate the propensity for those in favor of backyard composting to self-select to participate in the survey. As such, DSM agreed with the CPI that the mail-in survey was the best possible method to derive estimates of the percent of Vermont households practicing some amount of backyard composting.

However, DSM continues to believe that the socially desirable nature of backyard composting, coupled with some degree of self-selection bias, probably over-estimates the number of households who actually perform backyard composting on a regular basis, and the amount of food waste that they reportedly divert through backyard composting.

DSM is not aware of any other state-wide surveys of backyard composting, so it is difficult to know what impact self-selection and social desirability might have had on the CPI survey results. And a review of the literature doesn't provide any methodologies for correcting for these biases after the survey is complete.²

However, it is possible to compare the survey results against recent measured participation rates for weekly curbside collection of source-separated food waste in South Portland and Scarborough, Maine conducted by ecomaine. Actual participation rates for the free, weekly food waste collection programs in South Portland and Scarborough were measured at 37 and 44 percent, respectively.

It is DSM's professional opinion that the real rate of household participation in backyard composting in Vermont is probably closer to this range than to the 58 percent reported by survey participants, but in the absence of a methodology to correct for these biases, DSM will use the reported rate in our final report to VT DEC in the fall.

Impact of Seasonal Behavior

Backyard composting in cold climates inevitably has some impact on household participation. Table 1 below attempts to further quantify the answers provided by the respondents to develop the best estimate of how much food waste is actually diverted for composting/animal feeding on an annual basis

² Correcting for these biases as part of the survey methodology is also difficult, would have been outside of the budget for this project, and may not have been successful in any case.

in Vermont – which is the ultimate goal of the survey. As illustrated by the calculations in Table 1, DSM has adjusted the survey results two ways.

First, the quantity reported composted “last week” has been adjusted down based on the respondent’s description of what percent of food waste they reported they disposed in the trash last week, as opposed to set aside for composting. This results in an estimated average of 8.3 pounds of food waste diverted on a weekly basis from participating households based on their self-reported behavior of last week.

Second, DSM has attempted to adjust the results to reflect the fact that the survey was taken during late spring/early summer when it is relatively easy to walk out to the compost pile, and the amount of fresh garden vegetables is increasing. While it is not possible to know from the survey how that behavior changes in the winter, survey participants did report on whether their behavior differs over the course of the year, and in the winter.

Based on these data, DSM has estimated that quantities and participation will be less. For lack of a better estimate, DSM has assumed that quantities are cut in one-half in the winter or other times when they report they change their behavior over the year. This results in a best estimate that roughly 27,600 tons (rounded) of food waste were diverted from Vermont households to composting and animal feeding the past year, as shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Adjustments to CPI Survey Results to Derive Estimate of Total Food Waste Diversion Through Backyard Composting and Animal Feeding

| Description | Percent | Households | Lbs./Week |
|---|---------|------------|------------------|
| Households that set aside any amount of food waste for anything other than disposal | 58% | 150,351 | |
| Average amount set aside by these households (Gallons) | 2.15 | | |
| Average weight per gallon in kitchen bin (Pounds) | 5 | | |
| Total weight set aside last week | 10.75 | | 1,616,273 |
| Last week behavior, percent of food waste reported placed in trash: | | 150,351 | |
| | 100% | 10.1% | 15,185 |
| | 75% | 3.8% | 5,713 |
| | 50% | 5.4% | 8,119 |
| | 25% | 28.2% | 42,399 |
| | 0% | 52.5% | 78,934 |
| | | 100.0% | 1,249,379 |
| Quantity Diverted From Trash Last Week -Average Household : | | | 8.3 |
| Annualized behavior | | | Lbs./Year |
| Set aside all year | 69.8% | 104,945 | 45,347,468 |
| Less in winter | 23.0% | 34,581 | 7,471,288 |
| Varies, just not in winter | 4.6% | 6,916 | 1,494,258 |
| Don't know | 2.6% | 3,909 | 844,580 |
| | | | 55,157,594 |
| Total Tons | | | 27,579 |
| Lbs/Participating Household | | | 367 |

Pounds Per Household Comparison with Ecomaine Pilots

As illustrated by Table 1, it is estimated that the average participating household diverts 367 pounds of food waste from disposal per year. Adding in the percent that the surveyed participating households stated they disposed in the trash yields a total estimated generation rate of 559 pounds per household per year. This can be compared against the actual weigh data from the South Portland pilot collection³ of 524.68 pounds per participating household per year which is within six percent of the estimate for Vermont households, suggesting that the estimated per household quantity from the survey is realistic.

Conclusions

In addition to food waste, many households divert yard waste. Some include some or all of their yard waste in their compost pile, but many simply place yard waste in the woods or area of the yard that is not maintained. Yard waste diversion is over and above food waste diversion, but it is not estimated by this survey.

This is important to recognize when comparing Vermont's diversion rate to those rates reported by other states that generate and collect large amounts of yard waste for delivery to composting operations.

Note that the EPA does not include backyard composting in their measurement of MSW recycling.

³ There were only five months of data for Scarborough, while there were 12 months of data for South Portland. Note that we do not know how much South Portland HH's may have disposed in refuse of put down garbage grinder.

Vermont Food Scraps Survey Report

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CASTLETON POLLING INSTITUTE

Amplifying the Voices of Vermont



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Introduction and Methodology

As part of a larger effort to measure waste in the State of Vermont, the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Environmental Conservation awarded a contract to DSM Environmental. To assist with one component of this larger study, the Polling Institute at Castleton University was subcontracted by DSM Environmental to conduct a survey of Vermont households to estimate the volume of household food scrap waste currently being composted at homes or fed to livestock.

The survey was designed as a paper-based questionnaire administered via U.S. postal mail. The questionnaire was developed in an iterative process with the Castleton Polling Institute, DSM Environmental, and the Department of Environmental Conservation working together to design an instrument that would meet the project's data collection needs. Previously published surveys with items about composting behavior were utilized in the questionnaire development process.

Multiple iterations of the questionnaire were pre-tested/user-experience tested using cognitive interviewing "think aloud" techniques. This processes helped to reduce measurement error and to make certain that the questions were clear, easy-to-answer, and offered exhaustive answer options.

The final questionnaire is four pages in length and printed in grayscale as a booklet. The survey includes questions about composting concerns, how food scraps in the household are managed, specific composting behaviors, and general household demographics. The final questionnaire can be found in Appendix A.

The mailing list was random, address-based sample, excluding known vacant addresses and vacation homes, purchased from Survey Sampling International. Address-based samples are drawn utilizing the U.S. Postal Service's Computerized Delivery Sequence File, supplemented by commercial databases. Address-based samples are known to have very high coverage for residential addresses[1]. The sample was stratified by county proportional to population as estimated by the 2016 U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey. The total sample size was 4,000.

An initial survey packet that included a cover letter, a copy of the survey, and postage-paid business reply envelope was mailed to all sampled addresses between April 27 and April 30, 2018. The survey was only fielded in English and all adult Vermont residents (age 18 or older) were eligible to participate. A postcard reminder, was sent to all sampled addresses on May 7, 2018. A second replacement survey packet with a reminder letter, replacement copy of the survey, and replacement postage-paid business reply envelope was mailed to all non-responding, deliverable addresses on May 21, 2018.

Six-hundred and fifty-one addresses were invalid, meaning that they were either misaddressed or that no one is living at the address sampled.¹ Out of the total 3,349 of valid addresses, we received 1,006 completed (or partially completed) surveys, for an estimated margin of error of +/- 3 percent and a

¹ A 16 percent undeliverable rate for a state-wide survey in Vermont is not atypical. The DSF goes from the USPS to a vendor, who then has the responsibility of creating updates. Consequently, there is always some level of undeliverable addresses; while 16 percent is on the upper edge of what is expected, it is not too high as to register concern.

response rate of 30 percent. While we are satisfied that 30 percent is a relatively robust response rate in light of the standards of today, we are concerned that non-response bias will favor those who compost over those who do not.

Studies have shown that survey response propensity is motivated by one’s interest in the survey content, known as leverage-saliency theory. We speculate, in the absence of hard data, that those with little interest in composting would be less likely to respond to the survey than those with considerable interest in the subject. In order to mitigate potential bias, the survey used the terms "scraps" and "food waste" in place of emotive terms such as composting and recycling. The fact that we had 40 percent of our sample (unweighted) that showed absolutely no proclivity toward composting suggests that the sample reached beyond those interested in composting.

Additionally, the sample appears to be representative of Vermont households on the demographic variables we included. Whereas US Census figures estimate the average household size in Vermont to be 2.34 persons, the average from our sample is 2.28. Sample respondents also closely represent the state population by income and housing type distribution with small discrepancies, as illustrated by Tables 1 and 2. To adjust for the minor discrepancies, the data were weighted to match population estimates on those two variables.

Table 1. Income distribution of survey respondents’ households, compared to Vermont state population

| Income and benefits (in 2016 inflation-adjusted dollars) | Population | Unweighted survey sample | Weighted survey sample |
|--|------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Less than \$10,000 | 5.50% | 4.18% | 5.50% |
| \$10,000 to \$14,999 | 5.60% | 4.63% | 5.60% |
| \$15,000 to \$24,999 | 10.10% | 9.93% | 10.10% |
| \$25,000 to \$34,999 | 9.90% | 10.95% | 9.90% |
| \$35,000 to \$49,999 | 13.40% | 13.32% | 13.40% |
| \$50,000 to \$74,999 | 19.20% | 19.64% | 19.20% |
| \$75,000 to \$99,999 | 14.00% | 13.32% | 14.00% |
| \$100,000 to \$149,999 | 13.70% | 16.48% | 13.70% |
| \$150,000 or more | 8.60% | 7.56% | 8.60% |

Table 2. Distribution of housing types for survey respondents’ households, compared with Vermont state population

| UNITS IN STRUCTURE | Population | Unweighted survey sample | Weighted survey sample |
|------------------------------------|------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1-unit, detached | 66.5% | 74.8% | 66.7% |
| Attached (condo & apt.) | 26.6% | 20.7% | 26.6% |
| Mobile home | 6.8% | 4.0% | 6.7% |

We cannot measure the degree to which our sample is biased by those who favor composting, and so no adjustments were made for this potential error source. The tables above suggest that our sample is representative on identifiable measures of validity. While making necessary adjustments, the applied weights are relatively minor, ranging from 0.77 to 1.87 with a standard deviation of 0.23, and not likely to distort the original data greatly.

The report that follows employs the weighted data to examine survey results.

Awareness and Barriers to Composting

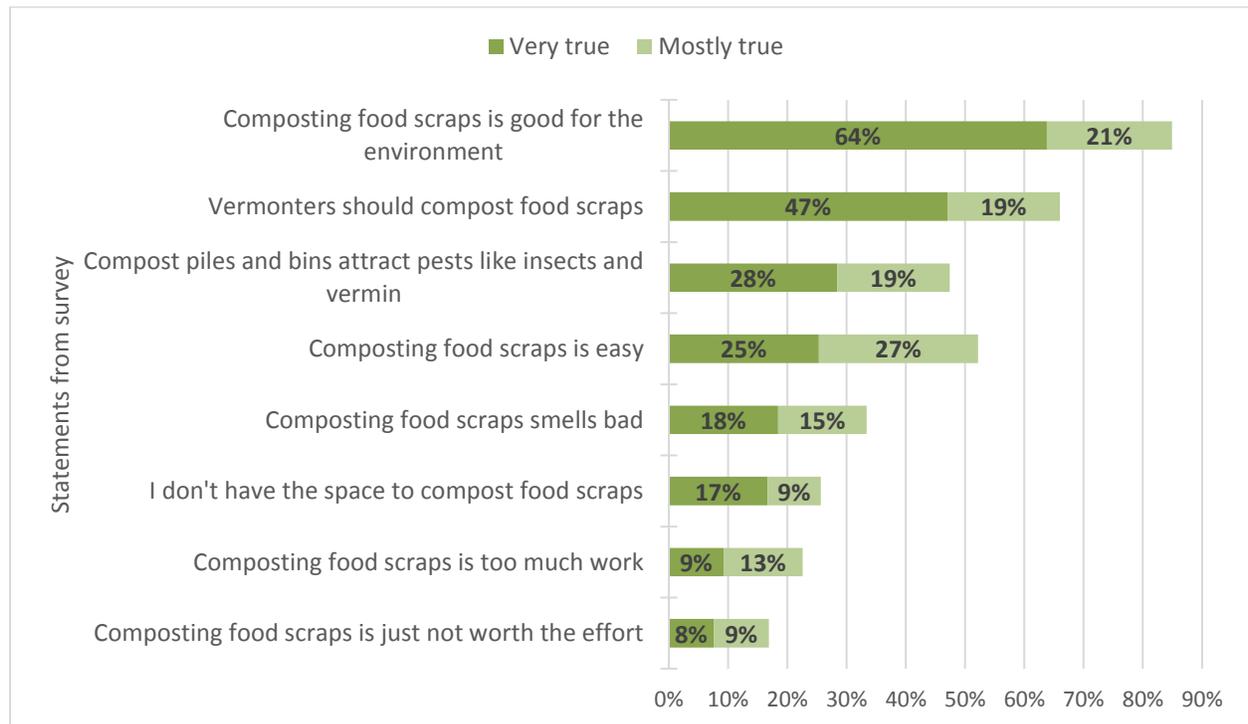
At the start of the survey instrument, we asked respondents to what extent they felt informed about Act 148, the Vermont Universal Recycling Law, which will ban food scraps and other organic waste from landfills. One quarter of all respondents said that they were either “very informed” (3 percent) or simply “informed” (22 percent) about the law. Not surprisingly, those who compost are more likely to say that they are familiar with Act 148 than are those who don’t compost; we have no data to suggest whether awareness of the Act led to more composting, or interest in composting led to awareness of the Act.

An overwhelming majority (85 percent) believe that, “Composting food scraps is good for the environment,” is either very true (64 percent) or mostly true (21 percent). A smaller majority (66 percent) believe that “Vermonters should compost food scraps,” and an even smaller majority (52 percent) believe that “Composting food scraps is easy.” To state it another way, 85 percent think composting is good for the environment, and two-thirds think that Vermonters should compost, but only a slim majority (though a majority nonetheless) believe that it is easy.

As for barriers to composting, just shy of a majority say that “Compost piles and bins attract pests like insects and vermin” is very true (28 percent) or mostly true (19 percent). One third of Vermonters believe that composting food scraps smells bad, and about a quarter (26 percent) say that they don’t have the space for composting. Twenty-three percent say that “Composting food scraps is too much work,” and slightly fewer (17 percent) say that “Composting food scraps is just not worth the effort.”

Figure 1 illustrates respondents’ attitudes to about composting.

Figure 1. Percent of Vermonters identifying statements about composting as either “very true” or “mostly true”



Individual composting behavior

Using the list of options in Table 3, we asked respondents which ones they do at home, recognizing that any respondent or household may treat food waste differently from time to time. Just over half of all respondents (52 percent) say that they put food waste into the regular trash, while a slightly smaller proportion (41 percent) say that they put it aside for composting at home. Only 147 respondents (just under 15 percent) say that they put food scraps in the regular trash and do some sort of composting or feeding scraps to animals; most of the respondents do either one or the other.

Table 3. Respondents' behavior regarding food scraps

| What does your household do with food waste: | n | Percent |
|--|-------------|----------------|
| Put in with the regular trash | 526 | 52% |
| *Set it aside for composting in your backyard or own compost pile | 414 | 41% |
| Put down the garbage disposal | 183 | 18% |
| *Feed it to animals or livestock | 169 | 17% |
| *Set it aside for composting with the compost being dropped off at a transfer station or other collection site | 75 | 7% |
| Something else | 59 | 6% |
| *Set it aside for composting with the compost being picked up by a waste hauler | 37 | 4% |
| Total | 1462 | 145% |

Based on those who say their household does any of the actions marked with an asterisk in Table 3, and anyone whose follow-up to “Something else” indicates composting material, our best estimate is that 58 percent of Vermont households engage in composting to some extent. It is clear that many homes do not compost all food scraps; in the open-ended responses to those who selected “Something else”, many respondents noted that they compost only vegetable scraps and/or yard waste.

Forty-two percent of households in Vermont do not compost at all; all of their scraps go in the trash or down the garbage disposal.

Fifteen percent of all respondents (25 percent of those who compost) say that they put some scraps in the trash and some are used for animals and/or composting. For some, composting is a seasonal activity; 23 percent say they compost less in the winter months, and another 5 percent say their composting behavior varies seasonally, not just in winter.

Overall, 62 percent of respondents selected only one option for managing food scraps at home, and 53 percent of those who put food scraps in with the regular trash do nothing else. By contrast, 86 percent of those who say they put food scraps down the garbage disposal also have other means for managing food scraps.

Among the 6 percent who say they do “something else” with food scraps, the most common explanation was that they separate animal or meat scraps from vegetable scraps; 10 respondents said that they

simply toss food scraps into the woods, three flush them down the toilet, and two say they burn all of their refuse.

What is done with food scraps set aside for composting

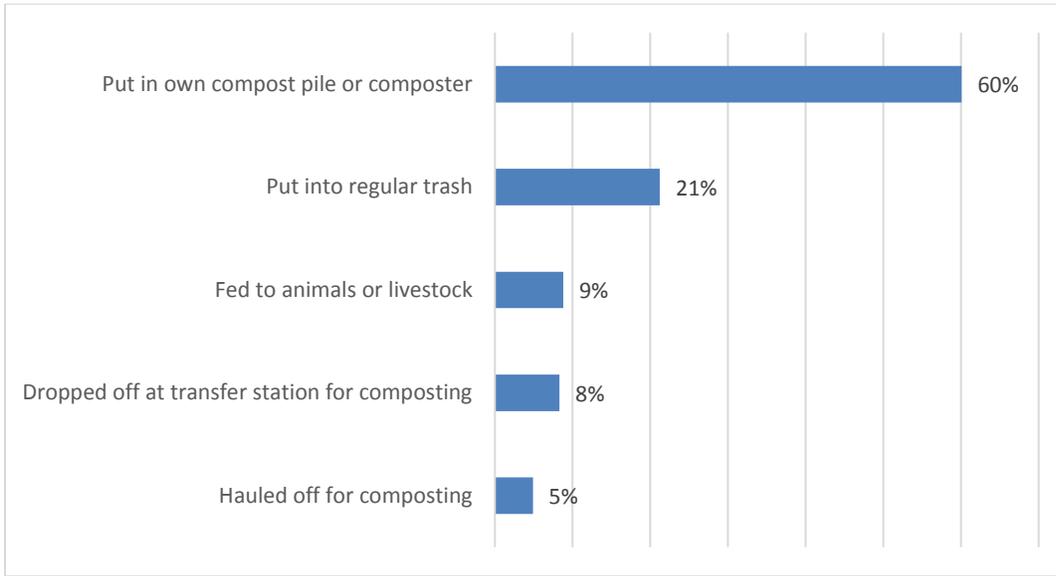
In a series of five questions (Q7-Q11, see questionnaire in appendix), we asked respondents to estimate where household food scraps that were set aside for composting for the last week went, giving the following options:

1. Q7: Thrown in garbage rather than composted
2. Q8: Fed to animals or livestock
3. Q9: Placed in one's own composter or compost pile
4. Q10: Hauled away for the purpose of composting
5. Q11: Dropped off at a transfer station for composting

For each option, respondents were asked what percentage of the prior week's food scraps set aside for composting were applied to that option. Respondents were asked to check that the total distribution across the five options added to 100 percent. Because one response option was vague ("Less than a ¼ of it"), we accepted totals anywhere from 75 percent to 125 percent for analysis. Where the vague option was chosen, we estimated 12.5 percent for the purposes of this analysis. Thus, of the 590 estimated composters, only 494 (84 percent) were included in this analysis.

Figure 2 illustrates the means for each option, showing that the majority (60 percent) goes into one's own compost pile or composter, although just over a fifth of the scraps put aside for composting ultimately are thrown in the regular garbage.

Figure 2. Where food scraps set aside for composting ultimately go²



² The totals add to 103 percent due to vagueness in the estimate.

Estimates for state-wide composting

To estimate how much of our food scraps are being composted or fed to animals or livestock, we first estimated the amount of scraps put aside for composting in those homes that compost. This estimate comes from the following three questions:

1. Q4: Which best describes the size of the container your household uses to set aside items for composting or animal feed?
2. Q5: Thinking about last week, about how often did your household empty the container used to set items aside for composting or animal feed?
3. Q6: On average, how full was the container when it was emptied?

Based on these questions, we used the following simple equation:

$$\text{Compost per week} = [\text{container size in gallons (Q4)} * \text{number of times container is emptied (Q5)} * \text{average capacity filled when emptied (Q6)}]$$

For households that compost, we estimate an average of 2.15 gallons is set aside for composting or feeding to animals. Because the composting material is not packed down, we are estimating that one gallon is equal to about 5 pounds; consequently, households that engage in composting put aside an average of 10.75 pounds per week. Averaging this out across all households – those that compost as well as those that do not—we estimate composting material at 6.29 pounds per household per week, or 328 pounds per household per year.

If we employ additional information from Q7, we can estimate that 21 percent of scraps set aside for composting are thrown into the regular trash. Based on self-reports from the survey data, Table 4 shows the estimates for composting in Vermont.

Table 4. Estimates of extent of residential food scraps being composted in Vermont (in pounds)

| | |
|---|------------|
| Number of HHs in Vermont | 257,107 |
| Est. of composting HHs (58%) | 150,351 |
| Est. avg composted lbs per week by composting HHs | 8.49 |
| Est. avg composted lbs per week for all HHs | 4.97 |
| Est. avg composted lbs per year for all HHs | 258 |
| Est. lbs composted per year by residents in Vermont | 66,396,702 |

While Table 4 is the most precise estimate of the level of composting that we can gather from the data in the survey, there are reasons to suspect that the estimates in Table 4 are higher than the true value. Two factors that would suggest the estimate is high are

1. Time of year of the survey, and
2. Social desirability bias (the tendency for respondents to over-report socially desirable behavior).

First, additional survey questions make it clear that Vermonters do not compost at the same level throughout the year; 70 percent say that their composting habits do not vary throughout the year. However, 23 percent say that they compost less during the winter months, and an additional 5 percent say that their composting behavior varies in other ways throughout the year. Based on this information, and the fact that the survey was conducted in the spring when composting is easier, we should expect our estimates to be higher than the true value, but we don't have a precise estimate of how much higher.

Lastly, while any estimate of one's behavior will have error, we could expect the error in composting estimates to be positively biased; in other words, we can expect that respondents are more likely to over-report composting than to under report due to the social pressure to favor environmentally responsible behavior. Unfortunately, however, we do not have a measurement of the size of the social desirability error.

Conclusions

The data assessed in this report come from a Vermont, state-wide household survey that closely resembles Vermont's population of households—based on US Census data—on regional representation, on household income, and on type of housing. Taking this validation of representativeness and the relatively robust response rate for the survey of 30 percent, applying the standards of the American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR) for calculating response rates, we are confident that the sample provides a good representation of Vermont households, keeping in mind the +/- 3 percent margin of error.

Of course, sampling error is not the only source of error in survey research. It is important to recognize that self-reported behavior has limits in the precision of estimates, especially when respondents are asked to estimate behavior that they may not think about often. In other words, respondents' reports, while well intentioned, are only rough estimates of their behavior, but if those errors are randomly distributed, they should provide a good assessment of the general population, if not individual behavior. If those errors are systematically biased—in this instance, in favor of showing more responsible treatment of food scraps—then the estimates will be similarly biased. As we note in our report, the time of year that we conducted the survey, as well as social desirability bias are reasons to suspect an overestimation of composting behavior.

While there is reason to be concerned that our estimate of composting behavior overstates the true level of composting in the state, without an independent measure that would prove more accurate, this is the best estimation that we have, given that we have no precise measure of the level of over reporting composting behavior.

Future research might turn to diary studies—selecting a random sample of households to record their behavior on a daily basis—to get more precise measures, but those studies involve a much greater burden on the respondents and often demand some incentives for an adequate level of participation. Absent diary studies, a replication of the Vermont Food Scraps Survey can assess the validity and reliability of the data herein reported.

Appendix A: Questionnaire

The questionnaire that follows is a copy of the actual questionnaire that was mailed to survey respondents, although the hardcopy was on an 11" by 17" page, printed on both sides and folded to resemble a 4-page 8.5" by 11" booklet. Pages 2 and 3 would be the inside pages to the booklet.

Vermont Food Scraps Survey

1. In 2020, the Vermont Universal Recycling Law (Act 148) will ban food scraps and other organic waste that decomposes from being disposed of in regular trash and landfills. In your opinion, how informed or uninformed are Vermonters about this change?

- Very informed
- Informed
- Neither informed nor uninformed
- Uninformed
- Very uninformed

2. Whether or not you currently compost food scraps, we'd like to know how true each statement below is for you:

| | Very True | Mostly True | A Little True | Not At All True | Don't Know |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| a. Composting food scraps is too much work | <input type="radio"/> |
| b. Composting food scraps is good for the environment | <input type="radio"/> |
| c. Compost piles and bins attract pests like insects and vermin | <input type="radio"/> |
| d. Composting food scraps is just not worth the effort | <input type="radio"/> |
| e. Vermonters should compost food scraps | <input type="radio"/> |
| f. I don't have the space to compost food scraps | <input type="radio"/> |
| g. Composting food scraps smells bad | <input type="radio"/> |
| h. Composting food scraps is easy | <input type="radio"/> |

THIS SURVEY HOPES TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW VERMONTERS MANAGE FOOD SCRAPS AT HOME. IN YOUR ANSWERS, DO NOT INCLUDE ANY INFORMATION ABOUT YARD OR GARDEN WASTE.

3. What does your household do with food waste that comes from eating or preparing food including any scraps, inedible parts, and spoiled or rotten foods? Select ALL that apply.

- Put in with the regular trash
- Put down the garbage disposal (or down the sink)
- Set it aside for composting in your backyard or own compost pile
- Set it aside for composting with the compost being picked up by a waste hauler
- Set it aside for composting with the compost being dropped off at a transfer station or other collection site
- Feed it to animals or livestock
- Something else, please describe:

IF YOU CHECK ANY OF THESE OPTIONS, PLEASE ANSWER PAGES 2 & 3 OF THE SURVEY (QUESTIONS 4-13)

- Don't know

IF YOU SET ASIDE ANY FOOD SCRAPS AND/OR FOOD WASTE FOR COMPOSTING OR ANIMAL FEED, PLEASE ANSWER QUESTIONS 4-13. IF NOT, PLEASE SKIP TO QUESTION 14 ON PAGE 4.

4. Which best describes the size of the container your household uses to set aside items for composting or animal feed?

- About the size of a quart of milk (A)
- About the size of a half-gallon of milk (B)
- About the size of a gallon of milk (C)
- About the size of a 2 gallon bucket (D)
- About the size of a large 5 gallon bucket (E)
- Some other size, please describe or provide measurements:



5. Thinking about last week, about how often did your household empty the container used to set items aside for composting or animal feed?

- More than once per day
- Daily
- Six times per week
- Five times per week
- Four times per week
- Three times per week
- Twice time per week
- Once per week
- Less than once per week
- Did not set aside items for composting or animal feed last week → *GO TO QUESTION 12 ON PAGE 3*

6. On average, how full was the container when it was emptied?

- Completely or almost full
- About $\frac{3}{4}$ (75%) full
- About half (50%) full
- About $\frac{1}{4}$ (25%) or less full

QUESTIONS 7 TO 11 ARE TO ESTIMATE WHERE ALL (100%) OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD'S FOOD SCRAPS/WASTE SET ASIDE FOR COMPOSTING FROM LAST WEEK WENT. OPTIONS INCLUDE BEING THROWN AWAY, FED TO ANIMALS, COMPOSTED BY YOUR HOUSEHOLD, HAULED OR DROPPED OFF TO BE COMPOSTED. PLEASE CHECK THAT YOUR RESPONSES FOR QUESTIONS 7-11 TOTAL TO 100%.

7. Thinking about all of the food waste set aside for composting by your household last week, approximately what amount was thrown in the regular trash as opposed to being composted, hauled for composting, or fed to animals?

- All or almost all of it (100%) was thrown in the trash with none of it for compost → *GO TO QUESTION 12 ON PAGE 3*
- About 75% (3/4) was thrown in the trash with about 25% for compost
- About half (50%) was thrown in trash and about 50% (half) for compost
- 25% or less was thrown in the trash with about 75% for compost
- None of it was thrown in the trash, so all or almost all of it was for compost

8. Last week, approximately what amount of your household's food scraps set aside were fed to animals or livestock?

- None of it, I do not feed animals or livestock with food scraps or did not last week
- Less than $\frac{1}{4}$ of it (less than 25%)
- About $\frac{1}{4}$ of it (25%)
- About half of it (50%)
- About a $\frac{3}{4}$ of it (75%)
- All of it (100%) → *GO TO QUESTION 12 ON PAGE 3*

9. Last week, approximately what amount of your household's food scraps set aside for composting was placed in your own compost pile or composter?

- None of it, I do not have my own compost pile or did not use it last week
- Less than ¼ of it (less than 25%)
- About ¼ of it (25%)
- About half of it (50%)
- About a ¾ of it (75%)
- All of it (100%) → GO TO QUESTION 12

10. Last week, approximately what amount of your household's food scraps set aside for composting and not included in your regular trash was picked up by a waste hauler specifically for composting?

- None of it, I do not have food scraps picked up by a waste hauler or did not last week
- Less than ¼ of it (less than 25%)
- About ¼ of it (25%)
- About half of it (50%)
- About a ¾ of it (75%)
- All of it (100%) → GO TO QUESTION 12

11. Last week, approximately what amount of your household's food scraps set aside for composting and not included in your regular trash did your household drop off at a transfer station or other collection point specifically for composting?

- None of it, I do not drop off food scraps at a transfer station or collection point or did not last week
- Less than ¼ of it (less than 25%)
- About ¼ of it (25%)
- About half of it (50%)
- About a ¾ of it (75%)
- All of it (100%)

12. Which method do you use for composting? Select all that apply.

- I put the scraps in a unit outside that turns or rotates
- I put the scraps outside in a pile or heap
- I put the scraps in stationary bin outside I purchased
- I put the scraps in a stationary bin outside that I built
- Some other method, please describe:

- I do not have my own composting method at home, my food scraps are dropped off or hauled

13. Do you compost food scraps less or more at different times of the year?

- No, I do the same thing all year
- Yes, I compost less in the winter
- Yes, my composting varies by time of year or season, not just less in the winter. Please describe:

- Don't know

Continue on to back page

THESE QUESTIONS ARE FOR EVERYONE.

Your responses enable us to understand how representative our survey is and improve results.

14. Which best describes the location of your residence?

- On a farm
- Open country, but not a farm
- In a suburban setting
- In an urban setting

15. Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in?

- Detached single-family house
- Mobile home
- Townhouse/Condominium
- Apartment/Duplex
- Other, please specify:

16. How many children ages:

Please write 0, if none

- a. 5 and younger live in your household?
- b. 6 to 12 live in your household?
- c. 13 to 17 live in your household?

17. Including yourself, how many adults age 18 and older live in your household?

Number including yourself

18. Please indicate the category that best describes your total household income in the last 12 months?

- Less than \$10,000
- \$10,000 to \$14,999
- \$15,000 to \$24,999
- \$25,000 to \$34,999
- \$35,000 to \$49,999
- \$50,000 to \$74,999
- \$75,000 to \$99,999
- \$100,000 to \$149,999
- \$150,000 or more

19. Whether or not anyone in your household gardens, do you have a yard or outside space on which you can garden?

- Yes
- No

20. Please use the space below to provide any comments or feedback.

Thank you!

That completes our questions. We greatly appreciate the time you have taken to complete this survey. For your convenience, please use the postage-paid return envelope included in your survey packet to return your questionnaire to the Castleton Polling Institute.

Questions or requests from this survey can be directed to:

Castleton Polling Institute
Castleton University
Castleton, VT 05735

Phone: 802-468-1373
E-mail: polling@castleton.edu

Appendix B: Frequency Tables

Awareness of Act 148 (Q1)

In 2020, the VT Universal Recycling Law (Act 148) will ban food scraps and other organic waste that decomposes from being disposed of in regular trash and landfills. In your opinion, how informed or uninformed are Vermonters about this change?

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---------|---------------------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | Very informed | 29 | 2.8 | 3.0 | 3.0 |
| | Informed | 211 | 20.9 | 22.4 | 25.5 |
| | Neither informed nor uninformed | 228 | 22.6 | 24.2 | 49.7 |
| | Uninformed | 361 | 35.7 | 38.3 | 88.0 |
| | Very uninformed | 113 | 11.2 | 12.0 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 942 | 93.4 | 100.0 | |
| Missing | System | 67 | 6.6 | | |
| Total | | 1009 | 100.0 | | |

Attitudes about composting (Q2)

| | Very true Row Valid N % | Mostly true Row Valid N % | A little true Row Valid N % | Not at all true Row Valid N % | Don't know Row Valid N % |
|---|----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| How true for you is: Composting food scraps is too much work | 9.3% | 13.3% | 30.0% | 42.4% | 5.0% |
| How true for you is: Composting food scraps is good for the environment | 63.8% | 21.1% | 6.0% | 3.2% | 5.9% |
| How true for you is: Compost piles and bins attract pests like insects and vermin | 28.4% | 19.0% | 36.1% | 9.3% | 7.3% |
| How true for you is: Composting food scraps is just not worth the effort | 7.6% | 9.3% | 18.2% | 57.9% | 7.1% |
| How true for you is: Vermonters should compost food scraps | 47.0% | 19.0% | 11.8% | 11.0% | 11.2% |
| How true for you is: I don't have the space to compost food scraps | 16.7% | 8.9% | 16.7% | 54.4% | 3.2% |
| How true for you is: Composting food scraps smells bad | 18.4% | 15.0% | 35.4% | 23.1% | 8.0% |
| How true for you is: Composting food scraps is easy | 25.3% | 26.9% | 19.1% | 17.8% | 11.0% |

Composting Propensity (Q3)

| | | Count | Table Response % (Base: Count) |
|------------------------------|--|-------|-----------------------------------|
| What R does with food scraps | What does your household do with food waste: Put in with the regular trash | 526 | 52.6% |
| | What does your household do with food waste: Put down the garbage disposal | 183 | 18.3% |
| | What does your household do with food waste: Set it aside for composting in your backyard or own compost pile | 414 | 41.4% |
| | What does your household do with food waste: Set it aside for composting with the compost being picked up by a waste hauler | 37 | 3.7% |
| | What does your household do with food waste: Set it aside for composting with the compost being dropped off at a transfer station or other collection site | 75 | 7.5% |
| | What does your household do with food waste: Feed it to animals or livestock | 169 | 17.0% |
| | What does your household do with food waste: Something else | 59 | 5.9% |

Estimate of amount of food scraps for composting (Q4-6)

Which best describes the size of container your household uses to set aside items for composting or animal feed?

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---------|---|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | About the size of a quart of milk | 48 | 4.8 | 9.0 | 9.0 |
| | About the size of a half-gallon of milk | 68 | 6.7 | 12.6 | 21.6 |
| | About the size of a gallon of milk | 230 | 22.8 | 42.9 | 64.5 |
| | About the size of a 2 gallon bucket | 110 | 10.9 | 20.5 | 85.0 |
| | About the size of a large 5 gallon bucket | 53 | 5.3 | 10.0 | 95.0 |
| | Some other size | 27 | 2.7 | 5.0 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 536 | 53.1 | 100.0 | |
| Missing | System | 473 | 46.9 | | |
| Total | | 1009 | 100.0 | | |

Thinking about last week, about how often did your household empty the container used to set aside items for composting or animal feed?

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---------|---|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | More than once per day | 3 | .3 | .6 | .6 |
| | Daily | 57 | 5.7 | 9.9 | 10.5 |
| | Six times per week | 4 | .4 | .7 | 11.2 |
| | Five times per week | 21 | 2.1 | 3.7 | 15.0 |
| | Four times per week | 34 | 3.3 | 5.9 | 20.8 |
| | Three times per week | 87 | 8.6 | 15.1 | 35.9 |
| | Twice per week | 110 | 10.9 | 19.2 | 55.1 |
| | Once per week | 146 | 14.5 | 25.4 | 80.5 |
| | Less than once per week | 65 | 6.5 | 11.4 | 91.9 |
| | Did not set aside items for composting or animal feed last week | 47 | 4.6 | 8.1 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 575 | 57.0 | 100.0 | |
| Missing | System | 434 | 43.0 | | |
| Total | | 1009 | 100.0 | | |

On average, how full was the container when it was emptied?

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---------|------------------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | Completely or almost full | 319 | 31.6 | 60.6 | 60.6 |
| | About 3/4 (75%) full | 119 | 11.8 | 22.7 | 83.3 |
| | About half (50%) full | 53 | 5.2 | 10.0 | 93.3 |
| | About 1/4 (25%) or less full | 35 | 3.5 | 6.7 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 526 | 52.2 | 100.0 | |
| Missing | System | 483 | 47.8 | | |
| Total | | 1009 | 100.0 | | |

How scraps set aside for composting are dealt with (Q7-13)

Thinking about all of the food waste set aside for composting by your household last week, approximately what amount was thrown in the regular trash as opposed to being composted, hauled for composting, or fed to animals?

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---------|--|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | All or almost all of it (100%) was thrown in the trash with none of it for compost | 56 | 5.6 | 10.1 | 10.1 |
| | About 75% (3/4) was thrown in the trash with about 25% for compost | 21 | 2.1 | 3.8 | 13.9 |
| | About half (50%) was thrown in the trash and about 50% (half) for compost | 30 | 3.0 | 5.4 | 19.3 |
| | 25% or less was thrown in the trash with about 75% for compost | 157 | 15.5 | 28.2 | 47.5 |
| | None of it was thrown in the trash, so all or almost all of it was for compost | 293 | 29.0 | 52.5 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 557 | 55.2 | 100.0 | |
| Missing | System | 452 | 44.8 | | |
| Total | | 1009 | 100.0 | | |

Last week, approximately what amount of your household's food scraps set aside were fed to animals or livestock?

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---------|--|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | None of it, I do not feed animals or livestock with food scraps or did not last week | 385 | 38.2 | 71.9 | 71.9 |
| | Less than 1/2 of it (less than 25%) | 62 | 6.2 | 11.6 | 83.5 |
| | About 1/4 of it (25%) | 27 | 2.7 | 5.0 | 88.6 |
| | About half of it (50%) | 13 | 1.3 | 2.5 | 91.1 |
| | About 3/4 of it (75%) | 30 | 2.9 | 5.5 | 96.6 |
| | All of it (100%) | 18 | 1.8 | 3.4 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 536 | 53.1 | 100.0 | |
| Missing | System | 473 | 46.9 | | |
| Total | | 1009 | 100.0 | | |

Last week, approximately what amount of your household's food scraps set aside for composting was placed in your own compost pile or composter?

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---------|---|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | None of it, I do not have my own compost pile or did not use it last week | 136 | 13.5 | 25.9 | 25.9 |
| | Less than 1/2 of it (less than 25%) | 15 | 1.5 | 2.9 | 28.7 |
| | About 1/4 of it (25%) | 24 | 2.4 | 4.6 | 33.3 |
| | About half of it (50%) | 19 | 1.9 | 3.6 | 36.9 |
| | About 3/4 of it (75%) | 52 | 5.2 | 9.9 | 46.8 |
| | All of it (100%) | 280 | 27.7 | 53.2 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 526 | 52.1 | 100.0 | |
| Missing | System | 483 | 47.9 | | |
| Total | | 1009 | 100.0 | | |

Last week, approximately what amount of your household's food scraps set aside for composting and not included in your regular trash was picked up by a waste hauler specifically for composting?

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---------|--|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | None of it, I do not have food scraps picked up by a waste hauler or did not last week | 269 | 26.7 | 86.5 | 86.5 |
| | Less than 1/2 of it (less than 25%) | 5 | .5 | 1.5 | 88.0 |
| | About 1/4 of it (25%) | 4 | .4 | 1.3 | 89.3 |
| | About half of it (50%) | 4 | .4 | 1.4 | 90.8 |
| | About 3/4 of it (75%) | 6 | .5 | 1.8 | 92.5 |
| | All of it (100%) | 23 | 2.3 | 7.5 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 311 | 30.8 | 100.0 | |
| Missing | System | 698 | 69.2 | | |
| Total | | 1009 | 100.0 | | |

Last week, approximately what amount of your household's food scraps set aside for composting and not included in your regular trash did your household drop off at a transfer station or other collection point specifically for composting?

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---------|--|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | None of it, I do not drop off food scraps at a transfer station or collection point or did not last week | 225 | 22.3 | 77.0 | 77.0 |
| | Less than 1/2 of it (less than 25%) | 10 | .9 | 3.3 | 80.3 |
| | About 1/4 of it (25%) | 5 | .5 | 1.7 | 82.0 |
| | About half of it (50%) | 7 | .7 | 2.4 | 84.4 |
| | About 3/4 of it (75%) | 6 | .6 | 2.2 | 86.5 |
| | All of it (100%) | 39 | 3.9 | 13.5 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 293 | 29.0 | 100.0 | |
| Missing | System | 716 | 71.0 | | |
| Total | | 1009 | 100.0 | | |

Method of composting: Put the scraps in a unit that turns or rotates

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---------|----------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | Selected | 63 | 6.2 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Missing | System | 946 | 93.8 | | |
| Total | | 1009 | 100.0 | | |

Method of composting: Put the scraps outside in a pile or heap

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---------|----------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | Selected | 170 | 16.8 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Missing | System | 839 | 83.2 | | |
| Total | | 1009 | 100.0 | | |

Method of composting: Put the scraps in a stationary bin outside that I purchased

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---------|----------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | Selected | 168 | 16.6 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Missing | System | 841 | 83.4 | | |
| Total | | 1009 | 100.0 | | |

Method of composting: Put the scraps in a stationary bin outside that I built

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---------|----------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | Selected | 76 | 7.6 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Missing | System | 933 | 92.4 | | |
| Total | | 1009 | 100.0 | | |

Method of composting: Some other method

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---------|----------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | Selected | 71 | 7.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Missing | System | 938 | 93.0 | | |
| Total | | 1009 | 100.0 | | |

Method of composting: I do not have my own composting method at home, my food scraps are dropped off or hauled

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---------|----------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | Selected | 94 | 9.3 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Missing | System | 915 | 90.7 | | |
| Total | | 1009 | 100.0 | | |

Do you compost more or less at different times of year?

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---------|--|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | No, I do the same thing all year | 408 | 40.4 | 69.8 | 69.8 |
| | Yes, I compost less in winter | 134 | 13.3 | 23.0 | 92.8 |
| | Yes, my composting varies by time of year or season, not just less in the winter | 27 | 2.7 | 4.6 | 97.4 |
| | Don't know | 15 | 1.5 | 2.6 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 584 | 57.9 | 100.0 | |
| Missing | System | 425 | 42.1 | | |
| Total | | 1009 | 100.0 | | |

Demographic information (Q14-19)

Which best describes the location of your residence?

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---------|------------------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | On a farm | 52 | 5.2 | 5.3 | 5.3 |
| | Open country, but not a farm | 356 | 35.3 | 36.4 | 41.7 |
| | In a suburban setting | 372 | 36.9 | 38.0 | 79.8 |
| | In an urban setting | 198 | 19.6 | 20.2 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 979 | 97.0 | 100.0 | |
| Missing | System | 30 | 3.0 | | |
| Total | | 1009 | 100.0 | | |

Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in?

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---------|------------------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | Detached single-family house | 664 | 65.8 | 66.7 | 66.7 |
| | Mobile home | 67 | 6.7 | 6.7 | 73.4 |
| | Townhouse/condominium | 87 | 8.6 | 8.7 | 82.1 |
| | Apartment/duplex | 174 | 17.3 | 17.5 | 99.6 |
| | Other | 4 | .4 | .4 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 996 | 98.7 | 100.0 | |
| Missing | System | 13 | 1.3 | | |
| Total | | 1009 | 100.0 | | |

Children in Household

| | | Number of children 5 and younger in household | Number of children 6-12 in household | Number of children 13-17 in household |
|---------------|---------|---|---|--|
| N | Valid | 964 | 959 | 959 |
| | Missing | 45 | 50 | 50 |
| Mean Pct. HHs | | .11 | .16 | .15 |

Number of adults in household

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---------|--------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | 0 | 4 | .4 | .4 | .4 |
| | 1 | 285 | 28.2 | 28.6 | 29.0 |
| | 2 | 583 | 57.8 | 58.6 | 87.6 |
| | 3 | 86 | 8.5 | 8.7 | 96.3 |
| | 4 | 28 | 2.8 | 2.9 | 99.1 |
| | 5 | 6 | .6 | .6 | 99.8 |
| | 7 | 2 | .2 | .2 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 995 | 98.6 | 100.0 | |
| Missing | System | 14 | 1.4 | | |
| Total | | 1009 | 100.0 | | |

Income category

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---------|--------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | Less than \$10,000 | 49 | 4.9 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| | \$10-14,999 | 50 | 5.0 | 5.6 | 11.1 |
| | \$15-24,999 | 90 | 8.9 | 10.1 | 21.2 |
| | \$25-34,999 | 88 | 8.8 | 9.9 | 31.1 |
| | \$35-49,999 | 120 | 11.9 | 13.4 | 44.5 |
| | \$50-74,999 | 172 | 17.0 | 19.2 | 63.7 |
| | \$75-99,999 | 125 | 12.4 | 14.0 | 77.7 |
| | \$100-149,999 | 122 | 12.1 | 13.7 | 91.4 |
| | \$150,000 or more | 77 | 7.6 | 8.6 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 893 | 88.5 | 100.0 | |
| Missing | System | 116 | 11.5 | | |
| Total | | 1009 | 100.0 | | |

Whether or not anyone in your household gardens, do you have a yard or outside space on which you can garden?

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---------|--------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | Yes | 810 | 80.3 | 81.8 | 81.8 |
| | No | 180 | 17.8 | 18.2 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 990 | 98.1 | 100.0 | |
| Missing | System | 19 | 1.9 | | |
| Total | | 1009 | 100.0 | | |

Appendix C: Banner Tables—location and type of home

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

In 2020, the VT Universal Recycling Law (Act 148) will ban food scraps and other organic waste that decomposes from being disposed of in regular trash and landfills. In your opinion, how informed or uninformed are Vermonters about this change?

| | | Total | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|-------|--|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single-family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| In 2020, the VT Universal Recycling Law (Act 148) will ban food scraps and other organic waste that decomposes from being disposed of in regular trash and landfills. In your opinion, how informed or uninformed are Vermonters about this change? | Very informed | 3% | | 4% | 3% | 2% | 2% | 9% | 5% | 3% |
| | Informed | 22% | 30% | 23% | 25% | 16% | 23% | 20% | 24% | 20% |
| | Neither informed nor uninformed | 24% | 31% | 23% | 24% | 25% | 23% | 42% | 31% | 19% |
| | Uninformed | 38% | 28% | 38% | 38% | 40% | 40% | 14% | 36% | 43% |
| | Very uninformed | 12% | 11% | 12% | 9% | 17% | 12% | 14% | 6% | 16% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 942 | 49 | 351 | 348 | 173 | 700 | 35 | 65 | 128 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

How true for you is: Composting food scraps is too much work

| | | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | |
|---|------------------|--|-----------|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | Total | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single-family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| How true for you is: Composting food scraps is too much work | Very true | 9% | 9% | 7% | 10% | 9% | 9% | 10% | 10% | 9% |
| | Mostly true | 13% | 12% | 13% | 14% | 14% | 13% | 14% | 14% | 15% |
| | A little true | 30% | 21% | 27% | 32% | 35% | 28% | 29% | 33% | 35% |
| | Not at all true | 42% | 53% | 49% | 38% | 35% | 46% | 41% | 35% | 34% |
| | Don't know | 5% | 5% | 4% | 6% | 6% | 4% | 5% | 7% | 7% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 994 | 53 | 372 | 361 | 183 | 737 | 40 | 67 | 136 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

How true for you is: Composting food scraps is good for the environment

| | | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | |
|--|------------------|--|-----------|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | Total | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single-family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| How true for you is: Composting food scraps is good for the environment | Very true | 64% | 65% | 65% | 61% | 66% | 66% | 44% | 61% | 65% |
| | Mostly true | 21% | 13% | 21% | 21% | 24% | 19% | 36% | 24% | 22% |
| | A little true | 6% | 12% | 6% | 6% | 4% | 7% | 5% | 4% | 4% |
| | Not at all true | 3% | 5% | 4% | 2% | 2% | 3% | 8% | 3% | 2% |
| | Don't know | 6% | 5% | 4% | 9% | 5% | 5% | 7% | 7% | 8% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 989 | 52 | 372 | 358 | 181 | 734 | 39 | 66 | 136 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

How true for you is: Compost piles and bins attract pests like insects and vermin

| | | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | |
|---|------------------|--|-----------|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | Total | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single-family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| How true for you is: Compost piles and bins attract pests like insects and vermin | Very true | 28% | 35% | 31% | 26% | 25% | 28% | 36% | 27% | 27% |
| | Mostly true | 19% | 22% | 13% | 21% | 24% | 18% | 15% | 19% | 25% |
| | A little true | 36% | 30% | 42% | 35% | 31% | 39% | 34% | 30% | 32% |
| | Not at all true | 9% | 11% | 11% | 8% | 10% | 10% | 7% | 9% | 7% |
| | Don't know | 7% | 2% | 4% | 9% | 11% | 5% | 8% | 15% | 9% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 993 | 53 | 371 | 359 | 184 | 733 | 40 | 68 | 138 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

How true for you is: Composting food scraps is just not worth the effort

| | | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | |
|---|------------------|--|-----------|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | Total | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single-family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| How true for you is: Composting food scraps is just not worth the effort | Very true | 8% | 10% | 7% | 7% | 6% | 8% | 17% | 7% | 4% |
| | Mostly true | 9% | 10% | 10% | 9% | 10% | 10% | 12% | 10% | 7% |
| | A little true | 18% | 14% | 18% | 19% | 19% | 18% | 14% | 19% | 19% |
| | Not at all true | 58% | 60% | 60% | 57% | 54% | 60% | 49% | 51% | 59% |
| | Don't know | 7% | 6% | 5% | 8% | 10% | 5% | 8% | 12% | 11% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 984 | 52 | 369 | 359 | 181 | 731 | 40 | 66 | 133 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

How true for you is: Vermonters should compost food scraps

| | | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | |
|---|------------------|--|-----------|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | Total | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single-family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| How true for you is: Vermonters should compost food scraps | Very true | 47% | 48% | 50% | 45% | 47% | 48% | 36% | 41% | 49% |
| | Mostly true | 19% | 15% | 16% | 23% | 16% | 19% | 10% | 20% | 20% |
| | A little true | 12% | 9% | 12% | 10% | 15% | 13% | 10% | 12% | 10% |
| | Not at all true | 11% | 14% | 10% | 11% | 9% | 11% | 21% | 14% | 8% |
| | Don't know | 11% | 14% | 11% | 10% | 13% | 9% | 23% | 13% | 13% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 984 | 51 | 371 | 356 | 182 | 729 | 38 | 67 | 136 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

How true for you is: I don't have the space to compost food scraps

| | | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | |
|--|------------------|--|-----------|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | Total | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single-family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| How true for you is: I don't have the space to compost food scraps | Very true | 17% | 6% | 5% | 20% | 32% | 9% | 25% | 33% | 34% |
| | Mostly true | 9% | | 6% | 12% | 11% | 7% | 10% | 13% | 15% |
| | A little true | 17% | 12% | 12% | 19% | 22% | 15% | 20% | 21% | 16% |
| | Not at all true | 54% | 80% | 74% | 46% | 29% | 66% | 39% | 30% | 31% |
| | Don't know | 3% | 2% | 2% | 3% | 6% | 3% | 5% | 3% | 5% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 987 | 52 | 370 | 359 | 183 | 730 | 39 | 68 | 137 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

How true for you is: Composting food scraps smells bad

| | | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | |
|--|------------------|--|-----------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|---|-------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| | | Total | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single- family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| How true for you is: Composting food scraps smells bad | Very true | 18% | 23% | 14% | 19% | 22% | 17% | 21% | 23% | 22% |
| | Mostly true | 15% | 10% | 13% | 17% | 15% | 14% | 12% | 13% | 20% |
| | A little true | 35% | 33% | 38% | 32% | 37% | 36% | 38% | 35% | 35% |
| | Not at all true | 23% | 30% | 28% | 20% | 18% | 26% | 13% | 21% | 16% |
| | Don't know | 8% | 4% | 6% | 11% | 8% | 7% | 16% | 8% | 7% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 994 | 53 | 372 | 361 | 182 | 737 | 40 | 67 | 136 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

How true for you is: Composting food scraps is easy

| | | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | |
|--|------------------|--|-----------|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | Total | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single-family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| How true for you is: Composting food scraps is easy | Very true | 25% | 41% | 33% | 19% | 19% | 27% | 23% | 13% | 23% |
| | Mostly true | 27% | 22% | 25% | 29% | 25% | 27% | 25% | 31% | 25% |
| | A little true | 19% | 15% | 16% | 20% | 24% | 19% | 12% | 18% | 24% |
| | Not at all true | 18% | 15% | 17% | 19% | 18% | 17% | 24% | 25% | 14% |
| | Don't know | 11% | 6% | 9% | 12% | 14% | 10% | 16% | 13% | 13% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 993 | 53 | 373 | 360 | 183 | 735 | 40 | 68 | 136 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

What does your household do with food waste: Put in with the regular trash

| | | Total | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | | |
|--|------------------|-------|--|------------------------------|-----------------------|---|------------------------------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single-family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| What does your household do with food waste: Put in with the regular trash | 0 | 48% | 66% | 58% | 43% | 34% | 54% | 49% | 28% | 33% |
| | Selected | 52% | 34% | 42% | 57% | 66% | 46% | 51% | 72% | 67% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 1006 | 54 | 375 | 363 | 184 | 743 | 40 | 68 | 138 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

What does your household do with food waste: Put down the garbage disposal

| | | Total | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | | |
|--|------------------|-------|--|------------------------------|-----------------------|---|------------------------------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single-family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| What does your household do with food waste: Put down the garbage disposal | 0 | 82% | 93% | 91% | 74% | 76% | 81% | 95% | 53% | 93% |
| | Selected | 18% | 7% | 9% | 26% | 24% | 19% | 5% | 47% | 7% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 1006 | 54 | 375 | 363 | 184 | 743 | 40 | 68 | 138 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

What does your household do with food waste: Set it aside for composting in your backyard or own compost pile

| | | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | |
|---|------------------|--|-----------|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | Total | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single-family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| What does your household do with food waste: Set it aside for composting in your backyard or own compost pile | 0 | 59% | 52% | 40% | 67% | 78% | 49% | 61% | 86% | 80% |
| | Selected | 41% | 48% | 60% | 33% | 22% | 51% | 39% | 14% | 20% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 1006 | 54 | 375 | 363 | 184 | 743 | 40 | 68 | 138 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

What does your household do with food waste: Set it aside for composting with the compost being picked up by a waste hauler

| | | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | |
|---|------------------|--|-----------|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | Total | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single-family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| What does your household do with food waste: Set it aside for composting with the compost being picked up by a waste hauler | 0 | 96% | 100% | 98% | 96% | 93% | 98% | 98% | 92% | 93% |
| | Selected | 4% | | 2% | 4% | 7% | 2% | 2% | 8% | 7% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 1006 | 54 | 375 | 363 | 184 | 743 | 40 | 68 | 138 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

What does your household do with food waste: Set it aside for composting with the compost being dropped off at a transfer station or other collection site

| | | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | |
|--|------------------|--|-----------|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | Total | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single-family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| What does your household do with food waste: Set it aside for composting with the compost being dropped off at a transfer station or other collection site | 0 | 93% | 98% | 94% | 90% | 93% | 93% | 95% | 91% | 91% |
| | Selected | 7% | 2% | 6% | 10% | 7% | 7% | 5% | 9% | 9% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 1006 | 54 | 375 | 363 | 184 | 743 | 40 | 68 | 138 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

What does your household do with food waste: Feed it to animals or livestock

| | | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | |
|--|------------------|--|-----------|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | Total | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single-family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| What does your household do with food waste: Feed it to animals or livestock | 0 | 83% | 44% | 79% | 89% | 92% | 81% | 72% | 93% | 90% |
| | Selected | 17% | 56% | 21% | 11% | 8% | 19% | 28% | 7% | 10% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 1006 | 54 | 375 | 363 | 184 | 743 | 40 | 68 | 138 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

What does your household do with food waste: Something else

| | | Total | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | |
|---|------------------|-------|--|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single-family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| What does your household do with food waste: Something else | 0 | 94% | 92% | 94% | 96% | 92% | 95% | 100% | 96% | 90% |
| | Selected | 6% | 8% | 6% | 4% | 8% | 5% | | 4% | 10% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 1006 | 54 | 375 | 363 | 184 | 743 | 40 | 68 | 138 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

What does your household do with food waste: Don't know

| | | Total | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | |
|---|------------------|-------|--|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single-family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| What does your household do with food waste: Don't know | 0 | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 99% | 100% | 100% | 99% | 100% |
| | Selected | 0% | | | 0% | 1% | 0% | | 1% | |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 1006 | 54 | 375 | 363 | 184 | 743 | 40 | 68 | 138 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Which best describes the size of container your household uses to set aside items for composting or animal feed?

| | | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | |
|---|--|--|-----------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | Total | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single- family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| Which best describes the size of container your household uses to set aside items for composting or animal feed? | About the size of a quart of milk | 9% | 8% | 8% | 9% | 11% | 7% | 28% | 5% | 11% |
| | About the size of a half-gallon of milk | 13% | 14% | 11% | 13% | 10% | 13% | 11% | 17% | 8% |
| | About the size of a gallon of milk | 43% | 61% | 44% | 37% | 46% | 46% | 28% | 27% | 38% |
| | About the size of a 2 gallon bucket | 21% | 9% | 23% | 23% | 16% | 20% | 32% | 11% | 20% |
| | About the size of a large 5 gallon bucket | 10% | 5% | 9% | 13% | 11% | 9% | | 23% | 16% |
| | Some other size | 5% | 2% | 4% | 6% | 6% | 4% | | 17% | 8% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 552 | 40 | 253 | 173 | 75 | 452 | 18 | 18 | 56 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Thinking about last week, about how often did your household empty the container used to set aside items for composting or animal feed?

| | | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | |
|---|---|--|-----------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | Total | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single- family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| Thinking about last week, about how often did your household empty the container used to set aside items for composting or animal feed? | More than once per day | 1% | 2% | 1% | 1% | | 1% | | | |
| | Daily | 10% | 19% | 11% | 9% | 4% | 12% | 14% | | 2% |
| | Six times per week | 1% | | 0% | 1% | | 1% | | 5% | |
| | Five times per week | 4% | 2% | 5% | 3% | 1% | 4% | | 5% | 4% |
| | Four times per week | 6% | 7% | 5% | 7% | 5% | 7% | | 4% | 4% |
| | Three times per week | 15% | 24% | 14% | 14% | 15% | 16% | 4% | 19% | 14% |
| | Twice per week | 19% | 20% | 24% | 12% | 22% | 20% | 19% | 18% | 17% |
| | Once per week | 25% | 14% | 27% | 27% | 20% | 25% | 45% | 9% | 24% |
| | Less than once per week | 11% | 8% | 8% | 15% | 17% | 10% | 9% | 28% | 17% |
| | Did not set aside items for composting or animal feed last week | 8% | 4% | 4% | 11% | 15% | 6% | 9% | 13% | 19% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 589 | 43 | 265 | 189 | 81 | 478 | 22 | 22 | 59 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

On average, how full was the container when it was emptied?

| | | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | |
|--|------------------------------|--|-----------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | Total | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single- family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| On average, how full was the container when it was emptied? | Completely or almost full | 61% | 46% | 63% | 57% | 64% | 61% | 43% | 60% | 64% |
| | About 3/4 (75%) full | 23% | 22% | 22% | 26% | 19% | 23% | 26% | 20% | 22% |
| | About half (50%) full | 10% | 18% | 9% | 11% | 9% | 10% | 15% | 10% | 10% |
| | About 1/4 (25%) or less full | 7% | 15% | 6% | 6% | 7% | 6% | 16% | 10% | 4% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 544 | 41 | 251 | 170 | 71 | 450 | 19 | 19 | 49 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Thinking about all of the food waste set aside for composting by your household last week, approximately what amount was thrown in the regular trash as opposed to being composted, hauled for composting, or fed to animals?

| | | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | |
|---|--|--|-----------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | Total | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single- family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| Thinking about all of the food waste set aside for composting by your household last week, approximately what amount was thrown in the regular trash as opposed to being composted, hauled for composting, or fed to animals? | All or almost all of it (100%) was thrown in the trash with none of it for compost | 10% | 6% | 8% | 12% | 15% | 7% | 28% | 17% | 16% |
| | About 75% (3/4) was thrown in the trash with about 25% for compost | 4% | 2% | 4% | 5% | 3% | 4% | 4% | 9% | 2% |
| | About half (50%) was thrown in the trash and about 50% (half) for compost | 5% | 4% | 4% | 5% | 8% | 6% | 5% | 4% | 4% |
| | 25% or less was thrown in the trash with about 75% for compost | 28% | 27% | 32% | 25% | 29% | 30% | 23% | 23% | 25% |
| | None of it was thrown in the trash, so all or almost all of it was for compost | 53% | 61% | 52% | 53% | 45% | 54% | 40% | 47% | 54% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 572 | 40 | 259 | 182 | 77 | 467 | 22 | 22 | 54 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Last week, approximately what amount of your household's food scraps set aside were fed to animals or livestock?

| | | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | |
|--|--|--|-----------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | Total | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single- family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| Last week, approximately what amount of your household's food scraps set aside were fed to animals or livestock? | None of it, I do not feed animals or livestock with food scraps or did not last week | 72% | 27% | 70% | 78% | 89% | 72% | 62% | 70% | 76% |
| | Less than 1/2 of it (less than 25%) | 12% | 26% | 11% | 12% | 4% | 11% | 16% | 15% | 14% |
| | About 1/4 of it (25%) | 5% | 4% | 7% | 3% | 3% | 4% | 16% | 5% | 8% |
| | About half of it (50%) | 2% | 9% | 3% | 1% | 2% | 3% | | | 2% |
| | About 3/4 of it (75%) | 6% | 17% | 7% | 2% | 2% | 7% | 6% | | |
| | All of it (100%) | 3% | 16% | 2% | 4% | | 4% | | 9% | |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 554 | 40 | 251 | 174 | 75 | 457 | 19 | 20 | 51 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Last week, approximately what amount of your household's food scraps set aside for composting was placed in your own compost pile or composter?

| | | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | |
|---|---|--|-----------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | Total | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single- family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| Last week, approximately what amount of your household's food scraps set aside for composting was placed in your own compost pile or composter? | None of it, I do not have my own compost pile or did not use it last week | 26% | 22% | 15% | 31% | 47% | 19% | 30% | 70% | 47% |
| | Less than 1/2 of it (less than 25%) | 3% | 3% | 4% | 2% | 1% | 3% | 4% | | |
| | About 1/4 of it (25%) | 5% | 3% | 3% | 6% | 6% | 4% | 10% | | 6% |
| | About half of it (50%) | 4% | 6% | 2% | 5% | 4% | 4% | | | 4% |
| | About 3/4 of it (75%) | 10% | 16% | 9% | 9% | 11% | 11% | 5% | 10% | 8% |
| | All of it (100%) | 53% | 50% | 67% | 47% | 31% | 59% | 50% | 20% | 35% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 541 | 34 | 244 | 175 | 74 | 443 | 20 | 20 | 52 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Last week, approximately what amount of your household's food scraps set aside for composting and not included in your regular trash was picked up by a waste hauler specifically for composting?

| | | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | |
|---|--|--|-----------|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | Total | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single-family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| Last week, approximately what amount of your household's food scraps set aside for composting and not included in your regular trash was picked up by a waste hauler specifically for composting? | None of it, I do not have food scraps picked up by a waste hauler or did not last week | 87% | 87% | 94% | 85% | 75% | 92% | 92% | 62% | 75% |
| | Less than 1/2 of it (less than 25%) | 2% | 5% | 2% | 1% | | 2% | | | 2% |
| | About 1/4 of it (25%) | 1% | 5% | | 1% | 1% | 1% | | 7% | |
| | About half of it (50%) | 1% | | | 2% | 4% | 1% | | | 5% |
| | About 3/4 of it (75%) | 2% | 4% | 1% | 2% | 2% | 2% | | 6% | |
| | All of it (100%) | 7% | | 2% | 9% | 18% | 2% | 8% | 25% | 17% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 315 | 21 | 122 | 104 | 57 | 243 | 12 | 16 | 38 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Last week, approximately what amount of your household's food scraps set aside for composting and not included in your regular trash did your household drop off at a transfer station or other collection point specifically for composting?

| | | Total | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | |
|---|--|-------|--|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single-family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| Last week, approximately what amount of your household's food scraps set aside for composting and not included in your regular trash did your household drop off at a transfer station or other collection point specifically for composting? | None of it, I do not drop off food scraps at a transfer station or collection point or did not last week | 77% | 90% | 84% | 66% | 73% | 79% | 91% | 68% | 61% |
| | Less than 1/2 of it (less than 25%) | 3% | | 3% | 4% | 4% | 3% | | | 6% |
| | About 1/4 of it (25%) | 2% | 5% | 1% | 2% | 2% | 2% | | | 3% |
| | About half of it (50%) | 2% | | 2% | 4% | 2% | 2% | | | 6% |
| | About 3/4 of it (75%) | 2% | | 2% | 3% | 2% | 2% | | 8% | |
| | All of it (100%) | 13% | 6% | 8% | 21% | 17% | 11% | 9% | 24% | 24% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 298 | 21 | 119 | 98 | 50 | 238 | 11 | 13 | 33 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Method of composting: Put the scraps in a unit that turns or rotates

| | Total | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | |
|--|-------|--|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single- family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| Method of composting: Put the scraps in a unit that turns or rotates | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| Total Unweighted Count | 66 | 5 | 31 | 20 | 9 | 60 | 1 | 1 | 4 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Method of composting: Put the scraps outside in a pile or heap

| | Total | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | |
|--|-------|--|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single- family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| Method of composting: Put the scraps outside in a pile or heap | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| Total Unweighted Count | 174 | 12 | 101 | 43 | 12 | 148 | 11 | 3 | 11 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Method of composting: Put the scraps in a stationary bin outside that I purchased

| | Total | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | |
|---|-------|--|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single-family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| Method of composting: Put the scraps in a stationary bin outside that I purchased | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| Total Unweighted Count | 177 | 4 | 82 | 65 | 24 | 153 | 3 | 4 | 16 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Method of composting: Put the scraps in a stationary bin outside that I built

| | Total | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | |
|---|-------|--|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single-family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| Method of composting: Put the scraps in a stationary bin outside that I built | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| Total Unweighted Count | 79 | 7 | 38 | 23 | 8 | 65 | 4 | 1 | 9 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Method of composting: Some other method

| | Total | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | |
|---|-------|--|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single-family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| Method of composting: Some other method | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| Total Unweighted Count | 69 | 10 | 17 | 24 | 13 | 47 | 2 | 3 | 14 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Method of composting: I do not have my own composting method at home, my food scraps are dropped off or hauled

| | Total | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | |
|--|-------|--|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single-family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| Method of composting: I do not have my own composting method at home, my food scraps are dropped off or hauled | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| Total Unweighted Count | 89 | 3 | 25 | 32 | 27 | 51 | 5 | 7 | 22 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Do you compost more or less at different times of year?

| | | Total | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | |
|--|--|-------|--|---------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single- family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| Do you compost more or less at different times of year? | No, I do the same thing all year | 70% | 74% | 72% | 69% | 63% | 70% | 63% | 75% | 69% |
| | Yes, I compost less in winter | 23% | 13% | 23% | 22% | 28% | 23% | 24% | 20% | 24% |
| | Yes, my composting varies by time of year or season, not just less in the winter | 5% | 13% | 4% | 5% | 4% | 5% | 9% | 5% | 3% |
| | Don't know | 3% | | 1% | 4% | 5% | 2% | 4% | | 5% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 599 | 41 | 269 | 191 | 86 | 489 | 22 | 21 | 62 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Number of children 5 and younger in household

| | | Total | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | |
|--|------------------|-------|--|---------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|---|-------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| | | | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single- family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| Number of children 5 and younger in household | Average | .11 | .11 | .11 | .11 | .10 | .11 | .03 | .09 | .13 |
| | Unweighted Count | 964 | 50 | 343 | 358 | 190 | 634 | 67 | 85 | 169 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Number of children 6-12 in household

| | | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|--|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|-----|
| | | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single-family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex | |
| Total | | | | | | | | | | |
| Number of children 6-12 in household | Average | .16 | .17 | .15 | .17 | .14 | .18 | .03 | .17 | .14 |
| | Unweighted Count | 959 | 49 | 343 | 355 | 189 | 633 | 65 | 83 | 169 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Number of children 13-17 in household

| | | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|--|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|-----|
| | | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single-family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex | |
| Total | | | | | | | | | | |
| Number of children 13-17 in household | Average | .15 | .26 | .16 | .14 | .10 | .18 | .11 | .05 | .09 |
| | Unweighted Count | 959 | 49 | 343 | 357 | 188 | 634 | 65 | 83 | 168 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Number of adults in household

| | | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|--|-----------|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | Total | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single-family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| Number of adults in household | Average | 1.88 | 2.06 | 1.93 | 1.86 | 1.78 | 1.96 | 1.87 | 1.73 | 1.68 |
| | Unweighted Count | 995 | 52 | 356 | 370 | 194 | 659 | 65 | 87 | 174 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Whether or not anyone in your household gardens, do you have a yard or outside space on which you can garden?

| | | Which best describes the location of your residence? | | | | | Which of the following comes closest to the kind of housing unit you now live in? | | | |
|---|------------------|--|-----------|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | Total | On a farm | Open country, but not a farm | In a suburban setting | In an urban setting | Detached single-family house | Mobile home | Townhouse / Condo | Apartment / Duplex |
| Whether or not anyone in your household gardens, do you have a yard or outside space on which you can garden? | Yes | 82% | 98% | 98% | 76% | 60% | 93% | 87% | 48% | 56% |
| | No | 18% | 2% | 2% | 24% | 40% | 7% | 13% | 52% | 44% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 987 | 54 | 369 | 360 | 183 | 735 | 40 | 68 | 137 |

Appendix D: Banner Tables—HH size and HH income

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

In 2020, the VT Universal Recycling Law (Act 148) will ban food scraps and other organic waste that decomposes from being disposed of in regular trash and landfills.

In your opinion, how informed or uninformed are Vermonters about this change?

| | | Total | Household size | | | HH Income | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|-------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| | | | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more |
| In 2020, the VT Universal Recycling Law (Act 148) will ban food scraps and other organic waste that decomposes from being disposed of in regular trash and landfills. In your opinion, how informed or uninformed are Vermonters about this change? | Very informed | 3% | 3% | 3% | 3% | 2% | 4% | 3% | 3% |
| | Informed | 22% | 20% | 24% | 23% | 22% | 23% | 25% | 23% |
| | Neither informed nor uninformed | 24% | 29% | 23% | 21% | 30% | 24% | 22% | 20% |
| | Uninformed | 38% | 35% | 39% | 40% | 30% | 39% | 40% | 42% |
| | Very uninformed | 12% | 13% | 12% | 13% | 16% | 11% | 10% | 12% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 942 | 211 | 401 | 264 | 146 | 205 | 276 | 206 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

How true for you is: Composting food scraps is too much work

| | | Total | Household size | | | HH Income | | | |
|--|------------------|-------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| | | | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more |
| How true for you is: Composting food scraps is too much work | Very true | 9% | 12% | 9% | 6% | 13% | 8% | 5% | 6% |
| | Mostly true | 13% | 13% | 12% | 16% | 8% | 14% | 15% | 15% |
| | A little true | 30% | 29% | 31% | 29% | 30% | 31% | 28% | 33% |
| | Not at all true | 42% | 37% | 45% | 46% | 39% | 42% | 50% | 43% |
| | Don't know | 5% | 8% | 3% | 4% | 10% | 6% | 2% | 2% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 994 | 229 | 423 | 272 | 163 | 213 | 290 | 213 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

How true for you is: Composting food scraps is good for the environment

| | | Total | Household size | | | HH Income | | | |
|---|------------------|-------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| | | | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more |
| How true for you is: Composting food scraps is good for the environment | Very true | 64% | 58% | 64% | 70% | 52% | 62% | 73% | 73% |
| | Mostly true | 21% | 24% | 22% | 16% | 30% | 23% | 16% | 18% |
| | A little true | 6% | 6% | 5% | 7% | 7% | 6% | 3% | 5% |
| | Not at all true | 3% | 2% | 4% | 3% | 4% | 2% | 4% | 2% |
| | Don't know | 6% | 10% | 4% | 4% | 7% | 6% | 4% | 2% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 989 | 226 | 421 | 272 | 160 | 212 | 289 | 213 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

How true for you is: Compost piles and bins attract pests like insects and vermin

| | | Total | Household size | | | HH Income | | | |
|---|------------------|-------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| | | | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more |
| How true for you is: Compost piles and bins attract pests like insects and vermin | Very true | 28% | 26% | 30% | 28% | 30% | 31% | 21% | 23% |
| | Mostly true | 19% | 20% | 15% | 22% | 22% | 22% | 18% | 20% |
| | A little true | 36% | 33% | 38% | 37% | 31% | 32% | 44% | 42% |
| | Not at all true | 9% | 10% | 11% | 8% | 6% | 10% | 13% | 7% |
| | Don't know | 7% | 11% | 6% | 4% | 11% | 6% | 4% | 8% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 993 | 229 | 420 | 274 | 163 | 211 | 292 | 211 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

How true for you is: Composting food scraps is just not worth the effort

| | | Total | Household size | | | HH Income | | | |
|--|------------------|-------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| | | | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more |
| How true for you is: Composting food scraps is just not worth the effort | Very true | 8% | 6% | 9% | 6% | 7% | 7% | 6% | 5% |
| | Mostly true | 9% | 13% | 7% | 9% | 10% | 9% | 8% | 8% |
| | A little true | 18% | 17% | 20% | 17% | 19% | 18% | 18% | 18% |
| | Not at all true | 58% | 51% | 60% | 63% | 50% | 59% | 64% | 62% |
| | Don't know | 7% | 13% | 5% | 5% | 15% | 6% | 4% | 6% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 984 | 223 | 422 | 269 | 158 | 213 | 290 | 209 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

How true for you is: Vermonters should compost food scraps

| | | Total | Household size | | | HH Income | | | |
|--|------------------|-------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| | | | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more |
| How true for you is: Vermonters should compost food scraps | Very true | 47% | 43% | 48% | 52% | 40% | 50% | 52% | 51% |
| | Mostly true | 19% | 19% | 20% | 18% | 20% | 15% | 20% | 21% |
| | A little true | 12% | 14% | 10% | 13% | 11% | 12% | 12% | 13% |
| | Not at all true | 11% | 9% | 13% | 11% | 11% | 12% | 7% | 9% |
| | Don't know | 11% | 16% | 10% | 7% | 18% | 12% | 8% | 6% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 984 | 224 | 422 | 269 | 161 | 210 | 290 | 211 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

How true for you is: I don't have the space to compost food scraps

| | | Total | Household size | | | HH Income | | | |
|--|------------------|-------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| | | | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more |
| How true for you is: I don't have the space to compost food scraps | Very true | 17% | 29% | 13% | 11% | 32% | 20% | 11% | 7% |
| | Mostly true | 9% | 12% | 7% | 9% | 15% | 11% | 6% | 9% |
| | A little true | 17% | 12% | 16% | 20% | 11% | 19% | 17% | 15% |
| | Not at all true | 54% | 41% | 61% | 59% | 37% | 47% | 65% | 67% |
| | Don't know | 3% | 6% | 3% | 2% | 7% | 3% | 2% | 3% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 987 | 224 | 419 | 274 | 159 | 211 | 291 | 212 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

How true for you is: Composting food scraps smells bad

| | | Total | Household size | | | HH Income | | | |
|--|------------------|-------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| | | | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more |
| How true for you is: Composting food scraps smells bad | Very true | 18% | 18% | 17% | 20% | 21% | 21% | 13% | 12% |
| | Mostly true | 15% | 12% | 15% | 18% | 14% | 16% | 14% | 16% |
| | A little true | 35% | 35% | 34% | 38% | 35% | 30% | 40% | 43% |
| | Not at all true | 23% | 21% | 27% | 20% | 18% | 22% | 29% | 24% |
| | Don't know | 8% | 14% | 6% | 5% | 13% | 11% | 4% | 5% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 994 | 226 | 423 | 275 | 159 | 214 | 291 | 213 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

How true for you is: Composting food scraps is easy

| | | Total | Household size | | | HH Income | | | |
|---|------------------|-------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| | | | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more |
| How true for you is: Composting food scraps is easy | Very true | 25% | 24% | 25% | 29% | 21% | 29% | 29% | 24% |
| | Mostly true | 27% | 26% | 27% | 24% | 27% | 22% | 32% | 30% |
| | A little true | 19% | 20% | 19% | 20% | 22% | 18% | 19% | 20% |
| | Not at all true | 18% | 16% | 19% | 18% | 14% | 19% | 13% | 19% |
| | Don't know | 11% | 14% | 10% | 9% | 16% | 13% | 8% | 8% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 993 | 227 | 422 | 275 | 160 | 215 | 291 | 212 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

What does your household do with food waste: Put in with the regular trash

| | | Total | Household size | | | HH Income | | | |
|--|------------------|-------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| | | | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more |
| What does your household do with food waste: Put in with the regular trash | 0 | 48% | 45% | 49% | 49% | 45% | 49% | 51% | 48% |
| | Selected | 52% | 55% | 51% | 51% | 55% | 51% | 49% | 52% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 1006 | 233 | 425 | 275 | 166 | 215 | 292 | 213 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

What does your household do with food waste: Put down the garbage disposal

| | | Total | Household size | | | HH Income | | | |
|--|------------------|-------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| | | | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more |
| What does your household do with food waste: Put down the garbage disposal | 0 | 82% | 79% | 82% | 84% | 90% | 84% | 81% | 77% |
| | Selected | 18% | 21% | 18% | 16% | 10% | 16% | 19% | 23% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 1006 | 233 | 425 | 275 | 166 | 215 | 292 | 213 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

What does your household do with food waste: Set it aside for composting in your backyard or own compost pile

| | | Total | Household size | | | HH Income | | | |
|---|------------------|-------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| | | | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more |
| What does your household do with food waste: Set it aside for composting in your backyard or own compost pile | 0 | 59% | 74% | 53% | 54% | 75% | 63% | 50% | 50% |
| | Selected | 41% | 26% | 47% | 46% | 25% | 37% | 50% | 50% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 1006 | 233 | 425 | 275 | 166 | 215 | 292 | 213 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

What does your household do with food waste: Set it aside for composting with the compost being picked up by a waste hauler

| | | Total | Household size | | | HH Income | | | |
|---|------------------|-------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| | | | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more |
| What does your household do with food waste: Set it aside for composting with the compost being picked up by a waste hauler | 0 | 96% | 96% | 96% | 97% | 95% | 95% | 98% | 96% |
| | Selected | 4% | 4% | 4% | 3% | 5% | 5% | 2% | 4% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 1006 | 233 | 425 | 275 | 166 | 215 | 292 | 213 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

What does your household do with food waste: Set it aside for composting with the compost being dropped off at a transfer station or other collection site

| | | Total | Household size | | | HH Income | | | |
|--|------------------|-------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| | | | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more |
| What does your household do with food waste: Set it aside for composting with the compost being dropped off at a transfer station or other collection site | 0 | 93% | 93% | 91% | 93% | 93% | 93% | 90% | 93% |
| | Selected | 7% | 7% | 9% | 7% | 7% | 7% | 10% | 7% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 1006 | 233 | 425 | 275 | 166 | 215 | 292 | 213 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

What does your household do with food waste: Feed it to animals or livestock

| | | Total | Household size | | | HH Income | | | |
|--|------------------|-------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| | | | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more |
| What does your household do with food waste: Feed it to animals or livestock | 0 | 83% | 88% | 83% | 80% | 82% | 85% | 84% | 81% |
| | Selected | 17% | 12% | 17% | 20% | 18% | 15% | 16% | 19% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 1006 | 233 | 425 | 275 | 166 | 215 | 292 | 213 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

What does your household do with food waste: Something else

| | | Total | Household size | | | HH Income | | | |
|---|------------------|-------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| | | | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more |
| What does your household do with food waste: Something else | 0 | 94% | 93% | 94% | 95% | 92% | 92% | 93% | 98% |
| | Selected | 6% | 7% | 6% | 5% | 8% | 8% | 7% | 2% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 1006 | 233 | 425 | 275 | 166 | 215 | 292 | 213 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

What does your household do with food waste: Don't know

| | | Total | Household size | | | HH Income | | | |
|---|------------------|-------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| | | | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more |
| What does your household do with food waste: Don't know | 0 | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 99% | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| | Selected | 0% | 0% | | | 1% | | 0% | |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 1006 | 233 | 425 | 275 | 166 | 215 | 292 | 213 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Which best describes the size of container your household uses to set aside items for composting or animal feed?

| | | Household size | | | HH Income | | | | |
|--|---|----------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| | | Total | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more |
| Which best describes the size of container your household uses to set aside items for composting or animal feed? | About the size of a quart of milk | 9% | 12% | 8% | 10% | 16% | 12% | 5% | 7% |
| | About the size of a half-gallon of milk | 13% | 18% | 12% | 9% | 13% | 17% | 11% | 8% |
| | About the size of a gallon of milk | 43% | 37% | 46% | 42% | 29% | 36% | 45% | 55% |
| | About the size of a 2 gallon bucket | 21% | 20% | 20% | 22% | 27% | 20% | 22% | 17% |
| | About the size of a large 5 gallon bucket | 10% | 6% | 9% | 13% | 10% | 13% | 10% | 8% |
| | Some other size | 5% | 6% | 6% | 3% | 5% | 3% | 6% | 5% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 552 | 101 | 254 | 166 | 70 | 113 | 182 | 138 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Thinking about last week, about how often did your household empty the container used to set aside items for composting or animal feed?

| | | Household size | | | | HH Income | | | |
|---|---|------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| | | Total | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more |
| Thinking about last week, about how often did your household empty the container used to set aside items for composting or animal feed? | More than once per day | 1% | | | 2% | | 1% | 1% | 1% |
| | Daily | 10% | 8% | 9% | 11% | 10% | 8% | 7% | 12% |
| | Six times per week | 1% | 1% | 1% | 1% | | 2% | 1% | |
| | Five times per week | 4% | | 2% | 8% | 2% | 3% | 5% | 4% |
| | Four times per week | 6% | 5% | 5% | 8% | 3% | 3% | 7% | 8% |
| | Three times per week | 15% | 9% | 17% | 16% | 7% | 18% | 14% | 23% |
| | Twice per week | 19% | 18% | 20% | 18% | 13% | 24% | 20% | 19% |
| | Once per week | 25% | 34% | 26% | 20% | 29% | 26% | 27% | 21% |
| | Less than once per week | 11% | 11% | 14% | 9% | 16% | 9% | 13% | 8% |
| | Did not set aside items for composting or animal feed last week | 8% | 15% | 7% | 5% | 20% | 7% | 4% | 5% |
| | Total | Unweighted Count | 589 | 113 | 270 | 173 | 81 | 117 | 190 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

On average, how full was the container when it was emptied?

| | | Household size | | | | HH Income | | | |
|---|------------------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| | | Total | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more |
| On average, how full was the container when it was emptied? | Completely or almost full | 61% | 48% | 65% | 62% | 46% | 53% | 65% | 68% |
| | About 3/4 (75%) full | 23% | 35% | 19% | 19% | 29% | 29% | 18% | 20% |
| | About half (50%) full | 10% | 9% | 9% | 13% | 17% | 8% | 11% | 8% |
| | About 1/4 (25%) or less full | 7% | 7% | 7% | 7% | 9% | 9% | 6% | 4% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 544 | 97 | 251 | 166 | 66 | 115 | 179 | 135 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Thinking about all of the food waste set aside for composting by your household last week, approximately what amount was thrown in the regular trash as opposed to being composted, hauled for composting, or fed to animals?

| | | Household size | | | | HH Income | | | |
|---|--|----------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| | | Total | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more |
| Thinking about all of the food waste set aside for composting by your household last week, approximately what amount was thrown in the regular trash as opposed to being composted, hauled for composting, or fed to animals? | All or almost all of it (100%) was thrown in the trash with none of it for compost | 10% | 18% | 6% | 9% | 23% | 7% | 9% | 5% |
| | About 75% (3/4) was thrown in the trash with about 25% for compost | 4% | 3% | 4% | 5% | 3% | 4% | 4% | 3% |
| | About half (50%) was thrown in the trash and about 50% (half) for compost | 5% | 3% | 5% | 5% | 1% | 5% | 5% | 9% |
| | 25% or less was thrown in the trash with about 75% for compost | 28% | 20% | 31% | 29% | 23% | 23% | 32% | 32% |
| | None of it was thrown in the trash, so all or almost all of it was for compost | 53% | 56% | 54% | 52% | 51% | 61% | 51% | 51% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 572 | 109 | 259 | 172 | 73 | 120 | 185 | 140 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Last week, approximately what amount of your household's food scraps set aside were fed to animals or livestock?

| | | Household size | | | | HH Income | | | |
|--|--|----------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| | | Total | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more |
| Last week, approximately what amount of your household's food scraps set aside were fed to animals or livestock? | None of it, I do not feed animals or livestock with food scraps or did not last week | 72% | 76% | 76% | 66% | 66% | 73% | 73% | 73% |
| | Less than 1/2 of it (less than 25%) | 12% | 8% | 12% | 13% | 8% | 10% | 13% | 9% |
| | About 1/4 of it (25%) | 5% | 8% | 5% | 4% | 13% | 8% | 2% | 3% |
| | About half of it (50%) | 2% | | 1% | 6% | 5% | 2% | 2% | 3% |
| | About 3/4 of it (75%) | 6% | 4% | 5% | 6% | 4% | 4% | 7% | 7% |
| | All of it (100%) | 3% | 4% | 1% | 6% | 4% | 4% | 3% | 5% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 554 | 99 | 257 | 167 | 69 | 119 | 180 | 136 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Last week, approximately what amount of your household's food scraps set aside for composting was placed in your own compost pile or composter?

| | | Household size | | | | HH Income | | | |
|---|---|----------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| | | Total | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more |
| Last week, approximately what amount of your household's food scraps set aside for composting was placed in your own compost pile or composter? | None of it, I do not have my own compost pile or did not use it last week | 26% | 36% | 25% | 22% | 42% | 27% | 23% | 23% |
| | Less than 1/2 of it (less than 25%) | 3% | 2% | 1% | 6% | 3% | 4% | 2% | 4% |
| | About 1/4 of it (25%) | 5% | 1% | 6% | 3% | 7% | 3% | 4% | 5% |
| | About half of it (50%) | 4% | 4% | 2% | 6% | 3% | 2% | 3% | 6% |
| | About 3/4 of it (75%) | 10% | 4% | 11% | 11% | 7% | 11% | 13% | 5% |
| | All of it (100%) | 53% | 52% | 55% | 52% | 39% | 54% | 55% | 57% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 541 | 97 | 256 | 158 | 70 | 114 | 178 | 130 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Last week, approximately what amount of your household's food scraps set aside for composting and not included in your regular trash was picked up by a waste hauler specifically for composting?

| | | Total | Household size | | | HH Income | | | |
|---|--|-------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| | | | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more |
| Last week, approximately what amount of your household's food scraps set aside for composting and not included in your regular trash was picked up by a waste hauler specifically for composting? | None of it, I do not have food scraps picked up by a waste hauler or did not last week | 87% | 88% | 86% | 87% | 83% | 84% | 89% | 85% |
| | Less than 1/2 of it (less than 25%) | 2% | | 2% | 2% | | | 1% | 3% |
| | About 1/4 of it (25%) | 1% | | 2% | 1% | | 1% | 2% | |
| | About half of it (50%) | 1% | | 1% | 1% | 7% | 1% | | |
| | About 3/4 of it (75%) | 2% | 2% | 1% | 3% | | 3% | 3% | 1% |
| | All of it (100%) | 7% | 10% | 8% | 7% | 10% | 9% | 5% | 10% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 315 | 59 | 143 | 92 | 46 | 66 | 103 | 67 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Last week, approximately what amount of your household's food scraps set aside for composting and not included in your regular trash did your household drop off at a transfer station or other collection point specifically for composting?

| | | Total | Household size | | | HH Income | | | |
|---|--|-------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| | | | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more |
| Last week, approximately what amount of your household's food scraps set aside for composting and not included in your regular trash did your household drop off at a transfer station or other collection point specifically for composting? | None of it, I do not drop off food scraps at a transfer station or collection point or did not last week | 77% | 71% | 78% | 78% | 73% | 75% | 78% | 74% |
| | Less than 1/2 of it (less than 25%) | 3% | 6% | 3% | 2% | 3% | 3% | 2% | 6% |
| | About 1/4 of it (25%) | 2% | | 2% | 2% | 2% | 2% | 2% | |
| | About half of it (50%) | 2% | 3% | 2% | 1% | 5% | | 2% | 3% |
| | About 3/4 of it (75%) | 2% | | 3% | 2% | | 5% | 1% | 3% |
| | All of it (100%) | 13% | 20% | 12% | 15% | 17% | 15% | 15% | 14% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 298 | 52 | 137 | 89 | 45 | 59 | 98 | 65 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Method of composting: Put the scraps in a unit that turns or rotates

| | Total | Household size | | | HH Income | | | | |
|--|------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|----|
| | | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more | |
| Method of composting: Put the scraps in a unit that turns or rotates | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 66 | 4 | 32 | 24 | 3 | 10 | 25 | 24 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Method of composting: Put the scraps outside in a pile or heap

| | Total | Household size | | | HH Income | | | | |
|--|------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|----|
| | | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more | |
| Method of composting: Put the scraps outside in a pile or heap | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 174 | 28 | 72 | 66 | 25 | 39 | 63 | 30 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Method of composting: Put the scraps in a stationary bin outside that I purchased

| | Total | Household size | | | HH Income | | | | |
|---|------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|----|
| | | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more | |
| Method of composting: Put the scraps in a stationary bin outside that I purchased | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 177 | 30 | 92 | 46 | 16 | 33 | 66 | 49 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Method of composting: Put the scraps in a stationary bin outside that I built

| | Total | Household size | | | HH Income | | | | |
|---|------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|----|
| | | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more | |
| Method of composting: Put the scraps in a stationary bin outside that I built | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 79 | 15 | 35 | 25 | 6 | 22 | 21 | 18 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Method of composting: Some other method

| | Total | Household size | | | HH Income | | | | |
|---|------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|----|
| | | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more | |
| Method of composting: Some other method | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 69 | 19 | 27 | 16 | 18 | 17 | 14 | 15 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Method of composting: I do not have my own composting method at home, my food scraps are dropped off or hauled

| | Total | Household size | | | HH Income | | | | |
|--|------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|----|
| | | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more | |
| Method of composting: I do not have my own composting method at home, my food scraps are dropped off or hauled | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 89 | 25 | 36 | 24 | 20 | 16 | 22 | 19 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Do you compost more or less at different times of year?

| | | Total | Household size | | | HH Income | | | |
|---|--|-------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| | | | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more |
| Do you compost more or less at different times of year? | No, I do the same thing all year | 70% | 76% | 70% | 67% | 73% | 73% | 67% | 69% |
| | Yes, I compost less in winter | 23% | 16% | 22% | 26% | 16% | 20% | 28% | 24% |
| | Yes, my composting varies by time of year or season, not just less in the winter | 5% | 3% | 6% | 5% | 7% | 4% | 3% | 5% |
| | Don't know | 3% | 5% | 3% | 2% | 3% | 4% | 1% | 1% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 599 | 118 | 272 | 175 | 84 | 123 | 193 | 140 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Number of children 5 and younger in household

| | | Total | Household size | | | HH Income | | | |
|---|------------------|-------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| | | | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more |
| Number of children 5 and younger in household | Average | .11 | .00 | .01 | .32 | .07 | .08 | .13 | .13 |
| | Unweighted Count | 964 | 249 | 415 | 273 | 184 | 201 | 287 | 191 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Number of children 6-12 in household

| | | Total | Household size | | | HH Income | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|-------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| | | | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more |
| Number of children 6-12 in household | Average | .16 | .00 | .01 | .48 | .09 | .15 | .16 | .28 |
| | Unweighted Count | 959 | 249 | 415 | 273 | 180 | 200 | 285 | 196 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Number of children 13-17 in household

| | | Total | Household size | | | HH Income | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|-------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| | | | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more |
| Number of children 13-17 in household | Average | .15 | .00 | .01 | .46 | .03 | .17 | .15 | .26 |
| | Unweighted Count | 959 | 249 | 415 | 273 | 179 | 198 | 289 | 193 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Number of adults in household

| | | Total | Household size | | | HH Income | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|-------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| | | | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more |
| Number of adults in household | Average | 1.88 | 1.00 | 1.98 | 2.55 | 1.46 | 1.79 | 2.01 | 2.13 |
| | Unweighted Count | 995 | 249 | 415 | 273 | 187 | 208 | 296 | 199 |

Vermont Food Scraps Survey, 2018

Whether or not anyone in your household gardens, do you have a yard or outside space on which you can garden?

| | | Total | Household size | | | HH Income | | | |
|---|------------------|-------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| | | | Single person HH | Two-person HH | > 2-person HH | Less than \$25K | \$25K to less than \$50K | \$50K to less than \$100K | \$100K or more |
| Whether or not anyone in your household gardens, do you have a yard or outside space on which you can garden? | Yes | 82% | 68% | 87% | 87% | 65% | 82% | 87% | 90% |
| | No | 18% | 32% | 13% | 13% | 35% | 18% | 13% | 10% |
| Total | Unweighted Count | 987 | 227 | 424 | 273 | 164 | 214 | 290 | 211 |