

Vermont Food Scraps Survey Report

Prepared for DSM Environmental Services, Inc.

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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

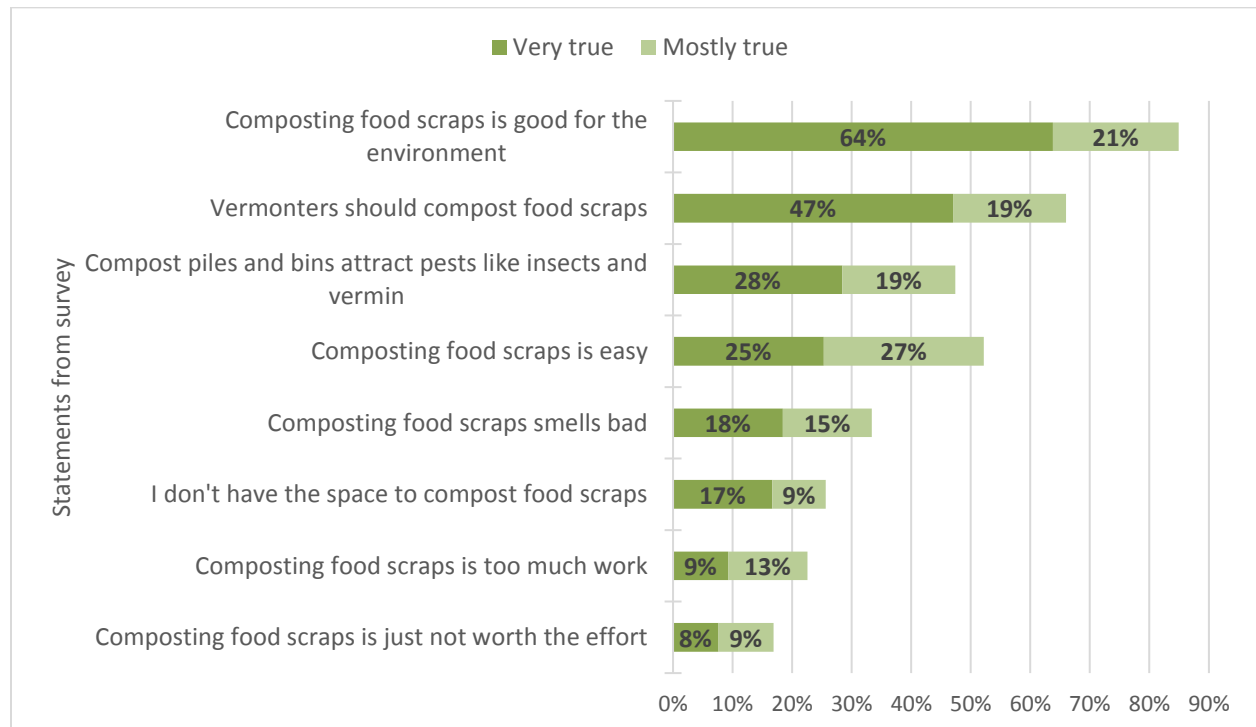
At the start of the survey instrument, we asked respondents to what extent they felt informed about Act 148, the Vermont Universal Recycling Law, which will ban food scraps and other organic waste from landfills. One quarter of all respondents said that they were either “very informed” (3 percent) or 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

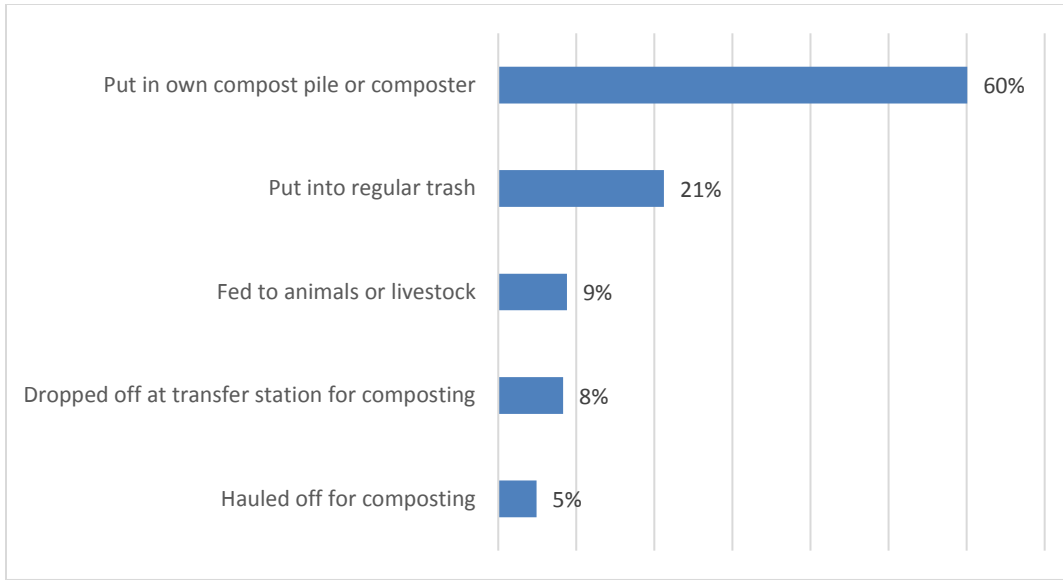
In a series of five questions (Q7-Q11, see questionnaire in appendix), we asked respondents to estimate where household food scraps that were set aside for composting for the last week went, giving the following options:

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"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Composting food scraps is good for the environment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Compost piles and bins attract pests like insects and vermin	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Composting food scraps is just not worth the effort	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. Vermonters should compost food scraps	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. I don't have the space to compost food scraps	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
g. Composting food scraps smells bad	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
h. Composting food scraps is easy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<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

		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: 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

		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: 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

		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: 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

		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: 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?

		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
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?

		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 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