



*Northeastern Vermont
Development Association*

~ MINUTES ~
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
The Eastside Restaurant
December 14, 2023 6:00 PM

THOSE ATTENDING:

Directors: Stephen Amos, Keith Ballek, Noah Bond, James, Brown, Paul Brouha, Hope Colburn, Joel Cope, William Davies, Willam Davis, Scott Dunn, Martha Feltus, Larry Labor, Ken Linsley, Mike Marcotte, Mike Metcalf, Woodman Page, Fred Saar, Katherine Sims, Brian Smith, Grant Spates, Robert Starr, Mark Whitworth

Guests: Carol Brown, Carol Brouha, Kevin Chu

NVDA Staff: Tina Gonyaw, Lorna Higgs, David Snedeker

The meeting was called to order by President Fred Saar at 6:06 PM

Updates to Agenda

None

Minutes

A motion by Paul Brouha, seconded by Stephen Amos, to accept the minutes of the June 22, 2023 meeting as presented carried unanimously.

FY2023 Audit Reports

Draft Audit was not available - item passed over.

Guest Speaker

Kevin Chu, Executive Director, Vermont Futures Project
Presentation attached below.

PO Box 630 36 Eastern Avenue, Suite 1 St. Johnsbury, Vermont 05819-0630 802 748-5181 Fax: 802 748-1223

The regional planning and development commission serving The Northeast Kingdom: Caledonia, Essex and Orleans Counties
NVDA is an Equal Opportunity lender, provider and employer

Director's Updates

2023 Recap

Regional Planning updates:

- NVDA Regional Plan updated and readopted last Summer. A full rewrite of the Regional Plan is in process with a draft expected mid-2024.
- Staff assisted the Towns of Greensboro and Hardwick with updates to their Local Hazard Mitigation Plans following the July flooding event. Staff are now working with the Town of Barton (and Barton & Orleans Villages) to update their LHMP.
- Staff have been participating in the municipal energy audits for the most energy-burdened towns in our region through the MERP program. We will be assisting towns with implementation grant applications once their audit reports are available.
- Staff have been scheduling and meeting with Town Selectboards and Planning Commissions of Round 2 communities to identify local needs as part of the AoA MTAP program. There is also ongoing follow-up with some of the Round 1 communities.

Regional Development updates:

- Staff are working on implementing the Small Business Technical Assistance effort with all RDCs.
- MOU signed with National Grid for the Twin States Clean Energy Link project in September.
- Two lots sold in the St. Johnsbury Industrial Park for an expanding business relocating from Danville in late Summer.
- 7-8 acres of land is also under option in the Lyndon Industrial Park for a bio-energy developer that will benefit the local electric utility, if permitted and constructed.
- NVDA received an EDA Build-to-Scale grant that will focus on developing technology-based businesses in the region. This will include advanced manufacturing, wood technologies, and health care sector businesses. The \$1.4M initiative (with ½ of the total coming through the VT Legislature) bring two new positions to NVDA.
- NVDA's Brownfields program remains very active with environmental assessment activities being conducted to facilitate redevelopments and/or property transfers. NVDA may be asked to serve as an interim owner for a key site in St. Johnsbury that will ultimately be a new housing development in the Town's Neighborhood Development Area.

Any other Business

None

There being no further business, a motion by James Brown; seconded by Stephen Amos to adjourn the meeting carried unanimously.

President Fred Saar adjourned the meeting at 7:23 PM

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THE VERMONT FUTURES PROJECT

Our Mission Question: How can we use data to support the evolution of Vermont's economy towards a thriving future full of opportunity for all?



Kevin Chu, Executive Director
Vermont Futures Project
kchu@vtfuturesproject.org



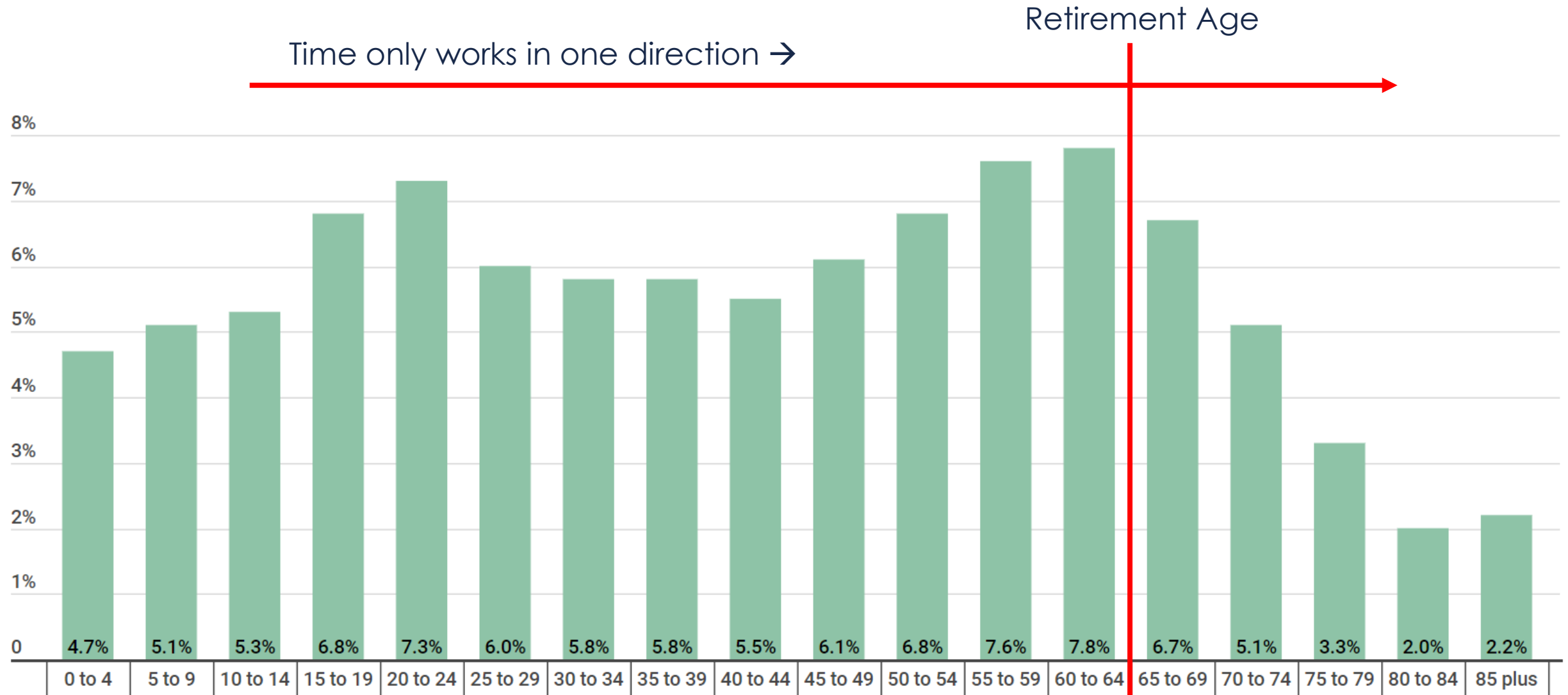
VERMONT'S FUTURE



VERMONT NEEDS MORE PEOPLE.
MORE PEOPLE NEED VERMONT.

IF HOUSING IS A RIGHT, THEN IT
SHOULD BE RIGHT TO BUILD HOUSING.

Age Distribution of Vermont's Population



Source: 2020 US Census Bureau data compiled by Vermont Futures Project

Vermont Labor Force by Age

The vulnerability of Vermont's labor force is its reliance on participation from an aging population. The Vermont Department of Labor projects about 14,800 retirements annually through 2030.

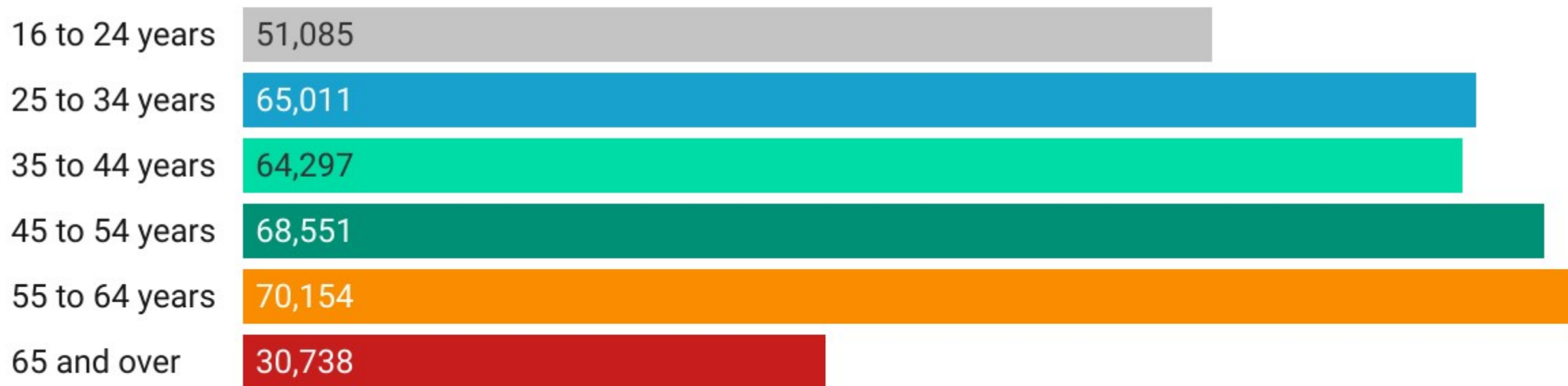


Chart: Vermont Futures Project • Source: US Census Bureau • Created with Datawrapper





Racial & Ethnic Composition of Population

The composition of Vermont's population is much older and whiter than the United States. The US is projected to become "majority minority" around 2045, meaning White Americans will make up less than 50% of the country's population.

Race/Ethnicity	Vermont	United States
White	92.19%	59.3%
Hispanic or Latino	2.23%	18.9%
Asian	1.98%	5.9%
Multiracial	1.91%	2.3%
Black or African American	1.35%	12.6%
American Indian and Alaska Native	0.32%	0.7%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.03%	0.2%

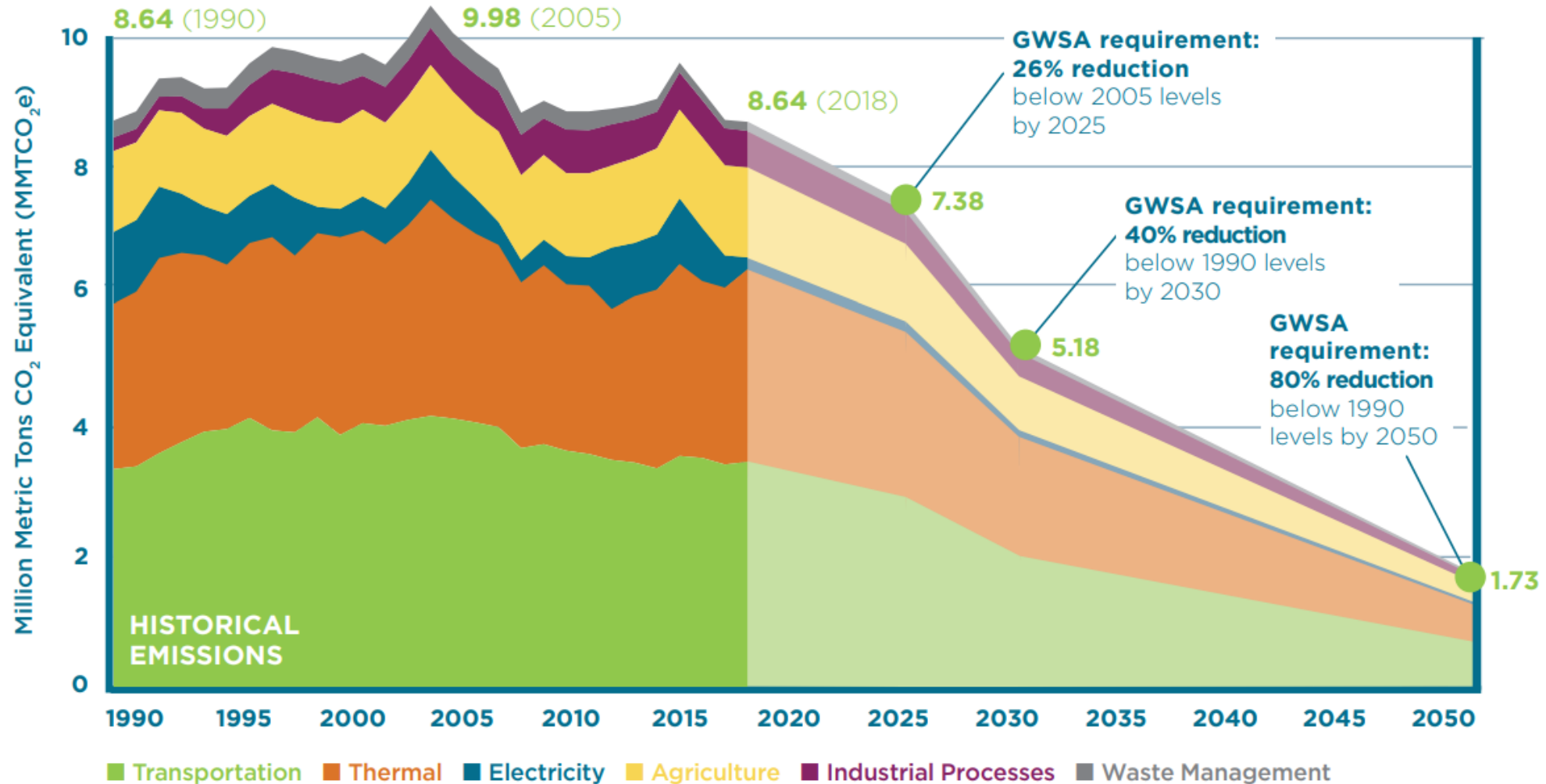
Labor Force Participation Rates by Race/Ethnicity

Labor force participation rates by many BIPOC categories in Vermont are much higher than the average in Vermont and across the United States. Just based on median age by race, the workforce of America's future will be more diverse than previous generations.

Race/Ethnicity	United States	Vermont
Total population 16 & over	63.6	65.1
White	62.8%	64.9%
Black or African American	63.2%	74.6% 
American Indian and Alaska Native	58.9%	51.6%
Asian	66.0%	71.1% 
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	66.1%	60.1%
Some other race	67.7%	74.0% 
Two or more races	67.7%	63.5%
Hispanic or Latino origin (of any race)	67.9%	71.0% 

HOUSING MATTERS

Vermont's historical GHG emissions and future requirements



Source: Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, Vermont GHG Emissions Inventory and Forecast (1990-2017), 2021.

VERMONT IS LESS SUSTAINABLE THAN NEW JERSEY

Per capita GHG emissions and reductions across the Northeast, 2005-2019



Sources: Vermont ANR, "Vermont Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory and Forecast: 1990 - 2020," 2023; Connecticut DEEP, "Connecticut Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory: 1990-2021", 2023; Maine DEP, "Ninth Biennial Report on Progress Toward Greenhouse Gas Reduction Goals", 2022; Massachusetts DEP, "Massachusetts Annual Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory: 1990-2020, with Partial 2021 & 2022 Data", 2022; OpenData NY, "Statewide Greenhouse Gas Emissions: Beginning 1990", 2023; Rhode Island DEM, "2019 Rhode Island Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory", 2022; Clean Energy NH, 2023; New Jersey DEP, "New Jersey Greenhouse Gas Inventory," 2022; Pennsylvania DEP, "Pennsylvania Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report," 2022; U.S. EPA, "Inventory of Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks: 1990-2019", 2022; U.S. Census Bureau, "Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for the United States, Regions, States, and Puerto Rico", 2019. Global average: Our World In Data, 2023.

POPULATION GOAL BY CURRENT RATIOS

Region	Population	% Total	2035 Goal	Gap	Annualized
Vermont	647,064	100%	802,000	154,936	12,911
Addison	37,578	5.81%	46,576	8,998	750
Bennington	37,392	5.78%	46,345	8,953	746
Caledonia	30,579	4.73%	37,901	7,322	610
Chittenden	169,301	26.16%	209,839	40,538	3,378
Essex	5,994	0.93%	7,429	1,435	120
Franklin	50,731	7.84%	62,878	12,147	1,012
Grand Isle	7,489	1.16%	9,282	1,793	149
Lamoille	26,090	4.03%	32,337	6,247	521
Orange	29,846	4.61%	36,992	7,146	596
Orleans	27,666	4.28%	34,290	6,624	552
Rutland	60,366	9.33%	74,820	14,454	1,205
Washington	60,048	9.28%	74,426	14,378	1,198
Windham	45,842	7.08%	56,819	10,977	915
Windsor	58,142	8.99%	72,064	13,922	1,160

HOUSING GOAL BY CURRENT RATIOS

Region	Units	% Total	2035 Goal	Gap	Annualized
Vermont	269,527	100%	350,000	80,473	6,706
Addison	14,381	5.34%	18,675	4,294	358
Bennington	15,164	5.63%	19,692	4,528	377
Caledonia	12,987	4.82%	16,865	3,878	323
Chittenden	69,073	25.63%	89,696	20,623	1,716
Essex	2,819	1.05%	3,661	842	70
Franklin	19,548	7.25%	25,384	5,836	486
Grand Isle	3,006	1.12%	3,904	898	75
Lamoille	11,268	4.18%	14,632	3,364	280
Orange	12,681	4.70%	16,467	3,786	316
Orleans	11,589	4.30%	15,049	3,460	288
Rutland	25,726	9.54%	33,407	7,681	640
Washington	25,782	9.57%	33,480	7,698	641
Windham	19,652	7.29%	25,520	5,868	489
Windsor	25,401	9.42%	32,985	7,584	632

RESULTS FROM VERMONT POLL

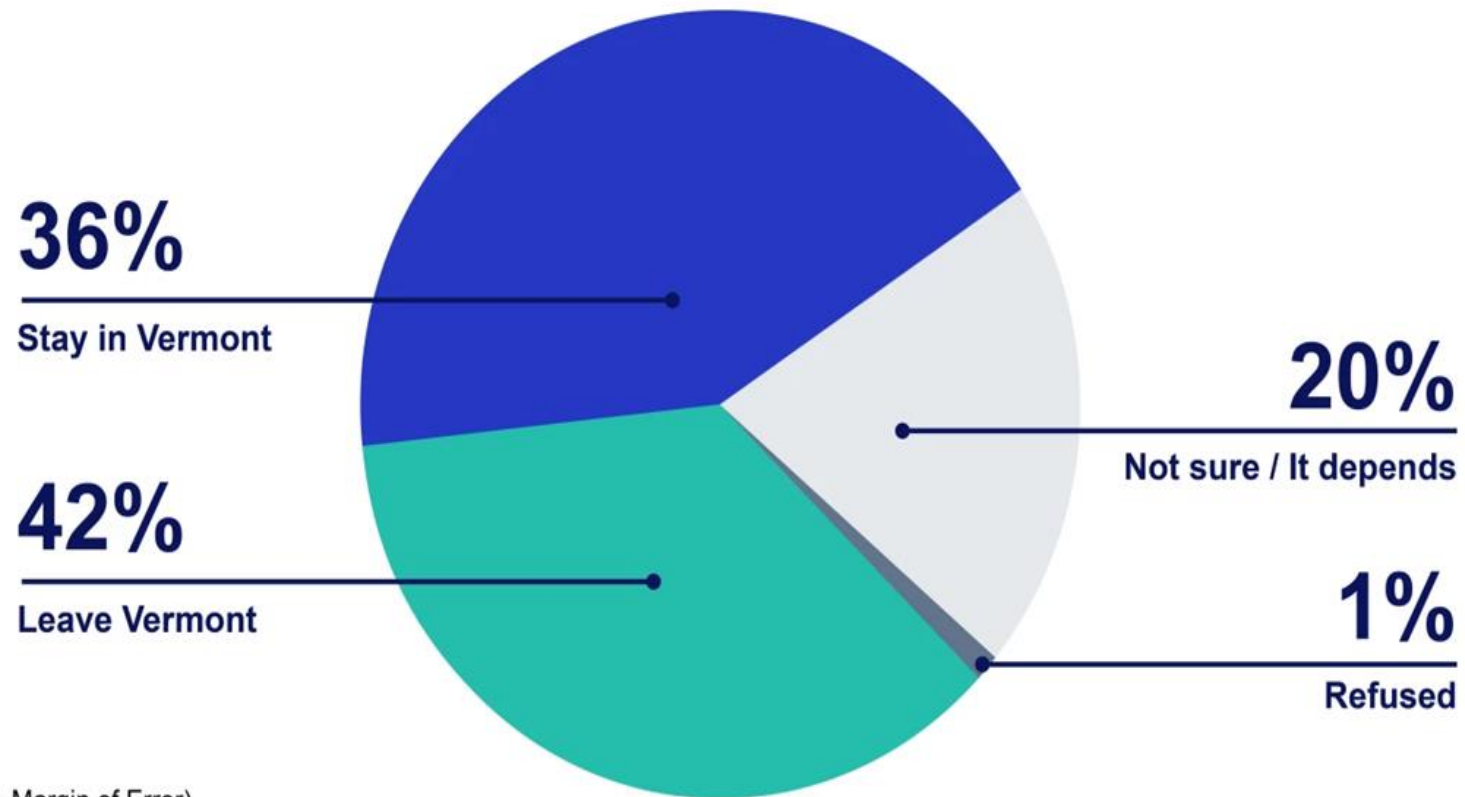
Are you supportive of growing Vermont’s population size to strengthen its workforce?

Overall Results

Yes: 49% | No: 38% | Unsure: 13%

	18-34 Years	35-54 years	55-74 years	75+ years
Yes	36%	50%	55%	59%
No	61%	35%	28%	21%
Unsure	3%	15%	16%	20%

If you were to advise an 18-year-old considering where to build a successful life and career, would you recommend that he or she stay in Vermont or leave Vermont?



(January 2022 + / - 4% Margin of Error)