

Vermont Everyone Eats (VEE) Meal Participant Survey Report

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Introduction and Context:

Program Information

Vermont Everyone Eats (VEE) is a unique COVID-19 recovery program that provides Vermonters impacted by COVID with prepared meals made by Vermont restaurants using locally grown and produced ingredients. The program both feeds people and strengthens the state economy at the same time. Since August 2020, Vermont Everyone Eats has provided over 2.25 million meals statewide (as of March 2022). Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA) serves as the program's statewide grantee and administrator, convening a regional hub community of practice and a statewide task force. Locally governed community hubs determine needs and resources in their region and connect directly with restaurants and eaters. Task force members bring extensive experience with food insecurity programs, government agencies, economic development entities, and restaurant engagement in order to strategically guide the program.

Vermont Everyone Eats was initially funded in July 2020 through a \$5M allocation from the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) with a subsequent allocation of \$400,000 in late December 2020. VEE was initially set to expire at the end of December 2020 with the anticipated expiration of CRF funds. On December 22, 2020, FEMA awarded reimbursement of 75% of program costs in recognition of VEE as a critical part of Vermont’s emergency mass feeding strategy in response to COVID-19-related feeding needs. Subsequently, FEMA updated the reimbursement rate to 100% of program costs. With funding support from FEMA and ongoing demand due to pandemic-related need, the program was extended from an original end date in late December, 2020 to June 30, 2021, then to September 30, 2021, and then to December 31, 2021. VT AHS has since executed two memos authorizing VT ACCD to extend the VEE contract to enable the continued provision of meals through April 1, 2022, and then again through July 1, 2022, as part of the State’s COVID emergency feeding plan. Additional program information is available [here](#).

Meal Participant Survey Information

The Vermont Everyone Eats (VEE) Meal Participant Survey was the third of four stakeholder-specific VEE surveys. It was administered to participants by 13 out of 14 community hubs between June 1st, 2021 - June 25th, 2021, and received 2,606 total responses. Community hubs were given the choice to administer one of two versions of the survey: the in-depth version or the shorter version, both available in English, Mai Mai, Nepali, Somali, Spanish, and Swahili. They were also provided with various administration options, enabling them to best meet the needs of their unique distribution models and best engage the participant populations they serve. The survey sought to shed insight into:

- 1) participant experiences with VEE and what the program has meant for them; and
- 2) the types of support that would be most helpful to participants moving forward.

For additional detail on the survey and report analyses please see the “[Survey Design](#)”, “[Survey Administration](#)”, and “[Data Analysis](#)” sections. Please contact [Kelsea Burch](#), Administrative Coordinator, VT Everyone Eats, with any additional questions.

Key Takeaways:

Insights below are informed by both quantitative and qualitative analyses of the survey data. Recommended next steps have been included for ease of action planning. Keep in mind that survey data represents a snapshot of a particular moment in time, and any next action steps based on this data should also take current conditions into account.

Insights	Recommended Next Steps
Meal participants overwhelmingly praise and appreciate VEE. Nearly all respondents (based on a subset of data from in-depth survey	<u>VEE:</u> Continue to advocate for programming extension,

<p>takers) would like VEE to continue, and many would like the program to expand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 98% of in-depth survey respondents would like the program to continue† ● In their open-ended comments (from both in-depth and short version survey takers) respondents... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ express general praise and/or gratitude for the program (807) ○ reiterate that they would like VEE, or a program just like it, to continue (357) ○ report that they not only would like VEE to continue, they would like the program to expand (e.g. to more restaurants, towns, participants, partnerships, times, states, and/or programs) (120) 	<p>and continue to pursue various longer-term, sustainable funding sources to enable VEE, or something similar, to continue in a non-emergency context.</p> <p>Consider assembling a committee and/or hiring a staff person specifically dedicated to this goal.</p> <p>—</p> <p><u>Food Systems & Beyond:</u> Share lessons learned from VEE as widely as possible, including with other organizations, programs, academics, and government agencies.</p>
<p>Participants report that the reciprocal benefits that VEE provides to stakeholders within the local food system is one of the most meaningful components of the program to them:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nearly all (97%) respondents report that the program’s support of VT businesses is important ● More than four in five respondents (81%) report that it is important that the program offers meals prepared by restaurants ● In their open-ended comments, respondents... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ reiterate that the program’s support of VT restaurants is meaningful to them (187) ○ report that the program provides reciprocal benefits to eaters, restaurants, and/or farmers/food producers (168) ○ reiterate that the program’s support of VT farmers/food producers is meaningful to them (111) 	<p><u>VEE:</u></p> <p>Continue to advocate for future iterations of programming that support the three key pillars, and thus a resilient local and regional food system: eaters, restaurants, and farmers/food producers.</p> <p>—</p> <p><u>Food Systems & Beyond:</u> Propagate local food system reciprocity whenever and wherever possible, (e.g. in legislation, in other food support programs, etc.)</p> <p>Advocate for multifaceted, multistakeholder emergency response approaches, utilizing VEE as an exemplar of how mobilizing different sectors to collectively engage in their areas of specialization yielded reciprocal benefits and thus resiliency.</p>

<p>Respondents overwhelmingly report that the program provides significant community benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nearly all (97%) respondents report that the program strengthens their sense of community and in their open-ended comments, 40 respondents reiterate this ● In their open-ended comments respondents report that VEE... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ supports their community and/or community members (747) ○ provides opportunities to support community members and/or strengthens support networks (65) ○ provides them with an opportunity to connect, interact, and/or socialize (47) 	<p><u>VEE:</u> Continue to emphasize the role that VEE plays in strengthening and supporting communities, with each other, partners, and current and potential funding bodies.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">—</p> <p><u>Food Systems & Beyond:</u> Continue to envision and encourage programming and services that strengthen communities as they fulfill their missions.</p>
<p>Respondents overwhelmingly report experiencing mental, emotional, and physical health benefits due to their program participation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nearly all (97%) respondents report that the program makes them feel supported and/or cared for and 33 respondents reiterate this in their open-ended comments ● More than nine in ten respondents (94%) report that the program improves their emotional/mental well-being ● In their open-ended comments, respondents report experiencing the following benefits due to program participation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ feeling uplifted (84) ○ relief/the alleviation of stress (82) ○ feelings of dignity and/or a lack of stigma (72) ○ being enabled to eat healthy and/or improve physical health (59) ○ improved mental well-being in general (42) ○ a sense of security (16) 	<p><u>VEE:</u> Continue to emphasize the holistic benefits to wellbeing that VEE provides meal participants in conversations with each other, partners, and current and potential funding bodies.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">—</p> <p><u>Food Systems & Beyond:</u> Consider pursuing evaluation efforts that seek to more deeply understand the mental, emotional, and physical benefits that VEE and/or restaurant-quality prepared meals programs provide to participants, with particular emphasis on the long-term, accumulated benefits. If possible, seek to disentangle benefits experienced due to pandemic hardships, versus benefits that would be experienced in ‘normal’ times.</p>

<p>Nearly all respondents report that VEE is accessible (e.g. location, timing etc.), though there are opportunities to improve accessibility should the program continue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 97% of respondents report that VEE is accessible and in their open-ended comments, 45 respondents reiterate this ● In their open-ended comments respondents suggest... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ making Localvore more accessible to those without internet or a smartphone (40) ○ ensuring that meal sites and/or participating restaurants are nearby for those living in all areas of the state (36) ○ offering more meal delivery (29) ○ offering more and/or different meal days or hours (28) 	<p><u>VEE:</u> If programming, or some version of programming continues, ensure that accessibility remains a priority, including: 1) continuing to develop a Localvore voucher system that is accessible to individuals without technology; 2) maintaining or improving geographic equity; 3) meeting community members' timing needs to the extent that is possible; and 4) maintaining or expanding meal delivery.</p>
<p>Overall, respondents overwhelming report that the Localvore app is user-friendly and that it works well, though some report opportunities for minor improvements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 94% report that the Localvore app is user-friendly ● In their open-ended survey comments, 60 respondents reiterate that the app works well and/or that they like it; and 28 report that it is easy to use ● In their open-ended survey comments, some respondents report... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ inaccuracies with available meal counts (28) ○ glitches or crashes (25) ○ slow loading (17) ○ that it would be helpful to have more online/in-application ordering (16) 	<p><u>VEE:</u> The Localvore team is aware of and responsive to user feedback and is constantly iterating for a better user experience. The team has already taken steps to respond to some of these findings, including making adjustments to optimize load times (an ongoing effort as the number of users and database records expands exponentially).</p> <p>Some future next steps could potentially include: 1) clarifying participant instructions for ordering meals and/or revisiting the process for ordering meals (as meal count inaccuracies are due to participants not following all of the steps for ordering); 2) further evaluating potential app glitches; and 3) considering</p>

	<p>more online/in-app ordering.</p> <p>—</p> <p><u>Food Systems & Beyond:</u> Consider other programs and services that may benefit from the implementation of a user-friendly mobile phone application.</p>
<p>It is important to participants that VEE offers restaurant-quality prepared meals, as this type of support meets various food security needs, including: food/financial, time, cooking practicality/ability, dietary/medical etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nine in ten (90%) respondents report that it is important that the program offers prepared meals and in their open-ended comments, 116 respondents reiterate this ● More than nine in ten (92%) respondents report that the program is important to their budget and nine in ten (90%) respondents report that the program is an important source of food for them or their family ● In their open-ended comments, respondents report the following... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ having food/financial need for VEE in general (229) ○ that VEE is helpful to their budget or food budget (110) ○ that they would not have eaten or prepared something without VEE (45) ○ that they need food assistance but do not qualify for other programs, benefits, and/or support (19) ● Nearly all (97%) respondents report that the program saves them time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In their open-ended comments, respondents reiterate that the program saves them much needed time and/or energy (59) ● In their open-ended comments, respondents share that they or someone in their household... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ is experiencing illness and/or is medically high-risk (32) ○ is living with mental and/or physical disabilities (31) ○ does not have a kitchen and/or has difficulty preparing meals (30) 	<p><u>VEE:</u> Continue to champion VEE as a food support program that is meeting unique food security needs for various populations by offering restaurant-quality prepared meals.</p> <p>—</p> <p><u>Food Systems & Beyond:</u> Continue to advocate for an expansive understanding of food security, as well as programs and services that meet the full scope of food security needs.</p> <p>Continue to explore and evaluate the value of offering restaurant-quality prepared meals as a supplementary food resource, and share findings widely.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ has their dietary/medical needs met by accessing VEE meals (16) 	
<p>The ways in which VEE meal participants experience dignity are varied, mutually reinforcing, and directly correlated to key features that make the program unique, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Eating marketable meals prepared by restaurants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ More than four in five (81%) respondents report that it is important that the program provides meals prepared by restaurants and 26 respondents reiterate this in their open-ended comments ○ In their open-ended comments, 236 respondents speak favorably of meals, referring to them as... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ high quality (125) ■ healthy/nutritious (74) ■ providing good variety/options (42) ■ delicious/tasty (38) ■ meeting their dietary restrictions/medical needs (16) ■ fresh/local (15) ○ In their open-ended comments, 36 respondents report that participating in the program enabled them, or others they know, to eat restaurant meals that they otherwise wouldn't have had access to ● Low barriers/means testing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Almost eight in ten (78%) respondents report that it is important that the program has no application* ○ In their open-ended comments respondents... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ reiterate that they appreciate the program's low barriers (54) ■ report needing food assistance but not qualifying for other programs, benefits, and/or support (19) ● Participation mutually benefits multiple stakeholders within the local food system <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In their open-ended comments, respondents report that the program provides reciprocal benefits to eaters, restaurants, and/or farmers/food producers (168) ● Kind staff and volunteers 	<p>VEE: Carefully consider which features of the program ought to continue in future iterations so as to maintain a dignified experience for participants, particularly as various demands will likely necessitate a narrower program scope.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">—</p> <p>Food Systems & Beyond: Continue to champion VEE as an exemplar of dignified support, and emphasize the many interrelated features that contribute to this unique participant experience. Encourage other programs to adopt similar features to maximize dignified participant experiences.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In their open-ended comments respondents express appreciation and or praise for... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ program staff/volunteers (102) ■ restaurant staff (73) ● In their open-ended comments, 72 respondents report experiencing feelings of dignity and/or a lack of stigma participating in VEE <p><i>*Please see additional details on this survey item and interpreting results here.</i></p>	
<p>VEE has increased restaurant visibility, expanded potential customer bases, and created brand loyalty:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● About nine in ten (89%) respondents report that VEE introduced them to new restaurants ● More than nine in ten (92%) in-depth survey respondents report that they intend to purchase meals from VEE participating restaurants in the future† ● In their open-ended comments, 57 respondents reiterate that the program introduced them to new restaurants and/or, indicate that it has created restaurant loyalty 	<p><u>VEE:</u> Continue to pitch and utilize VEE as an economic development program that supports restaurants.</p> <p>Leverage this data as positive encouragement for restaurants to sustain providing eaters with quality meals.</p> <p>—</p> <p><u>Food Systems & Beyond:</u> Continue to envision and advocate for additional pathways for incorporating restaurants into food support programs.</p>

In general, **participants have similarly positive experiences with VEE, attribute similar importance to key features of VEE, and report reaping similar program benefits, regardless of the community hub through which they participate.** Across hubs, respondents report that...

- VEE is accessible very consistently (ranging from 95% to 100%)
- VEE saves them time very consistently (ranging from 95% to 100%)
- VEE improves their sense of community very consistently (ranging from 94% to 100%)
- VEE makes them feel supported/cared for very consistently (ranging from 94% to 100%)
- It is important that the program supports VT businesses consistently (ranging from 91% to 100%)
- VEE is important to their/their family's budgets consistently (ranging from 84% to 100%)
- VEE is an important source of food for their households consistently (ranging from 81% to 100%)
- VEE improves their emotional/mental wellbeing relatively consistently (ranging from 79% to 100%)
- It is important the program offers prepared meals relatively consistently (ranging from 78% to 100%)

There are a few exceptions, where greater variance exists between respondents who participate via different hubs. These exceptions are most likely explained due to historical and contextual differences in communities and hub organizations (e.g. if, how, and by whom community meals have been prepared previously; the number of restaurants providing meals; the number of restaurants that exist in an area, etc.).

- The proportion of respondents who report that VEE introduced them to new restaurants varies across hubs (ranging from 68% to 100%)
- The proportion of respondents who report that it is important that VEE offers meals prepared by restaurants varies significantly across hubs (ranging from 31% to 92%)

Note: Comparing disaggregated results regarding the importance participants attribute to VEE having no application is not recommended. Please see additional detail [here](#).

Most VEE participants are accessing meals as a regular supplementary food resource:

- **More than three in five (61%) respondents report participating once a week or more**
- **Upward of four in five (82%) respondents report participating**

VEE:

Continue to advocate for local autonomy over VEE, as the community hub model has successfully delivered myriad benefits to meal participants.

In the likely event that future program iterations require scaling down, **strongly consider adopting a community hub-led approach to identifying priority populations to serve.**

—
Food Systems & Beyond:

Continue to champion decentralized support and programming for Vermonters during emergencies and non-emergencies, using VEE as an exemplar of local organizers being best positioned to know, understand, and serve their local communities.

VEE:

Continue to 1) identify the needed meal count “tipping point” (e.g. how regularly do community members need to have access to VEE

<p>about 2-3 times/month or more</p>	<p>meals to experience benefits, and at what cadence do those benefits subside); and 2) understand the variables that influence this “tipping point” (e.g. COVID cases, food prices, inflation, etc.)</p>
<p>Very few respondents completed surveys in languages other than English, and it is unclear if VEE may be under-serving non-English speaking Vermonters, or if the program under-surveyed this population:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 1% of respondents took non-English versions of the survey, and of those, all took the Spanish version <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Compare this to the almost 6% of the Vermont population five years and over that speak a language other than English at home¹ 	<p>VEE: Engage in conversations with community hubs and distribution partners to better understand if surveying efforts could better engage non-English speaking eaters and/or if programming itself could better engage non-English speaking Vermonters. Request suggestions for better engaging this population accordingly (e.g. more program/survey material translations, investment in in-person translation support, increased/improved partnerships with organizations working with non-English speaking community members, etc.)</p>
<p>In general, VEE is serving a geographic population that is predominantly representative of Vermont’s population:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The proportion of respondents from each county is within +/- five percentage points of each county’s proportion of the overall state population, with the exception of Windham County (Windham residents are ~20% of respondents and ~7% of the statewide population²) 	<p>VEE: Continue to prioritize equitable statewide access to VEE in future program iterations, particularly as various demands will likely necessitate serving a narrower population of participants.</p>
<p>Based on a subset of data from in-depth survey respondents, though</p>	<p>VEE: Continue to advocate for</p>

¹ [U.S. Census 2019, ACS 5 Year Estimates, Table S1601.](#)

² Percent calculated based on figures from the [US Census 2020, VT State Profile.](#)

<p>most respondents report picking up their meals, meal delivery is a crucial component of programming that enables meal accessibility:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● More than nine in ten (92%) respondents report picking up their meals† ● One in twelve (8%) respondents report receiving meal deliveries† . Of those: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Delivery is essential for one in three (33%)† ; and ○ Almost eight in ten (78%) would be unable to access meals reliably without delivery† ● In their open-ended comments, 23 respondents reiterate that meal delivery is helpful and/or appreciated (based on comments from ALL survey respondents) 	<p>and allocate resources toward meal delivery as this is a crucial component of program accessibility.</p> <p>Consider focusing future evaluation efforts on seeking to better understand the extent to which meal delivery costs have been externalized due to voluntarism versus the extent to which these costs have been absorbed.</p> <p>Discern the sustainability of delivery voluntarism, and appropriately account for this in future program iteration planning.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">—</p> <p><u>Food Systems & Beyond:</u> Consider partnering with other organizations to consolidate the delivery of services, thus saving on costs, resources, and simplifying experiences for participants.</p>
<p>If and when VEE ends, participants report that they will experience various hardships (based on a subset of data from in-depth respondents):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Almost three in four (73%) in-depth survey respondents report that there would be more strain on their budget† ● Almost half (49%) of in-depth survey respondents report that they would lose an important part of their community† ● About four in nine (45%) in-depth survey respondents report that they would lose a food source they depend on† ● Nearly three in seven (42%) in-depth survey respondents report that there would be more strain on their time† ● More than one in three (35%) in-depth survey respondents report that they would lose an opportunity to interact with others† ● Less than one in ten (8%) in-depth survey respondents report that they would experience none of the above† 	<p><u>VEE:</u> Continue to communicate to current and potential supporters of VEE the hardships that participants will experience if and when the program ends.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">—</p> <p><u>Food Systems & Beyond:</u> Continue to plan supports for transitioning communities and softening these hardships should the program end, partnering with other programs and services where possible to facilitate a smooth shift.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In their open-ended comments, some respondents express that there is still a need for VEE and/or concern if the program ends (40) (includes ALL survey respondents) ● One in three (33%) in-depth survey respondents do not intend to access food via other common food assistance programs and methods post-VEE (e.g. food boxes, 3SquaresVT, food shelves/pantries, community meals, meal programs for kids, WIC, Commodity Supplemental Food Program, mutual aid groups, and Meals on Wheels) 	<p>Consider pursuing a future evaluation effort that seeks to uncover why some VEE participants do not intend to access food via other methods/programs (e.g. due to eligibility, needs, comfort, awareness etc.) Share findings widely, so that stakeholders from across the food system can work collaboratively to ensure a full, holistic, and accessible portfolio of food assistance programs are available.</p>
<p>Data from a subset of respondents who completed the in-depth version of the survey indicates that while most respondents identify as women, most also report picking up or receiving meals for two or more people, making it difficult to discern the extent to which the program is feeding women versus the extent to which women participants tend to bear the responsibility of securing meals for their households:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● More than seven in ten (72%) in-depth respondents identify as women† ● Almost four in five (79%) respondents report picking up or receiving meals for two or more people† 	<p><u>Food Systems & Beyond:</u> In future evaluation efforts, consider further investigating the impact that VEE and prepared meal programs have on women and gender equity, both in terms of food security, and alleviating the burden of securing their households' meals. Share findings widely.</p>
<p>Data from a subset of respondents who completed the in-depth version of the survey indicates that VEE is predominantly serving lower income households:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Almost eight in ten (78%) in-depth respondent households live on less than \$50,000/year† <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Compare this to the four in ten (40%) Vermont households that live on less than \$50,000/year³ ● More than four in ten (43%) in-depth respondent households live on less than \$25,000/year† <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Compare this to the about two in ten (19%) Vermont households that live on less than \$25,000/year⁴ 	<p><u>Food Systems & Beyond:</u> Utilize VEE as an exemplar for continuing to challenge the notion that income requirements and program applications are the most effective way to reach lower income households and populations in need, as these results are evidence of the value of self-identified opt-in approaches to accessing food resources and other supports.</p>

³ [U.S. Census 2019, ACS 5 Year Estimates, Table B25009](#)

⁴ Ibid.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Of the in-depth respondent households living on \$50,000+/year, more than seven in ten (73%) are comprised of three or more people† 	
<p>Based on a subset of data from in-depth survey respondents, most VEE participants are employed. At the time of survey administration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Almost six in ten (57%) in-depth survey respondents were employed full-time (30 or more hours per week) or part-time (less than 30 hours per week)† 	<p><u>Food Systems & Beyond:</u> Continue to shift dialogue and perspectives about the populations that benefit from and access food assistance.</p>
<p>Though an overwhelming majority of participants express satisfaction with meal quality, some expressed dissatisfaction. More specifically, in their open-ended comments, some respondents shared that meals...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● do not suit their dietary preferences (43) ● are inconsistent in quality/portions across restaurants, hubs, distribution sites, and/or time (35) ● are poor quality (e.g. unhealthy, unpalatable) (28) <p>Other respondents suggest that the program could improve dietary accessibility by offering more...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● vegan and/or vegetarian meals (23) ● celiac-safe/gluten-free meals (16) ● more healthy meals (15) ● tailoring to accommodate other dietary requirements (e.g. allergies, medical diets, food sensitivities, culturally appropriate food) (26) 	<p><u>VEE:</u> If programming continues and the number of restaurant participants needs to be scaled back, consider prioritizing the participation of those that make the highest quality meals.</p> <p>Continue to keep a pulse on meal quality, and provide restaurants with feedback as needed.</p> <p>Continue, and if possible, expand, meal offerings that meet various dietary needs.</p>
<p>In their open-ended comments, some participants suggest additional opportunities for program improvement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Improved or additional communications about program information (e.g. how the program works/supports various stakeholders, updates on meal availability, menu information, distribution reminders etc.) (51) ● More meal options and variety (42) 	<p><u>VEE:</u> Continue to share best practices for communicating program information during the community hubs meetings, and consider creating additional statewide materials or templates to support these efforts.</p> <p>To the extent that is possible, encourage restaurants to rotate meal options.</p>

Results:

Some data points were only collected on the in-depth version of the survey, which was administered to those participating via the Localvore, Brattleboro, Bennington, and Deerfield Valley community hubs. Text with these data points are indicated with daggers - “†” and tables with these data points include the text “in-depth only” in their titles. It should be noted that Localvore participants represent 61% of these respondents. While this sample size is relatively geographically diverse, this data should be interpreted somewhat cautiously in terms of being representative of all VEE participants, as Localvore’s unique distribution model requires use of a smartphone and internet connection.

Text without a dagger - “†” and tables without “in-depth only” in their titles reference data points that were consistently collected across both the in-depth and shorter versions of the surveys.

Quantitative data points representing a sample size of less than five (but not none) have been suppressed 1) to protect respondent identity; and 2) due to statistical insignificance. These cells are indicated with gray shading. In some instances where appropriate, sample sizes have been combined to enable reporting.

General Survey/Respondent Information

- The VEE Meal Participant Survey **received responses from 2,606 participants representing all 14 Vermont counties.**
 - **Geographically, this sample size is predominantly representative of Vermont’s population**, as the proportion of respondents from each county is within +/- five percentage points of each county’s proportion of the overall state population.
 - The only exception is Windham County, where ~20% of respondents are residents. Statewide, Windham County residents are ~7% of the population⁵. While this county may be overrepresented compared to statewide county populations, it may not be overrepresented compared to the VEE participant population, as multiple community hubs serve residents in this catchment area.
- **This sample size is generally representative in terms of community hub**, as the proportion of survey responses from each community hub is generally similar to the proportion of meals distributed via each hub.
 - **About one in three (874, or 34%) survey respondents participate in the program via the Localvore community hub/smartphone app** that provides digital meal vouchers, which is relatively representative of program participants overall, as Localvore has distributed about 25% of VEE meals to-date.

⁵ Percent calculated based on figures from the [US Census 2020, VT State Profile](#).

- Other community hubs that received a significant proportion of overall survey responses (Brattleboro; Chittenden, Franklin, and Grand Isle; Rutland; and Springfield/Chester) also distribute a significant proportion of overall VEE meals.
- The Green Mountain Farm to School/RuralEdge community hub did not administer the survey and it should therefore be noted that eaters that participate via this community hub are not represented in this report. However, because this community hub distributes a lower than average proportion of VEE meals overall, the survey sample size is generally representative of statewide participants.
- Though **more community hubs chose to administer the shorter version of the survey** (nine out of thirteen) **than** those who chose to administer **the in-depth version** (four out of thirteen), **the proportion of respondents that completed the shorter version (1,175, or 45%) is roughly equal to the proportion of respondents that completed the in-depth version (1,431, or 55%).**
- **More than four in five (2,147, or 82%) respondents completed the survey digitally, while about one in seven (369, or 14%) respondents completed a hard copy.** Because of the way in which some survey data was entered (~4% of surveys), we could not determine if the survey was taken digitally or via hard copy.
- **Almost all (2,589, or 99%) respondents took the English version of the survey.**
- **Very few (17, or 1%) respondents took non-English versions of the survey, and of those, all took the Spanish version.**
 - Almost 6% of the Vermont population five years and over speak a language other than English at home.⁶

⁶ [U.S. Census 2019, ACS 5 Year Estimates, Table S1601.](#)

VT County	# Respondents	% of All Respondents	% of All VT Respondents	# VT Population*	% of VT Population
Addison	121	4.8%	4.8%	37,363	5.8%
Bennington	96	3.8%	3.8%	37,347	5.8%
Caledonia	175	6.9%	7.0%	30,233	4.7%
Chittenden	610	24.1%	24.3%	168,323	26.2%
Essex				5,920	0.9%
Franklin	147	5.8%	5.8%	49,946	7.8%
Grand Isle	13	0.5%	0.5%	7,293	1.1%
Lamoille	40	1.6%	1.6%	25,945	4.0%
Orange	47	1.9%	1.9%	29,277	4.6%
Orleans	110	4.4%	4.4%	27,393	4.3%
Rutland	274	10.8%	10.9%	60,572	9.4%
Washington	191	7.6%	7.6%	59,807	9.3%
Windham	499	19.8%	19.9%	45,905	7.1%
Windsor	187	7.4%	7.4%	57,753	9.0%
Out of State	13	0.5%	N/A	N/A	N/A

*Source for VT Population Figures: [US Census 2020, VT State Profile](#).

Community Hub	# Respondents	% Respondents
Localvore*	874	33.5%
EE! Brattleboro & Beyond*	433	16.6%
EE Chittenden, Franklin, and Grand Isle Counties	333	12.8%
Rutland/Vermont Farmers Food Center	245	9.4%
Springfield Family Center/Chester Helping Hands	206	7.9%
Center for an Agricultural Economy	131	5.0%
Northeast Kingdom Community Action (NEKCA)	88	3.4%
Bennington County EE (BCEE)/The Collaborative*	76	2.9%
Vergennes - Bar Antidote & Boys and Girls Club of Greater Vergennes	56	2.1%
Deerfield Valley/Shires Housing/WilmingtonWorks*	48	1.8%
EE of Central VT	42	1.6%
Middlebury/Charter House Coalition	36	1.4%
Upper Valley EE (UVEE)/Vital Communities	32	1.2%
The Giving Fridge**	6	0.2%
Green Mountain Farm to School/RuralEdge***	0	0.0%
TOTAL Respondents	2,606	100.0%

*Denotes community hubs that administered the in-depth version of the survey. All others administered the shorter version.

**The Giving Fridge (TGF) in Middlebury joined VEE in May 2021 as a subcontracted partner to Localvore. TGF has helped fill the gap of service left by the Vergennes community hub closure in June. TGF administered the shorter version of the survey.

***This community hub did not administer the survey.

Survey Version	# Respondents	% Respondents
Shorter	1,175	45.1%
In-Depth	1,431	54.9%

Survey Method	# Respondents	% Respondents
Digital	2,147	82.4%
Hard Copy	369	14.2%
Digital and Hard Copy Mixed*	90	3.5%

**Because of the way in which some survey data was entered, the original survey method could not be determined.*

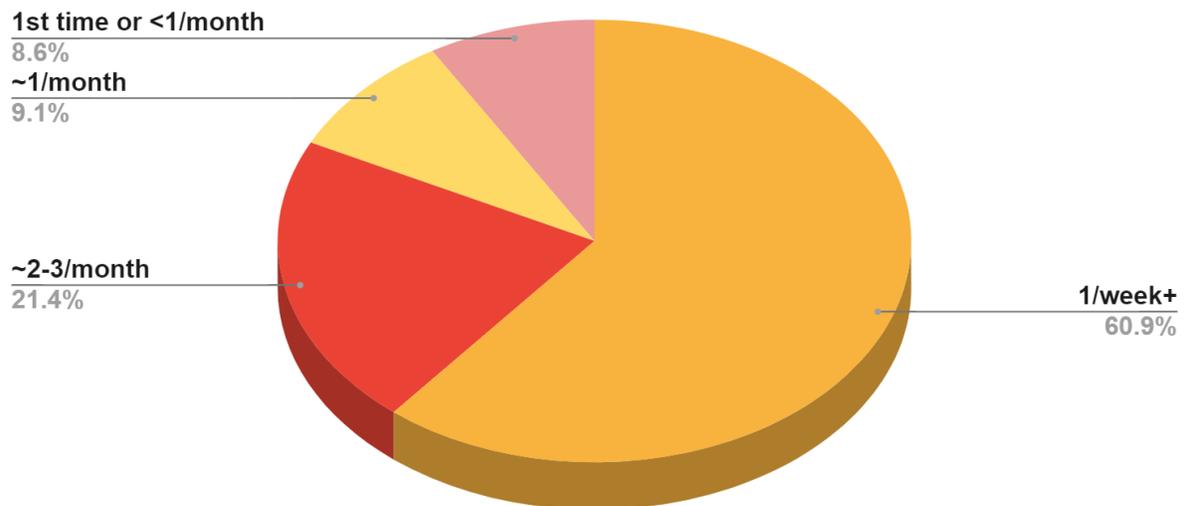
Survey Language	# Respondents	% Respondents
English	2,589	99.3%
Spanish	17	0.7%
Mai Mai	0	0.0%
Nepali	0	0.0%
Somali	0	0.0%
Swahili	0	0.0%

General Participation Information

- **More than three in five** (1,573, or 61%) **respondents report participating once a week or more** and upward of four in five (2,126, or 82%) respondents report participating about 2-3 times/month or more.
 - The **proportion of respondents that report participating once a week or more varies significantly by community hub**, ranging from about one in two (168, or 51%) via the Chittenden, Franklin, and Grand Isle community hub, to about nine in ten (51, or 91%) via the Vergennes community hub.
- **On average, almost four in five** (1,111, or 79%) in-depth survey **respondents report picking up or receiving meals for two or more people**, though less than one in seven (192, or 14%) report picking up or receiving meals for five or more people.†
 - While the majority of respondents participating via the Localvore, Brattleboro, and Bennington community hubs report picking up or receiving meals for two or more people, most (27, or 57%) respondents participating via the Deerfield Valley community hub report picking up or receiving meals for one person.†
- **More than nine in ten** (1,301, or 92%) in-depth survey **respondents report picking up their meals.**†
 - While most respondents participating via the Localvore, Brattleboro, and Bennington community hubs report picking up their meals, about three in ten (14, or 30%) respondents participating via the Deerfield Valley community hub report picking up their meals.†

- **One in twelve** (113, or 8%) in-depth survey respondents report receiving meal deliveries.† Of those respondents:
 - **Delivery is essential for one in three** (37, or 33%);† and
 - **Almost eight in ten** (88, or 78%) would be unable to access meals reliably without delivery.†

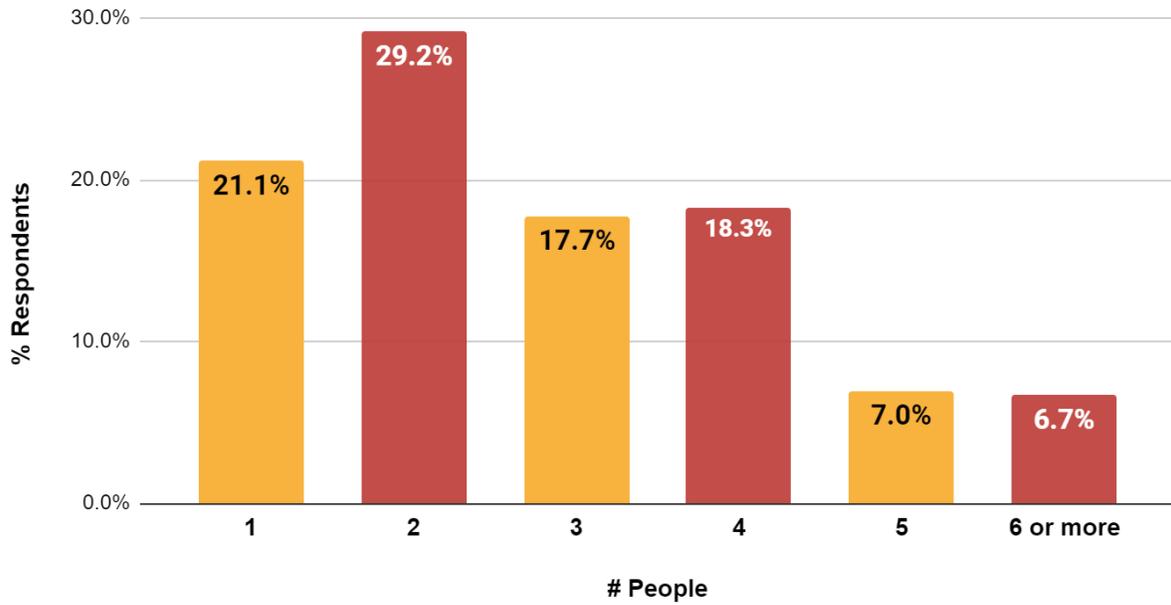
Participation Frequency



Participation Frequency - By Community Hub	n size	% Once a week or more	% About 2 or 3 times per month	% About once a month	% First time or less than once a month
<i>All Respondents</i>	2,582	60.9%	21.4%	9.1%	8.6%
Localvore	870	55.1%	26.2%	9.4%	9.3%
EE! Brattleboro & Beyond	425	56.7%	20.0%	12.9%	10.4%
EE Chittenden, Franklin, and Grand Isle Counties	331	50.8%	23.9%	10.9%	14.5%
Rutland/Vermont Farmers Food Center	243	75.3%	15.2%	3.7%	5.8%
Springfield Family Center/Chester Helping Hands	205	62.0%	20.0%	10.2%	7.8%
Center for an Agricultural Economy	129	59.7%	23.3%	11.6%	5.4%
Northeast Kingdom Community Action (NEKCA)	86	81.4%	15.1%		
Bennington County EE (BCEE)/The Collaborative	76	76.3%	13.2%		
Vergennes - Bar Antidote & Boys and Girls Club of Greater Vergennes	56	91.1%		0.0%	
Deerfield Valley/Shires Housing/WilmingtonWorks	47	87.2%	10.6%		0.0%
EE of Central VT	42	59.5%	19.0%	16.7%	
Middlebury/Charter House Coalition	35	77.1%	17.1%		
Upper Valley EE (UVEE)/Vital Communities	31	71.0%	16.1%		
The Giving Fridge*	6			0.0%	0.0%

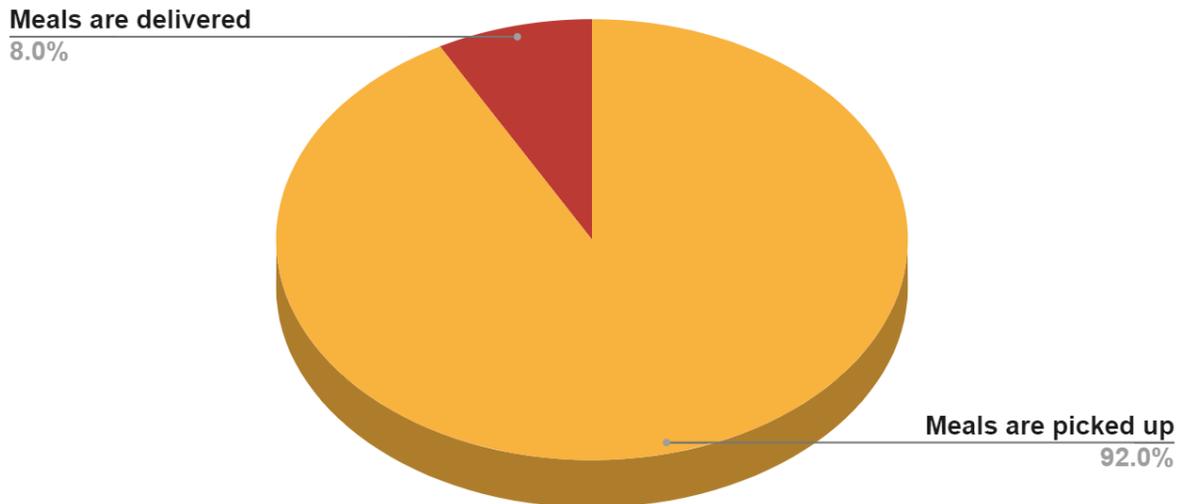
*Subcontracted partner to Localvore

Average Number of People Participants Pick Up/Receive Meals For - In-Depth Only



Average Number of People Participants Pick Up/Receive Meals For - By Community Hub - In-Depth Only	n size	% One Person	% Two People	% Three People	% Four People	% Five People	% Six or More People
<i>All Respondents</i>	1,409	21.1%	29.2%	17.7%	18.3%	7.0%	6.7%
Localvore	863	23.4%	30.9%	17.7%	16.3%	5.4%	6.1%
EE! Brattleboro & Beyond	424	11.8%	25.9%	19.3%	26.2%	9.4%	7.3%
Bennington County EE (BCEE)/The Collaborative	75	25.3%	30.7%	16.0%	6.7%	9.3%	12.0%
Deerfield Valley/Shires Housing/WilmingtonWorks	47	57.4%	23.4%				

Distribution Method- In-Depth Only

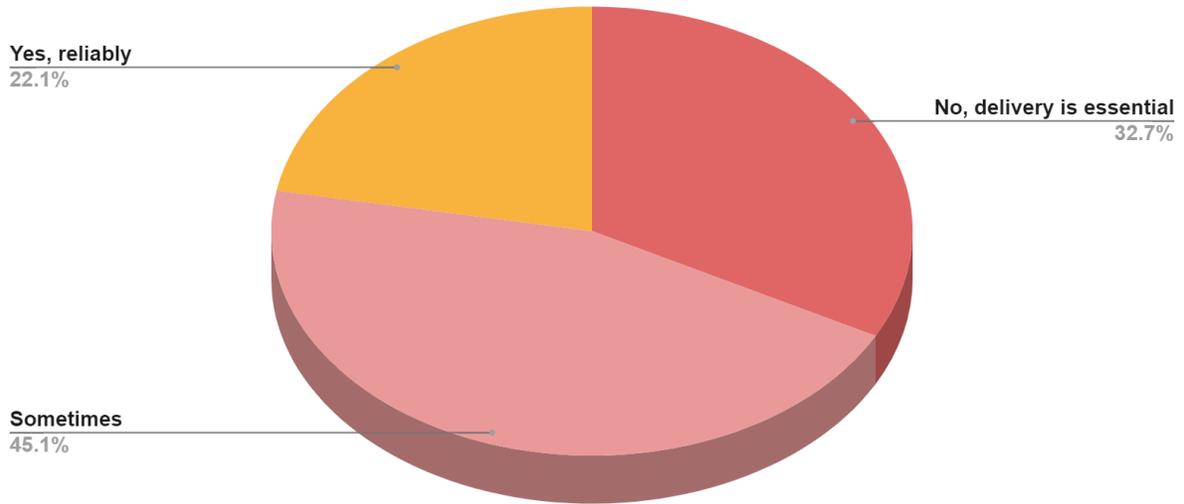


Note: The above data points refer to participants who directly receive meal delivery versus participants who pick up their meals. Community hubs utilize various distribution methods, which in many cases, includes coordinating deliveries to local partner locations, thus decentralizing meal pick-up and making it closer/more convenient for participants. These deliveries are not captured in this data. For more information, please see [Appendix C. Community Hub Delivery and Distribution Methods](#).

Distribution Method - By Community Hub - In-Depth Only	n size	% Meals are Picked Up	% Meals are Delivered
All Respondents	1,414	92.0%	8.0%
Localvore	865	97.9%	2.1%
EE! Brattleboro & Beyond	426	87.8%	12.2%
Bennington County EE (BCEE)/The Collaborative	76	86.8%	13.2%
Deerfield Valley/Shires Housing/WilmingtonWorks	47	29.8%	70.2%

Note: The above data points refer to participants who directly receive meal delivery versus participants who pick up their meals. Community hubs utilize various distribution methods, which in many cases, includes coordinating deliveries to local partner locations, thus decentralizing meal pick-up and making it closer/more convenient for participants. These deliveries are not captured in this data. For more information, please see [Appendix C. Community Hub Delivery and Distribution Methods](#).

If Meals Were Not Delivered, Could Participants Access Them? - In-Depth Only*



**This only includes participants who received delivered meals.*

If Meals Were Not Delivered, Could Participants Access Them?* - By Community Hub - In-Depth Only	n size	% No, Delivery is Essential	% Sometimes	% Yes, Reliably
All Respondents	113	32.7%	45.1%	22.1%
Localvore	18	33.3%	55.6%	
EE! Brattleboro & Beyond	52	30.8%	42.3%	26.9%
Bennington County EE (BCEE)/The Collaborative	10	60.0%		
Deerfield Valley/Shires Housing/WilmingtonWorks	33	27.3%	48.5%	24.2%

**This only includes participants who received delivered meals.*

Participant Demographics - In-Depth

Demographic data was only collected on the in-depth version of the survey. Therefore, data points in the bullets below represent in-depth survey respondents only (unless otherwise noted).

- **Almost six in ten (790, or 58%) in-depth survey respondents live in one or two person households.†**
 - About seven in ten (180,309, or 69%) Vermonters live in one or two person households.

- The proportion of in-depth respondents living in one or two person households varies significantly by community hub, ranging from 51% of those participating via the Brattleboro community hub to 85% of those participating via the Deerfield Valley community hub.†
- **More than four in ten** (570, or 42%) in-depth survey **respondents live in households of three or more people.**†
 - About three in ten (79,720, or 31%) Vermonters live in households of three or more people.
 - The proportion of in-depth respondents living in households of three or more people varies significantly by community hub, ranging from 15% participating via the Deerfield Valley community hub to 49% participating via the Brattleboro community hub.†
- **Almost eight in ten** (999, or 78%) in-depth survey **respondent households live on less than \$50,000 per year.**†
 - **Four in ten** (104,765, or 40%) **Vermont households live on less than \$50,000 per year.**⁷
 - The proportion of in-depth respondent households living on less than \$50,000 per year varies by community hub, ranging from 66% of those participating via the Brattleboro community hub to 94% of those participating via the Bennington community hub.†
- **More than four in ten** (553, or 43%) in-depth survey **respondent households live on less than \$25,000 per year.**†
 - **About two in ten** (49,341, or 19%) **Vermont households live on less than \$25,000 per year.**⁸
 - The proportion of in-depth respondent households living on less than \$25,000 per year varies significantly by community hub, ranging from 31% of those participating via the Brattleboro community hub to 70% of those participating via the Deerfield Valley community hub.†
- **Of the one in seven** (181, or 14%) in-depth survey **respondent households living on \$50,000 - \$74,999 per year:**†
 - **Nine in ten (161, or 90%) are households of at least two people;**† and
 - Almost seven in ten (122, or 68%) are households of at least three people.†
- **Of the one in seventeen** (71, or 6%) in-depth survey **respondent households living on \$75,000 - \$99,999 per year:**†
 - **Nearly all (68, or 97%) are households of at least two people;**† and
 - Eight in ten (56, or 80%) are households of at least three people.†
- **About nine in ten** (1,159, or 89%) in-depth survey **respondents identify as white alone and about one in ten** in-depth survey respondents **identify as Black or African American alone; American Indian, Alaska Native or Indigenous American alone; Asian alone; two or more races and/or ethnicities; or Latinx, Latino or Hispanic alone.**†
 - Similarly, nine in ten (90%) Vermonters identify as white alone.
- **More than seven in ten** (982, or 72%) in-depth survey **respondents identify as women.**†

⁷ [U.S. Census 2019, ACS 5 Year Estimates, Table B25009](#)

⁸ Ibid.

- **Almost six in ten** (788, or 57%) in-depth survey **respondents were employed full-time** (30 or more hours per week) **or part-time** (less than 30 hours per week) **at the time of survey administration.**†
 - The proportion of in-depth respondents that were employed full-time or part-time at the time of survey administration varies significantly, ranging from 21% of those participating via the Deerfield Valley community hub to 64% of those participating via the Brattleboro community hub.†
 - At the time of survey administration, one in three (24, or 33%) in-depth respondents participating via the Bennington community hub were retired and six in ten (28, or 60%) participating via the Deerfield Valley community hub were retired.†
- In their open-ended comments, **some respondents disclose information about themselves or their households, illustrating some of the unique populations that the program is serving, including** (includes ALL survey respondents):
 - **Children** (67 respondents)
 - **Individuals whose employment and/or income is negatively affected by COVID-19** (46 respondents)
 - **Seniors** (45 respondents)
 - **Individuals with illness and/or who are medically high-risk** (32 respondents)
 - **Individuals with mental and/or physical disabilities** (31 respondents)
 - **Individuals without kitchens and/or who have difficulty preparing meals** (30 respondents)
 - **Single parents** (21 respondents)
 - **Individuals who are unemployed** (24 respondents)
 - **Individuals who are homebound/non-drivers** (17 respondents)
 - **Caregivers** (17 respondents)

Demographic data was only collected on the in-depth version of the survey. Therefore, the data points in the tables below represent in-depth survey respondents only.

Household Size - In-Depth Only	# Respondents	% Respondents	# VT Population*	% VT Population
One Person	445	32.7%	79,546	30.6%
Two People	345	25.4%	100,763	38.8%
Three People	217	16.0%	36,231	13.9%
Four People	220	16.2%	28,893	11.1%
Five People	78	5.7%	9,797	3.8%
Six or More People	55	4.0%	4,799	1.8%

*Source for Statewide Household Size Data: [U.S. Census 2019, ACS 5 Year Estimates, Table B25009](#)

Household Size - By Community Hub - In-Depth Only	n size	% One Person	% Two People	% Three People	% Four People	% Five People	% Six or More People
Localvore	837	34.4%	24.5%	15.8%	14.9%	5.5%	4.9%
EE! Brattleboro & Beyond	405	24.9%	26.2%	18.3%	21.2%	6.4%	3.0%
Bennington County EE (BCEE)/The Collaborative	72	44.4%	26.4%	11.1%	11.1%		
Deerfield Valley/Shires Housing/WilmingtonWorks	46	52.2%	32.6%				0.0%

Household Income - In-Depth Only	# Respondents	% Respondents	# VT Population*	% VT Population
Less than \$25,000	553	43.3%	49,341	19.0%
\$25,000 - \$49,999	446	34.9%	55,424	21.3%
\$50,000 - \$74,999	181	14.2%	48,498	18.7%
\$75,000 - \$99,999	71	5.6%	36,356	14.0%
\$100,000 - \$149,999	19	1.5%	41,524	16.0%
\$150,000 or more	7	0.5%	28,886	11.1%

*Source for Statewide Household Income Data: [U.S. Census 2019, ACS 5 Year Estimates, Table DP03](#)

Household Income - By Community Hub - In-Depth Only	n size	% Less than \$25,000	% \$25,000 - \$49,999	% \$50,000 - \$74,999	% \$75,000 - \$99,999	% \$100,000 - \$149,999	% \$150,000 or more
Localvore	782	46.7%	35.7%	13.3%	3.5%	0.6%	
EE! Brattleboro & Beyond	383	30.5%	35.0%	19.1%	10.7%	3.4%	1.3%
Bennington County EE (BCEE)/The Collaborative	69	59.4%	34.8%				0.0%
Deerfield Valley/Shires Housing/WilmingtonWorks	43	69.8%	20.9%			0.0%	0.0%

Household Size of Those Living on Less than \$25,000/Year - In-Depth Only	# Respondents	% Respondents
1 Person	299	54.8%
2 People	132	24.2%
3 People	58	10.6%
4 People	34	6.2%
5 People	12	2.2%
6 or More People	11	2.0%

Household Size of Those Living on \$25,000 - \$49,999/Year - In-Depth Only	# Respondents	% Respondents
1 Person	100	22.6%
2 People	131	29.6%
3 People	84	19.0%
4 People	81	18.3%
5 People	28	6.3%
6 or More People	19	4.3%

Household Size of Those Living on \$50,000 - \$74,999/Year - In-Depth Only	# Respondents	% Respondents
1 Person	18	10.1%
2 People	39	21.8%
3 People	42	23.5%
4 People	48	26.8%
5 People	20	11.2%
6 or More People	12	6.7%

Household Size of Those Living on \$75,000 - \$99,999/Year - In-Depth Only	# Respondents	% Respondents
1 Person		
2 People	12	17.1%
3 People	12	17.1%
4 People	28	40.0%
5 People	9	12.9%
6 or More People	7	10.0%

Household Size of Those Living on \$100,000 or More - In-Depth Only	# Respondents	% Respondents
1 Person		
2 People		
3 People	5	20.0%
4 People	12	48.0%
5 People		
6 or More People		

Race/Ethnicity - In-Depth Only	# Respondents	% Respondents*	% VT Population**
White and/or Caucasian alone	1,159	89.0%	89.8%
Black and/or African American alone	27	2.1%	1.4%
American Indian, Alaska Native and/or Indigenous American alone	9	0.7%	0.4%
Asian and/or Asian American alone	24	1.8%	1.8%
Native Hawaiian and/or Pacific Islander alone			
Two or more	62	4.8%	5.8%
Latinx, Latino or Hispanic alone	20	1.5%	N/A***
Latinx, Latino or Hispanic	37	2.8%	2.4%***

Note: The race/ethnicity categories on the VEE survey are phrased slightly differently than those on the U.S. Census (e.g. "American Indian, Alaska Native, and/or Indigenous American" instead of "American Indian or Alaska Native").

*Percentages may not total 100%, because respondents were provided the opportunity to select more than one answer option, if applicable.

**Source for Statewide Race/Ethnicity Data: [U.S. Census 2020, VT State Profile](#)

***The U.S. Census does not report on Latinx, Latino, or Hispanic alone, and instead reports on Latinx, Latino, or Hispanic (alone or in combination with other races/ethnicities). Respondent demographic data has been included both ways so that 1) it can be directly compared to Census data; and 2) so that the alone category can be used in combination with the other categories in the table such that no respondent is counted twice.

Race/Ethnicity - By Community Hub - In-Depth Only	n size	% Asian and/or Asian American*	% American Indian, Alaska Native, and/or Indigenous American*	% Black and/or African American*	% Latinx, Latino, and/or Hispanic*	% Native Hawaiian and/or Pacific Islander*	% White and/or Caucasian*	% Race/Ethnicity Not Mentioned Above*
All Respondents**	1,302	3.0%	2.2%	3.1%	2.8%	0.4%	93.2%	0.4%
Localvore	798	2.6%	2.9%	4.36	3.1%		91.5%	
EE! Brattleboro & Beyond	388	3.6%	1.5%	1.5%	2.8%		95.9%	
Bennington County EE (BCEE)/The Collaborative	69		0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	97.1%	0.0%
Deerfield Valley/Shires Housing/WilmingtonWorks	47		0.0%	0.0%		0.0%	93.6%	0.0%

*Percentages may not total 100%, because respondents were provided the opportunity to select more than one answer option, if applicable.

**Figures do not match those provided above for comparison to Census figures, because Census figures isolate race/ethnicity groupings into either "alone" categories or the "two or more" category. Our groupings calculate participants according to how they self-identified (e.g. if someone selected "Black and/or African American" and "White and/or Caucasian", we count them in each group, whereas the Census counts them as "two or more").

Gender - In-Depth Only	# Respondents	% Respondents*
Woman	982	72.2%
Man	324	23.8%
Gender Nonconforming	26	1.9%
Nonbinary	41	3.0%
Transgender	27	2.0%
Gender Not Mentioned Above		

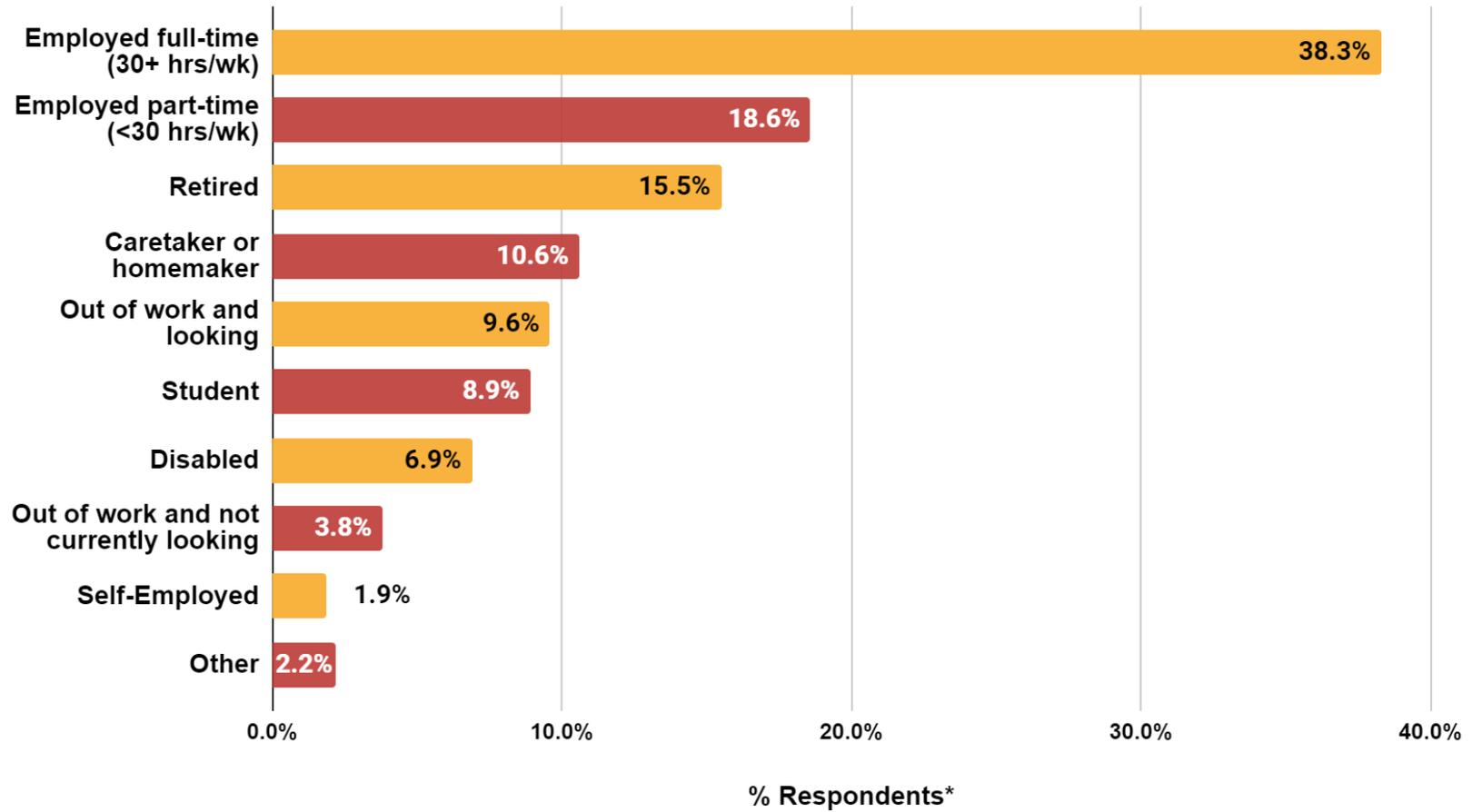
**Percentages may not total 100%, because respondents were provided the opportunity to select more than one answer option, if applicable.*

Note: Historically, the U.S. Census has collected data on sex only. As of the summer of 2021, it will also collect gender identity data via the Household Pulse Survey, however, at the time of analysis, this data was not available for comparison. Source: [U.S. Census News, 2021](#)

Gender - By Community Hub - In-Depth Only	n size	% Woman*	% Man*	% Gender Non-conforming*	% Nonbinary*	% Transgender*	% Gender Not Mentioned Above*
Localvore	832	68.6%	26.7%	1.7%	3.1%	1.7%	
EE! Brattleboro & Beyond	409	77.0%	19.1%	2.9%	3.7%	3.2%	
Bennington County EE (BCEE)/The Collaborative	72	79.2%	20.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Deerfield Valley/Shires Housing/WilmingtonWorks	48	81.3%	18.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

**Percentages may not total 100%, because respondents were provided the opportunity to select more than one answer option, if applicable.*

Current Work Status - In-Depth Only



*Percentages may not total 100%, because respondents were provided the opportunity to select more than one answer option, if applicable.

Note: The U.S. Census does not provide commensurable employment data.

Current Work Status - By Community Hub - In-Depth Only	n size	% Employed Full-Time (30+ hrs/wk)*	% Employed Part-Time (less than 30 hrs/wk)*	% Retired *	% Caretaker or Homemaker *	% Out of Work and Looking*	% Student*	% Disabled*	% Out of Work and Not Currently Looking*	% Self- Employed *	% Other*
<i>All Respondents</i>	1,384	38.3%	18.6%	15.5%	10.6%	9.6%	8.9%	6.9%	3.8%	2.0%	2.2%
Localvore	849	38.3%	19.4%	10.6%	11.0%	10.6%	12.4%	7.7%	3.8%	1.8%	2.4%
EE! Brattleboro & Beyond	416	45.4%	19.0%	17.3%	11.1%	7.9%	3.8%	4.1%	3.8%	1.7%	1.4%
Bennington County EE (BCEE)/The Collaborative	72	12.5%	15.3%	33.3%	9.7%	11.1%		13.9%			
Deerfield Valley/Shires Housing/Wilmington Works	47	14.9%		59.6%			0.0%				

**Percentages may not total 100%, because respondents were provided the opportunity to select more than one answer option, if applicable*

Participant Experiences with VEE

Results below are presented in order of significance.

General Program Feedback:

- **Nearly all (2,465, or 97%) respondents report that it is very important or important that the program supports VT businesses (e.g. restaurants and farmers).**
 - Respondents report that it is very important or important that the program supports VT businesses very consistently across various program participation frequencies.
 - Respondents report that it is very important or important that the program supports VT businesses consistently across community hubs.
 - **84% report that support of VT businesses is very important.**
 - 13% report that support of VT businesses is important.
 - Less than 3% report that support of VT businesses is somewhat important or not important.
 - In their open-ended comments, **187 respondents reiterate that the program's support of VT restaurants is meaningful to them:**
 - "I love that it kept small restaurants in business."
 - "It felt good to be bringing money into the state/to restaurants, to help keep friends/neighbors employed at local establishments."
 - "I really appreciate and respect the program for supporting local restaurants."
 - In their open-ended comments, **111 respondents reiterate that the program's support of VT farmers and/or food producers is meaningful to them:**
 - "I appreciate the support for local farmers."
 - "[Having] the restaurants buy from local farmers and producers is frosting on a delicious cake. Bravo."
 - "It's important that...farmers in our area are supported through this program."
- In their open-ended comments, **168 respondents report that the program provides reciprocal benefits to the various stakeholders in our local food system: eaters, restaurants, and/or farmers/food producers:**
 - "We are experiencing new, local, restaurants and feel so good supporting them and also being supported!"
 - "I appreciate that these are local businesses, because it feels like everyone benefits this way."
 - "Feeding people and supporting local restaurants was terrific! It shows how we can cooperate and support everyone."
 - "I like the fact that as I am helped it is also helping small businesses and growers. That is the way my/our tax dollars should be invested."
 - "I love that the impact goes in many directions, not just to the people eating it. This makes it feel better to receive."
 - "Incredible reciprocal program that benefits many facets of community, from individuals,

- families, to locally-owned businesses.”
- “Amazing program - a win/win/win for restaurants, farmers, and community members!”
 - “The community meals have been a huge help for me and my family and it feels good knowing we’re supporting local farms and businesses.”
 - **Nearly all (2,465, or 97%) respondents strongly agree or agree that VEE is accessible (e.g. location, timing, etc.)⁹**
 - 64% strongly agree that VEE is accessible.
 - **Respondents that participate more frequently in the program were more likely to strongly agree that VEE is accessible:** 71% of those that participate once a week or more strongly agree, 56% of those that participate about two or three times per month, 53% of those that participate about once a month, and 50% of those that have participated once, or participate less than once a month.
 - **Respondents report that VEE is accessible very consistently across community hubs.**
 - In their open-ended comments, **45 respondents reiterate that the program is easy to access:**
 - “I like that there are multiple ways to get food.”
 - “Very easy to use.”
 - “Good meals at easy convenience to pick up.”
 - Despite most respondents indicating that the program is accessible, in their open-ended comments, **some suggest various ways in which the program could improve accessibility, including:**
 - Making Localvore more available to those without internet or a smartphone (40 respondents)
 - Ensuring that meal sites and/or participating restaurants are nearby for those living in all areas of the state (36 respondents)
 - Offering more meal delivery (29 respondents)
 - Offering more and/or different meal days or hours (28 respondents)
 - **Nine in ten (2,287, or 90%) respondents report that it is very important or important that the program offers prepared meals.**
 - 62% report that it is very important that the program offers prepared meals.
 - **Respondents that participate more frequently in the program were more likely to report that it is very important that the program offers prepared meals:** 67% of those that participate once a week or more report it is very important, 56% of those that participate about two or three times per month, 51% of those that participate about once a month, and 54% of those that have participated once, or participate less than once a month.
 - **Respondents report that it is very important or important that the program offers prepared meals relatively consistently across community hubs.**
 - In their open-ended comments, **116 respondents reiterate the importance of receiving**

⁹ Charts/tables with data points related to program accessibility are presented below in the [Program Impact](#) section.

hot and/or prepared meals:

- “More people than you would think are better fed by having access to prepared food.”
 - “Having a meal prepared for you...gives you a mental/physical/financial break.”
 - “It made all the difference...to have a good hot meal ready to go once in awhile.”
 - “Prepared meals are an amazing help to parents who are always short on time and energy. Thank you!”
- **More than four in five (2,049, or 81%) respondents report that it is very important or important that the program offers meals prepared by restaurants.**
 - 53% report that it is very important that the program offers meals prepared by restaurants.
 - **Respondents that participate more frequently in the program were more likely to report that it is very important that the program offers meals prepared by restaurants:** 57% of those that participate once a week or more report it is very important, 47% of those that participate about two or three time per month, 43% of those that participate about once a month, and 43% of those that have participated once, or participate less than once a month.
 - **The proportion of respondents that report that it is very important or important that the program offers meals prepared by restaurants varies significantly across community hubs,** ranging from 92% of those that participate via the Rutland community hub to 31% of those that participate via the Middlebury community hub.
 - **The variance in the importance that respondents attribute to who prepares the meals is likely heavily dependent on the history and context of the community hubs through which they participate.** For example, at the Middlebury community hub, there is a longstanding, 15 year history of serving meals, which before VEE, were prepared by many different groups within the community. Also, because the Middlebury community hub is relatively small, only one restaurant was contracted to provide meals. It is likely that the producer of the meal is less important to respondents at this community hub due to its unique history and context, as may be true for respondents that participate via other community hubs.
 - In their open-ended comments, **26 respondents reiterate the importance of receiving meals prepared by restaurants:**
 - “It was so nice to have healthy, nutritious food from local restaurants.”
 - “Having restaurants dispense meals has supported a population of struggling Vermonters that have not be reached through other programs.”
 - “Families are overwhelmed with the opportunity to eat restaurant quality meals.”
- **Almost four in five (1,749, or 78%) respondents report that it is very important or important that the program has no application.**
 - We received feedback from some community hubs that some participants were

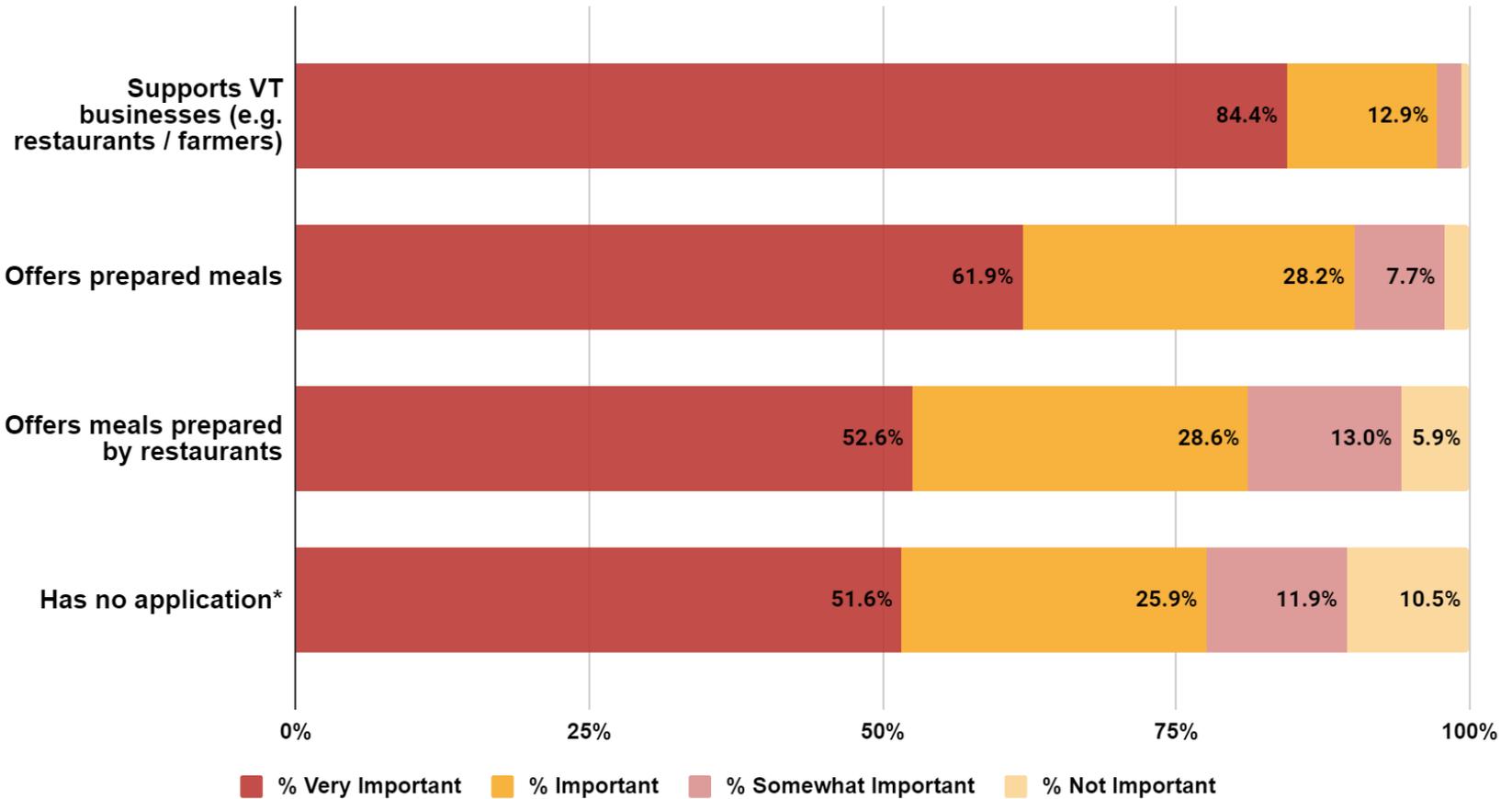
confused by this statement. Those who were confused were told to skip the question. While this data point should be interpreted somewhat cautiously, it is very unlikely that a participant would respond with any degree of strength if they were confused by the statement. As more than half (1,164 or 52%) responded that it is *very* important that the program has no application, we can confidently assert that *at least* half of respondents report the lack of an application as an aspect of the program that is meaningful to them.

- **Respondents report that it is very important or important that the program has no application consistently across various program participation frequencies.**
- The proportion of respondents that report that it is very important or important that the program has no application varies across community hubs, though it is not advisable to lend too much weight to any differences reported, due to two compounding variables 1) some participants' confusion regarding this statement; and 2) disaggregated data with smaller sample sizes are less reliable than the aggregated statewide data.
- In their open-ended comments, **54 respondents reiterate that they appreciate the program's low barriers:**
 - "Privacy is very important to me and if I had to fill out an application and tell everyone that I need help, I may not do it even though I am income eligible."
 - "The low barriers for Everyone Eats were helpful for everyone in the community no matter economic status."
 - "It made us feel more comfortable that there was no application so we didn't have to make it known we needed a little help."
 - "The openness and lack of intimidating enrollment procedures have made it easier for people like me...to access resources as needed in difficult times."
 - "This is the first time the government did something for me without wanting something in return, or making me jump through a thousand hoops."
- In their open-ended comments, **807 respondents express general praise and/or gratitude for the program:**
 - "This has been essential to me...I can't thank you enough."
 - "This is the most meaningful government program I've ever seen."
 - "Thank you for being there when I needed you!"
 - "This has been an amazing endeavor...Cannot thank you enough for the help I so desperately needed."
- In their open-ended comments, **236 respondents spoke favorably of program meals. More specifically, some refer to meals as:**
 - **High quality** (125 respondents)
 - **Healthy/nutritious** (74 respondents)
 - **Providing good variety/options** (42 respondents)
 - **Delicious/tasty** (38 respondents)
 - **Meeting their dietary restrictions and/or medical needs** (16 respondents)
 - **Fresh and/or local** (15 respondents)
- In their open-ended comments, **102 respondents express appreciation and/or praise for program staff and volunteers:**

- “Deep gratitude to...[the] organizers and community groups who made this happen!”
- “Staff went out of their way to help us.”
- “The volunteers are fantastic. They never judged or made me feel uncomfortable about going.”
- “This program is wonderful and all the individuals who assist with it each week are truly phenomenal...I watch how loving and accommodating the program providers are to each person receiving food.”
- In their open-ended comments, **96 respondents express dissatisfaction with program meals. More specifically, some refer to meals as:**
 - **Not suiting their dietary preferences** (e.g. too spicy, too many veggies, not enough veggies etc.) (43 respondents)
 - **Inconsistent in quality or portions** across restaurants, community hubs, distribution sites, and/or time (35 respondents)
 - **Poor quality** (e.g. unhealthy, unpalatable) (28 respondents)
- In their open-ended comments, **73 respondents express appreciation and/or praise for restaurant staff:**
 - “I have especially appreciated the restaurants that don’t treat me, or the Localvore order, any differently than a usual take out order.”
 - “Those who made the food behind the scenes were so caring and compassionate.”
 - “Very appreciated...and very nice of the staff time and the restaurants helping people and families in need.”
 - “The restaurants were friendly and non-judgmental, which was amazing!”
- In their open-ended comments, **51 respondents request improved or additional communications about program information:**
 - “I wish there were an online schedule I could reference for which location/restaurant is hosting each time.”
 - “More information on how the restaurants benefit would be helpful.”
 - “If it’s possible to post somewhere when food runs out, that would be helpful.”
 - “It would be helpful if we knew what the meal was before driving to get it, it’s not always something we would eat.”
- In their open-ended comments, **42 respondents request more meal options and variety:**
 - “It would be great if there were more varied options.”
 - “It would be nice if the restaurants could rotate the offerings they have.”
- In their open-ended comments, **some respondents report that the program could improve dietary accessibility by offering more:**
 - **Vegan and/or vegetarian meals** (23 respondents)
 - **Celiac-safe/gluten-free meals** (16 respondents)
 - **More healthy meals** (15 respondents)
 - **Tailoring to accommodate other dietary requirements** (e.g. allergies, medical diets, food sensitivities, culturally appropriate food) (26 respondents)
- In their open-ended comments, **34 respondents report that there are not enough meals, or that they could not access a meal when they tried to:**

- “It’s gotten harder to participate with the limits since the reopening. Meals are often gone.”
- “Would be nice if restaurants had no daily meal limits (I’m often turned away because a restaurant has already given away its daily allotted meals).”
- “There were a few times we went to get food...and the food was already gone!”
- In their open-ended comments, **24 Localvore respondents indicate a lack of awareness of meal availability via other community hubs/beyond the mobile phone application:**
 - “My biggest issue is that I’m not sure if this program is reaching people who could benefit from it most...because it is dependent on having an iPhone.”
 - “What are the provisions for folks who do not even have smartphones?”
 - “I do not like that an app is needed to get meals.”
 - “It would be helpful if there was a different way to receive meals aside from the passport.”
- In their open-ended comments, **23 respondents express that meal delivery is helpful and/or appreciated:**
 - “Food was delivered to my work place. We all loved it. Thank you so very much.”
 - “Getting weekly deliveries these last few months has been really helpful while I’m going through a tough time.”
 - “I love that Everyone Eats delivers to my home! It is amazing, and so helpful, to get ready to eat healthy food delivered.”
- In their open-ended comments, **20 respondents report that VEE is their preferred food support program:**
 - “This program has been number one to me and the one I have found to be the most effective and least invasive.”
 - “One of the most amazing aid programs I have ever seen.”
 - “We have participated in several programs and this has proved the most useful for us.”
 - “The food shelf can’t meet our special dietary restrictions but Everyone Eats options made it easier.”
 - “It has been so helpful to me to have access to restaurant meals and has really improved my sense of wellbeing overall during the pandemic. Traditional food access programs like SNAP or pantries don’t help with relieving the stress and time commitment of preparing meals.”
- In their open-ended comments, **19 respondents report that the program is well organized and coordinated:**
 - “The program is run very well. Thanks goes out to...everyone involved.”
 - “You are doing a great job!
 - “A wonderfully executed program.”
- In their open-ended comments, **17 respondents express that program outreach could be improved:**
 - “Reach more members of the community.”
 - “I still meet a lot of people who don’t know about it.”

How Important Is It That VEE...



**We received feedback that some participants were confused by this statement. Those who were confused were told to skip the question, though nonetheless, results should be interpreted with some caution.*

Importance of VEE Supporting VT Businesses (e.g. restaurants/farmers) - By Participation Frequency	n size	% Very Important or Important	% Very Important	% Important	% Somewhat Important	% Not Important
<i>All Respondents</i>	2,534	97.3%	84.4%	12.9%	2.0%	0.7%
Once a week or more	1,534	96.9%	85.3%	11.6%	2.4%	0.7%
About 2 or 3 times per month	539	98.7%	84.2%	14.5%	0.9%	
About once a month	234	97.9%	79.9%	17.9%		
First time or less than once a month	213	96.2%	84.0%	12.2%	2.8%	

Importance of VEE Supporting VT Businesses (e.g. restaurants/farmers) - By Community Hub	n size	% Very Important or Important	% Very Important	% Important	% Somewhat Important	% Not Important
<i>All Respondents</i>	2,534	97.3%	84.4%	12.9%	2.0%	0.7%
Localvore	859	99.3%	88.6%	10.7%		
EE! Brattleboro & Beyond	424	97.4%	87.7%	9.7%	2.6%	0.0%
EE Chittenden, Franklin, and Grand Isle Counties	316	93.0%	76.3%	16.8%	5.4%	1.6%
Rutland/Vermont Farmers Food Center	241	98.3%	84.2%	14.1%		
Springfield Family Center/Chester Helping Hands	202	96.5%	84.7%	11.9%		
Center for an Agricultural Economy	128	99.2%	88.3%	10.9%		0.0%
Northeast Kingdom Community Action (NEKCA)	86	95.3%	75.6%	19.8%		0.0%
Bennington County EE (BCEE)/The Collaborative	75	98.7%	80.0%	18.7%	0.0%	
Vergennes - Bar Antidote & Boys and Girls Club of Greater Vergennes	55	96.4%	85.5%	10.9%		
Deerfield Valley/Shires Housing/WilmingtonWorks	46	91.3%	71.7%	19.6%		
EE of Central VT	42	95.2%	78.6%	16.7%	0.0%	
Middlebury/Charter House Coalition	22	90.9%	63.6%	27.3%		0.0%
Upper Valley EE (UVVEE)/Vital Communities	32	90.6%	71.9%	18.8%		
The Giving Fridge*	6	100.0%			0.0%	0.0%

*Subcontracted partner to Localvore

Importance of VEE Offering Prepared Meals - By Participation Frequency	n size	% Very Important or Important	% Very Important	% Important	% Somewhat Important	% Not Important
<i>All Respondents</i>	2,538	90.1%	61.9%	28.2%	7.7%	2.2%
Once a week or more	1547	92.2%	66.6%	25.7%	6.2%	1.6%
About 2 or 3 times per month	538	87.6%	55.8%	31.8%	10.6%	1.9%
About once a month	228	87.3%	50.9%	36.4%	8.8%	3.9%
First time or less than once a month	211	83.9%	54.0%	29.9%	10.4%	5.7%

Importance of VEE Offering Prepared Meals - By Community Hub	n size	% Very Important or Important	% Very Important	% Important	% Somewhat Important	% Not Important
<i>All Respondents</i>	2,538	90.1%	61.9%	28.2%	7.7%	2.2%
Localvore	843	89.1%	62.6%	26.5%	8.4%	2.5%
EE! Brattleboro & Beyond	419	91.9%	57.3%	34.6%	6.0%	2.1%
EE Chittenden, Franklin, and Grand Isle Counties	325	83.7%	53.5%	30.2%	13.8%	2.5%
Rutland/Vermont Farmers Food Center	243	97.5%	74.9%	22.6%	2.5%	
Springfield Family Center/Chester Helping Hands	201	93.0%	64.2%	28.9%	6.0%	
Center for an Agricultural Economy	129	88.4%	55.0%	33.3%	8.5%	
Northeast Kingdom Community Action (NEKCA)	86	89.5%	62.8%	26.7%	8.1%	
Bennington County EE (BCEE)/The Collaborative	74	90.5%	56.8%	33.8%		
Vergennes - Bar Antidote & Boys and Girls Club of Greater Vergennes	56	98.2%	80.4%	17.9%		
Deerfield Valley/Shires Housing/WilmingtonWorks	46	78.3%	54.3%	23.9%	15.2%	
EE of Central VT	42	88.1%	64.3%	23.8%		
Middlebury/Charter House Coalition	36	94.4%	72.2%	22.2%		
Upper Valley EE (UVEE)/Vital Communities	32	90.6%	68.8%	21.9%		
The Giving Fridge*	6	100.0%	100.0%			

*Subcontracted partner to Localvore

Importance of VEE Offering Meals Prepared by Restaurants - By Participation Frequency	n size	% Very Important or Important	% Very Important	% Important	% Somewhat Important	% Not Important
<i>All Respondents</i>	2,525	81.1%	52.6%	28.6%	13.0%	5.9%
Once a week or more	1533	83.4%	57.3%	26.1%	11.2%	5.4%
About 2 or 3 times per month	537	80.6%	47.1%	33.5%	14.5%	4.8%
About once a month	230	73.0%	42.6%	30.4%	20.0%	7.0%
First time or less than once a month	211	76.3%	43.1%	33.2%	12.8%	10.9%

Importance of VEE Offering Meals Prepared By Restaurants - By Community Hub	n size	% Very Important or Important	% Very Important	% Important	% Somewhat Important	% Not Important
<i>All Respondents</i>	2,525	81.1%	52.6%	28.6%	13.0%	5.9%
Localvore	852	84.5%	57.7%	26.8%	11.0%	4.5%
EE! Brattleboro & Beyond	418	82.3%	47.8%	34.4%	12.7%	5.0%
EE Chittenden, Franklin, and Grand Isle Counties	315	74.0%	46.7%	27.3%	16.8%	9.2%
Rutland/Vermont Farmers Food Center	240	91.7%	63.3%	28.3%	5.0%	3.3%
Springfield Family Center/Chester Helping Hands	198	82.3%	52.5%	29.8%	12.1%	5.6%
Center for an Agricultural Economy	126	74.6%	42.1%	32.5%	18.3%	7.1%
Northeast Kingdom Community Action (NEKCA)	86	87.2%	50.0%	37.2%	9.3%	
Bennington County EE (BCEE)/The Collaborative	73	79.5%	52.1%	27.4%	13.7%	6.8%
Vergennes - Bar Antidote & Boys and Girls Club of Greater Vergennes	55	83.6%	70.9%	12.7%		9.1%
Deerfield Valley/Shires Housing/WilmingtonWorks	47	66.0%	44.7%	21.3%	25.5%	
EE of Central VT	41	68.3%	46.3%	22.0%	22.0%	
Middlebury/Charter House Coalition	36	30.6%		16.7%	41.7%	27.8%
Upper Valley EE (UVVEE)/Vital Communities	32	75.0%	40.6%	34.4%	21.9%	
Giving Fridge*	6					

*Subcontracted partner to Localvore

Importance of VEE Having No Application* - By Participation Frequency	n size	% Very Important or Important	% Very Important	% Important	% Somewhat Important	% Not Important
<i>All Respondents</i>	2,255	77.6%	51.6%	25.9%	11.9%	10.5%
Once a week or more	1353	77.8%	53.3%	24.5%	11.8%	10.3%
About 2 or 3 times per month	486	76.3%	46.7%	29.6%	13.2%	10.5%
About once a month	215	78.1%	51.6%	26.5%	11.6%	10.2%
First time or less than once a month	190	77.9%	52.6%	25.3%	10.5%	11.6%

**We received feedback that some participants were confused by this statement. Those who were confused were told to skip the question, though nonetheless, results should be interpreted with some caution.*

Importance of VEE Having No Application* - By Community Hub	n size	% Very Important or Important	% Very Important	% Important	% Somewhat Important	% Not Important
All Respondents	2,255	77.6%	51.6%	25.9%	11.9%	10.5%
Localvore	806	75.6%	47.3%	28.3%	13.3%	11.2%
EE! Brattleboro & Beyond	377	85.1%	59.2%	26.0%	8.5%	6.4%
EE Chittenden, Franklin, and Grand Isle Counties	267	75.3%	50.6%	24.7%	12.7%	12.0%
Rutland/Vermont Farmers Food Center	205	78.0%	54.6%	23.4%	13.7%	8.3%
Springfield Family Center/Chester Helping Hands	181	79.0%	57.5%	21.5%	9.9%	11.0%
Center for an Agricultural Economy	110	76.4%	51.8%	24.5%	14.5%	9.1%
Northeast Kingdom Community Action (NEKCA)	71	67.6%	42.3%	25.4%	15.5%	16.9%
Bennington County EE (BCEE)/The Collaborative	60	80.0%	45.0%	35.0%		15.0%
Vergennes - Bar Antidote & Boys and Girls Club of Greater Vergennes	51	74.5%	56.9%	17.6%	11.8%	13.7%
Deerfield Valley/Shires Housing/WilmingtonWorks	39	69.2%	48.7%	20.5%	15.4%	15.4%
EE of Central VT	37	73.0%	54.1%	18.9%	13.5%	13.5%
Middlebury/Charter House Coalition	15	93.3%	66.7%			0.0%
Upper Valley EE (UVEE)/Vital Communities	30	76.7%	53.3%	23.3%		16.7%
The Giving Fridge**	6	100.0%		83.3%		

*We received feedback that some participants were confused by this statement. Those who were confused were told to skip the question, though nonetheless, results should be interpreted with some caution.

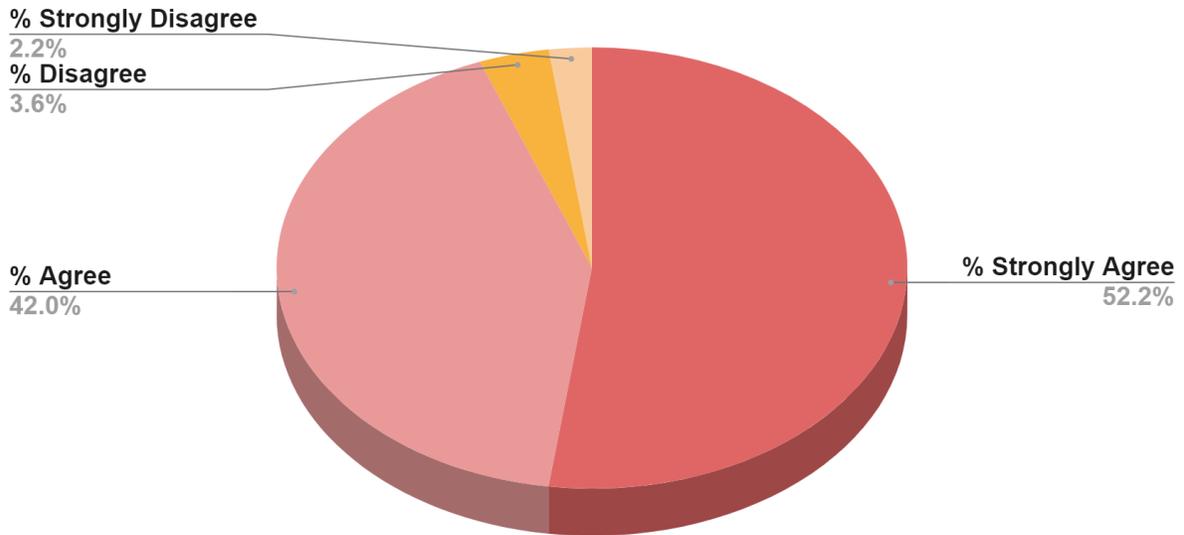
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Localvore App Feedback:

- **More than nine in ten (814, or 94%) respondents strongly agree or agree that the Localvore app is user-friendly** (of those that have used the app).
 - Respondents that participate in the program about once a month or more, were more likely to report that the Localvore app is user-friendly.
 - Respondents that participate in the program less than once a month, or that participated for the first time, were less likely to report that the Localvore app is user-friendly (76%).
 - In their open-ended comments, **60 respondents report that the app works well and/or that they like it:**
 - “I thought the app-based program through Localvore was really impressive.”
 - “I especially find the app useful where I can order/request food and then pick it up.”
 - “The app was great.”
 - In their open-ended comments, **28 respondents reiterate that the app is easy to use:**
 - “The Localvore app is extremely useful and user-friendly.”
 - “Easy to understand.”
 - “Quick, easy, and accurate.”
- **A relatively small proportion of respondents report experiencing various challenges with the Localvore app.** It is important to remember that some of these challenges may be due to the users’ internet connections and/or device capabilities, rather than due to issues with the app itself. In their open-ended comments...
 - **28 respondents report experiencing challenges or inaccuracies with the available meal count:**
 - “Sometimes it...shows that there are meals but when I call the restaurant they tell me they are all out.”
 - “The Localvore app was not always accurate with numbers of meals left.”
 - “Sometimes the available meals don't match what is actually available, but that's probably user error.”
 - **25 respondents report experiencing app glitches or crashes:**
 - “It crashed a few times but other than that very good.”
 - “Sometimes the app is glitchy but usually you just restart it and it’s fine.”
 - “Occasional glitches...could use some debugging.”
 - **17 respondents report that the app is slow to load:**
 - “Sometimes, it does take some time to load all the way.”
 - “Sometimes I couldn’t get meals because the app wouldn’t load.”
 - “A little slow at times.”
- In their open-ended comments, **16 respondents suggest that the app could be improved by allowing online or in-application ordering:**
 - “More online ordering options would be helpful, as opposed to calling in.”

- “I think it would be easier for everyone including restaurants if there was an online ordering option for most (if not all) of the locations...the locations that use online ordering seem to have a much more streamlined process.”
- “Would like to see more online ordering.”

The Localvore app is user-friendly



The Localvore App is User-Friendly - By Participation Frequency	n size	% Strongly Agree or Agree	% Strongly Agree	% Agree	% Disagree	% Strongly Disagree
All Respondents	864*	94.2%	52.2%	42.0%	3.6%	2.2%
Once a week or more	475	95.4%	56.6%	38.7%	2.9%	1.7%
About 2 or 3 times per month	228	98.2%	50.0%	48.2%		
About once a month	79	94.9%	45.6%	49.4%		
First time or less than once a month	79	75.9%	39.2%	36.7%	13.9%	10.1%

*This n size is smaller than others, because the statement was limited to those who have used the Localvore app.

Program Impact:

Results below are presented in order of significance.

- **Nearly all (2,474, or 97%) respondents strongly agree or agree that VEE makes them feel supported/cared for.**
 - 68% strongly agree that VEE makes them feel supported/cared for.
 - **Respondents that participate more frequently in the program were more likely to strongly agree that VEE makes them feel supported/cared for:** 73% of those that participate once a week or more strongly agree, 65% of those that participate about two or three time per month, 55% of those that participate about once a month, and 57% of those that have participated once, or participate less than once a month.
 - **Respondents report that VEE makes them feel supported/cared for very consistently across community hubs.**
 - In their open-ended comments, **33 respondents reiterate that the program makes them feel cared for.**
 - “When this program started I felt that someone cared about me.”
 - “This program helped us feel like we mattered.”
 - “It made me and my family eat what we couldn’t afford - healthy and clean food. A great sign of being cared for by others.”
 - “Everyone Eats was a lifesaver. It was a hard year...I needed someone to take care of me.”
 - “In a time when we needed support we felt supported.”
- **Nearly all (2,448, or 97%) respondents strongly agree or agree that VEE saves them time**
 - 65% strongly agree that VEE saves them time.
 - **Respondents that participate more frequently in the program were more likely to strongly agree that VEE saves them time:** 72% of those that participate once a week or more strongly agree, 59% of those that participate about two or three time per month, 50% of those that participate about once a month, and 49% of those that have participated once, or participate less than once a month.
 - **Respondents report that VEE saves them time very consistently across community hubs.**
 - In their open-ended comments, **59 respondents reiterate that the program saves them much needed time and/or energy:**
 - “We’re both elderly and cooking is often too much of a chore.”
 - “Really helped feed my family on days that I didn’t have the energy to cook.”
 - “The prepared food is very helpful...I struggle with finding the time and energy to make meals.”
 - “My husband and I have had so many demands on our time in energy this year compared to others. It has been amazing to just be able to get even one meal a week that is prepared and ready to eat.”
- As presented above in the [General Program Feedback](#) section, **nearly all (2,465, or 97%)**

respondents strongly agree or agree that VEE is accessible (e.g. location, timing, etc.)

- 64% strongly agree that VEE is accessible.
 - **Respondents that participate more frequently in the program were more likely to strongly agree that VEE is accessible:** 71% of those that participate once a week or more strongly agree, 56% of those that participate about two or three time per month, 53% of those that participate about once a month, and 50% of those that have participated once, or participate less than once a month.
- **Respondents report that VEE is accessible very consistently across community hubs.**
- In their open-ended comments, **45 respondents reiterate that the program is easy to access:**
 - “I like that there are multiple ways to get food.”
 - “Very easy to use.”
 - “Good meals at easy convenience to pick up.”
- Despite most respondents indicating that the program is accessible, in their open-ended comments, **some suggest various ways in which the program could improve accessibility, including:**
 - Making Localvore more available to those without internet or a smartphone (40 respondents)
 - Ensuring that meal sites and/or participating restaurants are nearby for those living in all areas of the state (36 respondents)
 - Offering more meal delivery (29 respondents)
 - Offering more and/or different meal days or hours (28 respondents)
- **Nearly all (2,468, or 97%) respondents strongly agree or agree that VEE strengthens their sense of community.**
 - 69% strongly agree that VEE strengthens their sense of community.
 - **Respondents that participate more frequently in the program were more likely to strongly agree that VEE strengthens their sense of community:** 74% of those that participate once a week or more strongly agree, 66% of those that participate about two or three time per month, 58% of those that participate about once a month, and 58% of those that have participated once, or participate less than once a month.
 - **Respondents report that VEE strengthens their sense of community very consistently across community hubs.**
 - In their open-ended comments, **40 respondents reiterate experiencing an improved sense of community due to the program:**
 - “Community meals do so much more than provide food in times of need. That feeling that your community is there for you, and that you can be there for them, was just as important.”
 - “Not only was it helpful to have food access...it also strengthened my sense of community in a time where most of us were stretched so thin and needed some sort of connection.”
- **More than nine in ten (2,381, or 94%) respondents strongly agree or agree that VEE improves**

their emotional/mental well-being.

- 60% strongly agree that VEE improves their emotional/mental well-being.
 - **Respondents that participate more frequently in the program were more likely to strongly agree that VEE improves their emotional/mental well-being:** 66% of those that participate once a week or more strongly agree, 58% of those that participate about two or three times per month, 39% of those that participate about once a month, and 47% of those that have participated once, or participate less than once a month.
- **Respondents report that VEE improves their emotional/mental well-being relatively consistently across community hubs.**
- In their open-ended comments, **some respondents reiterate experiencing emotional and/or mental health benefits due to the program, including:**
 - **Feeling uplifted** (84 respondents)
 - “It has been an amazing, uplifting experience!”
 - “It boosted morale...it made us feel better.”
 - “This is a terrific program, and buoyed my spirits and that of [my] community at the worst of the pandemic time.”
 - “[It] boosted my spirit knowing I was helping a local small town business person who was also struggling.”
 - “It brightened many days by making me feel I was noticed.”
 - **Relief/the alleviation of stress** (82 respondents)
 - “There were times I could have just cried tears of relief to be taken care of in this beautiful way.”
 - “One day a week I could relax and have a meal pre cooked for me.”
 - “It’s an amazing way to lighten the stress load for me.”
 - “With the stress of working through COVID [it] gave me a much needed break.”
 - **Feelings of dignity and/or a lack of stigma** (72 respondents)
 - “The lack of application and use of local restaurants means less stigma around participating - it feels like take-out versus a food shelf.”
 - “This is help with dignity!”
 - “Helping to save local restaurants/businesses...feels so important (and also less like charity).”
 - “I love any program that doesn’t humiliate need, doesn’t shame people who need a meal.”
 - “Because we are supporting the local economy by participating in EE there is no stigma so more people participate and it feels good!”
 - **Improved mental well-being in general** (42 respondents)
 - “This program has made a significant difference in my personal and family’s well-being...It is programs such as this that offer meaningful support emotionally and financially.”
 - “Immense support both financially and mentally during a trying time.”

- “Such a huge boost to my mental health.”
 - “Emotional/well-being significant. Food security makes a big difference for my mental health.”
 - **Feeling a sense of security** (16 respondents)
 - “This program has guaranteed...a high quality meal every week during uncertain and scary times.”
 - “The Everyone Eats program has given me a sense of stability and comfort.”
 - “It’s been a reliable source of nourishment.”
- **More than nine in ten** (2,334, or 92%) **respondents strongly agree or agree that VEE is important to their budget.**
 - 62% strongly agree that VEE is important to their budget.
 - **Respondents that participate more frequently in the program were more likely to strongly agree that VEE is important to their budget:** 70% of those that participate once a week or more strongly agree, 52% of those that participate about two or three time per month, 40% of those that participate about once a month, and 45% of those that have participated once, or participate less than once a month.
 - **Respondents consistently report that VEE is important to their budget across community hubs.**
- **Nine in ten** (2,292, or 90%) **respondents strongly agree or agree that VEE is an important source of food for them/their families.**
 - 55% strongly agree that VEE is an important source of food for them/their families
 - **Respondents that participate more frequently in the program were more likely to strongly agree that VEE is an important source of food for them/their families:** 65% of those that participate once a week or more strongly agree, 41% of those that participate about two or three time per month, 30% of those that participate about once a month, and 36% of those that have participated once, or participate less than once a month.
 - **Respondents consistently report that VEE is an important source of food for them/their families across community hubs.**
- In their open-ended comments, **many respondents reiterate the food and/or financial need for the program.**
 - **229 respondents report that there is a general food and/or financial need for the program:**
 - “I truly don’t know how I would have gotten by without this program. I relied heavily on the program for meals.”
 - “Was a big help when I was out of work and had less income”
 - “The pandemic caused serious hardship for us. The Everyone Eats program has been a major source of food for us.”
 - **110 respondents report that the program is helpful to their food budget or budget:**
 - “I make a somewhat livable wage yet it is still hard to pay all the bills...this

- program has helped tremendously!”
 - “Helped my financial situation significantly.”
 - “This has and is currently helping our food budget by a long shot!”
 - “It gets us by to the next shopping trip. Really filled in the gaps and saved us money.”
 - **45 respondents report that they would not have eaten or prepared something if it weren’t for the program:**
 - “Without the Everyone Eats program I would have had very limited access to food.”
 - “Without it there may be days that my son and I do not eat.”
 - “We would not be eating if it were not for Everyone Eats.”
 - “This has helped me eat dinner [which] I can’t always make due to my health.”
 - **19 respondents report needing food assistance, but not qualifying for other programs, benefits, and/or support:**
 - “My husband and I make too much to qualify for most assistance programs, but with all of our expenses, money is still tight for us most of the time.”
 - “This year has been very difficult. I don’t have my normal income, yet cannot get food stamp support...Without your help I would never eat.”
 - “For those who lost income and are not eligible for any ‘relief’...it has been a godsend.”
 - “I don’t qualify for food stamps so this program really helps me and my children when we can’t afford to buy more food.”
- **About nine in ten (2,223, or 89%) respondents report that VEE introduced them to new restaurants.**
 - 55% strongly agree that VEE introduced them to new restaurants.
 - **Respondents that participate more frequently in the program were more likely to strongly agree that VEE introduced them to new restaurants:** 60% of those that participate once a week or more strongly agree, 52% of those that participate about two or three time per month, 41% of those that participate about once a month, and 42% of those that have participated once, or participate less than once a month.
 - **The proportion of respondents that report that VEE introduced them to new restaurants varies across community hubs,** ranging from 100% of those that participate via the Giving Fridge (a subcontracted partner to Localvore), to 68% of those that participate via the Upper Valley community hub.
 - The variance in participant responses may be due to contextual differences, such as the varying degree of restaurant presence in different regions, as well as the varying number of restaurants participating via each community hub.
 - In their open-ended comments, **57 respondents reiterate that the program introduced them to new restaurants and/or, indicate that it has created restaurant loyalty:**
 - “We are experiencing new, local, restaurants and feel so good supporting them and also being supported!”

- “When we are both employed again...we will go to the places we have visited.”
 - “[It] helps out local business in the form of pleasant experiences and word of mouth.”
 - “It made me try new places I had never heard of, and now I go there all the time and notice they are getting much more business.”
 - “I believe it is a mutually beneficial program that will gain long term loyal and dedicated customers for these restaurants.”
- **Almost three in four (1,033, or 73%) in-depth survey respondents report that if VEE were to end there would be more strain on their budget.†**
 - **Respondents that participate more frequently in the program were more likely to report that if VEE were to end there would be more strain on their budget:** 78% of those that participate once a week or more, 76% of those that participate about two or three time per month, 59% of those that participate about once a month, and 52% of those that have participated once, or participate less than once a month.†
 - **The proportion of respondents that report that if VEE were to end, there would be more strain on their budget, varies significantly across community hubs,** ranging from 82% of those that participate via the largest community hub, to 36% of those that participate via a smaller community hub. It should be noted, however, that smaller community hubs have smaller sample sizes, and so a small difference in the number of responses can have an outsized impact on averages such as this.†
- **Almost half (683, or 49%) of in-depth survey respondents report that if VEE were to end they would lose an important part of their community.†**
 - **Respondents report that if VEE were to end they would lose an important part of their community consistently across various program participation frequencies.†**
 - **Respondents report that if VEE were to end they would lose an important part of their community very consistently across community hubs.†**
- **About four in nine (638, or 45%) in-depth survey respondents report that if VEE were to end they would lose a food source they depend on.†**
 - **Respondents that participate more frequently in the program were more likely to report that if VEE were to end, they would lose a food source they depend on:** 55% of those that participate once a week or more, 38% of those that participate about two or three time per month, 24% of those that participate about once a month, and 27% of those that have participated once, or participate less than once a month.†
 - **The proportion of respondents that report that if VEE were to end they would lose a food source they depend on varies across community hubs,** ranging from 53% of those that participate via the largest community hub, to 29% of those that participate via a smaller community hub. It should be noted, however, that smaller community hubs have smaller sample sizes, and so a small difference in the number of responses can have an outsized impact on averages such as this.†
- **Nearly three in seven (592, or 42%) in-depth survey respondents report that if VEE were to end there would be more strain on their time.†**
 - **Respondents that participate more frequently in the program were more likely to**

- report that if VEE were to end, there would be more strain on their time:** 48% of those that participate once a week or more, 42% of those that participate about two or three times per month, 29% of those that participate about once a month, and 22% of those that have participated once, or participate less than once a month.†
- **The proportion of respondents that report that if VEE were to end there would be more strain on their time varies across community hubs,** ranging from 45% of those that participate via the largest community hub, to 20% of those that participate via a smaller community hub. It should be noted, however, that smaller community hubs have smaller sample sizes, and so a small difference in the number of responses can have an outsized impact on averages such as this.†
 - **More than one in three (498, or 35%) in-depth survey respondents report that if VEE were to end they would lose an opportunity to interact with others.**†
 - **Respondents that participate more frequently in the program were more likely to report that if VEE were to end, they would lose an opportunity to interact with others:** 39% of those that participate once a week or more, 36% of those that participate about two or three times per month, 26% of those that participate about once a month, and 25% of those that have participated once, or participate less than once a month.†
 - **Respondents report that if VEE were to end they would lose an opportunity to interact with others relatively consistently across community hubs.**†
 - In their open-ended comments, **47 respondents reiterate that the program provides them with an opportunity to connect, interact, and/or socialize** (includes both in-depth and short survey taker responses):
 - “I love it. It helps me interact with my community safely.”
 - “It is such a nice feeling picking up the meals and having that little bit of social time.”
 - “Being able to safely interact with the volunteers and other folks picking up meals...was an added benefit.”
 - “This has been amazing. In a time when connecting was difficult we felt connected.”
 - **Less than one in ten (117, or 8%) in-depth survey respondents report that if VEE were to end, they would experience none of the above** (more strain on their budget, loss of an important part of their community, loss of a food source they depend on, more strain on their time, and loss of an opportunity to interact with others).†
 - **Respondents that participate less frequently in the program were more likely to report that if VEE were to end, they would experience none of the above:** 24% of those that have participated once, or participate less than once a month, 13% of those that participate about once a month, 6% of those that participate about two or three times per month, and 6% of those that participate once a week or more.†
 - **The proportion of respondents that report that if VEE were to end they would experience none of the above varies across community hubs,** ranging from 6% of those that participate via the largest community hub, to 24% of those that participate via a smaller community hub. It should be noted, however, that smaller community hubs have

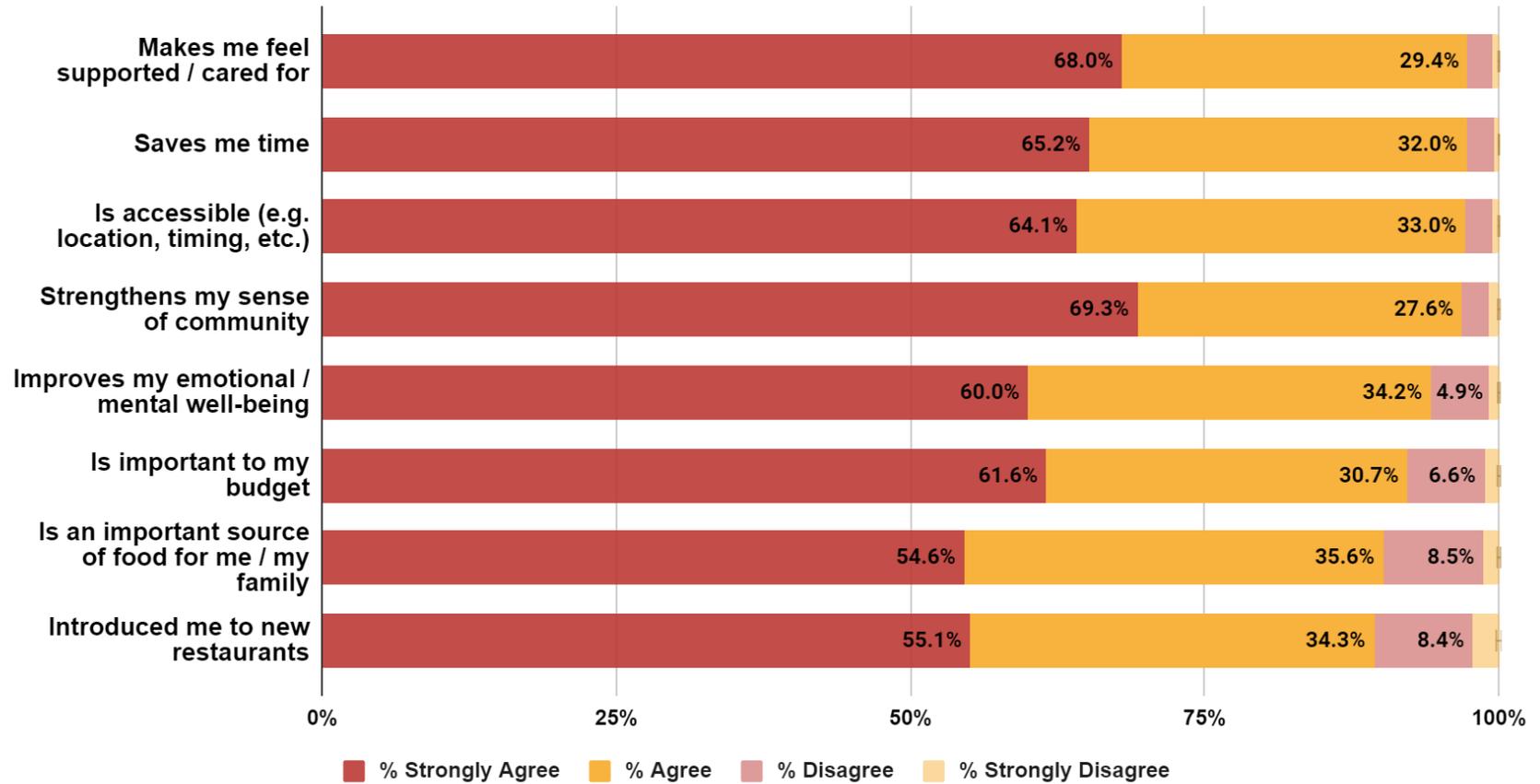
smaller sample sizes, and so a small difference in the number of responses can have an outsized impact on averages such as this.†

- **More than nine in ten** (1,276, or 92%) in-depth survey respondents report that they intend to purchase meals from VEE participating restaurants in the future.†
- In their open-ended comments, **747 respondents express that the program supports their community and/or community members:**
 - “VT Everyone Eats encourages empowerment, generosity, and relationships in a fundamental way because this is a contemporary network built out of creative necessity and local support!”
 - “VT Everyone Eats strengthens our understanding of community...deepening social integrity within a fragmented national atmosphere.”
 - “This is such a fantastic program for our truly marginalized individuals and families in our community.”
 - “I think the Everyone Eats model builds much more pride in the community and also supports more partners while providing food security to those in need.”
 - “I think it has strengthened our community by preventing local restaurants from going under with the economic impact of closures.”
 - More specifically, **65 respondents express that the program provides opportunities to support community members and/or strengthens support networks:**
 - “The impact that this program had on me came more from being able to help those in need. Every week myself and a couple co-workers were able to have a pick up location and hand out meals. We met many people and developed relationships.”
 - “I delivered meals to people and have enjoyed those connections.”
 - “I will often pick up meals for my neighbors and check in on them.”
 - “I picked up meals for myself and two other families. Makes me feel great that by delivering food to others I was helping out.”
- In their open-ended comments, **59 respondents report that participating in the program enabled them/their households to eat healthy and/or improved their physical health:**
 - “We were able to eat well because of Everyone Eats.”
 - “It helped me eat healthy and budget more successfully for important nutrients in my diet.”
 - “We got actual meals many days when we might have just scrounged for chips or junk when we were short on cash/time.”
 - “It is instrumental in supplementing our dietary and nutritional requirements towards health and well-being during a period of financial downturn.”
 - “We all know healthy foods are more expensive and having this free program helped us eat more healthy.”
 - “This program has often provided our only balanced and nutritional meal of the day.”
- In their open-ended comments, **34 respondents report that participating in the program introduced them/their households to new cuisine:**
 - “The VT Everyone Eats program is the [best] way to seek variety, motivation, and

networking in your diet.”

- “This has been a great opportunity for my children to be able to try new foods.”
- “I loved this, it allowed me to try foods I never would have.”
- “Ingredients and recipes were very diverse and provided an escape in a dark time...it was like a tour of the world each week.”
- In their open-ended comments, **36 respondents report that participating in the program enabled them, or others they know, to eat restaurant meals that they otherwise wouldn’t have had access to:**
 - “The families are overwhelmed with the opportunity to eat restaurant quality meals...this is a rare opportunity.”
 - “All meals have been very much appreciated by everyone, especially those who...cannot afford to eat out at restaurants.”
 - “I really appreciate this program. It enables my kids to feel like we can still have ‘special’ meals (i.e. from a restaurant) despite having a tighter budget due to COVID.”
 - “Incredible! Would never eat at a restaurant otherwise.”
 - “I am glad I can still support my favorite local restaurants, which I certainly would not be able to afford.”
- In their open-ended comments, **27 respondents express feeling proud of Vermont and/or their local community because of the program:**
 - “I have been blown away by the Everyone Eats program! It makes me so grateful to be living in Vermont.”
 - “This program has made me so proud of our community and state!”
 - “I am proud that my community was able to do this, in order to take care of the people during the pandemic.”
 - “Gave me a sense of pride and hope that we have been able to take care of each other and support our local businesses during this health crisis.”
- In their open-ended comments, **19 respondents express that participating in the program is helpful or enjoyable, though not financially critical for either themselves or others:**
 - “While I wouldn’t have considered myself in need of food support, having the option to grab a quick free meal every now and then has made the world of difference in my life.”
 - “I used sparingly because I did not have a huge financial need, but the few times I utilized were such a huge boost to my mental health.”
 - “I did not need the support financially...though, I was quickly getting very drained...I was so exhausted at the end of a day, and this was our lifeline!”

Agreement or Disagreement With Statements Regarding VEE



VEE Makes Participants Feel Supported/Cared For - By Participation Frequency	n size	% Strongly Agree or Agree	% Strongly Agree	% Agree	% Disagree	% Strongly Disagree
<i>All Respondents</i>	2,541	97.4%	68.0%	29.4%	2.1%	0.6%
Once a week or more	1,543	98.3%	72.8%	25.5%	1.3%	0.4%
About 2 or 3 times per month	540	97.8%	64.8%	33.0%	2.2%	0.0%
About once a month	232	96.6%	54.7%	41.8%	3.0%	
First time or less than once a month	211	91.9%	56.9%	35.1%	6.2%	

VEE Makes Participants Feel Support/Cared For - By Community Hub	n size	% Strongly Agree or Agree	% Strongly Agree	% Agree	% Disagree	% Strongly Disagree
<i>All Respondents</i>	2,541	97.4%	68.0%	29.4%	2.1%	0.6%
Localvore	864	97.8%	71.5%	26.3%	1.5%	0.7%
EE! Brattleboro & Beyond	416	97.8%	63.2%	34.6%	1.4%	
EE Chittenden, Franklin, and Grand Isle Counties	325	95.4%	64.9%	30.5%	4.0%	
Rutland/Vermont Farmers Food Center	235	98.7%	77.9%	20.9%		0.0%
Springfield Family Center/Chester Helping Hands	197	96.4%	64.0%	32.5%	3.6%	0.0%
Center for an Agricultural Economy	127	96.9%	66.1%	30.7%		
Northeast Kingdom Community Action (NEKCA)	88	94.3%	58.0%	36.4%		
Bennington County EE (BCEE)/The Collaborative	70	100.0%	62.9%	37.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Vergennes - Bar Antidote & Boys and Girls Club of Greater Vergennes	55	100.0%	78.2%	21.8%	0.0%	0.0%
Deerfield Valley/Shires Housing/WilmingtonWorks	48	95.8%	60.4%	35.4%		0.0%
EE of Central VT	42	95.2%	52.4%	42.9%		0.0%
Middlebury/Charter House Coalition	36	100.0%	88.9%		0.0%	0.0%
Upper Valley EE (UVEE)/Vital Communities	32	96.9%	46.9%	50.0%		0.0%
The Giving Fridge*	6	100.0%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

*Subcontracted partner to Localvore

VEE Saves Participants' Time - By Participation Frequency	n size	% Strongly Agree or Agree	% Strongly Agree	% Agree	% Disagree	% Strongly Disagree
<i>All Respondents</i>	2,518	97.2%	65.2%	32.0%	2.4%	0.4%
Once a week or more	1536	98.4%	71.7%	26.6%	1.5%	
About 2 or 3 times per month	532	97.4%	59.2%	38.2%	2.4%	
About once a month	230	94.3%	50.0%	44.3%	4.8%	
First time or less than once a month	207	91.8%	49.3%	42.5%	6.8%	

VEE Saves Participants' Time - By Community Hub	n size	% Strongly Agree or Agree	% Strongly Agree	% Agree	% Disagree	% Strongly Disagree
<i>All Respondents</i>	2,518	97.2%	65.2%	32.0%	2.4%	0.4%
Localvore	853	95.4%	61.9%	33.5%	3.9%	0.7%
EE! Brattleboro & Beyond	419	98.3%	65.6%	32.7%	1.4%	
EE Chittenden, Franklin, and Grand Isle Counties	317	97.8%	63.1%	34.7%	1.9%	
Rutland/Vermont Farmers Food Center	236	98.7%	75.4%	23.3%		0.0%
Springfield Family Center/Chester Helping Hands	193	97.4%	58.5%	38.9%		
Center for an Agricultural Economy	126	97.6%	69.8%	27.8%		0.0%
Northeast Kingdom Community Action (NEKCA)	88	97.7%	73.9%	23.9%		0.0%
Bennington County EE (BCEE)/The Collaborative	69	95.7%	55.1%	40.6%		0.0%
Vergennes - Bar Antidote & Boys and Girls Club of Greater Vergennes	54	100.0%	85.2%	14.8%	0.0%	0.0%
Deerfield Valley/Shires Housing/WilmingtonWorks	48	100.0%	58.3%	41.7%	0.0%	0.0%
EE of Central VT	42	100.0%	66.7%	33.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Middlebury/Charter House Coalition	36	100.0%	83.3%	16.7%	0.0%	0.0%
Upper Valley EE (UVEE)/Vital Communities	31	96.8%	61.3%	35.5%		0.0%
The Giving Fridge*	6	100.0%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

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VEE Is Accessible (e.g. location, timing, etc.) - By Participation Frequency	n size	% Strongly Agree or Agree	% Strongly Agree	% Agree	% Disagree	% Strongly Disagree
<i>All Respondents</i>	2,537	97.2%	64.1%	33.0%	2.2%	0.6%
Once a week or more	1542	98.5%	70.6%	27.9%	1.4%	
About 2 or 3 times per month	537	97.0%	56.1%	41.0%	2.6%	
About once a month	232	96.1%	52.6%	43.5%	3.0%	
First time or less than once a month	212	90.1%	50.0%	40.1%	6.1%	3.8%

VEE Is Accessible (e.g. location, timing, etc.) - By Community Hub	n size	% Strongly Agree or Agree	% Strongly Agree	% Agree	% Disagree	% Strongly Disagree
<i>All Respondents</i>	2,537	97.2%	64.1%	33.0%	2.2%	0.6%
Localvore	857	94.9%	55.3%	39.6%	3.9%	1.3%
EE! Brattleboro & Beyond	422	97.6%	64.2%	33.4%	2.4%	0.0%
EE Chittenden, Franklin, and Grand Isle Counties	318	98.1%	61.9%	36.2%		
Rutland/Vermont Farmers Food Center	242	99.2%	81.8%	17.4%		0.0%
Springfield Family Center/Chester Helping Hands	197	97.0%	64.0%	33.0%	3.0%	0.0%
Center for an Agricultural Economy	129	98.4%	68.2%	30.2%		
Northeast Kingdom Community Action (NEKCA)	85	98.8%	78.8%	20.0%		0.0%
Bennington County EE (BCEE)/The Collaborative	72	100.0%	66.7%	33.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Vergennes - Bar Antidote & Boys and Girls Club of Greater Vergennes	54	98.1%	85.2%	13.0%		0.0%
Deerfield Valley/Shires Housing/WilmingtonWorks	47	100.0%	53.2%	46.8%	0.0%	0.0%
EE of Central VT	41	100.0%	68.3%	31.7%	0.0%	0.0%
Middlebury/Charter House Coalition	36	100.0%	88.9%		0.0%	0.0%
Upper Valley EE (UVVEE)/Vital Communities	31	100.0%	67.7%	32.3%	0.0%	0.0%
The Giving Fridge*	6	100.0%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

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VEE Strengthens Participants' Sense of Community - By Participation Frequency	n size	% Strongly Agree or Agree	% Strongly Agree	% Agree	% Disagree	% Strongly Disagree
<i>All Respondents</i>	2,547	96.9%	69.3%	27.6%	2.2%	0.9%
Once a week or more	1,545	97.5%	73.9%	23.7%	1.9%	0.6%
About 2 or 3 times per month	542	97.4%	66.2%	31.2%	2.0%	
About once a month	232	97.8%	57.8%	40.1%		
First time or less than once a month	212	92.0%	58.0%	34.0%	5.7%	2.4%

VEE Strengthens Participants' Sense of Community - By Community Hub	n size	% Strongly Agree or Agree	% Strongly Agree	% Agree	% Disagree	% Strongly Disagree
<i>All Respondents</i>	2,547	96.9%	69.3%	27.6%	2.2%	0.9%
Localvore	867	96.1%	71.0%	25.0%	3.0%	0.9%
EE! Brattleboro & Beyond	422	97.9%	70.6%	27.3%	1.7%	
EE Chittenden, Franklin, and Grand Isle Counties	318	95.0%	58.2%	36.8%	3.5%	1.6%
Rutland/Vermont Farmers Food Center	240	97.9%	77.5%	20.4%	2.1%	0.0%
Springfield Family Center/Chester Helping Hands	197	98.0%	73.6%	24.4%		
Center for an Agricultural Economy	128	98.4%	73.4%	25.0%		
Northeast Kingdom Community Action (NEKCA)	85	96.5%	54.1%	42.4%	0.0%	
Bennington County EE (BCEE)/The Collaborative	72	98.6%	65.3%	33.3%		0.0%
Vergennes - Bar Antidote & Boys and Girls Club of Greater Vergennes	54	100.0%	77.8%	22.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Deerfield Valley/Shires Housing/WilmingtonWorks	48	97.9%	52.1%	45.8%		0.0%
EE of Central VT	42	97.6%	57.1%	40.5%	0.0%	
Middlebury/Charter House Coalition	36	97.2%	91.7%	5.6%		0.0%
Upper Valley EE (UVEE)/Vital Communities	32	93.8%	56.3%	37.5%		0.0%
The Giving Fridge*	6	100.0%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

*Subcontracted partner to Localvore

VEE Improves Participants' Emotional/Mental Well-Being - By Participation Frequency	n size	% Strongly Agree or Agree	% Strongly Agree	% Agree	% Disagree	% Strongly Disagree
<i>All Respondents</i>	2,527	94.2%	60.0%	34.2%	4.9%	0.9%
Once a week or more	1,538	96.2%	65.8%	30.4%	3.4%	0.5%
About 2 or 3 times per month	534	94.4%	57.9%	36.5%	5.1%	
About once a month	231	88.7%	39.0%	49.8%	10.0%	
First time or less than once a month	209	86.6%	46.9%	39.7%	10.0%	3.3%

VEE Improves Participants' Emotional/Mental Well-Being - By Community Hub	n size	% Strongly Agree or Agree	% Strongly Agree	% Agree	% Disagree	% Strongly Disagree
<i>All Respondents</i>	2,527	94.2%	60.0%	34.2%	4.9%	0.9%
Localvore	862	95.8%	66.7%	29.1%	3.4%	0.8%
EE! Brattleboro & Beyond	416	94.2%	57.7%	36.5%	4.6%	1.2%
EE Chittenden, Franklin, and Grand Isle Counties	318	89.9%	49.7%	40.3%	8.5%	1.6%
Rutland/Vermont Farmers Food Center	236	95.3%	69.1%	26.3%	4.2%	
Springfield Family Center/Chester Helping Hands	196	94.9%	54.1%	40.8%	4.6%	
Center for an Agricultural Economy	127	96.1%	59.1%	37.0%		
Northeast Kingdom Community Action (NEKCA)	87	87.4%	44.8%	42.5%	11.5%	
Bennington County EE (BCEE)/The Collaborative	70	97.1%	50.0%	47.1%		0.0%
Vergennes - Bar Antidote & Boys and Girls Club of Greater Vergennes	54	98.1%	66.7%	31.5%		0.0%
Deerfield Valley/Shires Housing/WilmingtonWorks	47	78.7%	42.6%	36.2%	21.3%	0.0%
EE of Central VT	42	95.2%	50.0%	45.2%		
Middlebury/Charter House Coalition	35	100.0%	85.7%	14.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Upper Valley EE (UVEE)/Vital Communities	31	93.5%	38.7%	54.8%		0.0%
The Giving Fridge*	6	100.0%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

*Subcontracted partner to Localvore

VEE Is Important to Participants' Budgets - By Participation Frequency	n size	% Strongly Agree or Agree	% Strongly Agree	% Agree	% Disagree	% Strongly Disagree
<i>All Respondents</i>	2,531	92.2%	61.6%	30.7%	6.6%	1.2%
Once a week or more	1,541	96.2%	70.5%	25.7%	3.5%	0.3%
About 2 or 3 times per month	534	90.4%	52.1%	38.4%	9.2%	
About once a month	232	83.2%	39.7%	43.5%	12.5%	4.3%
First time or less than once a month	209	78.9%	45.0%	34.0%	16.3%	4.8%

VEE Is Important Participants' Budgets - By Community Hub	n size	% Strongly Agree or Agree	% Strongly Agree	% Agree	% Disagree	% Strongly Disagree
<i>All Respondents</i>	2,531	92.2%	61.6%	30.7%	6.6%	1.2%
Localvore	864	95.5%	70.5%	25.0%	3.7%	0.8%
EE! Brattleboro & Beyond	421	87.2%	50.6%	36.6%	11.2%	1.7%
EE Chittenden, Franklin, and Grand Isle Counties	318	84.0%	51.6%	32.4%	13.2%	2.8%
Rutland/Vermont Farmers Food Center	234	97.9%	73.1%	24.8%	2.1%	0.0%
Springfield Family Center/Chester Helping Hands	197	90.9%	48.2%	42.6%	7.6%	
Center for an Agricultural Economy	124	92.7%	54.0%	38.7%	5.6%	
Northeast Kingdom Community Action (NEKCA)	88	92.0%	55.7%	36.4%	6.8%	
Bennington County EE (BCEE)/The Collaborative	69	94.2%	59.4%	34.8%		
Vergennes - Bar Antidote & Boys and Girls Club of Greater Vergennes	55	98.2%	83.6%	14.5%		0.0%
Deerfield Valley/Shires Housing/WilmingtonWorks	47	87.2%	53.2%	34.0%	12.8%	0.0%
EE of Central VT	40	95.0%	57.5%	37.5%		
Middlebury/Charter House Coalition	36	100.0%	80.6%	19.4%	0.0%	0.0%
Upper Valley EE (UVEE)/Vital Communities	32	96.9%	62.5%	34.4%		0.0%
The Giving Fridge*	6	100.0%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

*Subcontracted partner to Localvore

VEE Is An Important Source of Food for Participants/ Participant Households - By Participation Frequency	n size	% Strongly Agree or Agree	% Strongly Agree	% Agree	% Disagree	% Strongly Disagree
<i>All Respondents</i>	2,542	90.2%	54.6%	35.6%	8.5%	1.3%
Once a week or more	1,545	95.9%	65.4%	30.4%	3.9%	
About 2 or 3 times per month	538	88.1%	41.3%	46.8%	11.2%	
About once a month	233	75.1%	30.0%	45.1%	21.5%	3.4%
First time or less than once a month	211	72.0%	36.0%	36.0%	20.9%	7.1%

VEE Is An Important Source of Food for Participants/ Participant Households - By Community Hub	n size	% Strongly Agree or Agree	% Strongly Agree	% Agree	% Disagree	% Strongly Disagree
<i>All Respondents</i>	2,542	90.2%	54.6%	35.6%	8.5%	1.3%
Localvore	863	92.1%	59.7%	32.4%	6.7%	1.2%
EE! Brattleboro & Beyond	422	84.8%	39.8%	45.0%	13.3%	1.9%
EE Chittenden, Franklin, and Grand Isle Counties	323	81.4%	47.7%	33.7%	15.8%	2.8%
Rutland/Vermont Farmers Food Center	237	97.5%	71.7%	25.7%	2.5%	0.0%
Springfield Family Center/Chester Helping Hands	198	90.9%	42.9%	48.0%	7.6%	
Center for an Agricultural Economy	125	88.8%	48.8%	40.0%	9.6%	
Northeast Kingdom Community Action (NEKCA)	87	92.0%	58.6%	33.3%	5.7%	
Bennington County EE (BCEE)/The Collaborative	70	95.7%	57.1%	38.6%		0.0%
Vergennes - Bar Antidote & Boys and Girls Club of Greater Vergennes	55	98.2%	78.2%	20.0%		0.0%
Deerfield Valley/Shires Housing/WilmingtonWorks	46	89.1%	47.8%	41.3%	10.9%	0.0%
EE of Central VT	42	95.2%	59.5%	35.7%		0.0%
Middlebury/Charter House Coalition	36	97.2%	86.1%			0.0%
Upper Valley EE (UVVEE)/Vital Communities	32	96.9%	50.0%	46.9%		0.0%
The Giving Fridge*	6	100.0%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

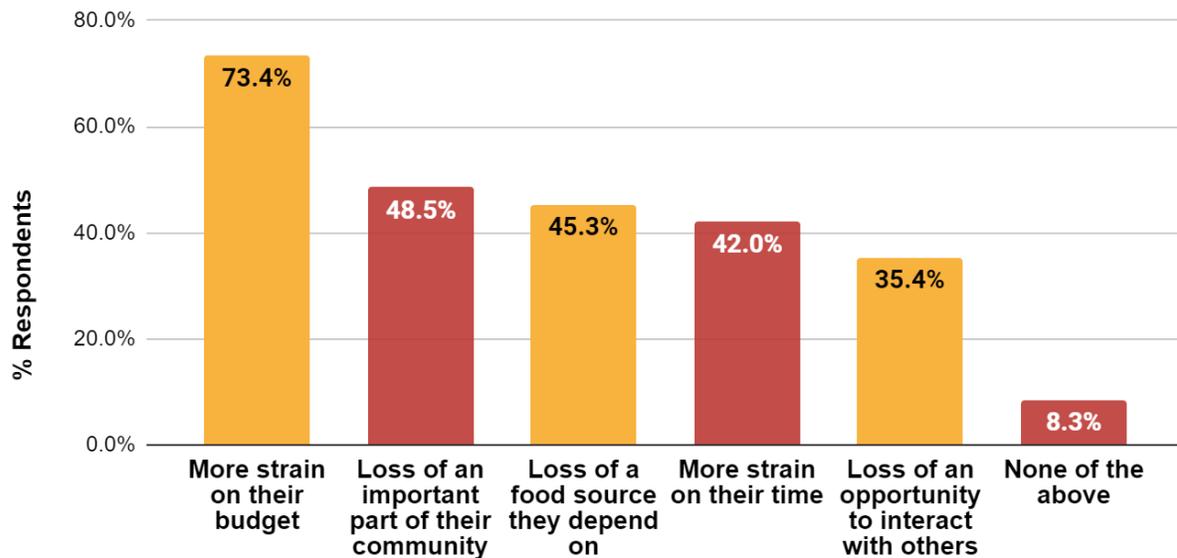
*Subcontracted partner to Localvore

VEE Introduced Participants to New Restaurants - By Participation Frequency	n size	% Strongly Agree or Agree	% Strongly Agree	% Agree	% Disagree	% Strongly Disagree
<i>All Respondents</i>	2,487	89.4%	55.1%	34.3%	8.4%	2.2%
Once a week or more	1,509	91.1%	60.2%	30.9%	7.2%	1.7%
About 2 or 3 times per month	526	89.9%	52.3%	37.6%	8.2%	1.9%
About once a month	229	84.7%	41.5%	43.2%	12.7%	2.6%
First time or less than once a month	209	82.3%	42.1%	40.2%	12.4%	5.3%

VEE Introduced Participants to New Restaurants - By Community Hub	n size	% Strongly Agree or Agree	% Strongly Agree	% Agree	% Disagree	% Strongly Disagree
<i>All Respondents</i>	2,487	89.4%	55.1%	34.3%	8.4%	2.2%
Localvore	856	91.2%	61.1%	30.1%	7.5%	1.3%
EE! Brattleboro & Beyond	420	92.9%	51.4%	41.4%	4.8%	2.4%
EE Chittenden, Franklin, and Grand Isle Counties	314	84.4%	45.9%	38.5%	9.9%	5.7%
Rutland/Vermont Farmers Food Center	238	96.6%	68.9%	27.7%	2.5%	
Springfield Family Center/Chester Helping Hands	194	92.3%	60.8%	31.4%	5.7%	
Center for an Agricultural Economy	123	82.1%	39.0%	43.1%	14.6%	
Northeast Kingdom Community Action (NEKCA)	88	79.5%	46.6%	33.0%	18.2%	
Bennington County EE (BCEE)/The Collaborative	71	93.0%	56.3%	36.6%	7.0%	0.0%
Vergennes - Bar Antidote & Boys and Girls Club of Greater Vergennes	55	83.6%	47.3%	36.4%	14.5%	
Deerfield Valley/Shires Housing/WilmingtonWorks	47	76.6%	36.2%	40.4%	21.3%	
EE of Central VT	39	71.8%	33.3%	38.5%	23.1%	
Middlebury/Charter House Coalition	5	80.0%	80.0%	0.0%		0.0%
Upper Valley EE (UVEE)/Vital Communities	31	67.7%	35.5%	32.3%	32.3%	0.0%
The Giving Fridge*	6	100.0%	83.3%		0.0%	0.0%

*Subcontracted partner to Localvore

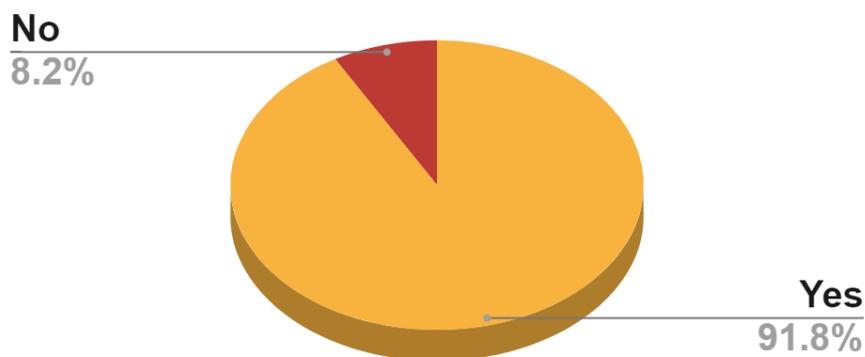
If VEE Ends, What Will That Mean For Participants? - In-Depth Only



If VEE Ends, What Will That Mean For Participants? - By Participation Frequency - In-Depth Only	n size	% More Strain On Their Budget	% Loss of an Important Part of Their Community	% Loss of a Food Source They Depend On	% More Strain on Their Time	% Loss of an Opportunity to Interact with Others	% None of the Above
<i>All Respondents</i>	1,408	73.4%	48.5%	45.3%	42.0%	35.4%	8.3%
Once a week or more	809	78.4%	49.2%	54.9%	47.7%	38.7%	5.7%
About 2 or 3 times per month	325	76.0%	50.5%	38.5%	41.8%	35.7%	5.8%
About once a month	140	59.3%	47.9%	23.6%	29.3%	26.4%	12.9%
First time or less than once a month	127	52.0%	41.7%	26.8%	22.0%	25.2%	23.6%

If VEE Ends, What Will That Mean For Participants? - By Community Hub - In-Depth Only	n size	% More Strain On Their Budget	% Loss of an Important Part of Their Community	% Loss of a Food Source They Depend On	% More Strain on Their Time	% Loss of an Opportunity to Interact with Others	% None of the Above
All Respondents	1,408	73.4%	48.5%	45.3%	42.0%	35.4%	8.3%
Localvore	869	81.6%	48.3%	52.7%	44.5%	36.5%	5.5%
EE! Brattleboro & Beyond	423	62.6%	48.0%	31.9%	41.4%	29.8%	12.1%
Bennington County EE (BCEE)/The Collaborative	71	60.6%	53.5%	45.1%	29.6%	49.3%	9.9%
Deerfield Valley/Shires Housing/Wilmington Works	45	35.6%	48.9%	28.9%	20.0%	44.4%	24.4%

Do Participants Intend to Purchase Meals From VEE Restaurants in the Future? - In-Depth Only



Future Programming/Support

Results below are presented in order of significance.

- **Nearly all (1,375, or 98%) in-depth survey respondents would like VEE to continue.**†
 - In their open-ended comments, **357 respondents reiterate that they would like VEE, or a program just like it, to continue** (includes both in-depth and short survey taker responses):
 - “To keep this type of program going in my community would be amazing.”
 - “This program is wonderful. I hope it stays around.”

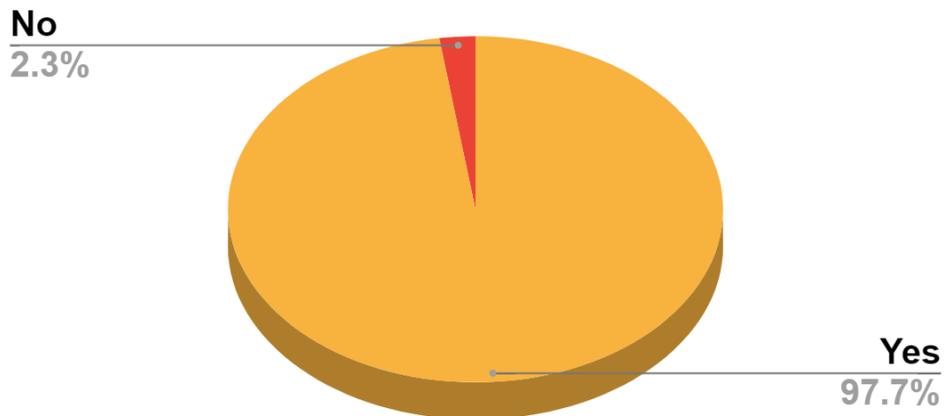
- “I’d love to see this continue as a way of life and being, without a pandemic or crisis needed.”
 - “It would be wonderful to see something like this carried on throughout the year. Why do we need a pandemic to offer meals to those in need?”
 - “I would truly appreciate Everyone Eats continuing.”
 - In their open-ended comments, **120 respondents reiterate that they not only would like VEE to continue, they would like the program to expand** (includes both in-depth and short survey taker responses):
 - “Keep Everyone Eats going and add more rural options.”
 - “Continue the program and offer food more than once per week.”
 - “Continue Everyone Eats and [have] more local restaurants participate.”
 - In their open-ended comments, **40 respondents express that there is still a need for VEE and/or concern if the program ends** (includes both in-depth and short survey taker responses):
 - “I think this is a resource that should continue after the pandemic...food insecurity is a pain point for a large number of people in our area and the cost of living has gone up since the pandemic.”
 - “Please keep doing what you’re doing. People really need this.”
 - “Afraid to imagine without it!”
 - “By the size of the line for food, it is a good indication of the need for this program.”
- **One in three** (441, or 33%) in-depth survey respondents do not intend to access food via other common food assistance programs and methods post-VEE (e.g. food boxes, 3SquaresVT, food shelves/pantries, community meals, meal programs for kids, WIC, Commodity Supplemental Food Program, mutual aid groups, and Meals on Wheels). †
 - Respondents report that they do not intend to access food via other common food assistance programs and methods post-VEE consistently across various program participation frequencies. †
 - Respondents report that they do not intend to access food via other common food assistance programs and methods post-VEE consistently across community hubs. †
- **Three in ten** (409, or 30%) in-depth survey respondents intend to access food via food boxes post-VEE (e.g. Farmers to Families, VT Full Plates). †
 - Respondents report that they intend to access food via food boxes post-VEE consistently across various program participation frequencies. †
 - The proportion of respondents that report that they intend to access food via food boxes post-VEE varies across community hubs, ranging from 32% of those that participate via the Bennington community hub, to 11% of those that participate via the Deerfield Valley community hub. †
- **Less than three in ten** (383, or 28%) in-depth survey respondents intend to access food via 3SquaresVT post-VEE. †
 - Respondents report that they intend to access food via 3SquaresVT post-VEE consistently across various program participation frequencies. †

- **The proportion of respondents that report that they intend to access food via 3SquaresVT post-VEE varies across community hubs**, ranging from 52% of those that participate via the Deerfield Valley community hub, to 22% of those that participate via the Brattleboro community hub.†
- **Less than three in ten (371, or 27%) in-depth survey respondents intend to access food via food shelves or pantries post-VEE.**†
 - **Respondents report that they intend to access food via food shelves or pantries post-VEE consistently across various program participation frequencies.**†
 - **The proportion of respondents that report that they intend to access food via food shelves or pantries post-VEE varies across community hubs**, ranging from 45% of those that participate via the Bennington community hub, to 19% of those that participate via the Brattleboro community hub.†
- **About one in six (221, or 16%) in-depth survey respondents intend to access food via community meals post-VEE.**†
 - **Respondents report that they intend to access food via community meals post-VEE very consistently across various program participation frequencies.**†
 - **Respondents report that they intend to access food via community meals post-VEE very consistently across community hubs.**†
- **About one in nine (155, or 11%) in-depth survey respondents intend to access food via meal programs for kids post-VEE.**†
 - **Respondents that report that they intend to access food via meal programs for kids post-VEE very consistently across various program participation frequencies.**†
 - **Respondents report that they intend to access food via meal programs for kids post-VEE very consistently across the Localvore and Brattleboro community hubs (samples sizes from Bennington and Deerfield Valley are too small to compare).**†
- **About one in twelve (103, or 8%) in-depth survey respondents intend to access food via WIC post-VEE.**†
 - **Respondents report that they intend to access food via WIC post-VEE very consistently, across various program participation frequencies.**†
 - **Respondents report that they intend to access food via WIC post-VEE very consistently across the Localvore and Brattleboro community hubs (samples sizes from Bennington and Deerfield Valley are too small to compare).**†
- **About one in fourteen (93, or 7%) in-depth survey respondents intend to access food via Commodity Supplemental Food Program post-VEE.**†
 - **Respondents report that they intend to access food via Commodity Supplemental Food Program post-VEE very consistently across various program participation frequencies.**†
 - **Respondents report that they intend to access food via Commodity Supplemental Food Program post-VEE very consistently across community hubs (the sample size from Deerfield Valley is too small to compare).**†
- **About one in twenty (62, or 5%) in-depth survey respondents intend to access food via mutual aid groups post-VEE.**†
 - **Respondents report that they intend to access food via mutual aid groups post-VEE**

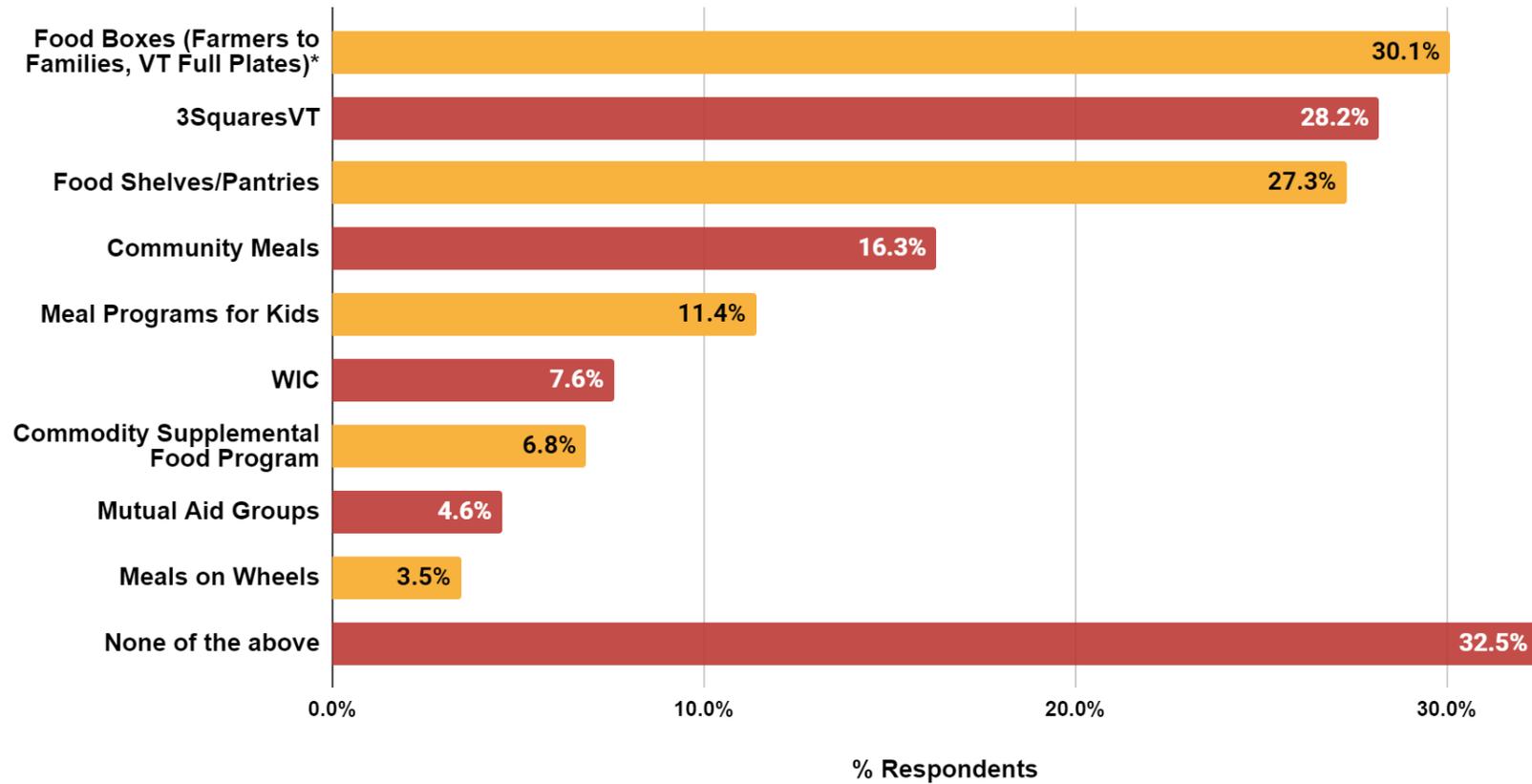
- **very consistently across various program participation frequencies.**†
 - **Respondents report that they intend to access food via mutual aid groups post-VEE very consistently across community hubs** (the sample size from Deerfield Valley is too small to compare).†
- **About one in twenty-five (47, or 4%) in-depth survey respondents intend to access food via Meals on Wheels.**†
 - **Respondents report that they intend to access food via Meals on Wheels post-VEE very consistently across various program participation frequencies** (the sample size of those that participate about once a month is too small to compare).†
 - **Respondents report that they intend to access food via Meals on Wheels post-VEE very consistently across community hubs** (the samples size from Deerfield Valley is too small to compare).†
- In their open-ended comments, **respondents express the need for various types of food support and services in their communities:**
 - **More prepared/ready meal support** (67 respondents)
 - **General food support** (63 respondents)
 - **Free community meals** (44 respondents)
 - **Improved access to fresh produce** (39 respondents)
 - **Improved access to high-quality food** (e.g. local, organic and/or healthy) (37 respondents)
 - **More delivered food support** (32 respondents)
 - **Reduced price or discounted restaurant meals** (26 respondents)
 - **More food support via CSAs, farmers markets, and/or farms** (28 respondents)
 - **More community food events** (20 respondents)
 - **More food support for children** (18 respondents)
 - **Community gardens/greenhouses** (16 respondents)
 - **More free food shelves/pantries** (15 respondents)
 - **Diversified meal/food options** (15 respondents)
 - **Food preparation education** (15 respondents)
 - **Other food support/programs** (e.g. food lockers, food boxes, community kitchens) (42 respondents)
- In their open-ended comments, **respondents express the need for additional services and support in their communities:**
 - **Support for seniors** (40 respondents)
 - **General services/support** (37 respondents)
 - **Transportation support** (e.g. ride-sharing, public transportation) (34 respondents)
 - **Community, social, and/or recreational opportunities** (33 respondents)
 - **Housing support** (e.g. more affordable housing, more transition housing) (30 respondents)
 - **More and/or improved mental health services** (23 respondents)
 - **Support for isolated populations** (e.g. homebound, living alone, and/or living in rural areas) (20 respondents)

- **More affordable and/or higher quality childcare or childcare support** (17 respondents)
- **Youth activities** (16 respondents)
- **Services and benefits information and navigation support** (15 respondents)
- **Support for local businesses** (15 respondents)
- In their open-ended comments, **some respondents express a desire for systemic changes in service delivery:**
 - **A transformed approach to food security** (e.g. holistic, community-centered, reduced waste/increased sharing etc.) (34 respondents)
 - **More low or no barrier support and programs** (24 respondents)
- In their open-ended comments, **25 respondents report that they are pleased with the services currently available in their community:**
 - "I am really happy with the services that are already in place. Thank you!"
 - "I think we have a good assortment of programs."
 - "I think that everything offered is for a reason and appropriate for everyone's needs."

Should VT Everyone Eats Continue? In-Depth Only



Other Food Sources/Programs Participants Intend to Access Post-VEE - In-Depth Only



**Farmers to Families and VT Full Plates programming are no longer active as of the time of this report*

Other Food Sources/Programs Participants Intend to Access Post-VEE-By Participation Frequency - In-Depth Only	n size	% Food Boxes (Farmers to Families, VT Full Plates)*	% 3Squares VT	% Food Shelves / Pantries	% Community Meals	% Meal Programs for Kids	% WIC	% Commodity Supplemental Food Program	% Mutual Aid Groups	% Meals on Wheels	% None of the Above
<i>All Respondents</i>	1,359	30.1%	28.2%	27.3%	16.3%	11.4%	7.6%	6.8%	4.6%	3.5%	32.5%
Once a week or more	772	29.0%	28.5%	29.8%	17.9%	10.5%	6.9%	7.5%	4.5%	3.5%	32.0%
About 2 or 3 times per month	319	30.4%	27.0%	25.4%	15.7%	12.9%	8.8%	4.7%	4.4%	2.2%	32.6%
About once a month	136	36.0%	22.1%	18.4%	11.0%	11.0%	6.6%	5.9%	5.1%		39.0%
First time or less than once a month	128	28.9%	35.2%	27.3%	14.1%	14.1%	10.2%	8.6%	4.7%	7.0%	28.9%

**Farmers to Families and VT Full Plates programming are no longer active as of the time of this report.*

Other Food Sources/Programs Participants Intend to Access Post-VEE-By Community Hub - In-Depth Only	n size	% Food Boxes (Farmers to Families, VT Full Plates)*	% 3Squares VT	% Food Shelves / Pantries	% Community Meals	% Meal Programs for Kids	% WIC	% Commodity Supplemental Food Program	% Mutual Aid Groups	% Meals on Wheels	% None of the Above
<i>All Respondents</i>	1,359	30.1%	28.2%	27.3%	16.3%	11.4%	7.6%	6.8%	4.6%	3.5%	32.5%
Localvore	832	31.1%	29.0%	30.0%	19.5%	12.5%	8.5%	7.6%	6.1%	2.5%	28.8%
EE! Brattleboro & Beyond	414	29.7%	22.2%	19.1%	10.9%	11.6%	6.8%	5.1%	2.4%	2.7%	41.3%
Bennington County EE (BCEE)/The Collaborative	69	31.9%	39.1%	44.9%	13.0%			7.2%	0.0%	5.8%	23.3%
Deerfield Valley/Shires Housing/Wilmington Works	44	11.4%	52.3%	25.0%	11.4%						31.8%

**Farmers to Families and VT Full Plates programming are no longer active as of the time of this report*

Survey Design:

The meal participant survey was designed by a SEVCA/VEE staff member with non-profit program evaluation and data analysis expertise, in close collaboration with other SEVCA/VEE staff, community hub staff, and statewide task force members. To best meet the diverse needs of meal participants, distribution partners, and community hubs, two versions of the survey were designed: the in-depth version and the shorter version. Both versions collected the same basic program participation data, program impact data, and data to inform potential future programming and support. The in-depth version collected additional participation, impact, and future programming/support data, as well as participant demographic information. To optimize engagement and honor the sensitive nature of some of the data being collected, all survey questions were optional. Demographic questions additionally provided “I prefer not to answer” options. While the survey did optionally collect name and contact information, this was only used for survey participation raffle purposes and to allow the opportunity to reach out to participants to solicit input on future programming to those who provided permission. Upon receipt of data, this information was removed from all other survey responses. Respondents were apprised of this data privacy information at the beginning of the survey. Please see [“Appendix A. Participant Survey Questions - In-Depth Version”](#) and [“Appendix B. Participant Survey Questions - Shorter Version”](#) for specific content.

Survey Administration:

The survey was administered to meal participants by 13 out of 14 community hubs in collaboration with their distribution partners between June 1st, 2021 through June 25th, 2021. Four community hubs chose to administer the in-depth version of the survey: Bennington County EE (BCEE)/The Collaborative; EE! Brattleboro & Beyond; Deerfield Valley/Shires Housing/WilmingtonWorks; and Localvore. Nine community hubs chose to administer the shorter version of the survey: Center for an Agricultural Economy; EE of Central VT; EE Chittenden, Franklin, and Grand Isle Counties; Middlebury/Charter House Coalition; Northeast Kingdom Community Action (NEKCA); Rutland/Vermont Farmers Food Center; Springfield Family Center/Chester Helping Hands; Upper Valley EE (UVEE)/Vital Communities; and Vergennes - Bar Antidote & Boys and Girls Club of Greater Vergennes. The Giving Fridge, a subcontracted partner to Localvore that joined VEE in May of 2021, administered the shorter version of the survey, despite Localvore administering the in-depth version, due to their significantly different distribution structures. The Green Mountain Farm to School/RuralEdge community hub did not administer the survey. Community hubs were provided with additional administration options, enabling them to best meet the needs of their unique distribution models and best engage the participant populations they serve. Administration options included utilizing digital and/or hard copy surveys, as well as English, Mai Mai, Nepali, Somali, Spanish, and/or Swahili versions of each. Community hubs were provided with various administration materials, including: signage with the survey link and a QR code, small take-home slips of paper with the survey link and QR code, and template emails to request survey participation. A survey response tracking sheet was updated regularly, and many community hubs used this information to tailor their outreach accordingly throughout the administration period. To incentivize survey

participation, 50 cash cards for \$50 were raffled off to those who completed the survey and opted to be entered. The survey received 2,606 participant responses from throughout the state, with representation from each of Vermont's 14 counties.

Data Analysis:

Survey results were analyzed by a SEVCA/VEE staff member with non-profit program evaluation and data analysis expertise. Quantitative analyses were conducted at the statewide level and were additionally disaggregated and analyzed by community hub, and program participation frequency. To ensure statistical significance and to protect the identity of respondents, only quantitative data points representing a sample size of five or more respondents have been included in this report. Quantitative data points representing a sample size of fewer than five respondents have been suppressed, and are **blocked out in gray**. Where appropriate, subgroups have been combined to enable the reporting of data. In some instances, qualifiers have been used to describe the consistency or variance of disaggregated results compared to aggregated results. The following rubric was used to make these determinations: disaggregated results +/- 0-5 percentage points of the statewide average = very consistent, disaggregated results +/- 6-10 percentage points of the statewide average = consistent, disaggregated results +/- 11-15 percentage points of the statewide average = relatively consistent, disaggregated results +/- 16-20 percentage points of the statewide average = variable, and disaggregated results +/- 21 or more percentage points of the statewide average = significantly variable. Qualitative analyses were conducted at the statewide level utilizing an inductive approach to thematic coding. The frequency of codes were then quantified. Any code occurring in fifteen or more responses was considered a theme and has been referenced in the report under "**Results.**" Where quotes have been utilized to illustrate meaning, they have been carefully deidentified and used only where representative of larger, generalizable themes. All figures and themes provided in this report have been triple-checked for accuracy. For any questions on methods, findings, or otherwise, please contact [Kelsea Burch](#), Administrative Coordinator, VT Everyone Eats.

Appendix:

Appendix A.
Participant Survey Questions - In-Depth Version

Part I. VT Everyone Eats Experience & Impact

1. Which town do you live in (or live in most of the time)? *(short answer)*

2. About how often do you participate in VT Everyone Eats? Please select one.

- Once a week or more
- About 2 or 3 times per month
- About once a month
- First time or less than once a month

3. On average, how many people do you pick up or receive meals for (including yourself)? Please select one.

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6 or more

4. Are VT Everyone Eats meals delivered to you? Please select one.

- Yes, meals are delivered
- No, I pick up meals

4a. If yes, could you have accessed meals if they were not delivered to you? Please select one.

- Yes, reliably
- Sometimes
- No, delivery is essential

5. Please circle one choice for each of the following:

How important is it to you that VT Everyone Eats...

	Very Important	Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important
Offers prepared meals	1	2	3	4
Offers meals prepared by restaurants	1	2	3	4
Has no application	1	2	3	4
Supports VT businesses (e.g. restaurants/farmers)	1	2	3	4

6. Please circle one choice for each of the following:

The VT Everyone Eats program...

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Is accessible (e.g. location, timing etc.)	1	2	3	4
Saves me time	1	2	3	4
Is an important source of food for me/my family	1	2	3	4
Is important to my budget	1	2	3	4
Introduced me to new restaurants	1	2	3	4
Makes me feel supported/cared for	1	2	3	4
Improves my emotional/mental well-being	1	2	3	4
Strengthens my sense of community	1	2	3	4

7. Please share any additional feedback you may have on the VT Everyone Eats program and its impact on you or your community. (e.g. other aspects of the program that are important, additional benefits, suggestions for improvement) (long answer)

Part II. Future Support and Opportunities Funding for the VT Everyone Eats program in its current form is dependent on the COVID-19 State of Emergency. While we cannot guarantee what we may be able to offer in the future, the information you provide below will help us plan and advocate for possible future programming or similar programming.

1. Do you think the VT Everyone Eats program should continue? Please select one.

- Yes
 No

2. If the VT Everyone Eats program does not continue, what will that mean for you? Please select any that apply.

- Loss of a food source I depend on
 Loss of an opportunity to interact with others
 Loss of an important part of my community
 More strain on my budget
 More strain on my time
 None of the above
 Other: _____

3. Do you plan to get food in any of the following ways after VT Everyone Eats? Please select all that apply.

- 3SquaresVT
- Commodity Supplemental Food Program
- Community Meals
- Food Boxes (Farmers to Families/VT Full Plates)
- Food Shelves/Pantries
- Meals on Wheels
- Meal Programs for Kids
- Mutual Aid Groups
- WIC
- None of the above
- Other:_____

4. Do you intend to purchase meals from participating VT Everyone Eats restaurants in the future? Please select one.

- Yes
- No

**5. What type of programming, services, or support would you like to see offered in your community moving forward?
(long answer)**

Part III. Demographic Information: The information requested below will help us to understand who the VEE program is and is not serving. As with all questions on this survey, responses are optional.

1. What gender do you identify as? Please select all that apply.

- Woman
- Man
- Gender Nonconforming
- Nonbinary
- Transgender
- I identify as:_____
- Prefer Not to Answer

2. Which of the following races and/or ethnicities would you use to describe yourself? Please select all that apply.

- Asian and/or Asian American
- American Indian, Alaska Native, and/or Indigenous American
- Black and/or African American
- Latinx, Latino, and/or Hispanic
- Native Hawaiian and/or Pacific Islander
- White and/or Caucasian
- I identify as:_____
- Prefer Not to Answer

3. What is your expected household income for this year? Please select one.

- Less than \$25,000
- \$25,000 - \$49,999
- \$50,000 - \$74,999
- \$75,000 - \$99,999
- \$100,000 - \$149,999
- \$150,000 or more
- Prefer Not to Answer

4. How many people are supported by the above income? Please select one.

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6 or more

5. Which of the following best describes your current work status? Please select all that apply.

- Active military
- Caretaker or homemaker
- Employed full-time (30+ hours/week)
- Employed part-time (less than 30 hours/week)
- Out of work and not currently looking
- Out of work and looking
- Retired
- Student
- Other: _____

Appendix B.
Participant Survey Questions - Shorter Version

Part I. VT Everyone Eats Experience & Impact

1. Which town do you live in (or live in most of the time)? *(short answer)*

2. About how often do you participate in VT Everyone Eats? Please select one.

- Once a week or more
- About 2 or 3 times per month
- About once a month
- First time or less than once a month

**3. Please circle one choice for each of the following:
How important is it to you that VT Everyone Eats...**

	Very Important	Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important
Offers prepared meals	1	2	3	4
Offers meals prepared by restaurants	1	2	3	4
Has no application	1	2	3	4
Supports VT businesses (e.g. restaurants/farmers)	1	2	3	4

**4. Please circle one choice for each of the following:
The VT Everyone Eats program...**

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Is accessible (e.g. location, timing etc.)	1	2	3	4
Saves me time	1	2	3	4
Is an important source of food for me/my family	1	2	3	4
Is important to my budget	1	2	3	4
Introduced me to new restaurants	1	2	3	4
Makes me feel supported/cared for	1	2	3	4
Improves my emotional/mental well-being	1	2	3	4
Strengthens my sense of community	1	2	3	4

5. Please share any additional feedback you may have on the VT Everyone Eats program and its impact on you or your community. (e.g. other aspects of the program that are important, additional benefits, suggestions for improvement)
(long answer)

6. What type of programming, services, or support would you like to see offered in your community moving forward?
(long answer)

Appendix C.
Community Hub Delivery and Distribution Methods

Home Delivery Methods	Distribution Methods
Boys and Girls Club staff send meals home with children	Caterers make on-site meals
Church volunteers	Community center distributions
Community hub organizers	Community meal sites (replacing volunteer congregate meals)
Community members/neighbors helping neighbors	Food shelf distributions
Food shelf volunteers	Housing site distributions
Head Start staff send meals home with children	In-person participant walk-ups/drive-throughs
Health center employees	Localvore digital vouchers/participants pick up from restaurants
Home hospice workers/home health aides	Organizations distribute to clients/general public
Localvore superusers	Partner pick-up from central locations (hub and spoke model)
Probation officers	Partner pick-up from restaurants/restaurant delivery to partners
Restaurant staff	Street teams deliver to encampments for the unhoused
Rural bus route drivers	Workplace distributions
School counselors send meals home with children	
Social service employees	