



# 2022 Mad River Valley Community Wellbeing Survey

Background & Results



**MAD RIVER VALLEY**  
PLANNING DISTRICT  
Fayston • Waltsfield • Warren



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# Background

## BACKGROUND

The 2022 Mad River Valley Wellbeing Survey was developed to provide our community with a deeper understanding of how the MRV's people, environment, and local economy are doing. The survey was conducted by the Mad River Valley Planning District (MRVPD) with support from the MRV Community Dashboard Advisory Committee as part of the **MRV Community Dashboard** project.

## HOW IS THE MAD RIVER VALLEY DOING?

Take the MRV Wellbeing Survey!



### What does the Wellbeing Survey measure?

- **Satisfaction with Life**
  - Overall happiness, anxiety level
- **Psychological Wellbeing**
  - Engagement, optimism, accomplishment
- **Physical Health**
  - Health, energy, ability, exercise
- **Time Balance**
  - Time for enjoyment, time balance, rushed time
- **Community Vitality**
  - Trust, safety, volunteerism, belonging
- **Social Connectedness**
  - Support, caring, love, loneliness
- **Education & Culture**
  - Cultural opportunity and community culture
- **Physical Environment**
  - Environmental quality and opportunity
- **Governance**
  - Access, trust, confidence
- **Material Wellbeing**
  - Financial security
- **Work Life**
  - Satisfaction, interest, autonomy, pay

## THE SURVEY AT-A-GLANCE

- 2022 marks the second annual MRV Wellbeing Survey.
- The 2022 Survey was open from April 26 through June 6, 2022.
- The Survey is intended for full-time residents of the MRV Planning District's 3 member towns: Fayston, Waitsfield, and Warren.
  - Of the 500 total respondents, 82 part-time residents and residents of other towns took the Survey; these responses have been separated out of the data and can be found on page 19
- Overall Wellbeing for 2022 was 4.1 (out of 5), which is a slight decrease from the Overall score of 4.3 in 2021

# Methodology

## SURVEY DEVELOPMENT

The MRV Wellbeing Survey was first developed in 2021, and 2022 marks the survey's second year.

Survey questions are based on the Vermont Happiness Study, led by the University of Vermont's Center for Rural Studies, the Vermont State Data Center, and Gross National Happiness USA.

MRVPD Staff and the MRV Community Dashboard Advisory Committee (AC) decided to base the MRV Wellbeing Survey off this existing, tested survey source in order to avoid reinventing the wheel and to have the ability to compare MRV results with the statewide Vermont Happiness Study, which will give us a useful benchmark against which to measure.

The Vermont Happiness Study is based on a scientifically vetted survey instrument for measuring wellbeing created by the Happiness Alliance. Survey questions found in each of these survey iterations are largely taken from existing wellbeing surveys or other documented sources. Responses are based on a five-point scale, with 5 being the most positive response and 1 being the most negative.

The MRV Community Dashboard AC added or adjusted several questions from the VT Happiness Study to better reflect the MRV's specific needs:

- How much confidence do you have in your state (Vermont) government?
- [To what extent do you agree] I can influence decisions affecting my town.
- In your community, how satisfied are you with your access to educational opportunities for youth?
- In your community, how satisfied are you with your access to childcare and early childhood education?
- How satisfied are you with the water quality in your environment?
- In the past 12 months, how often has it been difficult to address medical needs due to cost?
- [To what extent do you agree] The Mad River Valley is an affordable place for me to live.
- [To what extent do you agree] The Mad River Valley offers me good opportunities to get ahead professionally.

hey Warren, Waitsfield  
& Fayston!

How do you think the  
Mad River Valley is doing?

**TAKE THE 2022 MRV WELLBEING SURVEY**

visit: [bit.ly/2022-MRV-Wellbeing](https://bit.ly/2022-MRV-Wellbeing)



SCAN ME

For more information: [www.mrvpd.org](http://www.mrvpd.org)  
or contact [amy@mrvpd.org](mailto:amy@mrvpd.org)



**MAD RIVER VALLEY**  
PLANNING DISTRICT

Two questions were not included within the Governance domain regarding corruption and satisfaction with national government, as they were deemed to be not useful and/or relevant.



# Methodology

## SURVEY DISTRIBUTION

### WHERE WAS THE 2022 MRV WELLBEING SURVEY DISTRIBUTED?

#### Online

- MRVPD website, e-newsletter
- Weekly on Front Porch Forum
- Boosted Facebook posts
- Partner e-newsletters including schools
- Valley Reporter ads

#### In Person

- Paper copies at the libraries, Town offices, laundromat, MRV Senior Center, MRV Community Pantry
- Posters with QR codes
- Presentations to Selectboards, Planning Commissions, MRV Rotary, MRV Interfaith Council

### THANKS TO...

Many thanks to our community partners who helped distribute & promote the survey, including:

- MRV Community Pantry
- MRV Senior Center
- Local schools
- MRV Rotary
- MRV Interfaith Council
- MRV libraries
- Village Grocery, MRV Taste Place, Three Mountain Cafe, Tempest Bookshop, Emily's Bar
- MRV Chamber of Commerce
- Towns of Fayston, Waitsfield & Warren

Hey Warren, Waitsfield, & Fayston residents!

**WIN A GIFT CARD!**

Take the 2022 MRV Wellbeing Survey:  
<https://bit.ly/2022-MRV-Wellbeing>

SCAN ME

**YOU COULD WIN A GIFT CARD TO:**

MAD RIVER TASTE PLACE

Sugarbush

ALPINE OPTIONS

HYDE AWAY Art in the VILLAGE

For more information, please visit:  
[www.mrvpd.org](http://www.mrvpd.org)

Deadline: 6/7/22

MAD RIVER VALLEY PLANNING DISTRICT  
 Fayston • Waitsfield • Warren

# 500

PEOPLE RESPONDED TO THE 2022 MRV WELLBEING SURVEY

That's **10%** of the MRV population

And a **20%** increase from the 2021 response rate

# Demographics

Mad River Valley population data is derived from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) 2019, 5-year estimates for the Mad River Valley.

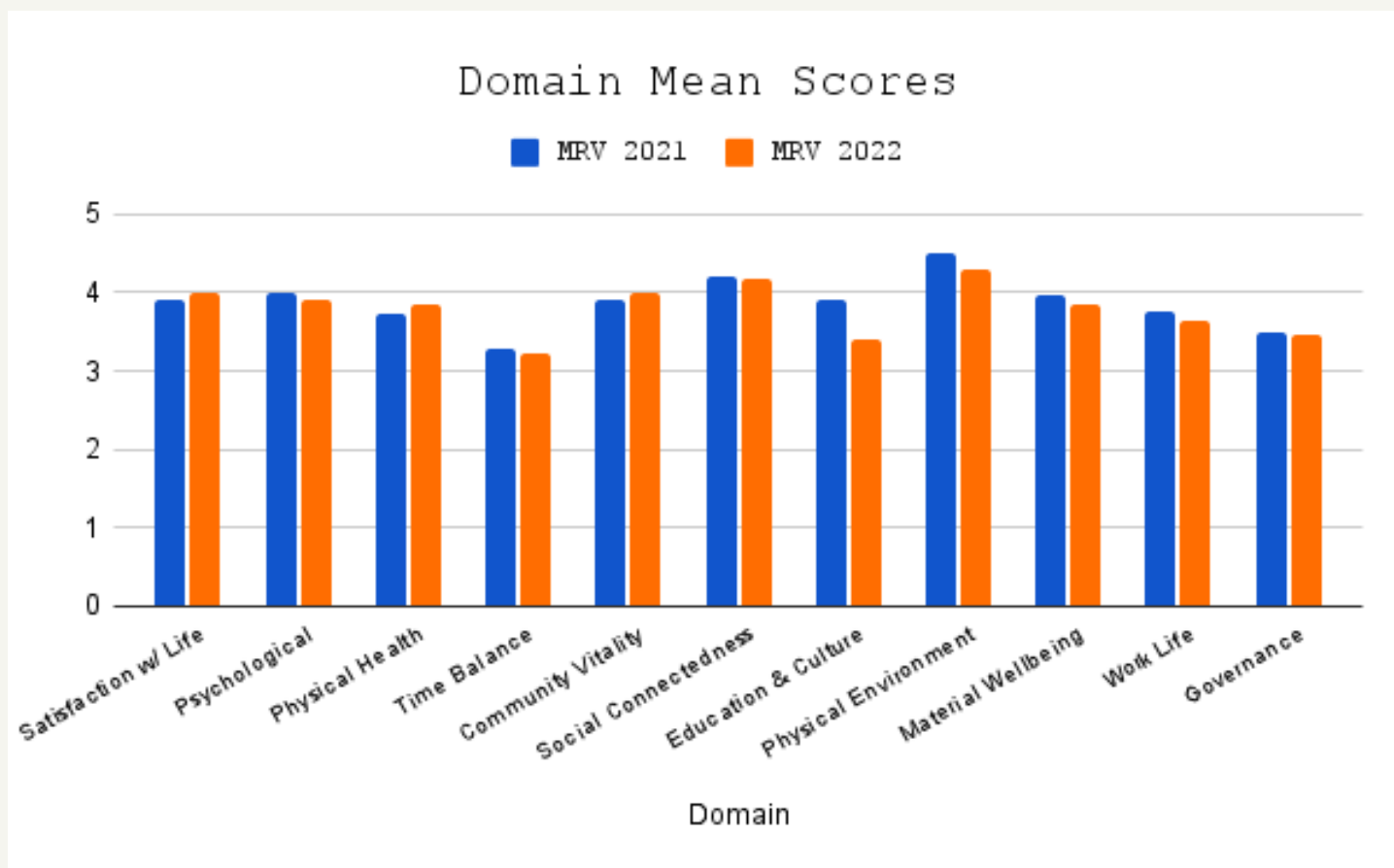
	MRV Wellbeing Survey		MRV Population
	2022	2021	
Age			
17 or under	1%	1%	21%
18-35	10%	9%	13%
36-50	23%	27%	23%
51-64	31%	36%	21%
65-79	30%	25%	13%
80 and above	5%	7%	11%
Gender Identity			
Woman	65%	66%	49%
Man	34%	34%	51%
Other	1%	-	-
Income			
<\$10,000/year	3%	2%	4%
\$10,000 - \$25,000	5%	4%	11%
\$25,000 - \$50,000	15%	12%	19%
\$50,000 - \$75,000	14%	19%	16%
\$75,000 - \$100,000	17%	19%	14%
\$100,000 - \$150,000	26%	24%	17%
>\$150,000	23%	20%	18%
Town of Residence			
Fayston	27%	30%	24%
Waitsfield	31%	44%	39%
Warren	26%	26%	37%
Other	16%	-	-



# Results Summary

## DOMAIN MEAN SCORES

Overall results for MRV 2021 v. MRV 2022



\*Mean/average score indicates the middle value of each domain.

## 2022 Highlights

The results are in!

Here are some major takeaways from this year's MRV Community Wellbeing Survey:

**+3%**

Community Vitality & Physical Health had the highest score increases from 2021-2022

**4.5**

The highest 2022 score was for Physical Environment

**-13%**

Education & Culture experienced the highest decrease since 2021.

# Results Summary

## DOMAIN MEAN SCORES

Overall Results for VT v. MRV

Domain	Mean Score VT-2013	Mean Score VT-2017	Mean Score VT-2020	Mean Score VT-2021	Mean Score MRV-2021	Mean Score MRV-2022	Change from VT-2021 to MRV-2022*
Satisfaction with Life	3.4	4.0	3.5	3.6	3.9	3.9	+.3
Psychological Wellbeing	4.1	4.1	3.9	3.8	4.0	3.9	+.1
Physical Health	3.8	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.7	3.8	+.3
Time Balance	3.3	3.1	3.0	3.1	3.3	3.2	+.1
Community Vitality	3.6	3.6	3.4	3.5	3.9	4.0	+.5
Social Connectedness	4.4	4.3	3.5	3.5	4.2	4.1	+.6
Education & Culture	3.9	3.9	3.4	3.3	3.9	3.4	+.1
Physical Environment	4.2	4.2	4.0	4.1	4.5	4.3	+.2
Material Wellbeing	3.8	3.5	4.1	4.0	4.0	3.8	-.2
Work Life	3.9	3.9	3.7	3.6	3.8	3.6	~

## Understanding Wellbeing

Analyzing survey results through the domains above provides a more accurate depiction of holistic wellbeing than individual indicators. The Vermont Happiness Survey has been conducted in 2013, 2017, and most recently in June 2020 and January 2021. Mean scores were calculated for each domain (1 being the lowest and 5 being the highest possible score); only the survey questions that were asked in the Vermont surveys were included in determining the MRV scores.

Compared with the most recent statewide Vermont Happiness Survey results (2021), the Mad River Valley scored higher in every domain in 2022, except for Work Life, which scored equally, and Material Wellbeing, which scored lower. The MRV stands out particularly in the Social Connectedness and Community Vitality realms.

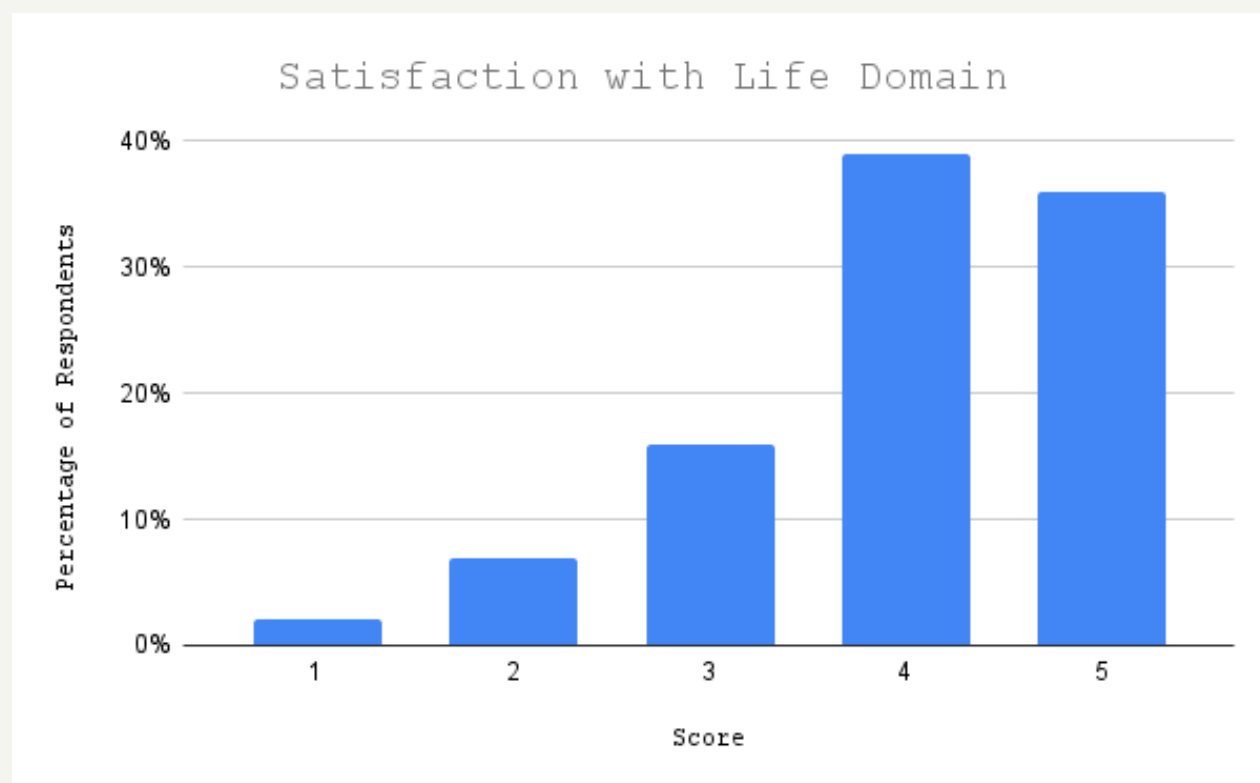
\*2022 VT state data not yet available.



# Mad River Valley Domain Results

## SATISFACTION WITH LIFE: 3.99

Overall happiness, anxiety level, general satisfaction



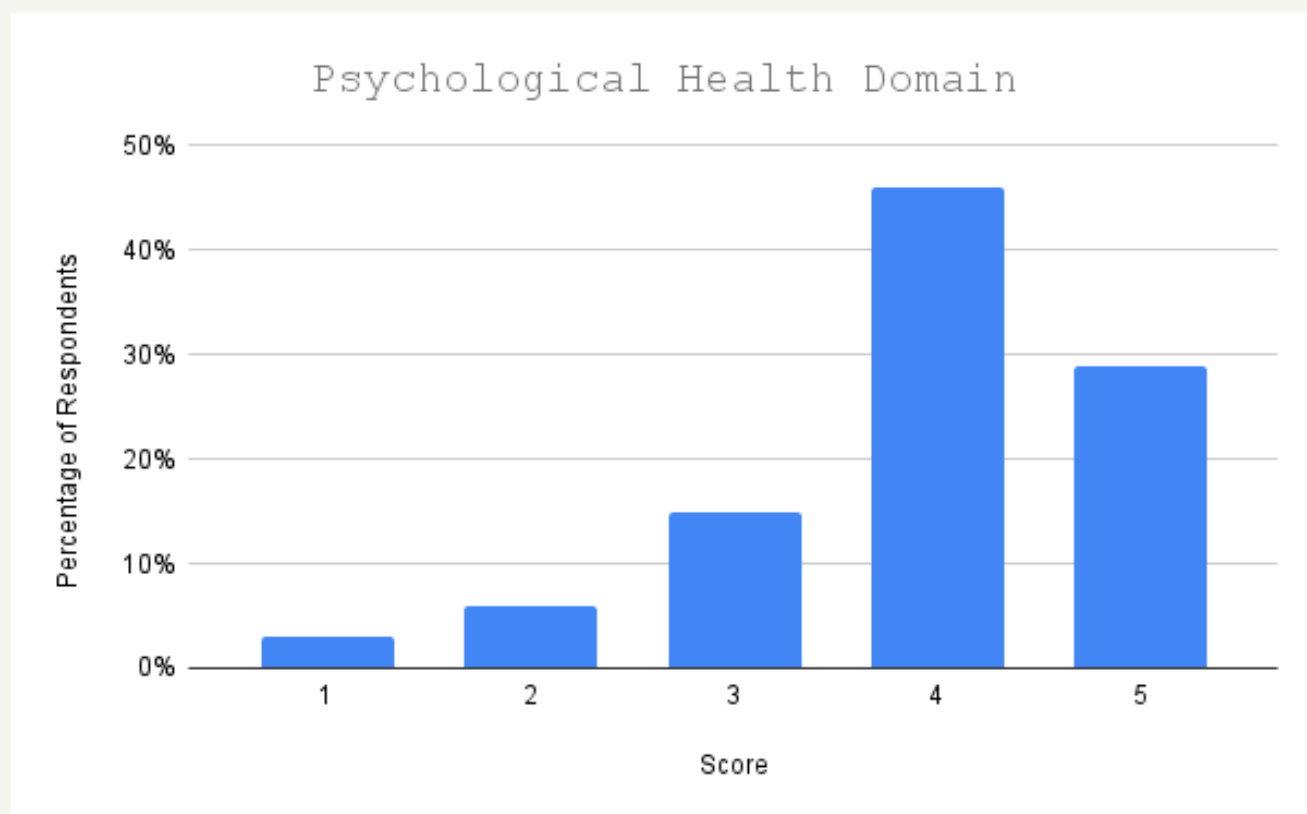
### What did this domain measure?

- Overall, how satisfied are you with your life nowadays?
- Overall, how happy did you feel yesterday?
- To what extent do you feel the things you do in life are worthwhile?
- Overall, how anxious did you feel yesterday?



# PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH: 3.90

Engagement, optimism, accomplishment



## What did this domain measure?

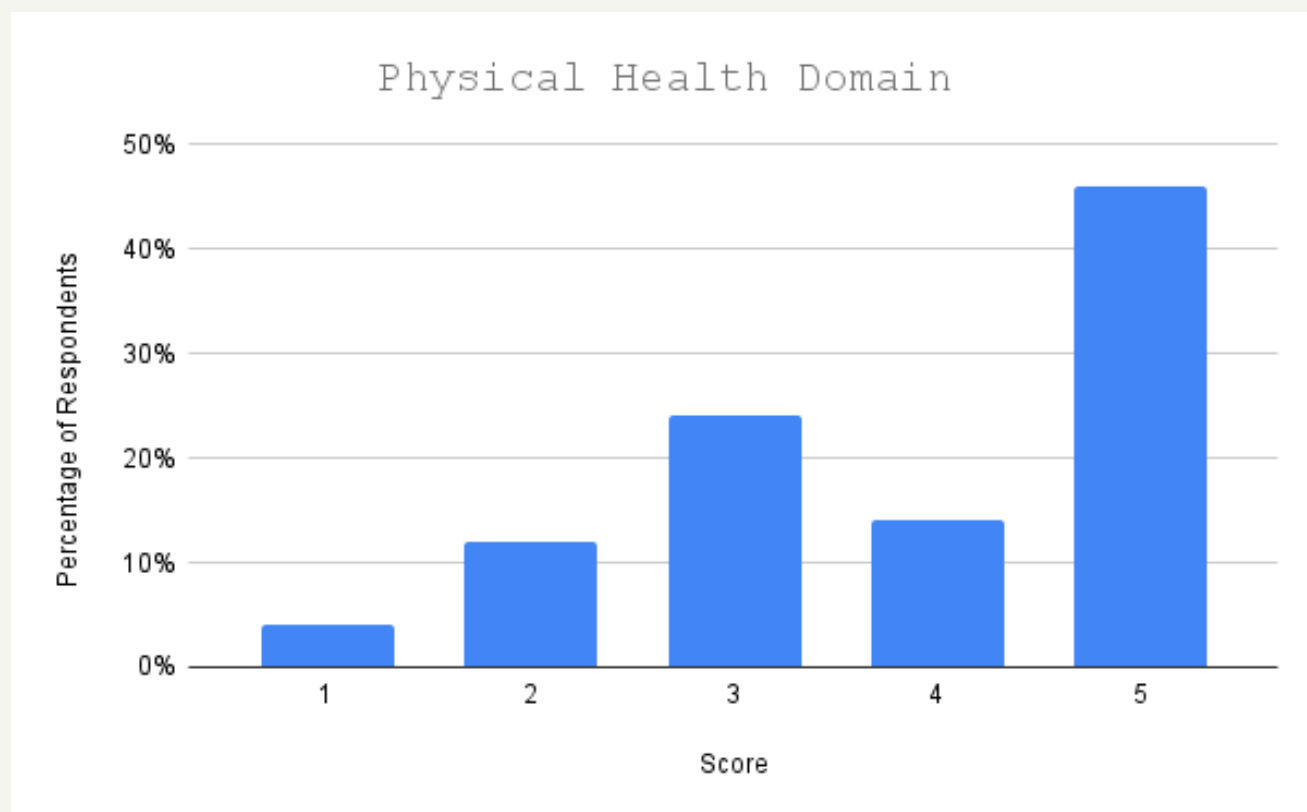
- I lead a purposeful and meaningful life.
- I am engaged and interested in my daily activities.
- I am optimistic about my future.
- Most days I feel a sense of accomplishment.





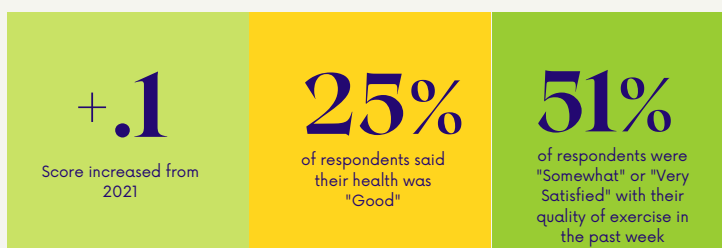
## PHYSICAL HEALTH: 3.86

Health, energy, ability, exercise



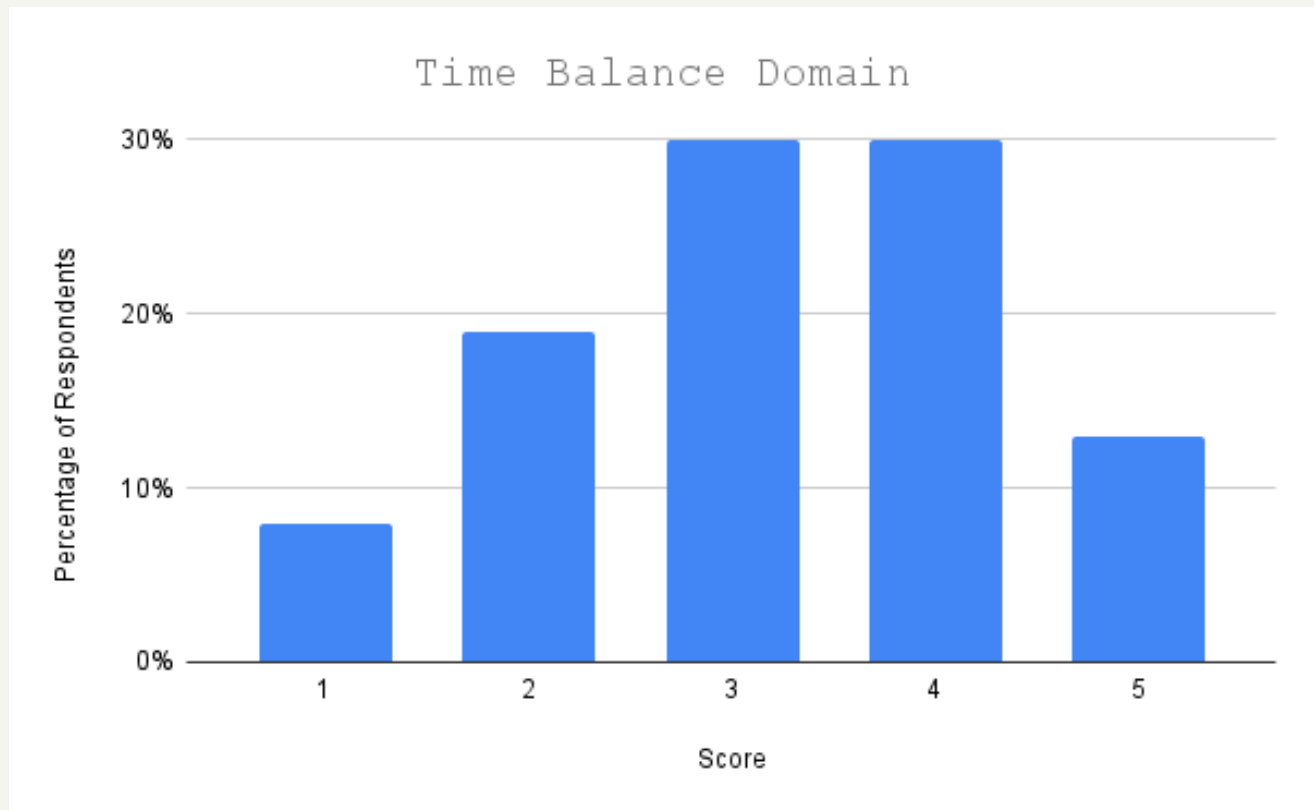
### What did this domain measure?

- In general, I would say my health is:
- During the past week, how satisfied were you with your ability to perform your daily activities?
- During the past week, would you say you had a lot of energy...
- During the past week, how satisfied were you with the quality of your exercise?



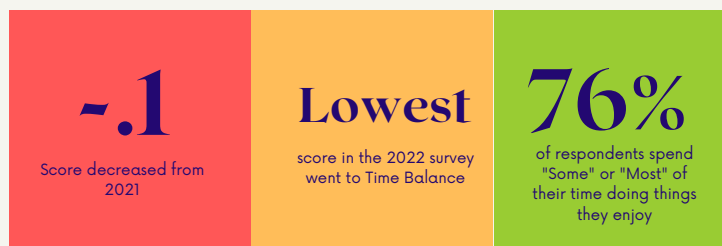
## TIME BALANCE: 3.21

Time for enjoyment, time balance, rushed time



### What did this domain measure?

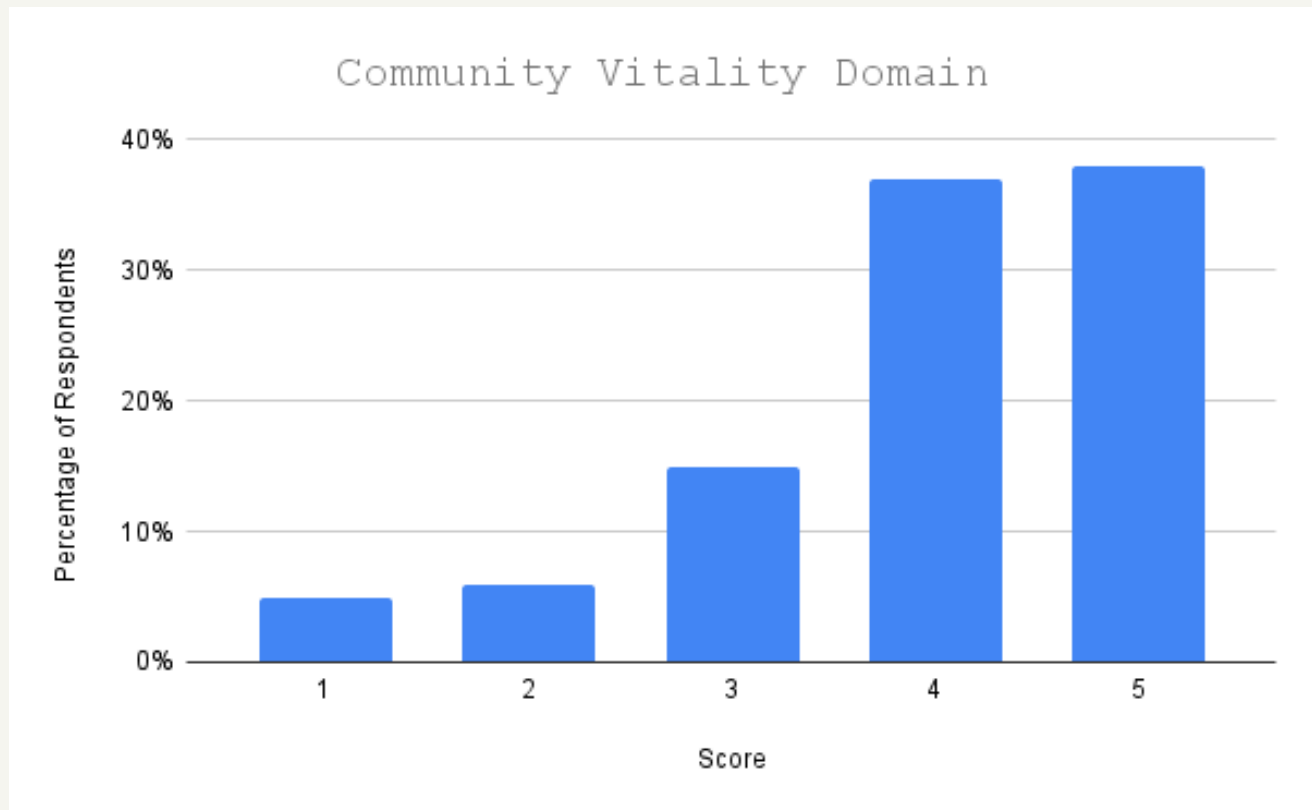
- In a typical week, how much of your time can you spend doing things that you enjoy?
- In the past week, my life has been too rushed...
- In the past week, I have had plenty of spare time...





# COMMUNITY VITALITY: 4.0

Trust, safety, volunteerism, belonging



## What did this domain measure?

- When thinking about your neighbors, do you trust...
- When thinking about businesses in your community, do you trust...
- Now, imagine that you lost a wallet or purse that contained two hundred dollars. How likely would it be to have all your money returned if it was found by someone who lives in the community?
- How satisfied are you with your personal safety in your community?
- In the past 12 months have you donated money...
- In the past 12 months have you volunteered your time...
- Would you describe your feeling of belonging to your local community as...
- How often do you feel uncomfortable or out of place in your community because of things like your ethnicity, culture, race, skin color, language, accent, gender, sexual orientation, or religion?

**+1**

Score increased from 2021

**0%**

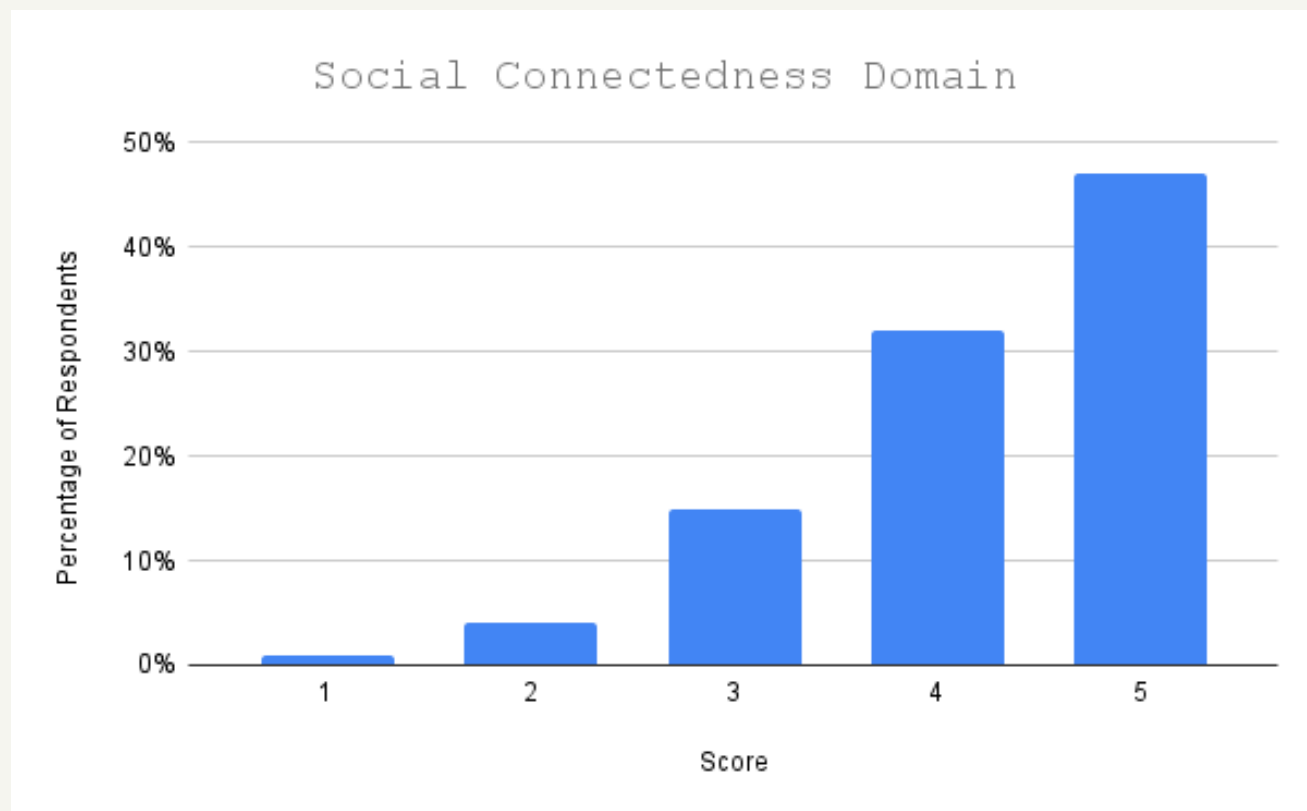
of respondents were "Very Dissatisfied" with personal safety in the community

**76%**

of respondents trust "Most" of "All" of their neighbors

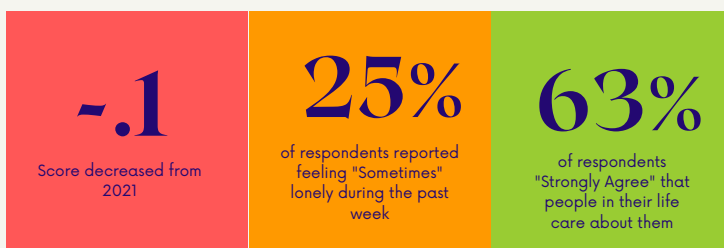
## SOCIAL CONNECTEDNESS: 4.19

Support, caring, love, loneliness



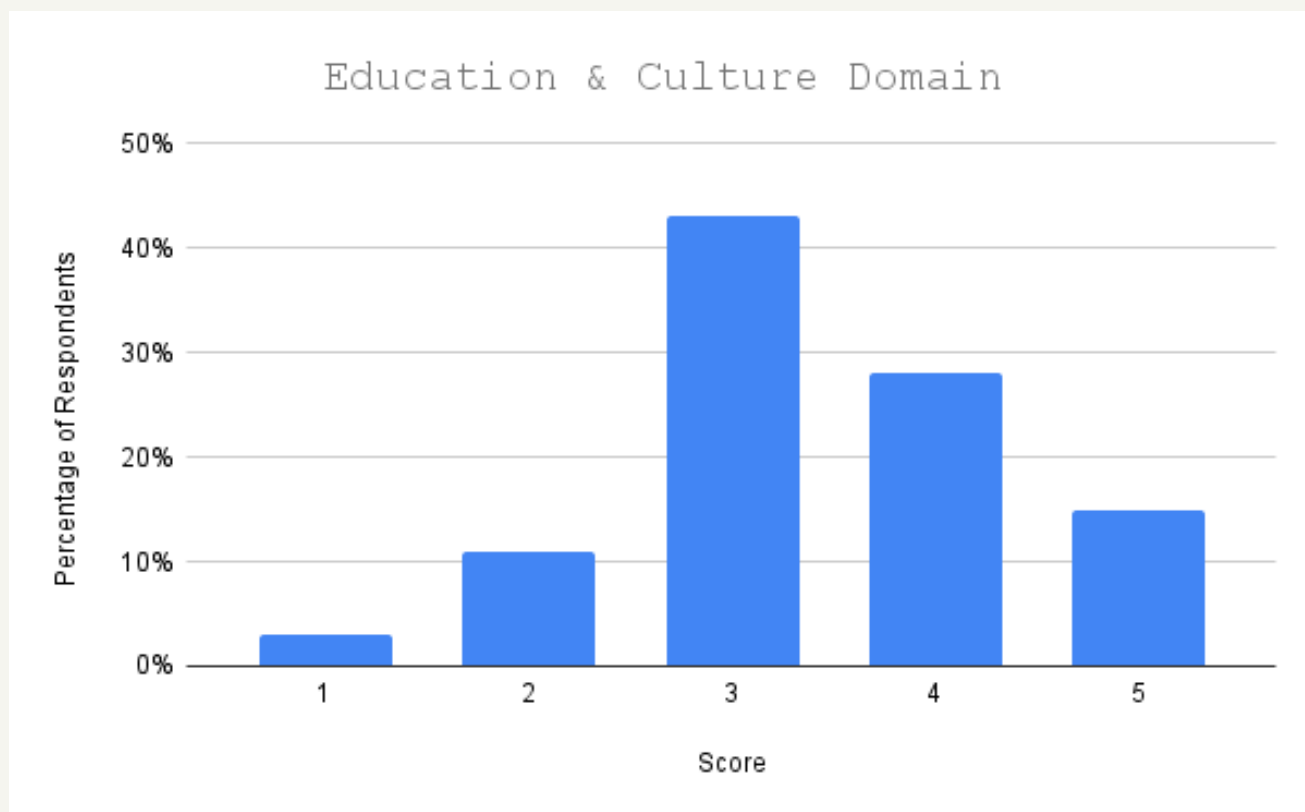
### What did this domain measure?

- How satisfied are you with your personal relationships?
- During the past week, have you felt loved...
- During the past week, have you felt lonely...
- People in my life care about me.



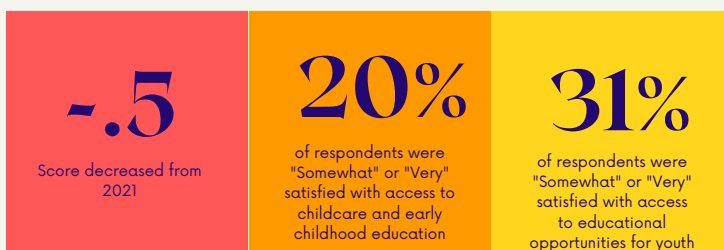
## EDUCATION & CULTURE: 3.40

Cultural opportunity, community culture, access to education



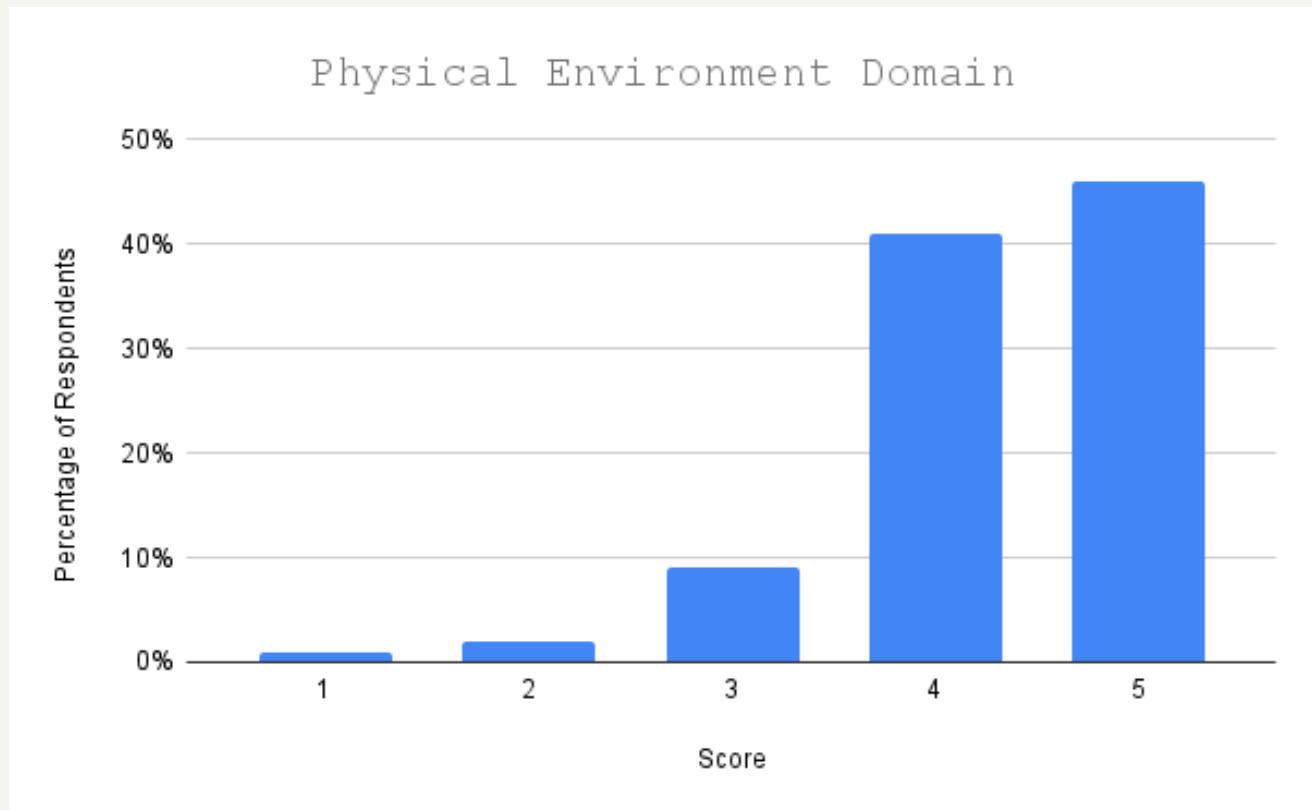
### What did this domain measure?

- In your community, how satisfied are you with your access to sports and recreational activities?
- In your community, how satisfied are you with your access to artistic and cultural activities?
- In your community, how satisfied are you with your access to learning opportunities like informal workshops or trainings?
- \*In your community, how satisfied are you with your access to educational opportunities for youth?
- \*In your community, how satisfied are you with your access to childcare and early childhood education?



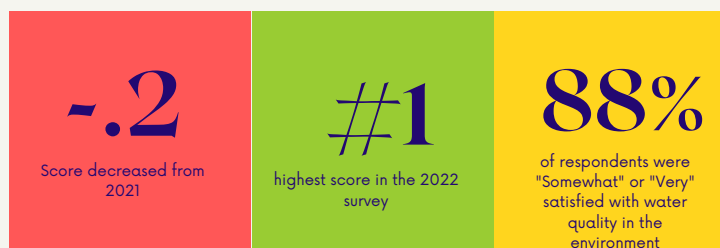
## PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT: 4.30

Environmental quality and opportunity



### What did this domain measure?

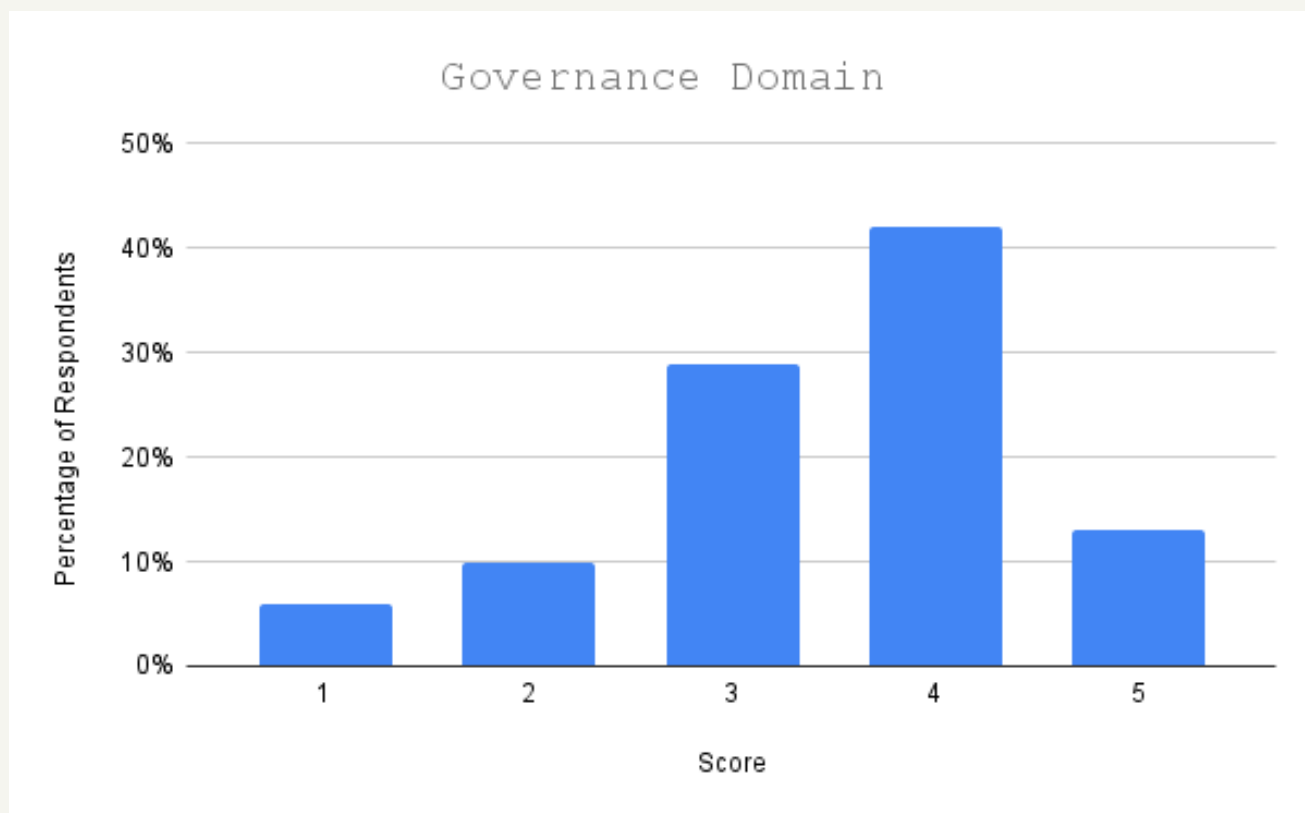
- How healthy is the natural environment of the Mad River Valley?
- How satisfied are you with efforts to preserve the natural environment in your community?
- How satisfied are you with opportunities you have to enjoy nature?
- How satisfied are you with the air quality in your environment?
- \*How satisfied are you with the water quality in your environment?





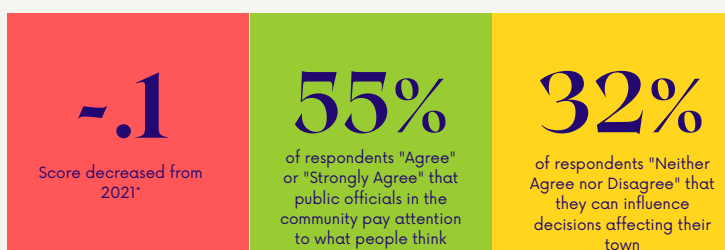
## GOVERNANCE: 3.46

Access, trust, confidence



### What did this domain measure?

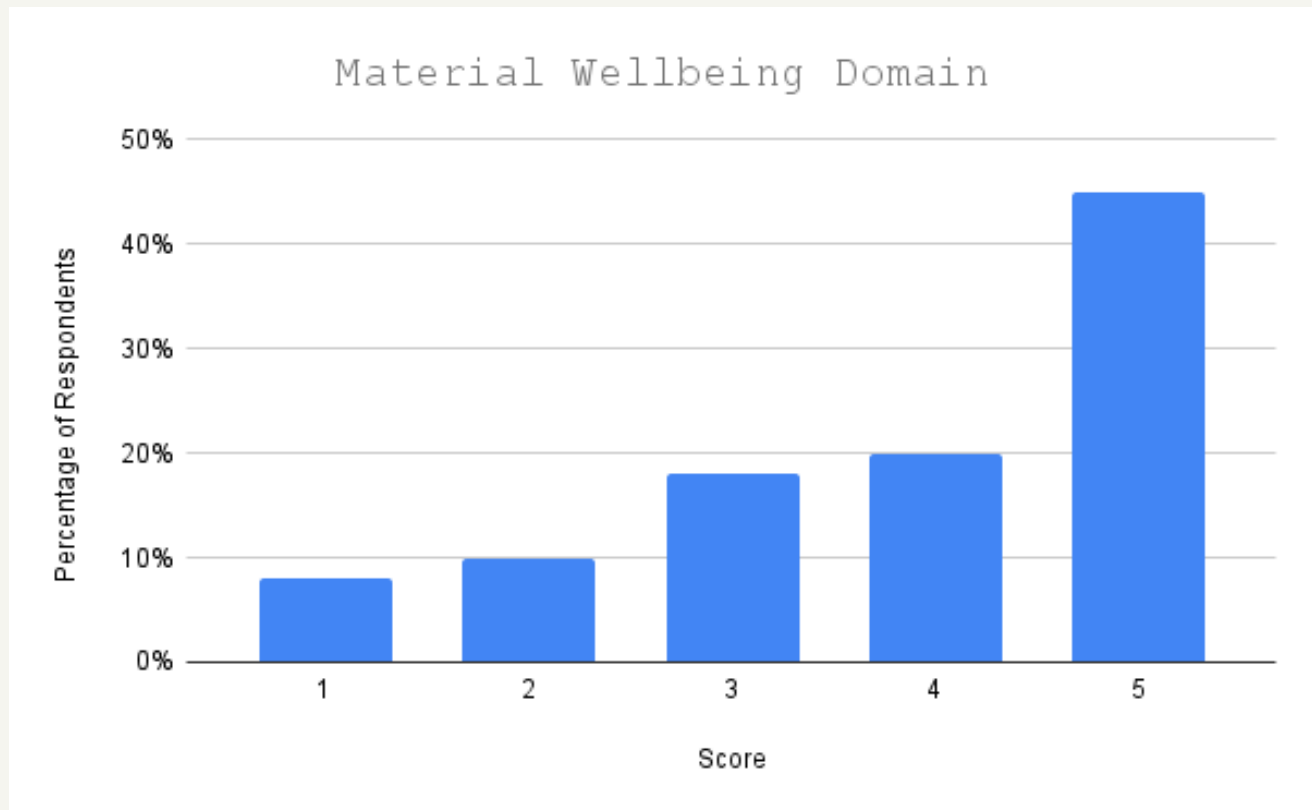
- Public officials in my community pay attention to what people think.
- How much confidence do you have in your local (town) government?
- \*How much confidence do you have in your state (Vermont) government?
- \*I can influence decisions affecting my town.



\*The biggest Governance score decrease occurred at the state governance level. See pages 42-43 for individual question breakdowns.

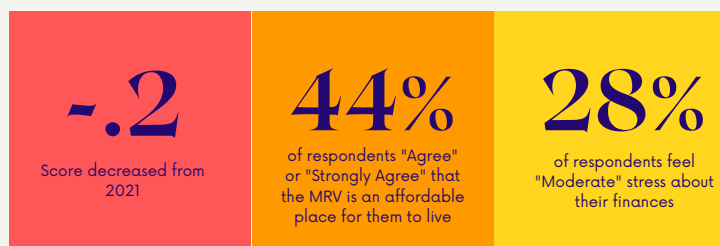
## MATERIAL WELLBEING: 3.84

Financial security



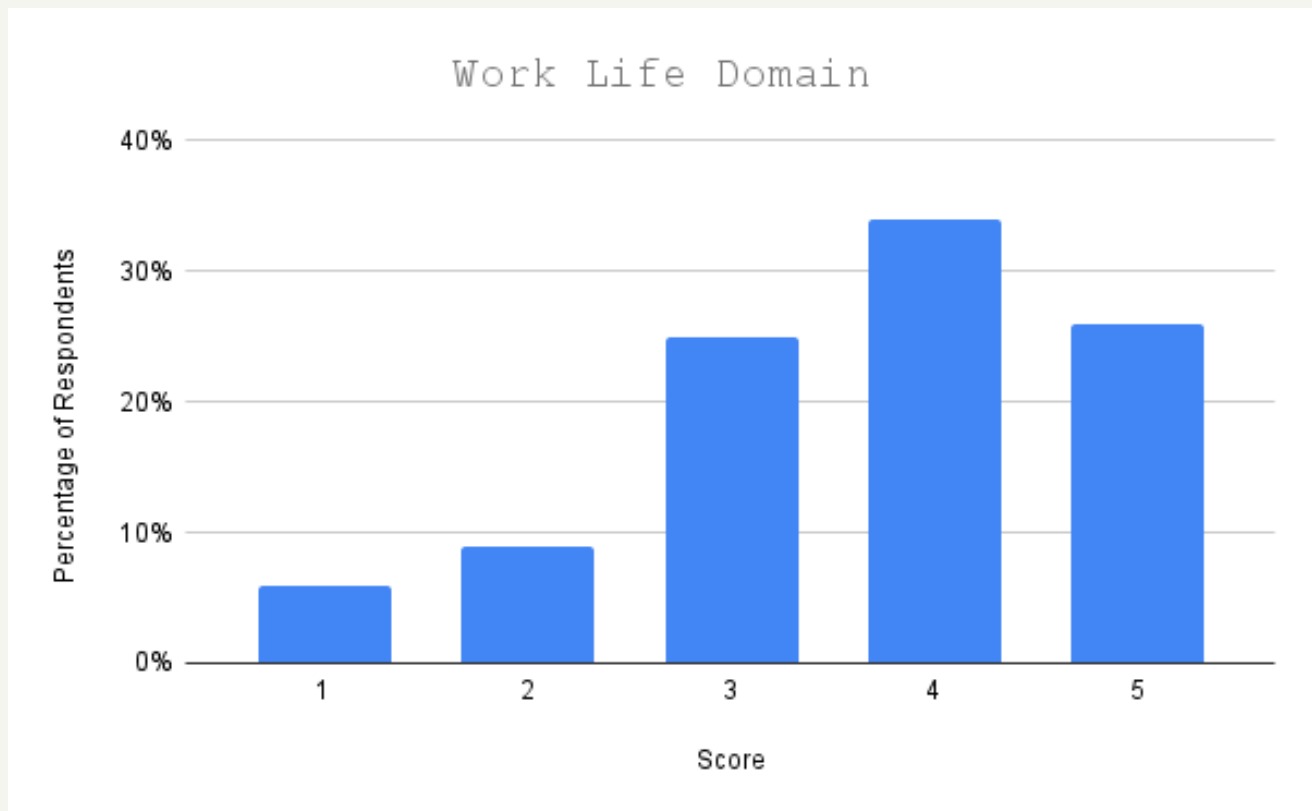
### What did this domain measure?

- In general, how much stress do you feel about your personal finances?
- How often do you find yourself just getting by financially or living paycheck to paycheck?
- In the past 12 months, how often have you eaten less because there wasn't enough money for food?
- \*In the past 12 months, how often has it been difficult to address medical needs due to cost?
- I have enough money to buy the things that I want.
- \*The Mad River Valley is an affordable place for me to live.



## WORK LIFE: 3.63

Satisfaction, interest, autonomy, pay

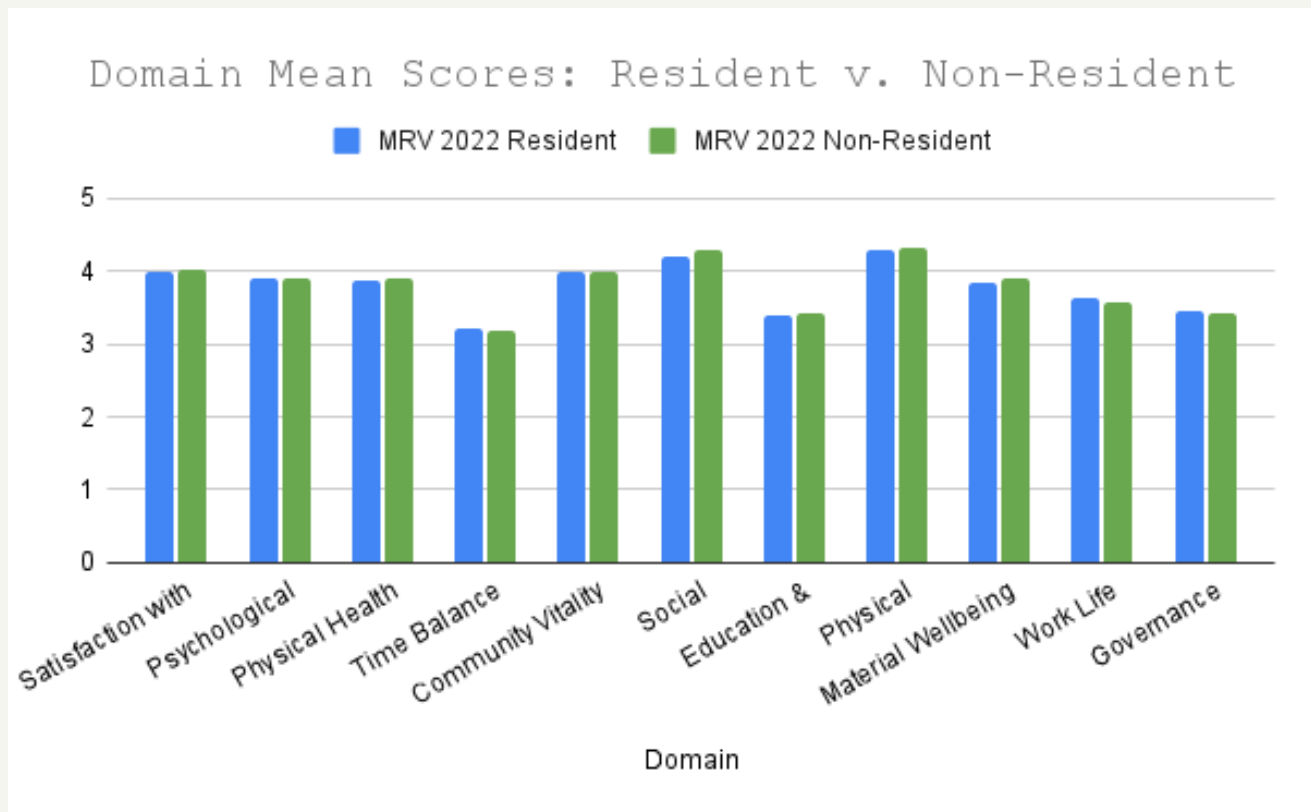


### What did this domain measure?

- How satisfied are you with your current work life?
- How often do you find your current work life interesting?
- My work conditions allow me to be as productive as I can be.
- Considering my work efforts and achievements, I get paid appropriately.
- I am allowed to decide how to get my work done.
- \*The Mad River Valley offers me good opportunities to get ahead professionally.



# MRV Resident v. Non-Resident Results



## What the Data Tells Us...

The MRV Wellbeing Survey is intended for full-time residents of the MRV Planning District's 3 member towns: Fayston, Waitsfield, and Warren. In 2022, the survey received 82 responses from part-time residents of these towns, as well as residents of surrounding towns.

These non-resident responses have been separated from resident responses in order to identify whether a significant difference in wellbeing existed between those who call the MRV home full-time and those who vacation or visit here.

Of the 10 domains measured in the Wellbeing Survey, the scores for residents and non-residents were not vastly different. Material Wellbeing, Social Connectedness, and Satisfaction with Life scored slightly higher in the non-resident population (+1.6%, +2.6%, +0.8%, respectively), while Work Life, Time Balance, and Governance scored slightly lower (-1.7%, -1.3%, -1.2%, respectively).



# Open-Ended Questions

The MRV Community Wellbeing Survey also asks 3 open-ended questions, to get a deeper sense of residents' experiences.

## QUESTION 1

What are the strengths of living in the Mad River Valley?

## QUESTION 2

What are the challenges of living in the Mad River Valley?

## QUESTION 3

What are the "big picture" changes you would most like to see that would improve the quality of life in the Mad River Valley?

The open-ended questions provide a greater level of insight and detail into respondents' perceptions of strengths, challenges, and changes in the community. They are the "heart" of the Wellbeing Survey.

The following pages identify major themes, trends, and keywords that showed up repeatedly in the responses, as well as a representative sample of answers. The word clouds are weighted by frequency of responses.

See Appendix page 48 for the complete open-ended responses.

# Question 1

## #1

COMMUNITY was the top response, with 185 mentions

## 153

Mentions of BEAUTY/BEAUTIFUL

## 140

NATURE/NATURAL received 140 mentions

### WHAT ARE THE STRENGTHS OF LIVING IN THE MAD RIVER VALLEY?

## PEOPLE

make the MRV special



# Question 1:

## *What are the strengths of living in the Mad River Valley?*

"Access to outdoor activities; strong, caring community, wonderful small businesses, beautiful surroundings."

"the beauty and community, healthy lifestyle - clean air, lots of animals, friendly caring people"

"Beautiful clean environment. Strong, network, caring community. Tremendous recreational opportunities. Low population density makes for a good friends much more than fences do, Robert frosts contention aside."

"natural beauty, access to recreation, community engagement, privacy if you want it"

"Natural environmental, recreational activities and resources, friendly people, robust volunteer efforts and opportunities, great local food sources, close to Montpelier, great location within the state"

"I can be myself. I can avail myself of fresh, wholesome foods locally grown. I feel safe in my environment."

"It's a place where people care about each other."

"beauty, community, peaceful, creative"

# #1

# WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES OF LIVING IN THE MAD RIVER VALLEY?

# 5%

## AFFORDABILITY & COST

were significant concerns for respondents

## DIVERSITY

remains a challenge  
in the MRV





## Question 2:

### *What are the challenges of living in the Mad River Valley?*

"I'm concerned that failure to actively invest in infrastructure, creation of employment opportunities, and housing will significantly change the Valley for the worse."

"Difficult to make ends meet for seniors on fixed incomes. Lacking mental health services, not all organizations communicate, no central space or rec center/pool."

"Need for a car to get to anything! No sidewalks on my side of town - dangerous walking on Joslin Hill, East Warren Road, Town caters to tourists rather than locals, putting in bike lanes for mountain bikers should not be a priority - sidewalks for residents who don't live on main street should be a priority."

"ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE AND RELIABLE RENTAL HOUSING!!!!!!!!!!"

"Lack of safe areas to walk. No affordable exercise/fitness centers. Few cultural opportunities. Few restaurants and the ones that exist are very expensive. No public transportation. Inadequate medical care. Closest pharmacy is 25+ minutes away over a road that is difficult and unsafe in winter. Food is extremely expensive and getting worse due to societal economic issues."

"The MRV community is rapidly disappearing. We are being over-run by the super wealthy. Working class Vermonters can't find homes here and are increasingly unable to afford the homes they might have. Second homes, Vacation homes, real estate speculation by people only looking to own AIRBNB properties has become an existential threat to our towns and way of life. The younger generations are unable to live and work here any longer and no one seems to care to address the problem - which is outside home ownership and the wealthy buying up all housing and property."

"As a young family looking to carve out a life in the MRV, finding housing, well-paying jobs, and childcare has been nearly impossible."

"Costs are high. Housing is expensive. Educational opportunities are limited. Sports facilities are far away."



## Question 3:

*What are the “big picture” changes you would most like to see that would improve the quality of life in the Mad River Valley?*

"Less focus on micro managing little things like paths and parks and more on the long term picture of housing and the impact of almost no rentals in this area"

"I would like to see an airbnb/short term rental policy put in place so that all the available rental stock isn't sucked up catering to tourists."

"A bit more flexibility in zoning and development; with the housing crisis, LURs (land use regs) prevent many homeowners or land owners from developing on their property. I recognize there are some incentives for ADUs, but it's still so expensive and cumbersome to build anything affordable in the Valley."

"Have the Selectboards make supporting affordable housing a top priority now. There is too much procrastination, particularly now that funds are available. It is the #1 issue, and the frustration level in the Valley is very high because of the lack of action."

"I'd love to see a community center with opportunities for kids and adults to learn, gather, create community in ways that are affordable to all. Things for teens/kids to do like a basketball court, swimming pool, bingo for elderly, some community center to bring us together. More community focused things keep kids off drugs by giving them something they can do and be proud to do..."

"Regulation/permitting of short-term rentals, increased affordable housing concentrated in village centers of Waitsfield and Irasville, wastewater infrastructure for village centers, encouragement of smart growth and sustainable building, increased planning for climate change resiliency and energy planning, increased child care facilities, valley community center for meetings, community engagement workshops/hikes for outreach on good land management & importance of conservation, increased welcoming of more diverse voices in our public offices locally, better balance between needs of Sugarbush and needs of MRV community"

"The high school to improve academically and provide more after school opportunities to students. A youth center for indoor and outdoor activities. And a community center offering classes and activities for adults"

"commitment to bike/walking paths and lanes on major roads so we can actually bike to the grocery store without fear of getting hit by a car"

# Conclusion & Next Steps

## CONCLUSION

Our goal with the 2022 MRV Wellbeing Survey was to increase participation across all demographics. The good news? We did!

While the score across all 10 domains decreased from 4.3 in 2021 to 4.1 in 2022, this decrease reflects the more representative respondent pool, and therefore actual lived experience in the MRV.

The Survey shows us where we're doing well (Social Connectedness!), and where you, the community, thinks we can do better (Education, Governance).

And the Survey is not just another report on the shelf. So...what's next for the MRV Wellbeing Survey?

## 1

### NEXT STEPS

#### Sharing out results with the community.

Now that the data has been crunched, MRVPD Staff will make the rounds to inform elected officials, stakeholders, and community members about the results, including:

- Selectboards, Planning Commissions
- Schools & childcare centers
- Service & action organizations
- Environmental & conservation orgs
- Libraries
- Business community
- And more

We will also be posting the results on our [webiste](#), and incorporating them into the [MRV Community Dashboard](#).

## 2

#### Aligning MRVPD's work plan with identified needs.

One of the purposes of the Wellbeing Survey is to get a pulse on the community's needs, so we can begin to address them in a data-driven, systematic way.

MRVPD's FY 2024 Work Plan will in part be informed by the results of the 2022 Wellbeing Survey.

## 3

#### Repeating the survey regularly.

The MRV Wellbeing Survey is most useful when the data can be compared longitudinally across multiple years. Over time, the Survey will help answer the questions:

- How is the MRV changing?
- What are perceived challenges?
- What opportunities are present?
- What ideas does the community have to address its perceived needs?

Stay tuned for next Wellbeing Survey!



# Acknowledgements

Many thanks to...

The Dashboard Advisory Committee for their help developing the MRV Community Wellbeing Survey:

- Laura Brines
- Helen Kellogg
- Jared Cadwell
- Brian Voigt
- Dan Raddock

The businesses who donated gift cards to survey participants:

- MRV Taste Place
- Sugarbush
- Alpine Options
- Art in the Village
- Hyde Away
- MRV Chamber of Commerce

Community partners who shared & supported the Wellbeing Survey.

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This report was authored during July 2022 by Amy Tomasso, Community Planner at the Mad River Valley Planning District, with input from Executive Director Joshua Schwartz and the MRVPD Steering Committee.

Questions?  
Contact [amy@mrvpd.org](mailto:amy@mrvpd.org).



Thanks to everyone  
who took the 2022  
MRV Wellbeing Survey!

**MRV Planning District**  
4061 Main St  
Waitsfield, VT 05660  
[www.mrvpd.org](http://www.mrvpd.org)  
802-496-7173



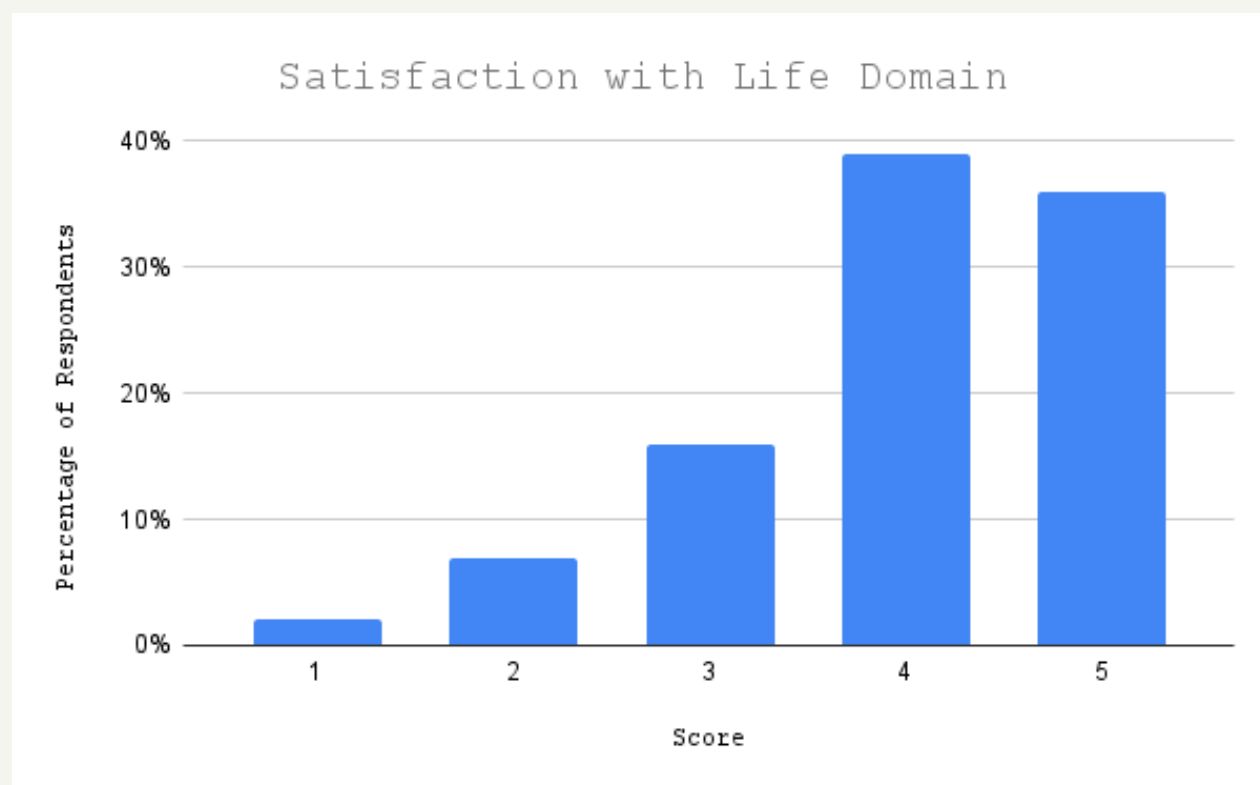
**MAD RIVER VALLEY**  
**PLANNING DISTRICT**  
Fayston • Waitsfield • Warren



# Appendix: Individual Question Results

## SATISFACTION WITH LIFE: 3.99

Overall happiness, anxiety level, general satisfaction



Overall, how satisfied are you with your life nowadays?

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Very Dissatisfied (1)	1%	1%
Somewhat Dissatisfied (2)	4%	5%
Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied (3)	14%	19%
Somewhat Satisfied (4)	46%	47%
Very Satisfied (5)	35%	28%

To what extent do you feel the things you do in life are worthwhile?

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Very Unworthwhile (1)	0%	1%
Somewhat Unworthwhile (2)	3%	4%
Neither Unworthwhile nor Worthwhile (3)	12%	14%
Somewhat Worthwhile (4)	39%	40%
Very Worthwhile (5)	45%	42%

Overall, how happy did you feel yesterday?

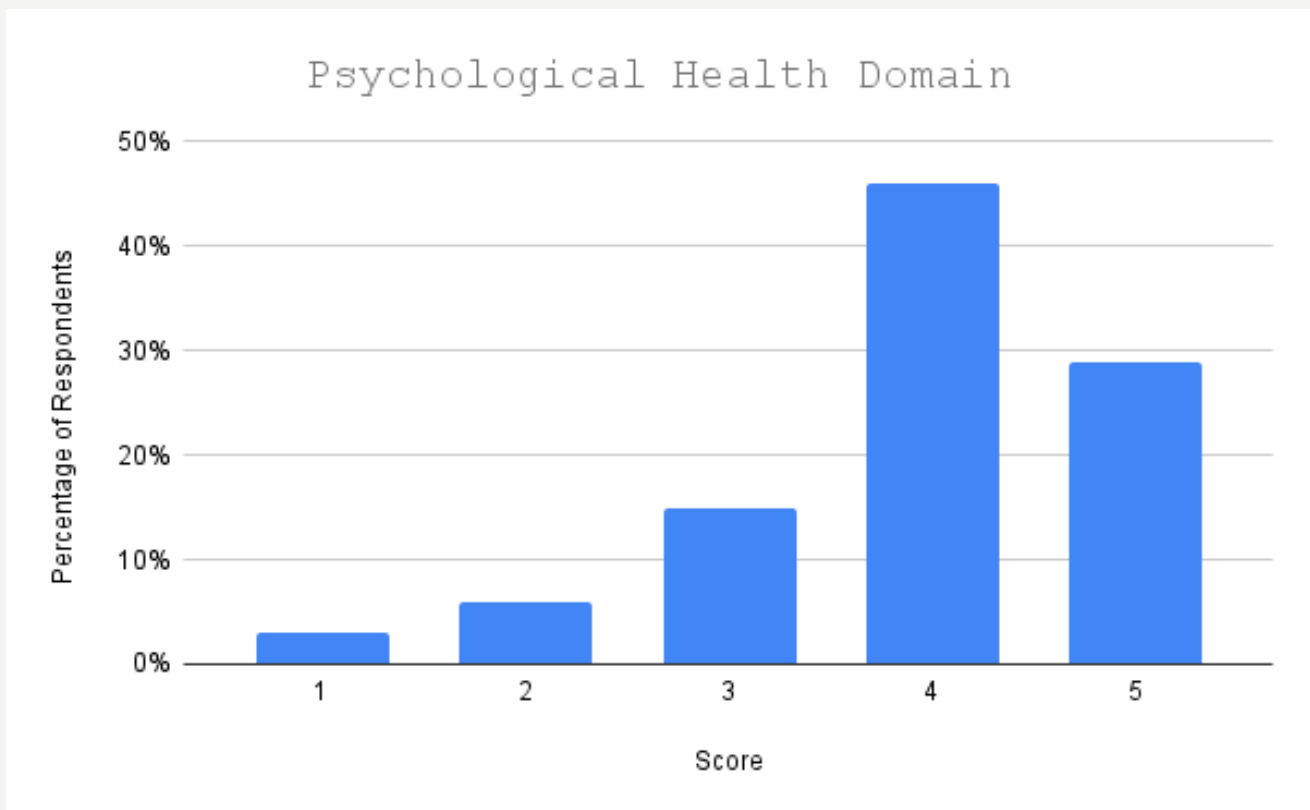
	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Very Unhappy (1)	1%	1%
Somewhat Unhappy (2)	5%	6%
Neither Unhappy nor Happy (3)	16%	22%
Somewhat Happy (4)	44%	42%
Very Happy (5)	34%	30%

Overall, how anxious did you feel yesterday?

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Very Anxious (1)	5%	7%
Somewhat Anxious (2)	17%	13%
Neither Anxious nor Unanxious (3)	20%	22%
Somewhat Unanxious (4)	28%	31%
Very Unanxious (5)	29%	26%

## PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH: 3.90

Engagement, optimism, accomplishment



I lead a purposeful and meaningful life.

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Strongly Disagree	3%	1%
Disagree	4%	6%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	15%	13%
Agree	47%	39%
Strongly Agree	31%	40%

I am engaged and interested in my daily activities.

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Strongly Disagree	3%	1%
Disagree	4%	5%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	14%	15%
Agree	45%	35%
Strongly Agree	34%	44%

I am optimistic about my future.

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Strongly Disagree	4%	3%
Disagree	10%	6%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	13%	14%
Agree	44%	38%
Strongly Agree	29%	40%

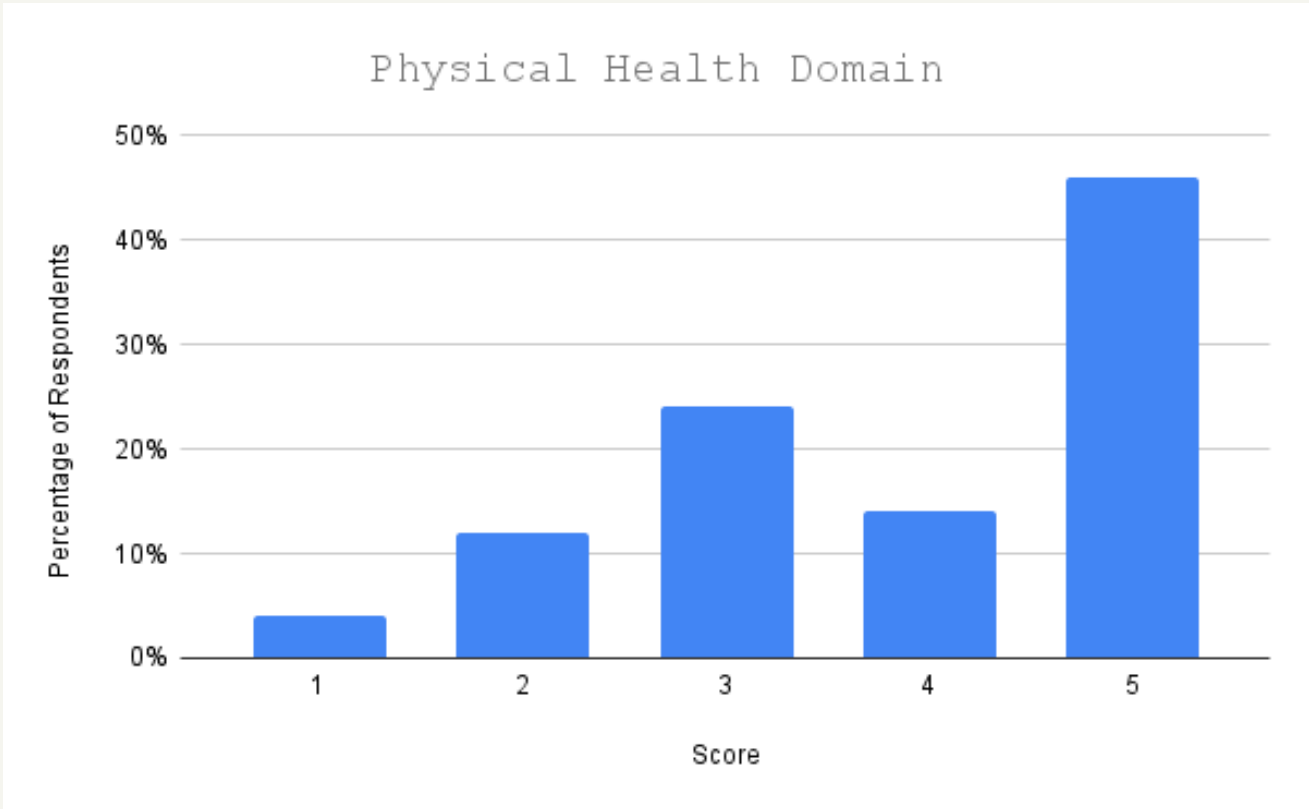
Most days I feel a sense of accomplishment.

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Strongly Disagree	3%	2%
Disagree	7%	6%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	19%	25%
Agree	49%	39%
Strongly Agree	23%	29%



# PHYSICAL HEALTH: 3.86

Health, energy, ability, exercise



In general, I would say my health is:

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Poor	1%	1%
Fair	9%	8%
Good	25%	27%
Very Good	46%	41%
Excellent	19%	23%

During the past week, would you say you had a lot of energy...

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Very Rarely or Never	1%	1%
Rarely	7%	7%
Sometimes	31%	35%
Often	46%	41%
Very Often or Always	15%	16%

During the past week, how satisfied were you with your ability to perform your daily activities?

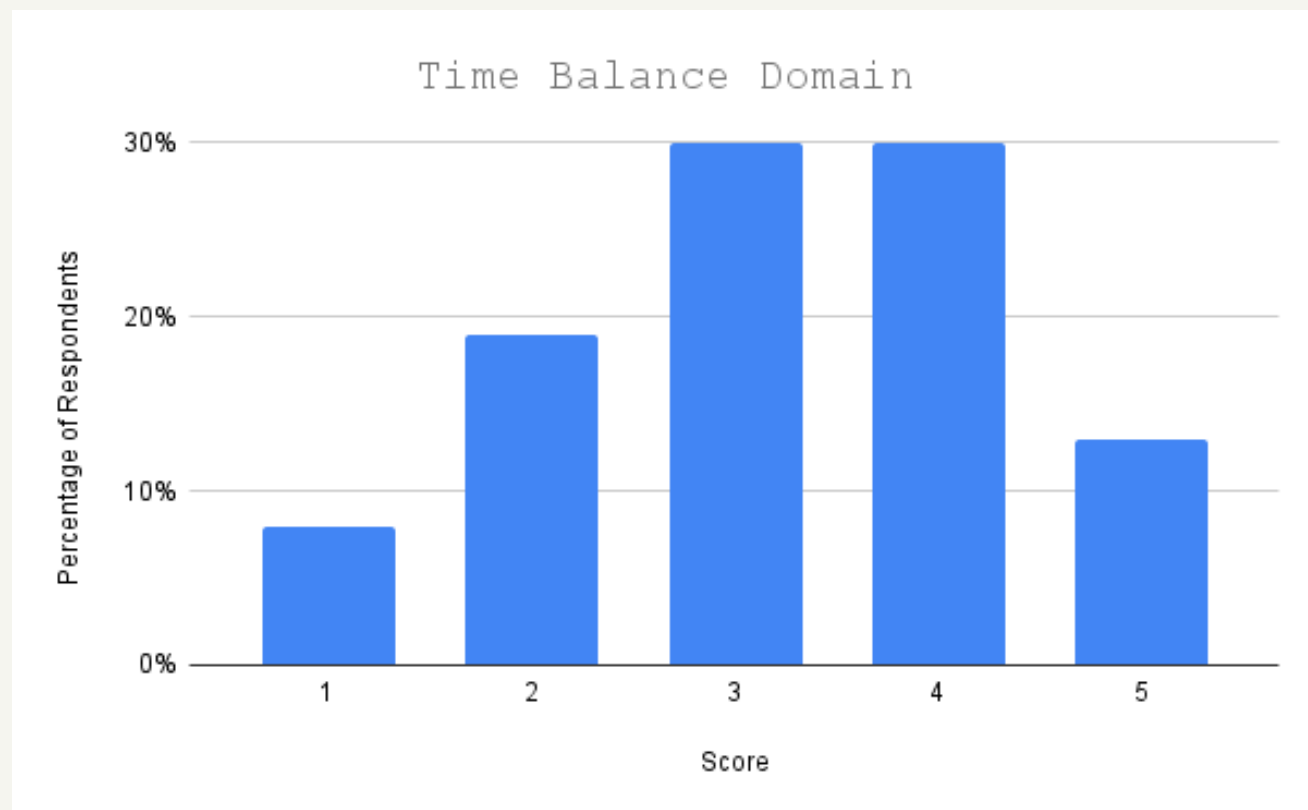
	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Very Dissatisfied	1%	1%
Somewhat Dissatisfied	6%	6%
Neither Satisfied Nor Dissatisfied	14%	19%
Somewhat Satisfied	46%	44%
Very Satisfied	33%	31%

During the past week, how satisfied were you with the quality of your exercise?

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Very Dissatisfied	4%	3%
Somewhat Dissatisfied	13%	15%
Neither Satisfied Nor Dissatisfied	32%	28%
Somewhat Satisfied	33%	33%
Very Satisfied	18%	21%

## TIME BALANCE: 3.21

Time for enjoyment, time balance, rushed time



In a typical week, how much of your time can you spend doing things that you enjoy?

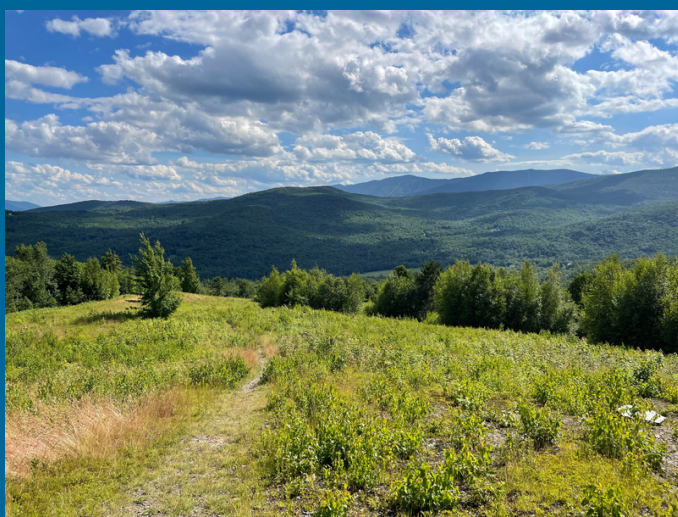
	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
None of your time	1%	1%
Not much of your time	15%	15%
Some of your time	34%	35%
Most of your time	42%	40%
All of your time	8%	9%

In the past week, my life has been too rushed...

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Strongly Agree	9%	7%
Agree	19%	16%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	27%	29%
Disagree	28%	25%
Strongly Disagree	17%	23%

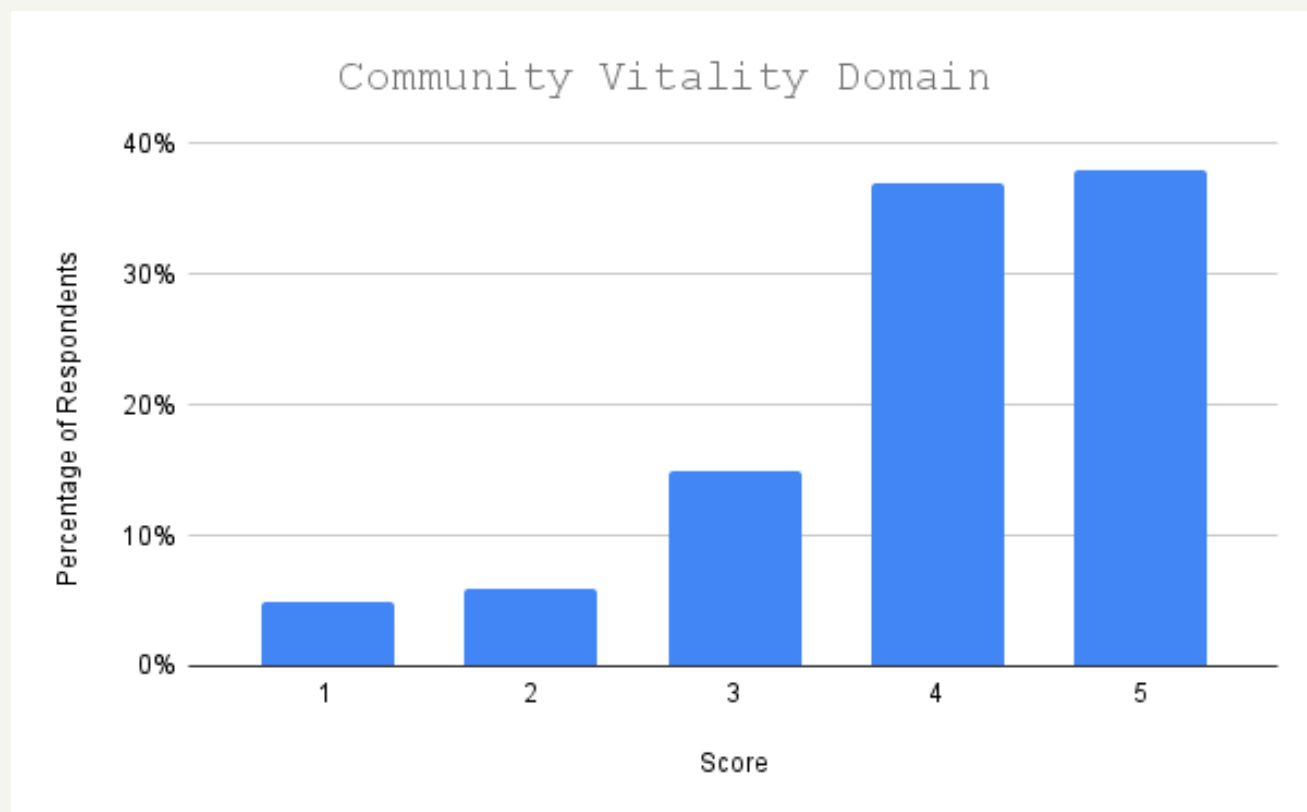
In the past week, I have had plenty of spare time...

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Strongly Disagree	13%	14%
Disagree	25%	25%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	28%	23%
Agree	21%	24%
Strongly Agree	13%	14%



# COMMUNITY VITALITY: 4.0

Trust, safety, volunteerism, belonging



When thinking about your neighbors, do you trust...

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
None of them	0%	2%
A few of them	5%	7%
Some of them	18%	15%
Most of them	45%	47%
All of them	31%	29%

When thinking about businesses in your community, do you trust...

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
None of them	1%	1%
A few of them	3%	4%
Some of them	13%	15%
Most of them	60%	62%
All of them	23%	19%



Would you describe your feeling of belonging to your local community as...

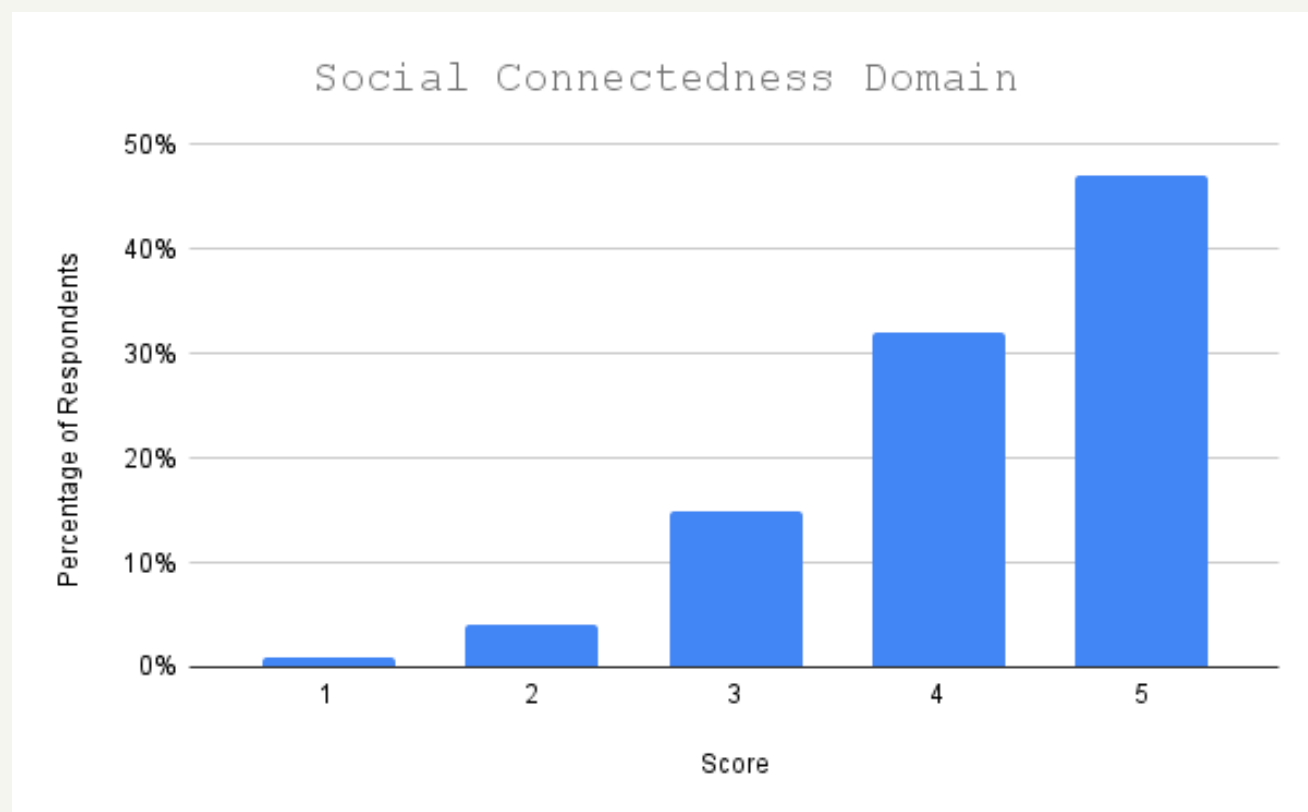
	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Very weak	4%	5%
Somewhat weak	7%	10%
Neither weak nor strong	27%	26%
Somewhat strong	38%	38%
Very strong	24%	21%

How often do you feel uncomfortable or out of place in your community because of things like your ethnicity, culture, race, skin color, language, accent, gender, sexual orientation, or religion?

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Very weak	1%	1%
Somewhat weak	3%	2%
Neither weak nor strong	7%	8%
Somewhat strong	29%	24%
Very strong	61%	65%

## SOCIAL CONNECTEDNESS: 4.19

Support, caring, love, loneliness



How satisfied are you with your personal relationships?

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Very Dissatisfied	1%	2%
Somewhat Dissatisfied	4%	5%
Neither Satisfied Nor Dissatisfied	15%	12%
Somewhat Satisfied	39%	41%
Very Satisfied	41%	40%

People in my life care about me.

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Strongly Disagree	1%	0%
Disagree	2%	4%
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	6%	5%
Agree	28%	26%
Strongly Agree	63%	65%

During the past week, have you felt lonely...

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Very Often or Always	2%	3%
Often	7%	5%
Sometimes	25%	27%
Rarely	28%	27%
Very Rarely or Never	38%	38%

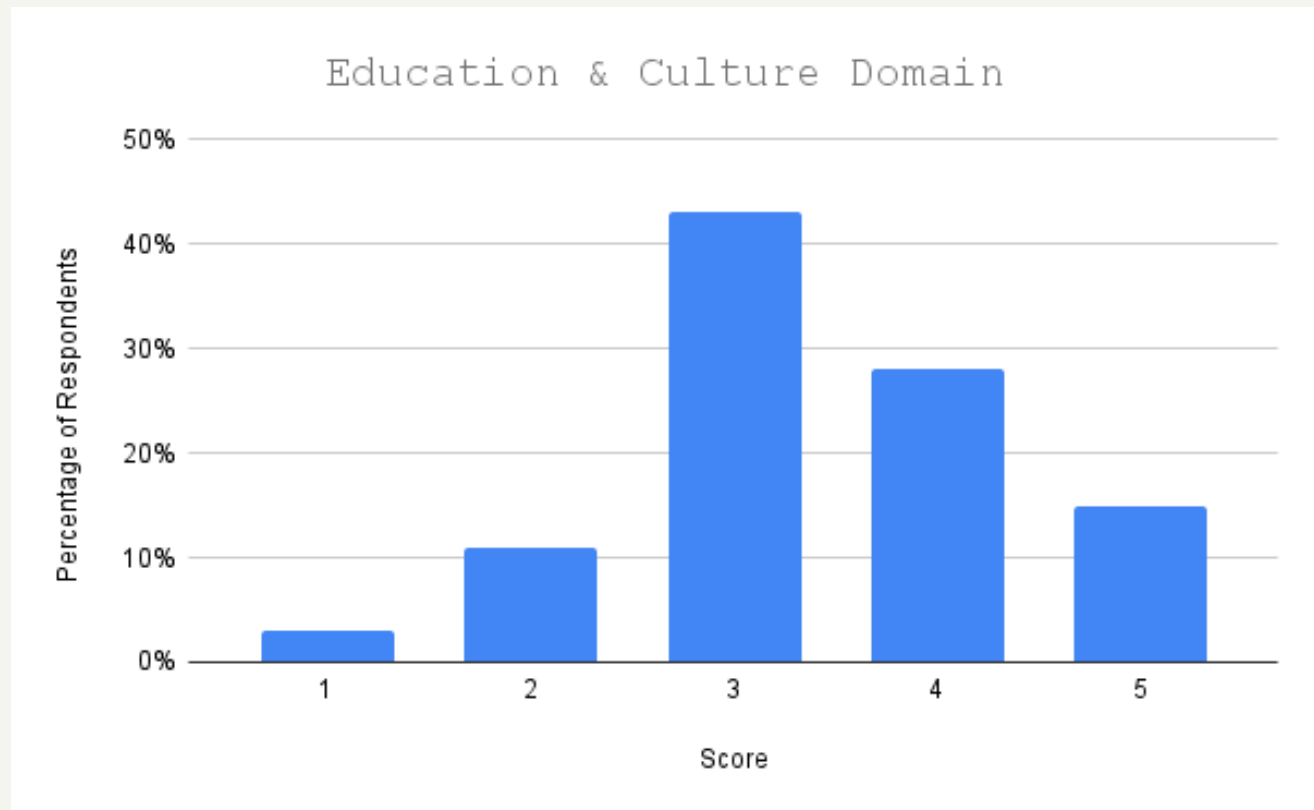
During the past week, have you felt loved...

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Very Rarely or Never	1%	1%
Rarely	3%	3%
Sometimes	14%	14%
Often	35%	35%
Very Often or Always	47%	47%



## EDUCATION & CULTURE: 3.40

Cultural opportunity, community culture, access to education



In your community, how satisfied are you with your access to sports and recreational activities?

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Very Unsatisfied	3%	2%
Somewhat Unsatisfied	5%	4%
Neither Satisfied Nor Unsatisfied	19%	14%
Somewhat Satisfied	37%	35%
Very Satisfied	37%	44%

In your community, how satisfied are you with your access to artistic and cultural activities?

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Very Unsatisfied	3%	4%
Somewhat Unsatisfied	13%	14%
Neither Satisfied Nor Unsatisfied	33%	32%
Somewhat Satisfied	36%	34%
Very Satisfied	15%	16%

In your community, how satisfied are you with your access to learning opportunities like informal workshops or trainings?

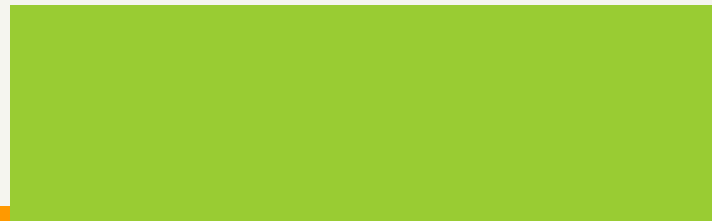
	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Very Unsatisfied	2%	4%
Somewhat Unsatisfied	14%	15%
Neither Satisfied Nor Unsatisfied	45%	41%
Somewhat Satisfied	27%	31%
Very Satisfied	12%	9%

\*In your community, how satisfied are you with your access to educational opportunities for youth?

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Very Unsatisfied	3%	3%
Somewhat Unsatisfied	10%	13%
Neither Satisfied Nor Unsatisfied	55%	38%
Somewhat Satisfied	24%	35%
Very Satisfied	7%	11%

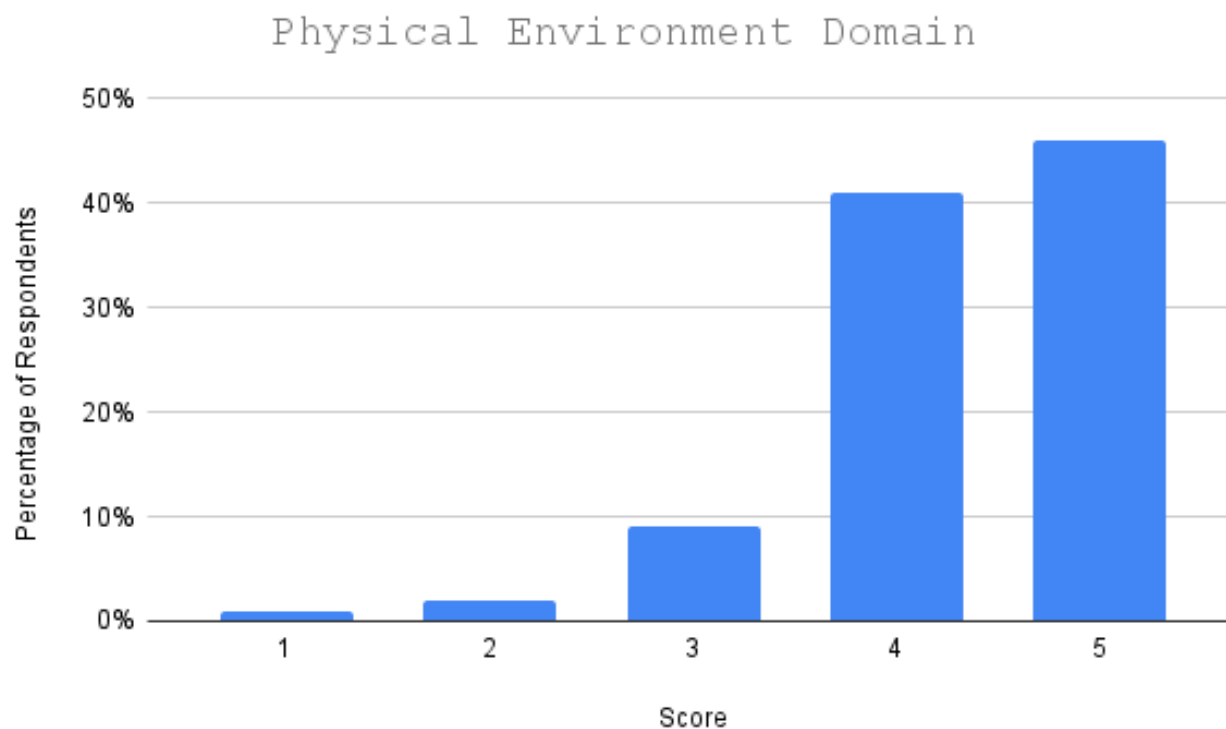
\*In your community, how satisfied are you with your access to childcare and early childhood education?

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Very Unsatisfied	5%	5%
Somewhat Unsatisfied	13%	17%
Neither Satisfied Nor Unsatisfied	63%	46%
Somewhat Satisfied	16%	23%
Very Satisfied	4%	9%



## PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT: 4.30

Environmental quality and opportunity





How healthy is the natural environment of the Mad River Valley?

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Not At All Healthy	0%	0%
A Little Healthy	1%	2%
Somewhat Healthy	9%	9%
Very Healthy	53%	45%
Extremely Healthy	37%	44%

How satisfied are you with efforts to preserve the natural environment in your community?

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Very Unsatisfied	1%	0%
Somewhat Unsatisfied	5%	6%
Neither Satisfied Nor Unsatisfied	18%	12%
Somewhat Satisfied	54%	43%
Very Satisfied	22%	39%

How satisfied are you with opportunities you have to enjoy nature?

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Very Unsatisfied	1%	0%
Somewhat Unsatisfied	1%	1%
Neither Satisfied Nor Unsatisfied	6%	3%
Somewhat Satisfied	34%	23%
Very Satisfied	58%	72%

How satisfied are you with the air quality in your environment?

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Very Unsatisfied	1%	0%
Somewhat Unsatisfied	1%	0%
Neither Satisfied Nor Unsatisfied	5%	4%
Somewhat Satisfied	30%	21%
Very Satisfied	63%	75%

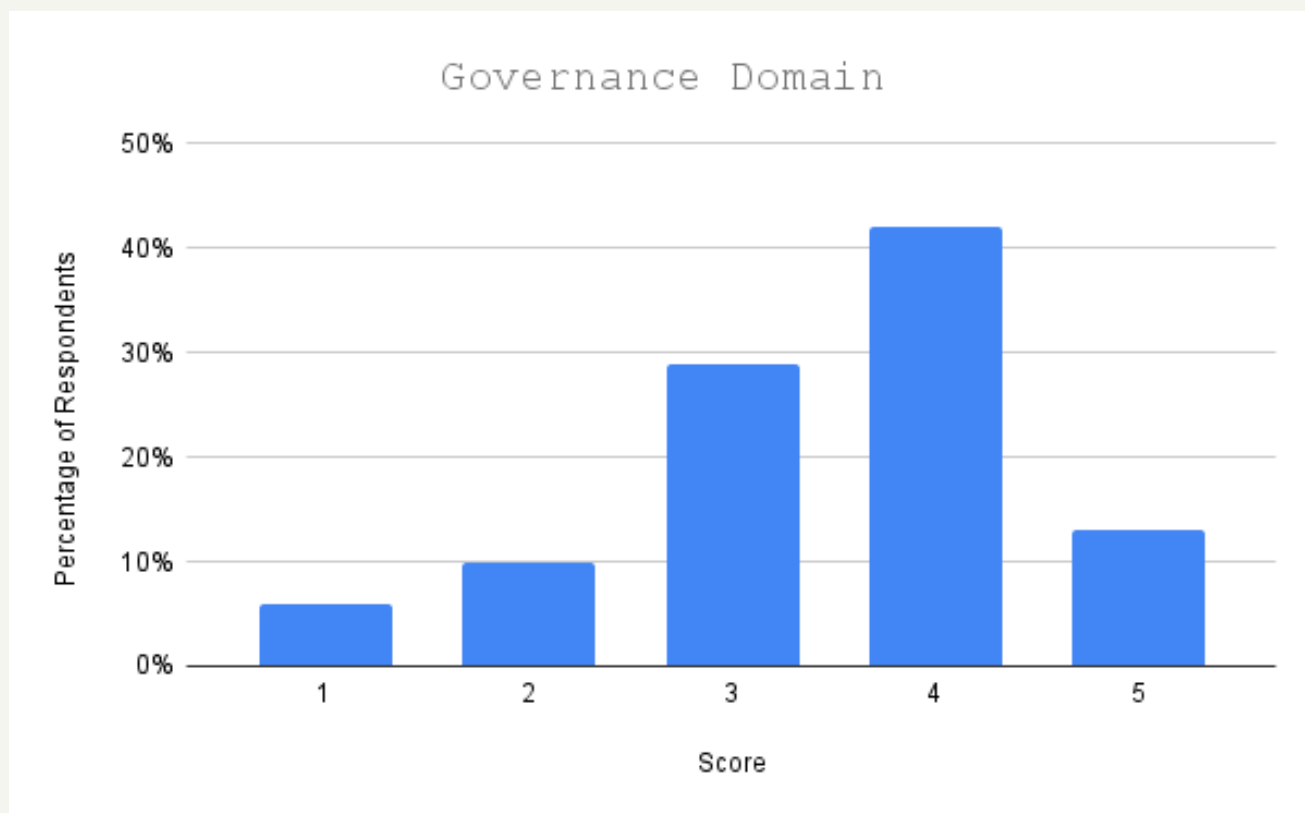
\*How satisfied are you with the water quality in your environment?

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Very Dissatisfied	1%	0%
Somewhat Dissatisfied	3%	3%
Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied	7%	8%
Somewhat Satisfied	36%	34%
Very Satisfied	52%	54%



# GOVERNANCE: 3.46

Access, trust, confidence



Public officials in my community pay attention to what people think.

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Strongly Disagree	5%	5%
Disagree	9%	10%
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	30%	32%
Agree	42%	37%
Strongly Agree	13%	16%

How much confidence do you have in your local (town) government?

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
No confidence	5%	5%
Not very much confidence	9%	11%
A fair amount of confidence	27%	28%
Quite a lot of confidence	42%	39%
A great deal of confidence	16%	18%



\*How much confidence do you have in your state (Vermont) government?

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
No confidence	5%	5%
Not very much confidence	10%	5%
A fair amount of confidence	26%	18%
Quite a lot of confidence	48%	51%
A great deal of confidence	12%	21%

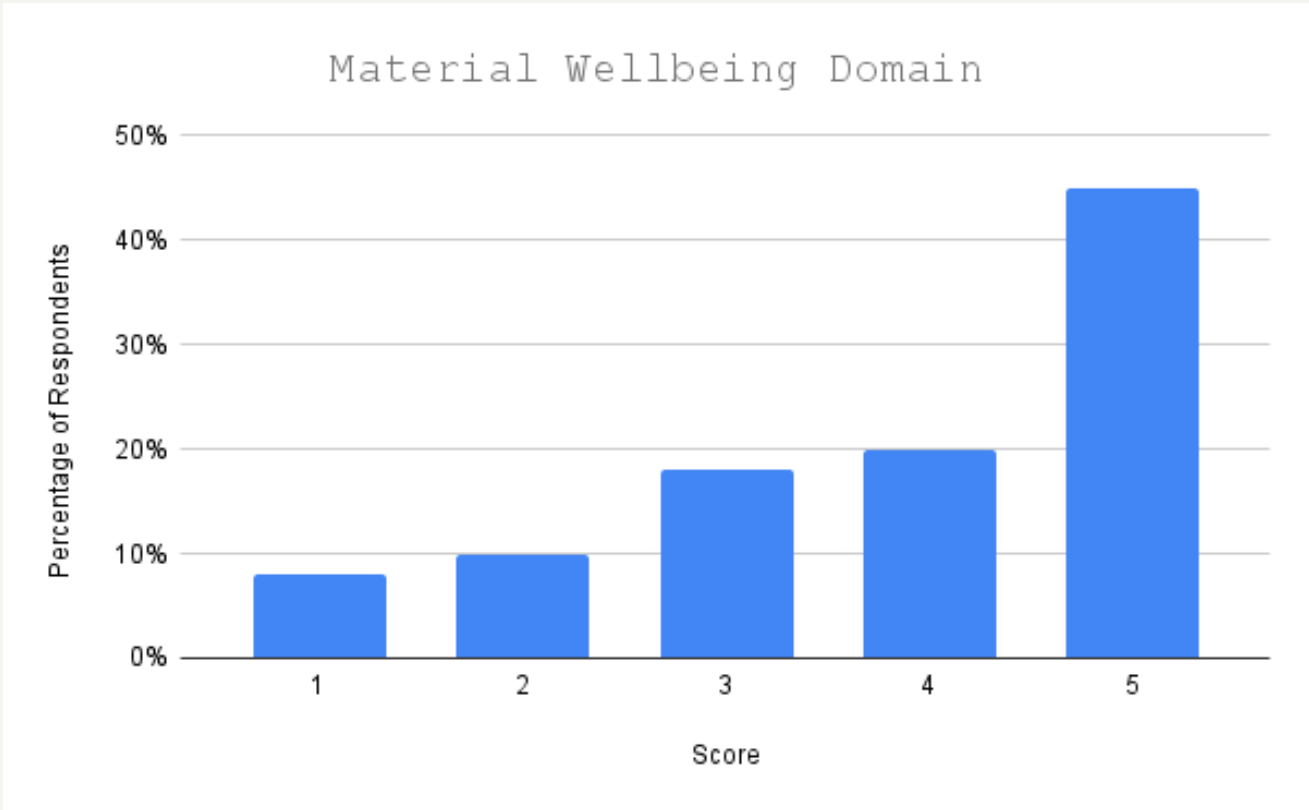
\*I can influence decisions affecting my town.

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Strongly Disagree	8%	9%
Disagree	13%	15%
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	32%	33%
Agree	34%	29%
Strongly Agree	12%	13%



# MATERIAL WELLBEING: 3.84

## Financial security



In general, how much stress do you feel about your personal finances?

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Overwhelming Stress	8%	7%
High Stress	18%	15%
Moderate Stress	28%	27%
Low Stress	30%	31%
No Stress At All	16%	20%

How often do you find yourself just getting by financially or living paycheck to paycheck?

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
All of the time	9%	7%
Most of the time	11%	10%
Sometimes	20%	21%
Rarely	21%	19%
Never	38%	43%

In the past 12 months, how often have you eaten less because there wasn't enough money for food?

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
About once a month or more	5%	2%
About once every three months	2%	1%
About once every six months	1%	3%
About once in the past year	2%	2%
Never	89%	93%

\*In the past 12 months, how often has it been difficult to address medical needs due to cost?

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Very Often or Always	5%	3%
Often	5%	5%
Sometimes	15%	15%
Rarely	12%	11%
Very Rarely or Never	63%	66%



I have enough money to buy the things that I want.

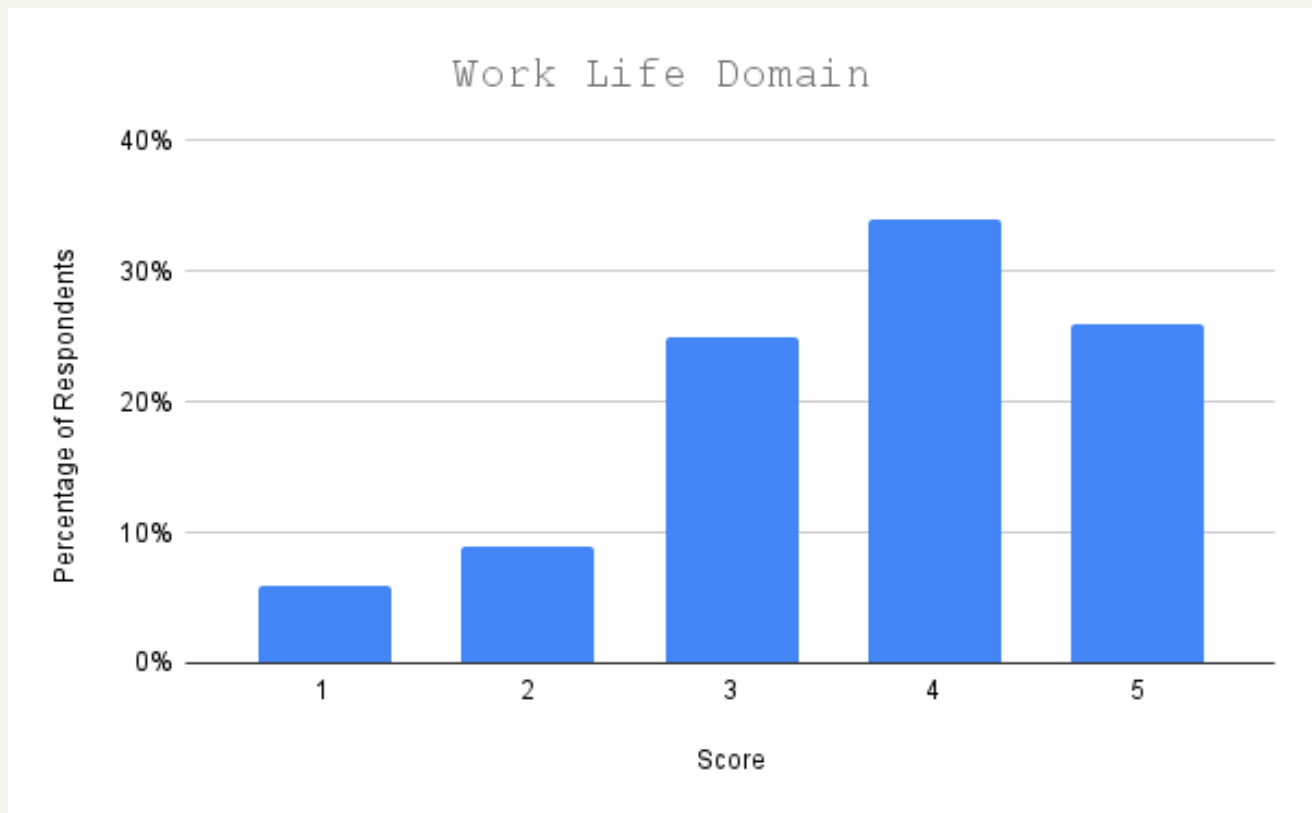
	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Strongly Disagree	7%	4%
Disagree	9%	10%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	21%	21%
Agree	32%	28%
Strongly Agree	31%	37%

\*The Mad River Valley is an affordable place for me to live.

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Strongly disagree	14%	15%
Disagree	18%	18%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	24%	30%
Agree	27%	24%
Strongly agree	17%	13%

## WORK LIFE: 3.63

Satisfaction, interest, autonomy, pay



How satisfied are you with your current work life?

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Very Dissatisfied	3%	4%
Somewhat Dissatisfied	7%	8%
Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied	25%	26%
Somewhat Satisfied	32%	37%
Very Satisfied	32%	25%

How often do you find your current work life interesting?

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Very rarely or never	4%	2%
Rarely	4%	6%
Sometimes	20%	23%
Often	46%	43%
Very often or always	27%	25%



My work conditions allow me to be as productive as I can be.

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Strongly Disagree	3%	4%
Disagree	6%	8%
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	18%	21%
Agree	47%	37%
Strongly Agree	26%	29%

Considering my work efforts and achievements, I get paid appropriately.

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Strongly Disagree	11%	9%
Disagree	14%	18%
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	23%	19%
Agree	32%	33%
Strongly Agree	21%	21%

I am allowed to decide how to get my work done.

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Strongly Disagree	3%	4%
Disagree	5%	6%
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	17%	14%
Agree	35%	28%
Strongly Agree	40%	47%

\*The Mad River Valley offers me good opportunities to get ahead professionally.

	MRV 2022	MRV 2021
Strongly Disagree	16%	23%
Disagree	17%	24%
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	45%	37%
Agree	14%	12%
Strongly Agree	7%	5%

# Question 1:

## *What are the strengths of living in the Mad River Valley?*

The beauty of the Valley and the recreational activities
the sense of community
Beauty of environ; good services (minus drugstore); access to nature; interesting people and activities
The recreation opportunities, the amount of public land and the community. Dig the vibe too, not like Stowe. And the Warren library is the bomb!
Nice area, quiet
Access to outdoor activities; strong, caring community, wonderful small businesses, beautiful surroundings.
Beautiful, connected, sense of community.
stimulating people, environment
Rural Community, Relaxed, Beautiful Scenery
Community, food, outdoor activities, beautiful, quiet, not too far from things to do/see
Bering able to enjoy myself in the summer
close knit community
Farmers market, good trails, mountain biking, skiing at mrg, not over populated, excellent back roads for gravel bike riding, three mountain cafe!
sense of community and access to nature and recreational opportunitites
Community involvement, quality of life
natural beauty, outdoor recreation
Recreational opportunities
This feels like a caring, interconnected community.
Playing outdoors, including walking on sidewalks during mud season
People care about each other
safety



# Question 1:

## *What are the strengths of living in the Mad River Valley?*

the natural beauty and the people who live here
Beauty and People
Safe place to raise a family and great elementary school
A beautiful place to live !
Rural landscape with easy access to being in nature. Supportive community. Locally grown healthy food.
Environment, integrity and honesty of community/vendors
We grew up here and have land, privacy and can earn a living.
Natural beauty
Beautiful environment, schools, peaceful
feeling safe, friends
outdoor beauty
Peaceful small town with a strong community
securtiy, community, clean environment
Access to outdoor activities
Community, Recreation, views
Close to my family
Natural beauty, caring community, slower lifestyle
Community feeling, small businesses, natural environment, can do people
outdoor rec opportunities, safety, farming, education for kids, good sense of community, restaurants
recreation opportunities, natural environment
community spirit/engagement, natural environment
beauty, community, access to outdoors
Caring community, beautiful land, generous spirits,
recreational opportunities
Lots of hidden treasures spots to exercise with my dogs privately and off leash



# Question 1:

## *What are the strengths of living in the Mad River Valley?*

Good community minded place, with healthy outdoor opportunities to play and work.
Nature and activities in nature.
Natural beauty, welcoming community, interesting people
Natural beauty, nice neighbors, fresh food, mountain biking and hiking trails, open spaces, Farmer's Market, arts opportunities, Mehurons, The Round Barn, Knoll Farm, local farms, etc.
The beautiful surroundings, amazing elementary schools, wonderful neighbors and people, Mad River Glen, trails, nature, great restaurants
The people.
Friendly people; lots of recreational opportunities.
Privacy
Rural
access to recreation, active community, good elementary schools,
Beautiful community and kind people
Access to outdoor recreation
Safe and clean and fun
access to nature and fresh, healthy food
Recreation, clean environment, and progressive and involved politics
Nature, the River, the Mountains
Good population size. Well educated population. Variety of activities and services for daily living except work.
Beauty community
Great community, lots of art and artistic opportunities. Beautiful surroundings, excellent opportunities for outdoor recreation. Excellent public resources locally and at the state level across the board. Excellent local food and produce.
A friendly and supportive community
The community of people and the mountains
lovely surroundings and good friends

# Question 1:

## *What are the strengths of living in the Mad River Valley?*

friends, nature activities
Small community, fairly safe and clean
the people
Clean environment, good people, access to pretty much anything you'd need close by
opportunities for outdoor recreation, small community
amazed at the natural beauty
POEPL, NATURAL ENVIRONMENT
Access to outdoor activities and rural living. Knowing one's neighbors.
Community, sports and nature
The People. The Beauty
The recreational opportunities, the community, the fresh local food availability
quality of life
NICE PEOPLE, HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT, FARMERS MARKET
natural environment, recreational opportunities, schools
the people
access to outdoor activities, friendliness of people
Great people!
Community and recreation
Access to outdoor recreation
Isolation, mountains, skiing, beauty, nice people
Natural beauty. Open mindedness of residents.
Friends and outdoor activities like mtn biking and skiing.
Community
Access to recreational activities. Low traffic volume. Clean air and environment. Diverse wildlife.
The natural environment and access to outdoor activities
Everything, really. There is always plenty of room for improvement and there are risks and pressure, but we seem to be able to continue to support our society and our local culture.

# Question 1:

## *What are the strengths of living in the Mad River Valley?*

the beauty and community, healthy lifestyle - clean air, lots of animals, friendly caring people
Beauty, quiet, mrg skiing, walking on dirt roads
Good people, beautiful environment
Access to recreation and nature
Community schools
Tons of opportunity for outdoor living (hiking, biking, etc), strong involved community, good schools
access to nature
the environment
We love the community and the outdoors.
Nature. Access to most things needed. Trails and water to recreate in.
My family and friends are here and our businesses.
The mountains, the local food
Skiing. Environment
nature, community, safety
Beautiful surrounding access to nature in all seasons
the natural beauty, creativity, acceptance, access to recreation
ok
Beautiful
A clean enviroment. A strong sense of support in the community
Outdoors, but often spoiled by mountain bikes
Community and natural beauty/outdoor activities
Beautiful clean environment. Strong, network, caring community. Tremendous recreational opportunities. Low population density makes for a good friends much more than fences do, Robert frosts contention aside.

# Question 1:

## *What are the strengths of living in the Mad River Valley?*

Access to good people. Environment for relaxation and renewal
Access to Recreation
Beautiful rural settings. Vibrant educated population. Zest of life feelings about recreation, health, food.
Peaceful, friendly, rural, supportive.
Outdoor activities, local grown food,
Great community
Community, nature, authenticity
Access to most things that allow for a healthy and fulfilling life
Very pretty with a lot of art.
Strong community relationships.
Community; recreation opportunities
Friend, family, physical environment
The strong sense of community
The outdoors.
The space.
Beauty & Community
Know your neighbors, environment and social interactions
Opportunities to connect with the community; natural resources; privacy
The beauty
Recreation, the woods, rural environment with no traffic lights and mostly friendly atmosphere
Access to nature, quality of life, great pace and sense of connection, privacy and quiet
Caring people
Recreational opportunities
nature, community, shared values
volunteer community
the natural landscape, and the mix of people who have lived here for some time
Beautiful area; great community; access to amazing local foods and products

# Question 1:

## *What are the strengths of living in the Mad River Valley?*

Community and outdoor access
Beautiful, good sense of community, great recreation and lifestyle
Beautiful, not crowded, nice people
Outdoor activities
Access to outdoor activities, excellent teachers in the schools, ability to live and work in the same community
Freedom to do as I want
Natural environment, farm fresh foods, community
access to trails
Two stores to purchase groceries
Access to outdoor recreation, small schools
natural environment, rural character, community strength
Strong community
small school classrooms, beautiful area, center of state, and close to hiking trails
Access to nature, skiing, biking, golf and low population
Close to nature.
community
Access to recreation, natural environment, local services and products, community
nature, recreation, beauty
I love the access to the outdoors and the overwhelming sense of community.
Beautiful, access to nature, schools
The people and community
Nature, ski g hiking
Hmmm
Good community, recreation
the people, abundance of outdoor activities
My neighbors

# Question 1:

## *What are the strengths of living in the Mad River Valley?*

Beautiful area to live, many options for outdoor activities
People, support, cultural, opportunities
community, recreation
It is the Valley
Recreation and community
clean environment; educated creative engaged population
Everything! Environment, attitude, natural beauty, health, people
community
beauty, people, opportunities
great schools, easy access to outdoor recreation, strong sense of community, the beauty of the landscape
Access to outdoor activities, local, healthy food, and A+ schools
Small very livable community Many recreational opportunities
Easy access to good outdoor recreation in a place where you can get what you need relatively easily with people who enjoy a similar lifestyle.
Natural beauty and access recreation. Vibrant arts community. Excellent food.
Natural environmental, recreational activities and resources, friendly people, robust volunteer efforts and opportunities, great local food sources, close to Montpelier (capital), great location within the state
Beautiful surroundings and opportunities for outdoor activities, close to Montpelier, situated between my husband and my work places, nice people
nature, community, sense of belonging
Small community and safe
Natural surroundings, recreation, community
recreation, peacefulness and beauty
natural beauty, access to recreation, community engagement, privacy if you want it



# Question 1:

## *What are the strengths of living in the Mad River Valley?*

Rural environment, recreation
People and place
Diversity of outdoor activities and committed community volunteers
The natural surroundings
Access to the outdoors
Community and access to recreation
outdoor rec
No bias, positive community, many actiViTiES
Access to the outdoors
Access to outdoor activities, good schools, nice people
The beauty of the environment/surroundings, the feeling of living in a throwback to an earlier, more simple time.
nature -local people -sense of community
Safe environment; hassle free. Natural beauty.
fresh air, beauty, skiing
amazing beautiful natural surroundings
Vermont values, rural beauty/access to nature, community
I can be myself. I can avail myself of fresh, wholesome foods locally grown. I feel safe in my environment.
It is a naturally attractive place to live.
The beauty of the environment and the tranquility of living in such a beautiful place.
freedom
Community and nature
Quiet, supportive, access to mountains
Sense of community
Fayston still has a rural feel, valley in general is still on the small side.
REcreational opportunities, friendships safety,
Clean air, organic locally grown food, small population, caring individuals

# Question 1:

## *What are the strengths of living in the Mad River Valley?*

Good place to raise a family if you have one.
Access to outdoor activities
The beauty of the area and the sense of community
People and access to outdoors
The beauty and the community as well as access to businesses that are supported by tourists
Peaceful. Mad River Chorale.
Sense of community
It's a beautiful place and most people are friendly. I'm lucky to already own my home, so I am buffered against that difficulty. I love living here, and some of my financial difficulties, are due to my choices. I am an artist, which is not always lucrative, but at the same time, it's fun selling artwork to locals and tourists here.
Access to nature, recreation, skiing and biking, a community that values the education and well being of its children
very little crime, people caring about others
Outdoors and general quality of life
A close knit community in a beautiful and natural environment
Outdoor rec opportunities and kindness
Outdoor environment, community
Sense of community and access to nature and recreation
Nature, amenities
Beautiful environment; interesting people
The gorgeous landscape and outdoor recreation opportunities, the sense of community
beauty of nature, access to natural recreation, the landscape, the community
Beauty, sense of community
Community and clean natural environment
Quiet, peaceful and a beautiful landscape
the community

# Question 1:

## *What are the strengths of living in the Mad River Valley?*

The community, the environment and the skiing, hiking, biking, swimming, tennis, bocce, pickle ball
The community, small elementary schools, outdoor recreational opportunities, and overall quality of life.
Natural beauty, caring community
The location it's about a hour to get anywhere that have options on shopping, plus close to the interstates.. I can get the essentials in the valley.
Environment
Access to great local food
The people, the natural environment,
The natural beauty
Caring people and recreational opportunities
Friendly people, outdoor environment and recreation opportunities.
Community
Nature
Organic food, beautiful scenery and nice people
The valley is a friendly place to live, with myriad opportunities for recreation and creative pursuits.
beautiful environment and welcoming people
There are many interesting people here, it is peaceful and clean
Access to nature
Mix of rural, recreational, forward thinking businesses/individuals, low population
the people and natural landscape
Beautiful environment, sense of place, sense of community, outdoor recreational opportunities, food availability, and Four season climate are the most important qualities of the Mad River Valley.
less traffic & out of staters during mud season
Opportunities for outdoor recreation
access to nature
The environment
nature
Natural environment

# Question 1:

## *What are the strengths of living in the Mad River Valley?*

Comfortable pace of life.
Rural character
I have a awesome and understanding landlord .Also I'm surrounded by beautiful features and their are a few lovely people I know here!
generally it is a friendly and welcoming community
community environment
Community, recreation, environmental awareness, access to fresh and quality food, local business supporting one another.
RURAL
safety, community, beauty
Slower pace, no traffic
Athletics
outdoors
The importance of nature
Beautiful place, strong community.
Peaceful and beautiful
Community, outdoor activity access
Sense of community, safety, natural resources
Community
Combination of culture and access to nature
It's a place where people care about each other.
Being in a state that lacks religous laws that would see me as reproductive cattle.
My family is nearby
Wonderful neighbors, our small farm plot, our garden on our little 1/3 acre.
close knit community who truly values each other
Natural beauty, recreation opportunities, great elementary schools, great libraries,

# Question 1:

## *What are the strengths of living in the Mad River Valley?*

Schools
natural surroundings, restaurants
local beauty and peacefulness
A wonderful environment with many good recreational opportunities and nice people
Family
sense of community
Nature and community
quiet, outdoor walks and convient
people are helpful, lots of free outdoor exercising opportunities, politically active with my chosen beliefs
community and growing up here
Environment and recreation
Strong sense of community, beautiful natural environment, interesting and educated people, cultural opportunities
community, beauty, not much traffic , recreation
The environment. The land the lake
Low crime but I fear that is changing
Quality of life, low population density, beautiful natural environment
Generally a good place to live. Good people and good environment.
Access to the outdoors, natural environment, proximity to family
The natural environment
Recreation
The natural beauty, strong community bond, and all persons are accepted here.
Beautiful surroundings, decent tourism
natural beauty, the people
Beautiful place with endless explorations. Awesome, kind people. Incredible schools and teachers.

# Question 1:

## *What are the strengths of living in the Mad River Valley?*

Beauty, community, peaceful, creative
I believe that people really want to help others and make this community better.
the beautiful environment. lovely people -- the kindness and respect shown to one another during the pandemic was truly striking.
Community assistance
The community, the beauty and recreational opportunities, the connections you have to a wide variety of people, of different ages and income levels
It used to be a quirky, warm, active community of locals.
community
Natural beauty, quiet life, outdoor recreation, good people, the quality over quantity feel
I have long term friends. Free Wheeling.
Beauty, recreational opportunities, healthy and low stress environment.
Its pretty close to skiing
Access to nature, creative community, local foods and restaurants
natural beauty, little traffic
it is like everywhere else.
Access to nature
Close knit, caring community. Access to the outdoors.
Community. Recreation. Vibe
Beautiful place to live while having access to enough stores for basic needs.
The beauty. Small Town feel and community. Friendly people.
people
strong community, beautiful surroundings, ready access to nature
It is picturesque.
Recreation, natural beauty, social connectedness
I love the valley and have been here for many years it my favorite place

# Question 1:

## *What are the strengths of living in the Mad River Valley?*

Helpful and caring neighbors and community, relative cleanliness of environment, varied recreational activities available
Community, access to nature, and Meheurons
Peaceful atmosphere, close knit community and low crime rate
having access to the outdoors
Beauty, small town feel
snow
Nature, Small town
Beauty.. jobs, healthy environment
Peaceful environment
Safe place to raise kids. A country living experience without being unaware of urban lifestyles.
Access to nature and outdoor activities
Open minded. Friendly community. Environmentally conscious.
Nature, skiing, biking, hiking, swimming holes,Ä¶ elementary school education
Feeling connected to nature
Small safe community, access to recreation in the mountains
Supportive and unique community, great outdoor opportunities, vibe is a nice mix of laidback and hardworking.
Community, beauty, slow pace
The small community and natural environment.
Beauty, access to nature, no billboards, good elementary schools with great teachers
there is definitely a sense of community, but it at time feels tenuous.
In the valley there aren't many people compared to other states, you will most likely know a lot of people in a crowd.
People
It's where I grew up; where all my family lives.
proximity to sports and limited traffic
Sense of Community.



# Question 1:

## *What are the strengths of living in the Mad River Valley?*

Beautiful area, nature, farms, trails, clean and quiet, good people.
Small town, lots of nature opportunities, good people
We are new, during Covid. We think it will be great here
Beauty
Peaceful, quiet, access to good food and wonderful recreational activities.
Physical beauty,
Strong sense of community, natural beauty
Beautiful surroundings, wonderful friends and good schools.
Family
Many residents are wealthy and contribute to keeping the landscape healthy/undeveloped. Tourists visit VT and spend \$\$ locally. Good restaurants and lots of local art.
Outdoor beauty
Lack of traffic. Beautiful. Mostly kind people
I grew up here but spent a decade away. There truly is a strong sense of community here which I always missed while living elsewhere.
community, nature, accessible
Sense of community, access to outdoor activities, CSAs, farm stores
Natural beauty
outdoor recreation, the community
Good people good restaurants
The physical beauty, the opportunities for outdoor adventures, the youth sports programs, the schools
Great for my kids growing up
community
Nature, skiing, community
none
Caring, safe community

# Question 1:

## *What are the strengths of living in the Mad River Valley?*

Community
Easy access to outdoors
Quality of people & lifestyle
Limited police
The People
Walkability to major services
Caring and supportive community; WES - terrific school for my grandchildren; beautiful environment with many outdoor options.
Community; variety of activities; natural resources - beauty of the area
Friendly people; nice (mostly) visitors; strong community structures; good libraries.
Recreation, beautiful vistas, small communities, friendly people, lots of places to volunteer.
A caring community, beautiful environment, share my values, lack of traffic, crowds
Community
It's beautiful, love my community. SO much in this special place.
It's a beautiful, mostly peaceful, safe place to live. I feel safe here though prices are 'out of sight'!
access to nature and outdoor activities
Friendly, caring, generous people
Sense of community/kindness/helpfulness. Shared sense of environmental responsibility. Access to outdoor spaces that are preserved and cared for.
Natural beauty, recreational opportunities, skiing, local food.
Beautiful community and kind people
Access to outdoor recreation
Safe and clean and fun
Recreation, clean environment, and progressive and involved politics
Nature, the River, the Mountains
Good population size. Well educated population. Variety of activities and services for daily living except work.

## Question 2:

### *What are the challenges of living in the Mad River Valley?*

Lack of certain services
affordable housing
I do not feel challenged
Have to drive everywhere
Mud season
lack of culture - very little diversity of art offerings, very little diversity of sexual orientation and race, remoteness from diverse experiences. wide income gap. lack of affordable or any available housing for friends and coworkers who want to move here. difficulty for small businesses to survive on seasonal and winter-weather-dependent recreation means some of the good small businesses don't survive.
I would love to see more indoor recreational facilities for adults and children (i.e. a gym, a pool, etc...)
cost
Other people wanted to over develop and ruin natural habitats
Aging population, expensive/bording on un-affordable housing/land, few 'jobs' that could afford anyone a life here, the Mehuron's parking lot... wait, the Mad River Green pothole lot is worse
The 9 months of winter
zoning restrictions
Difficult to expand community/ get to know people outside of your work.
No drugstore
Lack of housing
N
no jobs that pay more than a pittance, no functioning movie theater, very few useful shops, high taxes that I get almost NO value from.
Cost/taxes
While not personally financially stressed, I feel for those who are. I'm concerned that failure to actively invest in infrastructure, creation of employment opportunities, and housing will significantly change the Valley for the worse.

## Question 2:

### *What are the challenges of living in the Mad River Valley?*

Taxes are high, housing too costly, lack of plumbers, electricians and builders, many business owners are cranky
No pharmacy, one bank
affordable housing
for others....the lack of affordable year round rentals and housing to purchase
Economics, business climate
Housing
Public transportation !
Cost of good food (a health food store would be a great addition to our area). Feeling unsafe biking on roadways. Housing for young people.
No urgent care medical centers nearby, no pharmacy, business hours fluctuate, very expensive cost of living
All of the new people and their idea of land as open for all. Their online shopping habits have weakened our stores. Young working people (not remote from the city)struggle to own a home.
Income inequality
rising housing costs, proximity to shopping at some of the larger stores, long drives to hospitals and specialists, lack of resources for elders, expensive recreation
going to burlington for medical care
having multiple towns and governments, no affordable housing
Housing and low wages
no more than anywhere else
Affordability of life - groceries are expensive, there's no affordable gym in the area, distance to conveniences (have to go to Williston for big box store items)
Housing costs, lack of drug store, making ends meet
Need for a car to get to anything! No sidewalks on my side of town - dangerous walking on Joslin Hill, East Warren Road, Town caters to tourists rather than locals, putting in bike lanes for mountain bikers should not be a priority - sidewalks for residents who don't live on main street should be a priority, medical care is challenging in MRV and throughout Vermont. There should not be months-long waiting lists for appointments for primary care and for specialists. (You can can much sicker or die while waiting for appropriate medical care). Employment discrimination against older people, especially in the medical field.

## Question 2:

### *What are the challenges of living in the Mad River Valley?*

Lack of affordable housing, especially long-term rentals; excessive use of trails and other outdoor recreation areas; locals can't enjoy them
Lack of support for entrepreneurs, inflation, more need for preservation and conservation of natural environment
being an hour from Burlington, lack of mental health professionals, no pharmacy, lack of diversity, cost of living
finding service help - carpenter, electrician
childcare, early childhood education and decent housing for service employees
services, watching childcare and affordable housing challenges, retiring workers
Lack of diversity, balance of recreation and farming, growing but not too much
affordability
Politics and affordable housing for diverse community
Affordable housing, year round recreation and the dreaded shoulder season tgst seems to bankrupt at least one business every year.
Cost of living and the growing impact on the biodiversity of the area
Covid has provided the challenges, less so the MRV
There are not enough social opportunities for people in their early twenties. Also, professional opportunities feel limited...Taxes are high. I find it hard to meet new friends.
No pharmacy. No local police - someone tried to break into our house and it took 45 minutes for the police to arrive. So many seniors that voting on education spending is problematic for our schools. Lack of excellent middle and high school choices.
wish there were more businesses in Waitsfield
No pharmacy or regular clothing stores.
No local business support- people do not shop locally
Taxes, People not minding their own business. Toxic place to live
housing availability and price for middle income earners, short term rentals v. long term rentals availability, people commute out to work who are able to live here, and commute in to work when they can't afford to live here.
Cost of living
Seasonal employment

## Question 2:

### *What are the challenges of living in the Mad River Valley?*

No snow
it is hard to move here and meet young people, housing is expensive, childcare is hard to find
Isolation and affordability (i.e. costs of everyday items and education taxes)
Communitarian GroupThink is sometimes a problem...
Lack of diversity. Too many transient residents. Lack of affordable housing. Local residents can not support local businesses and services. Reliance on visitors and second home owners.
Lack of diversity, driving distances, lack of people of color me culture
High cost of food, fuels, construction. Difficult housing market. Minimal diversity in our population. The lapsing legality/availability of telehealth resources from out of state given the dearth of all kinds of healthcare providers experienced statewide.
Affordable housing for employees and people hoping to work here.
Drive alot to many things
unpaved roads
finding a place to toss trash on sundays. Curb overdevelopment and yet keep the valley vibrant
Cost of living, employment opportunities
health care without a long wait. housing at a reasonable price
Expense
ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE AND RELIABLE RENTAL HOUSING!!!!!!!!
mud season
BUSINESSES AVE A HARD TIME BECAUSE THEY ARE MOSTLY SEASONAL AND EMPLOYEES HAVE NOWHERE TO LIVE THAT THEY CAN AFFORD RIGHT HERE
Lack of diversity, tourists, houses being bought up by out of state people, high school programs, the amount and availability of drugs and alcohol that people use and it trickles down to the middle & high school
Sometimes tourist do not respect our community or outdoors.
MUD
The limited stores and restaurants, limited entertainment options, mud and stick season
lack of diversity

## Question 2:

### *What are the challenges of living in the Mad River Valley?*

AFFORDABLE HOUSING, EXPENSE OF LIVING HERE
affordability
taxes
mud-season
Cost
Isolation
Cost of living.
Distance to medical care
Viability of businesses.
Lots of drive time to get outside conveniences
Increasing traffic and entitlement
Access to health care providers and ease of scheduling within a reasonable timeframe (less than a month). Many times when I try to make an appointment in the valley I am told I will have to wait several months or they are currently not accepting new patients.
Frequent access to cultural and educational activities, finding businesses that are able to stay open regular hours
Housing, current wave of newcomers (their culture, visions and "demands")
not enough diversity, cost of living
Lack of access to near by health care, need lots more housing!
Cost, opportunity
Cost, accessibility
Distance to lg shopping. But don't fix this one!
Housing, cost (I'm fortunate for it to not be a hinderance to myself but that doesn't mean it is affordable for many)
distance from major cities



## Question 2:

### *What are the challenges of living in the Mad River Valley?*

taxes
We struggle raising our children in a community without a lot of racial or ethnic diversity. We also want to make sure it is a genuinely welcoming place for everyone. Our biggest struggle is finding consistent, high quality childcare. We love our daycare provider, but she doesn't have enough staff to be open 5 days a week and it is very challenging to get a spot. Even though she and her staff don't make nearly enough, it is still incredibly expensive for our family. It isn't a sustainable system for our family or more broadly and I worry a lot about it.
The MRV community is rapidly disappearing. We are being over-run by the super wealthy. Working class Vermonters can't find homes here and are increasingly unable to afford the homes they might have. Second homes, Vacation homes, real estate speculation by people only looking to own AIRBNB properties has become an existential threat to our towns and way of life. The younger generations are unable to live and work here any longer and no one seems to care to address the problem - which is outside home ownership and the wealthy buying up all housing and property. Restaurants cater their prices solely to tourists and upper classes.
The cost of purchasing a home, taxes and other general living expenses compared to income.
Lack of early childcare-- or low quality early childcare. I have no idea where my child is going to go on Fridays while he's in preschool and I work full time.
None
housing, restaurants!!!, retail experiences
Expensive, needs a pharmacy and healthcare clinic
housing costs and lack of availability
ok
Elitist
Financial and housing!
Mud season
Housing shortage leading to labor shortage
Beautiful clean environment. Strong, network, caring community. Tremendous recreational opportunities. Low population density makes for a good friends much more than fences do, Robert frosts contention aside.

## Question 2:

### *What are the challenges of living in the Mad River Valley?*

High taxes and government control
There is a very poor environment for small to medium sized business, that are not non profits
Cost of living and housing for most
Healthcare access
Taxes, wokeness
Child care
Affordable housing, gentrification, wealth gap
Often, no good deed goes unpunished
Way too much disrespect of nature. Nature comes in a distant second to bike paths, parking lots and developing, with paths and advertisement, our natural areas.
High taxes.
Location (distance from services, etc.), cost of taxes
Distance to hospital and drug store
Not having a local pharmacy
Home ownership, it's not for the young or average-income.
Being able to afford things as a local and not a tourist. Most businesses in the valley are priced to a point that locals that live paycheck to paycheck can't afford to shop or eat here.
Hard to make a decent living; exorbitant taxes; little affordable housing
Costs for some living in a resort town and Vermont
Resources for lower income individuals and family; not a lot of diversity
Inconsistent business practices
Unaffordable education taxes; socialistic attitudes people have about expecting things without working for them; a completely disfunctional education administration and school system; incompetent, politically motivated government leadership that thinks tax and spend is a good thing vs. frugality; anti-business attitude and regulations; the general attitude against second homeowners while expecting them to pay the majority of taxes.
Getting to know people
More traffic, fewer housing opportunities
Connectivity

## Question 2:

### *What are the challenges of living in the Mad River Valley?*

Mud season, stick season and the inconveniences associated with rude visitors
expensive housing
the influx of new people, increased traffic, having to rely on use of a car to get around
It's becoming a haven for the wealthy and tourists - balance is being lost- our young adult kids can't afford to live here
Traffic on weekend
Housing is challenging, having to drive for services MRV does not offer, limited services like child care and after school care for working families
Access to culture, personal politics are naive.
Making money and high expenses
Needing to drive everywhere, no place to go where kids can play inside in the winter, hard to find a doctor with availability
Many of the residents are selfish.
No immediate emergency medical facilities makes me nervous, cost of living is high, if you don't ski, you are sort of left out
distance to organic shopping
People moving here from out of state and pushing for change
Lack of cultural variety
tourist economy, revolving around serving wealthy visitors, long term housing being replaced by short-term rentals, protection of natural environment and rural character against pressures to build in sensitive areas
expensive
too expensive for me as a single parent, not enough resources to assist and pricey electrical, taxes and not enough recreational things for kids that can't afford to ski...would love a community center. the bridges and sharc are for only the wealthy
none for me.....but for others access to housing for rent or purchase
No diversity, no community spirit except in Waitsfield/Warren, not inclusive.
housing
Sufficient and affordable housing stock, medical service availability, transportation distances and access, vehicle services
remote, lack of diversity, few good job opportunities

## Question 2:

### *What are the challenges of living in the Mad River Valley?*

As a young family looking to carve out a life in the MRV, finding housing, well-paying jobs, and childcare has been nearly impossible.
Affordable housing
No housing!!!! Pretty sad when a head chef can't find housing and current landlord wants to evict to sell for a crazy price when the house is falling apart
Medical and dental services limited, access to pharmacy and shopping very limited, poor quality of roads
Hnmm
Making a living, meeting people
shopping, would like more cultural events, ability to make an immediate appt. with doctor
Cost. Timely access to healthcare
I moved here during the pandemic. I don't know anyone, and I've struggled to find ways to connect. I volunteer, and I'm looking to join the boards of some local nonprofits. I do yoga at some of the local studios, attend outdoor music events and the farmers market, and other general public events around town. But I haven't really connected with anyone that way -- just passing acquaintances. I'm a little at a loss for more explicitly social activities aimed at childless young adults (who aren't into skiing or snowboarding). Maybe I'm just missing them, but if so, I wonder where I should be looking.
services i.e. drug store, etc.
Limited affordable housing limits many things. We have limited restaurants with very limited hours. Getting tradespeople is challenging. Costs are higher. Limited healthcare options.
Mud season
none
It is the "Valley"
Expense, very limited availability of professional jobs
need more affordable housing
Affordable housing and lack of a labor force
Distance from work
affordability
cost of living, limited housing, limited variety of restaurants
HOUSING

## Question 2:

### *What are the challenges of living in the Mad River Valley?*

High cost of living
It is expensive to live here making our social fabric fragile and our school systems challenged because many people with kids can't afford to live here, and those who can find the school system lacking.
Dependency on private automobiles, lack of public transportation, biking, and other sustainable transport options. Extremely high cost of living. Very limited private business employment opportunities.
Affordability, lack of a abundant cultural experiences, lack of affordable options for childcare, lack of vision and planning for sustainable future, lack of meaningful efforts to enable young people and young families to move and stay here.
We cannot afford to buy a home here, even though we both have middle class jobs, lots of driving to resources (pharmacy, doctor, stores)
Income divide affecting accessible amenities, unity of purpose
High taxes and no drugstore
Cost of housing. Extraordinarily long wait times, even as a current patient, for appointments at local medical and dental facilities.
taxes including taxed on Social scurtiy
Staying connected to the community during COVID, reliance on fossil fuels for transportation, heating; pressure on property taxes from education costs
it is increasingly expensive, growing more exclusively
Affordable housing, cost of living
The vibe of some of the newcomers is arrogant and unpleasant
Cost of goods and services
Access to cultural events and other points of view
There's no community center for medium sized gatherings for workshops or other community events.
Paying my taxes, the cost of living, poor educational system
commuting to work
Housing cost
job market; distance to big stores, burlington
mud season winter lack of affortable housing
Housing (although, not me personally)

## Question 2:

### *What are the challenges of living in the Mad River Valley?*

Getting through the winters
knoltweed
Access to services limited.
mud season, high cost of some things, no housing for "regular" people and first home buyers
difficult to find medical, professional, social services
economic opportunities, balancing a tourism economy with keeping a local community feel
Sometimes I feel that certain items I need and can afford are too far away.
Living alone, but that would be a challenge anywhere.
The affordability, HOUSING
finding a woman to be with
Real estate for middle class or poor families
Having to rely upon Amazon to get many things not available locally and not having time to get out of Valley to purchase said items
Limited shopping and dining
Tourism
Getting to Burlington or a metropolitian area
Not enough housing for all levels of income
No affordable housing cost of living is too high.
Feeling included in community.
Finding a primary care physician
Gentrification
affordable housing
Property Taxes. Hard to get doctor appt. soon. Bring TD Bank back.
Politics
My daughter doesn't like her drive to work, since she works outside the valley.
Being very car dependent, affordability of housing, access to goods and services
very expensive getting good help

## Question 2:

### *What are the challenges of living in the Mad River Valley?*

Housing
Cost of living is high and affordable housing has become hard to find for many
Housing
Not enough performing arts, lack of racial diversity, affordable housing for others
No local pharmacy, mud season
Distance from other activities
Distances
affordability
affordability, rise in housing costs, lack of low-income housing, how all the houses are being snatched up by second-home owners
Housing, transportation
Costs and increasingly outsiders with great deals of money moving to and visiting the valley
Property taxes
housing
No drug store
Lack of affordable housing, not a lot of high paying professional jobs unless willing to commute or can work remotely. Not a lot of options for childcare for young children and summer camps for elementary age children. Elementary schools are great but seems to be a lot of distrust with school board and high school. Not a lot of alternatives for high school age kids. A community rec center would be great
Social isolation, transportation (especially in winter)
Too many people who really just want it their way.
Not enough restaurants
Cost of everything
Expensive for daily purchases and housing, little to no diversity not enough restaurants,
seasonal business closures
public transportation
Lack of key services, such as a drug store. Lack of affordable housing.
Lack of Affordability, housing and public transportation



## Question 2:

### *What are the challenges of living in the Mad River Valley?*

Very limited options for cultural entertainment, restaurants
Access to everyday items. Very far to drive to cultural events and dining.
It is not an inexpensive place to live. I am doing ok but I know that many people are struggling. Housing is a huge problem. Also, food costs and childcare...all very challenging.
expense i.e. lack of remotely affordable housing
Find a good looking, reasonably well off, interesting, multilingual single man in his 70s
Affordability, housing,
Distances to anything (need a car)
the cost. I have been fortunate but I see a real issue as hard working and creative people and young families are being priced out of what should otherwise be an affordable lifestyle.
There is no place for my children to live once they emancipate.
tourism
Transportation as my age increases
distance to shopping
Unaffordable School Taxes; Very Anti-business attitude
lack of cultural opportunities /lack of affordable housing
Boredom
small community with extreme lack of racial and cultural diversity, which affects everything from schools to workplace environments and opportunities
Limited resources (lack of local drug store, medical specialists, etc.)
Not much
I'm feel alone alot and dont have much do .There's not enough diversity here and its suffocating.
Cost and availability of housing, and cost of transportation
housing
Costs are high. Housing is expensive. Educational opportunities are limited. Sports facilities are far away.

## Question 2:

### *What are the challenges of living in the Mad River Valley?*

AFFORDABILITY
taxes, oportunity, housing
dirt roads, changing road conditions, you have to drive to get anywhere, businesses close early, evening social opportunities are primarily connected to bars/alcohol
Transportation
cost
Cost of living, especially affordable housing
Finding long-term housing for a young person. professional opportunities to live AND work in the valley.
Taxes, limited opportunities to engage in new things like painting classes, cooking classes, etc.
Housing availability, cost of living increases
high cost of living, lack of affordable housing, lack of indoor youth sports faciity
Influx of wealthy out of state people
Affordable home improvement contractors
Property taxes.
Nativism and Northeastern elitism, lack of affordable housing (due to AirB&B and second homeowners), utilities, and necessities, lack of genuine community/the fascade of community, being surrounded by closeted bigots, the love of the money the tourists bring while ignoring the ways they are detrimental to the area, etc.
Lack of safe areas to walk. Lack of sidewalks on most streets, making walking dangerous. No affordable exercise/fitness centers. Few cultural opportunities. No coffee shops with extended hours and adequate seating. Few restaurants and the ones that exist are very expensive. No public transportation. Inadequate medical care. Closest pharmacy is 25+ minutes away over a road that is difficult and unsafe in winter - and they don't want to deliver. You have to press them to do that and it is not always convenient to wait for delivery. Food is extremely expensive and getting worse due to societal economic issues.
Having to own a car in order to get to everything.
housing and affordability
Lack of cultural opportunities, lack of diversity, lack of pharmacy, not enough medical or dental choices, only eye dr doesn't take insurance, while we have housing I know It is difficult to find for many who help our community run
Minimum business. Must drive Out of Valley
Affordable housing

## Question 2:

### *What are the challenges of living in the Mad River Valley?*

post office, government (State and local)
community is not always accepting of new members
Some services are not available (eg: pharmacy, dry cleaner)
Cost of living, people moving in,
housing, housing, housing
Drama and gossip, small town silliness
finding a nice woman to be with
Winter is really long, it is hard to get to a major airport, my children (who grew up here ) live far away.
living costs and finding housing
Property taxes and access to pharmacy
There is often a disparity between the cost of living and what many people are earning for a salary; for those in the lower income brackets, it is very challenging to afford to live here.
none for me but good luck to those who need housing, and depend on others for auto repair and inspection, electrical ,plumbing , ride service, etc
Way too expensive no housing. No jobs
If you don't have children or aren't a jock - you are on your own.
No emergency medical care/hospital
It is a bit expensive, and if I didn't have my own transportation I would have to make another set of arrangements.
Housing! Lack of diversity.
Taxes
Lack of services and people
High taxes, excessively high taxes, and more taxes.
Cost of housing, poor business operating hours
road conditions, distance from major shopping

## Question 2:

### *What are the challenges of living in the Mad River Valley?*

Housing can be an issue. We have rented for over 20 years, so it is not a problem for us.
Cost of living, winter!, childcare
It is very health focused which is great but not for all levels of activity. I would say not very ADA friendly
affordable housing. People whom I would like to move here can't afford to or can't find homes here.
Affordability
Access of health care, the fact that you have to drive everywhere, (especially for teens and the elderly), housing (which is not an issue for me but which threatens the well being, both financially and community-wise, of the valley)
The town does nothing to care for the working class and protect their ability to live and work. Coming back to waitsfield after a few years away and post-pandemic, it's shocking to see how many people fled. It's like a weird shell of a town missing the key characters in a good story.
change
Limited options for medical/dental/vision care depending on insurance; limited work opportunities
Distance for travel. Cost of living.
Access to retail, personal services, contractors.
No housing.
This area often seems uninhabitable if you don't have close family ties in the area, if you didn't grow up here, or if you are in a lower wealth bracket. I refer to the valley more as vacation land than I do as home, and I wish that were different.
access to services and goods; worker shortages; affordable housing shortages
It is the "Valley"
All old white folks
Affordable housing, limited transportation.
Running a business with a diminishing labor pool
Experiencing a diversity of culture and activities.
Affordability of housing. Businesses that come and go, which can relate to the affordability aspect.
cost
housing, cost of living, disparity in wealth, NIMBY
Housing and finding people to hire are nearly impossible here. Everything is catered towards tourists which makes it nearly impossible for regular people to live and stay in business here.

## Question 2:

### *What are the challenges of living in the Mad River Valley?*

Economic opportunities/ job choices, not many diverse cultural opportunities, housing crisis, social stratification/segregation
Housing is expensive
Cost of living and high taxes, difficult to make ends meet for seniors on fixed incomes
Lack of housing, jobs, and anything that stays open past 9:00pm
Too expensive but manageable
Shopping for necessities and sometimes finding certain foods
Long winters, lack of a drug store
cost of living
No diversity, no housing
Cost housing taxes
Not affordable
The distance between things ie. Needing transportation to be able to do most things. Boredom for teens contributing to substance use.
High cost of housing and taxes
Housing market is hurting/eliminating our Middle to lower class
Lack of housing options, HUHS as the only high school option
The cost of living is high
Housing. Unbelievably unattainable for middle class people
Affordability. If we hadn't bought a house just before the pandemic we probably wouldn't be living or working here anymore. Those affordability challenges spiral into low worker base challenges making it more and more difficult to staff businesses (which then end up closing, providing less job opportunities).
Other than outdoor recreation, there are not activities/experiences for our youth. Not enough to do on a ,rainy day,. Housing is too expensive, groceries are too expensive and not enough restaurants
High cost of housing and limited indoor/public recreation (eg. public pool)

## Question 2:

### *What are the challenges of living in the Mad River Valley?*

Pedestrian crossing are horrible. We need them to be painted with flashing signs. We try to walk as much as possible and maybe 1 out of 4 cars stop for my kids and I. That is what makes me feel unsafe, not crime.
being able to walk--with ease--from one end of the valley to the other. also, & much more importantly, the cost of living, which will be driving me out before long.
There's not enough housing available. People that would like to move the the valley would need to already own a house or build one.
Cost of living
Cost of food, ability to find a second job due to limited hours of businesses, so many out of state folks you feel like a stranger in your own town,
expensive housing & hard to find services for house repairs
Affordable housing.
Small number of professional jobs. Must drive out of the valley for conveniences like basic shopping, quick oil changes, etc. Overworked and overbooked health center.
No drug store, small number of restaurants, affordable housing opportunities for
It seems affordability for work force housing is a huge issue. This will affect quality of life for all.
Expense
Lack of affordable housing.
distances to many things, High cost of living
high cost of living space, no pharmacy
Increased population with more speeding traffic for those trying to bike or walk on the roads. Increased farm truck manure transporting for days and nights. Housing costs for young families.
Outrageous rental costs. No housing!!! High priced food.
Access to affordable housing, cost of living is high, if your car is in for repairs you are stuck, wealthy residents are not inclusive of those who are not wealthy.
Businesses have trouble finding help
No public transit, no taxis.

## Question 2:

### *What are the challenges of living in the Mad River Valley?*

I don't currently have a vehicle so the complete lack of public transportation makes my life difficult and compromises my sense of independence.
Substance use, isolation, lack of space for kids, housing, people who now here want to shut the door behind them.
Access to higher education for adults and cultural a activities, small businesses with predictable hours due to lack of qualified employees and affordable housing
Housing affordability, insular community, low diversity.
housing
No drugstore
Very expensive place to live, high taxes, high grocery and gas
cannot afford to live in the valley
affordability for my lids and other youth
Costs, labor, housing
drug store,bank,auto repair
transportation
High cost of living, mud season
no pool or aquatic education for kids!
Affordable housing, childcare, activities like youth swim lessons, playgroups, etc
financial/ shopping for basic needs/pharmacy
Housing and the air bnb and building land use codes and slow to react government
Finances
I don't know.
Not enough diversity for both old & young; protecting the environment from carbon emissions, pollutants in water and farm chemicals; affordable and available housing for many.
Housing availability and costs; only one bank option; no pharmacy
Having to drive to get anywhere. The belief that masks can stop viruses - just silly. The weird mix to where people distrust big corporations unless they are big corporations producing vaccines.



## Question 2:

### *What are the challenges of living in the Mad River Valley?*

Far from stores + auto services + medical care.
high taxes, lack of adequate medical care, lack of affordable housing, lack of restaurants
Economic
Transitional community. Unaffordable real estate. Work opportunities are mostly seasonal.
Taxes and food prices keep going up and up. I will probably need to leave in another year. It's lonely here and hard to make friends if you don't belong to a Golf Club or Social Club, at least for me. Others have agreed.
lack of diversity
Getting from point A to point B - thank goodness for Free Wheelin. Rent, if you can find a place, is high
Housing. Making it possible for people of ALL income levels to live & thrive here.
Lack of younger adults, not much involvement by younger people in local processes, resistance to change as a community, NIMBYism
The 9 months of winter
zoning restrictions
There seems to be a reluctance for things to change. No one wants to be like Stowe. But we need year round businesses, more commercial development, less zoning and permitting restrictions, if you want young families to thrive here- something's got to give. It's very hard to have a business here, hard to find and keep employees, impossible to find housing. Get over it and allow for apartments and condos to be built so people can get a start

### Question 3:

*What are the “big picture” changes you would most like to see that would improve the quality of life in the Mad River Valley?*

More town coordination and support of local businesses.
stabilize housing opportunities for folks who want to live and work here
more public transportation
continued commitment to conservation and restoration of Mad River
More live music
mass transit / less car dependence; more bike friendly roads; higher concentration / density of population, culture, and services in the town centers, more funding for non-profit environmental and cultural organizations; more investment in the public realm and infrastructure.
More cohesion between towns.
affordable housing, enlarging the population, making a bigger tax base
Better Senior Services and places to live. Education of natural habits and wetlands
Balance between cost and affordability for housing, more year round residents and a fully buttoned up shirt for Jim.
Different food options
more, less expensive activities for all
More parking or better enforcement of the parking situation at Mad River Glen (getting excess parked cars off the road ways). Having roadway laws better enforced (cars speeding/ driving too close to cyclists). More community events/ better systems for communicating/ educating locals on currently available systems. Alternative education programs for youth.
More access to housing for MRV workforce and younger families.
more affordable housing,
increased economic vitality. fewer people who complain about everything
Affordable housing
Invest in infrastructure that will support affordable housing.
Limit the size of new homes, develop small communities with shared septic for affordability close one or two of the grade schools
Pharmacy,
affordable housing
affordable housing
Progress
LOT tax
Better lane markings on the paved roads: better maintenance of Rt. 17 pavement, and better care of some parking lots.

### Question 3:

*What are the “big picture” changes you would most like to see that would improve the quality of life in the Mad River Valley?*

Better housing options for full time residents. Less Airbnb type rentals. A dog park.
More opportunities for non skiers to recreate, more trails for older people to safely hike, urgent care center closer than Berlin
Educate people about the culture. Land is private, meet people (FPF is not meeting people. It's FB for our community with a bonus of disseminating town or Valley information) Driving etiquette, looking people in the eye.
Higher wages and affordable housing for locals
I would like to see the MRV become dementia friendly and offer more opportunities to age in place. Increased workforce housing.
none
finding a way for affordable housing
Less out of staters forcing the real estate market to be untouchable by locals who live here full time. We don't want to be forced into small communistic housing in order to stay here
we have made enough changes
A bit more flexibility in zoning and development; with the housing crisis, LUR prevent many homeowners or land owners from developing on their property. I recognize there are some incentives for ADUs, but it's still so expensive and cumbersome to build anything affordable in the Valley.
Drug store, reliable small engine repair, affordable housing, jobs that pay well, local schools,
Sidewalks and bike paths/lanes in all parts of town so people do not have to walk in the road on such roads as Joslin Hill, East Warren, Old County Road. This would encourage more healthful activity and less pollution from cars. Decreased taxes/tax breaks. Improved public transportation. Transportation needs to come to the people who need it. A bus running on Route 100 is not helpful when there are no safe ways to walk to a place to catch the bus!
Address the economic needs of service workers, including housing; judicious promotion of Valley as a recreation spot so that it isn't overused
More community pride around our natural resources, small businesses, and better recreational facilities/activities like playgrounds for kids under 5
Find ways to work with folks (including teens) around mental health concerns, work with the refugee resettlement program to bring new Americans to the valley, bring in a pharmacy,
Improve the affordability for young families
municipal wastewater (Waitsfield)
More affordable housing in realistic locations, higher wages for essential workers & local workforce, apprenticeship programs for retiring workers, thoughtful zoning
More activities for teens, more affordable housing and rentals
more tolerance of diverse opinions
Less focus on micro managing little things like paths and parks and more on the long term picture of housing and the impact of almost no rentals in this area

## Question 3:

*What are the “big picture” changes you would most like to see that would improve the quality of life in the Mad River Valley?*

Community investment in affordable housing and summertime recreation, like a mountain biking center and if an indoor public skating rink.
More protection of the natural enviornment. Increased support for Workforce Housing from towns and state.
None that I can think of
Community year-round pool with gym, similar to the Swimming Hole in Stowe. I would LOVE that!
We have to make Harwood a great school again. Easily 90% of the dozens of families I know with high school age children are sending them to private school because they tried HUHS and were so unhappy with it. What is left are the kids whose parents don't care or cannot afford to send them elsewhere.
music
Pharmacy, a clothing store.
Local business support
Affordable Taxes, Listening to the people who grew up here. We are looked down upon.
more housing for the workforce!
Affordable housing, local prices at our ski mountain, updated skatium
Ettervgrocery stores
more diverse housing options; housing related financial assistance for low-middle income, year round residents; more opportunities for community events/concerts/fairs/activities
Reduction in the education tax rate and better facilities at our schools
Continue to balance growth with beauty.
District wide water and sewage systems and other public infrastructure, sidewalks, public transportation. One governing body for the entire Valley. Political will to support smart growth in housing, infrastructure, education.
Affordable heating/propane and food prices.
Dense, affordable housing in the center of town connected to many pedestrian paths for traversing the densely populated areas on foot. Changes in zoning laws that would allow for development of unusable pastoral lands rather than requiring tree clearing for new construction. More effective adaptive reuse of historic structures. More diversity on every level, ethnicity, race, age, disability, sexual orientation, LGBTQI+ status, socioeconomic status, etc, we are too homogeneous here, and could do more to be structurally oriented towards inclusion. Making internet a public utility, and allowing for more telehealth
Have the Selectboards make supporting affordable housing a top priority now. There is too much procrastination, particularly now that a plan is on the table and funds are available. It is the #1 issue, and the frustration level in the Valley is very high because of the lack of action.
More culture

### Question 3:

*What are the “big picture” changes you would most like to see that would improve the quality of life in the Mad River Valley?*

more natural snow
my big picture changes are trivial, ie no snow making on steins. i love the valley.
Affordable housing, wage increase
housing people can afford
It's too bad that many folks who work here can't live here
I would like to see an arbnb/short term rental policy put in place so that all the available rental stock isn't sucked up catering to tourists.
none
This issue doesn't affect me personally, but for the economic and mental health of the valley, someone has to address affordable housing immediately and effectively. The housing coalition has been in existence for years but doesn't seem to get anything done. Time for new leadership or a new entity. Or just some investors/developers stepping up to create middle- or low-middle-income (probably cluster) housing.
The high school improve academically and provide more after school opportunities to students. A youth center for indoor and outdoor activities. And a community center offering classes and activities for adults
More affordable housing for our workers.
Increase in centralized affordable housing that doesn't destroy beauty as has happened in Maine because of lack of zoning and centralization
Housing for workers that are necessary to support local businesses, improved roads,
lacking quality retail shops, businesses, grocery stores, and restaurants
NEED LOW COST HOUSING WITH A CURB ON TURNING THEM INTO AIRBNB'S
better planning, less rural sprawl
more cooperation of the towns
more low cost housing to support workers of lower income
Affordable housing
Lower property taxes
Never enact any masking rules or other type regulations to tell me what to do with my personal medical choices or freedoms!
Lower property taxes, eliminate taxes on SS.
Lower property taxes.
Pool. Turf field.

### Question 3:

*What are the “big picture” changes you would most like to see that would improve the quality of life in the Mad River Valley?*

More job training and incentives for businesses that would make it easier for them to hire quality employees and pay competitive wages and benefits. Of course, affordable housing is an important element in making this happen.
Local school control, stronger zoning regulations to protect the environment, and of course a return to NORMAL after the pandemic.
more diversity, housing accessibility
More housing. Clustered together in town centers
Zoning that supports sustainable development and prioritizes affordable housing over giant single family second homes
Less short-term rentals, more long-term rentals
Concern about housing development-sprawl less open fields in future. Improve center of town feel. Discourage sprawl. Have dense development in places. .
Some sort of affordable housing projects and limits on Air B&Bs
more diverse population
consolidate schools
Consistent high quality childcare and early childhood programs
finding a way to outlaw absentee home ownership. We dont need more houses and natural destruction, we need the housing in the valley available to those who want to live and work and raise families here. Make AirBnB/Short Term Rental properties illegal or tax them enough to be financially prohibited.
Our Valley is not used to having this many fulltime residents for such long periods of time. I don't know the answer but figuring out housing for the work force for our LOCAL BUSINESSES would be great
Early childhood educators should be paid like teachers and daycare/preschool should be treated as essential. And a bike path to connect the towns and keep bikers off 100 would make the town more accessible to people with children.
More people
improvement to Waitsfield town planning. improved visibility on retail spaces, improved walk ways and lighting. encourage more restaurants and retail experiences for visitors and locals. rethink how the mehurons shopping plaza is accessed and constructed - needs better visibility to the business inside, and improvements to the overall aesthetic of the space - paint colors, landscaping, improved parking lots, etc.
Lower property taxes
access to affordable housing
ok
3 town organization add moretown and combine resources for community development to benefit the community who lives here and then tourists/2nd home owners. This multi town org needs to spearhead housing initiatives

## Question 3:

*What are the “big picture” changes you would most like to see that would improve the quality of life in the Mad River Valley?*

higher wealth taxes
More hiking trails allowing dogs in backcountry
Limit on short-term rentals to increase long-term and affordable housing
Nobody should have a second home until everybody has a first home.
A realistic plan for energy. Panels and wind mills is not a plan
a focus on business development out side of the non profit and recreational centers
Zones in all 3 towns for cluster housing or multi unit buildings. A Lenny's shoes and apparel store
Pharmacy and more healthcare providers. There was a 13-month wait for a physical with my MD. What's the point of having health insurance?
Reduce taxes
More affordable housing
Stronger zoning laws, affordable housing, support for mom&pop small businesses
Less public criticism of volunteer initiative in favor of more participation. Public financial support for affordable housing initiatives, fund the MRVHC and their executive director and MOVE FORWARD
Study our biosphere in depth before we develop. Give the living things in our forests a voice at the table. Our conservation commissions are really sudo chambers of commerce..
Investment in recreational Infrastructure.
No major changes
More affordable housing and child care
Affordable housing for all
Deal with the issues the short term rentals are creating for home ownership (sky rocketing prices only 2nd homeowners can afford) and long term rentals (there aren't any).
Businesses geared more towards locals. Not just those that are visiting.
Affordable housing; larger taxation of vacation home owners; bring back horse show and other events which support MRV businesses
Keep the development to the areas zoned for it.
Affordable housing; community center (pool; senior resource); community park
Less burger and pizza restaurants, affordable restaurants that are open, affordable housing



### Question 3:

*What are the “big picture” changes you would most like to see that would improve the quality of life in the Mad River Valley?*

Do something to lower education and property taxes so we will have money to support local businesses.
A few more restaurants/venues/bars for locals to meet and gather.
More affordable housing, return of a drug store
Community Center
Affordable housing for employees
more low-income housing
commitment to bike/walking paths and lanes on major roads so we can actually bike to the grocery store without fear of getting hit by a car
Over emphasis on recreation and tourism is going to turn this place into a Stowe and wreck our quality of life and sense of community. What happened at Warren falls is a travesty and it's happening all over. The chamber/biz community/realtors need to back off re promotion of this valley.
I have none
More services for families, affordable and available housing,
Low to middle income housing desperately needed
Lower taxes, affordable housing and a better business climate
Have someplace to go with kids, like a Y or community center.
Inspire locals to stop being so selfish
An urgent care center, pickleball courts, more hiking trails for older folks
restrict motorcycle noise
Activities that don't involve one more bike trail into wildlife habitat
Resources for young children
regulation/permitting of short-term rentals, increased affordable housing concentrated in village centers of Waitsfield and Irasville, wastewater infrastructure for village centers, encouragement of smart growth and sustainable building, increased planning for climate change resiliency and energy planning, increased child care facilities, valley community center for meetings, community engagement workshops/hikes for outreach on good land management & importance of conservation, increased welcoming of more diverse voices in our public offices locally, better balance between needs of Sugarbush and needs of MRV community
affordable housing, more businesses
things for teens/kids to do like a bb court, swimming pool, bingo for elderly, some community center to bring us together. More community focused things keep kids off drugs by giving them something they can do and be proud to do...community events that are not only for the wealthy to attend.

### Question 3:

*What are the “big picture” changes you would most like to see that would improve the quality of life in the Mad River Valley?*

We need more housing, rentals and Fayston needs to turn German Flats Road into a shopping destination.
don't know
Pedestrian and bike access from valley end to end, more housing, river riparian improvement and protection, denser housing and retail in villages, climate mitigation and resiliency made equitable
Less NIMBYism, more workforce housing, more childcare options
I wish I had a solution to offer, but the housing and childcare situations feel unsustainable.
Affordable, quality housing
Housing!!!!!! Housing for people that live and work here.
Get a pharmacy, get another physician get rid of CVMC/ uvm m ducal owning all doctors
Hmm
A night life
don't know
Fiscal responsibility. We all don't have deep pockets
Big picture, I'd like to see the area be more affordable and have more availability for stable/solid childcare options. I'm fine financially, but people I know through work are not, and it's terrible to have the people whose work makes this town run feeling so tenuous financially. My work has lost employees during the pandemic when parents (all mothers) were driven out of the workforce due to childcare issues. I'm nervous about that myself, since I'm hoping to have kids in the near future. I feel like I'll be gambling away my hard-won career without some guarantee that there will be slots available at a local childcare center.
more affordable housing
More affordable housing.
Solve the affordable housing issue
none
Professional Regional Government - 4-5 towns merge and become more professional and protect taxpayers from wandering and silly ideas to spend public funds
More affordable housing is an absolute must. We need to attract more young families, and not just those moving into their second homes from Boston and NYC. We need to attract and keep young Vermont families from all demographic situations. Affordable and available childcare is also very important to this. I think finally connecting the entire Mad Path would also be a big plus if it could be done.
better school board actions; need updated zoning regs

## Question 3:

*What are the “big picture” changes you would most like to see that would improve the quality of life in the Mad River Valley?*

affordable housing
Tamp down on air bnbs & second homes so more people have access to homeownership
More affordable housing
Affordable housing
Increased ability to build denser housing in centrally-located existing cleared lands rather than preserving disused grazing fields for appearance. Increased public transit options for commuting to and from economic centers.
Better future visioning to improve affordability and livability for young families, better support of local childcare and early educational institutions, more community-wide events and opportunities, additional transportation options, including bike lanes into town from rural areas
Home ownership access to middle income Vermonters (but with yards/land, not a condo or cookie cutter development)
community center w/pool & fitness for adults, teens & children
Low income and senior housing
Better access to local health care, more affordable housing
more snow and more sunshine
Development of affordable housing so that our service workers can live in the community and not have to commute long distances, property tax relief by containing education costs
I see the working class being squeezed out
More year round community
The Path!
Dog Park
broad based civic engagement
What we need more than anything is an affordable housing complex.
Have Alterra/Sugarbush Resort pay liveable wages. Also invest in the crumbling ski resort infrastructure.
affordable housing for a wide range of people
Pedestrian friendly downtown housing, limit STR's
pharmacy in town; parking passes for swimming holes;
affordable housing
Socioeconomic equity
a drugstore in town

### Question 3:

*What are the “big picture” changes you would most like to see that would improve the quality of life in the Mad River Valley?*

more direct route to I89 - not through Waterbury
Shuttle services to nearby cities.
housing for lower income people and those just starting out
enhance availability of medical, professional, social services
restrict short term rentals to help balance residents/visitors and have an impact on housing availability
More affordable housing.
Not sure
More housing for young professionals. If you build it, they will come!
more events to go to. all have gone
Limit the amount of short term rentals to allow for year round rentals
Focus on improving the high school so more families come to Valley and stay here for the schools.
Willingness to allow more businesses to open and flourish
Focus on the locals more, it seems the valley is becoming all about making tourists happy at the expense of the residents.
Growth which would provide more restaurants, shopping and other social activities
More housing for low to moderate income people
More affordable living and a much bigger population to get more diverse culture in the area.
More social get to know your neighbor gatherings
More affordable housing
School consolidation
affordable housing
Lower property taxes. Attractive affordable housing. Ability to get doc appt soon.
More police activity
Less hostility about sidewalks, and god forbid a traffic light on Bridge St.
More walking/biking infrastructure
lower taxes

### Question 3:

*What are the “big picture” changes you would most like to see that would improve the quality of life in the Mad River Valley?*

Affordable housing
Balancing business, recreation and affordability
Affordable housing
More affordable housing, more public transport, more local food grown
Can't think of any
Bike path along 100
more visits from VSO.
more affordable housing
shift to focus on lower-income housing, incentivizing multi-family structures, to create ease of housing access for young workers, couples, & families who want to live in the valley
More affordable housing
Stop the chamber of commerce from promoting only tourism, the chamber should be working for all the regular people of the valley, not just those that work or own businesses in tourism.
AFFORDABLE HOUSING
more affordable housing
I would like to see it stay rural but that is unlikely more , artisan shops
Affordable housing and child care are desperately needed. Would also love to see community rec center built for kids, teens, and adults - for sports and various classes
Lower taxes, a viable taxi service that is affordable
Helping the aging population get around and adequate home care.
Great old fashioned diner
More affordable housing, easier access to healthcare
Housing, housing housing!
Housing for service industry workers not tied to employers
indoor/outdoor facilities such as community pool, tennis courts/pickleball and other racket sports. Also better public transportation throughout the valley year round.
Affordable housing development.

### Question 3:

*What are the “big picture” changes you would most like to see that would improve the quality of life in the Mad River Valley?*

More options for restaurants and shopping
Affordable housing. Our businesses need workers and our workers need housing. Young families are also vital and they can't afford a starter home.
ability to own a home or a better place to rent
More affordable housing, maybe a dog park
Less 2nd home owners, affordable housinh
Better mass transportation, better coverage of areas served
attracting working families who can afford to put down roots.
More affordable housing and livable wages.
control over the transients and short term renters
more paved roads
sidewalk/bike path on rt 17
Consolidate schools; Stop the "Wokeness"
affordable housing/ support Fayston school
More economic development
more commitment to expanding housing opportunities for all income levels and diversity initiatives, including diversifying new hires in schools--people of color considering moving into the valley need to see themselves and their children represented in schools
Less greed implied by all the short term housing rentals.
Less regulations
Opportunities for more affordable living and events that brings all ages and diversities together
more workforce & affordable housing, more transportaion alternatives (less dependance on SOVs, more public transportation, more walking & biking paths connecting buisness centers
housing
Recreation Center for all ages! The valley towns need to work together on some big ticket issues, housing, water and septic, recreational facilities.
AFFORDABILITY

### Question 3:

*What are the “big picture” changes you would most like to see that would improve the quality of life in the Mad River Valley?*

more snow
Curtail AirBnB/VRBO so more housing is available. Add'l parking around Warren Falls.
Creative solutions to affordable housing shortages (ie. exploring zoning shifts to allow for more ADUs).
lower taxes and have more to do for older single people
Less Airbnb more affordable housing options
indoor youth facility for year round use, lessening commuting out of town
The Towns to work together and create truly affordable housing.
Diversity
Cluster housing for young people starting out.
Affordable housing for people who actually live and function in the area. Some kind of regulation on AirBnB's/tourist rentals usually owned by out-of-staters ultimately bringing nothing economically into the community. Less nativism and high-horsedness from people who calling themselves "Native vermonters" when in reality their just an invasive species. Actual care and commitment to be a self sustaining community that doesn't require tourism to make it.
More emphasis on making the MRV a safe and healthy and affordable place for elderly residents. The focus of the MRV is all on tourism. Bike trails are being built but walking our roads is unsafe and is not being addressed. East Road and Joslin Hill Road have heavy traffic including large trucks and yet - no sidewalks. This is dangerous for our children who ride their bikes to school as well as for adults and elderly adults. The MRV also needs a pharmacy and a fitness center that is not so expensive that only the second home owners can use it.
Vehicles slowing down in the village, fewer air b&b's.
having housing that is affordable and available to people who would like to live and work here in the valley.
I'd love to see a community center with opportunities for kids and adults to learn, gather, create community in ways that are affordable to all. And better access to health care, pharmacy, dentist, etc.
Improve the high school and business ventures will likely spring
A max river valley swimming facility like the swimming hole in stowe, improve the skatium, improve playgrounds.
less taxes
environmental conservation, better affordable housing, limits on Air BnB, more support for farms
More services and greater consistency in dining options.
Affordable housing for employees
more affordable housing

### Question 3:

*What are the “big picture” changes you would most like to see that would improve the quality of life in the Mad River Valley?*

Better schools
affordable housing and more events
I just moved back to the MRV after being gone for 8 years and I think the quality of life here is amazing. Can't think of any changes.
to have affordable living for everyone that needs housing to stay here especially those who work here
More affordable housing and lower property taxes for seniors
There is a dire need for more affordable housing and affordable child care especially for younger people
hasn't been a problem yet, but in the past, having an over zealous sheriff harassing locals and tourists . get rid of him , theres no crime here
More jobs
Stop trying to be Stowe. All of the changes are making our town look like a tourist's idea of what a Vermont town should look like. We are losing what made us want to live here.
Emergency medical facility, building and zoning regulations to address abandoned houses and property
Not sure I have any.
An effort to promote sensible zoning for targeted growth and more affordable housing.
Stop taxing seniors
Wish I knew
Build more affordable housing, faster internet technology, fill in the embarrassing potholes in the shopping centers.
Affordable housing for lower wage employees
more sidewalks, wider bike lanes,
Affordable housing, affordable childcare,
Businesses being able to hire competent people so they can continue to serve our community.
Most of them are systemic- more support for our lowest paid workers, childcare, more support for public schools
More non skiing opportunities but really for a small town it is quite impressive
improved housing opportunities. I'd love more cultural events. We need this to be a place that young families could afford to move to. We need more childcare.
Affordable housing
More affordable housing, including the building of worker housing at Sugarbush, some kind of limits on short-term rentals, particularly in the towns themselves and particularly for non-owner occupied housing, the building of an indoor skating rink and some kind of community center (Neck of the Woods might eventually be a



### Question 3:

*What are the “big picture” changes you would most like to see that would improve the quality of life in the Mad River Valley?*

Affordable housing, market caps on short term rentals that pushed long-time renters out of the community, a more business-friendly atmosphere, fix your curb appeal - MRV got ugly as hell, and hire a community event organizer who is fully-focused on utilizing greenspaces and common areas to create a fully developed calendar or why should I leave my house today
leave things be
Continued preservation of natural resources; thoughtful development, opportunities for a diverse population to afford to live here
Recognize that not all changes are good. If you want everything to look like N.J. then stay in N.J.!
More workforce housing, a pharmacy.
More affordable housing and better pay
It needs to feel like home for everyone.. and it can't be until there is more affordable housing opportunities available.
affordable housing;
lower cost of living
AFFORDABLE HOUSING
I wish there was more recreational space for children and teenagers. I would like it if there was a really nice playground like the ones in Vail, CO.
Regulate STRs
More diversity of activities and things to do in my spare time.
Obviously affordable housing. A pharmacy.
less talk more action
government bodies TRULY representing all walks of life, not just middle aged folks (men, mostly) with personal agendas. (I have sat on Warren town government bodies, so have first hand experience.)
People can't afford to live and work here. Tourists aren't going to want to come when there are no services. Contractors, painters, ect all choose 2nd homeowners that can pay more to work for so they can stay afloat. It leaves generational people that have lived here without the ability to hire reasonable help to fix and take care of their own properties.
More people of color living here would benefit this valley
Affordable Housing
Lower taxes for long term homeowners on fixed income and lower fuel prices for winter heating and for travel outside valley

## Question 3:

*What are the “big picture” changes you would most like to see that would improve the quality of life in the Mad River Valley?*

Housing that's affordable
Tax breaks
Affordable housing
Nothing the valley needs to change it is more about the people in the valley. The people in the world need to change but the valley seems to have a higher concentration of people that think they are more important then everyone else
Lower property taxes. Affordable housing
Affordable housing, the staffing issues facing the Valley are very concerning
Increased access to housing, more taxes on air bnbs
I think it's odd that we have to pay for trash and recycling disposal. We should make it easy to recycle and to dispose of waste properly and not make it more difficult or costly .
Crack down on second homeowners please!! Accessible housing for middle class types.
More affordable housing. Limiting how many homes can be second homes or even better limiting short-term rentals would go a long way.
Affordability and activities other than the bar and outdoor recreation
More public recreation opportunities
More bike and pedestrian infrastructure on roads.
as i'm sure you find in many of these responses, affordable housing. otherwise, the struggles that Valley establishments are experiencing finding & maintaining employees, will only get worse. to what end?????
Year round pubic transportation.
Short term rental properties should be occupied by the owner 51% of the time
Businesses geared towards year round local folks, affordable housing, stigma to go away towards financially strapped families.
affordable housing and aging in place services; more mental health services
Increased law enforcement...
I am overall satisfied with the quality of life. Little things, like, I wish we had a better grocery store like Fresh Market, but I also don't want the MRV to be built up.
Affordable housing

### Question 3:

*What are the “big picture” changes you would most like to see that would improve the quality of life in the Mad River Valley?*

Affordable housing
More housing for those who work here. Banning the use of glyphosate.
Quality of life is generally good. People expectations relative
I have no idea.
Less traffic on our peaceful roads, less Airbnb properties, less property taxes , both municipal and school taxes.
Rental properties for locals. A community garden. A stop light at bridge street and 100.
Affordable housing, more housing options, access to childcare, access to public transportation
More \$ from the mtn spent on community
Affordable housing to bring and keep young adults and service workers in the valley
Public transportation is unlikely but perhaps a car-share program.
Housing, community space, recreation beyond mountain biking, better paying jobs
More educational opportunities for all ages including apprenticeships and technical programs
Not sure
increase in housing for all income levels
More apartments
Making it more affordable for people who are not trust funders!
Affordable housing
HOUSING!!
More housing opportunities, more music and festivals
drug store, bank, auto repair,
Waitsfield needs an enforced noise ordinance
Decisions made about schools in the best interest of students
Recreation center / swim facility. Address property tax issues. More child care options.
Are people moving into the valley pushing out those who want to live where they work if they can no longer afford to live here?
Housing for our labor force
Loosen development regulations to fix housing

### Question 3:

*What are the “big picture” changes you would most like to see that would improve the quality of life in the Mad River Valley?*

Better access to healthcare through the UVMMC network
Ideally: housing/wages for ALL levels of individuals; transportation for types of needs
An end to censorship of scary things. For example, I know people who have had adverse reactions to vaccines. No discussion allowed!
Movie theater OPEN & restaurants too. Otherwise I am very happy here.
none
Affordability for young families
Housing/taxes are out of sight. But don't think this is actually fixable.
Pot holes gone, cross walks obeyed, a drug store - driving to Waterbury is ridiculous! Not so many empty storefronts!
dog park
n/a
Affordable housing.
Affordable housing, honest conversations as a community about our future, a community center, public spaces
Ensure maintenance of economically diverse community
A wider choice of health care providers. A Pharmacy.
access to affordable housing to rent (apartments) or buy a house. Also have paved recreation trail similar to Stowe rec path
More low income housing to attract workers
Affordable housing/public transportation

### Question 3:

*What are the “big picture” changes you would most like to see that would improve the quality of life in the Mad River Valley?*

More cultural events
more varied nightlife options
Workforce development
affordable housing and jobs
More housing for working people
More affordable housing, more emphasis on business development, creating spaces and businesses that attract younger generations
More housing for my neighbors