

Vital Communities' 2005 Quality-of-Life Survey							
Data from the 11 CENTRAL TOWNS in V.C.'s Service Area							
(VT: Thetford, Norwich, Hartford, Hartland, Windsor, West Windsor / NH: Lyme, Hanover, Lebanon, Plainfield, Cornish)							
There were 568 respondents from these towns.							
Questions #1-34:							
<u>Ideal Community Component:</u>	<u>My TOWN is Achieving This Ideal:</u>			<u>This REGION is Achieving This Ideal:</u>			
	AGREE:	DISAGREE:	NO OPINION:	AGREE:	DISAGREE:	NO OPINION:	
Good schools	482	27	59	423	74	71	
Friendly people	519	23	26	506	31	31	
Racial and ethnic diversity	101	432	35	101	426	41	
Support for charities (volunteers & donors)	470	36	62	443	39	86	
Religious and spiritual diversity	349	153	66	378	108	82	
Liveable wages	260	247	61	277	238	53	
A well-diversified economy	173	344	51	295	220	53	
Enough job and income opportunities	192	337	39	271	247	50	
A low poverty rate	381	146	41	212	287	69	
Adequate stores and services	318	239	11	441	108	19	
A strong feeling of community	409	125	34	353	136	79	
A clean, healthy environment	518	38	12	490	54	24	
Well-planned development	267	254	47	117	387	64	
A convenient public transit system	209	330	29	217	306	45	
Ample, varied recreational facilities	422	134	12	457	80	31	
A stimulating cultural scene	335	212	21	431	102	35	
An enjoyable entertainment scene	286	242	40	436	100	32	
Enough affordable housing	53	488	27	66	459	43	
Adequate sidewalks and bike paths	190	359	19	169	341	58	
Accessible health care	366	161	41	395	119	54	
Reasonable traffic conditions on our roads	435	126	7	330	213	25	
An effective court system (criminal and civil)	293	44	231	328	39	201	
Available child care	193	147	228	198	137	233	
Available senior care	173	145	250	209	104	255	
A well-functioning safety net for the needy	191	230	147	169	242	157	
Appropriate zoning	254	208	106	134	256	178	
Appropriate building regulations	284	151	133	170	170	228	
Enough open space conserved for the public	336	174	58	269	198	101	
A sense of personal safety	533	19	16	491	33	44	
Vital town centers	369	182	17	351	147	70	
A strong farming economy	106	380	82	186	268	114	
All public service positions filled (e.g., Select Boards)	381	89	98	191	96	281	

Q. #35: Of the ideal components listed above, please list 3 that should be the most critically important for this region to focus on (in order of importance):						
	MOST	2nd most	3rd most			
	Important:	Important:	Important:		TOTAL:	Percentage:
Good schools	109	53	42		204	12.2%
Enough affordable housing	87	74	57		218	13.0%
A clean, healthy environment	56	42	41		139	8.3%
Liveable wages	52	48	32		132	7.9%
Well-planned development	50	48	51		149	8.9%
Enough job and income opportunities	41	53	37		131	7.8%
A strong feeling of community	33	28	32		93	5.6%
A well-diversified economy	23	33	21		77	4.6%
Friendly people	14	7	8		29	1.7%
Enough open space conserved for the public	12	15	17		44	2.6%
Vital town centers	12	17	21		50	3.0%
Accessible health care	10	17	21		48	2.9%
Appropriate zoning	8	10	12		30	1.8%
A sense of personal safety	7	9	10		26	1.6%
Adequate sidewalks and bike paths	7	5	5		17	1.0%
Racial and ethnic diversity	7	10	21		38	2.3%
A convenient public transit system	6	18	29		53	3.2%
A strong farming economy	6	9	21		36	2.1%
A stimulating cultural scene	5	8	13		26	1.6%
A well-functioning safety net for the needy	5	8	22		35	2.1%
Adequate stores and services	2	7	6		15	0.9%
An effective court system (criminal and civil)	2	1	2		5	0.3%
Reasonable traffic conditions on our roads	2	12	8		22	1.3%
All public service positions filled (e.g., Select Boards)	1	0	1		2	0.1%
An enjoyable entertainment scene	1	5	7		13	0.8%
Appropriate building regulations	1	0	5		6	0.4%
Religious and spiritual diversity	1	2	4		7	0.4%
Ample, varied recreational facilities	0	2	0		2	0.1%
Available child care	0	11	3		14	0.8%
Available senior care	0	4	5		9	0.5%
Support for charities (volunteers and donors)	0	2	3		5	0.3%
Total Responses:	560	558	557		1,675	100.1%
Q. 36: How would you rate the overall quality of life in this region?	Number of Responses:					
Excellent	395					

	Satisfactory	143						
	Needs improvement	30						
Q. 37: Overall, how much impact do you think you can have in making your community a better place to live?		Number of Responses:						
	A big impact	118						
	A moderate impact	261						
	A small impact	174						
	No impact at all	15						
Q. 38: Is the population level:		Number of Responses:						
	About right	463						
	Too high	68						
	Too low	37						
Q. 39: Which one of the following strategies is the best way to handle growth?		Number of Responses:						
	Allow growth only if it won't hurt quality of life	309						
	Permit slow but steady growth	214						
	Stop growth now	20						
	Actively encourage growth	25						
Q. 40: Which of the following would you say best describes the funding level at your town's public schools?		Number of Responses:						
	They get more than enough money to provide a good education	127						
	They get adequate funding to provide a good education	273						
	They don't get enough money to do a good job	76						
	They are grossly underfunded	13						
	Don't know/No opinion	79						
Q. 41: Do our cultural, entertainment and recreation facilities meet the needs of people at all income and age levels?		Number of Responses:						

