



# Vermont Statewide Senior Survey



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Class of 2024  
Planned Activities After High School



In VERMONT, 71.0% of seniors in the class of 2024 participated in the Senior Survey.

**TABLE 1:**  
**High School Education, and Parental Education Characteristics**

		STATEWIDE
	NUMBER	PERCENT
<b>COMPLETION OF ALGEBRA II, INTEGRATED MATH III, OR EQUIVALENT OR HIGHER LEVEL OF MATH</b>		
Yes	2933	78.6%
No	797	21.4%
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3,730	100%
<b>HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION FOR EITHER PARENT</b>		
Did not finish high school	96	2.6%
High School Diploma or GED	736	19.7%
Some college or one year certificate	301	8.1%
2-year college degree	255	6.8%
4-year college degree	1,071	28.7%
Master's, doctorate, or professional degree	1,037	27.8%
Don't know	237	6.3%
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3,733	100%
 First Generation (neither parent has completed a 4-year degree)		
Second Generation (at least one parent has a 4-year degree or higher)	1,388	37.2%
Don't know	2,108	56.5%
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	237	6.3%
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3,733	100%

**TABLE 2:**  
**Seniors' Opinions Regarding High School Experience**

	<b>STATEWIDE</b>	
	<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>PERCENT</b>
<b>MY HIGH SCHOOL PROVIDED A GOOD EDUCATION</b>		
Strongly Disagree	197	5.2%
Disagree	358	9.5%
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	548	14.5%
Agree	1679	44.5%
Strongly Agree	993	26.3%
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3,775	100%
<b>MY HIGH SCHOOL PROVIDED THE GUIDANCE NEEDED TO REACH MY GOALS</b>		
Strongly Disagree	208	5.5%
Disagree	400	10.6%
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	626	16.6%
Agree	1580	41.9%
Strongly Agree	957	25.4%
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3,771	100%
<b>MY HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS CARED ABOUT ME AS AN INDIVIDUAL</b>		
Strongly Disagree	155	4.1%
Disagree	207	5.5%
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	451	12.0%
Agree	1377	36.5%
Strongly Agree	1584	42.0%
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3,774	100%
<b>MY HIGH SCHOOL HELPED ME IN LEARNING THE SKILLS NEEDED TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN WORK OR COLLEGE</b>		
Strongly Disagree	257	6.8%
Disagree	474	12.6%
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	749	19.9%
Agree	1538	40.8%
Strongly Agree	753	20.0%
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3,771	100%
<b>MY HIGH SCHOOL HELPED ME LEARN THE SKILLS NEEDED TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN EVERYDAY LIFE</b>		
Strongly Disagree	315	8.4%
Disagree	551	14.6%
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	914	24.2%
Agree	1422	37.7%
Strongly Agree	569	15.1%
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3,771	100%

**TABLE 2:**  
**Seniors' Opinions Regarding High School Experience**  
**(continued)**

	<b>STATEWIDE</b>	
	<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>PERCENT</b>
<b>MY HIGH SCHOOL PROVIDED THE INFORMATION TO CONTINUE MY EDUCATION</b>		
Strongly Disagree	156	4.1%
Disagree	271	7.2%
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	632	16.8%
Agree	1527	40.5%
Strongly Agree	1183	31.4%
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3,769	100%
<b>MY HIGH SCHOOL PROVIDED THE ASSISTANCE TO CONTINUE MY EDUCATION</b>		
Strongly Disagree	164	4.4%
Disagree	268	7.1%
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	646	17.1%
Agree	1513	40.2%
Strongly Agree	1177	31.2%
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3,768	100%
<b>MY HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES HAVE BEEN RIGOROUS AND CHALLENGING</b>		
Strongly Disagree	237	6.3%
Disagree	497	13.2%
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	991	26.3%
Agree	1375	36.5%
Strongly Agree	672	17.8%
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3,772	100%

**TABLE 3:**  
**Careers and Postsecondary Education Information**

	<b>STATEWIDE</b>	
	<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>PERCENT</b>
<b>DO YOU FEEL YOU HAVE A GOOD IDEA ABOUT WHAT TYPE OF ADDITIONAL TRAINING / EDUCATION NEEDED TO OBTAIN THE JOB YOU WANT?</b>		
Yes	2701	72.2%
No; although they know the kind of job they want, they are unsure of the type of additional training required	409	10.9%
No; they are uncertain of the kind of job they want	632	16.9%
	<hr/> 3,742	<hr/> 100%
<b>WHAT SENIORS HAVE DONE TO PREPARE FOR LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL</b>		
Attended a job or career fair	1425	38.5%
Spoken to an adult about potential careers of interest	2599	70.3%
Job shadowed / work-based learning	1268	34.3%
Job experience related to future work wanted	1242	33.6%
Researched the type of education / training required to obtain desired job	2019	54.6%
Toured a college campus / college visit	2014	54.5%
Took the PSAT or SAT or ACT exam	1862	50.4%
Applied for admission to a college	2243	60.7%
Participated in an internship	608	16.4%
Earned an industry-recognized credential (IRC)	229	6.2%
<b>Student or parent(s) have completed a FAFSA (Free Application for Financial Student Aid)</b>		
Yes	2261	60.1%
No, but plans to	275	7.3%
No, no plans to	597	15.9%
Don't know	627	16.7%
	<hr/> 3,760	<hr/> 100%

**TABLE 4:**  
**Future Educational Plans**

<b>HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION PLANNED</b>	<b>STATEWIDE</b>	
	<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>PERCENT</b>
High school diploma	535	14.2%
A certificate less than 2 years	141	3.8%
A certificate through a registered apprenticeship	117	3.1%
Associate's Degree – 2 years	167	4.4%
Bachelor's Degree – 4 years	1252	33.3%
Master's, Doctorate, or Professional degree	1076	28.6%
Undecided	471	12.5%
	<hr/> 3,759	<hr/> 100%

**WHAT DO YOUR PARENT(S) OR GUARDIAN(S)  
FEEL YOU SHOULD DO THIS FALL**

Continue my education	1936	51.7%
Work	567	15.1%
Join the military	60	1.6%
They want me to do what I want to do	1074	28.7%
Other	111	3.0%
	<hr/> 3,748	<hr/> 100%

**YOUR PLANS FOR THIS FALL (FALL 2024)**

Attend school	1614	42.8%
Attend school and work	971	25.8%
A registered apprenticeship Get a job (full- or part-time) Join the military	81	2.2%
Take care of my family	612	16.2%
Take some time off	63	1.7%
Gap year	15	.4%
Don't know – most likely college	51	1.4%
Don't know – most likely career	158	4.2%
	<hr/> 127	<hr/> 3.4%
<b>Aspiration Rate</b>	<b>2,741</b>	<b>72.8%</b>

(students who reported planning to attend school or apprenticeship in Fall 2024)

Table 5 presents survey responses from seniors who reported that they did not plan to continue their education immediately after high school, fall 2024.

**TABLE 5:**  
**Career-Bound Seniors**

<b>MOST IMPORTANT REASON SENIORS DECIDED NOT TO CONTINUE THEIR EDUCATION IMMEDIATELY AFTER HIGH SCHOOL</b>	<b>STATEWIDE</b>	
	<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>PERCENT</b>
I want to work to support myself	376	37.3%
I need to work to support myself	166	16.5%
I don't need to continue my education to get the job I want	69	6.8%
I can't afford to continue my education	25	2.5%
I need a break from school	105	10.4%
I am joining the military	38	3.8%
I can always continue my education in the future	38	3.8%
I want to travel	50	5.0%
I am unsure of my plans / goals	83	8.2%
Other	57	5.6%
	<hr/> 1,007	<hr/> 100%

  

<b>WAS THERE A TIME WHEN YOU THOUGHT YOU WOULD CONTINUE EDUCATION AFTER HIGH SCHOOL</b>	<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>PERCENT</b>
Yes	562	55.5%
No	451	44.5%
	<hr/> 1,013	<hr/> 100%

  

<b>GRADE IN WHICH SENIORS DECIDED NOT TO CONTINUE THEIR EDUCATION IMMEDIATELY AFTER HIGH SCHOOL</b>	<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>PERCENT</b>
Sixth grade or earlier	91	8.9%
Seventh grade	25	2.5%
Eighth grade	38	3.7%
Ninth grade	60	5.9%
Tenth grade	102	10.0%
Eleventh grade	158	15.5%
Twelfth grade	267	26.3%
Not yet decided	276	27.1%
	<hr/> 1,017	<hr/> 100%

**TABLE 5:**  
**Career-Bound Seniors**  
**(continued)**

<b>PLANS TO ENROLL IN TRAINING PROGRAM / SCHOOL / CERTIFICATE PROGRAM</b>	<b>STATEWIDE</b>	
	<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>PERCENT</b>
Enroll in a training program in the military	50	6.2%
Obtain on-the-job training	108	13.3%
Participate in an apprenticeship/internship	31	3.8%
Obtain a credential less than 2 years	53	6.5%
Obtain a 2-year degree	69	8.5%
Obtain a 4-year degree	158	19.5%
I don't plan to continue my job training or education	22	2.7%
Undecided	320	39.5%
<b>Yes</b>	469	58%
<b>No/Uncertain</b>	342	42%
<b>IF PLANNING TO ENROLL IN A SCHOOL OR CERTIFICATE PROGRAM, WHEN</b>		
In January of 2025	58	7.2%
In the summer or fall of 2025	110	13.7%
After the fall of 2025	73	9.1%
I plan to enroll, but don't know when	296	36.8%
I don't plan to enroll in a school or certificate program	267	33.2%
	<hr/> 804	<hr/> 100%

Tables 6 through 8 present survey responses from seniors who reported that they planned to continue their education immediately after high school, fall 2024.

**TABLE 6:**  
**Education-Bound Seniors**

<b>TYPE OF SCHOOL MOST LIKELY TO ATTEND IN THE FALL</b>	<b>STATEWIDE</b>	
	<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>PERCENT</b>
4-year college	2131	78.0%
2-year college	171	6.3%
2-year college, then transfer to a 4-year	133	4.9%
Technical, trade school less than 2 years	127	4.6%
Registered apprenticeship	66	2.4%
Other	101	3.7%
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2,729	100%

  

<b>GRADE IN WHICH SENIORS DECIDED TO CONTINUE THEIR EDUCATION IMMEDIATELY AFTER HIGH SCHOOL</b>	<b>STATEWIDE</b>	
	<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>PERCENT</b>
Sixth grade or earlier	585	21.4%
Seventh grade	101	3.7%
Eighth grade	154	5.6%
Ninth grade	262	9.6%
Tenth grade	332	12.2%
Eleventh grade	546	20.0%
Twelfth grade	525	19.2%
Not yet decided	225	8.2%
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2,730	100%

  

<b>ENROLLMENT PLANS</b>	<b>STATEWIDE</b>	
	<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>PERCENT</b>
Full-time	2439	92.1%
Part-time	208	7.9%
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2,647	100%

**TABLE 6:**  
**Education-Bound Seniors**  
**(continued)**

	<b>STATEWIDE</b>	
	<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>PERCENT</b>
<b>TYPE OF DEGREE</b>		
4-year or 5-year degree	2115	83.6%
2-year or 3-year degree	266	10.5%
A certificate	109	4.3%
Taking one course, not seeking a degree	39	1.5%
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2,529	100%
<b>MOST IMPORTANT REASON FOR ENROLLING AT THIS PARTICULAR COLLEGE/SCHOOL</b>		
A family member /friend advised me to go there	207	8.2%
My teacher/school counselor advised me to go there	54	2.1%
It has a very good academic reputation	409	16.1%
It offers the best education in my field of interest	503	19.8%
It offered me a desirable financial aid package	192	7.6%
The cost of attending this college – it is affordable	271	10.7%
It is close to home	186	7.3%
I liked what I saw during a campus visit	355	14.0%
Its graduates get good jobs	83	3.3%
The college was the right size for me	68	2.7%
Other	208	8.2%
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2,536	100%

**TABLE 7:**  
**Institutions Education-Bound Seniors Were Most Likely to Attend**

	<b>STATEWIDE</b>	
	<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>PERCENT</b>
<b>VERMONT PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS:</b>		
Community College of Vermont	175	7.5%
University of Vermont	415	17.8%
Vermont State University	207	8.9%
<b>VERMONT INDEPENDENTS:</b>		
Advanced Welding Institute	4	.2%
Bennington College	5	.2%
Champlain College	52	2.2%
Goddard College	0	.0%
Landmark College	9	.4%
Middlebury College	23	1.0%
Norwich University	35	1.5%
O'Brien's Aveda Institute	10	.4%
St. Michael's College	60	2.6%
Sterling College	0	.0%
Union Institute & University	0	.0%
Other VT Independent Inst	34	1.5%
<b>SUB-TOTAL: VERMONT INSTITUTIONS</b>	<b>1029</b>	<b>44.1%</b>
<b>SUB-TOTAL: OUT OF STATE INSTITUTIONS</b>	<b>1305</b>	<b>55.9%</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2,334	100%

**TABLE 8:**  
**Paying for College**

**WHAT FAMILY HAS DONE TO FINANCIALLY  
PREPARE FOR STUDENT'S COLLEGE  
EDUCATION**

	<b>STATEWIDE</b>	
	<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>PERCENT</b>
Saved money	1585	60.0%
Cut back on spending	397	15.0%
Plan to borrow money / take out student loans	1066	40.4%
Worked more (for example, got a second job)	683	25.9%
Talked to my parent(s) about how to pay for college	1298	49.1%
Applied for grants, scholarships, or other financial a	1830	69.3%
My family has not started to prepare	82	3.1%
I am not sure	263	10.0%

**CONCERNS ABOUT THE ABILITY TO PAY FOR COLLEGE**

Not at all concerned	683	25.8%
Slightly concerned	818	30.8%
Moderately concerned	634	23.9%
Very concerned	299	11.3%
Extremely concerned	218	8.2%
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2,652	100%

**PLAN TO WORK WHILE ATTENDING SCHOOL**

Yes, full-time	371	14.0%
Yes, part-time; 20 or more hours per week	843	31.9%
Yes, part-time; less than 20 hours per week	1086	41.0%
No	346	13.1%
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2,646	100%