



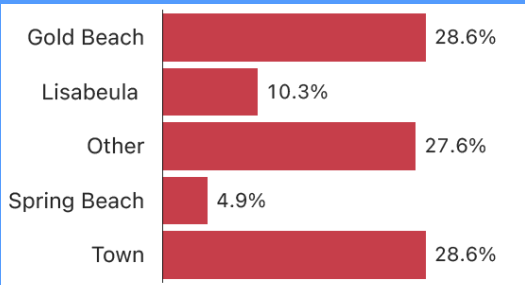
COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT of NEEDS + ASSETS

Program funding provided by
 **King County**
Veterans, Seniors & Human Services Levy

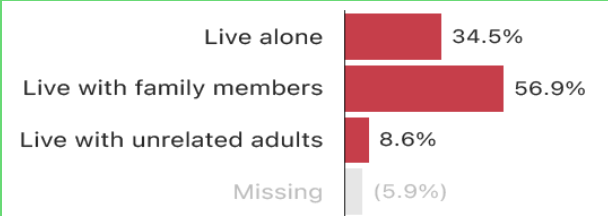
The Vashon Senior Center is excited to have received a generous grant from King County to create a new program in several island neighborhoods. Vashon Villages will be part of a nationwide, grassroots movement—known as aging in place, or aging in community. Villages are neighbors helping neighbors through volunteer-provided practical support such as help around the home, transportation, companionship, friendly chats, and other social support.

Background: In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, a Working Group of staff and volunteers developed our Community Assessment. The survey was initially deployed by volunteers in November 2020. This infographic depicts data collected through June 2021. Be sure to scroll down for qualitative data.

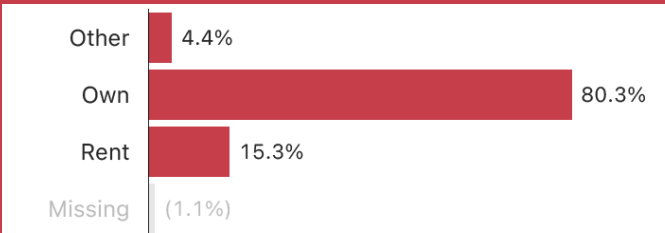
In what neighborhood or community do you live?



What is your housing situation?



Do you rent or own your residence?

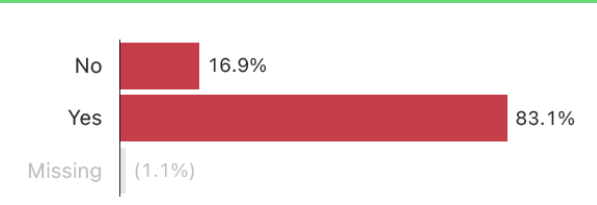


188
responses received

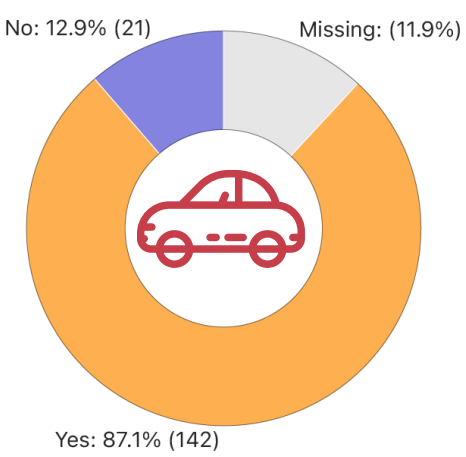
Are you able to get enough food?



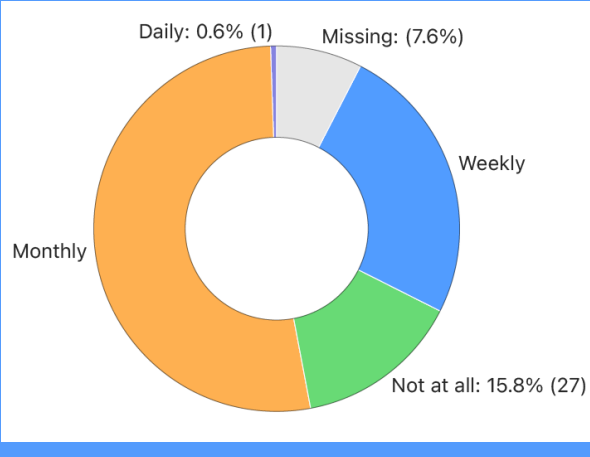
Do you have a 10-14-day supply of food on hand (in case of an emergency)?



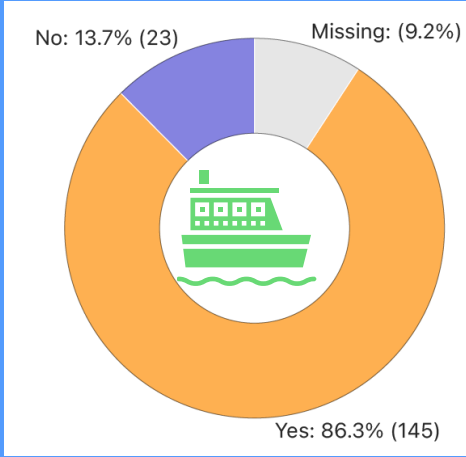
Do you own a motor vehicle?



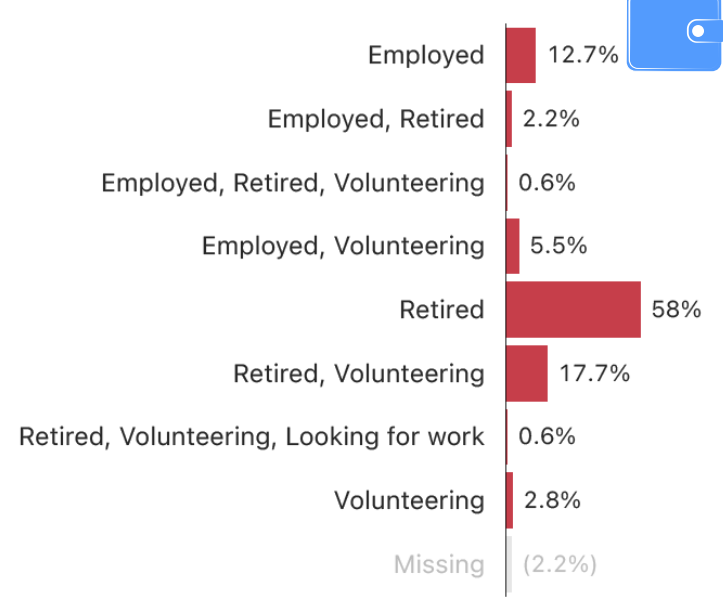
Do you drive?



How often do you need to leave Vashon Island?



Distribution of employment



Do you have health insurance?



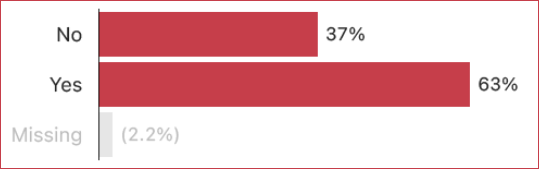
Do you have internet access?



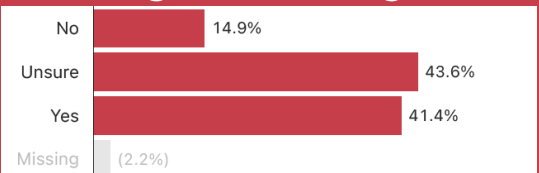
Do you use email?



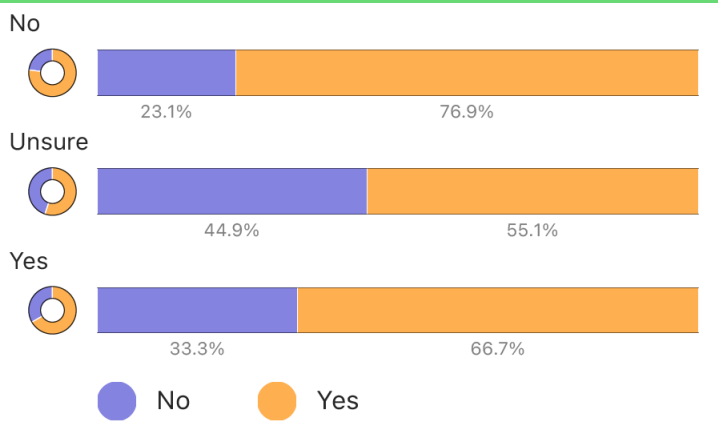
Are you a member of the Vashon-Maury Senior Center?



Does a program like the Villages interest you?



Senior Center Members by Interested in Villages





Community Assessment Question 1

WHAT ABOUT YOUR LIFE GIVES YOU COMFORT?

home, family & friends, financial security, spiritual practices, proximity to nature

relationships, activities, interactions, conversations

contact with other people (friends, partners, friendly people around neighborhood), financial security & having a nice home

partner or spouse, proximity to family & friends, financial security, stable home, Senior Center programs, a sense of community

being in touch with close friends & family

the quality of life & easy convenience of living on Vashon, close connections with family & friends (pandemic notwithstanding), getting involved with groups & organizations on Vashon, as well as attending activities that take place on our island



Community Assessment Question 2

WHAT ARE YOU CONCERNED ABOUT IN YOUR EVERYDAY LIFE?

the prospect of declining health (for themselves &/or family members) & medical emergencies. The isolation brought on by COVID adds to this stress & people fear being lonely &/or alone. Politics & governance is also a concern

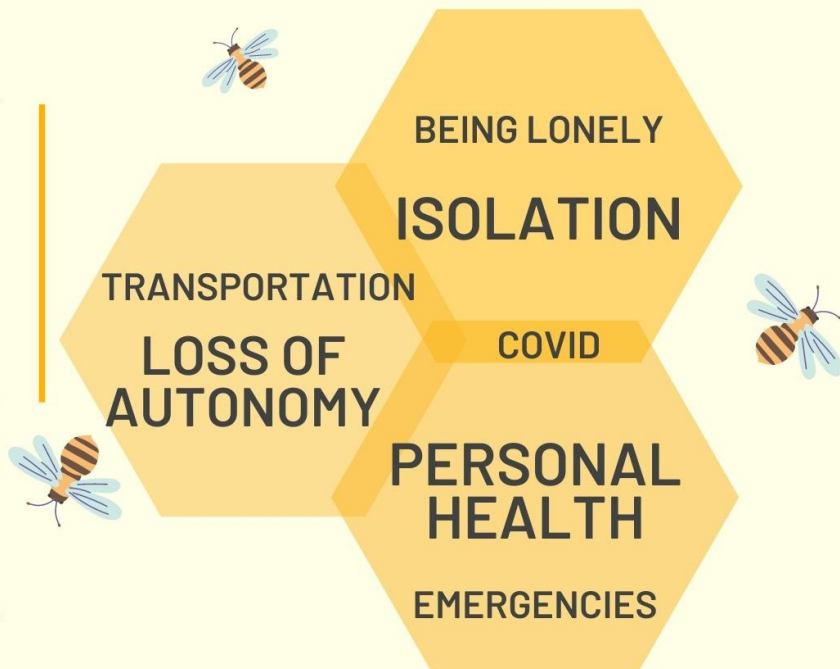
being stuck on the island if medical emergencies occur & the response time of local officials during these emergencies...about their neighbors who are single & lonely & the lack of interaction as a whole

health, safety, state of society, & transportation issues (particularly re: medical appointments)

COVID, personal health, transportation, especially in getting to medical appointments, loss of autonomy (hearing, eyesight, mobility, mind), lack of contact because of COVID, the state of the nation, isolation & loneliness

not having someone they can call on for little things

the deleterious effects of the ongoing pandemic in terms of cutting off vital social & familial connections... being isolated & not in close contact with neighbors, whom they also characterized as being isolated in some instances



Community Assessment Question 3

WHAT WOULD BE AN IMPROVEMENT IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD?

traffic/pedestrian safety with regard to speeding traffic, bumpy roads/parking lots, crosswalk safety, the lack of connecting sidewalks...to know & have more interactions with neighbors (could also help facilitate emergency/disaster response)

focus on pedestrian safety and pathway maintenance...& a need to know their neighbors & open communication & contact methods

safer walkways and intersections...a single source of up-to-date information about services, including delivery services, that exist on the island

more neighborhood cohesion & solidarity, a drop-in community center that is open every day dawn 'til late evening, safer streets & roadways for pedestrians & cyclists, more affordable housing, a pedestrian only corridor for walkers, sightseers, & neighbors in the heart of town

more emphasis on safe places to walk, especially alongside roadways

newsletters & contact lists, as well as similar ideas to the VV [Vashon Villages] project: neighbors could find out about each other's needs & help meet those needs



Community Assessment Question 4

WHAT DOES YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD HAVE THAT YOU VALUE MOST?

can walk to the bank, restaurants, grocery store, P.O. etc...close proximity to open space & nature....appreciate their neighbors, feeling safe, & low noise levels

walking paths, great neighbors, low crime & convenience to shopping

proximity to shopping, etc., & friendly people...participants who live in apartments or housing communities tend to think of those places as their neighborhood

natural beauty of forests, beaches, vistas, some good neighbors, proximity to things they need or value (e.g., groceries, library, church, bank, restaurants), community friendliness & social contacts, quiet & serenity, safety, vibrant arts community

proximity of essential services, groceries, & friendships

natural beauty of their neighborhoods, convenience of the places to be able to easily access goods & services as needed

