



Daily Update on Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) November 12, 2020

New or updated information is in red and bold.

This update is available online at healthvermont.gov/covid19 Click the "See the Latest Update" button.

Please visit the Vermont Department of Health's COVID-19 web and data pages healthvermont.gov/covid19

Health Officials Call on People Who Attended Certain Events to Get Tested

The Vermont Department of Health is urging anyone who participated in certain events in northern and central Vermont to get tested for COVID-19.

Health officials said contact tracers have been unsuccessful at getting all the information they need about people who attended two Halloween parties on October 31, one in Marshfield and the other in Milton. People who attended those parties should be tested for COVID-19. In addition, members of the bowling leagues that played at Spare Time in Colchester on November 3 and 4 should be tested. To find a testing site, go to healthvermont.gov/covid19.

The Health Department reported 72 cases of COVID-19 on Wednesday and 109 cases today — the highest number reported since the start of the pandemic. Health Commissioner Mark Levine, MD said that because case numbers are up, the risk to Vermonters is also significantly higher. In a <u>news release issued on Wednesday</u>, state officials said rising number of clusters and outbreaks often trace back to Vermonters traveling out of state, and to social gatherings like baby showers, Halloween parties, deer camps and other small gatherings where masking and physical distancing are not maintained.

The state's ability to contain the spread of the COVID-19 relies heavily on the cooperation of Vermonters who have tested positive and their close contacts, said Dr. Levine. "But when the contact tracing team is not getting the information it needs, then people who may have been exposed to the virus and don't know it might be unintentionally transmitting it to others. That's how an outbreak starts," Dr. Levine said.

Read the press release.

Case Information

Current COVID-19 Activity in Vermont As of 12 p.m. on November 12, 2020

| Description | Number |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| New cases* | 109 |
| | (2,651 total) |
| Currently hospitalized | 19 |
| Hospitalized in ICU | 5 |
| Hospitalized under investigation | 3 |
| Percent Positive (7-day average) | 0.9% |
| People tested | 197,619 |
| Total tests | 456,048 |
| Total people recovered | 1,958 |
| Deaths+ | 59 |
| Travelers monitored | 218 |
| Contacts monitored | 245 |
| People completed monitoring | 10,563 |

* Includes testing conducted at the Health Department Laboratory, commercial labs and other public health labs.

+ Death occurring in persons known to have COVID-19. Death certificate may be pending.

Hospitalization data is provided by the Vermont Healthcare Emergency Preparedness Coalition and is based on hospitals updating this information.

Find more data at: healthvermont.gov/currentactivity.

Get Your Flu Shot!

Flu season in Vermont will soon start to hit its stride. And it's especially important for everyone to get their flu shot this year, and soon – when flu viruses and the new coronavirus may be spreading at the same time.

We encourage everyone older than 6 months old (with rare exceptions) — and especially people in a high-risk group or who have underlying health conditions — to get their flu vaccine.

Help keep flu out of the picture! Learn more about the flu and how to get your flu shot.

Guidance for Vermonters and Businesses

- Health information, guidance and data: healthvermont.gov/covid19
- By sector guidance: accd.vermont.gov/covid-19
- Travel map and modeling: dfr.vermont.gov/about-us/covid-19/modeling
- Governor's actions: governor.vermont.gov/covid19response
- Find guidance for <u>long-term care facilities</u> and <u>adult day programs</u>, on the Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living's <u>Restart Vermont web</u> <u>page</u>.

Get the information you need at our Frequently Asked Questions.

School & Child Care Guidance

- Strong and Healthy Start: Safety and Health Guidance for Vermont Schools
- Mental Health: <u>A Strong and Healthy Start: Social, Emotional and Mental Health</u> <u>Supports During COVID-19</u>
- Child care: <u>Health Guidance for Child Care and Out of School Care</u>

More resources on the <u>Your Community web page</u>.

Traveler Information

All non-essential travel to or from Vermont now requires quarantine. Visit our Travel & Quarantine web page for more information and to sign up with Sara Alert for symptom check reminders.

Getting Tested for COVID-19

Visit our testing web page to learn about who should get tested and where to get tested.

Take Care of Your Emotional and Mental Health

If you or someone you know is in crisis or needs emotional support, help is available 24/7:

- Call your local mental health crisis line.
- Call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255.
- Text VT to 741741 to talk with someone at the Crisis Text Line.
- For more information visit healthvermont.gov/suicide.

Visit <u>VT Helplink</u> to get connected to Alcohol and Drug Support Services.

Get self-help tips and connect to mental health services at COVID Support VT.

See ways for Coping with Stress.

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Information for the public can be found at https://healthvermont.gov/covid19.