

# Daily Update on Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) January 22, 2021

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

## **Vaccination Appointments Open Monday for Those 75 and Older**

At Friday's press conference, Human Services Secretary Mike Smith announced the launch of a new webpage — <a href="https://example.com/myVaccine">healthvermont.gov/MyVaccine</a> — where Vermonters age 75 and older will be able to book an appointment for their COVID-19 vaccine starting Monday, Jan. 25.

You can visit the page now to learn about how to make an appointment, but you will not be able to make an appointment until Monday, once the system is live and operational, Smith said.

A call center number for anyone who is unable to register online or who need to speak with someone in a language other than English will be announced on Monday and found on the MyVaccine website. "Please do not call any other Health Department number to make an appointment," Smith said. He also asked that people avoid calling hospitals, health care providers, pharmacies or 2-1-1 to make an appointment as well.

Once registration is open, the link to make your appointment will be added to the website. It will be announced on social media and through local news media, Smith said.

Relatives or friends are encouraged to assist people who are eligible in making an appointment. A phone number will also added to the website Monday for anyone who cannot register online.

"While we expect some bottlenecks in the first few days of registration, (Vermonters age 75 and older) WILL be able to get an appointment during the weeks we are scheduling," Smith said.

Vaccination appointments will begin on Wednesday Jan. 27.

"When you make an appointment, please keep it," Smith added. "No-shows, late cancellations and disruptions to schedules delay vaccines for others and may cause doses that have been prepared to be spoiled."

If you plan to make an appointment for yourself or a loved one, please visit <a href="healthvermont.gov/MyVaccine">healthvermont.gov/MyVaccine</a> ahead of time to learn what information you will need to make the appointment. You'll also find links to Frequently Asked Questions and a video about the online process.

## **Keep up Prevention and Testing**

While we wait for vaccine to become more widely available to Vermonters, we must keep up our <u>prevention practices</u>, including physical distancing, mask-wearing, handwashing and staying home when we're sick.

You can also help prevent the spread of COVID-19 by getting tested. If you want to get tested for COVID-19 and have no symptoms, you can visit a location near you. There are now more than 15 regular locations throughout the state, and more of them are now open daily. Many sites now allow you to take a sample yourself, using a short swab in your nose. It's quick, easy and free.

Register for a test by visiting <a href="healthvermont.gov/covid19testing">healthvermont.gov/covid19testing</a>. (You will need to create an account to register.)

If you have <u>symptoms</u> of COVID-19, please contact your health care provider so they can refer you for testing. If you don't have a provider, you can call 2-1-1.

### **New on healthvermont.gov**

There have been 25 outbreaks in K-12 schools. On average, there are three cases per school outbreak. Learn more about COVID-19 in K-12 schools in the latest <u>Weekly Data Summary Spotlight</u>.

## **Case Information**

Current COVID-19 Activity in Vermont As of 12 p.m. on January 22, 2021

Description	Number
New cases*	174
	(10,759 total)
Currently hospitalized	43
Hospitalized in ICU	5
Hospitalized under investigation	3

Percent Positive (7-day average)	2.5%
People tested	292,819
Total tests	834,067
Total people recovered	7,177
Deaths+	169
Travelers monitored	185
Contacts monitored	262
People completed monitoring	12,396

<sup>\*</sup> Includes testing conducted at the Health Department Laboratory, commercial labs and other public health labs.

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.

#### **Guidance for Vermonters and Businesses**

- Health information, guidance and data: healthvermont.gov/covid19
- Sector guidance: accd.vermont.gov/covid-19
- Modeling: dfr.vermont.gov/about-us/covid-19/modeling
- Governor's actions: governor.vermont.gov/covid19response

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: Health Guidance for Child Care and Out of School Care

More resources on the **Your Community web page**.

#### 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 <u>local mental health crisis line.</u>
- Text VT to 741741 to talk with someone at the Crisis Text Line.
- Call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255.
- For more information visit healthvermont.gov/suicide.
- Visit our Coping With Stress web page.

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

- Get connected to Alcohol and Drug Support Services at VT Helplink.
- Get self-help tips and connect to mental health services at COVID Support VT.

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