

Daily Update on Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) July 10, 2020

New 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

Partners Key to Sustained Success in COVID-19 Testing

Governor Phil Scott and Health Commissioner Mark Levine, MD, said at a press conference Friday that while Vermont has been successful in its testing efforts in recent months, we need help from our partners to keep it up.

"Access to testing for the COVID-19 remains a key part of maintaining the progress we have made against spread of the virus," Gov. Scott said. "The Health Department leads our testing and contact tracing efforts, but we need more hands on deck."

Gov. Scott thanked pharmacies that are already stepped up, including Kinney Drugs and Walgreens. Starting on Monday, and for each Monday through July, Kinney Drugs in Newport will offer testing as part of a pilot project. Walgreens in Essex is also preparing to offer testing for its customers.

"Right now, I am personally asking Vermont's pharmacies and their parent companies to move as quickly as possible to join in this effort — for their customers, staff and all Vermonters," he said.

Dr. Levine added we also need to expand our work with the health care system, as we anticipate an even greater need for testing capacity.

"We are heartened by the engagement of hospitals, federally qualified health centers and in many instances the primary care system – but know these efforts will need to become more expansive and look forward to even further engagement," he said.

"These partnerships will need to become even more robust and sustained to free the Health Department to attend to outbreak responses and these vulnerable populations, the people who are most at risk from severe illness and death from COVID."

Get more information on testing at healthvermont.gov/covid19-testing.

Housing Assistance Programs Announced

Governor Phil Scott, the Department of Housing and Community Development, the Vermont State Housing Authority and the Vermont State Housing Finance Agency today announced \$30 million in housing assistance to those affected by COVID-19.

These relief programs will be available starting Monday, July 13 through two different programs. For more information on rental assistance, go to vsha.org/rental-housing-stabilization-program. For mortgage assistance, go to vsha.org/rental-housing-stabilization-program.

New on healthvermont.gov

The latest <u>Weekly Summary of Vermont COVID-19 Data</u> has been posted, with a spotlight on contact tracing. Past weekly summaries are available at <u>healthvermont.gov/currentactivity</u>.

Case Information

Current COVID-19 Activity in Vermont As of 12 p.m. on July 10, 2020

Description	Number
Total cases*	1,277
	(5 new)
Currently hospitalized	2
Hospitalized under investigation	9
Total people recovered	1,066
Deaths+	56
People tested	74,098
Travelers monitored	1,759
Contacts monitored	56
People completed monitoring	2,699

^{*} 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.

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

Find more at the data dashboard: <u>healthvermont.gov/currentactivity</u>.

Protest Safely

We support Vermonters engaging in peaceful protests and other civic activities to make their voices heard.

Please remember that large gatherings do pose a greater risk for virus exposure. So wear a mask if you can when near others, maintain a 6-foot distance, and if you're sick, find actions to make yourself heard from home.

We encourage anyone who is participating in a public action to get tested for COVID-19. Learn more about how to get tested.

Get Tested for COVID-19

People who want to be tested can contact their health care provider for a referral.

Additionally, the Health Department is continuing to open pop-up sites for people who do not have symptoms of COVID-19 to be tested for the virus. Pop-up sites are currently scheduled through July, and operate from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. <u>Learn more about how to get tested</u>.

Guidance for Vermonters

- If you are having a medical emergency, call 9-1-1 or go to the hospital.
- If you are having even mild symptoms of COVID-19, call your health care provider.
- Maintain physical distancing of at least 6 feet and wear a mask when near others.
- Most information is available online: Visit our Frequently Asked Questions.

Traveler Information

Get the latest info about <u>travel to Vermont</u>, including about quarantine requirements, testing, and to sign up with Sara Alert for symptom check reminders.

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.
- See ways for Coping with Stress.

For more information:

- COVID-19 health information, guidance and case data: healthvermont.gov/covid19.
- Governor's actions: governor.vermont.gov/covid19response.
- The state's modeling: dfr.vermont.gov/about-us/covid-19/modeling.

Media Contact:

CV19media@vermont.gov

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