



Daily Update on Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) **August 14, 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

Governor extends State of Emergency, includes more tools for municipalities

Governor Phil Scott announced at his Friday press conference that he is extending the State of Emergency for another month. As part of the executive order, cities and towns will also have the ability to enact some further limits at the local level.

Municipalities that choose to do so may lower the limit on the size of gatherings and limit hours for the sale of alcohol, meaning they could set a curfew for bars and clubs.

“Looking at case growth in other states, and hearing from other governors about what they saw, it appears uncontrolled parties and crowds at bars and clubs are a big part of the problem,” Gov. Scott said. “So, I believe giving our towns — especially the college towns — some additional mitigation measures to work with, is the right thing to do.”

We continue to watch the data closely, never let our guard down, and be flexible and quick to respond to changes, Gov. Scott said. “We have a proven strategy for taking steps to prevent spread and reopen Vermont. We always have, and always will, put the health of Vermonters first.”

College testing, contact tracing is working

Health Commissioner Mark Levine, MD, on Friday spoke about the return of students to college campuses. He noted that a few students have already tested positive. And at least one positive result came back before the student even left their home state.

“While we understand hearing about new cases of COVID-19 is cause for concern, these positive tests mean the system is working,” he said. “We want to find these cases so we know who needs to stay inside and away from other people, so we can prevent the virus from spreading any further.”

He noted the importance of contact tracing, which has been proven to help contain the virus. It's this work, with critical partnerships in the community, that helped end the recent outbreak in Burlington and Winooski.

“Key to our success here has been the ability to have effective community engagement. To reach the various populations where they are – in culturally sensitive and linguistically appropriate ways,” Dr. Levine said. “Only by being there with help that matters for every Vermonter will we be able to keep cases low, stamp out any outbreaks, and work together to navigate our way through this pandemic.”

School and Fall Sports Guidance Released

A [Strong and Healthy Start: Safety and Health Guidance for Vermont Schools](#) has been updated. In addition, guidance for [Fall Sports Programs for the 2020-2021 School Year](#) has been published.

Case Information

Current COVID-19 Activity in Vermont
As of 12 p.m. on August 14, 2020

Description	Number
Total cases*	1,501 (17 new)
Currently hospitalized	2
Hospitalized under investigation	11
Total people recovered	1,321
Deaths+	58
People tested	107,417
Travelers monitored	943
Contacts monitored	29
People completed monitoring	6,399

* 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 at the data dashboard: healthvermont.gov/currentactivity.

Getting Tested for COVID-19

Not everyone needs to be tested for COVID-19. Use [CDC's Self-Checker tool](#) to find out if you should be tested.

If you think you may need to get tested, talk with your health care provider, or call 2-1-1 if you don't have a provider and need to be connected to care.

If you do need testing, look for a clinic or pharmacy that offers testing near you, or register at a pop-up location.

- [See how to get tested and to make an appointment.](#)

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](#).
- Get the information you need at our [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

Traveler Information

Visit our [Travel to Vermont](#) web page for continually updated information and guidance, 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.

Get self-help tips and connect to mental health services at [COVID Support VT](#).
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>.