



Daily Update on Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) September 23, 2020

New information is in red and bold.

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

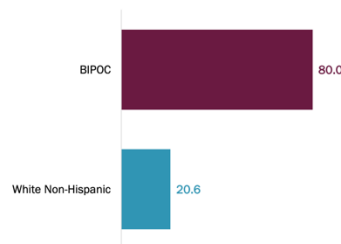
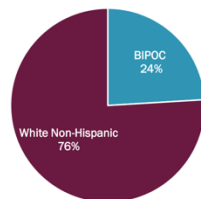
Please visit the Vermont Department of Health’s COVID-19 web and data pages
healthvermont.gov/covid19

New on healthvermont.gov

In the [newest Weekly Data Summary Spotlight](#), we focus on Vermont COVID-19 cases among Black, Indigenous and people of color (BIPOC). There is a disproportionate number of BIPOC with COVID-19 in Vermont.

The summary gives you detailed Vermont data about cases among Black, Indigenous and people of color, including rates by county, sex and age. Compare rates of hospitalization, chronic disease and how they may be exposed to COVID-19, with white non-Hispanic people.

Nearly 1 in 4 Vermont residents with COVID-19 are BIPOC. Rates of COVID-19 are 4 times higher for BIPOC compared with white non-Hispanic Vermont residents.
Rates per 10,000 Vermont BIPOC or white non-Hispanic residents



There are a number of contributing factors to these disparities – including systemic and structural racism, socioeconomic disadvantage, historical injustice, and oppressive systems that affect the conditions in which people are born, grow, live and work.

What we know about these disparities tells us what must be done to achieve health equity, and to ensure that everyone in Vermont has a fair and just opportunity to be healthy.

Some of the actions Vermont must take include focusing on primary prevention efforts, engaging with communities, as well as funding racial justice initiatives and partnering with racial justice advocacy organizations to reduce health disparities.

- See the [Weekly Data Summary](#).
- Learn more about what we are doing to achieve [Health Equity in Vermont](#).
- Read more about [health equity from the CDC](#).

COVID-19 Testing Data for Colleges/Universities and Schools

PreK-12 Schools: A table of School-Based COVID-19 Transmission is now available at healthvermont.gov/currentactivity. The table is updated weekly.

Colleges/Universities: The Department of Financial Regulation's [School Reopening web page](#) includes links to each Vermont college and university with information about their COVID-19 testing results.

Case Information

Current COVID-19 Activity in Vermont
As of 12 p.m. on September 23, 2020

Description	Number
Total cases*	1,722 (1 new)
Currently hospitalized	2
Hospitalized under investigation	0
Total people recovered	1,565
Deaths+	58
People tested	157,263
Travelers monitored	424
Contacts monitored	34
People completed monitoring	8,708

* 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.

Guidance for Vermonters

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

- If you are having a medical emergency, call 9-1-1 or go to the hospital.
- If you think you have [symptoms of COVID-19](#), call your health care provider.
- Maintain physical distancing of at least 6 feet and [wear a mask when near others](#).

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](#).

Getting Tested for COVID-19

Anyone can get tested, but not everyone *needs* to get tested.

Talk with your health care provider if you think you should be tested for COVID-19.

- If you don't have a provider, dial 2-1-1, or contact the nearest [federally qualified health center](#) or one of Vermont's [free & referral clinics](#).

[Visit our testing web page](#) for more guidance and where to get tested if you do need it.

Return to School Guidance

All schools will be placed in Step III of the safety and health guidance as of Sept. 26, which allows schools additional flexibility on how to implement the rules.

Read the guidance for more details: [Strong and Healthy Start: Safety and Health Guidance for Vermont Schools](#)

Mental Health: [A Strong and Healthy Start: Social, Emotional and Mental Health Supports During COVID-19](#)

Sports: [Fall Sports Programs for the 2020-2021 School Year](#)

Child care: [Health Guidance for Child Care and Out of School Care](#)

Find additional resources on our [Schools, Colleges and Child Care Programs web page](#).

Business Guidance

Visit the [Agency of Commerce and Community Development's website](#) for "Work Safe" guidance.

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

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Media Contact: CV19media@vermont.gov

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