

VCHIP / CHAMP / VDH COVID-19 UPDATES



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July 22, 2020




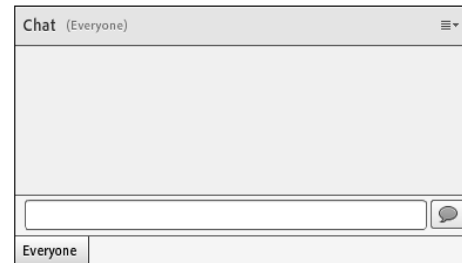
Technology Notes

1) All participants will be muted upon joining the call.

If you dialed in or out, unmute by pressing #6 to ask a question (and press *6 to mute).

Presenters: Please avoid the use of speakerphone and make sure your computer speaker is muted if you dialed in via phone.

2) To ask or respond to a question using the *Chat* box, type your question and click the  icon or press Enter to send.



Overview

- Celebrating the birthday of Emma Lazarus”
 - ▣ The New Colossus: *"Give me your tired, your poor, Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free..."*
- *Reminder:* weekly event schedule
 - ▣ **VCHIP/CHAMP/VDH calls: Monday/Wednesday/Friday**
 - ▣ Governor’s Media Briefings now Tuesday/Friday
 - ▣ VMS call with Commissioner Levine now **Thursdays**
- Situation, VDH, media briefing updates
- Practice Issues: Vermont K-12 School Reopening
- Q & A, Discussion

[Please note: the COVID-19 situation continues to evolve very rapidly – so the information we’re providing today may change quickly]



Situation update

Total Cases	1,366 2 New
Currently Hospitalized	2
Hospitalized Under Investigation	12
Total People Recovered	1,152
Deaths	56
People Tested	85,742
Travelers Monitored	1,142
Contacts Monitored	70
People Completed Monitoring	4,456

Last Updated: 7/22/2020, 11:08:45 AM

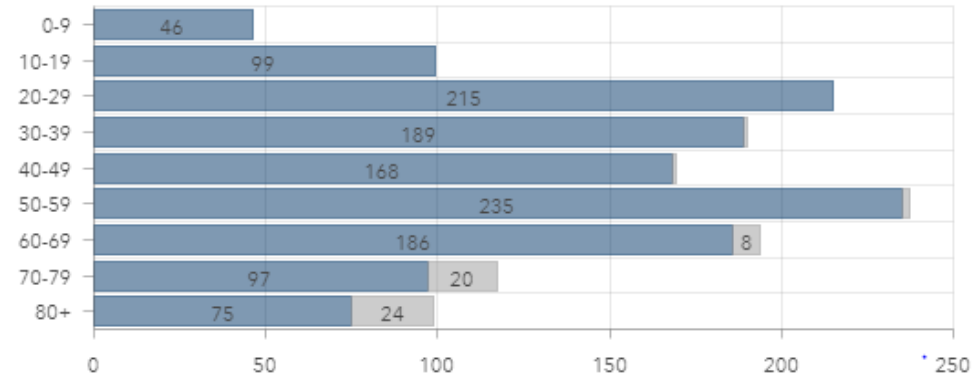
- **Weekly data summary (7/17/20):**

- ▣ **Weekly Spotlight** – County Profiles: detailed data for every county in Vermont!
- ▣ https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/DataTeam_WeeklySummary_7.17.20.pdf

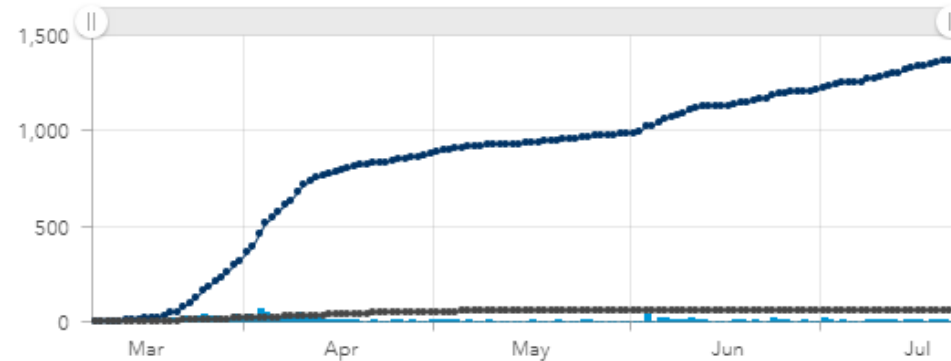
<https://www.healthvermont.gov/response/coronavirus-covid-19/current-activity-vermont#dashboard>

Situation update

COVID-19 **Cases** and Deaths by Age Group



Vermont COVID-19 **New** and **Cumulative** Cases, **Cumulative** Deaths

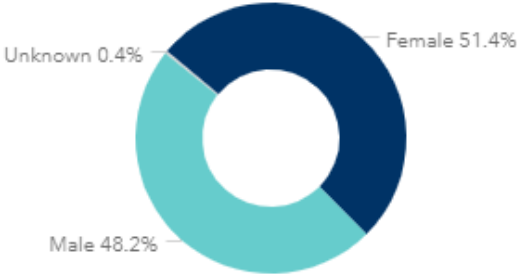


Hover over chart to see values, and drag scrollbar at top of chart to zoom into date range

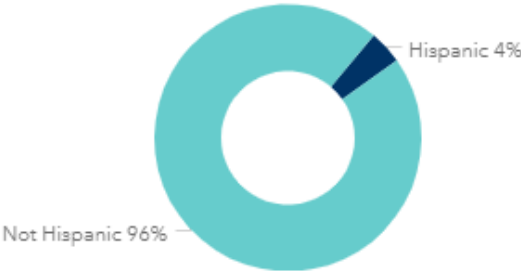
Cases and Deaths by Date and Age

Situation update

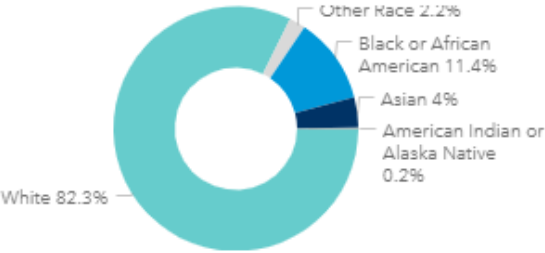
COVID-19 Positive Cases by Sex



COVID-19 Positive Cases by Ethnicity if Known



COVID-19 Positive Cases by Race if Known



Hover over charts to see values

◀ Cases by Sex, Ethnicity and Race ▶

VDH Updates: calling all Tweetiatricians!

- VDH leading Governor's new statewide **#MasksOnVT** campaign
 - ▣ Encourages Vermonters to wear masks to reduce the spread of COVID-19.
- Goal: collective impact to normalize/sustain mask wearing in VT.
- One-stop **digital toolkit** to assist state agencies, departments and partners in sharing message: use or adapt campaign materials as appropriate for audience.
 - ▣ Sample social media posts and content, sample newsletter blurbs or articles, key talking points and posters. Use as is OR fully customizable for more advanced users.



Tuesday Media Briefing (7/21/20)



Governor Scott:

- VT trends holding steady but concerned re: rest of U.S.
 - ▣ “Forest fire spreading south & west – concern re: possibility of spreading back to us.”
- Goal: K – 12 schools open for at least some in-person educ. this fall
- Considering expansion of existing mask mandates
 - ▣ Another tool in the toolbox – when to use is driven by data.
 - ▣ Anticipate more information with updated modeling during Friday briefing

Tuesday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



Commissioner Levine

- Vermont in context of regional/national picture:
 - Many fewer deaths/100K population vs. northeast region
- K-12 school guidance: viral suppression, testing & contact tracing make “the timing right here” [for reopening]
- Bennington-Windham Co. community
 - All 65 pts. w/pos. Ag tests at MMC interviewed by VDH. 52/65 had PCR confirmation: **48/52 negative, 4/52 positive.**
 - 1613 individuals tested in popups/hospital: % pos. < 2%; thus, do not believe community spread exists.
 - Similar situation in Maine (small # w/same platform); ongoing review (including VDH meeting w/CDC).

Reminder: HCP Stabilization Grants *(from 7/14/20)*

AHS Secretary Mike Smith:



- **Opened Friday, July 17, 2020** (application, FAQs)
 - ▣ **Who:** VT-based health care/human service (***billing***) providers operating on/before February 1, 2020
 - ▣ **When: Cycle One** online application process open until August 15, 2020, to cover lost revenue/expenses from 3/1/20-6/15/20. **Cycle Two:** applications starting in October to cover losses from 6/16/20-9/30/20.
 - ▣ **What:** submit 2019 & 2020 revenue information, COVID-19 related expenses, data on any financial relief received and org. tax info.
 - ▣ **Where:** <https://humanservices.vermont.gov/help-and-resources/covid-19-information>
 - ▣ **What else:** NOT first-come, first-served; AHS may need to prioritize 1st cycle.
- ***HCPs encouraged to apply even if uncertain re: eligibility***

Reminder: Special Pediatric Grand Rounds

- **Wednesday, July 29, 8 – 9 a.m.: Dr. Lee Beers, M.D., FAAP, President-elect, American Academy of Pediatrics**
 - ▣ ***Early Childhood Brain Development—Aligning for Impact***
 - ▣ Dr. Beers is Professor of Pediatrics & Medical Director for Community Health and Advocacy, Goldberg Ctr. for Community Pediatric Health & Child Health Advocacy Institute at Children’s National Hospital, Washington, DC
 - ▣ Early childhood partners also invited!
- The session will be held by Zoom meeting only at this link:
 - ▣ <https://uvmcom.zoom.us/j/123552961> - Password: pedsg
 - ▣ To access by phone: +1646-876-9923, meeting ID 123552961#.

Practice Issues

Vermont K-12 School Reopening



Two Comprehensive Resources

- Jones E, Young A, Clevenger K, Salimifard P, Wu E, Lahaie Luna M, Lahvis M, Lang J, Bliss M, Azimi P, Cedeno-Laurent J, Wilson C, Allen J. ***Healthy Schools: Risk Reduction Strategies for Reopening Schools.*** Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health Healthy Buildings program. June, 2020.
 - <https://schools.forhealth.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/19/2020/06/Harvard-Healthy-Buildings-Program-Schools-For-Health-Reopening-Covid19-June2020.pdf>
- COVID-19 School and Community Resource Library: Resources for clinicians advising schools and community groups on strategies to prevent and manage COVID-19
 - [https://www.massgeneral.org/assets/MGH/pdf/medicine/infectious-diseases/ COVID-19%20School%20and%20Community%20Resource%20Library_July%206%202020.pdf](https://www.massgeneral.org/assets/MGH/pdf/medicine/infectious-diseases/COVID-19%20School%20and%20Community%20Resource%20Library_July%206%202020.pdf)

School Re-opening: Resources

For education & health professionals:

- VDH & VT Agency of Education: guidance, PowerPoint presentation available
- Additional VT AOE documents:
 - ▣ FAQ: <https://education.vermont.gov/strong-healthy-start-safety-and-health-guidance-faq-1>
 - ▣ Hybrid Learning: https://education.vermont.gov/sites/aoe/files/documents/edu-hybrid-learning-during-the-2020-2021-school-year_0.pdf

For parents & caregivers:

- What Parents can Expect at Childcare and Summer Camps:
 - ▣ <https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/COVID19-Resources4Families-Childcare-Summer-Programs.pdf>
- Facial Cloth Coverings and Children
 - ▣ <https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/COVID19-childfacecovering.pdf>

Safe and Healthy Schools Task Force-reconvening

- **Guidance Revisions**
 - **Anything you need added/revised/discussed?**
- **Need for more specific guidance on how to implement screening prior to boarding buses or entering schools, including recommendations on devices for temps, uniform protocols, etc.**
- **Decision to close**
- **Challenges with seating on buses**
- **Physical distancing (6ft topic)**
- **Interns/Learners**
- **Children with special education needs**
- **Social emotional health of staff and students**

Safe and Healthy Schools

- Return to school after illness algorithm- working on this
 - ▣ Symptom return pathways
 - ▣ When to test
 - ▣ Medical clearance

School Scenarios

- ❑ The CDC and other websites keep saying 6 feet OR face masks. If we have them all wear face masks, do we have to be 6 feet away?
- ❑ I met with the school nurses where I live. Big issues were raised about what to do with kids at bus stops that have fever but no parent. Also, the school bond shot down twice & part was renovations to nurse's area & ventilation system. What to do if there aren't windows to open and old ventilation?
- ❑ I am meeting with school nurses & we're trying to work through return to school after illness protocols – does VDH have any literature/current guidance or should we use similar advice as return to work for adults?

School Scenarios

- We anticipate a deluge of calls once school starts regarding exposure and need for testing. What about residential students from out of state and out of country at local private schools? School nurses are wanting universal testing for them.
- *From our school nurse colleagues:* should we “upgrade” the recommendation of PPE for the daily work of school nurses?
 - ▣ Should SNs wear an N95 respirator and face shield for all direct contact care without known or suspected COVID-19 contact or symptoms, (e.g. first aid, asthma management, etc.)?
 - ▣ Referenced WHO document and UVM MC PPE guide.

Guidance

SEE VDH – VT AOE “*A Strong and Healthy Start: Safety and Health Guidance for Reopening Schools, Fall 2020*”

- Stay Home When Sick: Exclusion/Inclusion Policies – Students and staff will be **excluded from in-person school activities**, if they:
 - ▣ Show symptoms of COVID-19, such as a cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, or new loss of taste or smell
 - ▣ Have been in close contact with someone with COVID-19 in the last 14 days
 - ▣ Have a fever (temperature higher than 100.4° F)
 - ▣ Have a significant new rash, particularly when other symptoms are present
 - ▣ Have large amounts of nasal discharge in the absence of allergy diagnosis

Guidance (cont'd.)

- If above signs and symptoms begin while at school, the student (or staff member) must be sent home as soon as possible. Keep sick students separate from well students and limit staff contact as much as reasonably possible, while ensuring the safety and supervision of the sick student(s) until they leave.
 - Students and staff should be excluded from school until they are no longer considered contagious.
 - Students and staff with fever greater than 100.4° F and no specific diagnosis should remain at home until they have had no fever for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications (e.g., Advil, Tylenol).
 - Materials, toys & furniture touched by the student . . . should be thoroughly cleaned & disinfected.
- Healthy students and staff with the following symptoms/conditions **are not excluded from in-person school activities:**
 - Allergy symptoms (with no fever) that cause coughing and *clear runny nose* may stay if they have medically diagnosed allergies and follow medical treatment plans.
 - Well-controlled asthma

School Reopening

- Communities are moving forward – where is **yours** in this process?
- What are **your** thoughts/concerns to safely re-open?
- What are you hearing from families and what are communication gaps?
 - ▣ We are addressing topics raised on 7/20/20 call – thank you!
- **Volunteers needed** for PSAs and videos
- Continuing to seek cases for analysis and to inform guidance revisions.

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Topics We Are Following

- ❑ School (K-12), college/university reopening, **return to sports** guidance
- ❑ AAP-VT Task Force on Race and Health Equity
- ❑ Immunization strategies/policy: catch-up, flu, COVID-19 (?)
- ❑ Pediatric health care “restart”: how to safely reopen your practices (Ideas? Questions?) – please email: vchip.champ@med.uvm.edu
 - ❑ Federal and state COVID-19 financial relief
- ❑ MIS-C (Multi-System Inflammatory Syndrome in Children)
- ❑ Summer camps/other recreational activities
- ❑ OneCare Vermont all-payer model adjustments

Questions/Discussion

- Q & A Goal: monitor/respond in real time; record/disseminate/revisit later as needed.
- **For additional questions, please e-mail: vchip.champ@med.uvm.edu**
 - ▣ **What do you need** – how can we be helpful (specific guidance)?
- **VCHIP CHAMP VDH COVID-19 website:**
https://www.med.uvm.edu/vchip/projects/vchip_champ_vdh_covid-19_updates
- Next CHAMP call: **Friday, July 24, 12:15-12:45** (current schedule: Mon/Wed/Friday)
- Please tune in to VMS call with Commissioner Levine:
Now on THURSDAYS: July 23, 12:30-1:00 p.m. – NEW (Zoom) platform & call information:
- **Join Zoom Meeting:**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86726253105?pwd=VkVuNTJlZFQ2R3diSVdqdJl2ZG4yQT09>
 - ▣ Meeting ID: 867 2625 3105 / Password: 540684
 - ▣ One tap mobile - +1 646 876 9923, 86726253105#, 0#, 540684# Dial In- +1 646 876 9923 / Meeting ID: 867 2625 3105 / Password: 540684