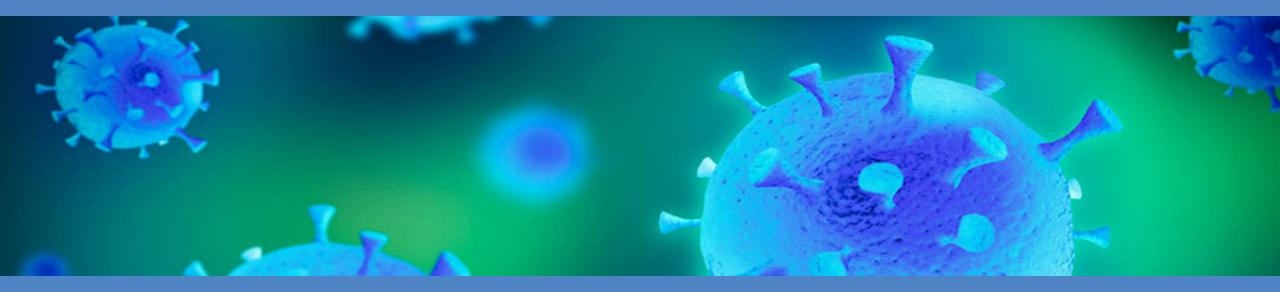
VCHIP / CHAMP / VDH COVID-19 UPDATES



Wendy Davis, MD FAAP - Vermont Child Health Improvement Program, UVM Breena Holmes, MD FAAP – Director of Maternal & Child Health, Vermont Department of Health September 11, 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 *p* icon or press Enter to send.

Chat (Everyone)	≣*
Everyone	





Overview

Remembering the victims of September 11, 2001

- 2977 deaths; subsequent deaths from cancer & among 1st responders; impact of accumulated health effects (prolonged latency) from toxin exposure, physical injuries, psychological trauma; unmet health needs.
- Public Health and Emergency Preparedness response
- Reminder: weekly event schedule



https://nypost.com/2020/08/15/9-11-memorial-reverses-decision-tocancel-beloved-tribute/

- VCHIP/CHAMP/VDH calls: Mon/Wed/Fridays; Governor's Media Briefings Tues/Friday; VMS call with Commissioner Levine Thursday (special call 9/17)
- □ Situation, VDH & AAP Updates, Media Briefing
- Practice Issues: Return to School

Q & A, DISCUSSION [Please note: the COVID-19 situation continues to evolve very rapidly – so the information we're providing today may change quickly]

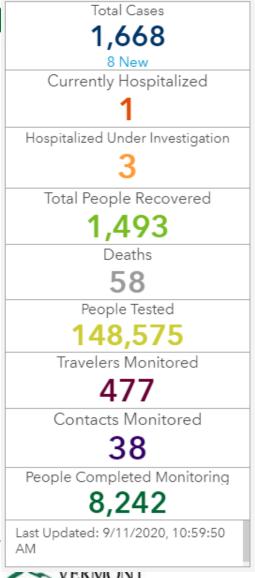


September 11, 2020





Situation update



 U.S.: 6.4 million; 191,628 deaths (<u>https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/us/</u> coronavirus-us-cases.html, updated 9/11)

VDH Weekly Data Summary (9/11/20):

 Overview, case demographics, clinical course, outbreaks, syndromic surveillance

https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/fil es/documents/pdf/COVID19-Weekly-Data-Summary-9-11-2020.pdf

No Weekly Spotlight topic this week

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



September 11, 2020



Situation update

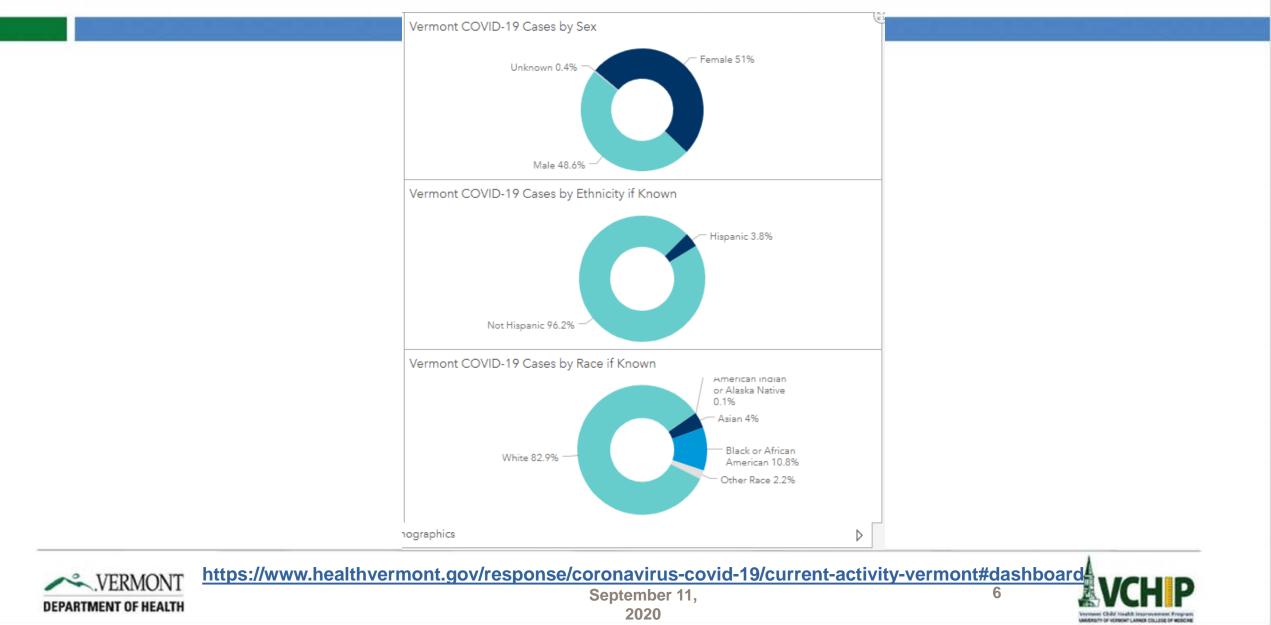
Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Age Group 300 287 272 250 237 218 201 200 148 150 134 108 100 63 50 0 0-9 10-19 20-29 30-39 40-49 50-59 60-69 70-79 80+



https://www.healthvermont.gov/response/coronavirus-covid-19/current-activity-vermont#dashboard September 11, 5



Situation update



In the News: Burlington High School (BHS)

- Planned hybrid model (½ in person M/Th; other ½ Tu/F) Completed one day of new student orientation and one day of virtual learning.
- Air quality testing conducted last week for polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)/other hazardous materials as part of \$70 million renovation project
 - Results indicated higher level of PCBs than recommended by EPA
 - Awaiting test results from all campus buildings
- Now moving to remote-only classes until at least Monday, 9/21/20.









VDH Updates

- COVID-19 In Pediatric Patients (Pre-K Grade 12) Algorithm finalizing latest edits. Early feedback re: lack of confidence in "alternative diagnoses" in the context of COVID-19 pandemic. Will send updated algorithm when available!
- School nurse "disposition" document: template for your adaptation. Please try it out and provide feedback.
- One pediatric practice serving as pilot site to work through barriers to anterior nares testing in office with VDH support.
- Adult algorithm (may support teacher return to work): 1st meeting 9/10/20;
 Seeking additional adult PCPs for review.
 - Difference already noted: many adult patients do not have medical homes
- Scientific Advisory Group: looking at testing in general, including readily accessible Ag testing in unique settings.







Guidance on Mask Exemptions for Children and Adolescents

General Mask Guidance (thank you, J Rinehart, L E Faricy,

M D'Amico, B Forbes, S Winters, PCPs at U Peds, B Holmes)

- All children should wear a mask at school unless physical/ developmental/behavioral impairments make wearing a mask unsafe.
- Masks should not be worn by anyone who is having trouble breathing, is unconscious or incapacitated. If a student . . . is unable to remove the mask on own, s/he should be supervised by a caregiver who is able to immediately assist if needed.
- The physical, developmental and behavioral conditions that may make wearing a mask unsafe for children are very rare. They include the following:
 - Developmental delays, Limited physical mobility, Severe autism, Structural abnormalities of the head or neck (some of these children may be able to wear bandanna-style coverings).

In most cases, a child who is unable to wear a mask safely for medical reasons should not attend school in person.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

September 11, 2020







Guidance on Mask Exemptions for Children and Adolescents

Guidance for Specific Conditions

- □ Allergies
- □ Anxiety
- Asthma
- Communication Differences
- Cardiology
- Developmental Pediatrics
- □ ENT
- Hematology/oncology
- Neurology
- Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
- Pulmonology: There are no pulmonology conditions that make wearing a mask unsafe for children who are well enough to attend school.



Resources to help children adapt the use of masks 10





- Grant to *increase influenza vaccine coverage rates* from VDH Immunization Program to AAP-VT Chapter (chapter will disburse to practices)
- Seeking novel strategies to address barriers and expand access through outreach and vaccine promotion.
- □ May receive 1000./clinic held (up to total 5000.)
- □ Applications must be received by October 23, 2020
- □ Will attach overview and grant application to this evening's email.
- □ Contact: <u>swinters@vtmd.org</u>







Today's Media Briefing (9/11/20)

Governor Phil Scott

- □ Acknowledged events of 9/11; personal reflection
 - "Our country desperately needs to find that unity again."
- Extending the State of Emergency until October 15, 2020







- VT Modeling Commissioner Pieciak:
- □ US trends: av. 36K/new cases/day over past week (improved)
 - More in Dakotas, IA, Midwest
 - VT & NE favorable
- VT data: lowest infection & positivity rate X past 7d.; lowest prevalence from start of pandemic. 32 new cases this week.
- Forecast includes higher education restart, mobility factors (w/K-12 reopening); forecast next 6 wks. slight increase in cases.
- VT Restart metrics all low/stable





Regional data: cases slowing
 Monitor for impact of Labor Day



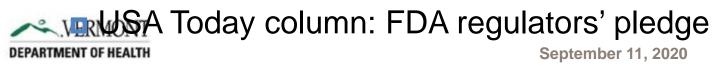
- □ Travel map: 5.5m. may come to VT w/o quarantine
 - Improvement in New England, ME, Cape
- Higher Ed Restart (Rich Schneider): goal/mission = "safest place in America to go to college" (will be publicly reporting data – 9 dismissed).
- All campuses: changed dining; only essential travel except/following quarantine restrictions; no large gatherings or athletic competitions; reduced class sizes & required health contract.
 - All early cases now doing well; now focused on (continuing to) prevent infection
 Norwich: "Wear your mask so I can wear my uniform."





Commissioner Levine

- Watching impact of Labor Day, college & school restart
- Have closed more outbreaks than opened new (& often very small #s of cases)
- Vaccination: hearing fears re: political pressure to rush vaccine. VDH watching closely "to be sure political pressures do not trump science."
 - **COVID-19 Planning Group** work is under way.
 - Any vaccine must meet all FDA standards & be recommended by ACIP.
 - Recent letter from 9 pharmaceutical cos.
 - VDH team on call (9/10) w/FDA, CDC & Surgeon GenI.: "process will be trustworthy."





Commissioner Levine:



- Yesterday CDC acknowledged that Vermont's contact tracing efforts are the best in the nation!"
- Reminders re: influenza vaccine







Return to School











September 11, 2020

Hubs for Remote Learning (Vermont Afterschool)

- Childcare referral specialists are landing point for all parent/family inquiries (existing system, aware of all childcare options in a community, not only at hubs).
- Cost to families varies by hub (DCF grants cover 1st month's operating expenses plus start-up costs; assumes that families will contribute to paying for care from the outset & hubs will stay open beyond grant/through December if remote learning days continue.
- Daily fees for hubs approved by DCF to date range from 0 to \$60/day (many in middle); affordability will vary by community
- DCF working to ensure that families who qualify can access the Child Care Financial Assistance Program (CCFAP) to help cover participant fees.
- First 17 hubs have officially been named and listed on Vermont Afterschool website: <u>http://www.vermontafterschool.org/hub-locations/</u>

Another 13-15 hubs in the works that will hopefully be added to the active list shortly.





VDH Updates: New Resources for School Reopening

- □ What Parents Can Expect in Pre-K Grade 12
 - https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/ COVID19-FAQ4Families-Schools.pdf
- How Schools can Prepare for COVID-19
 - https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/ COVID-19-How-Schools-Can-Prepare-for-COVID-19.pdf





VDH Updates: New Resources for School Reopening

COVID Quick Reference Guide for Schools

https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/ COVID-19-School-Case-Quick-Reference.pdf

SEE ALSO – Case Actions Checklist

https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/C OVID-19-School-Case-Actions-Checklist.pdf

Coming soon: "When can I go back to school?" a onepager algorithm companion piece for parents







VT Medical Society *Leadership Development Opportunity*

- □ WHAT: 2020/2021 VMSERF Physician Executive Leadership Institute Vermont
 - A handful of slots remain in 2nd cohort
 - Medical Society WHEN: Apply now – deadline is September 18, 2020.
- □ WHERE: find brochure, curriculum & application details at
 - http://www.vtmd.org/sites/default/files/VTMS%20Foundational%20Brochur e%202020-2021.pdf
- □ What participants are saying: "I have learned more about myself, as well as leadership tools and strategies, in 6 months than in over a decade of practice!" - Elizabeth Hunt, M.D.





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: <u>vchip.champ@med.uvm.edu</u>

Federal and state COVID-19 financial relief

- In 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: <u>vchip.champ@med.uvm.edu</u>
 - What do <u>you</u> 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: *Monday, September 14, 12:15-12:45* (current schedule: Mon/Wed/Friday)
- Please tune in to special VMS call next week: join with regular login info at <u>12:00 p.m.</u> for the <u>VMS Thursday webinar</u>, <u>MOUD Modifications in a COVID-19 World</u>. Thursday, September 17, 12:00-1:00 p.m. – Zoom platform & call info:
- □ Join *Zoom* Meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86726253105?pwd=VkVuNTJ1ZFQ2R3diSVdqdlJ2ZG4yQT09

- 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



