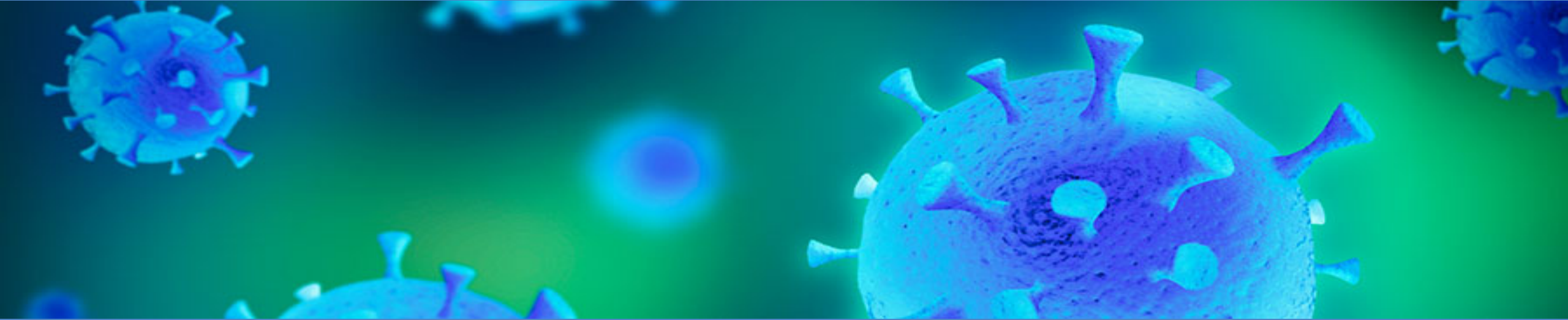


# VCHIP / CHAMP / VDH COVID-19 UPDATES




*Wendy Davis, MD FAAP - Senior Faculty, Vermont Child Health Improvement Program, UVM*  
*Breena Holmes, MD FAAP – VCHIP Senior Faculty & Physician Advisor, MCH Division, VDH*  
*September 25, 2020*

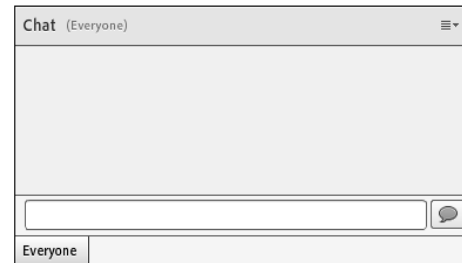
# Technology Notes

**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

- **Native American Day** (in some states)
  - ▣ Stay tuned for VT Indigenous Peoples Day: October 12, 2020
  - ▣ **Alexander Twilight Day** (VT: Sept. 23, 2020): first black person to graduate from college/univ. in U.S.. (Middlebury College, 1823); principal Orleans Co. Grammar School; first black legislator (VT House, 1836)
- *Reminder: weekly event schedule*
  - ▣ **VCHIP/CHAMP/VDH calls: Mon/Wed/Fridays**; Governor's Media Briefings **Tues/Friday**; VMS call with Commissioner Levine **Thursday**
- Situation, VDH & AAP Updates, Media Briefing
- Practice Issues: **Friday Potpourri**
- Q & A, Discussion *[Please note: the COVID-19 situation continues to evolve very rapidly – so the information we're providing today may change quickly]*



<https://www.vpr.org/post/new-vermont-law-replaces-columbus-day-indigenous-peoples-day#stream/0>



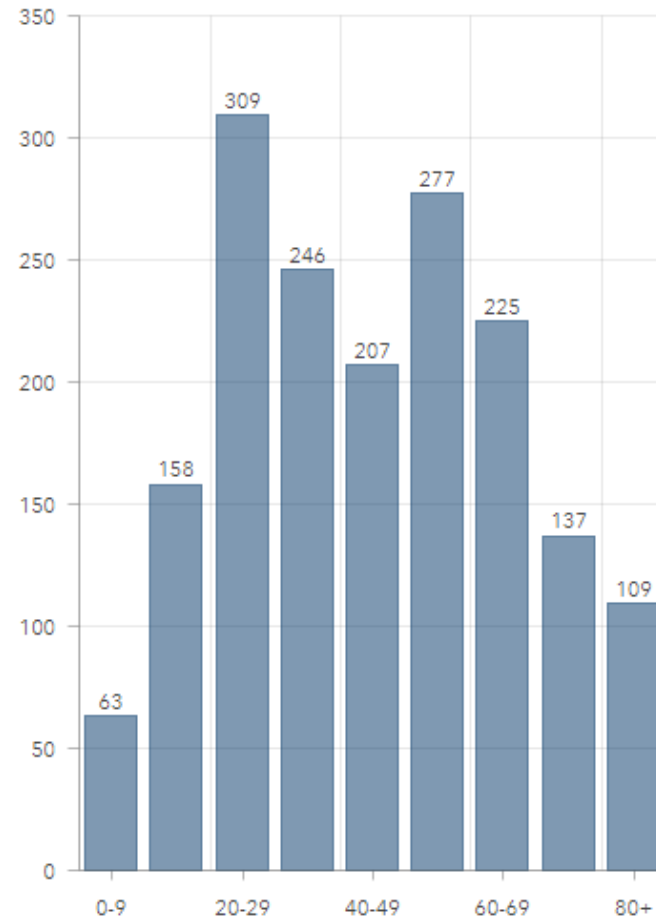
# Situation update

Total Cases	<b>1,731</b> 7 New
Currently Hospitalized	<b>2</b>
Hospitalized Under Investigation	<b>0</b>
Total People Recovered	<b>1,576</b>
Deaths	<b>58</b>
People Tested	<b>159,279</b>
Travelers Monitored	<b>469</b>
Contacts Monitored	<b>36</b>
People Completed Monitoring	<b>8,757</b>
Last Updated: 9/25/2020, 10:42:07 AM	

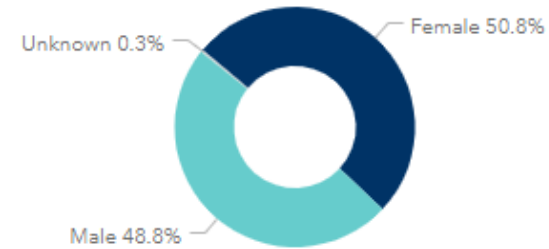
- U.S.: 7.0 million+; 202,707 deaths
  - <https://www.nbcnews.com/health/health-news/coronavirus-deaths-united-states-each-day-2020-n1177936> (updated 9/25/20)
- **VDH Weekly Data Summary (9/25/20):**
  - Overview, case demographics, clinical course, outbreaks, syndromic surveillance  
<https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/COVID19-Weekly-Data-Summary-9-25-2020.pdf>
  - **Weekly Spotlight – Symptoms:** 73% of Vermonters with COVID-19 experience symptoms, while 23% do not.

# Situation update

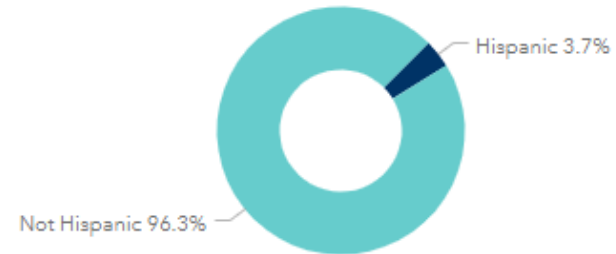
Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Age Group



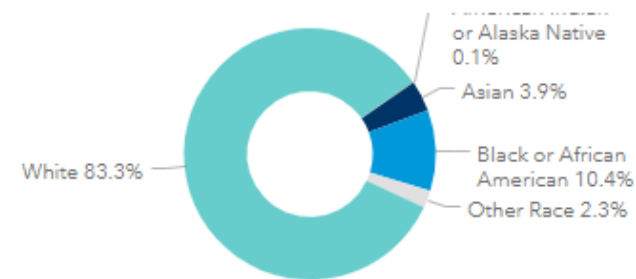
Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Sex



Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Ethnicity if Known



Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Race if Known



Case Demographics

# VDH Updates

- ***Now more than ever***: please complete Asthma Action Plans!
- Addressing **algorithm** and **school guidance** issues:
  - ▣ Nasal congestion/runny nose
  - ▣ How/whether to continue temperature checks as part of daily symptom check in context of cold weather impact on thermometer use
- **Strong and Healthy Schools Task Force** to reconvene next week
  - ▣ Have been tracking issues
- **New** parent handout: “COVID-19 Information for Families Return to School Following Illness”



**COVID-19 Information for Families  
Return to School Following Illness**

September 2020

# VDH Update: WIC Re-Opening

- USDA has extended the majority of approved waivers
- Waivers extended until 30 days after the end of the nationally-declared public health emergency under section 319 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d).
  - Current public health emergency ends 10/23/20
    - Likely to extend for 90 more days
    - If not extended, return to in-person for November 22
- Vermont approved waivers include:
  - Physical presence (allows for remote/tele WIC appointments)
  - Expanded food options (bread sizes and milk types)
  - Remote management evaluations of the local WIC office
- WIC's re-opening workgroup continues to meet to move preparations forward
- Referrals welcome anytime





# Online Referral Form – Updated with measurement fields

## VERMONT WIC RESOURCES FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS



*“Those living in food insecure households consume fewer servings of fruits, vegetables, and whole grains, and more sugar, fat, and salt. These dietary shortfalls are linked to chronic diseases, including diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and cancer. Given their vulnerability, the elderly and children suffer the greatest impact.”* ([USDA Food & Nutrition Service](#))

REFER YOUR PATIENT TO WIC



<https://www.healthvermont.gov/children-youth-families/wic/resources-health-professionals>

If available, please provide measurements from within the past 60 days.

Length/Height (in inches)

Weight (in pounds)

Date above measurements were taken:  
 📅

If available, please provide anemia screening results from within the past 90 days.

Hemoglobin, or

Hematocrit

Date above anemia screening was completed:  
 📅



# Today's Media Briefing (9/25/20)

## Governor Phil Scott

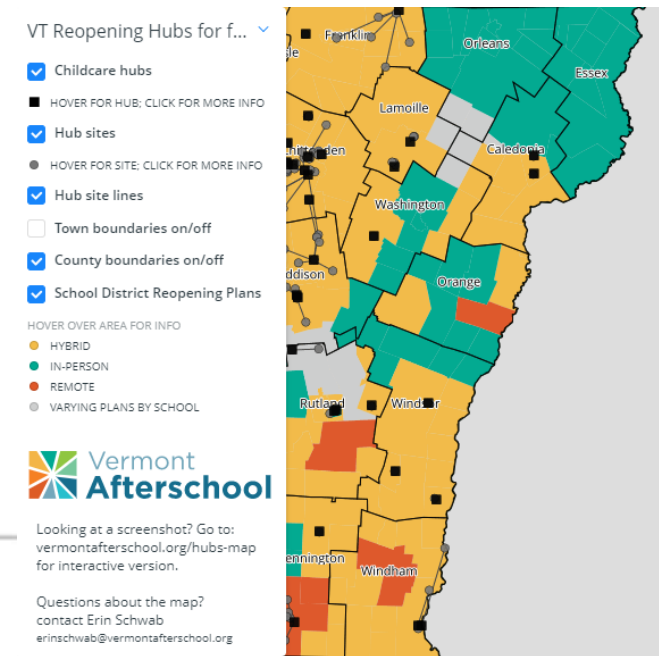
- VT Census update: after previous lag, VT now ranks 5th in U.S.!
  - ▣ On track to match 2010 response
- Education update & child care hubs (Holly Morehouse!)
- Rationale: priority to give children a strong foundation – leads to better chance of later positive outcomes.
  - ▣ Child care investments
  - ▣ Emphasis on in-person instruction, especially for younger students.



# Child Care Hub Update

## Holly Morehouse, Executive Director, Vermont Afterschool

- ❑ August: clear not all schools could open in-person
- ❑ Collaborations/partnerships with **many** agencies/organizations
- ❑ SEE (interactive) map at: <http://www.vermontafterschool.org/hubs-map/>
- ❑ 35 hubs, 87 sites, 5071 students
- ❑ Local adaptation and creativity
- ❑ Support through TA and training; tracking needs
  - ❑ Anticipate ongoing school schedule changes



# Today's Media Briefing (cont'd.)



## AOE Secretary Dan French

- Moving to Step III effective **Saturday, 9/26/20**; connection to sports guidance
  - ▣ Continued requirement for daily mitigation strategies
  - ▣ Permit interscholastic competition this weekend
- Schools ***may*** consider use of common areas (cafeterias, gyms)
  - ▣ Smaller grp size, staggered group use, robust cleaning
- **New** FAQ re: differences between II and III
- **Does not require** SDs to move to (additional) in-person instruction
  - ▣ Essex-Westford moving to (pre-K – grade 5) 5days/week starting 10/5/20

# Today's Media Briefing (cont'd.)

## AOE Secretary Dan French

- Have debriefed recent school cases
- Started last Friday w/VDH contact tracing team & Dr. Kelso
- Met w/supt.; feedback to refine process/share lessons
  - ▣ Improve school-VDH contact communication
  - ▣ Benefit from improved communication re: contact tracing to share w/communities.
- Reviewed state-level health guidance – reconvene TF
- Tracking areas for improvement (e.g., temp checks – expect update to be published in October)



# Tuesday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



## AOE Secretary Dan French

- ❑ Snow days: won't have to make up if satisfy attendance requirements
- ❑ Work to date focus on reopening schools: logistics/operations (schedules, communications, etc.)
- ❑ Aim to increase focus in coming weeks on **learning needs** – interventions/strategies to address.



# Tuesday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



## Commissioner Levine

- Compelled to reinforce Gov. Scott & Dr. Fauci to not let up
- Great success in K – 12 to date; child care experience “phenomenal”
  - Because cases not being brought into those settings (as microcosms of our greater communities – represent viral level in community at large)
- U.S. just passed 7m. cases & 200K deaths
- Past week in VT: v. low case counts daily this week (1731 total)
  - Day 59 w/o any deaths
- No additional cases in K-12 and only 1 additional (announced yesterday) at St. Michael’s College



# Tuesday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



## Commissioner Levine:

- ❑ Main topic today: ***the flu***
- ❑ Don't know how common to get flu and COVID-19 together
- ❑ “Please get your flu shot and make sure your children do, too”  
(anyone  $\geq 6$  mos. unless contraindications)
- ❑ VDH IZ Program has ordered more vaccine than usual to prepare for increased demand – “you have access to plenty of vaccine”
- ❑ Working closely w/entire medical community to increase access
  - ❑ Already beginning to hear about innovative practices: drive-through clinics; food pickup site; mobile vans; medical home-school partnerships
- ❑ Few excuses to not get a flu shot!

# Update: VDH & AAP collaboration to increase flu vaccine coverage rates



## Welcome to the American Academy of Pediatrics Vermont Chapter

The American Academy of Pediatrics Vermont Chapter (AAPVT) is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the physical, mental, and social health and well-being of the state's infants, children, adolescents, and young adults. AAPVT works to achieve these goals by using the collective voice of Vermont's pediatricians to improve the lives of Vermont's youth through public education, research, child advocacy and policy development.

## It's time to complete the Flu Clinic Grant Application!

The form is available in the following ways:

1. [Hard Copy](#)
2. [Online Google Form](#)

American Academy of Pediatrics Vermont Chapter  
**NEWSLETTER ARCHIVES**

## AAPVT News

▶ **American Academy of Pediatrics Vermont Chapter Calls on Schools To Prioritize In Person Attendance for Preschool Through Grade 5 and For Students With Special Needs MONTPELIER (July 27, 2020)...**  
[read more](#)

▶ **Chapter Immediate Past President Dr. Jill Rinehart discusses prioritizing in person learning mychamplainvalley.com: As Vermont schools plan to reopen next month, some pediatricians are...**  
[read more](#)

▶ **AAPVT Chapter President Speaks at Governors Press Conference on Prioritizing In Person Learning Rebecca Bell spoke eloquently on the science and Vermont's unique position to be able to prioritize in...**  
[read more](#)

- Seeking novel strategies to address barriers and expand access
- Application may be downloaded: [www.aapvt.org](http://www.aapvt.org)
- May receive \$1,000 per clinic held, up to \$5,000
- Applications must be received by Oct 23, 2020
- NOTE **MMWR today** re: decreased influenza transmission in southern hemisphere
- **VDH WILL provide needles and/or syringes for vaccination, IF practices not able to obtain them in their usual manner (allocations of these supplies may be limited through some distributors. Working to establish a central ordering process (anticipate later this week). In the meantime, please email: [merideth.plumpton@vermont.gov](mailto:merideth.plumpton@vermont.gov)**

# Practice Issues

## *Friday Potpourri: Return to School & Other Issues*



# Update: PCB Contamination at Burlington HS

- July 2019: Burlington SD discovered PCBs in the bldg. & leached into soil.
  - ▣ Renovation consultants found toxins throughout property
- August 2020: findings reported to VT Dept. Environmental Conservation & VDH
  - ▣ Possible violation of state law: any release of contaminants in the environment **must be reported “immediately”** to DEC (risk of financial penalties)
- Sept. 2020: BSDVT air quality testing results across campus for airborne PCBs showed high levels (one room: > 400 VT health standard (15 nanograms of PCBs/cubic meter) – abrupt closure.



<https://vtdigger.org/2020/09/24/burlington-schools-knew-about-pcbs-in-soil-for-13-months-before-reporting-the-problem/>

# VCHIP CHAMP 2020 Learning Session

## *Strengthening Vermont's System of High-Performing Medical Homes*

**Tuesday, October 13, 2020, 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM, Zoom**

- Improving screening & follow-up for family centered preventive services and well child visits\*
  - Social Determinants of Health (SDoH)
  - Blood lead level testing
  - Oral health
  - Vision
  - Strabismus
  - Developmental Screening
- \*12-24 months and 3-6 years*
- Racial and health equity in delivery of care
- Maximizing the use of practice-based care coordination resources
- Connecting families to needed support programs

**Register by October 1 at <http://go.uvm.edu/champ2020learningsession>**

For questions, reach out to the CHAMP Team at [vchip.champ@uvm.edu](mailto:vchip.champ@uvm.edu)



# Topics We Are Following

- ❑ School (K-12), college/university reopening, return to sports guidance
- ❑ School and recreational sports
- ❑ AAP-VT Task Force on Race and Health Equity
- ❑ Immunization strategies/policy: catch-up, flu, COVID-19 (?)
- ❑ Pediatric health care delivery: innovations & best practices
- ❑ Ideas? Questions?) – please email: [vchip.champ@med.uvm.edu](mailto:vchip.champ@med.uvm.edu)
  - ❑ Federal and state COVID-19 financial relief
- ❑ MIS-C (Multi-System Inflammatory Syndrome in Children)
- ❑ 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](mailto: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](https://www.med.uvm.edu/vchip/projects/vchip_champ_vdh_covid-19_updates)
- Next CHAMP call: **Monday, September 28, 12:15-12:45 (current schedule: M-W-F)**
- Please tune in to VMS call with Commissioner Levine:  
**Thursday, October 1, 12:30-1:00 p.m. – 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