

Incident Name:
COVID-19 Response

Reporting Period:
03/24/2020 08:00 AM - 03/24/2020 04:00 PM

Situation Report Number:
12

EOC Activation Level:
Full Activation



Vermont State Emergency Operations Center

Situation Report

Phil Scott, Governor

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Background / Current Situation

On March 24, 2020 the Vermont State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) was fully activated from 0800 to 1600, using a hybrid EOC structure (physical/virtual) with limited in-person staffing at Public Safety Headquarters and State partner representatives working remotely. The SEOC will be fully activated daily until further notice.

Key Updates from 3/24/20:

- Stay-at-home orders have gone out in the states of Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, Indiana, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Washington, West Virginia, Illinois and California. (See map attached.)
- These jurisdictions also issued stay-at-home orders for their residents: Anchorage, AK; Denver, CO; Boulder, CO; Pitkin County, CO; Miami Beach, FL; Atlanta, GA; Blaine County, ID; Johnson, Leavenworth, Douglas, Wyandotte Counties, KS; St. Louis County, Kansas City and St. Louis, MO; Allegheny, Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Monroe, Montgomery and Philadelphia counties, PA; Davidson County and Memphis, TN; Collin, Dallas and Tarrant Counties, San Antonio and Austin, TX.
- All non-essential or close contact businesses have been ordered to close in the states of Alaska, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Nevada, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Vermont.
- Hawaii has ordered that all persons entering the State of Hawaii self-quarantine for 14 days or the duration of their stay, whichever is shorter.
- Florida ordered visitors from New York, New Jersey and Connecticut to quarantine for 14 days.
- Kansas ordered those who traveled from California, Florida, Illinois, New Jersey, New York and Washington to quarantine for 14 days.
- Prime Minister of India (more than 1.3 Billion people) has issued a 21-day nationwide stay-at-home order.
- American Red Cross is experiencing a national blood supply shortage. ***Donate if you can!***

Additional community mitigation measures announced 3/24:

- Gov. Scott has issued an addendum today to ask all Vermonters to “Stay Home/Stay Safe”. The order will take effect on Wednesday 3/25 at 5:00pm.

- ◊ All business and not-for-profit entities shall suspend in-person business operations, and are encouraged to develop distance-based services.
- ◊ Vermonters are directed to stay at home or their place of residence, leaving only for essential reasons.
- ◊ Businesses and entities providing services or functions deemed critical to public health and safety, as well as economic and national security as set forth in the order, shall remain in operation.

Ongoing community mitigation measures:

- Gov. Scott issued an order for hospitals to postpone elective surgeries.

Current status in Vermont, last updated by the Health Department at 1300 on 3/24/20:

Total positive test results for COVID-19	95
Total tests for COVID-19	1,535
Deaths	7
People being monitored	339
People who have completed monitoring	316

These numbers are reported once daily covering a 24-period from midnight to midnight.

Public Information

- Supported Press Release from National Guard on details of its mission.
- Followed up with reporters about details of Med Surge Task Force and med surge facilities.
- Worked with Agency of Education and Department of Children and Families on media request around availability of childcare for essential workers.
- Developed list of state communicators who can assist with media inquiries and associated agency websites posting COVID-19 resources.
- Department of Public Safety Commissioner Michael Schirling appeared on Vermont Public Radio talking about essential persons list for childcare.

FEMA

Vermont:

- FEMA Stafford Act declaration FEMA-3437-EM-VT was issued March 13, 2020 for the State of Vermont. Eligibility includes Public Assistance Category B: Emergency Protective Measures and Direct Federal Assistance.
- FEMA is actively filling the request for US Coast Guard personnel to the HOC.
- The US Army Corps of Engineers Planning and Response Team has been Mission Assigned by FEMA to support Medical Facility assessments and will support medical surge facility site assessments this week.
- FEMA Region 1 is determining what Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) resources are being pushed nationally.
- FEMA has submitted an Resource Request Form (RRF) for 1 Infection Control Expert for the Health Operations Center.
- FEMA has submitted an RRF at high priority for 4,500 Cepheid Gen Expert Module Test Kits and

associated materials.

Nationally: The National Response Coordination Center in Washington DC is fully activated and adjudicating all federal requests for resources and capabilities from across the Country.

Regionally: The FEMA Region 1 Regional Response Coordination Center (RRCC) is activated to level 2 and is 100% virtual.

Mission & Resource Support

Medical Surge

Three medical surge sites are being stood up during the week of 3/23/20. The Vermont Medical Surge Team is working to identify additional sites if needed. Sites currently being set up include:

- Barre, VT
 - Central Vermont Medical Center and the Vermont National Guard coordinating resource allocation and personnel required to make site operational.
- Burlington, VT
 - University of Vermont Medical Center and the Vermont National Guard coordinating resource allocation and personnel required to make site operational.
- St. Albans, VT
 - Northwestern Medical Center and the Vermont National Guard coordinating resource allocation and personnel required to make site operational. Vermont Building & General Services providing logistical support procuring generator for backup power.

Mission and Resource Support Section continually evaluating potential resource needs/gaps and identifying potential sources to fill them.

Logistics Branch

- External resource status
 - Pending:
 - EMAC:
 - 10 Microbiologists needed for VT Department of Health/ Health Operations Center.
 - 10 Epidemiologists needed for VT Department of Health/Health Operations Center.
- Resource procurement status:
 - Building and General Services (BGS) has ordered 200 ventilators to-date and have access to an additional 12 ventilators.
 - BGS contracted to have a 275kW generator installed for the St. Albans med-surge facility at Collins Perley. The unit was delivered to the site on 3/23 at 8:30am. The unit will be up and running as soon as the electrician can install a transfer switch, which they are currently trying to procure. 100 amps of facility line power is currently feeding the temporary hospital grade wiring. The generator is for back up emergency power and will be fully automatic once the transfer switch arrives. In the interim, it will take about 30 minutes to do a hard wire switch over to generator power should power grid fail.
 - BGS has identified a contract source for 100 blankets for the St. Albans med-surge facility. Blankets are expected to arrive 3/30.

- ◊ BGS stood up a donation management group that is working on a spreadsheet of the donations and potential sites for donation drops at various locations.
- ◊ BGS Purchasing is finalizing a contract for new source(s) for hand sanitizer from distilleries that are modifying production.
- VTNG Deployment status
 - ◊ Active missions:
 - **Activated/Deployed Resources (Internal Mission #, Short Title):**
 - COVID 002 – SNS Warehouse Support
 - COVID 003 - Medical Surge Support (Burlington)
 - COVID 004 - Medical Surge Support (Barre)
 - COVID 005 - Medical Surge Support (St. Albans)
 - COVID 006 – University of Vermont Medical Center (UVMCC) Clinic Support
 - Total of 48 service members currently on State Active Duty (SAD) supporting State operations. St. Albans and Barre med surge sites are set up.
 - ◊ Additional VTNG Updates:
 - Joint Operations Center at tier 2 (additional staffing).
 - Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) currently in use.
 - Vermont National Guard (VTNG) in Health Protection Condition (HPCON) BRAVO.

Economic Development Branch

- Supply Chain impacts
 - ◊ Grocery: No reported changes to Vermont Retail and Grocers' Association (VRGA) Supply Chain Update from 3/21/20.
- Economic injury impact: ACCD staff has recorded over 1,300 interactions with businesses and an estimated loss to date as recorded from those interactions is now \$100 million.
- Unemployment status and rate: Department of Labor is creating process to get this updated information to the SEOC.
- Agency of Agriculture is working with Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation to develop a list of sawdust suppliers who can supply dairy farms with bedding.
- ACCD is working with SEOC to develop a web form and workflow to intake business inquiries as to their essential or non-essential status.
- VOSHA is preparing guidance on workplace safety and health complaints as they relate to COVID 19. The Department of Health and the PIO are receiving an influx of employee complaints; VOSHA will address those concerns in broad manner with the press release and then will address each individual complaint that comes in to VOSHA.

Infrastructure & Emergency Services Branch

- Statewide power outages are down to approximately 20 outages, which is in the typical day-day range for outages.
- Forest, Parks, & Recreation is working with the Agency of Agriculture to draft a list of sawdust suppliers for dairy farms.
- No reported critical service interruptions due to absenteeism.
- No reported critical infrastructure interruptions due to absenteeism.
- Division of Fire Safety/USAR prepared draft guidance for fire departments awaiting approval.

- Hospitals:
 - ◊ Drive up testing plans being explored. Essex for UVM MC in progress.
 - ◊ Elective surgeries postponed
 - ◊ Bed Availability statewide
 - 550 Total beds
 - 48 ICU
 - 274 Med Surge
 - 68 Isolation
 - 120 Negative pressure
 - ◊ 17 Number of COVID-19 patients hospitalized
 - ◊ 0 Number of COVID-19 patients discharged from hospital
- Multiple hospitals are anticipating staff shortages in the coming weeks
- Long-term care
 - ◊ 2,421 beds available of 2,964 licensed beds
 - ◊ One long term care facility has multiple COVID 19+ and multiple COVID-19 deaths
- Hospital resource needs – relatively steady supplies at this time, all resources are expected to be in shortage with medical surge.

*Human Services Branch***Congregate housing status:**






- Harbor House - 50 bed capacity - 5 beds in use.
 - ◊ Security staffing currently in place (all shifts) through weekends.
 - ◊ Working to extend the existing contract security contract.
- Woodside - Finalizing plans to accept psychiatric care patients.
- Northwestern Counseling and Support Services (NCSS) - Woodside juveniles in process of being transferred. ADS working on IT needs at this facility.
- North Beach Campground – site setup in progress, campers being delivered
 - ◊ Still working options on the fresh water and Security.
 - ◊ Working to establish propane delivery services.
- Goddard - COVID-19 patient recovery site.
 - ◊ Ordered thermometers and PPE through SEOC.
 - ◊ JaniTech cleaning contract in process with BGS.
 - ◊ Meal plan still needs to be established.

No known gaps in AHS essential services due to absenteeism rate.

Long Term Care facilities status will be available 3/25/2020.

Weather

Five Day Forecast: Vermont - Washington (KCXX)

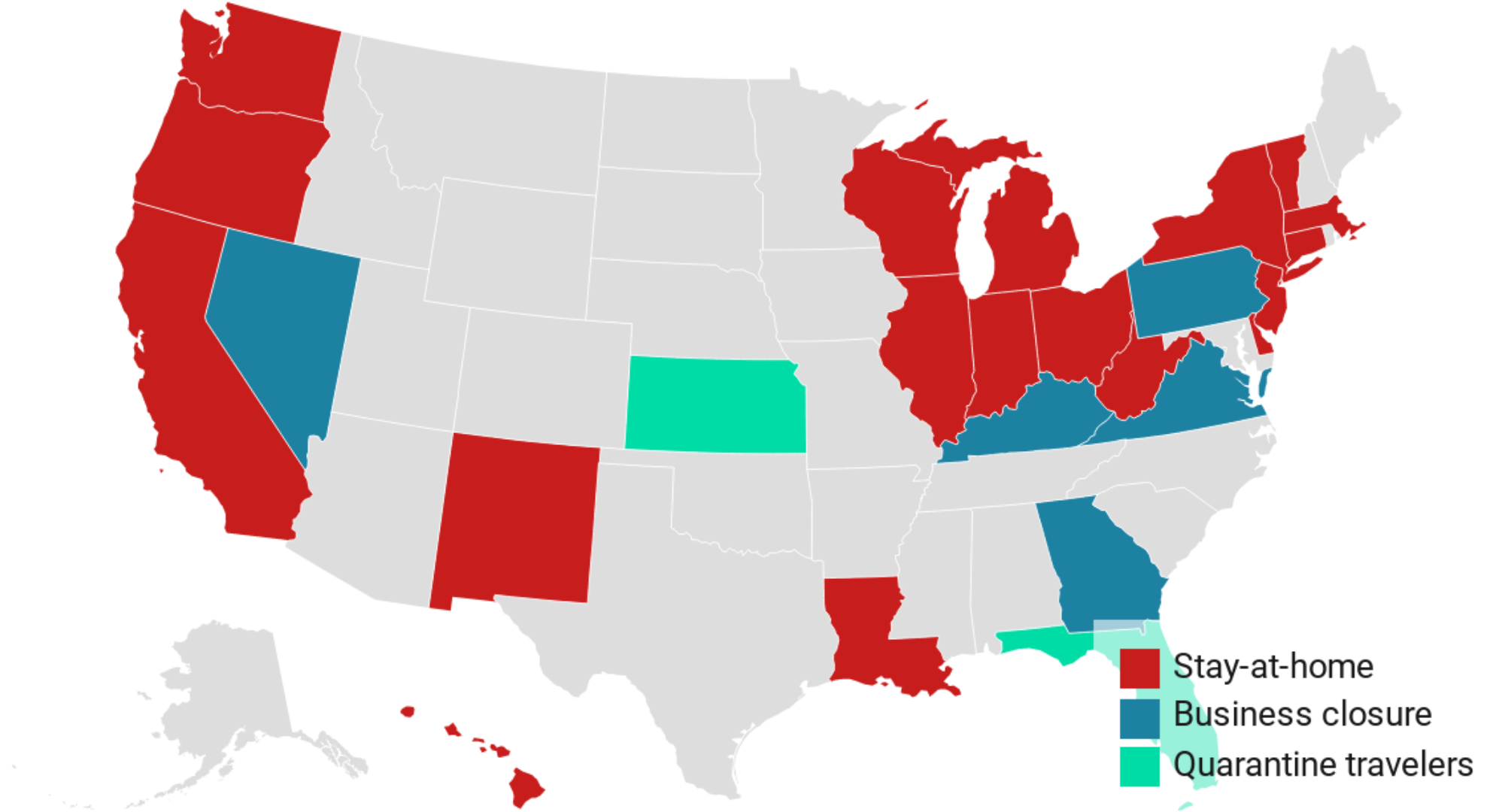
<p>Tuesday</p>  <p>Clear</p> <p>41 F / 5 C 24 F / -4 C</p>	<p>Wednesday</p>  <p>Clear</p> <p>43 F / 6 C 25 F / -3 C</p>	<p>Thursday</p>  <p>50%</p> <p>Chance of Snow Showers</p> <p>47 F / 8 C 32 F / 0 C</p>	<p>Friday</p>  <p>40%</p> <p>Chance of Snow Showers</p> <p>45 F / 7 C 24 F / -4 C</p>	<p>Saturday</p>  <p>60%</p> <p>Likely Rain Showers</p> <p>47 F / 8 C 32 F / 0 C</p>
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Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 26. North wind 6 to 8 mph becoming east after midnight.

Wednesday: Increasing clouds, with a high near 38. South wind around 14 mph.

Wednesday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 26. Southeast wind 7 to 10 mph.

Statewide Orders



Updated 3/24/2020

Map: Brett Pierce • Created with Datawrapper



Executive Summary COVID-19 Response March 24, 2020 (1600 EST)

SEOC Activation Status: Full
HOC Activation Status: Full
SEOC Activation Date/Time:
March 11, 2020 (0730 EST)

Community Lifeline Status



Lifelines: Impacts and Actions

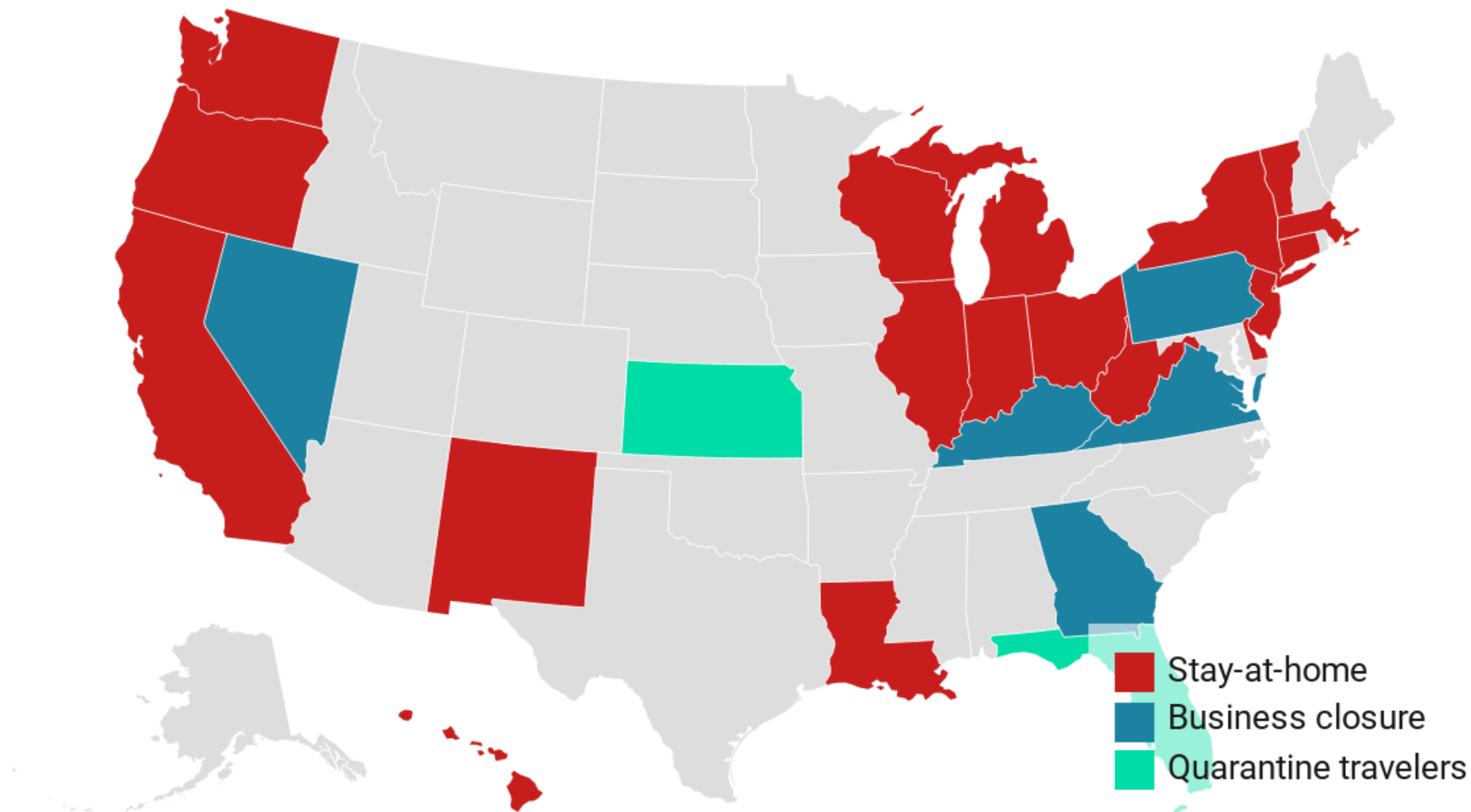
Lifelines: Impacts and Actions

Safety and Security	Current Situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Department of Forests, Parks, & Recreation (FPR) released information to all fire wardens that Town Forest Fire Wardens have the authority to decide whether to issue burn permits or not. FPR doesn't have the authority to issue a statewide burn ban except under extreme fire hazard. VOSHA is preparing guidance on workplace safety and health complaints as they relate to COVID 19.
Food, Water, Sheltering	Current Situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Per a request from the Vermont Retailers & Grocers Association. Department of Motor Vehicles has waived the requirement for five axle trucks to need a special permit to operate at 92,000 lbs without a special permit on State Highways. Vermont Retail and Grocers' Association (VRGA) has reported increased supply chain issues for the following categories: bread; eggs; wipes, hand sanitizer, isopropyl alcohol; chicken. Not changes have been noted so far. Vermont Food Bank has reported that food shelves are seeing higher than normal visitation. They are able to keep up with the demand for now, but it is notably increased. Their supply limitations are in line with that of grocery stores.
	Future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Community Action agencies are struggling with the task of feeding homeless populations who are being housed in hotels/motels. This is a big change in service for them and is presenting a huge challenge. Schools will need funding to provide snacks to children in child care; schools can provide breakfast and lunch under existing programs, but not snacks.
Other Lifelines	Current Situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic injury impact: ACCD staff has recorded over 1,300 interactions with businesses and an estimated loss to date as recorded from those interactions is now \$100 million. BGS stood up a donation management group that is working on a spreadsheet of the donations and potential sites for donation drops at various locations. BGS Purchasing is finalizing a contract for new source(s) for hand sanitizer from distilleries that are modifying production. Unemployment Insurance has published a website for claim filing online for affected employees. Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation are reporting increased state park visitation. Park management staff are visiting selected parks this weekend to document visitation. Signs will be posted altering to lack of staffing, sanitation, and social distancing. A Small Business Administration Disaster Declaration was granted statewide. The Agency of Commerce and Community Development has spread word to the business community.

Incident Summary	A novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) was first detected in China at the end of 2019. It has now spread to more than 100 locations internationally, including the United States. The disease the virus causes has been named "coronavirus disease 2019" (abbreviated "COVID-19").
Key Information	<p>Current status in Vermont, last updated by the Health Department at 1300 on 3/24/20: Positive test results: 95 Total tests conducted: 1,535 Deaths: 7 People being monitored: 339 People who have completed monitoring: 316</p> <p>Key Updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay-at-home orders have gone out in the states of CA, CT, DE, HI, IL, IN, LA, MA, MD, MI, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OR, WA, and WV. Other smaller jurisdiction stay-at-home order can be found in the Situation Report. The International Olympic Committee postponed the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games for one year. <p>Updated Executive Order Measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gov. Scott has issued an addendum today to ask all Vermonters to "Stay Home/Stay Safe". The order will take effect on Wednesday 3/25 at 5:00pm. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All business and not-for-profit entities shall suspend in-person business operations, and are encouraged to develop distance-based services. Vermonters are directed to stay at home or their place of residence, leaving only for essential reasons. Businesses and entities providing services or functions deemed critical to public health and safety, as well as economic and national security as set forth in the order, shall remain in operation. The Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD), shall develop a process for responding to questions regarding acceptable continuation of business operations. <p>Ongoing Executive Order Measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gov. Phil Scott issued an order for hospitals to postpone elective surgeries and procedures. <p>Gubernatorial State of Emergency: Yes, announced 3/13/20 Local State of Emergency: Burlington, Colchester, Johnson Federal Disaster Declaration: Issued 3/13/20 Local EOCs Activated (self reported): Burlington, Waitsfield, Johnson, Hartford, Chittenden (town), Strafford, Peacham, Rutland</p>

Health and Medical	Current Situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the face of limited supplies, testing is being prioritized to hospitalized patients, those in long-term care facilities, and healthcare workers. Drive-up testing available at Copley, DHMC, North Country, Northwestern, Porter, UVMHC, NVRH Hospitals with variable hours. Approximately 10 asymptomatic and short-term patients of Burlington Health and Rehab are being moved to appropriately adapted rooms at the DoubleTree by Hilton Burlington. This is a cooperative effort by the State, the UVM Medical Center and Burlington Health and Rehabilitation Center to ensure the center's patients can receive the care they need, in comfort, and isolated from further possible exposure to COVID-19. These patients will receive care by UVMHC clinicians and be discharged directly to their home after they are clinically determined to be well enough. Three medical surge sites are being stood up during the week of 3/23/20. The Vermont Medical Surge Team is working to identify additional sites if needed. Sites currently being set up include sites in Barre, Burlington, and St. Albans. A total of 48 National Guard service members are currently on State Active Duty (SAD) supporting State operations.
	Future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are resources shortages amongst first responders as protective measures increase. Multiple hospitals are anticipating staff shortages in the next coming weeks – school closures are the most recent stressor. The US Army Corps of Engineers Planning and Response Team has been Mission Assigned by FEMA to support Medical Facility assessments and will support medical surge facility site assessments this week.

Statewide Orders



Updated 3/24/2020

Map: Brett Pierce • Created with Datawrapper