

**STAY
HOME**



**SAVE
LIVES**

Incident Name:

COVID-19 Response

Reporting Period:

03/25/2020 08:00 AM - 03/25/2020 04:00 PM

Situation Report Number:

13

EOC Activation Level:

Full Activation



Vermont State Emergency Operations Center

Situation Report

Phil Scott, Governor

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Background / Current Situation

On March 25, 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 3/25/20:

- The White House and Senate leaders struck a major deal early Wednesday morning over a \$2-trillion package to provide a jolt to an economy struggling amid the Coronavirus Pandemic.
- 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.
- 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.
- 2020 Olympics have been postponed for at least one year.
- American Red Cross is experiencing a national blood supply shortage. **Donate if you can!**

Ongoing Community Mitigation Measures:

- 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.
- ◊ The Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD), shall develop a process for responding to questions regarding acceptable continuation of business operations.
- Gov. Scott issued an order for hospitals to postpone elective surgeries.
- Restaurants are still able to function, but may only provide curbside pickup or delivery service.

Current status in Vermont, last updated by the Health Department at 1300 on 3/25/20:

Total positive test results for COVID-19	123
Total tests for COVID-19	1,712
Deaths	8
People being monitored	342
People who have completed monitoring	317

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

Public Information

- One-page document developed to help public understand Stay Home/Stay Safe order.
- Multiple links to resources for individuals and businesses posted to VEM social media sites.
- Multiple media inquiries regarding who is essential for purposes of the Executive Order.
- VEM Website updated with information for the public on special web page.

FEMA

- FEMA is actively filling the request for US Coast Guard personnel to the Health Operations Center (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 have now been received from the latest shipment and when additional pushes can be expected.
- FEMA has submitted a Resource Request Form (RRF) for:
 - ◊ 1 Infection Control Expert for the Health Operations Center
 - ◊ 10 microbiologists
 - ◊ 10 epidemiologists
 - ◊ Ventilators
 - ◊ High priority for 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.

Health & Medical Branch

Health & Medical Branch

- Hospitals:
 - Drive up testing at Copley, DHMC, North Country, Northwestern, Porter Hospitals with variable hours.
 - Elective surgeries postponed.
 - Bed Availability statewide (as of 0900 3/25)
 - 550 Total beds
 - 48 ICU
 - 274 Med Surge
 - 68 Isolation
 - 120 Negative pressure
- Multiple hospitals are anticipating staff shortages in the coming weeks, especially due to staff with close contact with COVID-19 patients.
- Long-term care:
 - One long term care facility has multiple COVID-19 positive persons and has experience multiple COVID-19 deaths.
- Hospital resource needs – relatively steady supplies at this time, all resources are expected to be in shortage with medical surge.
- Hospitals receiving donations of N95s and surgical masks (or hand-made substitutes) from local providers.
- Any activation and status of the Strategic National Stockpile:
 - A second shipment from the SNS arrived 3/24/2020 being picked and packed according to a prioritization schedule and shipped.
 - SEOC working with HOC to develop PPE distribution plan
 - SEOC working with HOC to develop medical & health staffing plan.
 - SEOC working with OCME on fatality management
 - SEOC working on policy for relocation of persons for COVID-19 protection
- COVID-19 Testing: UVM MC doing triage of testing for priority:

- ◊ Health Care workers a top priority
- ◊ Long-term Care Facilities top priority
- Collection kits also becoming short in supply.

Human Services Branch

Congregate Housing Status:

- Harbor House for homeless population - 50 bed capacity - 5 beds in use.
- Finalizing plans to accept psychiatric care patients at isolation facility.
- Northwestern Counseling and Support Services (NCSS) - juvenile corrections individuals transferred to alternate site.
- Campgrounds – site setup in progress, campers delivered.
 - ◊ Working on propane fuel for each camper.
 - ◊ Working on water.
 - ◊ Chittenden County Sheriff ready to begin Friday night shift.
- COVID-19 patient recovery site under development.
 - ◊ Janitorial contractor site visit today
 - ◊ 122 bed capacity
 - ◊ N95 masks will be delivered to site.
 - ◊ Submitted request for additional items on PPE
 - ◊ Lamoille sheriff ready to begin security
 - ◊ Meal plan still needs to be established with support from SEOC logistics.

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

Long Term Care Facility Status:

- Statewide Licensed Capacity: 2,964
- Current Operating Capacity: 2,696
- 25-Mar-20 Census: 2,410
- 25-Mar-20 bed availability: 286

Economic Development Branch

- Grocery: Vermont Retail and Grocers' Association (VRGA) Supply Chain Update EOD 3/24/20:
 - ◊ Bread: Slight improvement. Suppliers moved to 24/7 production which increased output by 50%, but demand is +200%. It will take time to normalize.
 - ◊ Milk: Inventory improving. Trucking/logistics is barrier causing out of stocks at stores. Situation Improving.
 - ◊ Eggs: Supply tightening and cost jumping. Improving, but costs jumped forcing big retail change. This is not price gouging, rather supply vs demand.
 - ◊ Cheese: will take 1-2 weeks to catch up to pre-COVID levels.
 - ◊ Paper & Bath Tissue: Customers still stockpiling and the supply for bath tissue struggles to keep up. Paper towels improving. Remains an large issue.
 - ◊ Wipes, Hand Sanitizer, Isopropyl Alcohol: No recovery in sight that will meet demand. There will be significantly increased demand going forward.
 - ◊ Meat: Continued struggles to secure core proteins; Chicken, Pork and Ground Beef. Beef

outlook is improving slightly, chicken is not. Starting to see Food Service product helping our needs, still not enough though.

- ACCD has field 1,400 business inquiries to the Continuation of Operations Form on the Agency of Commerce and Community Development's web-page and issued this guidance around essential businesses: <https://accd.vermont.gov/covid-19-guidance/stay-home-stay-safe-business-faqs>
- VOSHA is promoting safety reporting during the COVID-19 response, for employee safety and health complaints, please direct them to fill out a form at <https://labor.vermont.gov/form/safety-complaint-form> or call 1-800-287-2765.

Infrastructure & Emergency Services Branch

- No reported critical service interruptions due to absenteeism, although more questions are beginning to be asked as a concern from Fire and EMS Agencies related to the possibility of absenteeism.
- Division of Fire Safety (DFS) continuing to answer questions from surveys and calls related to weekly Fire/EMS/Law Enforcement weekly call.
- Vermont State Police (VSP) received report from Shaw's Supermarket Randolph regarding long lines, heated tempers, customers upset with lack of food. Vendor is beginning to worry about after hour looting and disorderly crowds moving forward as a result of "Stay at home" order.

Weather

Five Day Forecast: Vermont - Washington (KCXX)

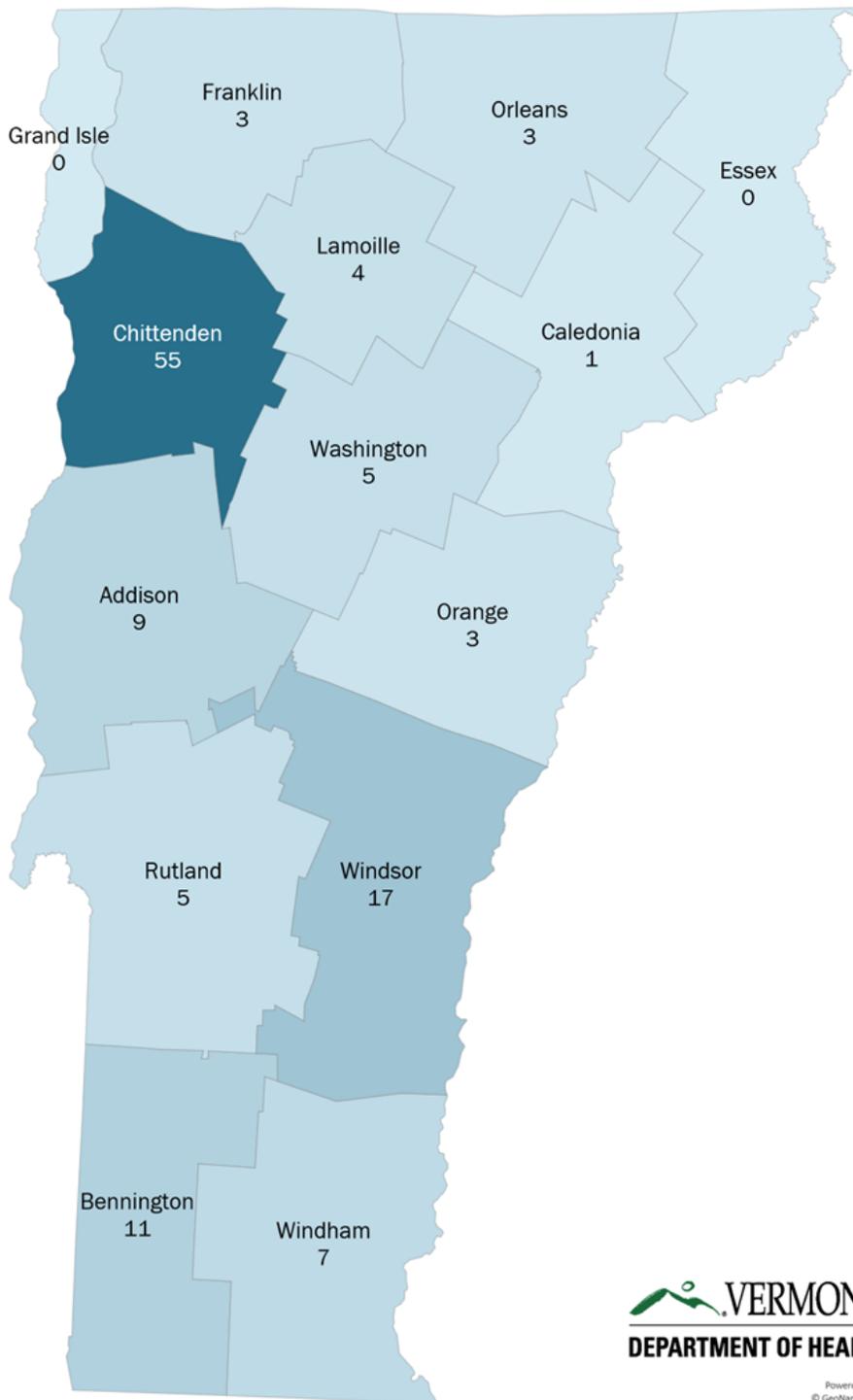
Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				
Clear	Chance of Rain Showers	Clear	Clear	Likely Snow
43 F / 6 C 26 F / -3 C	46 F / 7 C 31 F / 0 C	44 F / 6 C 31 F / 0 C	49 F / 9 C 23 F / -5 C	43 F / 6 C 33 F / 0 C

Thursday: Highs in the mid 40s to lower 50s. Chances for showers increase during the afternoon/evening hours.

Vermont Case Count

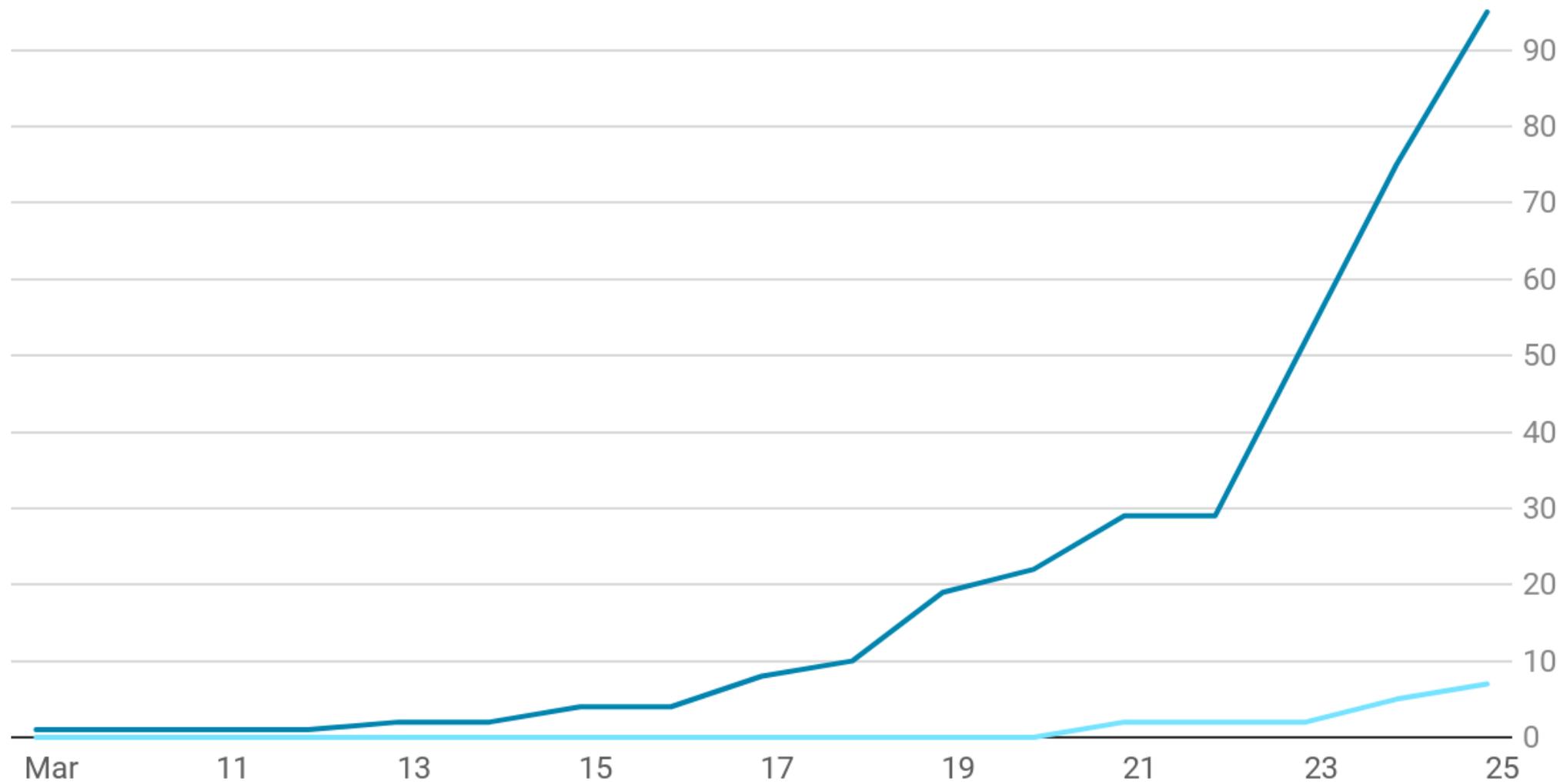
*People who tested positive for COVID-19 in Vermont while visiting or seeking care are included in the Vermont county where they were identified.

**Some cases may be still under investigation and county not assigned yet.



COVID-19 VT Cases Over Time

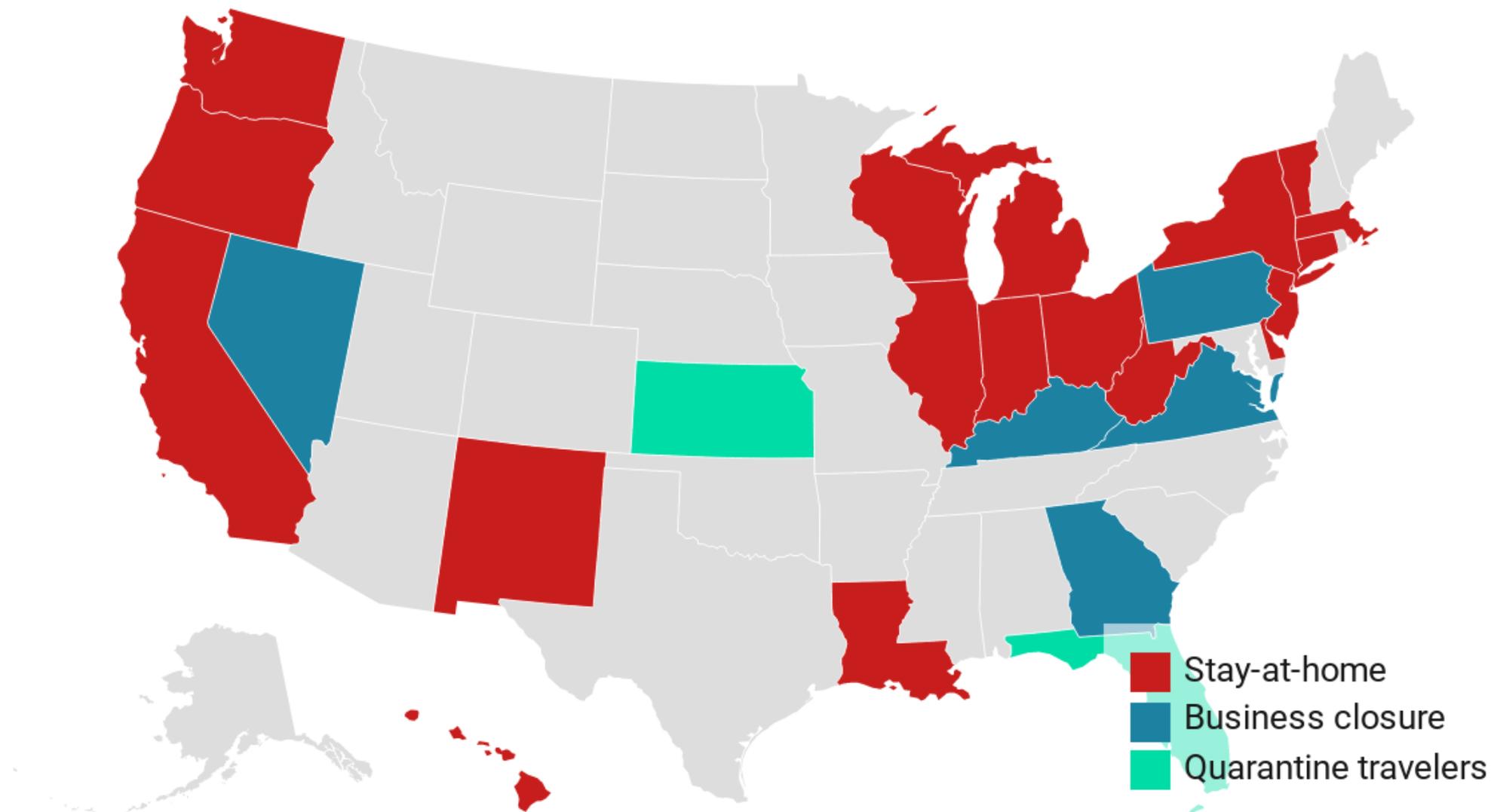
— positive — deaths



Updates between 4-5pm EST

Chart: Brett Pierce • Source: COVID Tracking Project • Created with Datawrapper

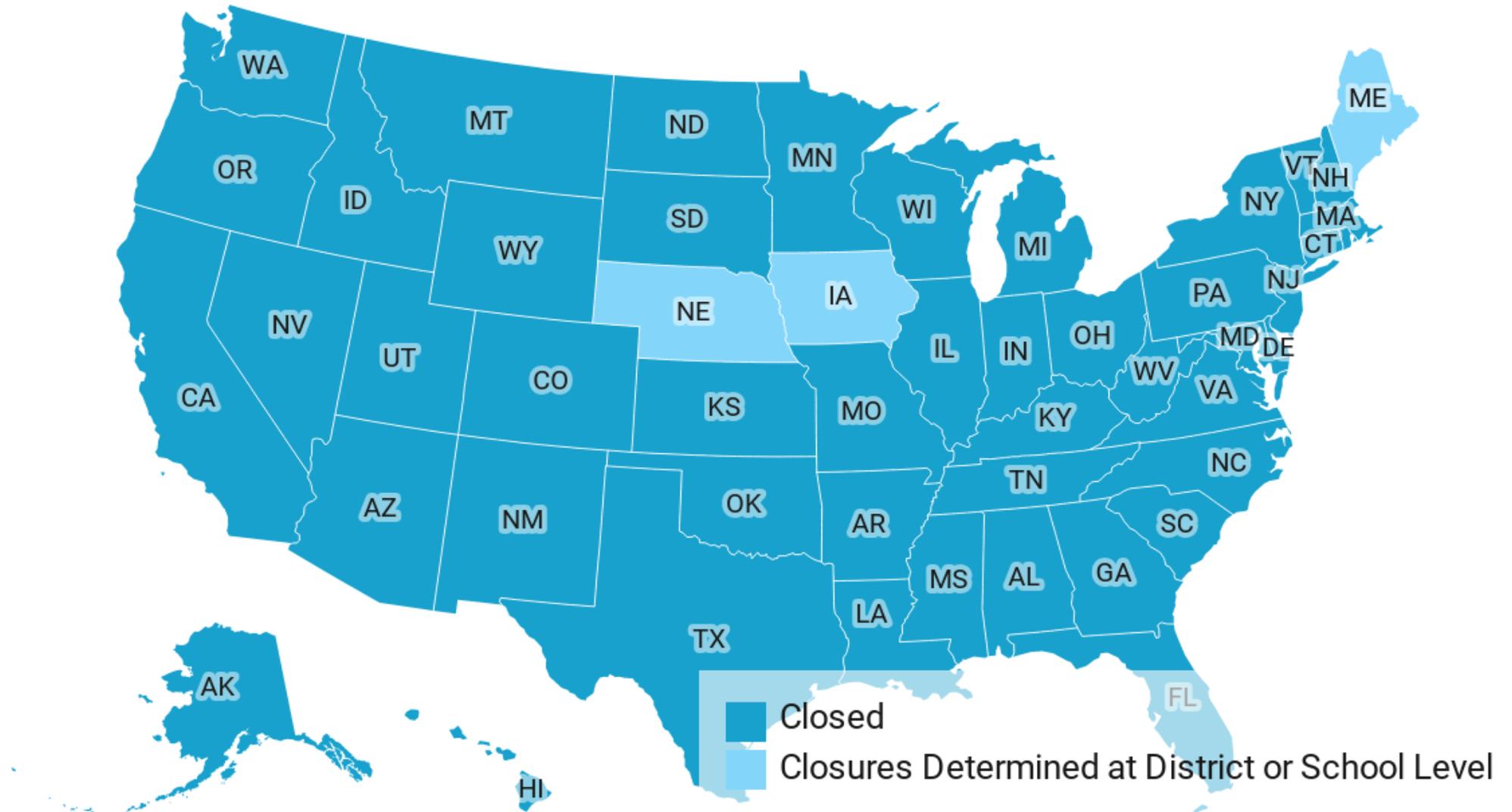
Statewide Orders



Updated 3/25/2020

Map: Brett Pierce • Created with Datawrapper

US School Closures

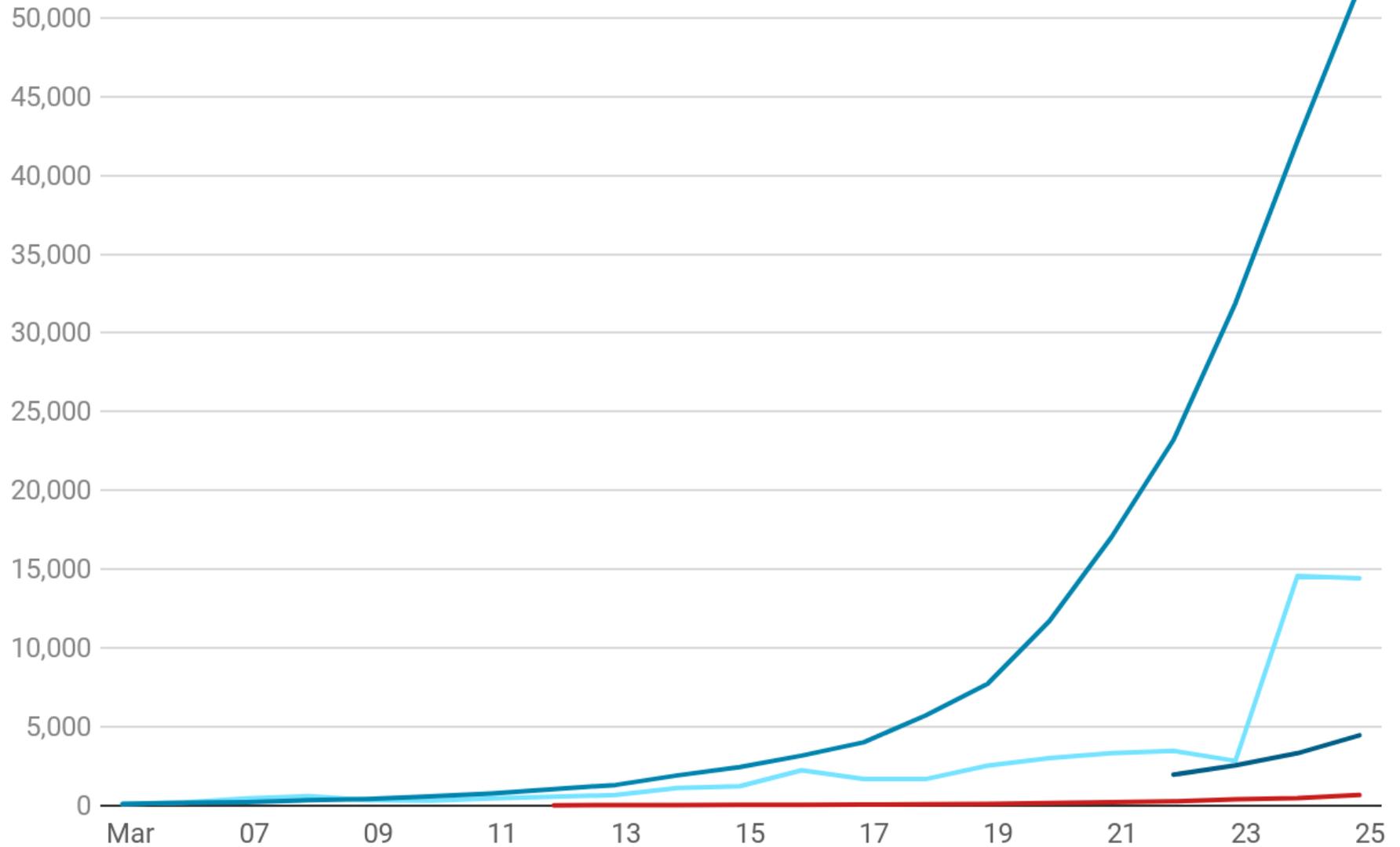


Updated 3/24/2020

Map: Brett Pierce • Source: EdWeek.com • Created with Datawrapper

COVID-19 US Cases Over Time

positive pending hospitalized death



Updated between 4-5pm EST

Chart: Brett Pierce • Source: COVID Tracking Project • Created with Datawrapper



Executive Summary COVID-19 Response March 25, 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

Safety and Security	Current Situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No reported critical service interruptions due to absenteeism, although more questions are beginning to be asked as a concern from Fire and EMS Agencies related to the possibility of absenteeism. Vermont State Police received a report of civil unrest at a grocery store, due to long lines and low stocks.
	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.
Food, Water, Sheltering	Current Situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site setup for the campgrounds is in progress; campers have been delivered. The Agency of Human Services is working on propane fuel and water for each camper. The Chittenden County Sheriff's Office is ready to begin security Friday night. The Agency of Human Services is finalizing plans to accept psychiatric care patients at isolation facility. A janitorial contractor site visit was conducted today at the COVID-19 patient recovery site. A meal plan still needs to be established with support for SEOC logistics. Vermont Retail and Grocers' Association (VRGA) has reported increased supply chain issues for the following categories, updated 3/24: eggs; wipes, hand sanitizer, isopropyl alcohol; paper and bath tissue; chicken. 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.
Other Lifelines	Current Situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ACCD has field 1,400 business inquiries to the Continuation of Operations Form on the Agency of Commerce and Community Development's web-page 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. A Small Business Administration Disaster Declaration was granted statewide. The Agency of Commerce and Community Development has spread word to the business community. ACCD is tracking and responding to businesses looking to be deemed essential.
	Future	

Incident Summary	<p>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").</p>
Key Information	<p>Current status in Vermont, last updated by the Health Department at 1300 on 3/25/20:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Positive test results: 123 Total tests conducted: 1,712 Deaths: 8 People being monitored: 342 People who have completed monitoring: 317 <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, WV, and VT. Other smaller jurisdiction stay-at-home order can be found in the Situation Report. Vermont OSHA is promoting safety reporting during COVID-19 response. VOSHA has created an online form for employee safety and health complaints. <p>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), has developed a process for responding to questions regarding acceptable continuation of business operations. Gov. Phil Scott issued an order for hospitals to postpone elective surgeries and procedures. Restaurants are still able to function, but may only provide curbside pickup or delivery service. <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>

Lifelines: Impacts and Actions

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. Hospitals are receiving donations of N95s and surgical masks (or hand-made substitutes) from local providers. 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. The SEOC Logistics Branch has put in a request for additional ventilators.
	Future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are resource 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. COVID-19 testing and personal protective equipment supplies are becoming more scarce. Additional supplies have been requested.