



Executive Summary COVID-19 Response April 16, 2020 (1600 EDT)

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

Gubernatorial State of Emergency: Declared 3/13/20
Federal Emergency Declaration: Issued 3/13/20
Major Disaster Declaration: Issued 4/8/20

Community Lifeline Status



Red - most unstable or completely inadequate level of service
Yellow - functional but inadequate for stability of a consistent level of service
Green - stable

Lifelines: Impacts and Actions

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Safety and Security	Current Situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VT EMS expanded provisional licensure eligibility to practitioners whose license expired in 2016 and 2017 upon completion of online protocol update education. Fire Service Survey Results: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 35% of the counties reported having concerns about being able to properly staff emergencies in the next three weeks. 57% of all counties rely on out-of-state assets for mutual aid support. Franklin County reported high reliance on mutual aid support from New York and Canada.
	Future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vermont Supreme Court extended the Judicial Emergency until May 31, 2020. Continuing to monitor absenteeism and disruptions in service, which are expected to increase over time.
Food, Water, Sheltering	Current Situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ACCD continues to work in close contact with the Vermont Retail Grocers' Association to monitor supply chain issues. As of 4/14, the supply chain is in good shape outside of bath tissue, sanitizer, cleaning products, and prepared/boxed food which remain strained. The Human Services Branch is working with FEMA, the VT Food Bank, and Community Action Agencies to finalize a statewide feeding plan. Needs and sources have been identified, and the organizations are in the process of identifying gaps. Contracts for feeding are being pursued within Buildings and General Services. Several contracts are in place with supervisory unions to expand child nutrition programs and introduce adult nutrition programs. The Human Services Branch is working with the Area Agencies on Aging on a distribution plan for 20,000 frozen meals.
	Future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Agency of Education is working on CARES Act and FEMA Public Assistance guidance for Vermont schools and is updating their food service continuity of operations plan. The SEOC is working with the VT Food Bank on a FEMA request for Meals Ready to Eat (MREs). Three tractor trailers, totaling 80,640 meals, are scheduled to be delivered on 3/17 to Food Bank locations. BGS has developed a list with hotels for potentially exposed health care workers and first responders if the need arises. The SEOC can assist with finding and securing housing for jurisdictions, agencies, or critical private non-profits such as hospitals if their ability to do so has been exceeded. The cost of such housing remains the responsibility of the requesting entity.
Transportation	Current Situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AOT is staffing border crossings for the State's monitoring of traffic mobility to determine how effective mitigation measures are for reducing travel and also to give healthcare leaders a sense of future healthcare capacity needs. All vehicles (Vermont and out-of-state) are being counted; license plate numbers are not being recorded.
	Future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bus route modifications can be found at: https://ridegmt.com/covid-19-update/ Vermont Translines suspended their bus service through May 15th. Governor Scott suspended Amtrak service to Vermont indefinitely.

Incident Summary	<p>A novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) was first detected in China at the end of 2019. It has now spread to almost every country, with the United States having the largest number of cases. The disease the virus causes has been named "coronavirus disease 2019" (abbreviated "COVID-19").</p>
Key Information	<p>Current case status in Vermont, last updated by the Health Department at 1100 on 4/16/20:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Positive test results: 768 Total tests conducted: 11,507 Deaths: 35 Hospitalized patients with COVID-19: 33 Hospitalized patients under investigation for COVID-19: 25 <p>Key Updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Small Business Administration's Paycheck Protection Program ran out of funding after approving \$843 million in loans to 4,896 Vermont businesses. Yesterday the Commissioner of Health reported that we are cautiously optimistic that Vermont's mitigation strategies seem to have an effect as we see Vermont's cases plateau. This is not a time to let up these measures, but rather to continue to be vigilant with social distancing measures. <p>Executive Order Measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gov. Scott issued Addendum 9 to Executive Order 01-02 on 4/10/20 to extend the State of Emergency declared 3/13/20 and issue other COVID-19 related directives and clarifications. The Executive Order and all Directives and Addenda - including the Stay Home, Stay Safe order - are extended until midnight on 5/15/20. Lodging establishments can now accept reservations for stays and events occurring on or after 6/15/20. However this date could be extended as needed. Clarified that the suspension of in-person real estate transactions includes those for sale by owner. Motor vehicle inspections (except for school buses and motor buses) due in April 2020 are extended for 60 days. Health care facilities, providers, and volunteers are immune from civil liability for any death, injury, or loss resulting from COVID-19 related emergency management services or response activities, except in the case of willful misconduct or gross negligence. <p>Local State of Emergency: Burlington, Colchester, Johnson, Rutland, Vernon.</p> <p>Local EOCs Activated (self-reported): Bethel, Burlington, Chittenden (town), Charlestown, Hartford, Johnson, Landgrove, Londonderry, Peacham, Pittsfield, Pomfret, Rutland, Sharon, South Burlington, St. Johnsbury, Strafford, Thetford, Tunbridge, Waitsfield, Weston, Woodstock.</p>

Health and Medical	Current Situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VDH is standing up EMS COVID-19 testing teams. University of Vermont Medical Center (UVMCC) continues to work on two new COVID-19 testing systems. VDH's Serology Testing Group provided recommendations to Commissioner Levine on 4/16. Serologic (i.e., antibody) testing reveals not only current but also past COVID-19 infections. Governor Scott and the Department of Financial Regulation announced a requirement for health insurers to waive patient costs associated with diagnosing and treating COVID-19. BGS has leased four temporary mortuaries and is working with the points of contact from each site to operationalize. BGS is currently working to install ramps and arrange for security. UVMCC has received four VPro Decon units, allowing for the decontamination of N95 masks in-state. Four more units are inbound as soon as 4/18. The units will be installed at hospitals for healthcare and first responder use. The state continues to pursue the out-of-state Battelle system as a back-up. An essential employer workplace health and safety and PPE validation effort was finalized to assist those long-term care facilities not engaging in health care. Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living (DAIL) staff are working with the Vermont National Guard to utilize a portion of the Essex surge facility to support skilled nursing needs.
	Future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Logistics Branch is working with the Vermont Department of Health on a facility disinfection plan as part of a statewide procedure for future demobilization of sites. Alternate Care Site demobilization planning is underway. This will not be implemented as of yet, but ready to go when applicable.
Other Lifelines	Current Situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Department of Labor unofficially estimates unemployment in Vermont to be above 20%. 1,647 registrants signed up to volunteer on the state portal - with plans to deploy some at the Franklin Carriage House at the VT Food Bank. The Agency of Agriculture is helping producers and retailers reduce the need to dispose of milk and overcome supply chain disruptions by sharing opportunities for retailers to connect with and begin purchasing from producers who may have previously sold mainly to restaurants or institutions. The Department of Corrections introduced a new web form to answer questions from inmates' friends and family.
	Future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Department of Labor predicts that unemployment in the state could rise to 30%.