

# Stay Home, Stay Safe

Together we can help save lives.



**Incident Name:**

COVID-19 Response

**Reporting Period:**

04/22/2020 08:00 AM - 04/22/2020 04:00 PM

**Situation Report Number:**

40

**EOC Activation Level:**

Full Activation



# Vermont State Emergency Operations Center

## Situation Report

Phil Scott, Governor

Erica Bornemann,  
Director  
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Waterbury, VT  
05671

### *Background / Current Situation*

On April 22, 2020 the Vermont State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) was fully activated from 0800 to 1600, using an almost completely virtual structure, with only call takers stationed at Public Safety Headquarters and all other staff and state partner representatives working remotely. The SEOC will be fully activated daily until further notice.

### **Key Updates:**

The Vermont Foodbank and the Vermont National Guard will set up and operate Points of Distribution (PODs) at state airports in Swanton, North Clarendon, Newport, Bennington, and North Springfield on separate days over the next two weeks. Those in need of food can go to these locations on the appointed days and receive a seven-day supply of Meals Ready-to-Eat (MRE) for each member of their household. Dates and locations are listed below (and on the attached map):

- *Wednesday, April 22 - Franklin County Airport (Highgate/Swanton)*
- *Friday, April 24 - Rutland Southern VT Regional Airport (Clarendon)*
- *Monday, April 27 - Hartness State Airport (Weathersfield/Springfield)*
- *Tuesday, April 28 - William H Morse State Airport (Bennington)*
- *Wednesday, April 29 - Northeast Kingdom International Airport (Coventry/Newport)*

### **Executive Order Measures:**

On April 17th, Governor Scott announced Addendum 10 which outlines a phased reopening of businesses in Vermont, and mandatory health & safety guidance that will be required of all businesses currently operation and those re-starting:

- The mandatory health & safety requirements for all business operations includes the following:
  - Not reporting to work if sick
  - Employees must observe strict social distancing of 6 feet while on the job
  - Employees must wear non-medical cloth face coverings over their nose and mouth when in the presence of others.
  - There must be easy and frequent access to soap and water or hand sanitizer during the

duration of work, and hand hygiene should be required before entering and leaving job sites.

- Frequent cleaning/disinfecting of all common spaces.
- No more than two people shall occupy one vehicle when conducting work
- Customers and the public in general are strongly encouraged to wear cloth face coverings any time they are interacting with others outside their household.
- Business operations deemed “essential” may continue to operate under pre-existing guidance with the addition of the mandatory health and safety requirements for all business operations outlined above.
- Phased opening of businesses not defined as essential started on April 20th. The business reopening is a phased process that is being driven by ACCD, VDH, and DPS as directed by Governor Scott. Subject to the mandatory health and safety requirements stated above and with some additional guidance, the following operations were allowed to restart:
  - Outdoor Businesses & Construction Operations
  - Retail Operations; all orders must occur over the phone; no in-store transactions re allowed at this time.
  - Low- or no-contact professional services such as appraisers, realtors, municipal clerks, attorneys, property managers, pet care operators, and others.
  - Farmers markets will be allowed to reopen May 1, following guidance currently being drafted by the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets.
  - Additional information and specific guidance for the phased reopening can be found on ACCD’s website.

**Current status in Vermont, last updated by the Health Department at 1100 on 4/22/20:**

Total positive test results for COVID-19	823
Total tests for COVID-19	13,462
Deaths	40
People being monitored	23
People who have completed monitoring	819
Hospitalized patients with COVID-19	18
Hospitalized patients under investigation for COVID-19	19

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

**4/21 Call Statistics from 211:**

- 211 received 44 calls, the vast majority from the general public (41 calls).
- The most common call topics were the Stay Home, Stay Safe order (13 calls), financial stimulus (12 calls), and work (7 calls) (topics are not exclusive, i.e., some calls touch on multiple topics).

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*Public Information*

- Worked with Vermont Foodbank and Vermont National Guard to inform public of hours at MRE POD in Swanton - open from 9-noon, then restocked, then open from 4-6 or later.
- VT Health Commissioner Levine is scheduled for NPR’s Morning Edition on Thursday 4/23 at 6:30 a.m. to talk about Vermont’s response to COVID-19.

- Provided Vermont Public Radio with a list of local responders for their show on Thursday about local COVID-19 response.
- DEC answered questions for the Rutland Herald about Rutland City's plan to test city wastewater for traces of COVID-19.

## *FEMA*

- A Major Disaster Declaration has been approved for Vermont: Major Declaration FEMA-4532-DR-VT
- Vermont's Non-Congregate Care request has been approved by FEMA.
- FEMA is tracking the following Resource Requests (RRFs) in progress:
  - Medicines (Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) - partially filled, awaiting availability of remaining products
  - Testing materials, including swabs and test tubes (potentially will need to be filled by CDC International Reagent Resource (IRR))
  - Hepa-Filters for hospital and EMS personnel
  - PPE including gowns, gloves, coveralls, aprons, boot covers
- FEMA is tracking Requests for Information, including eligibility questions associated with Public Assistance Category B, Emergency Protective measures.
- **Nationally:** The National Response Coordination Center in Washington, D.C. 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 fully activated and is completely virtual.

## *Medical Logistics Branch*

### Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Update as of Close of Day 4/21/2020:

<b>Daily Workflow Status</b>	
<b>Orders Received</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Orders Filled</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Percentage Filled</b>	<b>74%</b>
<b>Total Unfilled Orders</b>	<b>9</b>

<b>Behavioral Health</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>EMS</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Hospital</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Long-Term Care</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Outpatient Care</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Public Safety</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Residential Home</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>5</b>

**Please Note:** These numbers change by the minute and many of these orders may have been filled during the generation of this report. This is just a snapshot in time.

**Important Explanations:** Orders may be unfilled due to a variety of reasons, such as but not limited to the following:

- Lower priority facility types
- Order requires follow up
- May be in the process of being filled at the time the report was completed
- May have been filled by the time the report was completed
- Requested items we do not have in stock so the order remains unfilled

**Thermometer Update:**

- 1st order of 1000 (500 = UVM, 500 = Dartmouth, 0 = SOV)
- 2nd order of 1008 (all going to SOV)
- UVM is also vetting other possible sources and advised it may be good for FEMA/State to pursue other sources as well

**Other Updates:**

- Coordinating delivery of Burton Masks to Albany, NY
- Missing Swabs located, did not ship as planned, but will be shipping tomorrow
- AOT picking up and delivering JK Adams Face Shields to SNS Warehouse today
- SNS/Med Log military members have been converted to 502(f) status
- RRF for Body Covers (Gowns/Aprons/Coveralls), Goggles and Gloves has been submitted to MARS/FEMA for review
- Fit Test Solution delivered to UVM and EMS today
- UVM plans to transfer unused surgical gowns provided by SNS at beginning of event back to

SNS Warehouse.

- UVM will be sending SNS Warehouse approximately 165k procedure masks and 500 goggles.
- Working with LOG Branch on a long-term solution for gowns to have specified facilities receive laundered services for reusable gowns
- SNS de-mobilization plan to step down dependency on SNS stock in phases has been drafted and is in review

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## *Human Services Branch*

There are no known gaps in Agency of Human Services (AHS) essential services due to absenteeism.

### **Isolation and Recovery Sites:**

- The Harbor Place isolation and recovery site has a 50-bed capacity, with 1 bed in use as of 4/21.
- The Chittenden Recovery Center (Holiday Inn in South Burlington) has 0 residents as of 4/21.
- General Assistance Motel Summary (4/20/2020): 1,299 rooms; 1,493 adults; 246 children

### **Long-Term Care Facility Status:**

- Statewide Licensed Capacity: 2,978
- Current Operating Capacity: 2,699
- 4/22 Census: 2,243
- 4/22 bed availability: 456

### **Staffing Status:**

- Hiring for temporary positions, for which interviews were conducted, are on hold (for RN, LPN, case management, and mental health specialist positions).
- Staffing patterns have been developed for the alternate general care sites.
- Staffing patterns are being developed for the alternate sub-acute care sites.
- The branch is working with the Department of Corrections (DOC) nursing on staffing needs.

### **Mass Feeding Status:**

- Buildings and General Services (BGS) and the Department of Children and Families (DCF) are working on regional procurement planning efforts. A draft simplified bid is being reviewed.
- Commodity Points of Distribution have been setup for the next two weeks, the first becoming operational today.
- Several contracts are in place with supervisory unions across Vermont to expand child nutrition programs and support adult nutrition programs.
- The branch is working with the Area Agencies on Aging on executing a distribution plan for 20,000 frozen meals.

### **Additional Updates:**

- AHS finance staff began recovery planning efforts pertaining to the COVID-19 response.
- Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living (DAIL) continues to provide support to partner agencies, including establishment of skilled nursing sites.

- 1,120 Essential Persons have completed the Child Development Division's online collector form to request referrals for have completed this form for 1,792 children. 330 Essential Persons requested help for 521 school-aged children, 398 Essential Persons requested help for 556 children under 6, and 151 Essential Persons requested help for 347 children in both age groups. The remaining 241 Essential Persons representing 369 children did not indicate a need for child care.
- The Agency of Education is releasing guidance to adult education providers; working on FEMA public assistance guidance for schools using guidance received from FEMA; updating continuity of operations for school nutrition directors; and finalizing a family FAQ.

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## **Health & Medical Branch**

## *Health & Medical Branch*

### **Hospitals:**

- Bed availability statewide (as of 0900 on 4/22/2020):
  - 716 total beds
  - 47 ICU beds
  - 342 medical surge beds
  - 155 isolation beds

### **Alternate Care Sites**

- \* Two sites are currently operable, one in Chittenden County and another in Rutland County.
- \* The Chittenden County site has one patient and will continue to operate with 50 beds available.

### **Long-Term Care Facilities:**

- Multiple long-term care facilities have multiple COVID-19 positive persons and have experienced multiple COVID-19 deaths.
- The Health Department Outbreak Prevention Team is proactively working with long-term care and other facilities on infection control, testing and isolation, and recovery preparations or needs.
- 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.
- N-95 sterilization capabilities are extended to health care-oriented facilities by local hospitals that received new Steris V-Pro systems from the state.

### **Testing:**

- 228 specimens were tested over yesterday Tuesday 4/21/2020 and about 100 are planned for today Wednesday 4/22/2020 at the Department of Health (VDH) Lab.
- 350 - 400 test kits were being distributed for testing at multiple nursing homes and a Department of Corrections site on Wednesday 4/22/2020.
- The lab is evaluating a test using a less uncomfortable nasal swab collection process to expand testing in the future.
- The VDH Lab is evaluating stockpiles for testing in summer and fall.
- The VDH Serology Testing Work Group from epidemiology, the labs, and infectious disease providers made recommendations to Commissioner Levine on April 16, and he shared them with the public on April 17. No specific testing is planned until a highly valid test is available.
- The University of Vermont Medical Center Lab conducted 177 tests yesterday Tuesday 4/21/2020.

**AGENCY OF COMMERCE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (ACCD):**

- **Federal Funding Updates** – The U.S. Senate approved an additional \$320 billion for the Small Business Administration’s (SBA) Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and \$60 billion Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL). The package enables farms and other agriculture enterprises to participate in the SBA programs and it also includes \$75 billion in new funding for hospitals. The House is expected to pass the bill on Thursday. Lawmakers continue negotiations on an additional \$1 trillion or more aid package that is expected to pass in the coming weeks.
- **Grants and Loans for Businesses** – With new funding on the way and changes to allow farms and other agriculture enterprises to participate, ACCD urges business to apply for SBA’s pandemic relief programs:
  - **Paycheck Protection Program (PPP)** – Loans are forgivable for up to 8 weeks of payroll based on employee retention. Apply now through your local lender, bank, or credit union.
  - **Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL)** – Loans provide an emergency advance of up to \$10,000 and that business can access by reaching out directly to the SBA and filling out the application here: <http://www.sba.gov/>
- **Consumer Resource for Loan Assistance** – The Department of Financial Regulation released a Summary of National Foreclosure Freezes and Forbearance Programs for a range of consumer assistance loan types as well as national-level holds on foreclosures and evictions. More information is here: <https://dfr.vermont.gov/document/summary-national-foreclosure-freezes-and-forbearance-programs>
- **Training to Help Cities and Towns** – ACCD has partnered with the Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) to help municipalities get the information they need to maintain essential services during the pandemic.
  - **Municipal Essential Functions and Services Explained, Wednesday, April 22, 2 PM.** This webinar reviewed the ‘Stay Home, Stay Safe’ sector guidance and answered frequently asked questions.
  - **Local Financing Opportunities to Help Communities Recover, Monday, April 27, 10 PM.** This introductory webinar will review existing financial tools as well as other options the state is exploring to help towns bridge expected revenue gaps resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. Register for the webinar here: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7746688744733197584>
- **Documenting Economic Impacts** – ACCD wants to hear from all Vermont businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. This information will help us paint a complete picture as we work toward solutions. Please share information via the ACCD Business Impact Form: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/vtccovid19>

**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR (DOL):**

- DOL added 50 more workers to answer questions and speed up claim processing. DOL now has over 200 staff answering calls processing claims.

- DOL will launch a new application portal soon for self-employed workers and independent contractors to claim unemployment benefits. More information is available here: [https://labor.vermont.gov/CAREsact\\_Vermont/SelfEmployed](https://labor.vermont.gov/CAREsact_Vermont/SelfEmployed) [The link said DOL "hopes" to have the portal live today, will follow up - Wyatt]
- DOL compiled a list of private companies offering fit testing in the state.
- Upcoming Virtual Town Halls:
  - Pandemic Unemployment Assistance Program for Self-Employed Workers:
    - Thursday, April 23, 2 PM: [https://bit.ly/VTLaborTownHall\\_April23](https://bit.ly/VTLaborTownHall_April23)
  - Unemployment Insurance 101:
    - Friday, April 24, 8:30 AM: [https://bit.ly/6\\_VTLaborTownHall\\_Claimants](https://bit.ly/6_VTLaborTownHall_Claimants)

### AGENCY OF AGRICULTURE FOOD AND MARKETS (VAAFMM):

- AAFMM is developing guidance for the safe operation of farmers' markets by May 1.
- AAFMM's Business Impacts Survey received 140 responses between March 19 and April 16. Updated snapshot of impacts:
  - Of those 140 businesses, 16% reported closing their business (doubling from 8% last week), 47% reported being partially open, and 37% reported being fully operational.
  - The average loss of employees per business was 26%. Five businesses have indicated they are hiring additional employees.
  - Estimated economic losses total \$13,629,900 from the 120 (of 140) reporting businesses, with a median of \$19,000 per business (increase of \$3,000 per business over last week).
- AAFMM has connected dairy cooperatives, dairy processors, and the Vermont Food Bank together to find ways to minimize milk disposal. The partners are reviewing costs and distribution issues this week.
- Vermont meat processors are operating at capacity with higher demand for services, with many booked out eight weeks. Nationally, meat and poultry facilities are facing shutdowns due to COVID-19.

### VERMONT RETAIL AND GROCERS' ASSOCIATION (VRGA):

#### Supply Chain (updated 4/14)

- **Bread** – Supply is available, but in limited varieties.
- **Milk** – There is ample supply.
- **Eggs** – The supply is improving, and the price has dropped.
- **Cheese** – The supply is improving.
- **Paper & Bath Tissue** – The supply of paper towels is improving, while bath tissue sells as fast as it gets on the shelf. Stores are stocking 40% more bath tissue and 60% more paper towels than in pre-pandemic weeks. Demand continues to outpace shipments.
- **Wipes, Hand Sanitizer, Isopropyl Alcohol** – No improvements; still a struggle to get supply. Shipments are intermittent.
- **Meat** – The supply of beef, chicken, and pork is improving significantly. The standard assortment has (and is) challenged, but an extended network of suppliers is meeting the increased demand.
- **Produce, Deli, Bakery** – There is ample supply.
- **Pasta/Canned Veggies/Box Prepared Products** – Supply is coming in regularly; however, manufacturers' allocations are not meeting demand.

Link to stores providing designated store hours and alternative shopping methods: [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1b859U4ovN\\_JD-O0c\\_8HQwu6n1cYi0NZcEro6CQGd388/edit#gid=0](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1b859U4ovN_JD-O0c_8HQwu6n1cYi0NZcEro6CQGd388/edit#gid=0)

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## *Infrastructure & Emergency Services Branch*

### **Infrastructure -**

- No reported interruptions of service or other disruptions or shortages at this time.

### **Emergency Services -**

- No reported interruptions of service or other disruptions or shortages at this time.
- Trauma Recovery Network of NW Vermont is offering EMDR (Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing) therapy interventions to first responders and others in crisis. Interested departments should reach out to the SEOC.

### **Department / Agencies Reports:**

#### **Emergency Medical Services (VTEMS) –**

- VTEMS is recruiting and training EMS practitioners to augment COVID-19 testing capability.
- VTEMS is monitoring the impact of crew absenteeism on EMS operations.
- VTEMS is surveying EMS districts weekly regarding COVID-19-related issues, and addressing the issues that come up.
- VTEMS is developing an online EMS course to ensure continuity of initial EMT training.

#### **Public Service Department (PSD) -**

- There are currently 905 power outages statewide.

#### **Agency of Digital Services (ADS) -**

- No service outages reported.

#### **Vermont State Police (VSP)/Wilderness Search and Rescue –**

- VSP is following up through Bennington Police on an out-of-state registered food truck selling food in the parking lot of a local business.

#### **Division of Fire Safety (DFS)/Urban Search and Rescue –**

- No related actions or issues to report

#### **Department of Environmental Conservation –**

- Working with Casella on concerns regarding the heating elements in MREs and appropriate disposal.

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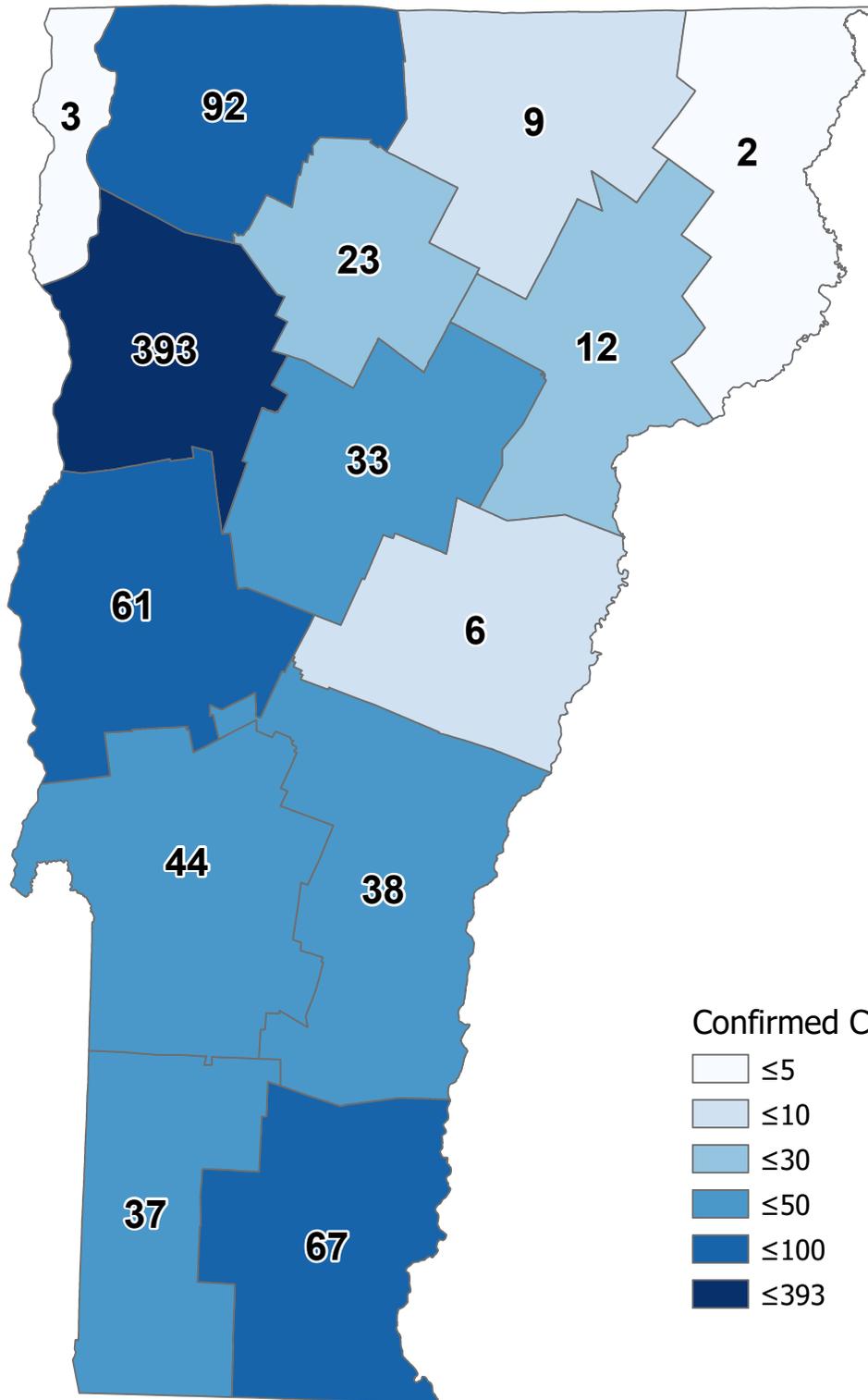
*Weather*

## Five Day Forecast: Vermont - Washington (KTYX)

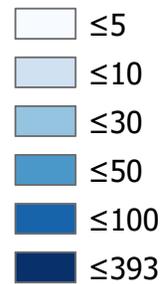
Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
 30% Chance of Snow Showers	 Clear	 Clear	 30% Chance of Snow	 60% Likely Rain
36 F / 2 C 20 F / -6 C	48 F / 8 C 27 F / -2 C	50 F / 10 C 28 F / -2 C	55 F / 12 C 33 F / 0 C	47 F / 8 C 33 F / 0 C

- **Tonight:** Mostly cloudy during the early evening, then gradual clearing, with a low around 21. Northwest wind 9 to 14 mph.
- **Thursday:** Sunny, with a high near 50. Northwest wind 8 to 10 mph.
- **Thursday Night:** Increasing clouds, with a low around 28. Calm wind.

# Vermont COVID-19 Confirmed Cases

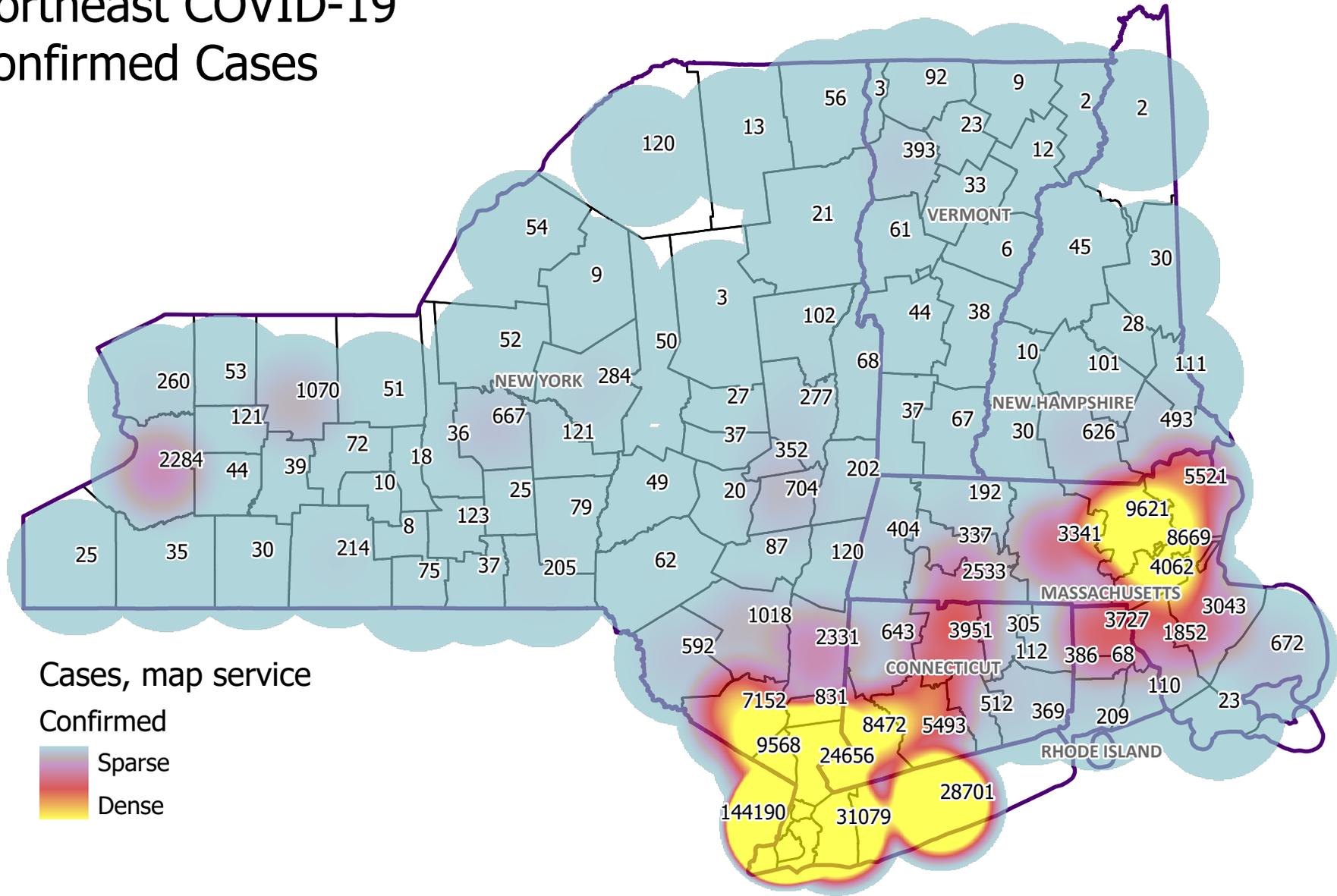


Confirmed Cases by County



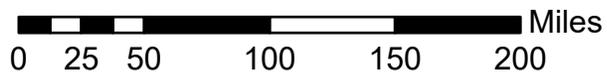
Updated 4/22/20 1030 by Jeff Nugent

# Northeast COVID-19 Confirmed Cases



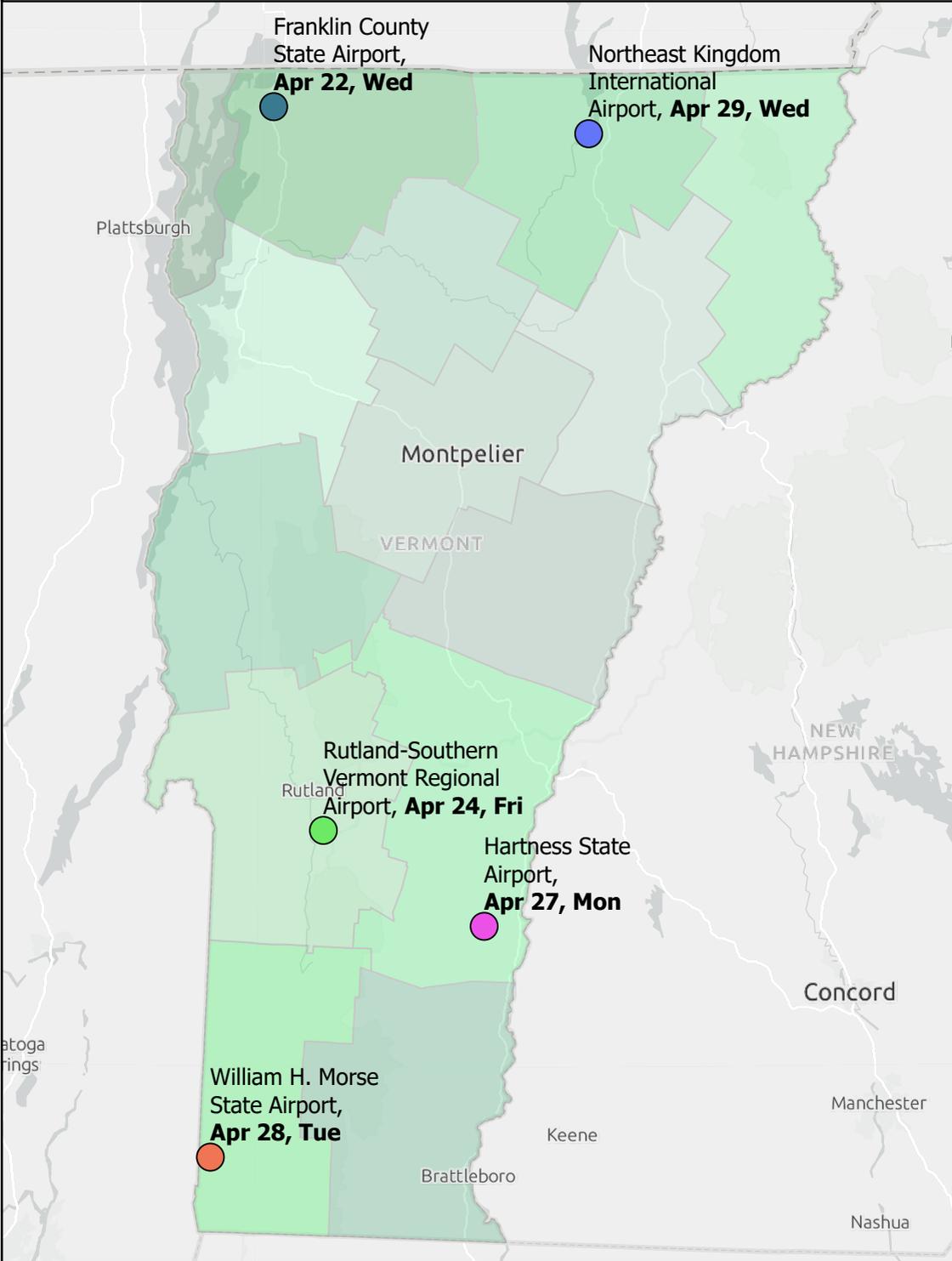
Cases, map service

Confirmed



Updated 4/22/2020 by Jeff Nugent

# CPOD sites





# Executive Summary

## COVID-19 Response

### April 22, 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

### Lifelines: Impacts and Actions

Safety and Security	Current Situation
	Future
Food, Water, Sheltering	Current Situation
	Future
Transportation	Current Situation
	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 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><b>Current case status in Vermont, last updated by the Health Department at 1100 on 4/22/20:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Positive test results: 823</li> <li>Total tests conducted: 13,462</li> <li>Deaths: 40</li> <li>Hospitalized patients with COVID-19: 18</li> <li>Hospitalized patients under investigation for COVID-19: 19</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Updates:</b>          The Vermont Foodbank and the Vermont National Guard began distributing food to those in need in Franklin County today, the first of five locations around the state that will be used for distribution. The National Guard has set up and is operating Points of Distribution (PODs) at state airports in Swanton, North Clarendon, Newport, Bennington, and North Springfield on separate days over the next two weeks. Those in need of food can go to these locations on the appointed days and receive a seven-day supply of Meals Ready-to-Eat (MRE) for each member of their household. Dates and locations can be found at <a href="http://vem.vermont.gov/pods">vem.vermont.gov/pods</a>.</p> <p><b>Executive Order Measures:</b>          On April 17th, Governor Scott announced Addendum 10 which outlines a phased reopening of businesses in Vermont, and mandatory health &amp; safety guidance that will be required of all businesses currently operation and those re-starting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Phased opening of businesses not defined as <i>essential</i> started yesterday. Subject to mandatory health and safety requirements, the following operations will be allowed to restart:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outdoor Businesses &amp; Construction Operations</li> <li>Retail Operations; all orders must occur over the phone; no in-store transactions re allowed at this time.</li> <li>Low- or no-contact professional services such as appraisers, realtors, municipal clerks, attorneys, property managers, pet care operators, and others.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Local State of Emergency:</b> Burlington, Colchester, Johnson, Rutland, Vernon.  <b>Local EOCs Activated (self-reported):</b> Bethel, Burlington, Chittenden (town), Charlestown, Hartford, Johnson, Landgrove, Londonderry, Peacham, Pittsfield, Pomfret, Rutland, Sharon, South Burlington, St. Johnsbury, Strafford, Thetford, Tunbridge, Vernon, Waitsfield, Weston, Woodstock.</p>

Health and Medical	Current Situation
	Future
Other Lifelines	Current Situation
	Future