

Stay Home, Stay Safe

Together we can help save lives.



Incident Name:

COVID-19 Response

Reporting Period:

04/23/2020 08:00 AM - 04/23/2020 04:00 PM

Situation Report Number:

41

EOC Activation Level:

Full Activation



Vermont State Emergency Operations Center

Situation Report

Phil Scott, Governor

Erica Bornemann, Director
(800) 347-0488
45 State Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671

Background / Current Situation

On April 23, 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 Commodity Points of Distribution (CPODs) 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 4/23/20:

Total positive test results for COVID-19	825
Total tests for COVID-19	13,852
Deaths	43
People being monitored	21
People who have completed monitoring	821
Hospitalized patients with COVID-19	15

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

4/22 Call Statistics from 211:

- 211 received 52 calls, the vast majority from the general public (48 calls).
- The most common call topics were financial stimulus (17 calls), the Stay Home, Stay Safe order (14 calls), and testing (8 calls) (topics are not exclusive, i.e., some calls touch on multiple topics).

Public Information

- The Joint Information Center (JIC) continues to add to a list of Vermont companies making cloth face coverings - there are currently 11 Vermont companies listed at <https://vem.vermont.gov/covid19/facecovering>.
- Dr. Mark Levine appeared on NPR's Morning Edition and on CNN with John King focusing on how public health work is informing Vermont's measured steps to open the economy.
- State Epidemiologist Patsy Kelso took part in a Seven Days newspaper discussion, "Coping with COVID at Home," on Facebook Live.
- The Department of Corrections hosted a press call to discuss COVID-19 testing in state prisons.
- The Department of Health distributed a press release titled Help Slow the Spread of COVID-19 By Wearing a Cloth Face Mask.

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
 - MREs to Rutland Armory
- 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.

Health & Medical Branch

Health & Medical Branch

Hospitals:

- Bed availability statewide (as of 0900 on 4/22/2020):
 - 700 total beds
 - 68 ICU beds
 - 319 medical surge beds
 - 147 isolation beds

Alternate Care Sites

- One site is currently operable in Chittenden County with four additional sites on standby.
- The Chittenden County site has five patients, with three admissions possible today and no discharges expected today. Total staffed capacity is 50 beds.

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. A letter to skilled nursing facilities (among others) today shared the points of contact for these hospitals.

Testing:

- Test kits distributed for testing at multiple nursing homes and a Department of Corrections site are being analyzed starting Thursday 4/23.
- 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. No testing is recommended until test reliability improves.

Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Update as of Close of Day 4/22/2020:

Daily Workflow Status	
Orders Received	46
Orders Filled	35
Percentage Filled	76%
Total Unfilled Orders	11
Behavioral Health	0
EMS	1
Hospital	0
Long-Term Care	0
Outpatient Care	0
Public Safety	0
Residential Home	2
Other	8

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:

- No change in status.

Other Updates:

- Swabs arrived and were delivered to the Department of Health (VDH) lab.
- Due to a shortage of gowns, orders for gowns will only be filled for facilities dealing with COVID-19 positive patients until the supply is replenished. It is unknown when replenishment will occur. A gown order through the University of Vermont (UVM) is still pending a shipping date.
- UVM committed to delivering surgical gowns, provided by the SNS warehouse at beginning of the response, back to the SNS warehouse by the end of this week.
- The branch is pursuing approval to use the Air Guard SNS team members as delivery drivers. Clearance was received today from the SEOC Manager.
- RRFs for gowns, goggles, and gloves were split into 16 tickets and separated by size to increase chances of them being filled.
- The branch continues to work with the Data Team on increasing the accuracy of burn rates for facilities.
- The branch, along with the Data Team, started to draft a plan for a Common Operating Picture to assist the Order Team's prioritization of orders.
- A SNS de-mobilization plan specific to procurement has been drafted and is in review.

- Resource procurement status:
 - Four VPro units (for sterilizing used N95 masks) are installed and operational. Four additional VPro units are scheduled to arrive by 5/2/20 and plan has been approved for their distribution.
 - The 4 temporary mortuary sites are set up, if needed.
 - Work continues to identify potential locations and potential costs for a fixed mortuary facility along the OCME preferred route, if needed.
 - The branch is working with the Vermont Department of Health on a facility disinfection plan as part of a statewide procedure for demobilizing sites.
 - Procured the service of a trucking company to distribute frozen meals from Plainfield on 4/27 and 4/28.
 - BGS is working list of hotels for potentially exposed health care workers and first responders if the need arises.
 - The branch procured Bitrex N95 Fit test kits and solution for several organizations in need.
 - BGS is working with the Judiciary on plans for barriers in courthouses.
 - The branch is working with Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living staff for fit testing of protective masks.
 - The branch submitted an RRF to FEMA for gowns, gloves, and goggles.
 - BGS ordered 6 fans for emergency dental hubs.
 - The branch is working on a laundry service for medical gowns through an existing contract.
- National Guard (VTNG) deployment status:
 - Activated/Deployed Resources:
 - Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) Warehouse Support: 10 personnel
 - Medical Logistics Planners: 1 personnel and 1 support for the Department of Aging and Independent Living (DAIL)
 - Medical/Logistics Planners (alternate care site): 5 personnel
 - Essex Regional Alternate Care site in Essex (set up completed 4/7): 150 personnel.
 - SEOC liaisons: 3 personnel
 - Joint Operations Center Augmentation: 12 personnel
 - Logistical support to food shelves and mass feeding plan at the CPOD sites: 41 personnel.
- The Agency of Transportation (AOT):
 - AOT continues to distribute Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) from the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) warehouse.
 - AOT is collecting, delivering, and storing donated PPE. The donated PPE will be inspected for SNS distribution and other needs.
 - AOT provided vehicle counts at 41 high-priority border crossings across the state.
 - AOT staff is working on logistics and making signs for the Meal Points of Distribution at State airports.
- Department of Human Resources (DHR):
 - Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) medical volunteer activity:
 - Total accepted volunteers: 683
 - New applicants needing background checks: 828
 - 26 volunteers are deployed at 2 locations:
 - Department of Health epidemiological team (1)
 - 211 call center (25)
 - Temporary Employee Activity:
 - Requested positions: 167
 - Approved & created positions: 165
 - Positions posted in recruitment: 87
 - Applications received: 333
 - Offers made: 9
 - Hired: 2
 - Direct hires: 13
- SerVermont:
 - There are 29 AmeriCorps volunteers assigned to the 211 call center.
 - 1,951 people signed up to volunteer
 - Pending requests:
 - Franklin Carriage House – 1 sent.
 - Frozen meal distribution – 5 sent to the Plainfield warehouse for assistance.
 - Upper Valley Strong- will be requesting list of regional volunteers.
 - 331 Volunteer names sent to Washington and Northern Orange Counties Regional Response Command Center (WNOC-RRCC).

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 2 bed(s) in use as of 4/21.
- The Chittenden Recovery Center (Holiday Inn in South Burlington) has 1 resident(s) as of 4/22.
- General Assistance Motel Summary (4/22/2020): 1,336 rooms; 1,534 adults; 250 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 set up for this week and next. The first opened yesterday (4/22) in Swanton and served over 2,600 cases of food (42,240 meals). The second will be in Rutland tomorrow (4/24).
- 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.
- The Child Development Division initiated a rapid response team with support from 30 staff from the Economic Services Division the Family Services Division to process childcare provider payments.
- 1,127 Essential Persons have completed the online collector form to request referrals for have completed this form for 1,803 children. 330 Essential Persons requested help for 521 school-aged children, 402 Essential Persons requested help for 560 children under 6, and 154 Essential Persons requested help for 354 children in both age groups. The remaining 241 Essential Persons representing 368 children did not indicate a need for child care.
- The Agency of Education is working on FEMA Public Assistance guidance for schools (currently integrating FEMA's response to questions), updating continuity of operations for school nutrition directors, and finalizing a family FAQ.

Economic Development Branch

AGENCY OF COMMERCE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (ACCD):

- Team members of the Governor’s Economic Mitigation and Recovery Task Force talked with VPR’s Vermont Edition talks about their efforts to carefully reopen sectors of the economy: <https://www.vpr.org/post/helping-vermonters-prepare-economys-reopening>
- **Upcoming Virtual Town Halls:**
 - **Updates on State and Federal Financial Assistance Programs, Friday, April 24, 2 PM.** This webinar will review recent changes made to the federal pandemic relief programs for business and discuss the work of the Governor’s Economic Mitigation and Recovery Task Force.
 - **Local Financing Opportunities to Help Communities Recover, Monday, April 27, 10 AM.** 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 here: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7746688744733197584>
- **Compliance Requirements for Paycheck Program (PPP)** – The Small Business Administration issued guidance for companies to ensure compliance with the PPP and to maximize the amount of loan forgiveness: <https://addisoncountyledc.org/uploads/documents/Paycheck%20Protection%20Program%20Compliance%20Require.pdf>
- **Private Student Loan Relief Announced** – Many Vermonters with commercially owned Federal Family Education Loan Program loans or privately held student loans who are struggling to make their payments due to the COVID-19 pandemic may be eligible for expanded relief. Borrowers in need of assistance, including VSAC borrowers, must immediately contact their student loan servicer or lender to identify the options appropriate to their circumstances.
- **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>
- **Thermometer Needs** - ACCD is gathering information on expected number of businesses/organizations with high public contact or that work with vulnerable populations that might need thermometers if temperature monitoring is part of reopening plan.

VERMONT RETAIL AND GROCERS' ASSOCIATION (VRGA):

Supply Chain (updated 4/22):

- **Bread** – Supply is available, but in limited varieties. It will likely be 3-4 weeks before the supply fully recovers.
- **Flour** - There is plenty of wheat, but milling capacity is limited. Supplies are catching up with an Easter surge.
- **Sugar** - Stretched milling capacity and a poor sugar beet crop are impacting supply.
- **Milk** – There is ample supply.
- **Eggs** – The supply is improving, and the price is lower.
- **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 be high, but supply is increasing.
- **Wipes, Hand Sanitizer, Isopropyl Alcohol** – The sanitizer supply is improving, but still struggles to meet increased demand.
- **Meat** – The supply is okay for now but will be constrained in the future due to processing shutdowns. The longer-term outlook will depend on how fast plants recover. 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 and should be improving.

Link to stores providing designated store hours and alternative shopping methods: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1b859U4ovN_JD-O0c_8HQwu6n1cYi0NZcEro6CQGd388/edit#gid=0

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR (DOL)/VOSHA:

- **Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) Program Launched** – This program provides unemployment benefits to self-employed, sole proprietors, and independent contractors. More information about the application process and eligibility here: <https://labor.vermont.gov/pua>
- **Upcoming Virtual Town Halls:**
 - **PUA Program for Self-Employed Workers:** Thursday, April 23, 2 PM: https://bit.ly/VTLaborTownHall_April23
 - **Unemployment Insurance 101:** Friday, April 24, 8:30 AM: https://bit.ly/6_VTLaborTownHall_Claimants
- **Unemployment Insurance Claims Overview, April 12 - April 18 (updated every Thursday):**
 - Continued Claims: 64,313 (up from 31,204)
 - New Claims: 6,598 (down from 9,662)
 - Revised Estimated Initial Claims Processed since March 15: 70,911
 - Payments: over \$21 Million paid last week (compared to \$8 million the previous week)
 - Trust Fund Balance: remains over \$500 million
 - Estimated Unemployment (unofficial): Greater than 20%, could rise to 30%
 - The Full March 2020 Unemployment Report, published on 4/17, shows only a modest rise in the number of unemployed Vermonters, from 8,045 in March 2019 to 11,024 in March 2020. However, the situation deteriorated rapidly in April. The full April report will be out in May.
- **Mask Fit Testing Vendors:**
 - **Barre** – Concentra Urgent Care, 802-223-7499
 - **Jericho** – Vermont Air Testing Services, 802-373-3037, dave@vtairtesting.com
 - **South Burlington** – Champlain Medical Occupational Health and Urgent Care, 802-448-9370
 - **Rutland** – Occupational Health Partners, 802-747-1753, info@ohp.healthcare
 - **Multiple Locations in Vermont** – ATC Group Services, 802-862-1980

AGENCY OF AGRICULTURE FOOD AND MARKETS (AAFM):

- AAFM is developing guidance to enable the safe operation of farmers markets by May 1.
- AAFM is developing guidance for gradual reopening of food and agriculture sectors, beginning with nurseries and greenhouses. Nurseries and greenhouses are expected to continue prioritizing telephone or online transactions with curbside pick-up or delivery while gradually resuming limited in-person sales to consumers.
- **Documenting Economic Impacts** – AAFM's Business Impacts Survey received 140 responses between March 19 and April 16. While this data captures the state of each business at a moment in time, we can see a snapshot of the impact that COVID-19 has had on agricultural businesses in our state:
 - 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.
 - Businesses reported the impact of COVID-19 on their employment ranging from 0-100% loss of employees. The average (mean) loss of employees per business was 26%. Five businesses have indicated hiring additional employees.
 - Businesses reported their estimated economic losses totaling \$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*).
- **Milk Dumping** – AAFM 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.
- **Meat Processing** – Vermont processors are operating at capacity with higher demand for services. Many slaughter facilities are booked out eight weeks. Nationally, meat and poultry facilities are facing shutdowns due to COVID-19.

- 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.

Department / Agencies Reports:

Emergency Medical Services (VTEMS) –

- The SEOC sent guidance to healthcare workers and first responders on the protocol for decontaminating used N95 masks at local hospitals.
- The supply chain for many types of PPE is seriously constrained around the world. All agencies need to incorporate conservation measures to help reduce the strain on Vermont’s supply.
- 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 101 power outages statewide.

Agency of Digital Services (ADS) -

- No service outages reported.

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

- Nothing to report

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

- No related actions or issues to report.

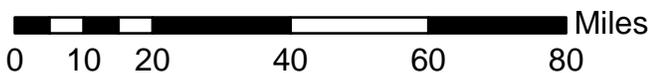
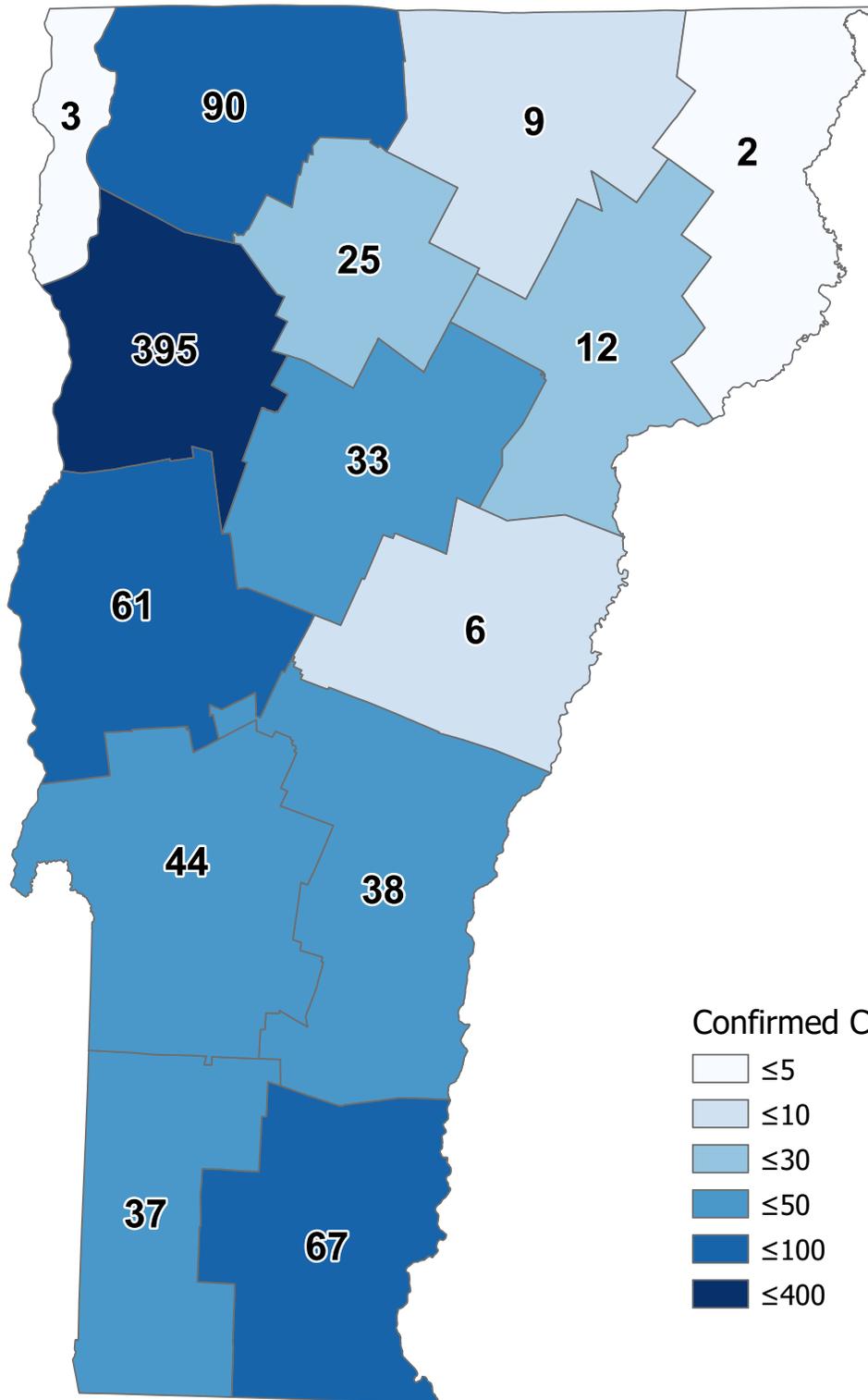
Weather

Five Day Forecast: Vermont - Washington (KTYX)

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
				
Clear	Clear	Slight Chance of Rain Showers	Likely Rain Showers	Chance of Snow Showers
46 F / 7 C 26 F / -3 C	52 F / 11 C 28 F / -2 C	56 F / 13 C 32 F / 0 C	47 F / 8 C 33 F / 0 C	45 F / 7 C 30 F / -1 C

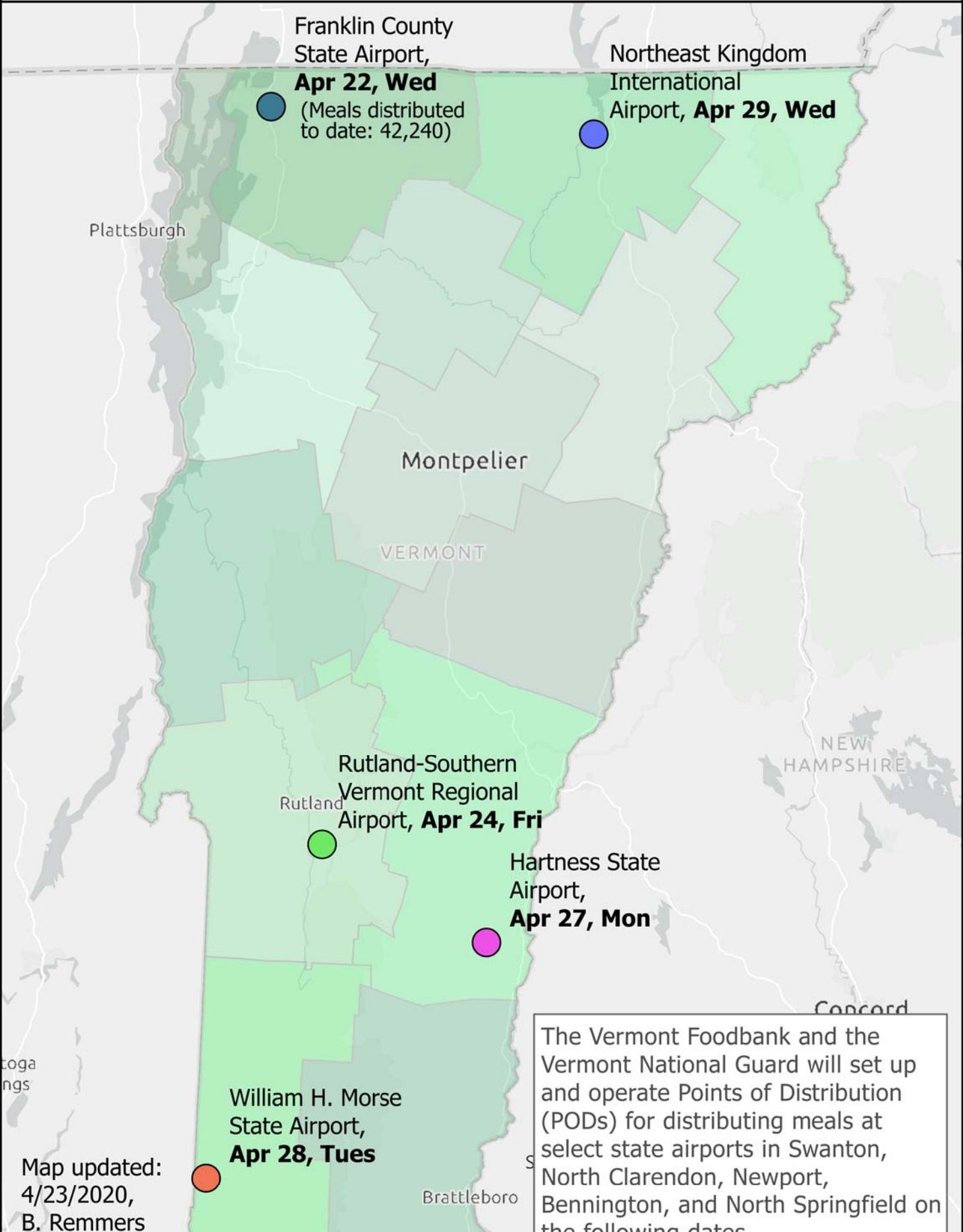
- **Tonight:** Increasing clouds, with a low around 28. Light and variable wind.
- **Friday:** Partly sunny, with a high near 53. Calm wind becoming north 5 to 7 mph in the afternoon.
- **Friday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 29. Northwest wind 3 to 6 mph.

Vermont COVID-19 Confirmed Cases



Map Updated: 4/23/2020 1230 by B. Remmers
Data Source: Vermont Department of Health

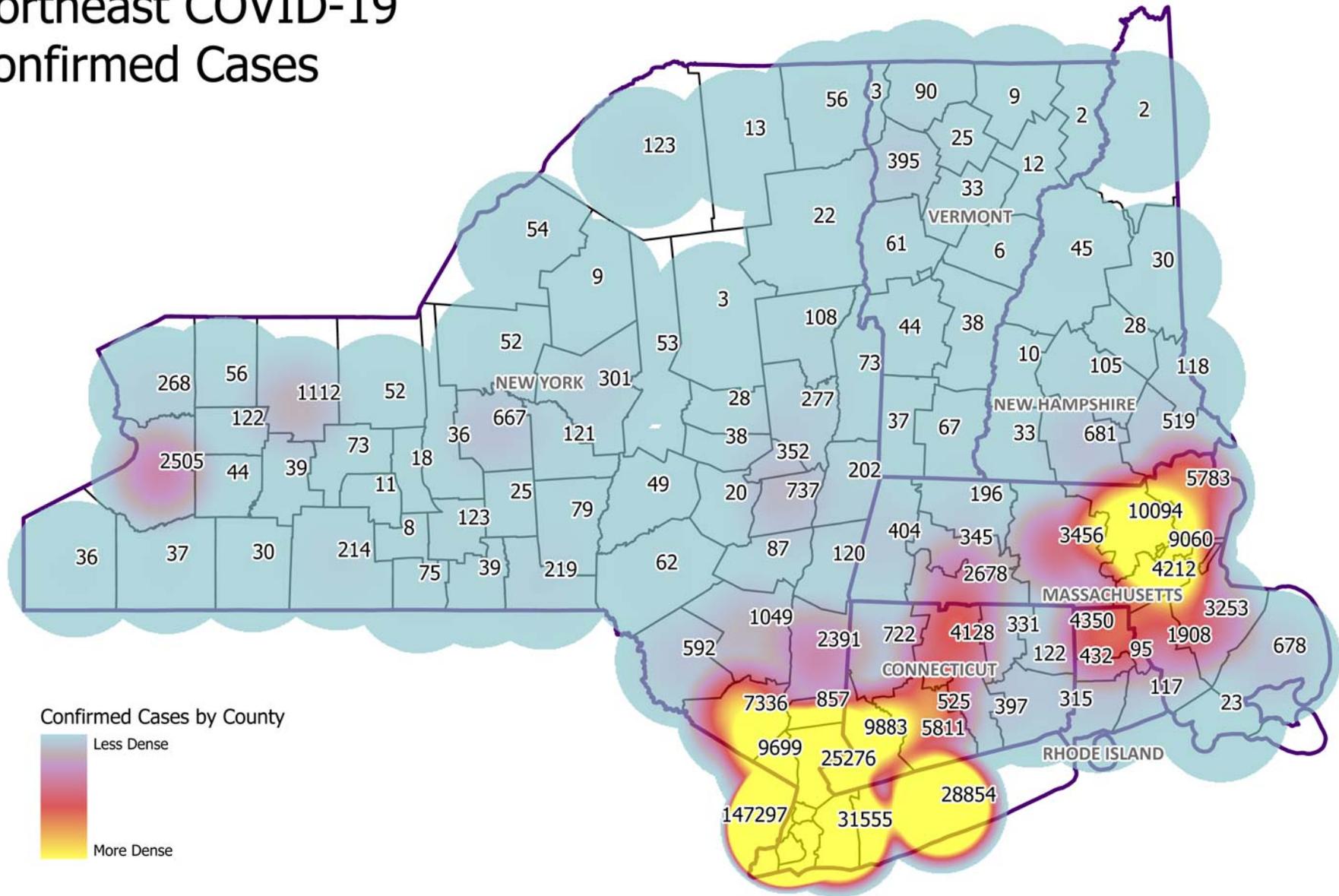
Points of Distribution (POD) Sites



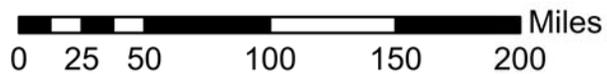
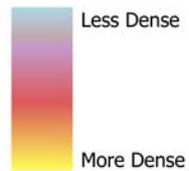
The Vermont Foodbank and the Vermont National Guard will set up and operate Points of Distribution (PODs) for distributing meals at select state airports in Swanton, North Clarendon, Newport, Bennington, and North Springfield on the following dates

Map updated:
4/23/2020,
B. Remmers

Northeast COVID-19 Confirmed Cases



Confirmed Cases by County

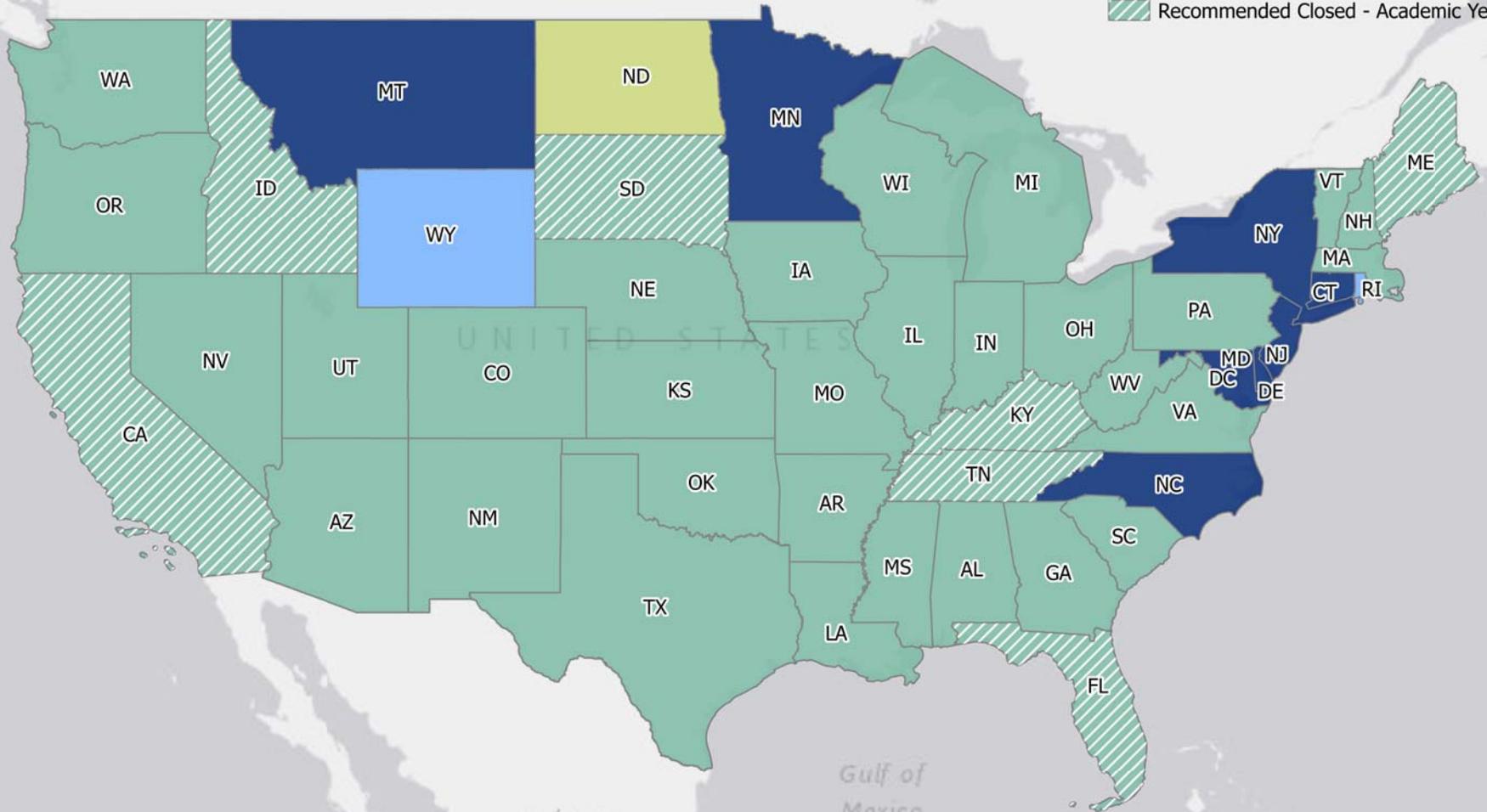


Map Updated: 4/22/2020 1330 by B. Remmers

United States School Closures

Statewide School Closures

- Closed - Academic Year
- Closed Until Further Notice
- Closed into April
- Closed into May
- Recommended Closed - Academic Year



HI Closed - Academic Year

Map Updated: 4/23/2020

Created by: B. Remmers Source: EdWeek.com

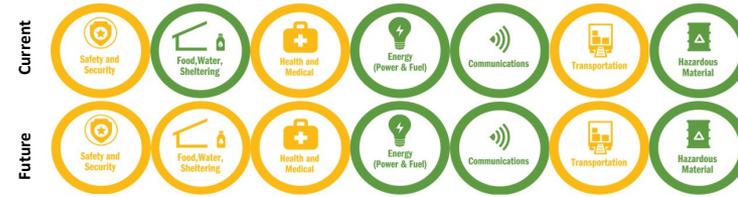


Executive Summary COVID-19 Response April 23, 2020 (1600 EDT)

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
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On 4/23, the SEOC sent guidance to healthcare workers and first responders on the protocol for decontaminating used N95 masks at local hospitals. Request approved for Title 32 U.S.C. § 502(f) authorization – allows for use of VT National Guard on full-time duty orders. Canada and the US are extending border restrictions for another 30 days. Nearly 200,000 people cross that border daily in normal times. The EMS Office is developing plans for socially distanced EMS training, and is preparing an RFP to support a hybrid education program.
Future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vermont Supreme Court extended the Judicial Emergency until May 31, 2020. The EMS Office plans to roll out the 2020 EMS protocol update on May 15th, with all accompanying training available online.
Food, Water, Sheltering	Current Situation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yesterday, the Vermont National Guard distributed 42,240 meals at the Franklin County distribution site in Swanton. The demand was much higher than anticipated. On Friday, VTNG will distribute MREs at the Rutland Southern Vermont Regional Airport in Clarendon. ACCD continues to work in close contact with the Vermont Retail Grocers' Association to monitor supply chain issues. As of 4/22, the supply chain is in good shape outside of bread, sugar, bath tissue, sanitizer, and cleaning products which remain strained. Farmers markets will be allowed to reopen May 1, additional guidance is currently being drafted by the Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets. VAAFM is developing guidance for reopening nurseries and greenhouses, as a first step toward reopening the food and agricultural sectors. VAAFM is working with dairy cooperatives, processors and the Vermont Foodbank to move milk away from disposal and into products for the Foodbank. Costs and distribution issues are being reviewed this week. AHS is working with the Area Agencies on Aging on executing a distribution plan for 20,000 frozen meals.
Future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Agency of Education is working on FEMA PA guidance for schools using guidance provided by FEMA, updating continuity of operations for school nutrition directors, and finalizing a family FAQ.
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	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").
Key Information	<p>Current case status in Vermont, last updated by the Health Department at 1100 on 4/23/20:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Positive test results: 825 Total tests conducted: 13,852 Deaths: 43 Hospitalized patients with COVID-19: 15 Hospitalized patients under investigation for COVID-19: 29 <p>Key Updates: The Vermont Foodbank and the Vermont National Guard began distributing food to those in need in Franklin County yesterday, the first of five locations around the state that will be used for distribution. The National Guard has set up and is operating Commodity Points of Distribution (CPODs) 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 vem.vermont.gov/pods.</p> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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"> 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. <p>Local State of Emergency: Burlington, Colchester, Johnson, Rutland, Vernon.</p> <p>Local EOCs Activated (self-reported): Bethel, Burlington, Chittenden (town), Charleston, 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
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The state is only delivering medical gowns to hospitals with COVID-19 positive patients, due to a gown shortage. The SEOC Logistics Branch is working on establishing a laundry service for reusable gowns. Starting on 4/23, VDH is analyzing test kits collected from multiple nursing homes and a Department of Corrections facility, to gain a broad understanding of viral spread at those locations. VDH determined that serologic tests are not yet sufficiently reliable for use. 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. In addition to the 4 already in operation, 4 more V-PRO units are set to arrive 5/2 and a plan has been approved for their distribution. The V-PRO systems are used to sterilize N95 respirators for hospitals and other organizations in the area. A FEMA RRF for various pharmaceuticals are being filled by the SNS and are en route to Vermont. VDH is finalizing contracts for augmenting COVID-19 testing staffing with EMS practitioners. The SEOC is coordinating a delivery of Burton Masks to the State of New York. The Joint Information Center compiled a list of the 11 Vermont companies currently making cloth face coverings: https://vem.vermont.gov/covid19/facecovering One Alternate Care Site is currently operable in Chittenden County with four other sites on standby. The Chittenden County site has five patients, with three admissions possible today.
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 yet, but is ready to go.
Other Lifelines	Current Situation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DOL received 6,598 new unemployment insurance claims in the week ending on April 18th, which is down from 9,662 claims the week prior. 1,951 registrants signed up to volunteer on the state portal – some have been sent to the Franklin Carriage House and the frozen meal distribution operation at the Plainfield warehouse. Lists of local volunteers are being sent to Upper Valley Strong and the Washington and Northern Orange Counties Regional Response Command Center. Currently, 118 power outages in Windsor & Washington Counties
Future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DOL launched application portal today for self-employed workers and independent contractors to claim unemployment benefits.