

Stay Home, Stay Safe

Together we can help save lives.



Incident Name:

COVID-19 Response

Reporting Period:

04/30/2020 08:00 AM - 04/30/2020 04:00 PM

Situation Report Number:

46

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 30, 2020 the Vermont State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) was fully activated from 0800 to 1600, using a completely virtual structure. The SEOC will be fully activated during the week and partially activated through the weekend 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 Bennington, Newport and South Hero. 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):

- *Thursday, April 30 - William H Morse State Airport (Bennington)*
- *Friday, May 1 - Northeast Kingdom International Airport (Coventry/Newport)*
- *Friday, May 1 - Folsom Education Center (South Hero)*

Current status in Vermont, last updated by the Health Department at 1100 on 4/30/20:

Total positive test results for COVID-19	866
Total tests for COVID-19	15,652
Deaths	49
People being monitored	18
People who have completed monitoring	832
Hospitalized patients with COVID-19	10
Hospitalized patients under investigation for COVID-19	13

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

4/29 Call Statistics from 211:

- 211 received 46 calls, the vast majority from the general public (44 calls).
- The most common call topics were the Stay Home, Stay Safe order (19 calls), work (10 calls), and travel (9 calls) (topics are not exclusive, i.e., some calls touch on multiple topics).

Public Information

- AARP Vermont hosted a telephone town hall on April 30 at 4:00 p.m. with Governor Phil Scott, Senator Patrick Leahy, Senator Bernie Sanders, Congressman Peter Welch and Vermont Department of Health commissioner, Dr. Mark Levine.
- The Joint Information Center (JIC) shared ACCD sector-specific guidance as part of a strategy to minimize traffic to call centers (previously shared chat-bots, FAQs): <https://accd.vermont.gov/content/stay-home-stay-safe-sector-specific-guidance>
- Governor Phil Scott will host a press conference on Friday at 11 a.m.
- Media inquiries to the JIC were almost exclusively for data on COVID-19 cases.

FEMA

- A Major Disaster Declaration has been approved for Vermont: FEMA-4532-DR-VT
- FEMA is tracking the following Resource Requests (RRFs) in progress:
 - Body bags
 - Testing materials, including swabs and test tubes
 - HEPA filters for hospital and EMS personnel
 - PPE including gowns, gloves, coveralls, aprons, and boot covers
 - MREs/boxed meals
 - N95 masks

Logistics Branch

- **Resource procurement status:**
 - DAIL requested N-95 fit testing. A contract is being put into place and authorization is needed to use this contract for outside entities.
 - The demobilization of the 4 temporary mortuaries started today. Demobilization will continue through early next week to remove the National Guard tents prior to the removal of the temporary mortuaries.
 - Central Vermont Medical Center requested funding for installation of a new radio antenna. This project is waiting SEOC Manager approval before proceeding with the contract work.
 - The final shipment of four V-PRO units was received on Monday. Planning is underway for their distribution to area hospitals.
- **National Guard (VTNG) deployment status:**
 - New Activated/Deployed Resources:
 - VTNG will be demobilizing the tents from the Central Vermont Medical Center and the University of Vermont Medical Center temporary mortuary sites.
- **Department of Human Resources (DHR):**
 - Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) medical volunteer activity:
 - 35 volunteers are deployed at 3 locations
 - Pending Requests
 - MRC Long-Term Care Deployment Team – 78 MRC volunteers expressed initial interest.
 - Temporary Employee Activity:
 - DHR had 168 requested positions requested, 355 applications; 11 offers, 3 hired, and made 18 additional direct hires.
 - Staffing Unit
 - The unit is working with the Department of Corrections to identify possible staffing support for nursing/medical care in facilities.
 - The unit is working with the Family Services Division to identify staffing support for the Middlesex Adolescent Program.
 - The unit is working with the Child Development Division to identify staffing resources for the CCD for childcare resources/support as they look ahead to increased demand related to re-opening

processes.

- **SerVermont:**

- Currently 35 volunteers are deployed.
- 1,979 people signed up to volunteer.
- Pending requests:
 - 88 volunteers were referred to Northeastern Orange County Consortium- Bradford Emergency Management Director
 - 678 volunteers were referred to City of Burlington Response and Recovery Center (Chittenden County)
 - 368 volunteers were referred to Green Mountain United Way (Washington and Caledonia County)
 - 210 volunteers referred to United Way of Addison County (Addison County)
 - 768 volunteers referred to United Way of Northwest Vermont (Chittenden, Franklin, Grand Isle Counties)
 - 41 Volunteers referred to Green Mountain United Way (Orleans County)

Medical Logistics Branch

Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Update as of Close of Day 4/29/2020:

Daily Workflow Status	
Orders Received	39
Orders Filled	22
Percentage Filled	63%
Total Unfilled Orders	13
Behavioral Health	0
EMS	0
Hospital	0
Long-Term Care	3
Outpatient Care	0
Public Safety	1
Residential Home	0
Other	9

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

Other Updates:

- Vermont Veterans Home is receiving a delivery of scrubs (being taken from Essex Surge Site) today.
- 500+ body bags were sourced by FEMA and will be delivered over two weeks, though no specific delivery dates

were provided. The plan for distribution is to process orders through the SNS Warehouse and use the Agency of Transportation to deliver.

- The branch is expecting delivery of 100k non-surgical masks from Rossi Lumber today or tomorrow.
- The branch clarified N95 mask requirements for a FEMA RRF with FEMA to continue movement on that order.
- An order of 2,000 goggles was placed yesterday with Reynolds and Sons; no delivery date provided yet.
- The SNS Warehouse received 8 bottles of a 15-bottle order from the ATC Group for Fit Test Solution today. The remaining 7 are anticipated next week.
- Survey questions for the PPE Usage Rates Project were put into a SharePoint form and shared with a limited group for feedback. The branch is looking to finalize the survey by Monday.
- The branch is reviewing VDH protocol for Skilled Nursing Facilities (released 4/27) and how that may impact PPE usage and requests to the SNS Warehouse.

Human Services Branch

Gaps in Agency of Human Services (AHS) essential services due to absenteeism: none at this time.

Status of Long Term Care Facilities:

- Statewide Licensed Capacity: 2,978
- Current Operating Capacity: 2,699
- 4/30 Census: 2,225
- 4/30 Bed Availability: 472
- Resource Needs: None
- Current Outbreaks: no known at this time

Status of Isolation and Recovery Sites:

- The Harbor Place isolation and recovery site has a 50-bed capacity, with 1 resident as of 4/30.
- The Chittenden Recovery Center (Holiday Inn in South Burlington) has 0 residents as of 4/30.
- General Assistance Motel Summary, including Econo Lodge in Montpelier (4/30/2020): 1,338 rooms; 1,587 adults; 260 children.

Statewide Mass Feeding Plan:

- The branch is working on completing the Mass Feeding Plan to submit to FEMA.
- A Commodity Point of Distribution (CPOD) was established in Bennington to provide Meals Ready-to-Eat (MREs) to local resident in need.
- Mass Feeding work group is planning for the next steps after the current distribution of MREs.

Additional Updates:

- 1,160 Essential Persons have completed the online collector form to request referrals for have completed this form for 1,855 children. 343 Essential Persons requested help for 541 school-aged children, 417 Essential Persons requested help for 584 children under 6, and 155 Essential Persons requested help for 356 children in both age groups. The remaining 245 Essential Persons representing 374 children did not indicate a need for child care.

Health & Medical Branch

Health & Medical Branch

Daily summary of hospital bed availability

- Number of COVID-19 patients hospitalized - 11
- Number of COVID-19 patients discharged from hospital - 7

Hospital resource needs

- Personnel - none known at this time, but may require additional personnel for the Offensive Testing Strategy.
- Equipment - none known at this time, but may require additional equipment for the Offensive Testing Strategy.
- Supplies - none known at this time, but may require additional supplies for the Offensive Testing Strategy.

Alternate Care Facility status report

- Include pending resource needs - none known at this time for the seven COVID-19 positive patients in Essex.

Activation of Crisis Standards of Care

- Personnel measures - none known at this time.
- Equipment/ PPE measures - planning to avoid shortages of nitrile gloves, surgical gloves, isolation gowns, and surgical gowns.

Economic Mitigation and Recovery Task Force

AGENCY OF COMMERCE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (ACCD):

Updated Guidance for Businesses – ACCD has updated several documents for businesses, including additional details for workplace communal spaces, construction in multi-unit properties and for workers who commute to Vermont from out-of-state.

- Phased Restart Work Safe Guidance: <https://accd.vermont.gov/news/update-new-work-safe-additions-stay-home-stay-safe-order>
- Work Safe Guidance: <https://accd.vermont.gov/news/update-new-work-safe-additions-stay-home-stay-safe-order>
- Sector Guidance: <https://accd.vermont.gov/content/stay-home-stay-safe-sector-specific-guidance>
- FAQs for businesses: <https://accd.vermont.gov/covid-19-guidance/stay-home-stay-safe-business-faqs>

Local Financing Opportunities for Municipalities – ACCD recently hosted a webinar with the Vermont League of Cities and Towns to share financing opportunities municipalities can use to recover from COVID-19 impacts. Deputy Secretary Ted Brady; Treasurer Beth Pearce; Chris D’Elia, President of the Vermont Bankers Association; and Michael Gaughan, Executive Director of the Municipal Bond Bank, provided tools and guidance for municipalities to explore.

Watch the webinar here: <https://www.vlct.org/resource/webinar-recording-local-financing-opportunities-help-communities-recover>

New Financial Resiliency Resources – The Vermont Small Business Development Center has developed new guidance for businesses as they manage the financial impact of COVID-19.

- **Business Lending 501** highlights the Small Business Administration’s (SBA) funding opportunities available now and Vermont-specific resources. It includes guidance on the SBA application process as well as a checklist of financial documents needed to apply. Download the document here: <https://www.vtsbdc.org/business-201-during-covid-19-2/>
- **The Self-Guided Assessment: Business Cash Flow** tool helps businesses assess current cash flow, profit and loss, debt service, and expenses to give a fuller understanding of how loans might impact cash flow. Download the document here: <https://www.vtsbdc.org/coronavirus/>

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR (DOL):

Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) – DOL has provided more than \$24 million in direct deposit payments to Vermonters through this new program that supports for workers not traditionally eligible for unemployment benefits (self-employed, independent contractors, workers with limited work history, and others) who are unable to work as a direct result of the pandemic.

UI Claims Overview, April 19 - April 25 (updated every Thursday)

- Continued Claims: 76,457 (up from 64,313)

- New Claims: 5,117 (down from 6,598)
- Estimated Initial Claims Processed since March 15: 81,574
- Payments: over \$26 Million paid last week (compared to \$21 million the previous week)
- Trust Fund Balance: \$491 million (down from over \$500 million the previous week)

AGENCY OF AGRICULTURE FOOD AND MARKETS (AAFM):

Farmer's Market Guidance: As questions continue to arise about farmers markets ability to open tomorrow, May 1st, we are sharing again both the farmers market guidance and a newly developed FAQ document containing the most commonly received questions regarding farmers markets.

- Link to farmers market guidance: <https://agriculture.vermont.gov/sites/agriculture/files/Farmers%20Market%20Guidance%2004.24.20.pdf>
- Link to farmers market FAQ: <https://agriculture.vermont.gov/document/faq-clarifying-new-covid-19-farmers-market-guidance>

Guidance for Nurseries, Greenhouses and Garden Centers – These businesses may resume in-person sales of seeds, annuals, vegetable seedlings, perennials, herbs, shrubs, trees, and other landscaping and gardening materials if their operations meet strict health and safety requirements. Details are here: <https://agriculture.vermont.gov/agriculture-food-markets-news/governor-scott-updates-operations-greenhouses-nurseries-and>

Infrastructure & Emergency Services Branch

Infrastructure - As of 16:45, there were 303 power outages statewide. Utility crews are working to fix them.

Emergency Services - No reported major active incidents at this time.

Department /Agencies Updates

Emergency Medical Services (VTEMS) –

- VTEMS is finalizing contracts and conducting training for EMS testing augmentation.
- VTEMS is reviewing EMS strike team feedback.
- VTEMS is planning for a SCORE VT leadership webinar.

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

- On Friday, the next Fire Department Capability survey will be sent out.

Public Service Department (PSD) –

- Utility crews are working on power outages No other utility disruptions or liquid fuels shortages at this time.

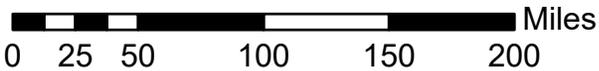
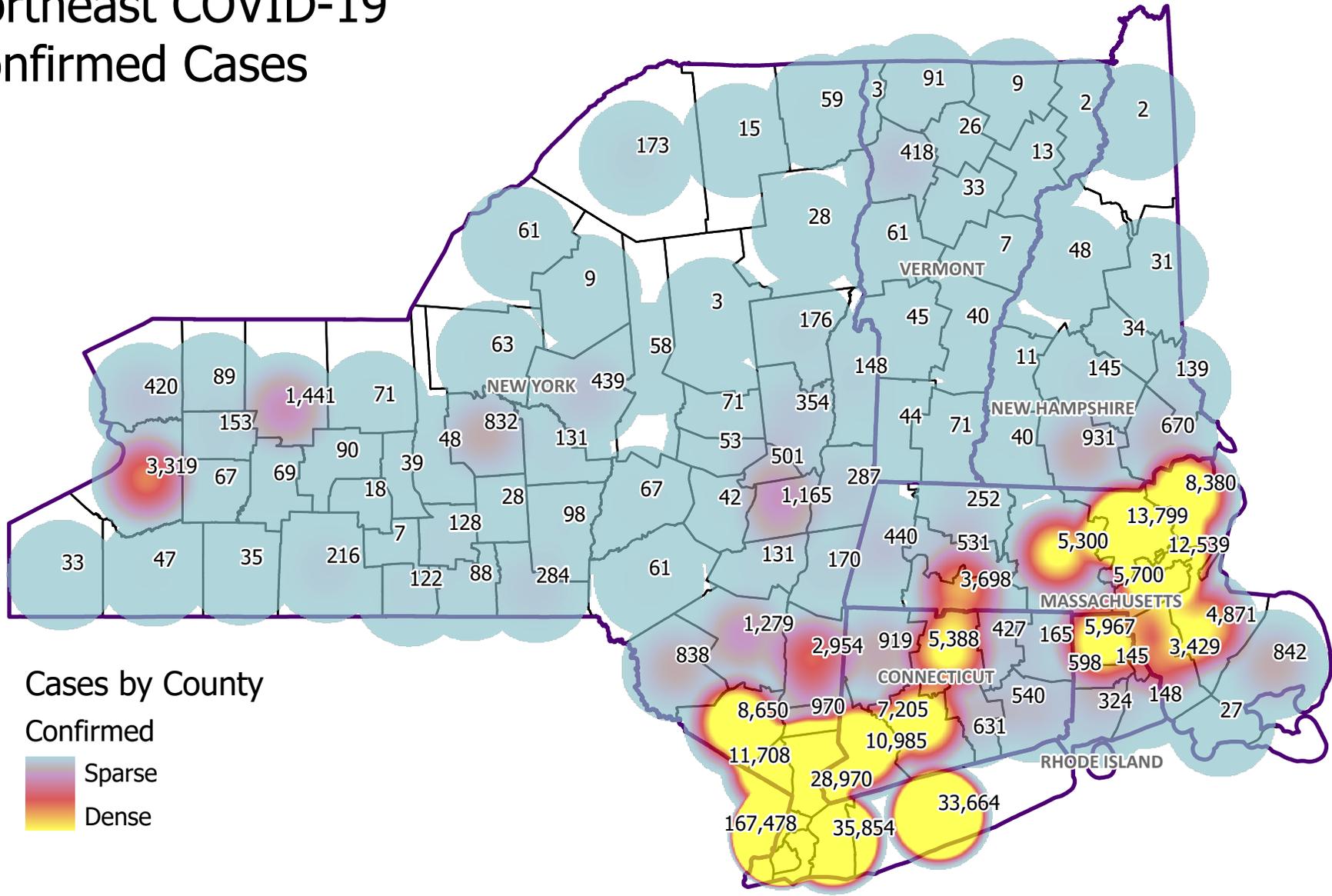
Weather

Five Day Forecast: Vermont - Washington (KTYX)

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
				
100%	80%	20%	30%	40%
Definitely Rain	Definitely Rain	Slight Chance of Rain Showers	Chance of Rain Showers	Chance of Rain Showers
47 F / 8 C	59 F / 15 C	59 F / 15 C	64 F / 17 C	57 F / 13 C
47 F / 8 C	41 F / 5 C	39 F / 3 C	44 F / 6 C	34 F / 1 C

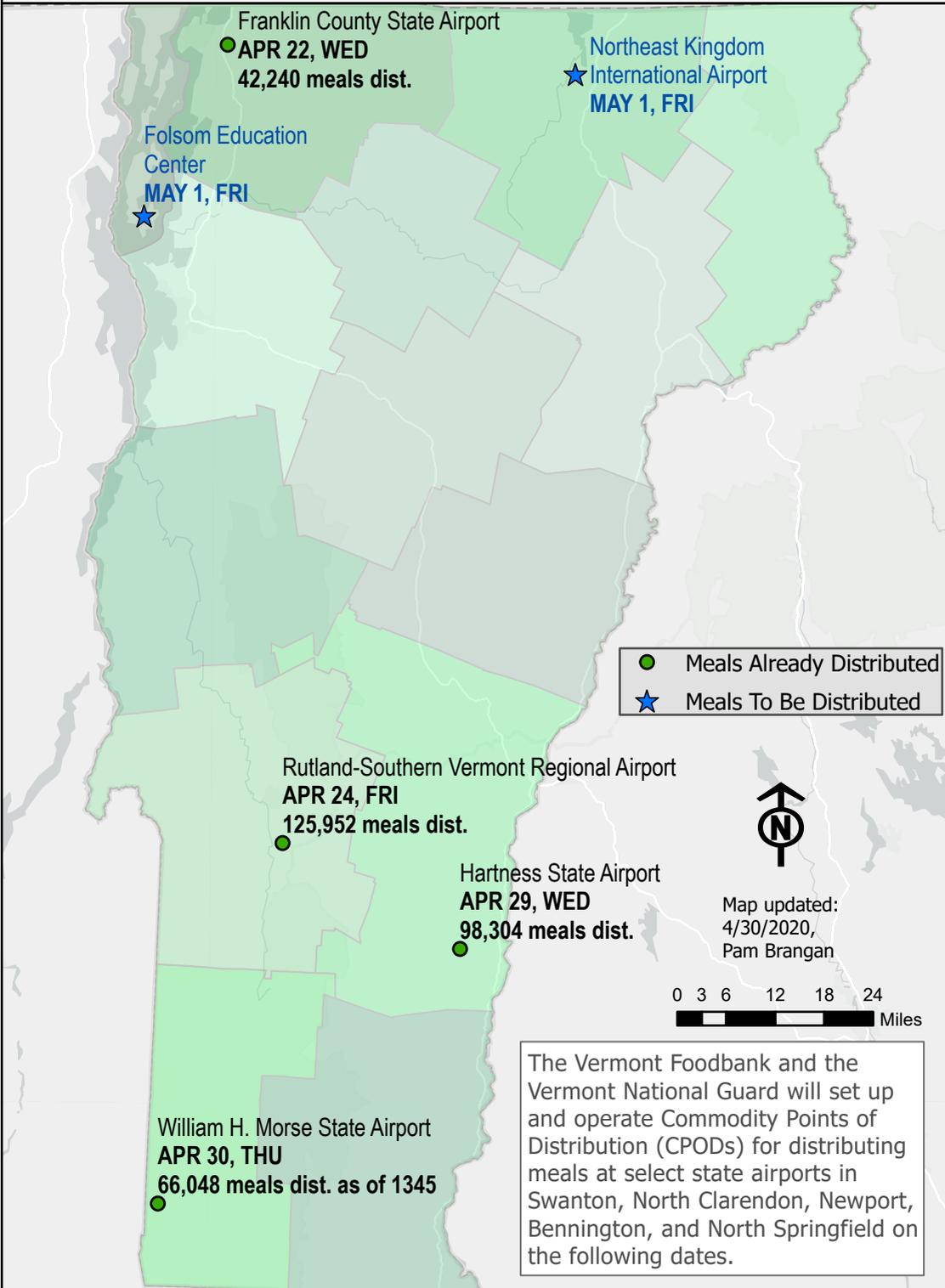
- **Tonight:** Scattered showers before midnight, then rain after 2am. Low around 45. Southeast wind 10 to 20 mph. Chance of precipitation is 80%. New precipitation amounts between a tenth and quarter of an inch possible.
- **Friday:** Rain, mainly before Noon, then showers likely after Noon. High near 59. Southeast wind 5 to 11 mph. Chance of precipitation is 80%. New precipitation amounts between a tenth and quarter of an inch possible.
- **Friday Night:** Scattered showers before 7pm. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 40. Calm wind becoming north around 5 mph after midnight. Chance of precipitation is 60%. New precipitation amounts between a tenth and quarter of an inch possible.
- **Saturday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 56. Northwest wind 6 to 9 mph, with gusts as high as 21 mph.
- **Saturday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 38. Calm wind.
- **Sunday:** Partly sunny, with a high near 64. Calm wind becoming southwest around 5 mph in the afternoon.

Northeast COVID-19 Confirmed Cases



Updated 4/30/2020 by Pam Brangan

Commodity Points of Distribution (CPOD) Sites





Executive Summary

COVID-19 Response

April 30, 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

Current							
Future							

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"> Canada and the US are extending border restrictions until May 21. Nearly 200,000 people cross that border daily in normal times.
	Future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As states begin to lift their restrictions, travel could become more prevalent and lead to an increased risk of virus transmission. USAR is monitoring the ongoing rain event with the National Weather Service Albany office.
Food, Water, Sheltering	Current Situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of 1345 today, the Vermont National Guard and the Vermont Foodbank distributed a total of 332,544 meals at distribution sites in Swanton, Clarendon, North Springfield, and Bennington. Supply has been increased to meet the anticipated demand. On Friday 5/1, VTNG will distribute MREs at the Northeast Kingdom International Airport in Newport, and the Folsom Educational Center in South Hero. Frozen meal distribution continued at Northern Vermont partner sites today. Distribution concluded today in Central Vermont. The Human Services Branch is working on completing the Mass Feeding Plan to submit to FEMA. Tomorrow, May 1st, Farmers' Markets will be allowed to operate in Vermont following strict social distancing guidelines, have an assigned health and safety officer, vendors will be required to offer online or phone ordering. In-person shopping is discouraged. Further information can be found on the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets website: https://agriculture.vermont.gov/
	Future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concern is rising over the impact of meat plant closures on the beef, pork, and chicken supply chain. Supply is plentiful for now, but distributors are looking towards alternative sources to plan for future shortages.
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. For more info: https://vtrans.vermont.gov/vtransparency
	Future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public transportation is not running under normal operations, and it is unclear when this would return to standard conditions. As industries begin to open up the current social distancing protocols may prove to be challenging on bus routes.

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 largest number of cases in the United States. The disease the virus causes has been named "coronavirus disease 2019" (abbreviated "COVID-19").</p>
	<p>Northeast COVID-19 Confirmed Cases</p>
Key Information	<p>Current case status in Vermont, last updated by the Health Department at 1100 on 4/30/20:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Positive test results: 866 Total tests conducted: 15,652 Deaths: 49 Hospitalized patients with COVID-19: 10 Hospitalized patients under investigation for COVID-19: 18 <p>Key Updates: As of 1345 today, The Vermont Foodbank and the Vermont National Guard have distributed around 66,048 meals (4,128 cases) at the William H Morse State Airport in Bennington. Distribution will continue until 6pm today. There are distributions scheduled at two locations Friday. All dates and locations can be found at vem.vermont.gov/pods.</p> <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"> An offensive testing strategy focused on health care staff and certain patients was announced yesterday, 4/29, with an estimated 1,000 tests being performed each day. Additional personnel, equipment, and testing supplies may be needed due to the increase in testing. A FEMA request for body bags has been approved. They will be delivered over two weeks. Orders will be processed through the SNS Warehouse once in stock. VTEMS is reviewing EMS strike team feedback. VTEMS is finalizing contracts and conducting training for EMS testing augmentation. There is a potential to receive additional cloth face masks from the Federal government that is being pursued. More details to come. One Alternate Care Site is currently operable in Chittenden County with four other sites on standby. The Chittenden County site has seven COVID-19 positive patients, and one non-covid-19 patients. The final shipment of four V-PRO Sterilization System units was received on Monday. Planning is underway for their distribution to area hospitals. The demobilization of the 4 temporary mortuaries began today. Demobilization will continue through early next week to remove the National Guard tents prior to the removal of the temporary mortuaries.
	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. No sites are being demobilized at this time.
Other Lifelines	Current Situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DOL received 5,117 new unemployment insurance claims in the week ending on April 25th, which is down from 6,598 the week prior. ACCD has updated several documents for businesses, including additional details for workplace communal spaces, construction in multi-unit properties and for workers who commute to Vermont from out-of-state. A total of 1,979 people have signed up to volunteer through the State's volunteer portal. Volunteers have been referred to the Northeastern Orange County Consortium, the City of Burlington Response and Recovery Center, and the Green Mountain United Way of Washington and Caledonia Counties.
	Future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High winds today resulted in a couple hundred power outages across the western part of the state. Utility crews are actively working to restore power.