



**Incident Name:**  
**COVID-19 Response**

**Reporting Period:**  
**05/20/2020 08:00 AM - 05/20/2020 04:00 PM**

**Situation Report Number:**  
**59**

**EOC Activation Level:**  
**Full Activation**



# Vermont State Emergency Operations Center

## Situation Report

Phil Scott, Governor

Erica Bornemann,  
Director  
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### *Background / Current Situation*

On May 20, 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.

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### **Key Updates:**

- The next meal distribution sites will be held on Thursday, May 21th, 10am-2pm at Thetford Academy, 304 Academy Rd, Thetford and on Friday, May 22, 10am-2pm at Lamoille Union High School, 736 VT Route 15W, Hyde Park.
  - The full list of dates and locations can be found at [vem.vermont.gov/pods](http://vem.vermont.gov/pods)
- Today, Governor Scott proposed a \$400 million economic relief and recovery package, using funds from the \$1.25 billion the state received from the Federal CARES Act. The two-phase proposal will start with \$310 million for immediate relief to the most impacted sectors and businesses to be followed by \$90 million for long-term recovery efforts. The Agency of Commerce and Community Development and the Governor will now work with the legislature towards passage of this relief package. The Phase 1 relief package will involve four areas of action. They include:
  - Housing assistance: Rental Housing Stabilization Fund for property owners and a Re-Housing Recovery Fund to address homeless need. (\$50MM)
  - Financial assistance: Emergency Action Grants for food and accommodation services, retail, and agriculture, Vermont Economic Injury Disaster Loan and Grant program, and small business focused Vermont Restart loans and grants. (\$250MM)
  - Technical assistance: Restart Vermont Recovery Guides, and Employee Assistance Program to support the mental health and wellbeing of business owners and their families. (\$5MM)
  - Marketing support: Promotional marketing campaign to promote Vermont to Vermonters and deliver a toolkit of creative assets to be used by local communities, and regional marketing and consumer stimulus grants to encourage local spending, with implementation strategies to be proposed by local entities. (\$5MM)

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**Current status in Vermont, last updated by the Health Department at 1100 on 5/20/20:**

Total positive test results for COVID-19	944
Total tests for COVID-19	25,058
Deaths	54
Total people recovered	824
People being monitored	30
People who have completed monitoring	865
Hospitalized patients with COVID-19	3
Hospitalized patients under investigation for COVID-19	12

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

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**5/18-5/19 Call Statistics from 211:**

- 211 received 115 calls related to COVID-19 on Monday and Tuesday. Most calls were from the general public (90 calls), with 13 calls from businesses.
- The most common call topics were the executive order (54 calls), travel (26 calls), and testing (19 calls) (topics are not mutually exclusive, i.e., calls can touch on multiple topics).

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*Public Information*

Governor announced Economic Recovery and Relief Act at press conference, information shared through JIC channels: <https://accd.vermont.gov/covid-19/vermont-economic-recovery-and-relief-package>

Meal distribution details updated: <https://vem.vermont.gov/pods>

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*FEMA*

- A Major Disaster Declaration has been approved for Vermont: FEMA-4532-DR-VT
- FEMA is tracking the following Resource Request Forms (RRFs) in progress:
  - Testing materials, including nasal swabs and test tubes
  - HEPA filters
  - PPE including gloves, coveralls, aprons, boot covers, and N95 masks
  - 2 truckloads of boxed meals arrived today (5/20). 3 more truckloads are scheduled to arrive tomorrow (5/21).
  - Powered air-purifying respirators (PAPRs)
- Outside of the RRF process, FEMA is procuring donations of Dial soap and bulk sanitizer on behalf of Vermont. FEMA is also securing cloth face coverings.
  - Three bulk sanitizer totes are scheduled to arrive tomorrow (5/21).

- **Resource Requests:**

- BGS is working on coordinating portable restrooms, hand wash stations and sheriff coverage for the additional food distribution sites.
- BGS ordered 1,500 additional thermometers with a partial order expected delivery date of 5/25.
- BGS acquired gallon containers for the bulk hand sanitizer donation by Exxon.
- AOT is delivering 2,500 face shields and 47,670 face coverings to the SNS warehouse.
- AOT is providing cones to temporary testing sites across the state.
- AOT is distributing face coverings for state employees in Randolph, Dummerston and White River Jct.

- **Vermont National Guard**

- Providing distribution of food at various sites across the state with support from AOT, currently scheduled until May 29th.
- Providing support to "pop up" sites for COVID-19 testing across the state.

- **Department of Human Resources (DHR):**

- Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) medical volunteer activity:
  - 63 volunteers, 20 activated- 13 of whom are deployed as screeners at Northeast Vermont Regional Hospital.
  - The Southern Vermont Medical Center asked for volunteers to be Specimen Collection Assistants and Test Schedulers, but has yet to provide final details
  - NVRH has requested additional screeners in the near future.
  - 211 will be reactivating volunteers for the call center.
  - 765 accepted volunteers, 378 since 3/1
- Temporary Employee Activity:
  - Requested positions- 169, approved and created- 165
  - Positions posted in recruitment- 50
  - Applications received -468
  - Offers Made - 6
  - Hired - 8
  - Direct Hires - 17

- **SerVermont:**

- 12+ AmeriCorps/ MRC volunteers are deployed at 211, filling 15-18 shifts a day to support surge operations.
- 2,034 volunteers have been accepted.

**5/18 Daily Workflow Status -**

Orders Received: 35

Orders Filled: 30

Percentage Filled: 86%

Total Unfilled Orders: 5

Behavioral Health: 1

EMS: 0

Hospital :0

Long-Term Care: 0

Outpatient Care: 0

Public Safety: 0

Residential Home: 0

Other: 4

## 5/19 Daily Workflow Status -

Orders Received: 36

Orders Filled: 27

Percentage Filled: 75%

Total Unfilled Orders: 9

Behavioral Health: 0

EMS: 1

Hospital: 0

Long-Term Care: 1

Outpatient Care: 0

Public Safety: 0

Residential Home: 0

Other: 7

## Please Note:

- The above 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.
- 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 Updates:

- 1,000 infrared thermometers arrived at the UVM Health Network yesterday afternoon and are in the process of being sent to the SNS Warehouse today.

## Other Updates:

- The branch facilitated a PPE Strategy Meeting. Conversation will continue next week regarding KN95 efficacy test results as well as final policy review for PPE distribution.
- The branch is working with FEMA to clarify the HEPA filters received to ensure the correct RRF(s) are credited.
- 2 new team members started working today for the Medical Logistics Branch. The branch is working on getting them acclimated and gaining access to needed systems.
- Cloth face covering distribution started yesterday at the following sites:
  - 250 coverings distributed at Bennington

- 830 coverings distributed at Rutland
  - 365 coverings distributed at Middlebury
  - The branch is working with the Critical Infrastructure Distribution working group to address requests for PPE.
  - The branch just sent out 500 cloth face coverings to the Association of Broadcasting.
  - 120,000 KN95 masks were delivered to the SNS Warehouse yesterday.
  - Data collection is complete for the PPE Usage Survey. The branch is working on data clean up and analytics. Presentation of findings is scheduled for 6/2.
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## *Economic Mitigation and Recovery Task Force*

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

- Governor Scott today announced his proposal for a \$400 million economic relief and recovery package, using funds from the \$1.25 billion the State received from the Federal CARES Act. The two-phase proposal will start with \$310 million for immediate relief to the most impacted sectors and businesses to be followed by \$90 million for long-term recovery efforts. The specifics of the first phase are as follows:
  - **Financial assistance** - Emergency Action Grants for food and accommodation services, retail, and agriculture, Vermont Economic Injury Disaster Loan and Grant Program, and small-business-focused Vermont Restart Loans and Grants. (\$250 million)
  - **Housing assistance** - Rental Housing Stabilization Fund for property owners. Re-Housing Recovery Fund for address homeless need. (\$50 million)
  - **Technical assistance** - Restart Vermont Recovery Guides created through a network of business and community assistance providers. Employee Assistance Program to support the mental health and wellbeing of business owners and their families (\$5 million)
  - **Marketing support** - Promotional marketing campaign to promote Vermont to Vermonters and deliver a toolkit of creative assets to be used by local communities. Regional marketing and consumer stimulus grants to encourage local spending, implementation to be proposed by local entities. (\$5 million)
  - More information on the package can be found at: <https://accd.vermont.gov/covid-19/vermont-economic-recovery-and-relief-package>
- ReStart Vermont Updates:
  - Vermont's State Parks will open this summer but will not offer overnight camping until June 25th and will be cancelling all reservations prior to that date. Park attendance limits will be reduced, and parks will not offer equipment rentals or concessions this summer. Day use visitors are encouraged to bring chairs and blankets for their visit as common area picnic tables and seating will be removed.
  - Pools, beaches and swimming facilities may open in accordance with previously issued outdoor recreation and fitness guidance. Operators must reduce high contact surfaces and common areas, limit gatherings of people to 10 or less, and regularly clean and disinfect restrooms and other common facilities per CDC guidelines.
  - Yard sales and garage sales with 10 or fewer people may be held. Hosts and visitors must practice social distancing and it is recommended that they wear cloth face coverings.
  - Services operating with a single worker or small office environments (such as appraisers, realtors, municipal clerks, attorneys, property managers, pet care operators, and others) may operate if they can comply with the mandatory health and safety requirements listed

- above, with no more than 10 persons (service provider and clients) present at one time.
- ACCD posted new guidance for the reopening of lodging establishments and cross-border travel. Lodging operations, short-term rentals, campgrounds and marinas may accept overnight reservations for stays after May 22, 2020 from Vermont residents or those who have met the 14-day quarantine requirement. Individuals coming from out-of-state cannot complete their quarantine in a lodging facility, short term rental or campground.
  - Complete details on the Be Smart, Stay Safe Order are available here: <https://accd.vermont.gov/covid-19>
- Restart Webinars for Businesses Sectors:
    - Manufacturing - Today, Vermont Manufacturing Extension Center (VMEC) hosted a live forum with safety, HR, and legal experts for businesses in various phases of reopening. Panelists provided valuable tips and knowledge to ensure businesses are meeting COVID-19 operating requirements and using current best practices.
    - Hospitality - On Thursday, May 21st at 9:00 AM the Lake Champlain Chamber will host a webinar called, "Adapting Vermont Hospitality to COVID-19" to address the unique challenges the hospitality industry has faced and to discuss a path forward as the economy begins to reopen. This webinar is free, but registration will be capped at 90 people. Register here: <https://www.vermont.org/chamber/event/lcrc-webinar-adapting-vermont-hospitality-to-covid-19/>

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## *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 (Nursing Homes Only):**

- Statewide Licensed Capacity: 2,978
- Current Operating Capacity: 2,699
- Census as of 5/20: 2,183 (516 available)
- Resource Needs: None
- Current Outbreaks: No known outbreaks at this time

### **Status of Isolation and Recovery Sites:**

- The Harbor Place isolation and recovery site has a 50-bed capacity, with 6 residents as of 5/19.
- General Assistance Motel Summary, including Econo Lodge in Montpelier as of 5/19: 1,499 rooms; 1,728 adults; 306 children.

### **Statewide Mass Feeding Plan:**

- As of 2pm today, the Middlebury site distributed 1,000 CFAP perishable household sets and 1,848 non-perishable box meals. (# not final count)
- The next meal distribution sites will be held on Thursday, May 21th, 10am-2pm at Thetford Academy, 304 Academy Rd, Thetford and on Friday, May 22, 10am-2pm at Lamoille Union High School, 736 VT Route 15W, Hyde Park.

### **Additional Updates:**

- The Child Development Division (CDD) is developing a state-wide distribution plan for masks intended for childcare providers and early childhood prevention and intervention providers.

- CDD is developing plans for increasing childcare capacity this summer and fall as needed.
  - 1,239 Essential Persons have completed the online collector form to request referrals for have completed this form for 1,977 children. 371 Essential Persons requested help for 583 school-aged children, 444 Essential Persons requested help for 624 children under 6, and 164 Essential Persons requested help for 377 children in both age groups. The remaining 260 Essential Persons representing 393 children did not indicate a need for child care.
  - The Agency of Education (AOE) updated graduation guidance and is preparing updated fiscal guidance.
  - AOE is preparing an operational capacity survey for food service programs. AOE is working to compile data on school meals program participation to support ongoing school feeding operations.
  - AOE's guidance to school districts on funding they will receive under the CARES act is held up due to disagreements over interpretation of the law at the federal level, and by legislative considerations in the General Assembly.
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## **Health & Medical Branch**

## *Health & Medical Branch*

### **Daily summary of hospital bed availability**

- Number of COVID-19 patients hospitalized: 3 positive, 12 persons under investigation
- Number of COVID-19 patients discharged from hospital: 0
- Total hospital beds available:610
- Intensive Care Unit (ICU) beds available:54
- Medical/Surgical beds available:296
- Isolation beds available:123

### **Hospital resource needs**

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

### **Alternate Care Facility Status Report**

- No pending resource needs are known at this time for the zero COVID-19 positive and one non-COVID-19 positive patient at the Essex Alternate Care Site.
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## *Infrastructure & Emergency Services Branch*

**Infrastructure** - No disruptions of service.

**Emergency Services**- No issues.

### **Department /Agencies Reports**

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

- No disruptions of service or issues.

## **Vermont Division of Fire Safety (DFS) -**

- No disruptions of service or issues.

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

- No disruptions of service or issues.

## **Judiciary -**

- No disruptions of service or issues.

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

- No disruptions of service or issues.
- VTEMS is beginning program reviews for the Hybrid EMT Course Project.
- VTEMS is drafting a proposal for portfolio competency evaluation in licensure programs.

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## **Weather**

### **Five Day Forecast: Vermont - Addison (Eastern Addison) (KTYX)**

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
 Clear	 Clear	 Clear	 Clear	 Clear
71 F / 21 C 41 F / 5 C	74 F / 23 C 48 F / 8 C	79 F / 26 C 50 F / 10 C	76 F / 24 C 46 F / 7 C	75 F / 23 C 49 F / 9 C

- **Tonight:** Mostly clear, with a low around 45. Calm wind.
- **Thursday:** Sunny, with a high near 77. Calm wind becoming west around 6 mph in the afternoon.
- **Thursday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 49. Southwest wind 3 to 6 mph.
- **Friday:** Sunny, with a high near 82. West wind 3 to 7 mph.
- **Friday Night:** Increasing clouds, with a low around 51. Calm wind.



## **Executive Summary**

# COVID-19 Response

May 20, 2020 (1600 EDT)

## **SEOC Activation Status: Full**

## HOC Activation Status: Full

**SEOC Activation Date/Time:**

March 11, 2020 (0730 EDT)

## Lifelines: Impacts and Actions

Safety and Security	Current Situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>VSP is working with local police departments, the Department of Buildings and General Services, and a sheriff's department on traffic control and security at food distribution sites.</li> <li>The Vermont Supreme Court has extended the judicial emergency through September 1<sup>st</sup>. All jury trials in criminal cases are suspended until September 1<sup>st</sup> and in all civil cases until January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021.</li> </ul>
	Future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As states begin to lift their restrictions, travel could become more prevalent and lead to an increased risk of virus transmission.</li> </ul>
Food, Water, Sheltering	Current Situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The combined FEMA Food Box / CFAP food box distribution sites began last week. Yesterday the site at Bromley Mountain in Peru, VT, distributed 1,000 CFAP perishable household sets (including Chicken, produce, dairy and milk, an additional 660 gallons of milk, and 1.926 cases of non-perishable meals.</li> <li>As of 2pm today, the Middlebury site distributed 1,000 CFAP perishable household sets and 1,848 non-perishable box meals. (# not final count)</li> <li>The next meal distribution sites will be held tomorrow, Thursday, May 21th, 10am-2pm at Thetford Academy in Thetford and on Friday, May 22, 10am-2pm at Lamoille Union High School in Hyde Park.</li> <li>The Child Development Division (CDD) is developing a state-wide distribution plan for masks intended for childcare providers and early childhood prevention and intervention providers.</li> </ul>
	Future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>President Trump announced a \$19 billion coronavirus food assistance program to support farmers and ranchers, with \$16 billion going directly to them to maintain health food supply chain. (Authorized by the CARES Act.) Farmers and ranchers can begin signing up on May 26th. The remaining \$3 billion will go to support the USDA "Family Box Meal" program (CFAP).</li> <li>The Child Development Division (CDD) is developing plans for increasing childcare capacity this summer and fall as needed.</li> <li>ACCD has <a href="#">updated guidance</a> on the loosening of restrictions on restaurant operations for outdoor dining. This guidance includes requiring reservations or call ahead seating, and limiting total outdoor restaurant capacity to 50 or the maximum seating capacity, whichever is less, while maintaining a minimum of 10 feet of space between tables. (See link for full list of requirements.)</li> </ul>
Transportation	Current Situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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: <a href="https://vtrans.vermont.gov/transparency">https://vtrans.vermont.gov/transparency</a></li> </ul>
	Future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> </ul>

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 largest number of cases in the United States. The disease the virus causes has been named “coronavirus disease 2019” (abbreviated “COVID-19”).
Key Information	<p><b>Current case status in Vermont, last updated by the Health Department at 1100 on 5/20/20:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Positive test results: 944</li> <li>Total tests conducted: 25,058</li> <li>Deaths: 54</li> <li>Total people recovered: 824</li> <li>Hospitalized patients with COVID-19: 3</li> <li>Hospitalized patients under investigation for COVID-19: 12</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Updates:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Today, Governor Scott proposed a \$400 million <a href="#">economic relief and recovery package</a>, using funds from the \$1.25 billion the State received from the Federal CARES Act. The two-phase proposal will start with \$310 million for immediate relief to the most impacted sectors and businesses. The Agency of Commerce and Community Development and the Governor will now work with the legislature towards passage of this relief package. The Phase 1 relief package will involve four areas of action. They include:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Financial assistance:</b> Emergency Action Grants for food and accommodation services, retail, and agriculture, Vermont Economic Injury Disaster Loan and Grant program, and small business focused Vermont Restart loans and grants. (\$250MM)</li> <li><b>Housing assistance:</b> Rental Housing Stabilization Fund for property owners and a Re-Housing Recovery Fund to address homeless need. (\$50MM)</li> <li><b>Technical assistance:</b> Restart Vermont Recovery Guides, and Employee Assistance Program to support the mental health and wellbeing of business owners and their families. (\$5MM)</li> <li><b>Marketing support:</b> Promotional marketing campaign to promote Vermont to Vermonters and deliver a toolkit of creative assets to be used by local communities, and regional marketing and consumer stimulus grants to encourage local spending, with implementation strategies to be proposed by local entities. (\$5MM)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Local State of Emergency:</b> Burlington, Colchester, Johnson, Rutland, Vernon.</p> <p><b>Local EOCs Activated (self-reported):</b> Burlington, Chittenden (town), Charleston, Hartford, Johnson, Landgrove, Londonderry, Peacham, Pittsfield, Rutland, Sharon, South Burlington, St. Johnsbury, Strafford, Thetford, Tunbridge, Vernon, Waitsfield, Weston, Woodstock.</p>



## Lifelines: Impacts and Actions

Health and Medical	Current Situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One Alternate Care Site is currently operating in Chittenden County with three other sites on standby. The Chittenden County site has no COVID-19 positive patients, and two non-COVID-19 patients.</li> <li>Tomorrow, there will be a pop-up testing site for asymptomatic members of the public in Newport. Registration for the site is full. More such testing sites for the Offense-minded Testing Strategy are planned through May 23rd. <a href="#">Available appointments</a> at pop-up testing clinics are filling quickly.</li> <li>The Medical Logistics Branch and the SNS Warehouse are coordinating PPE and equipment support for the pop-up testing sites scheduled for the month of May.</li> <li>The EMS Office is beginning program reviews for the Hybrid EMT Course Project.</li> <li>The EMS Office is drafting a proposal for portfolio competency evaluation in licensure programs.</li> </ul>
	Future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The SEOC Medical Logistics Branch completed data collection for its PPE Usage Survey. A presentation of the findings is scheduled for 6/2.</li> <li>The governor said today that additional guidance will be forthcoming on Friday to allow for additional healthcare providers such as dentists, physical therapists and chiropractors to resume operations in a limited capacity.</li> </ul>
Other Lifelines	Current Situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additional guidance on the opening of State Parks, pools, beaches, and swimming facilities, as well as the operation of yard and garage sales has been posted on the <a href="#">ACCD website</a>.</li> </ul>
	Future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No service disruptions reported at this time.</li> </ul>