



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

**Reporting Period:**  
**05/07/2020 08:00 AM - 05/07/2020 04:00 PM**

**Situation Report Number:**  
**51**

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



# Vermont State Emergency Operations Center

## Situation Report

Phil Scott, Governor

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### *Background / Current Situation*

On May 7, 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:**

- Outdoor Recreation and Limited Social Interactions May Resume – Effective today, all businesses and non-profit and government entities that support or offer outdoor recreation and outdoor fitness activities that require low or no direct physical contact may begin operations. These include state and municipal parks, recreation associations, trail networks, golf courses, big game check stations, and guided expeditions. Additional guidance and details on the mandatory steps businesses must take before they can reopen is here: <https://accd.vermont.gov/news/update-new-work-safe-additions-stay-home-stay-safe-order>
  - The Department of Disabilities, Aging & Independent Living is working with Ben & Jerry's to distribute ice cream to nursing homes across the state for Mother's Day.
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#### **Current status in Vermont, last updated by the Health Department at 1100 on 5/7/20:**

Total positive test results for COVID-19	916
Total tests for COVID-19	18,451
Deaths	53
Total people recovered	718
People being monitored	23
People who have completed monitoring	841
Hospitalized patients with COVID-19	5

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

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**5/6 Call Statistics from 211:**

- 211 received 56 calls related to COVID-19, the vast majority from the general public (52 calls).
  - The most common call topics were the Stay Home, Stay Safe order (30 calls), work (16 calls), and travel (15 calls) (topics are not exclusive, i.e., some calls touch on multiple topics).
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*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 nasal swabs and test tubes
    - HEPA filters
    - PPE including gloves, coveralls, aprons, and boot covers, N95 masks
    - Boxed meals
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*Public Information*

Translated versions of the VOSHA workplace training are now LIVE and available online: <https://labor.vermont.gov/vosha>

Those wishing to receive the daily Health update directly via email are now being referred to the website: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/Covid-19-Daily-Update.pdf>

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*Medical Logistics Branch*

**Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Update as of Close of Day 5/6/2020:**

<b>Daily Workflow Status</b>	
<b>Orders Received</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Orders Filled</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Percentage Filled</b>	<b>67%</b>
<b>Total Unfilled Orders</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Behavioral Health</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>EMS</b>	<b>2</b>

<b>Hospital</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Long-Term Care</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Outpatient Care</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Public Safety</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Residential Home</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>4</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 Updates:**

- Infrared thermometers arrived at the SNS Warehouse yesterday afternoon. They did not come with batteries, so the Department of Buildings and General Services sourced batteries. Once the batteries arrive, the thermometers will be distributed per the SEOC distribution plan.

#### **Other Updates:**

- The SNS Warehouse is in the process of coordinating PPE and equipment support for the new pop-up testing sites across the state.
- There is cross training occurring in the Medical Logistics Branch between military and non-military personnel in preparation for turn over later this month.
- The branch's PPE Usage Survey had 221 responses as of 1:15pm today. Initial data looks promising. The branch will continue to monitor the survey results over the next two weeks. Next week, the branch will call 1) facilities that have not already completed the survey but are repeat customers for SNS and 2) law enforcement agencies in an effort to ensure their information is also captured in the survey results.

## **Health & Medical Branch**

## *Health & Medical Branch*

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

- Number of COVID-19 patients hospitalized - 6
- Number of COVID-19 patients discharged from hospital - 2

### **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.
- The Health & Medical Branch will meet weekly during the Offense-Directed Testing Strategy to evaluate resources the SEOC can provide.
- The SEOC is working to secure specific resource requests for an all-day, by appointment only testing operation in Colchester for first responders on 5/9/2020. More such testing for the Offense-Directed Testing Strategy is planned for the next several weeks.
- The last four Steris V-Pro sterilizers were delivered to UVMMC, RPMC and North Country Hospital on 5/7/2020.
- All eight Steris V-Pro sterilizers from the State may be used by N-95 respirator users near the eight hospitals across the state to sterilize their N-95 respirators extending our supply of this resource in short supply.

### **Alternate Care Facility status report**

- No pending resource needs are known at this time for the three COVID-19 positive and five non-COVID-19 positive patients at the Essex Alternate Care Site. Expected admissions tomorrow are 1 and expected discharges tomorrow are 2.

### **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, surgical gowns, and goggles.
- Testing of KN95 respirators is planned in order to verify their filtration prior to distribution for use while N95 respirators are in short supply.

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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:**

- Statewide Licensed Capacity: 2,978
- Current Operating Capacity: 2,699
- 5/7 Census: 2,214
- 5/7 Bed Availability: 485
- 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 4 residents as of 5/7.
- General Assistance Motel Summary, including Econo Lodge in Montpelier (5/7): 1,462 rooms; 1,683 adults; 271 children.
- The branch is working to transition those using campers out of North Beach. The lease with the camper vendor expires May 10th.

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

- The branch is planning another MRE distribution tomorrow at the Allen Brook School in Williston, VT.
- Planning has begun to support boxed meal distribution. It is expected that delivery of boxed meals will begin within the next two weeks.

### **Crisis Counseling / Disaster Behavioral Services:**

- There will need to be a Memorandum of Understanding with Vermont Emergency Management to transition funds to the Department of Mental Health.

### **Additional Updates:**

- The Child Development Division (CDD) is adapting activities to anticipate a possible earlier re-opening date for childcare.
- CDD is processing childcare invoices for payment at an average of \$175,000 per day.
- 1,203 Essential Persons have completed the online collector form to request referrals for have completed this form for 1,925 children. 352 Essential Persons requested help for 555 school-aged children, 433 Essential Persons requested help for 610 children under 6, and 162 Essential Persons requested help for 371 children in both age groups. The remaining 256 Essential Persons representing 389 children did not indicate a need for child care.

## *Logistics Branch*

- **Resource procurement status:**
  - The Department of Children and Families requested child-sized face coverings. The Department of Public Safety procured the request through Vermont Teddy Bear.
  - The branch ordered 2,000 AAA batteries for a newly arrived order of infrared thermometers.
- **Vermont National Guard (VTNG):**
  - VTNG is supporting "popup" testing sites throughout the state.
- **Department of Human Resources (DHR):**
  - Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) medical volunteer activity:
    - 60 volunteers, 8 of whom are deployed at 2 locations, including 7 volunteers deployed at Northeast Vermont Regional Hospital.
    - 748 accepted volunteers, 362 since 3/1
  - Temporary Employee Activity-
    - Applications received - 377
    - Offers Made - 8
    - Hired - 6
    - Direct Hires - 17
- **SerVermont:**
  - Currently there are 35 volunteers, 6 of whom are deployed
  - 2,019 people offered to volunteer

**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR:**

- Unemployment Insurance Claims Overview, April 26 – May 2 (updated every Thursday)
  - ◊ Continued Claims: 60,535 (down from 76,457)
  - ◊ New Claims: 3,875 (down from 5,117)
  - ◊ Estimated Initial Claims Processed since March 15: 81,574
  - ◊ Payments: over \$20 Million paid last week (compared to \$26 million the previous week)
  - ◊ Trust Fund Balance: \$479 million (down from \$491 million the previous week)
- The Vermont Department of Labor has now translated their VOSHA workplace training into the following languages:
  - ◊ Arabic
  - ◊ Burmese
  - ◊ French
  - ◊ Kirundi
  - ◊ Lingala
  - ◊ Nepali
  - ◊ Serbo-Croatian
  - ◊ Somali
  - ◊ Spanish
  - ◊ Swahili
  - ◊ Vietnamese
  - ◊ The translations are available at the following website: <https://labor.vermont.gov/vosha>

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*Infrastructure & Emergency Services Branch*

**Critical Services** - No interruptions due to absenteeism.

**Critical Infrastructure** - No critical infrastructure interruptions noted.

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

**Emergency Medical Services (VTEMS) -**

- VTEMS is developing procedures and guidelines for the reopening of EMS psycho-motor education and testing.
- VTEMS is coordinating first response invitations to pop up testing at the State Lab in Colchester.
- VTEMS is preparing invitations and scheduling capacity for first responders and health care providers pop-up sites next week.

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

- DFS requested guidance for resuming fire department in-person training and health screenings for volunteers responding to emergencies.

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

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
				
90%	60%	70%		20%
Definitely Rain Showers	Likely Snow	Likely Snow	Clear	Slight Chance of Rain Showers
59 F / 15 C	47 F / 8 C	39 F / 3 C	45 F / 7 C	48 F / 8 C
33 F / 0 C	30 F / -1 C	26 F / -3 C	30 F / -1 C	29 F / -1 C

- **Tonight:** Rain showers likely before 2am, then a slight chance of rain and snow showers between 2am and 4am, then a slight chance of snow showers after 4am. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 34. Southwest wind around 8 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60%. Little or no snow accumulation expected.
- **Friday:** A slight chance of rain and snow showers before 8am, then a slight chance of rain showers after 9am. Mostly sunny, with a high near 49. West wind 8 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 26 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20%.
- **Friday Night:** A chance of rain and snow before 10pm, then snow likely. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 32. Northwest wind 3 to 7 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60%. New snow accumulation of less than one inch possible.



**Executive Summary**  
**COVID-19 Response**  
**May 7, 2020 (1600 EDT)**

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

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

**Community Lifeline Status**



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

**Lifelines: Impacts and Actions**

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<b>Safety and Security</b>	<b>Current Situation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vermont's Stay Home / Stay Safe order is in effect through May 15<sup>th</sup> as some restrictions have been lifted in a phased approach to open the economy.</li> <li>Assistance to Firefighters COVID-19 Supplemental competitive grant program is accepting applications through May 15<sup>th</sup>.</li> </ul>
	<b>Future</b>	<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>
<b>Food, Water, Sheltering</b>	<b>Current Situation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Department of Disabilities, Aging &amp; Independent Living is working with Ben &amp; Jerry's to distribute ice cream to nursing homes across the state for Mother's Day.</li> <li>The Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets, has coordinated with the Vermont Community Foundation and the Vermont Foodbank to recover raw milk from being disposed while creating a new, temporary food supply for the Vermont Foodbank. The milk will be processed by Vermont dairy producers for a donation of 42,000 cups of yogurt and over 11,500 gallons of 2% milk to the Vermont Foodbank. Product will be produced and shared over a ten week period beginning this week.</li> <li>The Human Services Branch is working on a plan to transition those using campers out of North Beach.</li> </ul>
	<b>Future</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is another Meals-Ready-to-Eat (MRE) distribution planned for Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup> at the Allen Brook School in Williston, VT.</li> <li>Shelf-stable boxed meal distributions are being scheduled for the second week of May. Dates and locations will be confirmed once supply delivery dates are finalized.</li> </ul>
<b>Transportation</b>	<b>Current Situation</b>	<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/vtransparency">https://vtrans.vermont.gov/vtransparency</a></li> </ul>
	<b>Future</b>	<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>

<b>Incident Summary</b>	<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>
<b>Key Information</b>	<p><b>Current case status in Vermont, last updated by the Health Department at 1100 on 5/7/20:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Positive test results: 916</li> <li>Total tests conducted: 18,451</li> <li>Deaths: 53</li> <li>Total people recovered: 718</li> <li>Hospitalized patients with COVID-19: 5</li> <li>Hospitalized patients under investigation for COVID-19: 9</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Updates:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Outdoor Recreation and Limited Social Interactions May Resume</b> – Effective today, all businesses and non-profit and government entities that support or offer outdoor recreation and outdoor fitness activities that require low or no direct physical contact may begin operations. These include state and municipal parks, recreation associations, trail networks, golf courses, big game check stations, and guided expeditions. Additional guidance and details on the mandatory steps businesses must take before they can reopen is here: <a href="https://accd.vermont.gov/news/update-new-work-safe-additions-stay-home-stay-safe-order">https://accd.vermont.gov/news/update-new-work-safe-additions-stay-home-stay-safe-order</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Local State of Emergency:</b> Burlington, Colchester, Johnson, Rutland, Vernon.  <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>

<b>Health and Medical</b>	<b>Current Situation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One Alternate Care Site is currently operable in Chittenden County with three other sites on standby. The Chittenden County site has three COVID-19 positive patients, and five non-COVID-19 patients.</li> <li>Final four Steris V-PRO sterilizers being delivered to UVMMC, Rutland Regional Medical Center and North Country Hospital today.</li> <li>An order of infrared thermometers has been received by the SNS Warehouse. Distribution will commence once batteries are in stock.</li> <li>In accordance with the amendment to Addendum 3 of the Executive Order, some hospitals and health care facilities have begun allowing elective outpatient diagnostics and procedures.</li> <li>HOC/VDH setting up a pop-up specimen collection clinic for first responders in Colchester for Saturday 5/9/2020 by appointment only.</li> </ul>
	<b>Future</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An offense-directed testing strategy focused on health care staff and certain patients was announced 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.</li> <li>The Medical Logistics Branch and the SNS Warehouse are in the process of coordinating PPE and equipment support for the new pop-up testing sites scheduled to take place in the coming weeks.</li> </ul>
<b>Other Lifelines</b>	<b>Current Situation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Labor Refusal to Work Guidance</b> – DOL has issued a reminder to individuals that refusing suitable work or refusing employment wages through their employer may disqualify them from receiving unemployment benefits and may constitute fraud. Exceptions do exist for employees, such as those who have been exposed to COVID-19 or individuals who must care for a family member.</li> <li>DOL received 3,875 new unemployment insurance claims in the week ending on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, which is down from 5,117 claims the week prior.</li> </ul>
	<b>Future</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No anticipated service disruptions of energy and communication sectors.</li> </ul>