

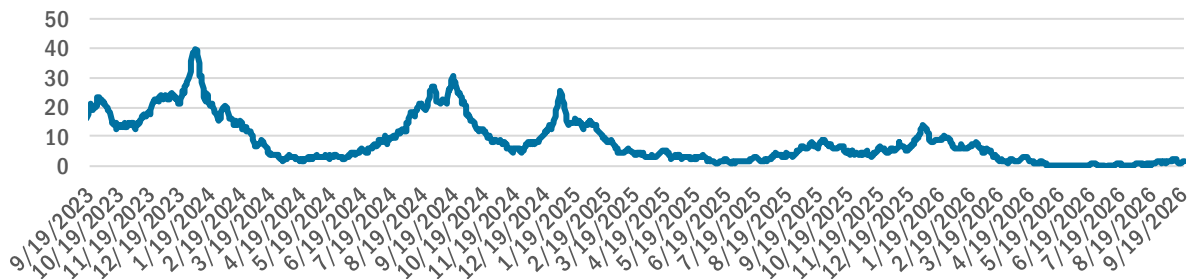
Weekly COVID-19 Surveillance Report

September 23, 2026

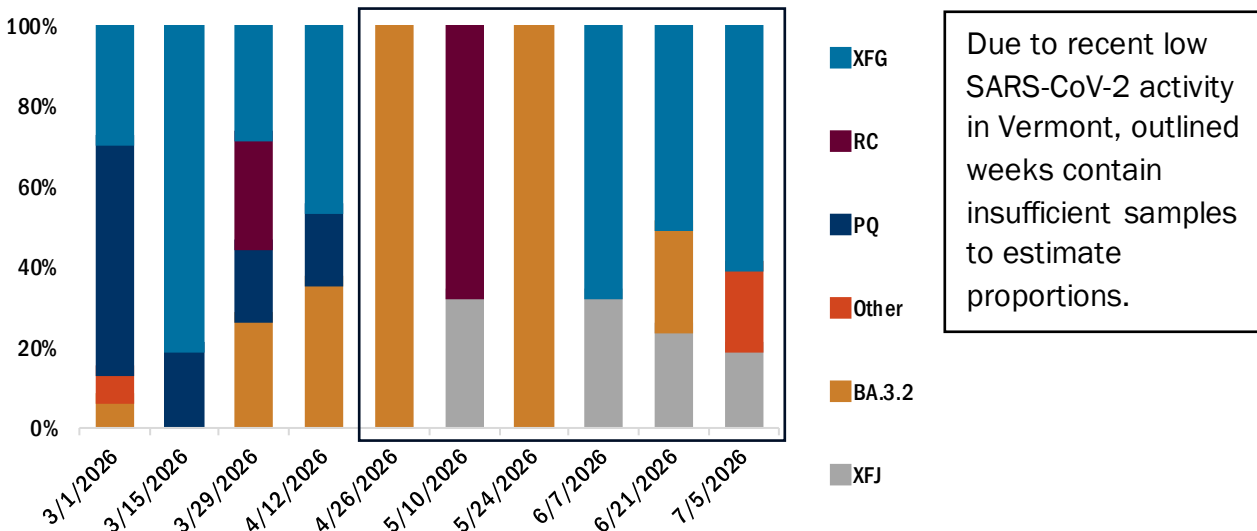
Syndromic Surveillance

The Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-based Epidemics (ESSENCE) reflects all visits from participating emergency departments (ED). The chart below shows a rolling seven-day average of all ED visits in Vermont hospitals that include a COVID-19 diagnosis (emergency and non-emergency, in- and outpatient visits).

Emergency Department Visits with COVID-19 Diagnosis Seven-Day Rolling Average, Vermont Hospitals



Variant Proportions - Clinical Specimens



XFG and XFJ are the most commonly sequenced variants. Limited specimen quantities are impacting proportion accuracy. For more timely data, see the [National SARS-CoV-2 Genomic Surveillance System](#) which includes data from Vermont and other states.



HealthVermont.gov
802-863-7200



Virus Activity Levels and Trends – Wastewater Monitoring

Wastewater data for SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, and influenza A can now be found on Vermont's [wastewater surveillance dashboard](#). Levels may be influenced by localized outbreaks. Some week-to-week fluctuations are expected. The table below summarizes available Vermont wastewater data reflecting samples collected 9/13/2026 – 9/19/2026. Data from Burlington, Middlebury, and Ludlow are currently delayed due to a change in laboratories.

Wastewater Treatment Facility	SARS-CoV-2 Viral Activity Level
Burlington – Main Plant	Data Delay
Essex Junction	Very Low
Ludlow	Data Delay
Middlebury	Data Delay
Montpelier	Very Low
South Burlington – Airport Parkway	Very low
All facilities combined	Very Low

Viral Activity Levels categories: Very Low, Low, Moderate, High, Very High

COVID-19 Outbreaks Reported

For purposes of this report, an outbreak is defined as three or more epidemiologically linked cases of COVID-19, where at least one case has been laboratory or clinically confirmed as COVID-19.

Facility type	New Outbreaks Reported 9/15 - 9/21
Long-term Care (LTC)	1
Non-LTC Healthcare	-
Correctional Facility	-
School/childcare	-
Other	-

County	New Outbreaks Reported 9/15 - 9/21
Addison	-
Bennington	-
Caledonia	-
Chittenden	-
Essex	-
Franklin	-
Grand Isle	-
Lamoille	-
Orange	-
Orleans	1
Rutland	-
Washington	-
Windham	-
Windsor	-

Please see current recommendations on [preventing COVID-19](#). If you need help accessing or understanding this information, contact john.davy@vermont.gov.