

National Electronic Disease Surveillance System Base System (NBS): an integrated information system that helps state health departments manage reportable disease data and send notifiable disease data to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Vermont is using NBS to manage COVID-19 case data. Information on cases, such as the date they tested positive for COVID-19, the county of residence, age, and symptoms, is stored in this system.

Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-based Epidemics (ESSENCE): part of the National Syndromic Surveillance Program, ESSENCE provides a timely system for detecting, understanding, and monitoring public health events. ESSENCE stores information about symptoms of patients in emergency department and urgent care centers, and can serve as an early warning system for public health events like infectious disease outbreaks.

The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS): a survey conducted annually by the Health Department in collaboration with CDC. Adults are asked about health-related risk behaviors, chronic health conditions, and use of preventive services. The results are weighted to represent the adult population of the state and are used to assess progress on public health goals. BRFSS data is used to compare the prevalence of pre-existing conditions among COVID-19 patients in Vermont to the prevalence among the general adult population in Vermont.

Vermont Vital Records: the Vermont Vital Records system includes eight types of vital events; births, deaths, marriages, civil unions, divorces, dissolutions, fetal deaths, and abortions. Laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 deaths are reported through this system.

Vermont Population Estimates: the Health Department works with the National Center for Health Statistics to produce annual population estimates for years in which the National Census is not conducted. The 2018 population estimates are used to calculate rates of COVID-19 in Vermont (overall and among specific groups).