Weekly Summary of Vermont COVID-19 Data
Reflecting cases identified between March 5, 2020 – March 17, 2021

Date published: March 19, 2021. This summary will be updated every Friday.
Common Terms and Data Sources

This document contains information about people who have tested positive for COVID-19 in Vermont. You will find data presented in a few different ways throughout this document:

- **Count:** the number of people who have tested positive for COVID-19 (overall or in a particular group)
- **Rate:** the number of people who have tested positive for COVID-19 in a particular group, divided by the total number of people in that group. Using rates allows for more direct comparisons between groups.
- **Growth rate:** a measure of the percent change in COVID-19 cases over time; this tells us how quickly or slowly the disease is spreading in Vermont
- **Week:** for the purposes of this document, “this week” is defined as March 10 through March 17.

For geographic information, please see the COVID-19 Data Dashboard or Town Map. For more information on data sources, please see our Data Notes document. For information on cases in schools, see COVID-19 Cases in Vermont K-12 Learning Communities While Infectious.

Please Note:

- On February 11, 2021 the denominators used to calculate rates by age and sex were updated from 2018 to 2019 Vermont Department of Health estimates based on Census data. The corresponding change in rates in the February 12, 2021 Weekly Summary is due to this change in methodology.
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An overview of our number of cases and laboratory testing to date.
Total Number of **Confirmed** and **Probable** Cases in Vermont: 17,247
Percent of positive COVID-19 tests may indicate how prevalent the disease is in the population.

The highest percent of positive tests (15%) was on March 29.

The increase in percent positive is a combination of increased number of people testing positive, as well as a change in how UVM is reporting results due to their network issues.

Testing volume increased greatly at the end of August in preparation for the return of college students.

The number of people tested reflects the number of individual people who have had confirmatory testing for COVID-19 in Vermont. Each person is only counted once. The number of tests reflects the number of specimens that have had confirmatory tests for COVID-19 in Vermont. This number may include multiple specimens for one person, the same person tested multiple times, etc. Percent positive is the number of laboratory confirmed COVID-19 specimens divided by the total number of specimens (updated 11/6/20). None of these numbers include serology or antigen testing.
The distribution of people tested for COVID-19 in Vermont varies by age group.

More females are tested than males for COVID-19.

- 55% of people tested for COVID-19 are female.
- 45% of people tested for COVID-19 are male.
White Vermonters represent the majority of people tested in Vermont for COVID-19. Vermonters with other race have the highest rate of testing.

Rates per 100 Vermonters

- White: 91.1%
- American Indian or Alaskan Native: 0.3%
- Asian: 2.0%
- Black or African American: 1.9%
- Other Race: 4.7%

Other Race: 93.2
Black or African American: 55.1
Asian: 41.9
White: 39.0
American Indian or Alaskan Native: 36.6

Non-Hispanic Vermonters represent the majority of people tested in Vermont for COVID-19. Hispanic Vermonters have the higher rate of testing.

Rates per 100 Vermonters

- Non-Hispanic: 97.5%
- Hispanic: 2.5%

Hispanic: 40.6
Non-Hispanic: 33.2

Other Race includes people who identify as two or more races, or a race other than white, Asian, African American or Black, and American Indian or Alaskan Native.

Race is unknown in 27% of people tested (n = 92,104) and ethnicity is unknown in 40% of people tested (n = 136,411).
Contact tracers speak with both **cases** and their **close contacts** each week.

- **82** Number of full-time equivalent contact tracing staff trained
- **725** Cases interviewed last week (March 7 – March 13)
- **2,112** Contacts named last week (March 7 – March 13)
- **3.3** Average number of contacts per case* (Since April 1, 2020)

The number of confirmed cases may not match the number of cases interviewed. There is not always clean overlap between the week in which a case is confirmed and in which that case is interviewed (i.e., a case confirmed on Saturday afternoon may not be interviewed until Sunday morning). Some cases (long term care facility residents, for example) are not managed by the contact tracing team and are not “eligible” for interview. On 2/11/2021, the methodology for determining contact metrics was updated.
In the last two weeks (from February 28 to March 13):

- 86% of cases were interviewed within 24 hours.
- 84% of cases provided their close contacts.
- 59% of contacts were tested within 14 days of exposure.
- 15% of contacts became a case.
Case Demographics

Who has been impacted by COVID-19 in Vermont?
Rates of COVID-19 are highest among Vermonters 20-29 years old. Rate per 10,000 Vermonters

- 0-9: 186.2
- 10-19: 315.7
- 20-29: 395.4
- 30-39: 310.6
- 40-49: 298.3
- 50-59: 277.4
- 60-69: 215.1
- 70-79: 186.1
- 80+: 237.3

Females and males have similar rates of COVID-19. Rate per 10,000 Vermonters

- Female: 269.4
- Male: 280.8

Age in Years
White Vermonters represent the majority of COVID-19 cases. African American Vermonters have the highest rate.
Rate per 10,000 Vermonters

- Black or African American: 734.0
- Asian: 652.0
- Other Race: 356.5
- White: 233.1
- American Indian or Alaskan Native: 106.5

Non-Hispanic Vermonters represent the majority of COVID-19 cases. Hispanic Vermonters have the higher rate.
Rate per 10,000 Vermonters

- Hispanic: 320.8
- Non-Hispanic: 231.2

Other Race includes people who identify as two or more races, or a race other than white, Asian, African American or Black, and American Indian or Alaskan Native.
Race is unknown in 10% of cases (n = 1,635) and ethnicity is unknown in 16% of cases (n = 2,704).
On 3/12/2021, the pie chart methodology for percentage of race and ethnicity among cases was updated.
New and Cumulative Cases of Vermont Children (Age 19 and Younger) with COVID-19

Children represent 20% of Vermont’s cases.

26% of children with COVID-19 are 18 or 19 years old.

An outbreak was identified around this time.

Our highest daily number of all cases to date.

3,465
**Older children have a higher rate of COVID-19 compared to younger children.**
Rate per 10,000 Vermonters 0-19 years old

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Rate per 10,000 Vermonters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 to 19 years</td>
<td>315.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 to 9 years</td>
<td>186.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Female and male children have similar rates of COVID-19.**
Rate per 10,000 Vermonters 0 to 19 years old

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Rate per 10,000 Vermonters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>265.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>247.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Among children with COVID-19, Black, Indigenous and people of color represent 19% of cases.**

- American Indian or Alaskan Native *
- Other Race 5%
- Asian 7%
- Black or African American 7%
- White 81%

**Among children with COVID-19, Black or African Americans have the highest rate.**
Rate per 10,000 Vermonters 0 to 19 years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race and Ethnicity</th>
<th>Rate per 10,000 Vermonters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black or African American</td>
<td>776.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>684.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Race</td>
<td>248.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>191.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian or Alaskan Native *</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Symptoms and How Children Contract COVID-19

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sign or Symptom</th>
<th>Percent of Children with Symptom</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Runny nose</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Headache</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cough</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatigue</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sore Throat</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muscle pain</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss of smell or taste</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fever</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Average illness duration among children:** 5 days

Among Vermont’s children with COVID-19, there are currently no reported cases of multi-system inflammatory syndrome or deaths, and six hospitalizations.

The percent of COVID-19 cases with **no symptoms** is higher among children. Less than one third (30%) of cases among children had **no symptoms** reported.

65% of children with COVID-19 had known contact with somebody else who had COVID-19.

21% of children with COVID-19 were part of an outbreak.
The number of tests among children for COVID-19 and the number of positive tests have increased over time.

This large increase in number of children tested is driven by testing of college students (ages 18 and 19).

Total tests represents the total number of tests among children (specimen level).
Clinical Course

What symptoms have Vermonters experienced? How many have been hospitalized? How many have died?
### Clinical Course

#### Symptoms Among COVID-19 Cases

- **8 days**
  - Average illness duration

- **71%**
  - Cases with symptoms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sign or Symptom</th>
<th>Percent of Symptomatic Cases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cough</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatigue</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Headache</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Runny Nose</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muscle Pain</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss of Smell/Taste</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sore Throat</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Felt Feverish</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Vermont Department of Health
Vermonters 80 years and older are more likely to be hospitalized for COVID-19. Rate per 10,000 Vermonters

Number of Hospitalizations Over Time

- **8%** Of those hospitalized were on a ventilator
- **24%** Of those hospitalized were in the ICU
- **6 days** Average hospital stay (range: 0-78 days)

American Indian or Alaskan Native *
Other Race *
Black or African American 2%
Asian 4%

White Vermonters represent a majority of hospitalized COVID-19 cases.

Please note 27 hospitalized persons are missing race information.
*Values suppressed due to small numbers.
Vermonters 80 years and older have higher rates of COVID-19 death than other age groups.
Rate per 10,000 Vermonters

Most COVID-19 deaths occurred in a long-term care facility or an inpatient hospital setting.

White Vermonters represent a majority of COVID-19 deaths.
Death rates by race are similar.
Rate per 10,000 Vermonters

Note: No deaths have identified as Hispanic or Latino. Death rates by race are not statistically different.
Outbreaks

How is COVID-19 impacting group settings?
Outbreaks can occur in many types of places. Here is what outbreak means in these places:

**Community Settings**
Three or more COVID-19 cases involving more than one family or household where the cases:
- have an illness start date or positive test collection date within 14 days, and
- are linked through contact or location, and
- are not linked to another outbreak, and
- there is no other more likely source of exposure.

Resolved when no new confirmed or probable COVID-19 cases after 28 days (2 incubation periods) have passed since the most recent case’s specimen collection date or illness onset date (whichever is later).

**Educational Settings**
Two or more COVID-19 cases among children/students or teachers/staff with known connections in the educational setting, and the cases:
- have an illness start date or a positive test collection date within 14 days, and
- do not live together or have close contact with each other in another setting, and
- there is no other more likely source of exposure.

Resolved when no new confirmed or positive cases are identified after 28 days (two incubation periods) from the last known facility exposure from a case, or if unknown, the last case’s specimen collection or illness onset date (whichever is later).

**Congregate Care or Living Settings***
Two or more patients/clients/residents or staff members with COVID-19 and known connections to each other in the facility setting.

*Examples include long-term care and other residential care facilities, correctional facilities and homeless shelters.

Resolved when no new COVID-19 positive tests occur after 28 days from the last positive test or illness start date (whichever is later).

**Workplaces**
Two or more COVID-19 cases among employees or customers at the same workplace, and the cases:
- had contact with each other in the business, and
- have an illness start or positive test collection date within 14 days, and
- do not live together or have close contact with each other in another setting, and
- there is no other more likely source of exposure.

Resolved when no new confirmed or probable COVID-19 cases after 28 days (2 incubation periods) have passed since the most recent case’s specimen collection date or illness onset date (whichever is later).
21% of people testing positive for COVID-19 are associated with an outbreak.

**Outbreaks**

103 Active
91 Primary
12 Secondary

257 Resolved*

*See previous page for definitions of resolved outbreaks.

**Congregate Care & Living**
726 cases among residents
382 cases among facility staff

**Acute & Outpatient Healthcare**
87 cases

**Schools & Child Care**
919 cases among children & staff

**Workplaces/Businesses**
796 cases among employees

**Community**
758 cases

Source: Vermont Department of Health
Reflects confirmed data as of 3/17/2021

Some cases may be counted in more than one outbreak. The unique case count is the cumulative outbreak count, where all cases are counted only once.
27 primary outbreaks have led to 50 secondary outbreaks.

Secondary outbreaks are when multiple cases occur in a new setting as a result of spread from the primary outbreak. Transmission is largely, but not exclusively, happening among people interacting in small groups of people they trust in settings such as private parties, recreational sports, workplaces, and schools.

*See outbreak definitions on page 23 for setting descriptions.
Vermont COVID-19 Cases Associated with an Outbreak Over Time

Vermont COVID-19 Deaths Associated with an Outbreak Over Time

Source: Vermont Department of Health
Reflects confirmed data as of 03/17/2021
While only 21% of all people testing positive for COVID-19 are associated with an outbreak, 65% of COVID-19-related deaths occur in outbreak settings.

Values in these charts are rounded to the nearest whole number and therefore may not always add to 100% due to error introduced in rounding.

Note: Examples of a health setting include long term care or assisted living facilities, therapeutic treatment centers, and behavioral health institutions. Examples of a non-health setting include correctional facilities, senior housing communities, businesses, and homeless shelters. Vermont has not experienced an outbreak in all health and non-health settings.

Source: Vermont Department of Health
Reflects confirmed data as of 3/17/2021
A similar percentage of females and males with COVID-19 are associated with outbreaks.

**20% of females with COVID-19 are associated with an outbreak.**

**22% of males with COVID-19 are associated with an outbreak.**

**Females with COVID-19 are more likely to be associated with outbreaks in health settings than males.**

Values in these charts are rounded to the nearest whole number and therefore may not always add to 100%. Percentages by outbreak type are rounded to the whole number, but combined totals consider the full percentages.

Note: Examples of a health setting include long-term care or assisted living facilities, therapeutic treatment centers, and behavioral health institutions. Examples of a non-health setting include correctional facilities, senior housing communities, businesses, and homeless shelters.

Source: Vermont Department of Health Reflects case counts as of 3/17/2021

Vermont Department of Health
Percent of People Testing Positive for COVID-19 by Outbreak Status and Age

- Not associated with an outbreak
- Associated with an outbreak in a health setting
- Associated with an outbreak in a non-health setting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age in Years</th>
<th>Median age</th>
<th>0-9</th>
<th>10-19</th>
<th>20-29</th>
<th>30-39</th>
<th>40-49</th>
<th>50-59</th>
<th>60-69</th>
<th>70-79</th>
<th>80-89</th>
<th>90+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>38 years old</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69 years old</td>
<td></td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 years old</td>
<td></td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Examples of a health setting include long-term care or assisted living facilities, therapeutic treatment centers, and behavioral health institutions. Examples of a non-health setting include correctional facilities, senior housing communities, businesses, and homeless shelters.

Source: Vermont Department of Health
Reflects case counts as of 3/17/2021
Learn more about COVID-19 in Vermont:

Web:  www.healthvermont.gov/COVID-19

Email:  AHS.VDHPublicCommunication@vermont.gov

See more data:  Weekly Data Summaries