

Weekly Summary of Vermont COVID-19 Data

Reflecting cases identified between
March 5 – May 14, 2020



Date published: May 15, 2020. 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 the 7 prior to publication; for example, May 7 through May 14

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.

Table of Contents

Click on a box below to jump to that section

[Overview of COVID-19 in Vermont](#)

[Case Demographics](#)

[Clinical Course](#)

[Outbreaks](#)

[Syndromic Surveillance](#)

[Weekly Spotlight](#)

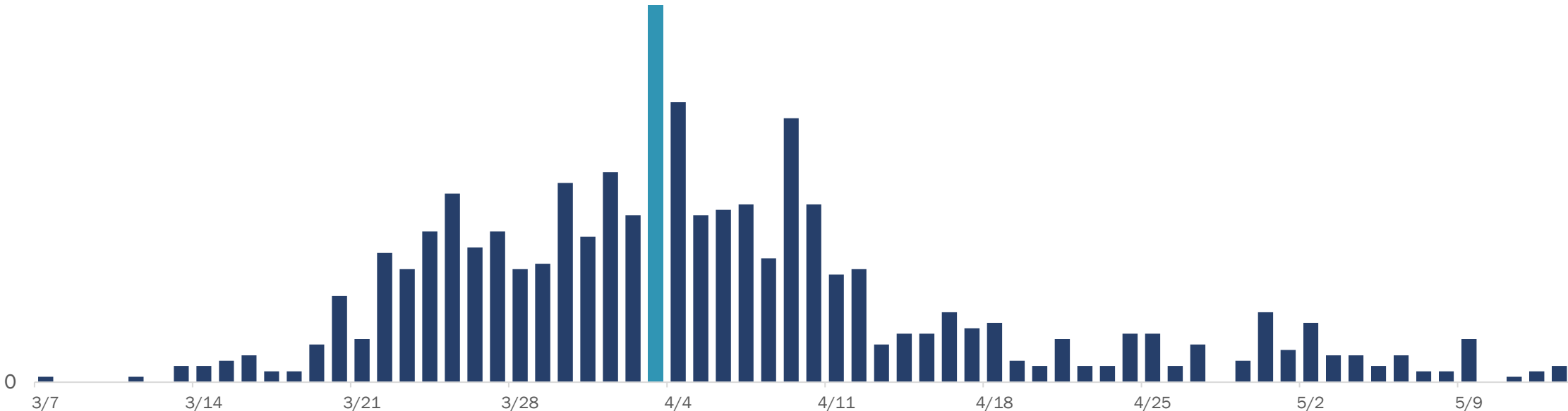
COVID-19 in Vermont

An overview of our number of cases and laboratory testing to date.

Total Number of Cases in Vermont: 932

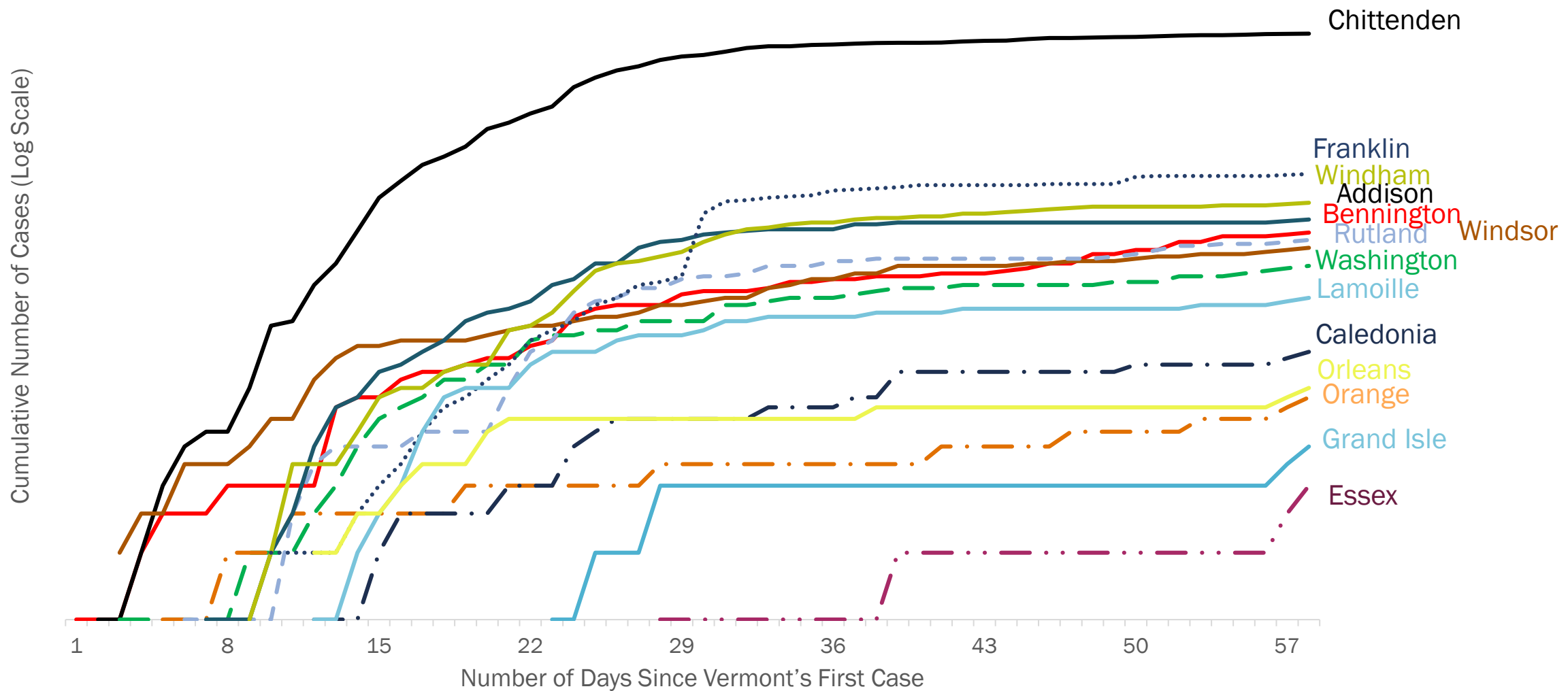
80

The daily number of COVID-19 cases in Vermont peaked on April 3.

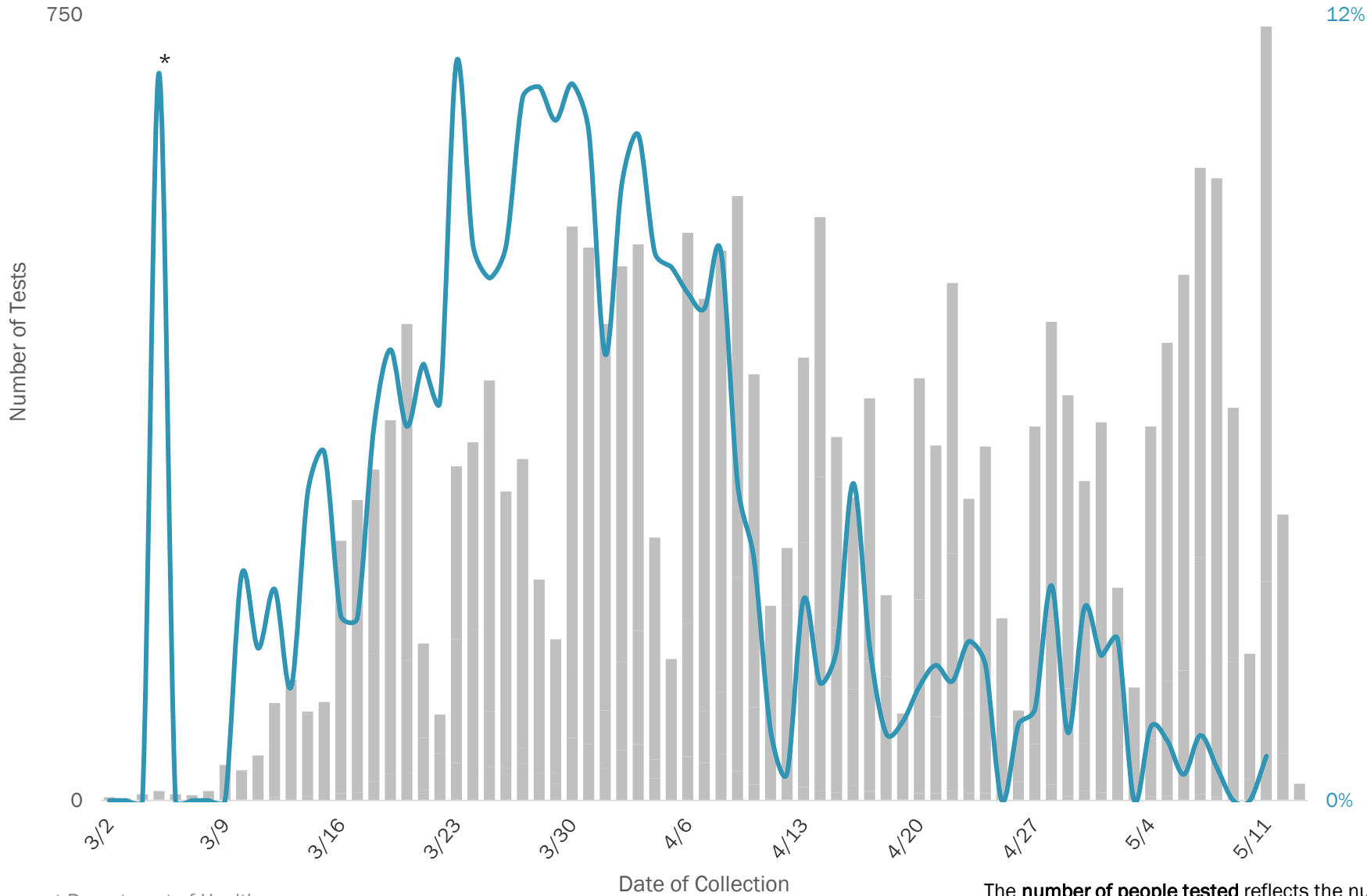


Most counties have reached a plateau in the number of new cases.

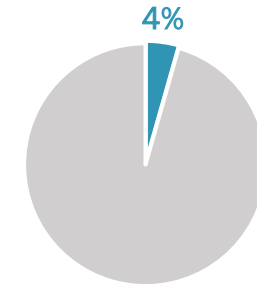
Growth over time by county (n=932)



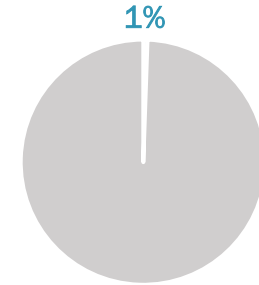
Percent of positive COVID-19 tests may indicate how prevalent the disease is in the population.



Percent Positive to Date



Percent Positive This Week (May 7 - May 14)



2,741 People Tested this Week	3,161 Tests this Week
22,505 People Tested to Date	24,688 Tests to Date

Vermont Department of Health

*Not a stable estimate due to small numbers. There were 9 total tests and 1 was positive.

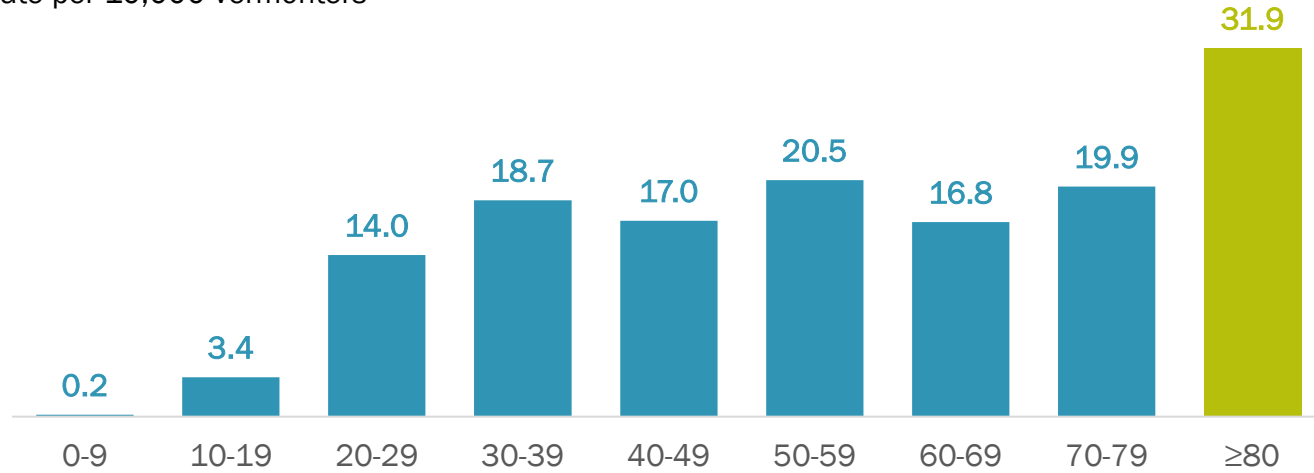
The **number of people tested** reflects the number of individual people who have been tested for COVID-19 in Vermont. Each person is only counted once. The **number of tests** reflects the number of specimens that have been tested for COVID-19 in Vermont. This number may include multiple specimens for one person, the same person tested multiple times, etc. 7

Case Demographics

Who has been impacted by COVID-19 in Vermont?

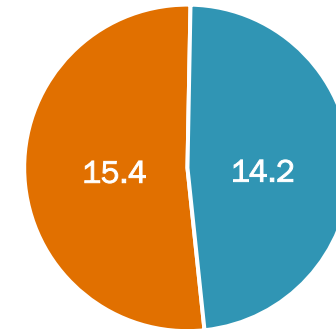
Rates of COVID-19 are disproportionately high among Vermonters 80 years and older.

Rate per 10,000 Vermonters



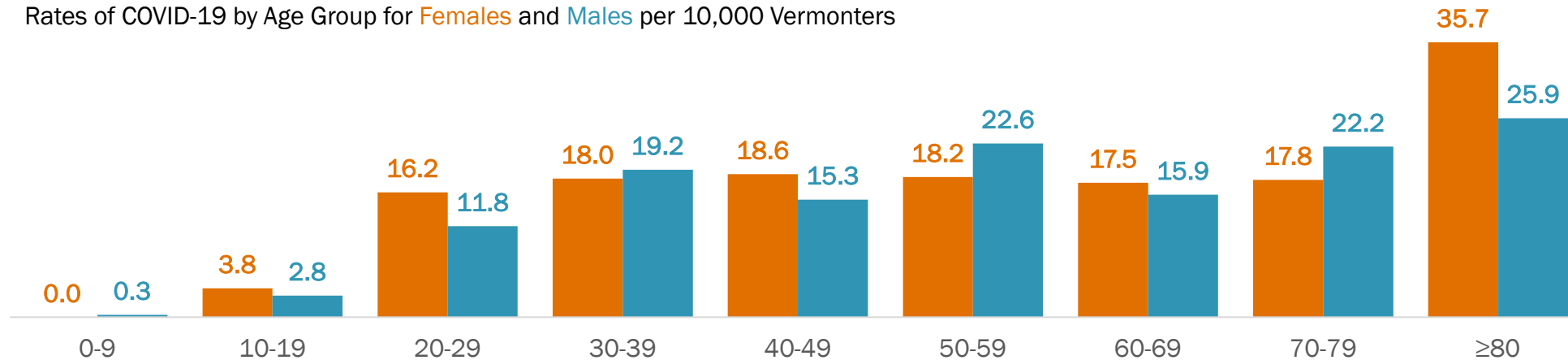
Females and males have similar rates of COVID-19.

Rate per 10,000 Vermonters



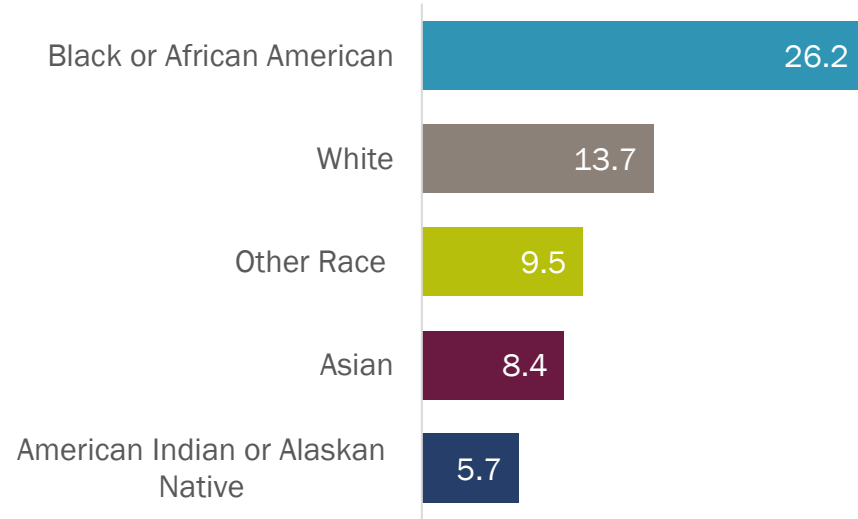
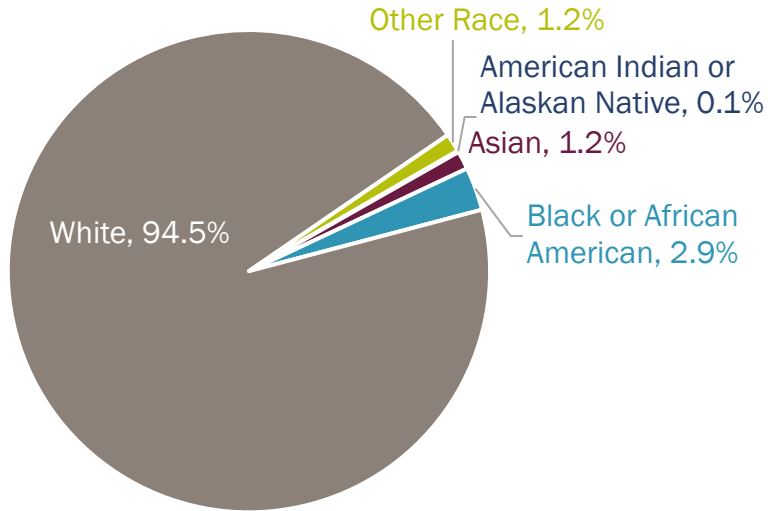
There are differences in age and sex of Vermonters with COVID-19.

Rates of COVID-19 by Age Group for Females and Males per 10,000 Vermonters



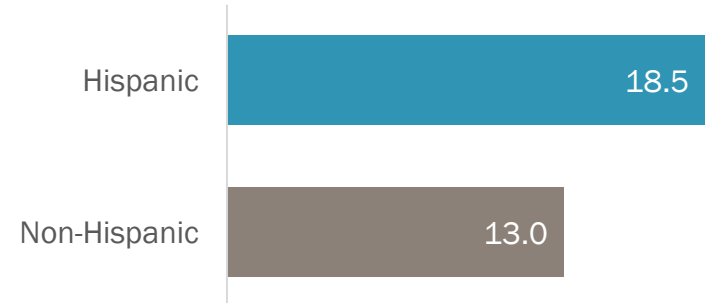
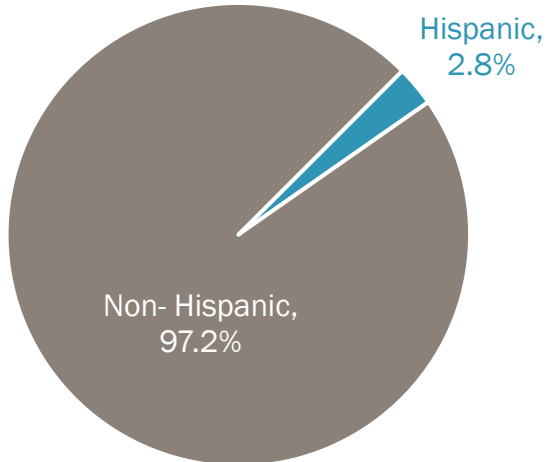
White Vermonters represent the majority of COVID-19 cases. African American Vermonters have the highest rate.

Rate per 10,000 Vermonters



Non-Hispanic Vermonters represent the majority of COVID-19 cases. Hispanic Vermonters have the higher rate.

Rate per 10,000 Vermonters

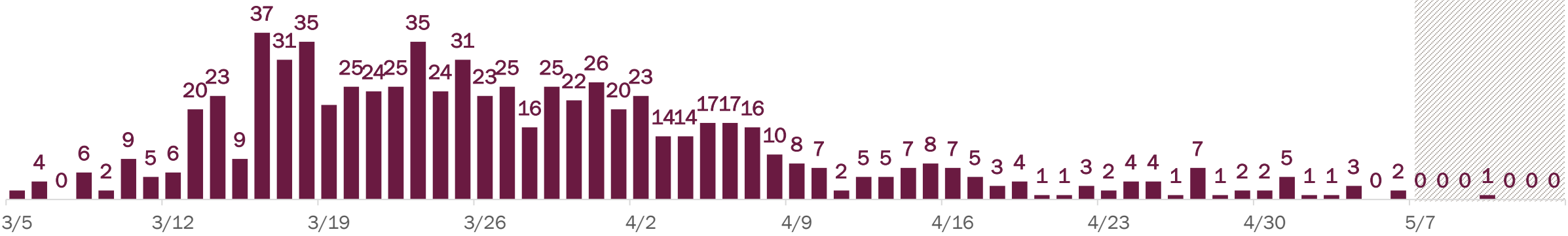
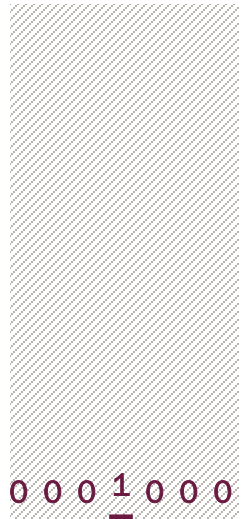


Clinical Course

What symptoms have Vermonters experienced? How many have been hospitalized? How many have died?

The day **symptoms start** is important to know when people with **COVID-19** become infectious.

Illnesses occurring in this window may not be reported yet; median reporting lag = 6 days →



Note: Date of symptom onset is not always known.

Sign or Symptom	Percent of Symptomatic Cases
Cough	75%
Fatigue	70%
Fever	55%
Headache	55%
Muscle Pain	53%

15 days
Average illness duration

Most Vermonters with COVID-19 are not hospitalized.



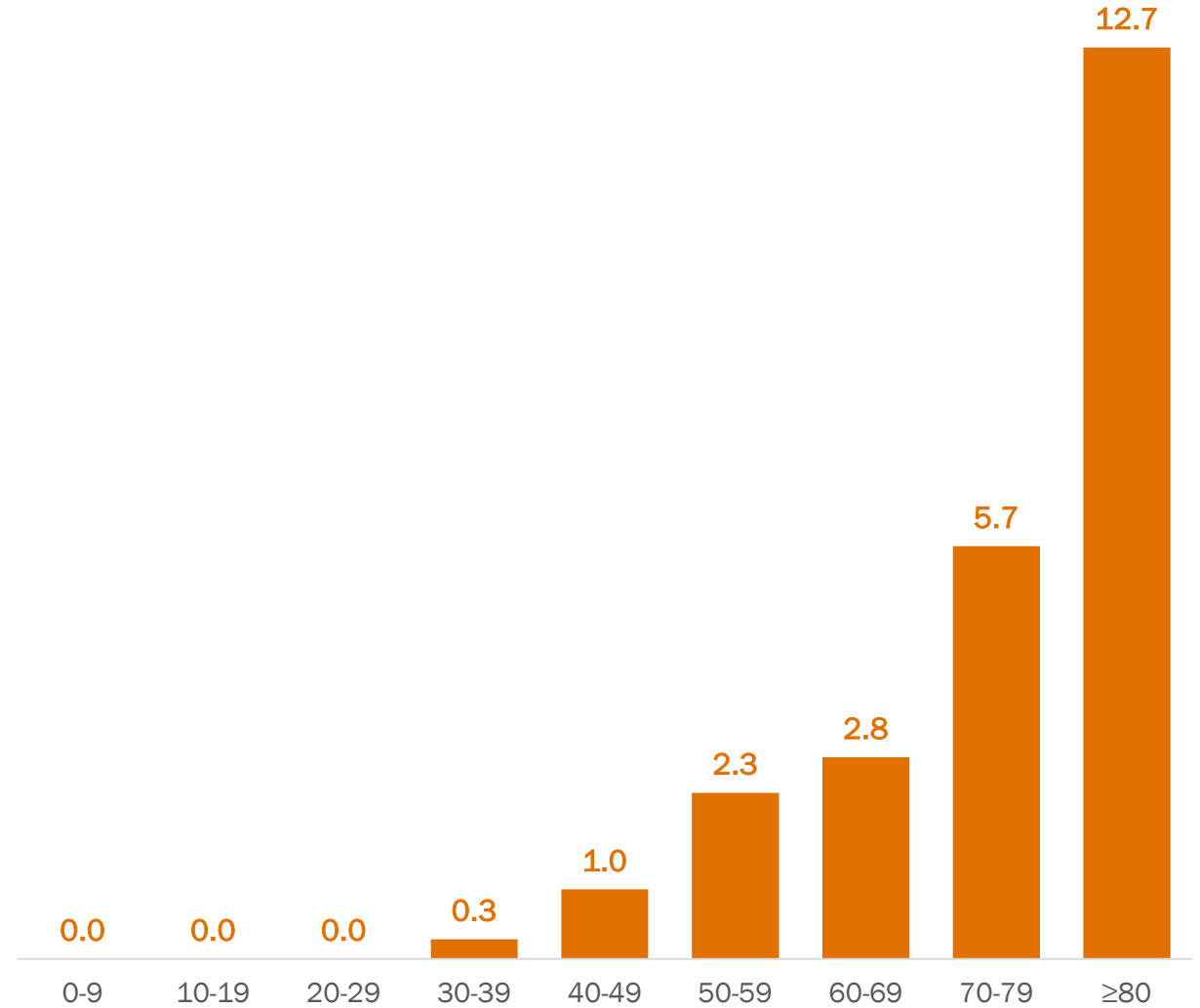
17%
Of those hospitalized who were on a ventilator

37%
Of those hospitalized who were in the ICU

8 days
Average hospital stay (range: 0-23 days)

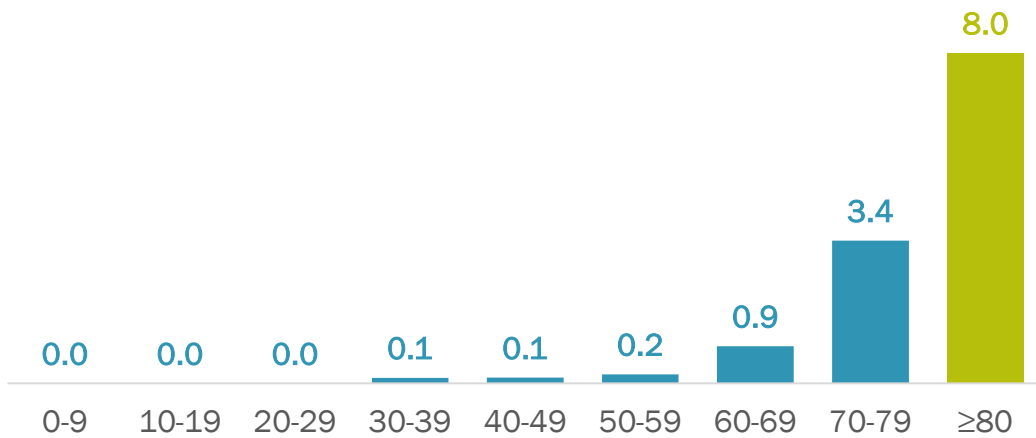
Vermonters 80 years and older are more likely to be hospitalized for COVID-19.

Rate per 10,000 Vermonters



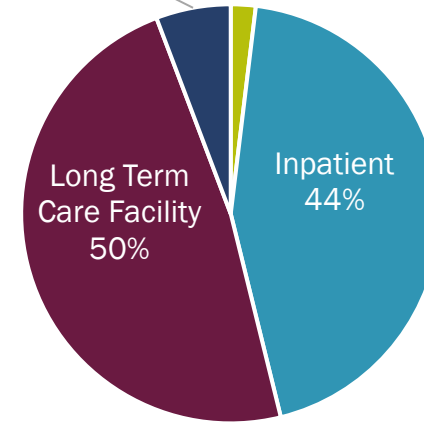
Vermonters 80 years and older have higher rates of COVID-19 death than other age groups.

Rate per 10,000 Vermonters



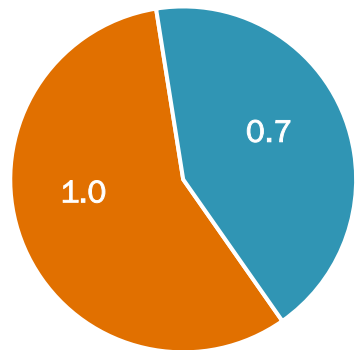
Most COVID-19 deaths occurred in an **inpatient hospital setting** or a **long-term care facility**.

Out of state facility 4% At Home 2%



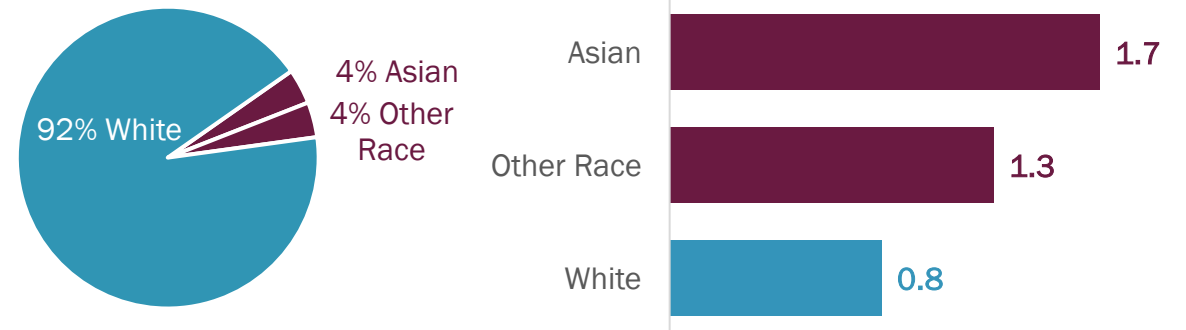
Males have higher rates of COVID-19 death than **females**.

Rate per 10,000 Vermonters



White Vermonters represent a majority of COVID-19 deaths. However the rate is higher among **racial minorities**.

Rate per 10,000 Vermonters



Outbreaks

How is COVID-19 impacting group settings?

What is an outbreak?

1. For congregate care facilities (long term care facility or skilled nursing facility):

- A single resident with a positive COVID-19 laboratory test and one or more additional residents with respiratory illness

OR

- Two or more residents with at least two of the following symptoms: fever (temp $\geq 100^{\circ}\text{F}$), cough, difficulty breathing/shortness of breath

2. For other settings (residential communities, businesses):

- Two or more epidemiologically-linked confirmed COVID-19 cases where there's an opportunity to stop transmission



25% of COVID-19 cases are associated with an outbreak



Outbreaks

5 Active

3 Resolved



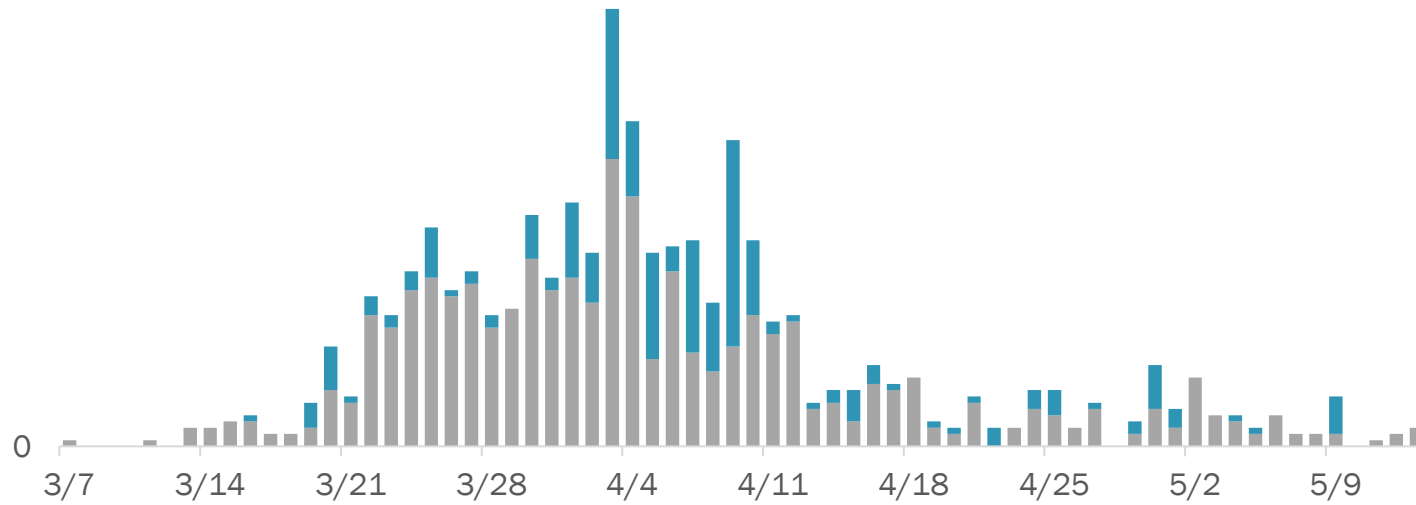
157 cases among residents



82 cases among staff

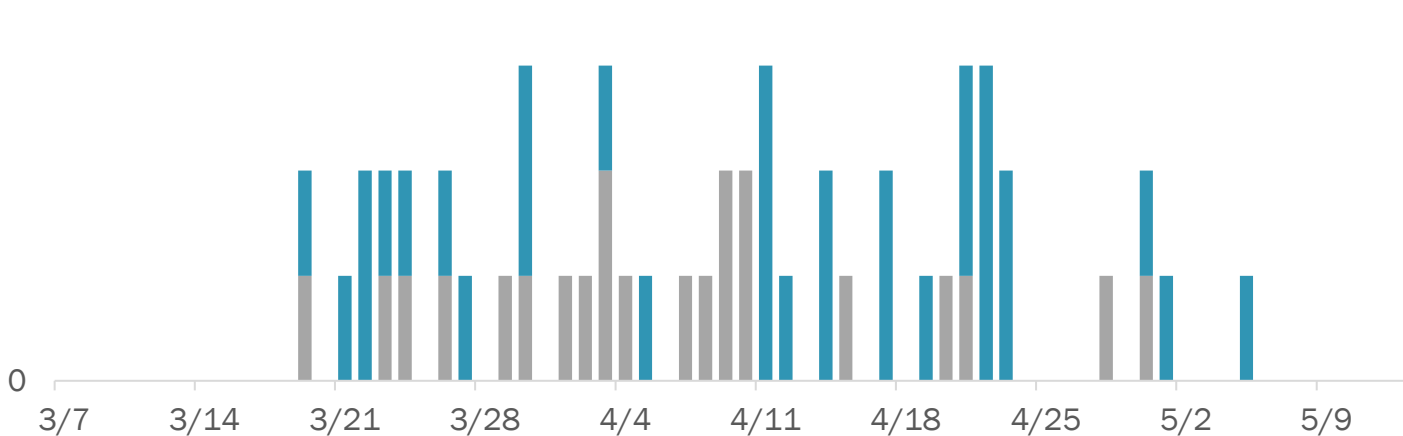
Vermont COVID-19 Cases Associated with an Outbreak Over Time

90

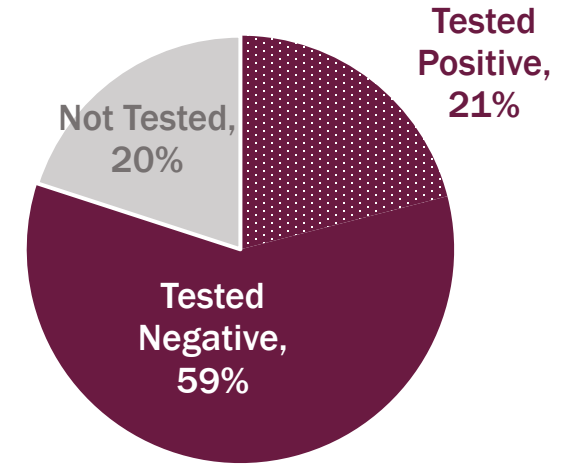


Vermont COVID-19 Deaths Associated with an Outbreak Over Time

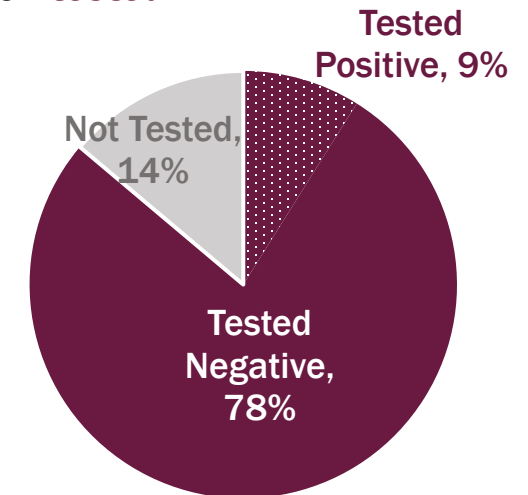
4



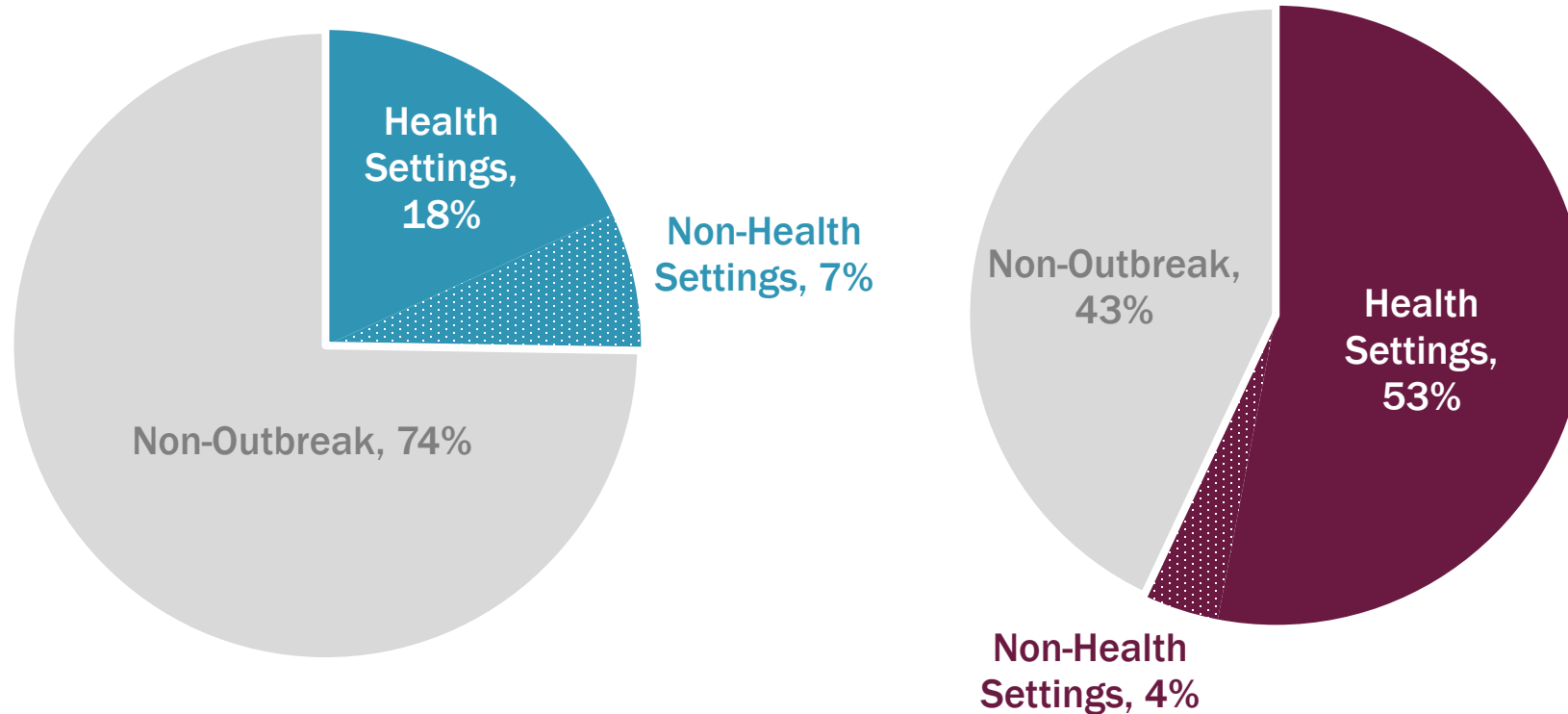
In facilities with an outbreak, 80% of residents have been tested.



In facilities with an outbreak 86% of staff have been tested.



While only 25% of all COVID-19 cases are associated with outbreaks, more than half 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.

Source: Vermont Department of Health
Reflects confirmed data as of 5/14/2020.

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.

The percentage of **females** and **males** with COVID-19 that are associated with an outbreak is about even.

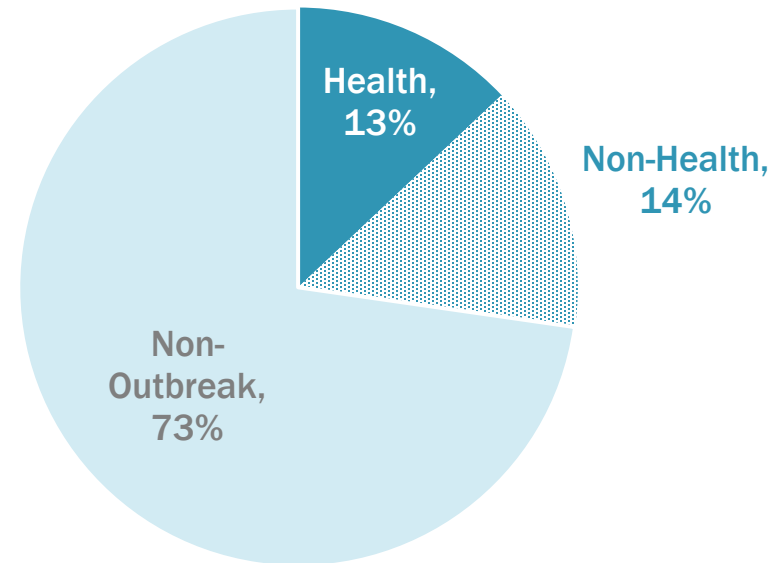
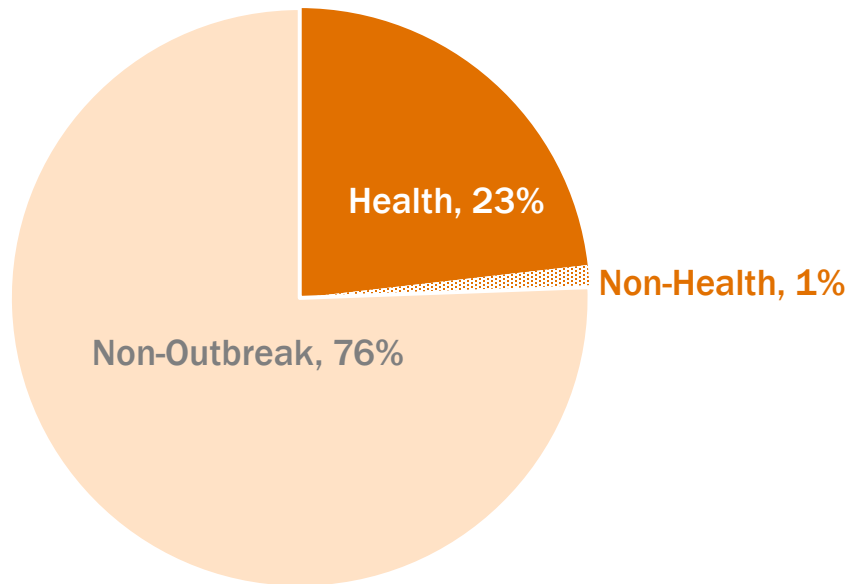


24% of **females** with COVID-19 are associated with an outbreak.



27% of **males** with COVID-19 are associated with an outbreak.

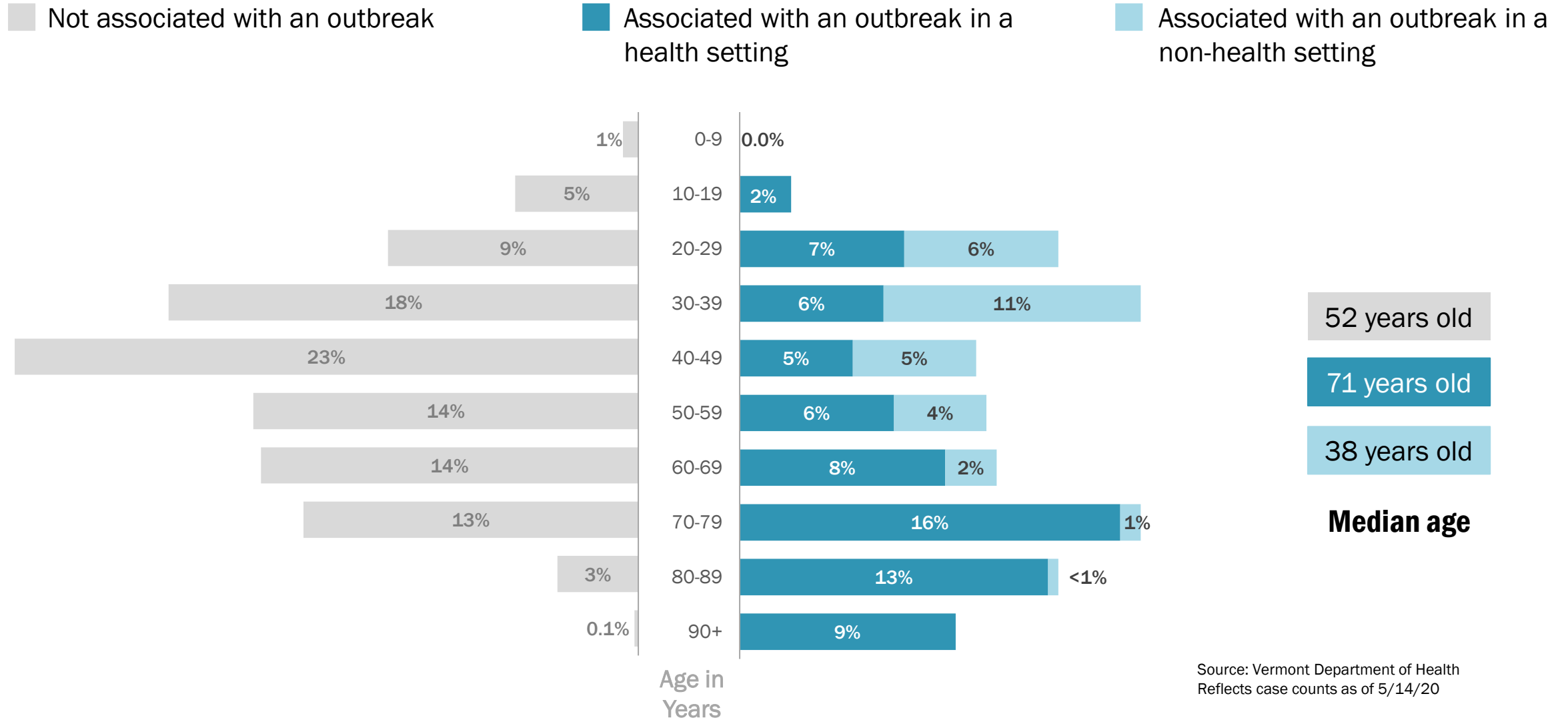
But in outbreak settings, **females with COVID-19 are more likely to be associated with a health setting than a non-health setting.**



Source: Vermont Department of Health
Reflects case counts as of 5/14/20

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.

Percent of Cases by Outbreak Status and Age



52 years old

71 years old

38 years old

Median age

Source: Vermont Department of Health
Reflects case counts as of 5/14/20

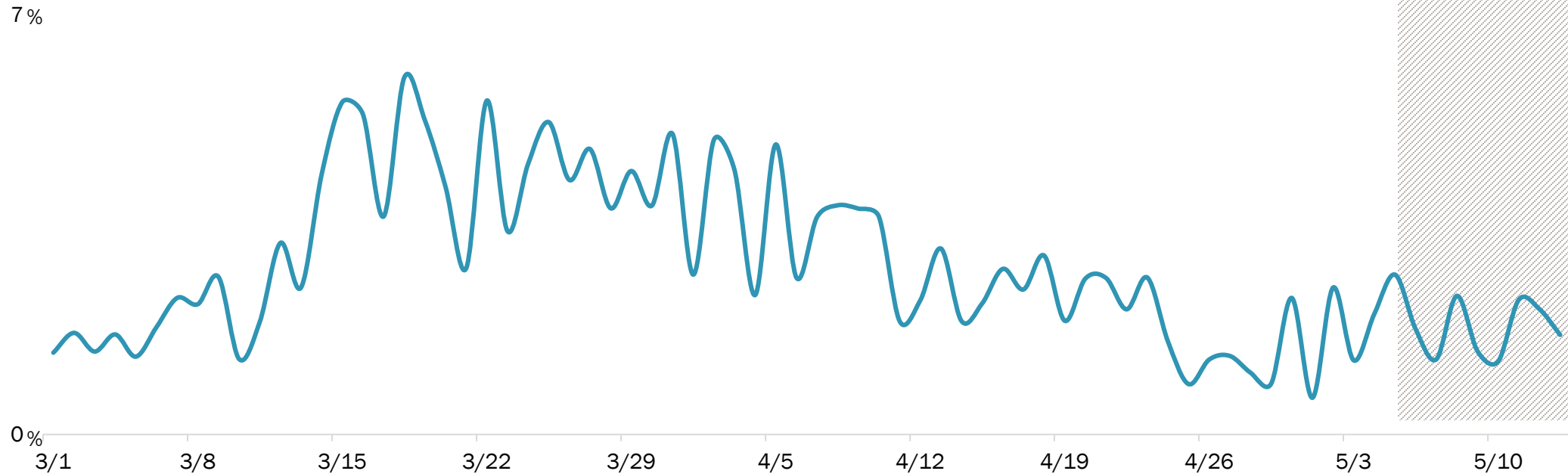
Note: Examples of a health setting include long-term care or assisted living facilities, therapeutic treatment centers, and behavioral health institutions. Examples of a non-health setting include correctional facilities, senior housing communities, businesses, and homeless shelters. Vermont has not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

Syndromic Surveillance

What we can learn from emergency room and urgent care centers?

The percent of emergent care visits for COVID-19-like illness is decreasing.

Syndromic surveillance from 13 of 14 Vermont hospitals and 2 urgent care centers. Monitoring this data acts as an early indicator of potential spikes of COVID-19 in the community.



Interpret with caution, there is a chance for over or underestimation given the lag in reporting.

COVID-19-like illness diagnosis is determined using the patient's chief complaint and/or discharge diagnosis.

COVID-19-like illness is the presence of a fever with the addition of shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, or cough.

COVID-19-like illness excludes patients with an influenza discharge diagnosis.

Weekly Spotlight: Pre-existing Conditions

The Health Department has information about pre-existing conditions in 77% (720) of 932 total COVID-19 cases. This section focuses on those 720 cases.

Approximately 62% of people* with COVID-19 have a pre-existing condition.

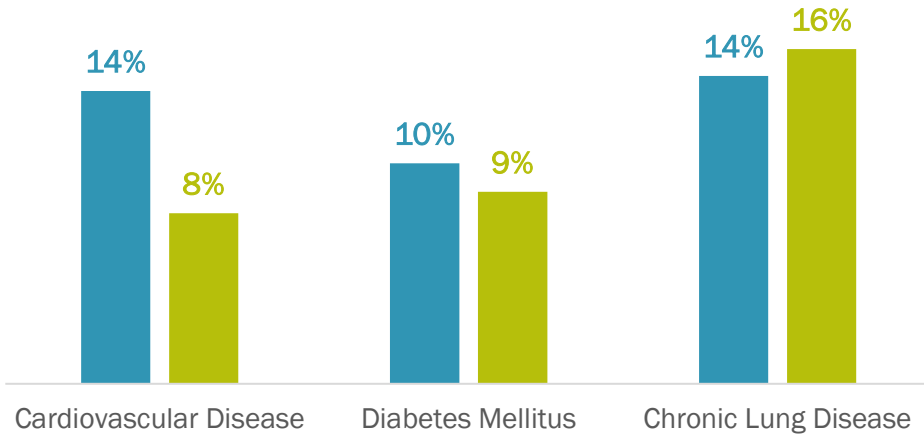
*of the 720 people that the Health Department has pre-existing condition data.

Condition	Count	Percentage
Heart Disease	97	14%
Chronic Lung Disease (includes asthma and COPD)	102	14%
Chronic Liver Disease	6	1%
Chronic Kidney Disease	17	2%
Current/Former Smoker	194	27%
Diabetes	73	10%
Immunocompromised Condition	39	6%
Neurologic Condition/Intellectual Disability	19	3%
Other Chronic Condition**	230	33%
Pregnant	6	1%

33% of people with a pre-existing condition have two or more conditions.

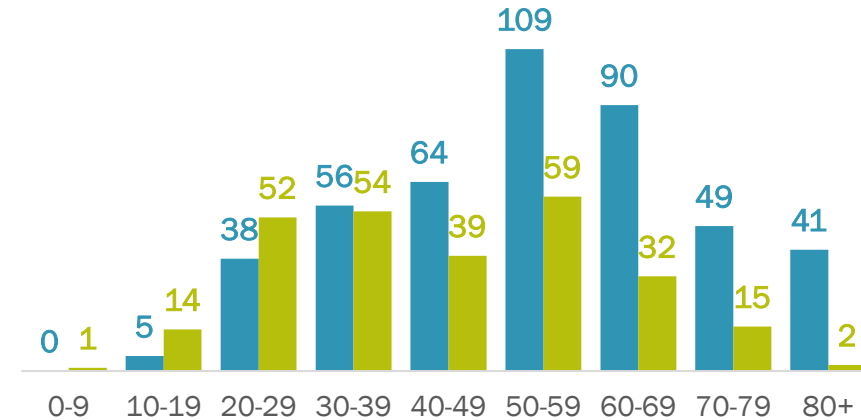
**Not mutually exclusive, includes things like arthritis, thyroid conditions, multiple free text entries.

Prevalence of certain conditions in COVID-19 patients and Vermont adults.

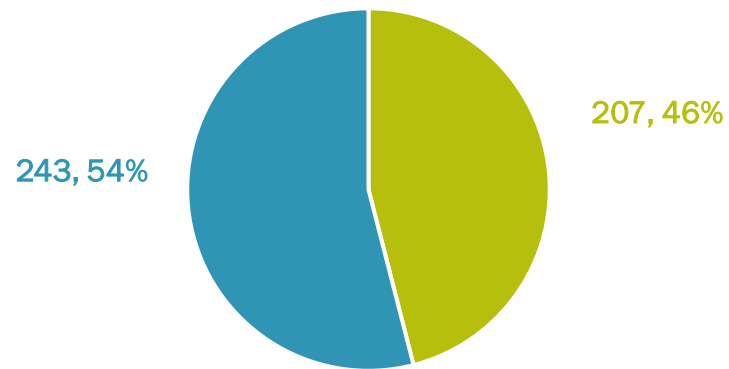


Data Source: Cardiovascular disease and diabetes, BRFSS 2018 annual report. Chronic lung disease, 3-4-50 Community profile (2016-2017 BRFSS).

COVID-19 patients with pre-existing conditions tend to be older than those without pre-existing conditions.

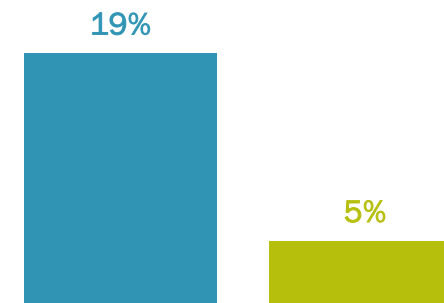


Prevalence of pre-existing conditions is approximately equal between female and male COVID-19 patients.



Vermont Department of Health

A higher percentage of COVID-19 patients with pre-existing conditions have been hospitalized than those without pre-existing conditions.





Learn more about COVID-19 in Vermont:

Web: www.healthvermont.gov/COVID-19

Email: AHS.VDHPublicCommunication@vermont.gov