

Highlights

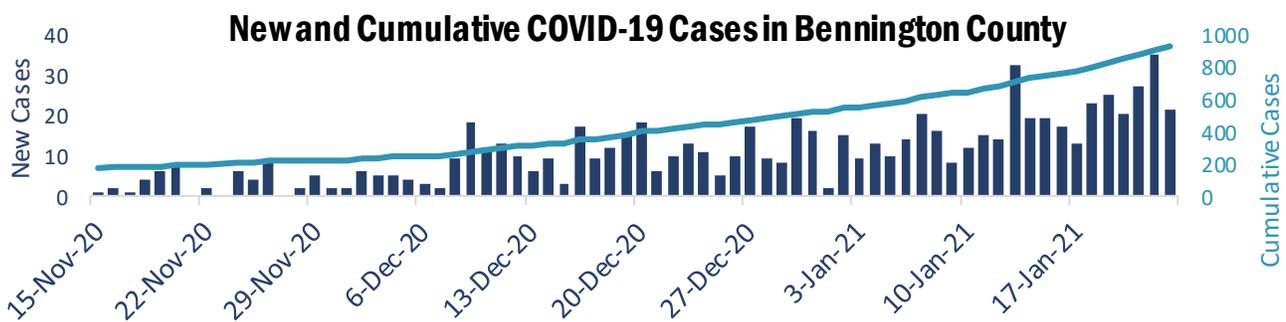
- Incidence rates for the past two weeks in Bennington County are higher than the state average (77.5 vs. 28.3 per 10,000 residents).
- The 7-day percent positivity rate in Bennington County has been higher than the state rate since late January. The most recent 7-day percent positivity in Bennington County is also higher than the state rate (3.6% vs. 1.7%).
- In the past two weeks, 48% of cases in Bennington County had contact with another case, 36% had an unknown source of exposure, 11% were part of an outbreak, and 4% had indication of recent travel.
- In the past two weeks, 20% of cases in Bennington County are non-Vermont residents.
- As of February 8, there are 8 active outbreaks in Bennington County. Of those, 2 are at a long-term care facility.

Introduction

Over the past two weeks, continuing a trend that started at the end of December, the rates of COVID-19 in the Bennington County area increased. As of February 4, increases in rates were identified in Arlington, Shaftsbury and Pownal. These increases are also reflected in the [map of recent cases by town](#). Cases are associated with several household clusters, outbreaks and workplaces. However, none of the household clusters, outbreaks or workplaces explain the increase in rates. In other words, community-wide transmission is likely driving the transmission. Encouraging ongoing participation in routine prevention and mitigation strategies is the best public health intervention. We encourage creative engagement and partnerships with local stakeholders to keep people energized and willing to participate in pandemic precautions.

Incidence

In the past two weeks, the incidence rate in Bennington County was 77.5 per 10,000 residents, which is higher than the states two-week incidence rate of 28.3.



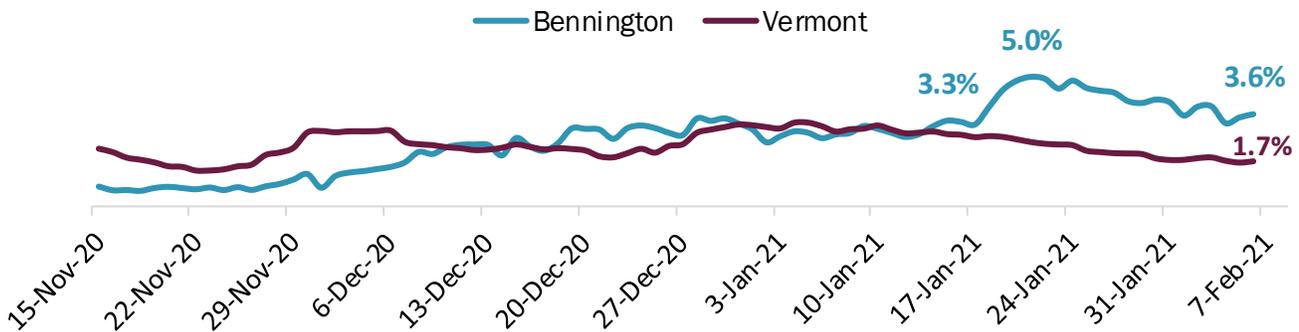
Past two weeks and two-week incidence rate include cases from January 26 to February 8, 2021. All data is preliminary and subject to change.

COVID-19 in Bennington County

Percent Positivity

Since mid-January, Bennington County's 7-day percent positivity has been higher than the state rate. Most recently, the 7-day percent positivity (January 31 – February 7) was also higher than the state rate (3.6% vs. 1.7%). Percent positivity can help indicate prevalence of COVID-19 within a community.

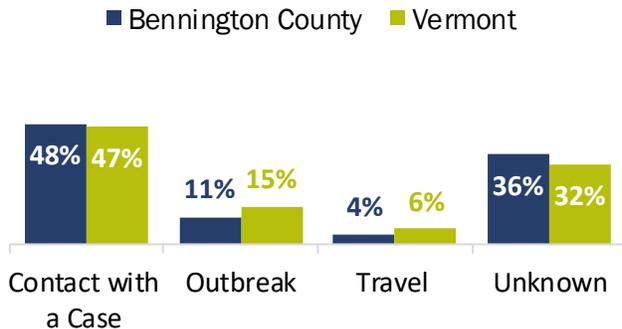
Bennington County and Vermont 7-day Percent Positivity



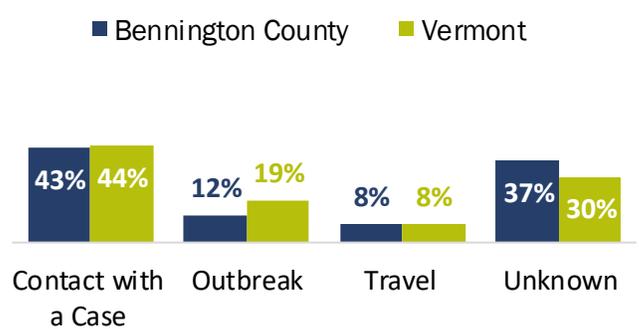
Source of Exposure

In the past two weeks, there have been more cases with an unknown source of exposure in Bennington County compared to the state.

COVID-19 Source of Exposure for the Past 2 Weeks



COVID-19 Source of Exposure since March 2020



State of Residence

In the past two weeks, 20% of cases in Bennington are non-VT residents, which is higher than the state overall (7%). On average, 23% of cases in Bennington are non-VT residents, whereas 8% of the state cases are from out of state.

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