

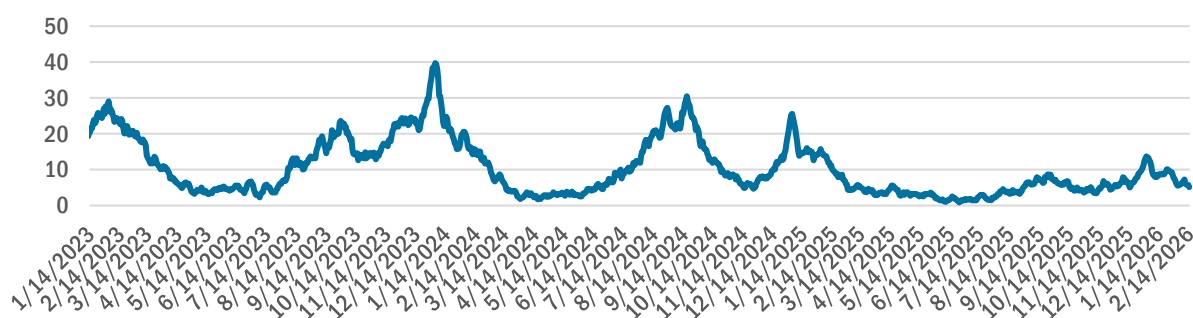
Weekly COVID-19 Surveillance Report

February 18, 2026

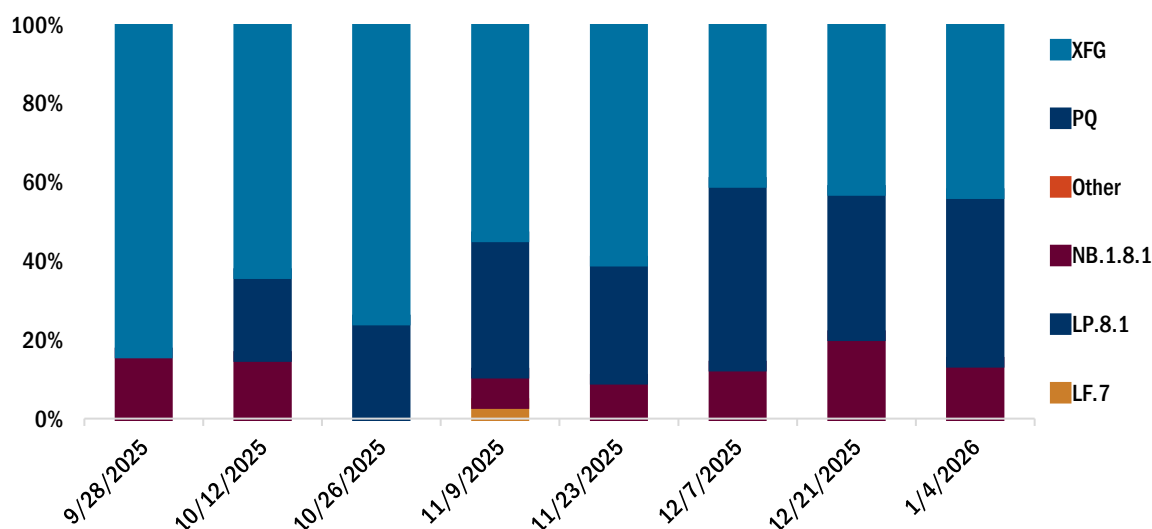
Syndromic Surveillance

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 PQ are the most commonly sequenced variants. Limited specimen quantities may impact 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 2/8/26 – 2/14/2026.

Wastewater Treatment Facility	SARS-CoV-2 Viral Activity Level
Burlington – Main Plant	Very Low
Essex Junction	Low
Ludlow	Low
Middlebury	High
Montpelier	Moderate
South Burlington – Airport Parkway	Moderate
All facilities combined	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 2/10 – 2/16
Long-term Care (LTC)	3
Non-LTC Healthcare	1
Correctional Facility	-
School/childcare	-
Other	-

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

County	New Outbreaks Reported 2/10– 2/16
Addison	-
Bennington	1
Caledonia	-
Chittenden	1
Essex	-
Franklin	-
Grand Isle	-
Lamoille	-
Orange	1
Orleans	-
Rutland	-
Washington	-
Windham	1
Windsor	-