



State of Vermont
Department of Corrections
280 State Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671-1000

Agency of Human Services

For Immediate Release

Press Contact:

Rachel Feldman

Principal Assistant, Vermont Department of Corrections

rachel.feldman@vermont.gov (802) 585-5582

NO COVID-19 CASES DETECTED AT NORTHEAST CORRECTIONAL COMPLEX

All results negative in mass testing of third Vermont facility

Waterbury, Vt., May 19, 2020 – COVID-19 test results from Northeast Correctional Complex (NECC) in St. Johnsbury are all negative for the 107 staff and 27 inmates tested Monday.

NECC is the third Vermont facility to have all staff and inmates tested for novel coronavirus under the state’s COVID-19 mitigation strategy for Vermont’s six prisons.

“Northeast was identified as our surge facility in DOC’s early planning stages, and the presence of COVID-19 positive inmates brought there from Northwest Regional Correction Facility made strict adherence to our evidence-based protocols especially important,” said Interim Commissioner Jim Baker. “This result is not just some form of luck; it was being faithful to the plan. I would like to thank Superintendent Norah Quinn for her leadership and the entire staff at NECC. I would also like to thank the community for their continued support of the staff and inmates who stayed behind to provide services at that facility.”

Mass testing has now been conducted on all staff and inmates at Northwest Regional Correctional Facility, Chittenden Regional Correctional Facility and NECC. Vermont Department of Health staff will begin testing staff and inmates at Marble Valley Regional Correctional Facility in Rutland next week.

Daily updates on the COVID-19 response in Vermont’s correctional facilities can be found at <https://doc.vermont.gov/covid-19-information-page>.

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