

The Virgin Islands Consortium

St. Croix Accounts for 24 of Territory's 37 Active Covid-19 Cases

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Staff Consortium **November 10, 2020**



The V.I. Department of Health was tracking 37 Covid-19 cases territory-wide as of Monday, with St. Croix commanding a majority of those cases with 24, followed by St. Thomas with 12. There was only one active Covid-19 case in St. John, according to D.O.H.

Other Covid-19 stats:

- 25,451 individuals tested to date (about 25% of the population)
- 24,012 of those tests were negative
- 1,405 tests came back positive

- 1,345 people have recovered
- 23 fatalities to date
- No Covid-19 patients are hospitalized at Juan F. Luis Hospital on St. Croix.
- Two Covid-19 patients are hospitalized at Schneider Regional Medical Center on St. Thomas

Updates during Governor Bryan's Covid-19 press briefing Monday

As of Monday, bars and nightclubs were cleared to reopen. Below, the restrictions:

- Bars may operate for seated service only
- Serving alcohol at bar counters is prohibited
- No alcohol may be sold after 11 p.m. and all establishments must close by midnight
- Masks and facial coverings are required for all patrons unless they are seated
- The use of pool tables is allowed, as long as players wear facemasks, hand sanitizer is available for all players and cue sticks and areas around the pool table are disinfected after each game
- Live music and DJs are allowed in licensed establishments until midnight, and live bands must be set up with social distancing of at least 10 feet between the band and patrons.
- Occupancy in these establishments is limited to 50% of their capacity set by their business license or the Fire Marshal or 100 people, whichever is less
- Cabarets remain closed

Chromebook trickle continues; Education sets 12,000 distribution goal

The Dept. of Education had distributed over 1,500 chromebooks for virtual learning as of Monday: 997 in the St. Croix District and 670 in the St. Thomas-St. John District, according to Government House.

In addition to the Chromebooks, D.O.E. has issued 1,700 devices from a previous inventory. The department plans on a total distribution goal of 12,000, although a timeline for complete distribution remains elusive.

Unemployment

- To date, the Virgin Islands Department of Labor (DOL) has issued 45,520 unemployment insurance checks totaling more than \$35,643,249.
- The department also has issued an additional 28,068 Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation checks totaling \$43,315,620.
- VIDOL has issued 4,191 Pandemic Unemployment Assistance checks to self-employed Virgin Islanders totaling \$7,056,424 and \$2,309,811 in Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation.
- In total, the Bryan-Roach Administration has issued 79,109 checks totaling \$88,325,104.

Stimulus

The Bureau of Internal Revenue has extended the deadline to file a 2018 income tax return or form 1040 to receive a stimulus check to November 21, according to Government House. The bureau will continue to make payments until December 31, 2020.