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Health Department of Northwest Michigan COVID-19 Daily Update

The Health Department of Northwest Michigan has received questions from residents regarding the state of COVID-19 in Otsego County. Due to several contributing factors, the number of positive cases of COVID-19 in Otsego County increased significantly. We continue to work collaboratively with multiple partners and conduct contact tracing in all four of our counties to minimize the spread of COVID-19.

Lisa Peacock, Health Officer, states “We understand that a sudden increase in the number of reported cases can be disconcerting for our Otsego County communities. We want you to know that there are several contributing factors, including the availability of new and expanded testing methodologies, as well as an increase in cases within a congregate living setting. We will likely see increased cases in all of our communities as access to testing continues to expand. We urge everyone to continue their vigilance in staying home and staying safe!”

We would like to also make residents aware of changes being made to our daily COVID-19 reporting procedures. At the onset of the COVID-19 outbreak in our four-county jurisdiction, we responded with daily updates to keep our residents informed. Since then, we have continued to adapt to meet the information needs of our residents, and we developed our [COVID-19 Data Dashboard](#).

At this time, we will begin sending formal COVID-19 updates on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays only. Additional press releases will be shared if a pertinent issue arises. Although we are reducing the frequency of formal COVID-19 updates, we want to remind residents to visit our [COVID-19 Data Dashboard](#) and our [Facebook page](#) for continued daily COVID-19 updates.

Below, we are now reporting the State of Michigan’s reported cumulative recovered cases. The State of Michigan updates this number every Saturday. Recovered cases are defined as persons with a confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis who are alive 30 days out from symptom onset.

As of 4:00pm, the Health Department of Northwest Michigan is reporting positive COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Antrim – 9, Charlevoix – 12, Emmet – 21, Otsego – 72; and confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Charlevoix – 1, Emmet – 2, Otsego – 6. The State of Michigan has reported 32,000 cases and 2,468 deaths; and as of April 17, cumulative recovered cases: 3,237.

Stay up to date on the latest information in the Health Department jurisdiction by [liking and following our Facebook page](#) and visiting our [COVID-19 Data Dashboard](#).

The Health Department of Northwest Michigan is mandated by the Michigan Public Health Code to promote wellness, prevent disease, provide quality healthcare, address health problems of vulnerable populations, and protect the environment for the residents and visitors of Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet, and Otsego counties. For more information, visit nwhealth.org.

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