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## **Health Department of Northwest Michigan COVID-19 Update**

The Health Department of Northwest Michigan is reporting 2 new confirmed cases in Emmet (1) and Otsego (1) counties. Case investigation and contact tracing are in progress, and relevant information will be shared when it is available. Today we are also reporting one death in Charlevoix county, the individual was a male in his 70s who was hospitalized.

"Anytime we learn of a COVID-19 death it reminds us that this is a serious disease and there remains many in our communities who are vulnerable to complications. We extend our deepest sympathies to the family and friends who lost their loved one," stated Lisa Peacock, Health Officer.

Last week we offered free community testing with the support of the National Guard. Over the two-day period we were able to administer 342 total COVID-19 tests, 235 at the Emmet County Fairgrounds and 107 at the East Jordan site. Of these tests there were 9 total positive tests.

As many students begin heading back to school both virtually and in-person, we must be reminded that we will encounter COVID-19 in our school communities. We have been working closely with our local school districts to ensure that all necessary precautions and safety measures are being taken to protect students, staff and families. Following all of the required and recommended safety precautions such as wearing a mask and regularly washing our hands are our best ways to make this possible.

"Our goal is not to prevent COVID-19 from entering our schools, but rather to work to contain it," shared Dr. Joshua Meyerson, Medical Director. "We understand that there may be a variety of emotions as students and teachers return to school, but we want to remind everyone that in taking individual responsibility to protect ourselves and our children we are supporting a safe return to school for all."

As of 4:00pm, the Health Department of Northwest Michigan is reporting:

- Positive COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Antrim – 53, Charlevoix – 68, Emmet – 116, Otsego – 124
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Antrim – 35, Charlevoix – 35, Emmet – 48, Otsego – 102
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Charlevoix – 3, Emmet – 3, Otsego – 11.

The State of Michigan has reported 103,186 cases and 6,495 deaths.

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](#). To locate a testing facility, visit the [Michigan COVID-19 Test Finder website](#). To track the risk levels of COVID-19 pandemic indicators, visit the [MI Safe Start Map website](#).

*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](http://nwhealth.org).*

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