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Health Department of Northwest Michigan COVID-19 Update

The Health Department of Northwest Michigan reported 6 confirmed cases on Saturday, October 10th in Charlevoix (4) and Otsego (2) counties. On Sunday, October 11th we reported 3 confirmed cases in Charlevoix (2) and Otsego (1) counties. Today, we are reporting 4 new confirmed cases in Antrim (3) and Emmet (1) counties. Case investigation and contact tracing are in progress, and relevant information will be shared when it is available.

On Friday, October 9th, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Director Robert Gordon issued [an Emergency Order](#) under section 2253 of the Public Health Code. This order provides additional detail and clarity around the major areas of protection including facial coverings, worker protections, and limits on gathering sizes. The new provisions in the MDHHS orders provide for capacity limits in businesses, masks in childcare centers, added protections for workers, and requirements for contact tracing. The state also released an [infographic](#) and a [fact sheet](#) to provide a better understanding of the latest orders.

“One thing we know for sure is that the last few weeks have been a roller coaster with all the new changes. Without a vaccine or a cure, there are only so many tools available to us to fight COVID-19,” stated Lisa Peacock, Health Officer. “What is important now is to remain calm and focused on continuing to protect our communities and each other by following these safety precautions including wearing face coverings, stay 6 feet away from others outside your household, staying home when you are sick, and washing your hands.”

Today we are reporting case investigation information for 17 confirmed COVID-19 cases. All 17 cases are being reported in our jurisdiction. The following information is from case investigations completed between October 8th - 11th.

- All 17 cases are primary residents
- Age:
 - 20-29 years – 3 cases
 - 30-39 years- 3 cases
 - 50-59 years – 7 cases
 - 60-69 years – 1 case
 - 70-79 years - 2 cases
 - 90+ years - 1 case
- Symptomatic: 17 cases; Asymptomatic: 0 cases
- 6 cases linked to travel either into or out of the area as reported during their case investigation
- Over 95 total close contacts identified, notified, and instructed to quarantine

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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During case investigations, the following businesses were identified as potential low-risk, public exposure sites.

- Walmart, Gaylord on October 4th from 12:00 – 2:00 pm
- Otsego County Sportsplex, Gaylord on October 5th from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
- Lowes, Gaylord on October 5th from 11:30 am – 12:00 pm
- Family Fare, Gaylord on October 5th from 12:00 – 1:00 pm
- Charlevoix Golf Club, Charlevoix on October 9th from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm
- Knot Just a Bar, Bay Harbor on October 9th from 6:30 – 8:30 pm

All businesses have been contacted and are working with the health department to ensure their employees and customers are safe. If you have questions about testing or about your potential exposure, please call the health department at 1-800-432-4121.

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

- Positive COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Antrim – 73, Charlevoix – 108, Emmet – 164, Otsego – 176
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Antrim – 58, Charlevoix – 79, Emmet – 119, Otsego – 127
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Charlevoix – 4, Emmet – 4, Otsego – 12.

The State of Michigan has reported 136,465 cases and 6,898 deaths; and as of October 9th, cumulative recovered cases: 104,271.

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](#).

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