

**MEDIA CONTACT:**

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The Health Department of Northwest Michigan is reporting 7 new confirmed cases in Antrim (5) and Charlevoix (2) counties. Case investigation and contact tracing are in progress, and relevant information will be shared when it is available.

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

- Meijer, Petoskey on October 11th from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
- Shirley's Café, Mancelona on October 11th from 8:00 – 10:00 am
- Foundry Bar & Grill, East Jordan on October 12th from 5:00 – 6:00 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.

The State of Michigan reported that we are seeing increases in positivity rate in addition to more residents being hospitalized compared to previous weeks. Currently, Michigan has 89 daily cases per million people, 3.6 percent of tests are positive and there are 698 COVID-19 hospitalizations, an increase compared to the same point last week when the state reported 81.6 daily cases per million people, 3.4 percent positivity and 586 hospitalizations for COVID-19. Locally cases are remaining fairly steady and the percent positivity rate now at 2.4% remains low but shows an increase from last week.

“As we monitor the pandemic risk indicators on the mistartmap.info website, it is important to note that since mid-September, Michigan's daily cases/million has remained above a level not seen since early May around 82,” stated Lisa Peacock, Health Officer. “In the Traverse City Region, cases are remaining fairly steady at the risk level B-C and the positivity rate at 2.4% remains low but has been rising for a week. While these numbers vary from county to county there continue to be counties with case and/or positivity rates higher than the region each week. It is important to remember that this situation continues to change every day and therefore can evolve rapidly.”

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

- Positive COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Antrim – 78, Charlevoix – 111, Emmet – 166, Otsego – 177
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Antrim – 58, Charlevoix – 81, Emmet – 124, Otsego – 128
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Charlevoix – 4, Emmet – 4, Otsego – 12.

The State of Michigan has reported 139,061 cases and 6,941 deaths.

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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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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