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

The Health Department of Northwest Michigan is reporting 8 new confirmed cases in Antrim (1), Charlevoix (5), and Emmet (2) counties. Case investigation and contact tracing are in progress, and relevant information will be shared when it is available.

Yesterday, the Director of the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity issued [emergency rules](#) to establish requirements for employers to control, prevent, and mitigate the spread of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) among employees. The emergency rules align closely with the Governor's Executive Order 184- safe guards for employees, which is now rescinded. These emergency rules were released to protect business and their staff.

"We need to remember that we approached this pandemic in March with a collective goal to "flatten the curve" and protect the hospital systems and we did! We are now approaching a new stage – a rise in cases, hospitalizations, and deaths as we enter flu season," stated Lisa Peacock, Health Officer. "It is more important than ever to stand together against this virus so that we can protect the vulnerable, protect the healthcare systems, and help our children continue to receive the highest quality education in person. Continuing to live as we have been for a while longer seems difficult but it also seems like a small price to pay to avoid returning to where we started."

Today we are reporting case investigation information for 15 confirmed COVID-19 cases. All 15 cases are being reported in our jurisdiction. The following information is from case investigations completed between October 12<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>.

- All 15 cases are primary residents
- Age:
  - 20-29 years – 3 cases
  - 30-39 years- 3 cases
  - 40-49 years – 2 cases
  - 50-59 years – 2 cases
  - 60-69 years – 2 cases
  - 70-79 years - 1 case
  - 80-89 years – 2 cases
- Symptomatic: 9 cases; Asymptomatic: 6 cases
- 6 cases linked to travel either into or out of the area as reported during their case investigation
- Over 75 total close contacts identified, notified, and instructed to quarantine

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

- Aldi, Gaylord on October 5<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 – 2:00 pm, and October 9<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 – 4:30 pm

*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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- Flap Jack Family Restaurant, Charlevoix on October 7<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 – 1:00 pm
- La Senorita, Gaylord on October 9<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 – 2:30 pm
- Meijer, Petoskey on October 11<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 – 1:00 pm
- Kohls, Gaylord on October 11<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 – 6:00 pm
- Bee Well Mead and Cider, Bellaire on October 12<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am – 2:30 pm, October 13<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 – 10:00 pm, and October 14<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 – 10:30 am
- Meijer, Petoskey on October 14<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 – 10:30 am

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 – 79, Charlevoix – 116, Emmet – 168, Otsego – 177
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Antrim – 58, Charlevoix – 81, Emmet – 124, Otsego – 131
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Charlevoix – 4, Emmet – 4, Otsego – 12.

The State of Michigan has reported 141,091 cases and 6,973 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](#).