



MEDIA CONTACT:
Laurel Johnson, PIO
O: 231-347-5628
l.johnson@nwhealth.org
www.nwhealth.org

November 6, 2020

Health Department of Northwest Michigan COVID-19 Update

The Health Department of Northwest Michigan is reporting 52 new confirmed cases in Antrim (10), Charlevoix (12), Emmet (17), and Otsego (13) counties. Today we are also reporting 5 deaths in Emmet County. Case investigation and contact tracing are in progress, and relevant information will be shared when it is available.

Outbreaks are increasing across the state, and Northern Michigan is no exception. Unfortunately, rising cases and outbreaks eventually lead to increased hospitalizations and deaths. We are so sorry to hear of additional community members that have been lost to COVID-19, and our deepest thoughts are with those close to them. We are imploring every community member to do their part and adhere to the rules in place, especially those requiring isolation and quarantine, masking, gathering limits and social distancing so that we can protect our vulnerable neighbors.

We have received several questions about social bubbles. A [social bubble](#) is a group of people that only socializes within the group and consistently practice COVID-19 prevention measures. Social bubbles are meant to be smaller groups to reduce the risk of coming into contact with COVID-19 and they are not intended to socialize with everyone you know. When done correctly, socializing with your social bubble can be done safely if everyone in your small group stays at least 6 feet apart, wears a mask (even when outdoors) and practices good hand hygiene. We understand socialization is important especially throughout this pandemic and using the social bubble idea/practice can help us to see friends and family in a safer way.

“We know how important it is for our mental and emotional health to gather and socialize but we want to remind people to keep groups small and take proper precautions,” stated Lisa Peacock, Health Officer. “It is important to remember that we can still get COVID-19 from the people in our inner circle – when each person within that circle goes to work or school or a social or sporting event, they bring that close contact back, and our circle grows. Even in places we see as our safe spaces, such as our home or that of our family or friends, we must continue to practice mitigation measures to keep the risk of transmission low.”

Today we are reporting case investigation information for 106 confirmed COVID-19 cases. All 106 cases are being reported in our jurisdiction. The following information is from case investigations completed between November 4th - 5th.

- All 106 cases are primary residents
- Age:
 - 0-12 years – 7 cases
 - 13-19 years – 4 cases
 - 20-29 years – 18 cases

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.

###

- 30-39 years- 15 cases
- 40-49 years – 13 cases
- 50-59 years – 21 cases
- 60-69 years – 15 cases
- 70-79 years – 9 cases
- 80-89 years – 1 case
- 90+ years – 3 cases
- Symptomatic: 98 cases; Asymptomatic: 6 cases; Unknown at time of this report: 2
- 11 cases linked to travel either into or out of the area as reported during their case investigation
- Over 365 total close contacts identified, notified, and instructed to quarantine

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

- Positive COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Antrim – 172, Charlevoix – 250, Emmet – 443, Otsego – 317
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Antrim – 69, Charlevoix – 95, Emmet – 145, Otsego – 156
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Charlevoix – 4, Emmet – 13, Otsego – 12.

At the time of this report, the State of Michigan had not yet updated their case counts. Visit <https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus> to find the state case counts when they become available.

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.

###