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Health Department of Northwest Michigan COVID-19 Update

**30,800 doses administered by health department,
cases still rising across region**

Milestones have been reached with more than 30,800 doses of the COVID-19 vaccines administered by the Health Department of Northwest Michigan. This incredible progress in just three months is only possible through the partnership of staff, volunteers, and community partners. Although the progress is very encouraging, cases are spiking across the state and northern Michigan residents are reminded to maintain caution.

More than 40% of eligible residents in Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet and Otsego counties have received their initial (first) shot. In less than four months, Michigan surpassed 4 million doses administered of the safe, effective COVID-19 vaccines.

While this great news is reason to celebrate, Health Officer Lisa Peacock is urging residents to push back the fight toward pandemic fatigue.

“I am so proud of all our staff, volunteers and partners for our collective role in vaccinating more than 30,800 people ranging in age from 90 and older to 16-year-olds,” Peacock said. “We also could not host these clinics without the support of local emergency services, organizations that offer space for our clinics, as well as restaurants and businesses that help us feed and keep our staff and volunteers hydrated! With this amazing team effort, over 30,800 people have been vaccinated at health department clinics.”

With case numbers going up across the region, the health department is diligently working to investigate confirmed and probable cases. Anyone with symptoms or who suspects they may have been exposed to COVID should get tested. Testing is available weekly at the health department. No doctor’s order or symptoms are necessary to get tested. To locate a testing site, call the health department at 1-800-432-4121.

Residents who test positive or probable for COVID-19 are advised to look for an email or text message from the health department to complete a Contact Tracing Survey. In addition to filling out the survey, the email or text will ask residents to stay home for 10 days from the date symptoms started or the date of your positive test if you don’t have symptoms. As the volume of case investigations have risen sharply, health department staff may not be able to contact everyone in a timely manner, so you are urged to isolate at home for 10 days and notify your close contacts to quarantine for 10 days.

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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“With this rising trajectory of cases and hospitalizations, we are concerned,” Peacock said. “It is necessary for us to continue to be vigilant in taking protective measures such as wearing your mask, staying six feet away from others outside your household, and washing your hands frequently. And, most importantly, get vaccinated right away – we are welcoming everyone 16 and older to pre-register for scheduling at this time.”

The health department emphasizes the three vaccines on the market – Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson and Johnson (Janssen) - are [all safe and effective](#). A list of organizations offering the vaccine in the health department’s four-county jurisdiction is available by clicking [here](#).

Today, March 30, 46 new cases were reported: Antrim (9), Charlevoix (5), Emmet (16), and Otsego (16) counties. As of 4 p.m. today, the health department is reporting:

- Total COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Antrim (1,196), Charlevoix (1,180), Emmet (1,705), and Otsego (1,615).
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Antrim (940), Charlevoix (1,011), Emmet (1,438), and Otsego (1,069).
- Confirmed COVID-19 associated deaths in the following counties: Antrim (20), Charlevoix (13), Emmet (38), and Otsego (28).

The State of Michigan is reporting 665,948 cases and 16,082 deaths.

Stay up to date on the latest information in the Health Department of Northwest Michigan 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](#). For more information regarding the COVID-19 vaccine, visit the MDHHS [vaccine website](#) or the [CDC vaccine website](#).