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Health Department of Northwest Michigan COVID-19 Update

COVID cases lower but now is time for teens to get vaccinated

Although cases of COVID-19 are trending lower in the four-county jurisdiction of the Health Department of Northwest Michigan, officials continue to urge parents of teens and pre-teens, among those currently with the lowest vaccination rates, to get the shot.

According to a recent [CDC presentation on COVID-19 case data](#), since the beginning of the pandemic at least 7.7 million COVID-19 cases have been reported among persons aged 12–29 years. Adolescents and young adults have the highest COVID-19 incidence rates and are an increasing proportion of the COVID-19 cases reported, CDC data shows. While more older adults are vaccinated, the adolescents and young adults make up a greater percentage of total cases. As noted [in the CDC data](#), 33% of cases reported in May 2021 were among persons aged 12–29 years.

“Within our jurisdiction of Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet and Otsego counties, 61.1% of residents aged 12 and older have at least one dose of the vaccine, which is telling us there is still progress to be made,” said Lisa Peacock, Health Officer. “We are working to reach our residents by reducing barriers to getting vaccinated, continuing smaller community clinics and offering appointment times outside of 8-5 business hours. As the population in our region continues to increase this summer, there is no better time to get vaccinated. If you have questions about the vaccines, speak to your primary care provider, call our health department at 800-432-4121, or call Munson’s Ask-A-Nurse phone line at 231-935-0951,” Peacock added.

Since the beginning of pandemic, the [CDC has reported](#) 2,767 COVID-19 deaths among persons aged 12-29 years; 316 of the deaths have been reported since April 1, 2021. Vaccination of students offers an added layer of protection against COVID-19 and can be an important tool to return to "normal" especially for those going back to school in the fall. Higher levels of vaccination coverage can lead to less community transmission, which can protect against development and circulation of emerging variants.

In reviewing case data from recent weeks, Health Department of Northwest Michigan officials are sharing information regarding data trends from cases reported during June 1-30:

- In the last week, 0-1 new case per day have been reported in Antrim, Charlevoix, and Emmet counties, while Otsego County has seen 1-3 new cases per day.
- Of the 50 total cases reported from June 1-30:
 - 0% of cases were 70 years or older, an age group with 78.1% fully vaccinated, and
 - 26.4% of cases were 20-29 years or older, an age group with [35.1% fully vaccinated](#).

To view the June 2021 jurisdiction case report, which includes new data points pertaining to vaccination, [click here](#). The newest data points include percentage of June cases that were unvaccinated or did not report vaccination status, the most common symptoms and the number of hospitalizations of those 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.

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The health department continues to offer vaccination clinics throughout the four-county jurisdiction, in addition to working with local businesses to offer pop-up vaccination clinics. Public health nurses are on site at these events and able to answer any questions that residents may have regarding the vaccines. All clinics are open to walk-ins or people can register by clicking on the clinic link below or by visiting www.nwhealth.org.

Friday, July 2

- 9:30-11:30 a.m. - Petoskey Farmers Market, Howard Street, Downtown Petoskey. Vaccine: Pfizer, J&J. To schedule an appointment: [Click Here](#)
- 1-3 p.m. - Grain Train Natural Food Market, 220 E. Mitchell St., Petoskey. Vaccine: Pfizer, J&J. To schedule an appointment: [Click Here](#)

Tuesday, July 6

- 11 a.m.-1 p.m. - Front Porch Cafe, 9325 Main St., Ellsworth. Vaccine: Pfizer, J&J. To schedule an appointment: [Click Here](#)
- 3-5 p.m. - Eastport Market, 5431 US-31, Eastport. Vaccine: Pfizer, J&J. To schedule an appointment: [Click Here](#)

Wednesday, July 7

- 1-4:25 p.m. - Health Department of Northwest Michigan, 95 Livingston Blvd., Gaylord. To schedule an appointment: [Click Here](#)

Thursday, July 8

- 8:15-11:30 a.m. - Health Department of Northwest Michigan, 205 Grove St., Mancelona. To schedule an appointment: [Click Here](#)
- 1-6 p.m. - Health Department of Northwest Michigan, 3434 M-119, Harbor Springs. To schedule an appointment: [Click Here](#)

Friday, July 9

- 8:15-11:30 a.m. - Health Department of Northwest Michigan, 220 W. Garfield Ave, Charlevoix. To schedule an appointment: [Click Here](#)
- 2-4 p.m. - Jay's Sporting Goods, 1151 S. Otsego Ave, Gaylord. To schedule an appointment: [Click Here](#)
- 5:30-7:30 p.m. - City Hall, 319 N. Lake St., Boyne City. To schedule an appointment: [Click Here](#)

The calendar on the website www.nwhealth.org lists clinics currently scheduled through July 22.

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](#).