

Grand Traverse County COVID-19 Community Update - September 25, 2020



DAILY NUMBERS

The Grand Traverse County Health Department (GTCHD) has reported 38 new positive cases since Friday, September 18, bringing the total to 418 total cases, 312 recoveries, and seven deaths, leaving 99 active cases in Grand Traverse County. Case investigations and contact tracing are in progress, and information will be shared when it is available.

On September 22, the MI Safe Start Map website switched to a new set of names for the risk levels, and a new color scheme. The revised names and color scheme are intended to reduce confusion with the state's Economic Recovery Phases associated with the MI Safe Start Plan. Currently the Traverse City Region, which includes Grand Traverse County, is in the risk level B. New cases in this region have been declining for the past 3 weeks, and the percent of positive tests has also been decreasing.

Grand Traverse County is listed at a B level on the [MI Safe Start Map](#). Approximately 23,262 tests have been administered to date with a 7 day average of a 3.2% positivity rate and new cases per day have been decreasing for 3 weeks. Additional statistics are available on the Health Department's [dashboard](#) and [Facebook page](#), which updates new case information daily at 4 pm, Monday through Friday.

From September 23 through September 24, Grand Traverse County Health Department completed **15** case investigations for confirmed COVID-19 cases. The following is information known at this time:

- 14 cases are primary residents
1 case is a visitor
- Ages:
 - 20-29 3
 - 30-39 2
 - 40-49 2
 - 50-59 2
 - 60-69 1
 - 70-79 3
 - 80-89 2
- Symptomatic: **10** Asymptomatic: **5**
- **5** are linked to travel either into or out of the area as reported during the case investigation
- **1** is linked to large group gatherings or social events
- **12** cases were known close contacts to other positive cases
- Approximately **51** close contacts were identified, notified, and instructed to quarantine.

Case Investigations were also completed on 0 probable cases (individuals who were close contacts of a positive COVID case who became symptomatic during their quarantine).

Case investigations are ongoing, but there are no places of potential public exposure to report today. Anyone who was identified as a close contact is contacted directly by the Grand Traverse County Health Department individually and told to quarantine.

Please note that regardless of any listed locations, community exposure is happening across Grand Traverse County. Be sure to practice safety measures while out in public, including wearing a mask in public, washing your hands often, maintaining six feet of social distance.

Regionally, Munson Healthcare is reporting COVID-19 testing results on [its website](#) for each of its hospitals. Numbers listed are by hospital, not county of residence.

[Michigan has reported](#) 120,526 positive cases and 6,708 deaths of COVID-19 and 90,216 have recovered in Michigan as of 9/18/20.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Grand Traverse County Health Department is looking for individuals who are interested in helping with COVID-19 response activities. There are multiple opportunities for those who are interested in extended flexible part time work (12+ months). Many positions are available. **This is your chance to give back to your community!**

***Public Health Nurses (RN)**

***Public Health Technicians**

***Emergency Preparedness Specialist (logistics)**

To apply for any of these positions, please visit
www.grandtraverse.org/1574/Job-Postings

RESUMES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED VIA FACEBOOK

COVID-19 TESTING:

Grand Traverse County testing sites include:

- [Munson Healthcare Foster Family Community Health Center](#) (priority 1 & 2 only)
- [Northwest Michigan Health Services](#) (testing all by appointment)
- [Rite Aid at Chums Corner](#) (testing all by appointment)
- [Walgreens at Chums Corner](#) (testing all by appointment)
- See [Michigan's COVID-19 test finder](#) for more options

Testing sites have capacity and tests are available. Individuals seeking tests can call:

- Their healthcare provider
- The Munson Healthcare Covid-19 hotline: 231-935-0951
- The Michigan COVID-19 hotline: 888-535-6136

If you seek testing, please remember once you get tested you should not be going out and visiting local shops and restaurants or other public spaces while waiting for test results. Anyone who gets tested for COVID-19 must remember to stay home and away from others as much as possible until they have received a negative test result, or once they have passed their isolation period as advised by the health department if they test positive. The public should also assume the potential risk for COVID-19 exposure when going into any business and should always be wearing masks, social distancing and follow other safety guidelines to reduce the spread in Grand Traverse County.

SENIOR CENTER

Grand Traverse County Senior Network offering flu shot clinics. Flu and Pneumonia shots provided by Rite Aid Pharmacy. Please bring your insurance/Medicare card. Social distancing and wearing of masks will be enforced. Advanced registration appreciated.

To register, call the Senior Center at 231-922-4911.

Kingsley: The Rock Youth Center 115 E. Blair Street
Wednesday, September 30, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Interlochen: Redeemer Lutheran Church 1896 Rogers Road
Tuesday, October 13, 10 a.m. - 1p.m.

The Senior Center Network and the Commission on Aging each have disposable masks available for seniors in Grand Traverse County. Parties may call either office to arrange for curbside pick up or could be mailed upon request.

Senior Center Network: 231-922-4911

Commission on Aging: 231-922-4688

STAY SAFE TO STAY OPEN

Residents, businesses, and visitors are encouraged to **Stay Safe to Stay Open**. This includes the following measures while in public:

- Staying 6 feet apart from others
- Wearing masks while indoors or even outside when you are unable to maintain social distancing
- Limiting large social gatherings - not hosting or attending large gatherings

- Continuing basic prevention measures like frequent hand washing
- Following workplace safety protocols
- Daily monitoring of yourself for symptoms including your temperature (even if you feel fine)
- Staying home if symptomatic - even if it is just very mild symptoms

- If others in your household have tested positive or are symptomatic, stay away and take extra precautions to not become infected.

Businesses and individuals can download **Stay Safe to Stay Open** resources and get additional information at the [gtcountycovid19.com website](http://gtcountycovid19.com) and communication templates and graphics on the [Traverse Connect website](#).

ABOUT THE JOC

Grand Traverse County's Joint Operations Center has been meeting to coordinate efforts and communication on the COVID-19 pandemic since Friday, March 13. Members include key community partners from health, government, first responders, education, social service, and business sectors.

###

Media Contact: Emmy Schumacher, eschumacher@gtcountymi.gov, 231-493-8376