

**COMMUNITY
REPORT
March 12, 2021**



ONE YEAR LATER - A COMMUNITY ASSEMBLED

On January 21, 2020, the United States reported its first case of the novel coronavirus that causes the disease COVID-19. By March 10, the first case in Michigan was reported and three days later, key community partners from health, government, first responders, education, social service, and business sectors in Grand Traverse County assembled as the Joint Operations Center (JOC). From March 13th until April 17th, the group would meet daily sharing information and resources. From briefings from the Health Department on the latest information surrounding the pandemic to coordinating efforts to provide the healthcare field with necessary PPE (personal protective equipment), to assuring that students that relied on school lunches for meals would not go hungry, the group cohesively worked together to navigate the social disruption the pandemic would bring to the world and our community.

Over the past year, meetings slowly began to scale back to five days a week, then to three and now, just a single meeting on Fridays with sometimes over 100 community representatives listening in to the key contributors likely remains one of the most impactful mechanisms Grand Traverse County has had over the past year to put our community in the best position to face the pandemic head on.



"I don't think we will ever know the degree of positive impact the establishment of the JOC had on our community. As partners and community leaders, the JOC members engaged the challenge of addressing the layers of issues that the pandemic has caused. We have worked together to highlight the issues and identified solutions that we as a community could support, and that has placed our community in a very advantageous position. The JOC's task has not ended and I look forward to continuing to work with a wonderful group of community leaders."

- Nate Ager, Grand Traverse County Administrator.

Grand Traverse County, along with the Health Department, would like to thank everyone involved in the JOC and the contributions you have made in assisting our community over the past year.



**SPECIAL GUEST AT
NMC'S HAGERTY VACCINE CLINIC**

Lt. Governor, Garlin Gilchrist made his way to the vaccine clinic at NMC's Hagerty Center on Friday, March 12, 2021 to show his support and see the operation that has administered over 20,000 COVID-19 vaccines through it to date.

CURRENT VACCINATION ELIGIBILITY - through March 22nd

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) officials announced today that the state is expanding vaccination eligibility for Michiganders ages 16 and older with disabilities or medical [conditions that put them at high risk of negative COVID-19 outcome](#) beginning Monday, March 22. The state is also announcing that beginning Monday, April 5, all Michiganders age 16 and up who were not previously eligible will be eligible to receive a vaccine.

Currently eligible in Grand Traverse County:

- PHASE 1 A - paid and unpaid health care workers
- PHASE 1 B - frontline and essential workers
- PHASE 1C - 65-74 years
- 50+ with medical conditions (all 50+ beginning March 22)
- Caregiver family members and guardians who care for children or adults with special health care needs

Special health care needs include: any physical, developmental, mental, sensory, behavioral, cognitive, or emotional impairment or limiting condition that requires medical management, health care intervention and/or use of specialized services or programs. The condition may be congenital, developmental, or acquired through disease, trauma, or environmental cause and may impose limitations in performing daily self-maintenance activities or substantial limitations in a major life activity.

		Estimated schedule for first doses administered													
Phase	People covered	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	
1A	Healthcare workers	[Green bar from Dec to Dec]													
	Long term care residents and staff	[Green bar from Dec to Jan]													
1B	75 years+ not covered above	[Green bar from Jan to Feb]													
	Prioritized frontline responders	[Green bar from Jan to Feb]													
	School and child care staff	[Green bar from Jan to Feb]													
	Corrections staff and detained individuals	[Green bar from Jan to Feb]													
	Agriculture/food processing workers	[Green bar from Feb to March 1st]													
	Other essential frontline workers	[Green bar from Feb to March 1st]													
1C	65-74 years old	[Green bar from Jan to Feb]													
	50-64 with disabilities/pre-existing conditions	[Green bar from Feb to March 8th]													
	Caregivers of children with special health care needs	[Green bar from Feb to March 8th]													
	16-49 with disabilities/pre-existing conditions	[Green bar from March 22nd to April 5th]													
	Remaining essential workers	[Green bar from March 22nd to April 5th]													
2	50 to 64 years not covered above	[Green bar from March 22nd to April 5th]													
	16 to 49 years not covered above	[Green bar from April 5th to Dec]													

Anyone eligible is encouraged to register to schedule an appointment by visiting www.gtcountycovid19.com/vaccine. All vaccine clinics are currently held at Northwestern Michigan College's Hagerty Center and are based on vaccine availability. **Vaccine clinics are by appointment only. There are no walk-ins or add-ons at the clinics.**

The health department will continue to work with senior organizations locally to vaccinate this high risk population in addition to the newly prioritized groups. GTCHD continues to partner with United Way, Area Agency on Aging and the Commission on Aging to assure that vulnerable seniors and those without internet access are able to get vaccinated. Call 231-715-5557 if you need technical assistance.

An updated prioritization guide from MDHHS can be found [here](#).

VACCINATION NUMBERS IN GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY

Officials are reporting the following vaccination coverage rates for GT County residents based off the MDHHS COVID 19 Vaccination Coverage Dashboard:

PERCENTAGE COVERED of GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY RESIDENTS

DOSES (as of 3/12/21)	16 + Years	50-64 Years	65-74 YEARS	75 + YEARS
Initiated	36.6%	29.3%	75.2%	84.2%
Completed	23.7%	17.8	40.6%	61.1%

*percentages include all providers, including Munson and Meijer

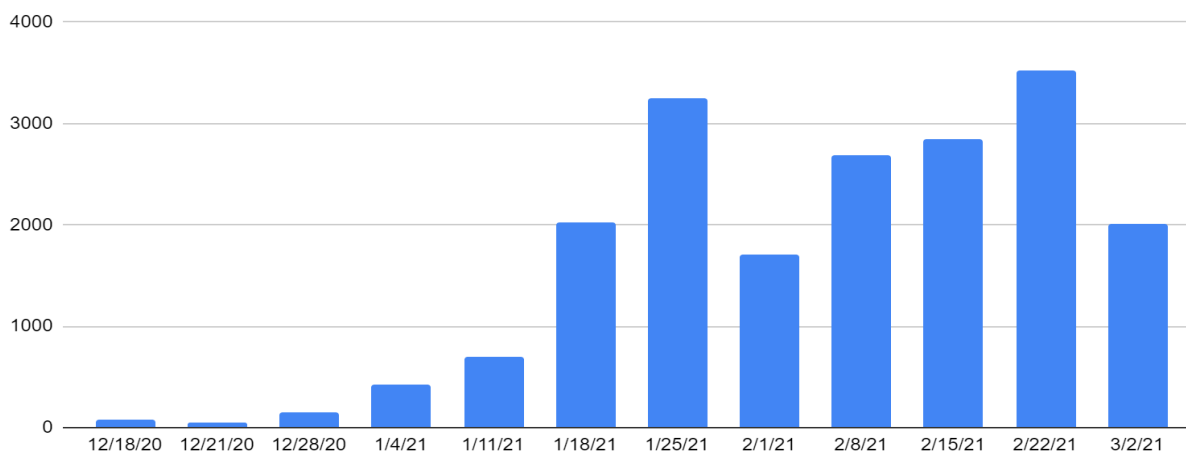
GTCHD is reporting the following vaccine totals:

DOSES ADMINISTERED AT GTCHD VACCINE CLINICS

DOSE	WEEK OF MARCH 8 - 12	CUMULATIVE (through 3/12/21)
Initiated	1804	13014
Completed	791	8655

TOTAL DOSES ADMINISTERED BY GTCHD AS OF 3/12/21: 21,699

Total Doses Administered By Week



To find the latest statistics regarding COVID-19 vaccinations across the state, you can visit the MDHHS vaccine [dashboard](#).

CASE NUMBERS AND STATISTICS

CASES SINCE 3/5/21	DEATHS SINCE 3/5/21	CUMULATIVE CASES	PERCENT POSITIVITY (7-DAY AVERAGE)	CASES PER MILLION (7-DAY AVERAGE)	COUNTY RISK LEVEL
127	0	4312	3.9% ↑	116 ↑	E

*arrows reflect an increase or decrease from the previous report

Additional statistics are available on the [MI Safe Start Map](#) and on the Health Department's [dashboard](#) and [Facebook page](#), which updates new case information daily at 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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)

[GTCHD Testing at Cherryland Mall](#) (testing by appointment on Mondays and Tuesdays)

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

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.

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