

MDHHS EASES RESTRICTIONS IN NEW EPIDEMIC ORDER; MORE UPDATES TO COME

On Friday, May 14, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) updated the [Gatherings and Mask Order](#) to align with the [U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's latest guidance on face coverings](#), easing mask and physical distance guidelines for both vaccinated and unvaccinated.

Under the order, MDHHS says that those who are outdoors will no longer need to wear a mask regardless of vaccination status. While indoors, fully vaccinated residents will no longer need to wear a mask, but residents who are not vaccinated, or have not completed their vaccinations, must continue to wear a mask or face covering to protect themselves and others. An infographic can be found [here](#).

Governor Whitmer and MDHHS announced that more restrictions will further ease up in a new Epidemic Order due out on May 25. In a [press conference](#) on Thursday, May 20, it was announced that:

As of June 1

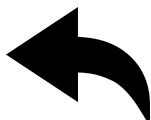
- Capacity limits will lift for outdoor events
- Indoor capacity limits will increase to 50%, allowing for larger indoor social gatherings such as weddings and funerals
- People who are not yet fully vaccinated will still be required to mask up while indoors

As of July 1

- The mask mandate and all broad mitigation measures will be lifted.

VACCINE CLINICS MAY 24 - 28

The GTCHD continues to plan with community partners for outreach clinics across the county to make the COVID-19 vaccine easily accessible to all. [Finalized](#) weekly schedules will be released every Monday for outreach clinics and walk-in clinics. Below are dates, times, and locations where walk-in appointments are available.



*No appointments or pre-registration necessary.

To find an updated schedule at any time, use this updated QR code.

Walk-ins or appointments are welcomed at the following locations for the week of May 24 - 28:

Monday, May 24

Cherryland Mall (1700 South Garfield Rd. Traverse City, MI 49686) from **9 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**
(Johnson & Johnson, 18 and older and Pfizer, 12 and older)

Tuesday, May 25

Cherryland Mall (1700 South Garfield Rd. Traverse City, MI 49686) from **11 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.**
(Johnson & Johnson, 18 and older and Pfizer, 12 and older)

Wednesday, May 26

Cherryland Mall (1700 South Garfield Rd. Traverse City, MI 49686) from **11 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.**
(Johnson & Johnson, 18 and older and Pfizer, 12 and older)

Thursday, May 27

Cherryland Mall (1700 South Garfield Rd. Traverse City, MI 49686) from **9 a.m. - 4 p.m.**
(Johnson & Johnson, 18 and older and Pfizer, 12 and older)

Friday, May 28

Cherryland Mall (1700 South Garfield Rd. Traverse City, MI 49686) from **9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**
(Johnson & Johnson, 18 and older and Pfizer, 12 and older)

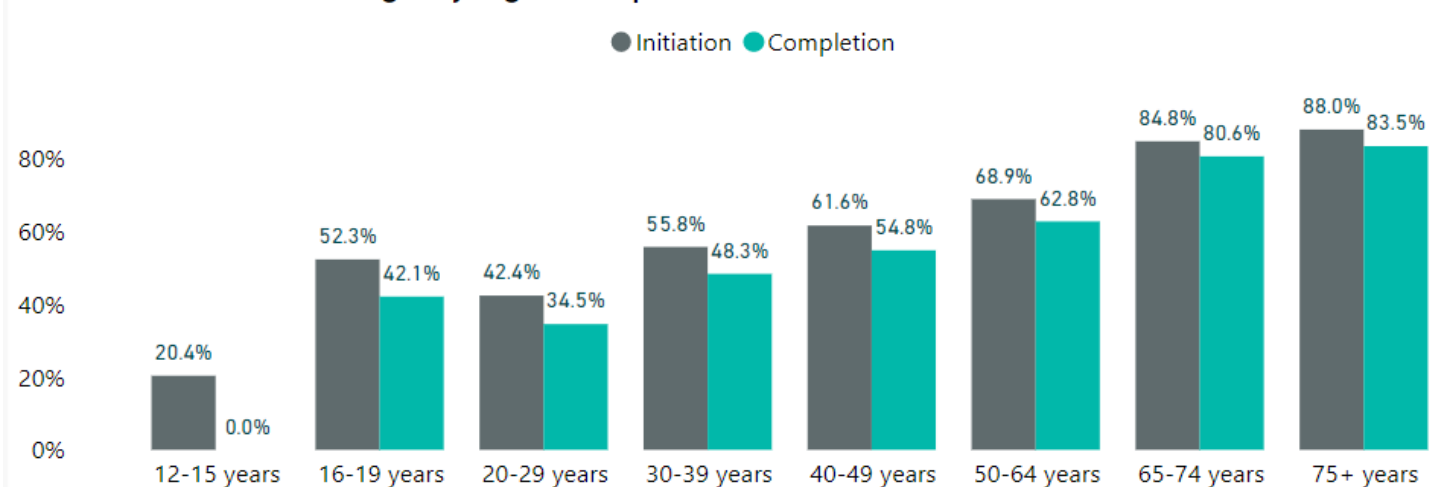
HOMEBOUND VACCINE HOTLINE IS LIVE: 231-995-6084

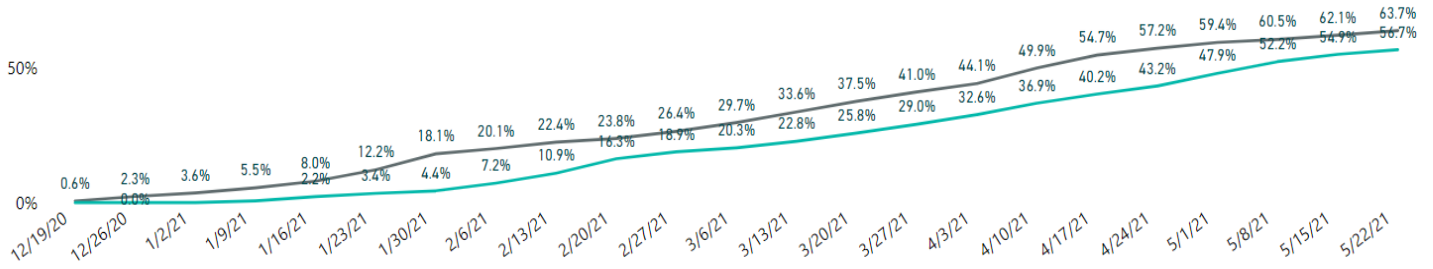
The GTCHD continues to partner with local agencies to ensure all that want a COVID-19 vaccine and receive a vaccine, including those unable to physically make it to a clinic or office setting. If you or someone you know requires a home visit to receive a COVID-19 vaccine, please call 231-995-6084. You will have an opportunity to leave a message and someone will get back to you.

VACCINATION NUMBERS IN GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY

Grand Traverse County and the Traverse City region continue to do very well overall with vaccination of everyone eligible (anyone 12+). Our current total cumulative coverage is 63.1% for the initial dose and 55.9% for completed doses. Vaccination coverage rates for GT County residents by age group based on the MDHHS COVID 19 Vaccination Coverage Dashboard.

COVID Vaccine Coverage by Age Group





*percentages include all providers, including Munson, local pharmacies, and providers

DOSES ADMINISTERED AT GTCHD VACCINE CLINICS AS OF 5/21/21: 44,560Total

DOSE	WEEK OF 5/17-5/21	CUMULATIVE (through 5/21/21)
Initiated	602	22,258
Completed	741	22,302

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

CURRENT NUMBERS AND TRENDS

Daily cases continue to drop in the county and region. As of May 21, the 7-day average of new cases was at 8 per day, down from 10 last week. The 7-day average for percent positivity dropped to 5.5% this week. Both metrics have been declining for over 5 weeks To see direct data, [visit our dashboard](#).

Some local trends of note currently are:

- Currently, there are 457 active COVID-19 cases in the county
- This past week we had 1 death, bringing the total cumulative deaths for GT County to 88
- Multiple variants have been detected in Grand Traverse County and the Traverse City region at an increasing rate. A new variant, P 1, was detected in 1 testing sample in addition to the previous B.117 and B1.429 (California) variants of Grand Traverse County residents.
- If you have cold-like, allergy-like, or sinus-like symptoms, please get tested.

CASE NUMBERS AND STATISTICS

CASES SINCE 5/14/21	DEATHS SINCE 5/14/21	CUMULATIVE CASES as of 5/14/21	PERCENT POSITIVITY (7-DAY AVERAGE)	CASES PER MILLION (7-DAY AVERAGE)	COUNTY RISK LEVEL
46↓	1↓	6,255	5.5% ↓	59.1 ↓	D

*arrows reflect an increase or decrease from the previous report

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 - Friday.

TESTING AT CHERRY CAPITAL AIRPORT

Voluntary, free, rapid (antigen) COVID-19 testing is now available at Cherry Capital Airport for incoming travelers. The testing group will require proof of passenger travel on the day of testing (boarding pass or itinerary schedule). There is an approximate 30-minute timeline from registration to result. The registration and collection process takes 15 minutes, with results being emailed/texted to patients approximately 15 minutes after sample collection.

Below is their initial schedule, subject to change as flights activities shift heading into summer:

Sunday – 3:00 to 11:00 p.m.

Wednesday – 2:00 to 10:00 p.m.

Friday – 12:00 to 8:00 p.m.

COVID-19 TESTING IN GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY:

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

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, 2020. Members include key community partners from health, government, first responders, education, social service, and business sectors.

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