

## CDC APPROVES PFIZER BOOSTER FOR SELECT GROUPS - APPOINTMENTS REQUIRED

On Thursday, September 23, 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) approved a booster dose of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine for select groups. The following groups are included in the CDC's approval and recommendations:

- people 65 years and older and residents in long-term care settings - at least 6 months after completing the first two doses
- people aged 50–64 years with [underlying medical conditions](#) - at least 6 months after completing the first two doses
- people aged 18–49 years with [underlying medical conditions](#) **may receive** a booster shot of Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine - at least 6 months after completing the first two doses and based on their individual benefits and risks, and
- people aged 18-64 years who are at increased risk for COVID-19 exposure and transmission because of occupational or institutional setting **may receive** a booster shot of Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine - at least 6 months after completing the first two doses and based on their individual benefits and risks. Occupational and institutional risks include: healthcare workers, teachers, daycare staff, grocery workers, and other essential workers, along with people in shelters and prisons.

***It is important to note that per the CDC, the approved booster dose ONLY applies to those who: 1. Fall into the above categories, 2. Are 18 and older, and 3. Who have received the Pfizer vaccine series.***

As of 9/23/2021

**Millions of Americans who received the Pfizer vaccine are now recommended to get a booster dose.**

### **Who's eligible for a booster?**



#### **Age 65+**

Along with those who live in long-term care facilities



#### **High Risk**

Adults age 50–64 with with underlying medical conditions that put them at high risk for severe COVID-19. Younger adults age 18–49 should consider getting a booster based on their individual risk assessment.



#### **High Exposure**

Adults age 18–64 who are: healthcare workers, teachers, daycare staff, grocery workers, people in shelters or prisons, among others.

**Questions about boosters? Talk to your healthcare provider.**

## **APPOINTMENT REQUIRED FOR CHERRYLAND CLINIC - PFIZER VACCINE \*ONLY\* NEXT WEEK**

Due to the high demand for booster shots, the Grand Traverse County Health Department (GTCHD) is only able to accommodate appointments for the Pfizer vaccine at our Cherryland Clinic for the week of September 27 - October 1. To schedule an appointment, [please visit here](#). Appointments will be made available the day prior on a rolling basis. (i.e. Monday appointments will be available to schedule on Sunday, Tuesday appointments will be available on Monday.) If there are no appointments available on the link, please check back at a later time or the next day. To find all available vaccine providers in your zip code [click here](#)

**\*GTCHD encourages all individuals to consult with their primary care provider to ensure a booster dose is recommended and to discuss the risks and benefits.**

### **Booster FAQ**

#### **What is the difference between a third dose and a booster dose?**

- The booster shot is designed to prolong immunity whereas the term third dose or third shot has been used for cases where an individual's immune system has not fully responded to the first two shots of the vaccine.

#### **Why is the booster dose only approved for the Pfizer vaccine?**

- At this time, the Pfizer vaccine is the only COVID-19 vaccine to receive full authorization from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Therefore, its data on its ongoing effectiveness and any waning immunity were also available first. Guidance is still forthcoming about boosters for the Johnson & Johnson and Moderna vaccines.

## **CHERRYLAND CLINIC HOURS - APPOINTMENTS ONLY, NO WALK-INS AVAILABLE**

**For the week of September 27 - October 1:**  
(1700 S. Garfield Ave., Traverse City)

**Monday - Friday from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**  
(Closed from 12:30 - 1 p.m. for lunch)

## **COVID-19 VACCINE AVAILABLE AT ALL HEALTH DEPARTMENT LOCATIONS**

### **Main Campus:**

2600 LaFranier Rd., T.C.  
Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Ages 12+  
231-995-6131

**\*Call for an appointment**

### **Cherryland Center:**

1700 South Garfield Ave., T.C.  
Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
(closed for lunch 12:30 - 1:00 p.m.)  
Ages 12+

**[Appointment REQUIRED](#)**

### **Youth Health and Wellness:**

880 Parsons Rd., T.C.  
Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Ages 12-21  
231-922-6416

**\*Call for an appointment**

### **K-Town:**

112 South Brownson Ave., Kingsley  
Monday - Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Ages 12-21  
231-263-5895

**\*Call for an appointment**

## **APPOINTMENTS REQUIRED FOR FREE COVID-19 DIAGNOSTIC TESTING AT GTCHD**

The Grand Traverse County Health Department (GTCHD) continues to offer **FREE** COVID-19 diagnostic testing at its main campus. Due to high demand, an appointment is now required to get a test. **To schedule an appointment, follow [this link](#). Appointments will be made available 24-48 hours in advance.**

\*Unfortunately, the GTCHD is unable to provide testing for travel requirements.

### **TESTING Hours for the week of September 27 - October 1:**

**Tuesday (9/28) and Thursday (9/30)**

**9 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 1 - 4:00 p.m**

**Location: 2600 LaFranier Rd. Traverse City, MI, 49686**

- Testing is available to anyone regardless of symptoms and is done on a drive-up basis only.
- **Due to the high demand for testing currently, testing is by appointment only.**
- Testing is done in your vehicle in the parking lot behind the main health department building.
- A doctor's order is not needed and there is no charge to be tested.
- Anyone that tests positive or is symptomatic will be offered a PCR (polymerase chain reaction) test following the rapid antigen test. Tests are for diagnostic purposes (this is not an antibody test).
- Results will be delivered electronically (email/text) within two hours.



\*To speed up the process, register ahead of time by scanning the QR code on the left.

## **CURRENT NUMBERS AND TRENDS**

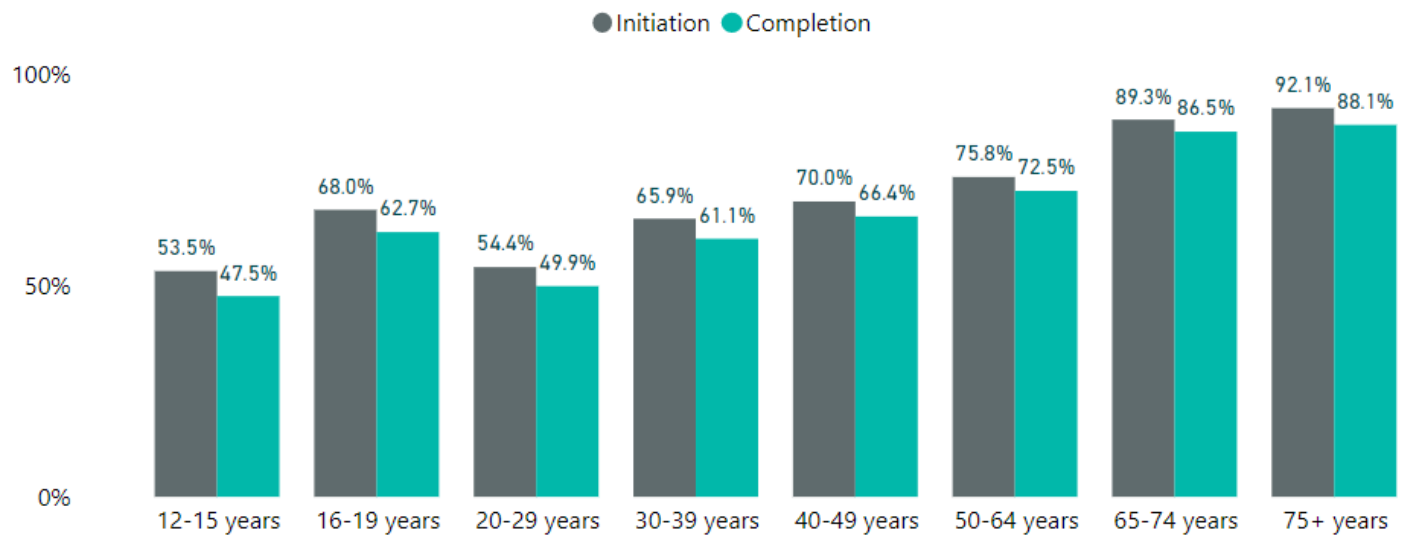
Grand Traverse County is reporting out on 219 newly identified cases over the last week. The 7-day case average is now 31 cases per day. As of Thursday, September 23, there are currently 839 active cases in the county.

<b>CASES SINCE 9/17/21</b>	<b>DEATHS SINCE 9/17/21</b>	<b>PERCENT POSITIVITY (7-DAY AVERAGE)</b>	<b>CASES PER 100,000 (7-DAY AVERAGE)</b>	<b>COUNTY RISK LEVEL</b>	<b>VACCINATION RATES Initiation / Completion (OF COUNTY POPULATION 12+)</b>
<b>219 ↓</b>	<b>2 ↑</b>	<b>7.7% ↓</b>	<b>246 ↑</b>	<b>E / RED</b>	<b>72.6% / 68.7%</b>

\*arrows reflect an increase or decrease from the previous report, " - " reflect no change

Additional statistics are available on the [MI Safe Start Map](#) and on the Health Department's [dashboard](#) and [Facebook page](#).

## COVID Vaccine Coverage by Age Group



### **CDC RISK LEVEL MAP AND DATA**

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) risk map, Grand Traverse County is currently categorized as **RED** and is considered to have high transmission. Numbers are assessed by the CDC Monday - Friday each week.

Use [this link](#) to see a detailed look at the data for each county.

Similarly, the MI Safe Start Map dashboard has also been updated to reflect risk levels. [mistartmap.info](http://mistartmap.info)

### **ABOUT THE JOC**

Grand Traverse County's Joint Operations Center began meeting on Friday, March 13, 2020, to coordinate efforts and communication on the COVID-19 pandemic. Members include key community partners from health, government, first responders, education, social service, and business sectors.

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