



**COVID-19 TESTING:**

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 October 4 - 8:**

**Tuesday (10/5) and Thursday (10/7)**

**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.

**COVID-19 BOOSTER AND IMMUNIZATIONS:**

**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 October 4 - 8.

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.

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

**For the week of October 4 - 8:**  
(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 BOOSTER SHOTS APPROVED FOR SELECT GROUPS - APPOINTMENTS REQUIRED**

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.**

# What's the difference between a COVID-19 vaccine booster dose and an additional dose?





An **additional dose** is sometimes needed for people who are moderately to severely immunocompromised because they were likely unable to build enough protection after the initial primary vaccine series.

A **booster** is the next dose in a vaccination series to likely boost immunity that has waned over time.

The risk of severe illness from COVID-19 increases with age, and can also increase for adults of any age with underlying medical conditions. Please contact your primary care provider to see if you need an additional or booster dose.



	 <b>booster dose</b>	 <b>additional dose</b>
<b>For</b>	<p>People aged 65 years and older, residents aged 18 years and older in long-term care settings, and people aged 56–64 years with certain underlying medical conditions <b>should get a booster dose.</b></p> <p>Based on individual benefits and risks, people aged 18–49 years who are at high risk for severe COVID-19 due to certain underlying medical conditions and people aged 18–64 years who are at increased risk for COVID-19 exposure because of occupational* or institutional setting <b>may get a booster dose.</b></p>	<p>People who are moderately to severely immunocompromised <b>should get an additional dose.</b></p>
<b>Minimum time after 2<sup>nd</sup> dose</b>	<b>6 months</b>	<b>28 days</b>
<b>Initial vaccine</b>	<b>Pfizer</b>	<b>Pfizer or Moderna</b>
<b>Plan to get the same type of vaccine for all doses.</b>		

\*Per CDC, occupations at increased risk for COVID-19 exposure and transmission include frontline essential workers and health care workers.

At this time, there are no additional or booster doses recommended for the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine.

## DO YOU QUALIFY FOR AN ADDITIONAL DOSE OR A BOOSTER DOSE?

The steps to obtain the recently approved FDA single Pfizer booster dose, or a third dose of Pfizer or Moderna include:

### Step 1: *If you received Moderna, move to step 2. Pfizer only:* How long ago did you receive your second dose?

- If less than six months ago, you may be eligible for a third dose. Move to step 2.
- If more than six months ago, you may be eligible for a booster dose. Move to step 3.

### Step 2: Eligibility for third dose. (Moderna or Pfizer)

- Are you severely immunocompromised due to disease or immune-suppressing drug therapies, or has your care provider recommended that you receive an additional dose of the COVID-19 vaccine?
- Has it been at least 28 days since your second dose?

*If you answered yes to both of the above questions, you are eligible for a third dose of the vaccination series you previously completed.*

### Step 3: Eligibility for booster dose. (Pfizer only)

- Has it been at least six months since your two-dose Pfizer series was completed?
- Are you 65 years of age and older or a long-term care facility resident? Are you 50-64 or 18-49 with underlying [medical conditions](#)? Are you 18-64 years and at increased risk for COVID-19 exposure and infection because of occupational or residential setting (e.g. health care workers, teachers, frontline essential workers)?

If you answered yes to both of the above questions, you are eligible for a booster dose of the Pfizer vaccine.

### **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**

### **CURRENT NUMBERS AND TRENDS**

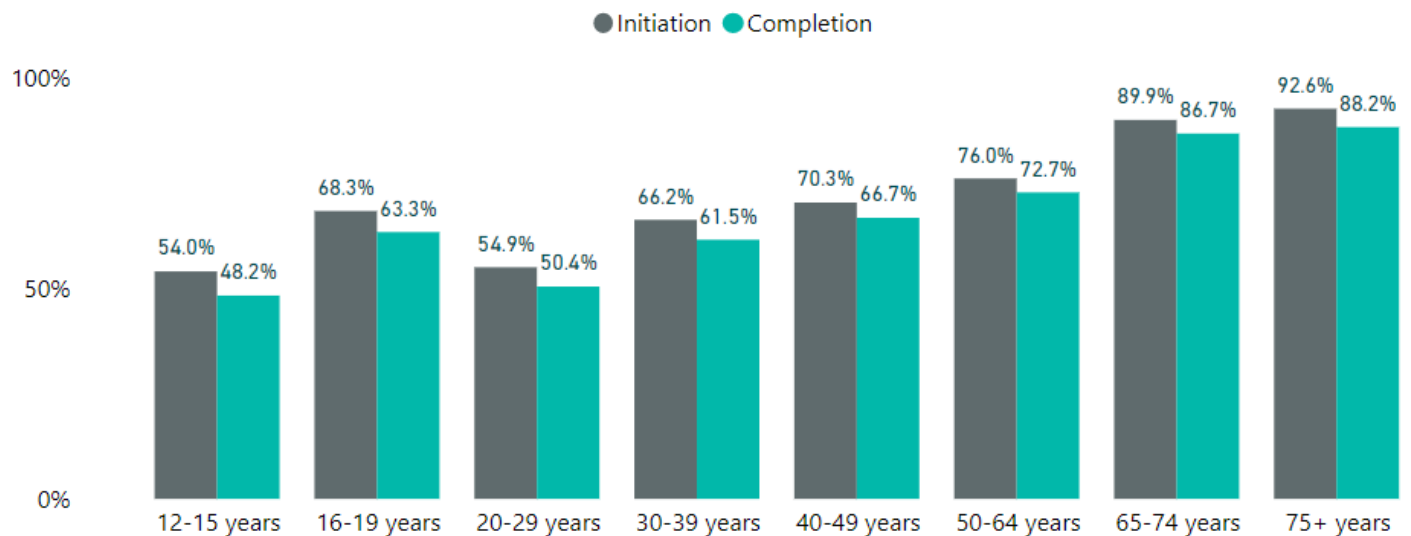
Grand Traverse County is reporting out on 259 newly identified cases over the last week. The 7-day case average is now 37 cases per day. As of Thursday, September 30, there are currently 916 active cases in the county.

<b>CASES SINCE 9/24/21</b>	<b>DEATHS SINCE 9/24/21</b>	<b>PERCENT POSITIVITY</b> <small>(7-DAY AVERAGE)</small>	<b>CASES PER 100,000</b> <small>(7-DAY AVERAGE)</small>	<b>COUNTY RISK LEVEL</b>	<b>VACCINATION RATES</b> <b>Initiation / Completion</b> <small>(OF COUNTY POPULATION 12+)</small>
<b>259</b> ↑	<b>1</b> ↓	<b>11%</b> ↑	<b>278</b> ↑	<b>E / RED</b>	<b>73% / 69%</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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