



Jackson County Health Department

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Creating Healthy Communities

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jackson County Health Department Update

(Jackson, MI)

HOLIDAY TRAVEL: Director of the CDC said in a [White House press briefing](#) that they do not recommend unvaccinated Americans travel over the Labor Day Weekend. If you do travel or gather with others, it is best to spend time outside with others who are vaccinated, and when indoors in public wear a mask regardless of vaccination status.

The [CDC](#) and the [State of Michigan](#) both provide a variety of charts, graphs, and maps that show the trend in cases at the national, state, and county level. Currently, most areas in the country fall into the classification of having a high level of community transmission. Checking these resources, and the local websites in the area you will be traveling to, can help you assess risk, find out what requirements and restrictions are in place, and assist with making decisions about what are safe and unsafe activities.

PRECAUTIONS: With the rise in cases in our country we need to use all the tools available to stay safe. Getting a vaccine, staying home when sick or exposed to COVID, and wearing a mask are all important. Based on data being gathered and reviewed, the CDC updated information about receiving a vaccine while [pregnant or breastfeeding](#) and find it to be safe and effective. Vaccines are recommended for everyone 12 and older.

There are two times to [stay home and away from others](#). If you have been exposed to someone with COVID it may take several days before you will know if you will get sick and quarantining will ensure that you don't spread the virus. When you are sick or test positive for COVID, you may be contagious and should stay home.

For [masks to be most effective](#) they need to be two to three layers thick, worn over the nose and mouth, and be worn by everyone in an enclosed area. The lowest risk is when both a contagious and health person mask up. Proper ventilation and increasing the distance between people will also minimize risk.

SCHOOLS: To provide additional information on the topic of COVID recommendations for schools the health department has added a page of [School and Parent Resources](#) to our webpage to help

Working together to create and promote a healthy community through disease prevention and control, health education, environmental protection and emergency preparedness.

guide and answer questions about operating safely, quarantine after exposure, what is required by law, and what is recommended. We will be working with schools on actions to keep kids safe and in the classroom when cases and exposures are identified. Children wearing masks in schools has been recommended by the CDC, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, the Jackson County Health Department, Michigan Association of Public Health Physicians, and the Michigan Academy of Family Physicians. Parents can have a positive impact on the health of our school systems by ensuring their children have and wear masks during the school day.

THIRD DOSE OF VACCINE: A third dose of vaccine has been approved for a specific and limited group of people. This is different than a booster shot which will be for everyone who received a vaccine. The discussion about boosters has begun at the federal level, and we expect more details next month. Currently, we are providing a 3rd dose to individuals who are moderately to severely immunocompromised. See [who is currently eligible for a 3rd dose of vaccine](#) for more details. Those in this category are at a higher risk of serious and prolonged illness if they are infected with the COVID virus. In addition, they don't always develop the same amount of protective antibodies after vaccination. A 3rd dose is currently authorized only for those who meet the eligibility criteria and received either the Pfizer or Moderna mRNA vaccines at least 28 days ago. 3rd dose vaccine appointments are available at the health department and can be scheduled by calling 517-788-4465.

BOOSTER DOSES: At this time, approval has not been given for individuals who do not meet the immunocompromised criteria to get a booster dose of vaccine. This topic will be discussed by the ACIP (Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the CDC tasked with developing recommendations for vaccine use) and we expect updates later this month. To find out the latest about vaccines and booster doses from the Jackson County Health Department call the vaccine information line at 517-817-4469.

LOCAL MONITORING: Check out the [Jackson County Health Department webpage](#) for the latest COVID information including the daily number of cases in the county. It is updated Monday-Friday by 12 noon. On Monday's, a county map is uploaded to show areas where COVID cases have increased throughout the county. An Epicurve graph provides some historical data and shows the peaks and lulls of COVID infections in Jackson County.

VACCINE OPPORTUNITIES: Vaccine opportunities in the Jackson County area and location information can be found on the [VaccineFinder](#) webpage. Minors aged 12–17 are eligible to receive the Pfizer vaccine with parent permission. Call ahead to find out what the requirements for third dose vaccines are.

Homebound individuals who are interested in a COVID-19 vaccine, please contact Disability Connections at (517) 998-3084, Region 2 Area on Aging at (517) 592-1976 or the Jackson County Department on Aging at (517) 788-4364.

JCHD UPDATES: Clinics are open for in person services. Most clinics require an appointment, so please check the website or call ahead to verify if you need an appointment for the service you are seeking. Masks are required regardless of vaccination status in small office areas and exam rooms. (Please remember to bring your own or you will be provided with one.)

This is done in order to protect our immunocompromised clients such as children or other vulnerable populations who may be at high risk of infection.

If you still need your COVID-19 vaccine, you can come to the immunization clinic and get your vaccine of choice! Call and make an appointment at (517) 768-4468.

If you are EXPERIENCING ANY UPPER RESPIRATORY SYMPTOMS (COUGH, DIFFICULTY BREATHING, ETC) OR FEVER, WE ASK THAT YOU RESCHEDULE ANY APPOINTMENT YOU HAVE scheduled. If necessary, you may want to schedule an appointment with your physician or call 911, if it becomes life threatening.

Data: Jackson County Health Department reports the following data as of August 23, 2021. This information is also available on the [Michigan Vaccine Dashboard](#) which is updated on Monday, Wednesdays, and Fridays each week by 3:00 p.m. Data now reflects the addition of the 12-15 year olds.

Number of Doses Administered to Jackson County Residents	Percent of Jackson County Residents over the age of 12 vaccinated to date	Number of Jackson Residents who have completed their 1st vaccination	Number of Jackson County Residents who have completed their vaccination series (2 for Moderna / Pfizer and 1 for Johnson & Johnson)
<u>140,362</u>	57.1% Initial Dose 52.6% Completed Dose	77,914	71,734

COVID case numbers in Jackson County compared to the State of Michigan*:

Category	Jackson County	State of Michigan
COVID-19 Total Confirmed Cases	15,612	937,720
COVID-19 Weekly New Cases per 100,000	171	136
COVID-19 7-Day Daily Case Average	39	1,938
COVID-19 Recovered*** Cases	14,618	878,031 (as of 8/20/2021)
COVID-19 Total Deaths	295	20,161
COVID-19 7-Day Positivity Rate	10.5%	8.6%

*Data as of August 25, 2021

***Recovered = alive 30 days after onset date (if onset date is missing, then referral date). This calculation is using the Patient Status variable to distinguish alive vs deceased.

Additional Resources:

[Jackson County Health Department](#) Webpage

[State of Michigan Vaccination and Prioritization Strategy](#) <https://www.mistartmap.info/about>
[Centers for Disease Control Vaccine Information Page](#)

JCHD COVID Information phone line - (517) 817-4469

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