



Jackson County Health Department

1715 Lansing Avenue • Jackson, MI 49202 • Phone (517) 788-4420 • Fax (517) 788-4373



Creating Healthy Communities

Contact: Debra Kubitskey
Phone Number: (517) 768-6623
Email Address: dkubitskey@mijackson.org
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jackson County Health Department Update

(Jackson, MI)

VACCINES: Approval and recommendations have been released for some individuals to get a booster dose of COVID-19 vaccine, which is in addition to a previous approval of a 3rd dose for immunocompromised people. So what is the difference between a third dose and a booster dose? Booster doses and third doses of the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are terms used to describe administration of additional vaccine. Third doses are recommended for individuals who are immunocompromised; a third dose is given as immunocompromised individuals need additional doses to reach the same level of protection as an individual with a normal or strong immune system. Booster doses are given to individuals who are thought to have had a normal immune response to the vaccine, and are given to boost a person's immunity after time has passed. Booster doses are important as time reduces the body's normal immune response. As an example, we recommend booster doses of Tdap (Tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis) every 10 years. Although the terminology and specifications for 3rd dose and booster may vary, the vaccination given is the same for 1st, 2nd, 3rd or booster. Studies show a difference for people needing a third shot for immune deficiency reasons (where a third dose can be given with the same vaccine as the first two doses- either Pfizer or Moderna) and for those receiving a third dose as a booster, which is only approved for Pfizer. Eligibility requirements are different for a booster and a 3rd dose.

BOOSTER DOSES: The FDA, CDC, and MDHHS recommend the following groups **should** receive a booster shot of Pfizer-BioNTech's COVID-19 vaccine at least six months after their Pfizer-BioNTech primary series:

- People 65 years and older and residents aged 18 and older in long-term care settings.
- People aged [50 through 64 with certain underlying medical conditions](#).

They also recommend the following groups **may** receive a booster shot of Pfizer-BioNTech's COVID-19 vaccine at least six months after their Pfizer-BioNTech primary series based on their individual benefits and risks:

- People aged 18 through 49 who are at high risk for severe COVID-19 due to [certain underlying medical conditions](#).

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

- People aged 18 through 64 years who are at increased risk for COVID-19 exposure and transmission because of occupational or institutional setting.
- [Per CDC, occupations at increased risk for COVID-19 exposure](#) and transmission include frontline essential workers and health care workers including:
 - First responders (health care workers, firefighters, police, congregate care staff).
 - Education staff (teachers, support staff, daycare workers).
 - Food and agriculture workers.
 - Manufacturing workers.
 - Corrections workers.
 - U.S. Postal Service workers.
 - Public transit workers.
 - Grocery store workers.

This list could be updated in the future.

At this time, these guidelines only apply to those who received the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine. Requests for approval of boosters for other vaccines are being reviewed and we expect boosters will eventually be available for more people.

3rd DOSE: 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. 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.

VACCINATION OPPORTUNITIES: COVID-19 vaccines are available during the clinic hours of 8:00 -11:30 am and 1:00 – 4:00 pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at the Jackson County Health Department at 1715 Lansing Ave. Whether you need a 1st or 2nd dose, are immunocompromised and eligible for a 3rd dose, or qualify for a booster dose you can call 517-788-4468 to schedule an appointment. Walk-ins are also accepted. Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson vaccines are available. For information on other locations administering vaccine in Jackson County see www.vaccines.gov

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. To find out the latest about vaccines from the Jackson County Health Department call the vaccine information line at 517-817-4469.

BUSINESS AND SCHOOL CASE REPORTING: The Jackson County Health Department has updated their COVID-19 Business/School Reporting survey. The HIPAA compliant survey now allows for the collection of additional information that should make the case investigation reporting even easier, and should cut down on calls with questions from the health department. In addition to being an easy and convenient way to report cases that occur at businesses and in schools, resources and guidance documents are linked to help identify which steps to take after an individual is found to be positive with COVID-19. The survey can be found in the [Business / School COVID Reporting](#) section of our coronavirus webpage.

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 Mondays, 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.

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.

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 September 28, 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 1 st vaccination	Number of Jackson County Residents who have completed their vaccination series (2 for Moderna / Pfizer and 1 for Johnson & Johnson)
<u>145,446</u>	59.0% Initial Dose 54.9% Completed Dose	80,520	74,930

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

Category	Jackson County	State of Michigan
COVID-19 Total Confirmed Cases	17,022	1,022,575

COVID-19 Weekly New Cases per 100,000	266	245
COVID-19 7-Day Daily Case Average	60	3,502
COVID-19 Recovered*** Cases	15,489	917,827 (as of 9/24/2021)
COVID-19 Total Deaths	308	20,998
COVID-19 7-Day Positivity Rate	11%	9%

*Data as of September 29, 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

[Michigan Coronavirus Webpage](#)

[Centers for Disease Control Vaccine Information Page](#)

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

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