



HEALTH
Department

COVID-19 Update

August 25, 2021



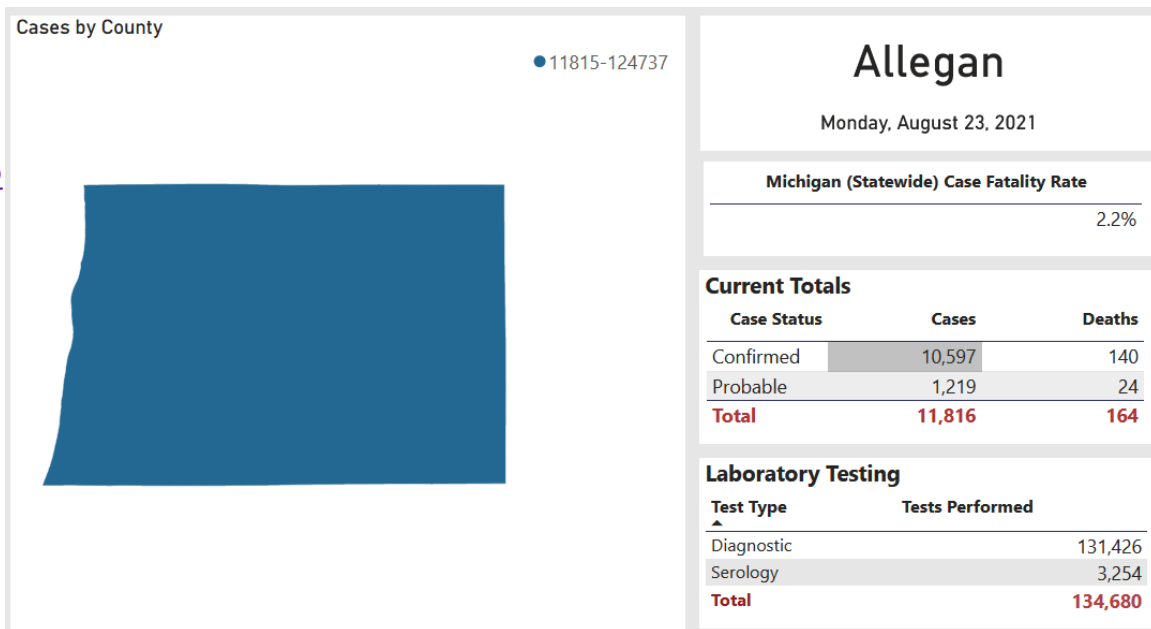
For today's meeting:

- ▶ Discuss current data related to cases, test positivity, and vaccine coverage
- ▶ Highlights related to COVID-19
 - ▶ Monoclonal treatment
- ▶ Review highlights from ACHD's Presentation at the Special BOC's meeting
- ▶ Other Public Health News
- ▶ Questions from community stakeholders

Allegan County COVID-19 Dashboard

updated weekly on Fridays at 3pm.

- ▶ <https://alleganco.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opstdashboard/index.html#/792287b41e3f485c97f968335b45ca6c>
- ▶ Allegan County's COVID-19 data is updated Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays on the MDHHS COVID-19 website. Find the state's dashboard for COVID-19 cases and trends by visiting www.michigan.gov/coronavirus



Cases

DAILY NEW CASES

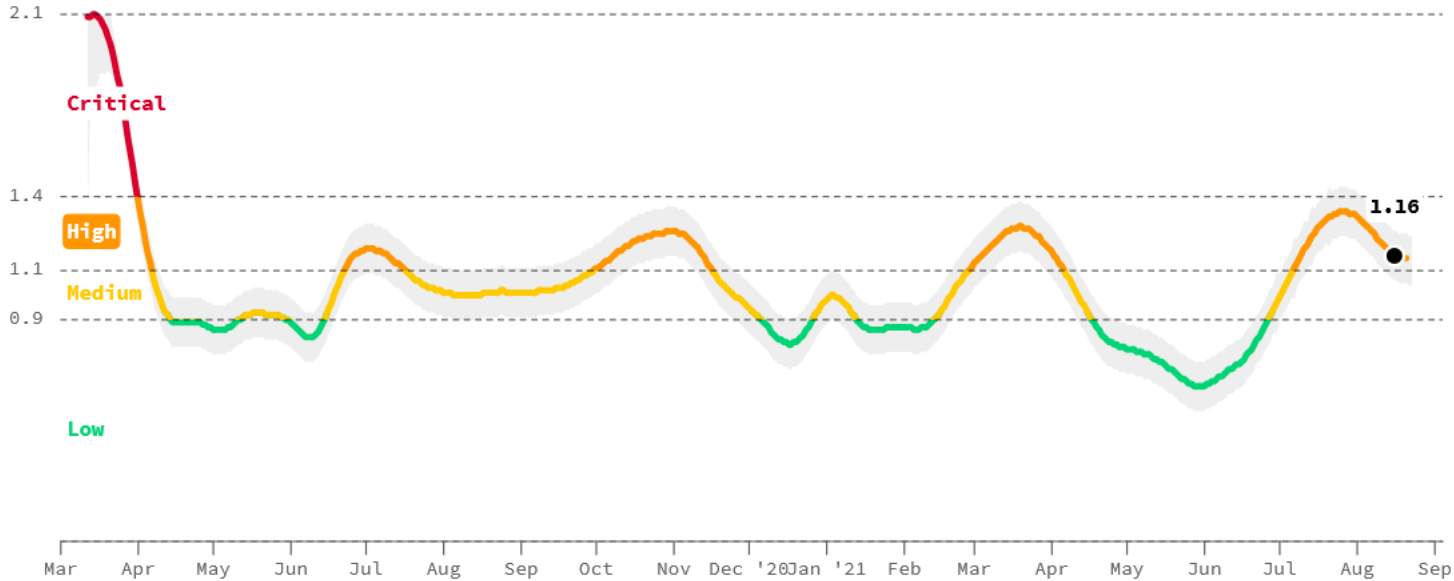
● **17.8** PER 100K

INFECTION RATE

● **1.16**

POSITIVE TEST RATE

● **7.7%**



On average, each person in Michigan with COVID is infecting 1.16 other people. As such, the total number of active cases in Michigan is growing. [About this data](#)

Share

Updated 8/16/2021

Cases

DAILY NEW CASES

● **18.6** PER 100K

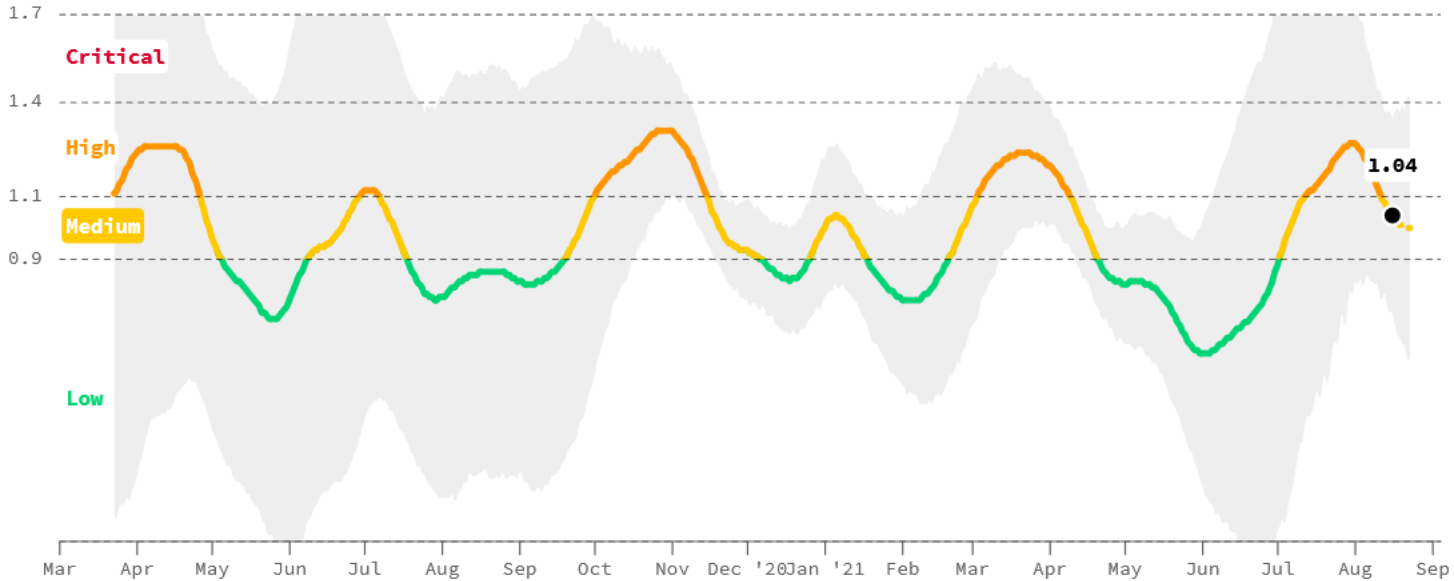
INFECTION RATE

● **1.04**

POSITIVE TEST RATE

● **9.8%**

← Calculated on 8/20/2021 from previous week



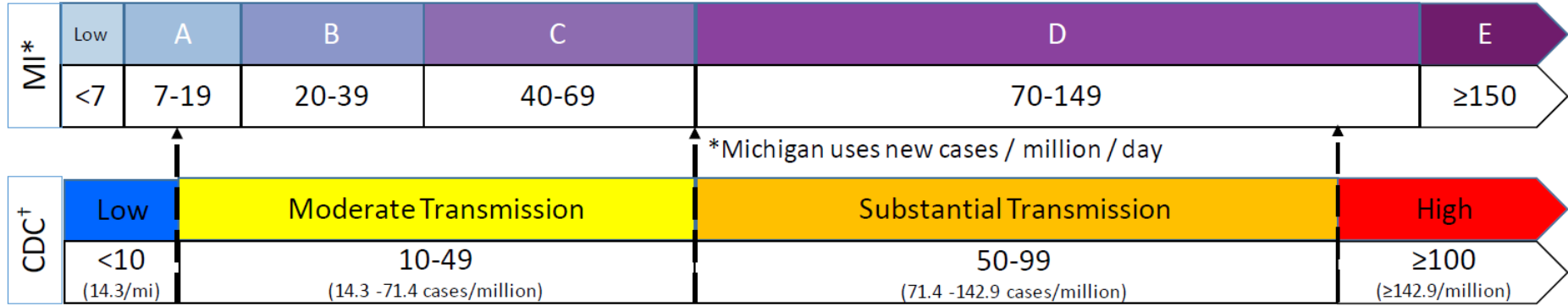
On average, each person in Allegan County, Michigan with COVID is infecting 1.04 other people. Because this number is around 1.0, it means that COVID continues to spread at about a constant rate. [About this data](#)

Share

Updated 8/16/2021

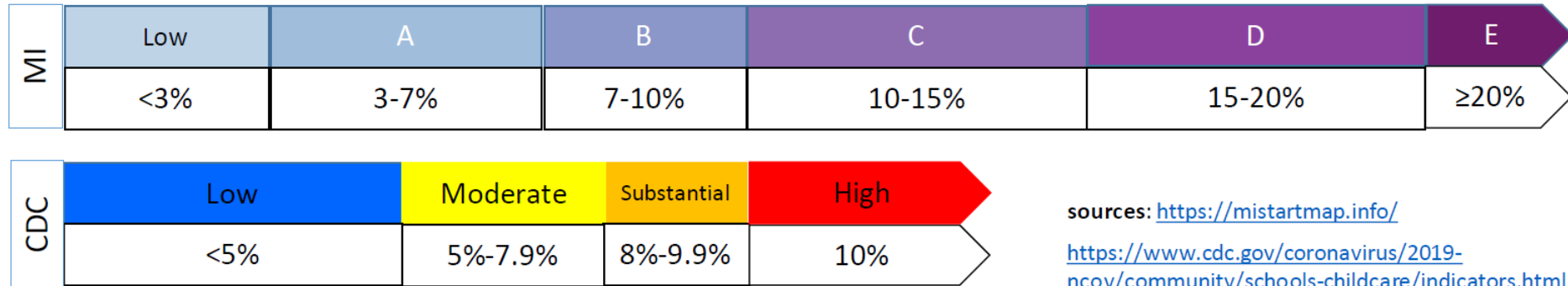
Comparing CDC community transmission thresholds to MI levels

Case Rate*†



† CDC uses cases / 100,000 / week (conversion to MI metrics in paratheses)

Percent Positivity



sources: <https://mistartmap.info/>
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/indicators.html>

Enhanced Ability to Test, <https://mistartmap.info/>

Allegan County, data as of 8/23/2021

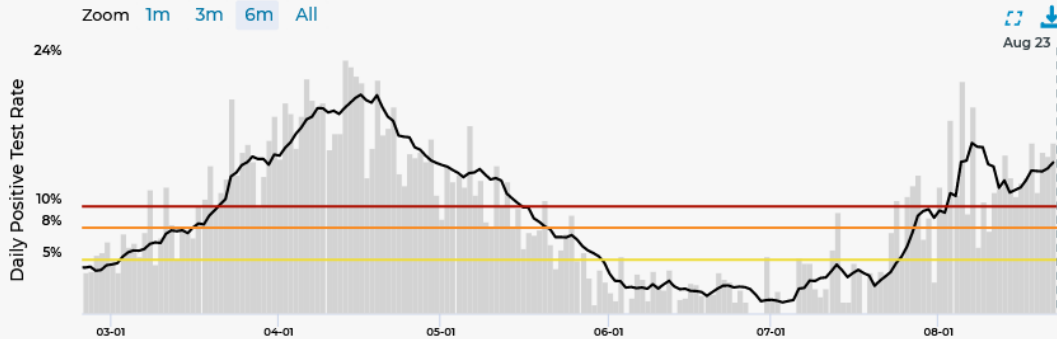
✓ **Test Positivity**
Aug 16 - Aug 23

14.1%
positive tests



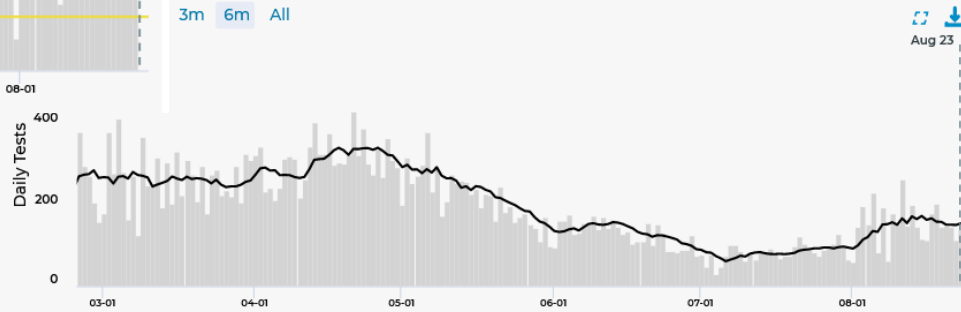
1k
daily tests
administered

Daily Positive Test Rate
ALLEGAN COUNTY



Daily Tests
ALLEGAN COUNTY

3m 6m All



Risk Thres



Low: <5%



Moderate 5-<8%



Substantial 8-<10%



High >=10%



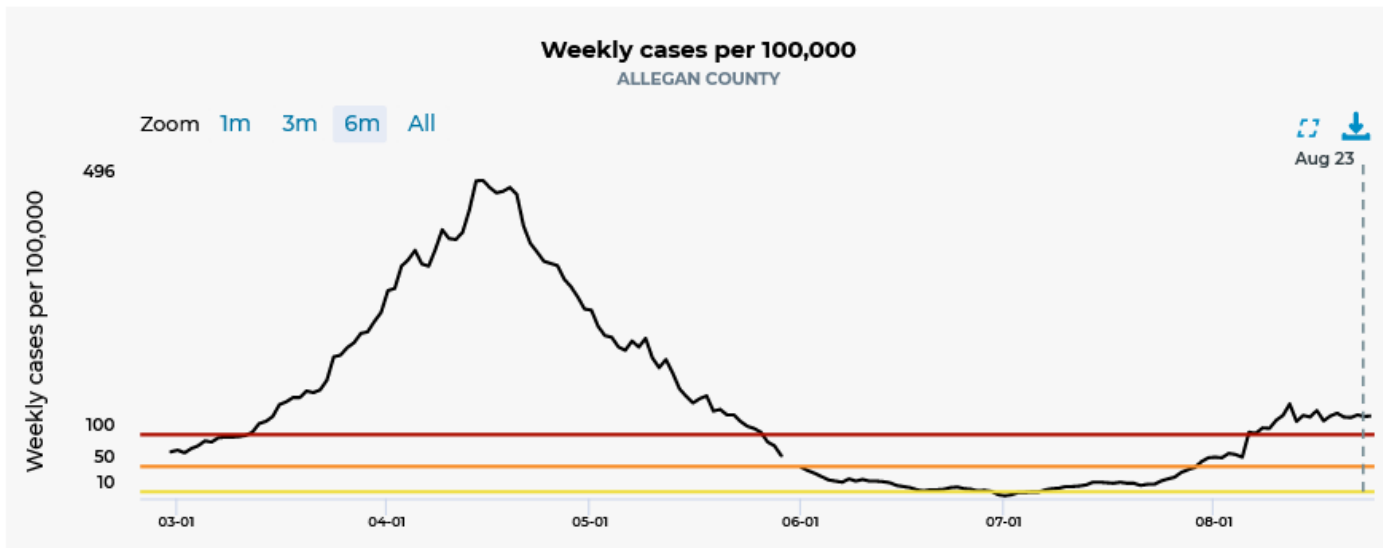
New Cases

Aug 16 - Aug 23

127.8
weekly cases per
100,000 population



151
weekly cases



Risk Thresholds (Cases per 100,000)



Low: <10



Moderate 10-49



Substantial 50-99



High ≥ 100

Comparison with Neighboring Counties, <https://mistartmap.info/>

Allegan County, data as of 8/22/2021

Aug 22, 2021

AREA	REGION RISK LEVEL	COUNTY RISK LEVEL	DAILY CASES PER MIL.	WEEKLY CASES PER 100,000 POPULATION	CDC CASE TREND	% POSITIVE TESTS	POSITIVE TESTS	% POSITIVE WEEKLY TREND	DAILY TESTS PER MIL.
Allegan	E	E	95.4	130.4	0	14.1%	13.3%	1w ↘	1,313.9
Barry	E	E	76.1	134.8	0	14.4%	13.9%	7w ↗	1,403.4
Kalamazoo	E	E	126.7	158.8	0	10.9%	12.1%	4w ↗	1,995.0
Kent	D	D	103.2	138.0	0	10.3%	9.9%	7w ↗	2,388.2
Ottawa	D	D	111.6	142.5	0	11.7%	11.2%	1w ↘	2,226.5
Van Buren	E	E	108.1	141.3	0	11.9%	12.0%	4w ↗	1,842.8

Epidemiologic Information, All Ages Allegan County

Overall	Percent
Healthcare Worker	6.2%
Live or work in high-risk/congregate facility	8.6%
First Responder	0.9%
Other Essential Worker/Critical Infrastructure	15.6%
Healthcare Contact to confirmed care	0.6%
Community Contact to confirmed case	10.1%
Household Contact to confirmed case	17.2%
Total Cases: 11,766	Asymptomatic Cases: 12.9%

Cases Reported in Past two weeks	Percent
In quarantine at time of onset/positive test	18.4%
Associated with known cluster/outbreak	4.6%
Any Contact to confirmed case	27.3%
Healthcare contact to confirmed case	0.0%
Community contact to confirmed case	8.9%
Household contact to confirmed case	20.1%
Attended Community Event/Mass Gathering	2.6%
Any Travel (international, domestic, in state)	7.6%
Source of Infection is unknown	30.6%
Number of cases reported in past 2 weeks: 304	

Epidemiologic Information, Ages 5-11, Allegan County

Overall	Percent
Healthcare Worker	0.0%
Live or work in high-risk/congregate facility	0.0%
First Responder	0.0%
Other Essential Worker/Critical Infrastructure	0.0%
Healthcare Contact to confirmed case	0.0%
Community Contact to confirmed case	14.0%
Household Contact to confirmed case	49.9%
Total Cases: 529	Asymptomatic Cases: 20.9%

Cases Reported in Past two weeks	Percent
In quarantine at time of onset/positive test	31.6%
Associated with known cluster/outbreak	5.3%
Any Contact to confirmed case	57.9%
Healthcare contact to confirmed case	0.0%
Community contact to confirmed case	10.5%
Household contact to confirmed case	47.4%
Attended Community Event/Mass Gathering	5.3%
Any Travel (international, domestic, in state)	26.3%
Source of Infection is unknown	31.6%
Number of cases reported in past 2 weeks: 19	

Epidemiologic Information, Ages 12-17, Allegan County

Overall	Percent
Healthcare Worker	0.3%
Live or work in high-risk/congregate facility	0.9%
First Responder	0.0%
Other Essential Worker/Critical Infrastructure	2.0%
Healthcare Contact to confirmed case	0.0%
Community Contact to confirmed case	14.6%
Household Contact to confirmed case	29.9%
Total Cases: 985	Asymptomatic Cases: 16.3%

Cases Reported in Past two weeks	Percent
In quarantine at time of onset/positive test	37.5%
Associated with known cluster/outbreak	5.3%
Any Contact to confirmed case	43.8%
Healthcare contact to confirmed case	0.0%
Community contact to confirmed case	15.6%
Household contact to confirmed case	34.4%
Attended Community Event/Mass Gathering	0.0%
Any Travel (international, domestic, in state)	3.1%
Source of Infection is unknown	37.5%
Number of cases reported in past 2 weeks: 32	

Breakdown of Cases by School Age Categories

Total Case Count	11766
Number of Cases <18 years	1730
% cases <18 years	14.7%

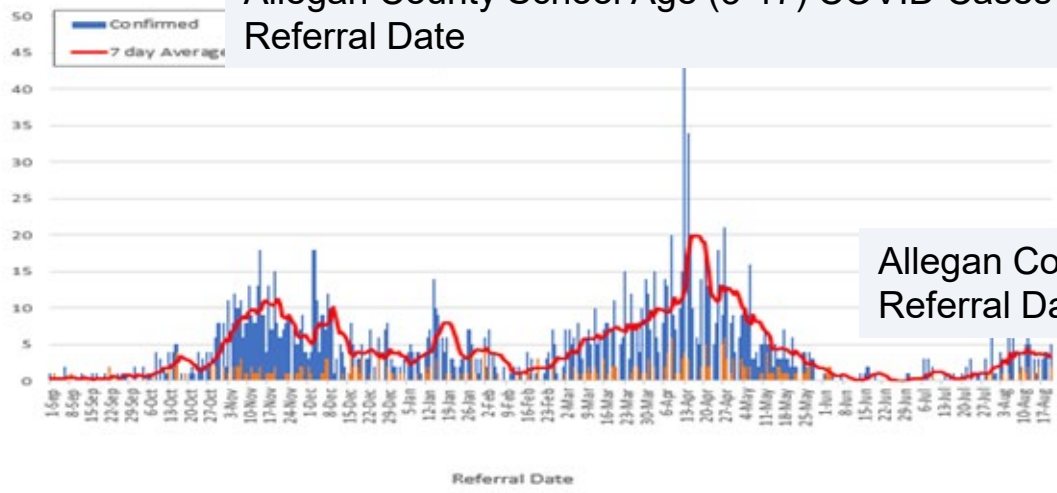
Data as of 8/20/2021.
 Source: Michigan Disease Surveillance System

<u>Approximate Grade Level</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Case Count*</u>	<u>% total cases</u>	<u>% cases <18 years</u>
	0-2 years	133	1.1%	7.7%
Pre-K age	3-4 years	86	0.7%	5.0%
K-5th grade age	5-10 years	439	3.7%	25.4%
6-8th grade age	11-13 years	335	2.8%	19.4%
9-12th grade age	14-17 years	737	6.3%	42.6%

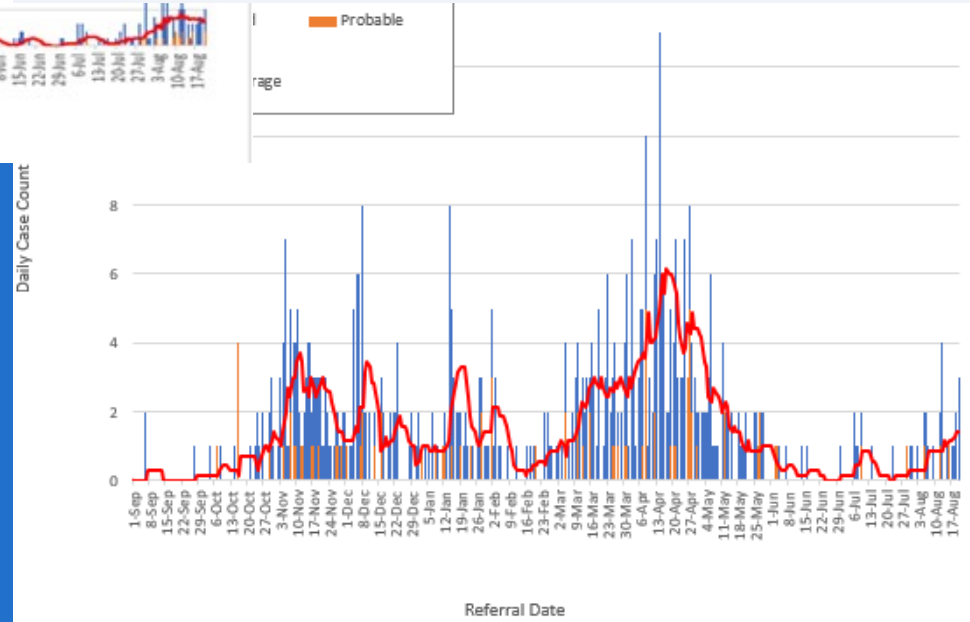
**Case counts are based on case ages, which have been grouped into approximate grade levels. These counts may not reflect the actual grade level of cases. To prevent double-counting of cases, the age brackets do not overlap.*

Case count by age, data from 8/7/21-8/20/21 (2 weeks)				
0-2 years	3-4 years	5-10 years	11-13 years	14-17 years
2	2	13	12	22

Allegan County School Age (3-17) COVID Cases by Referral Date

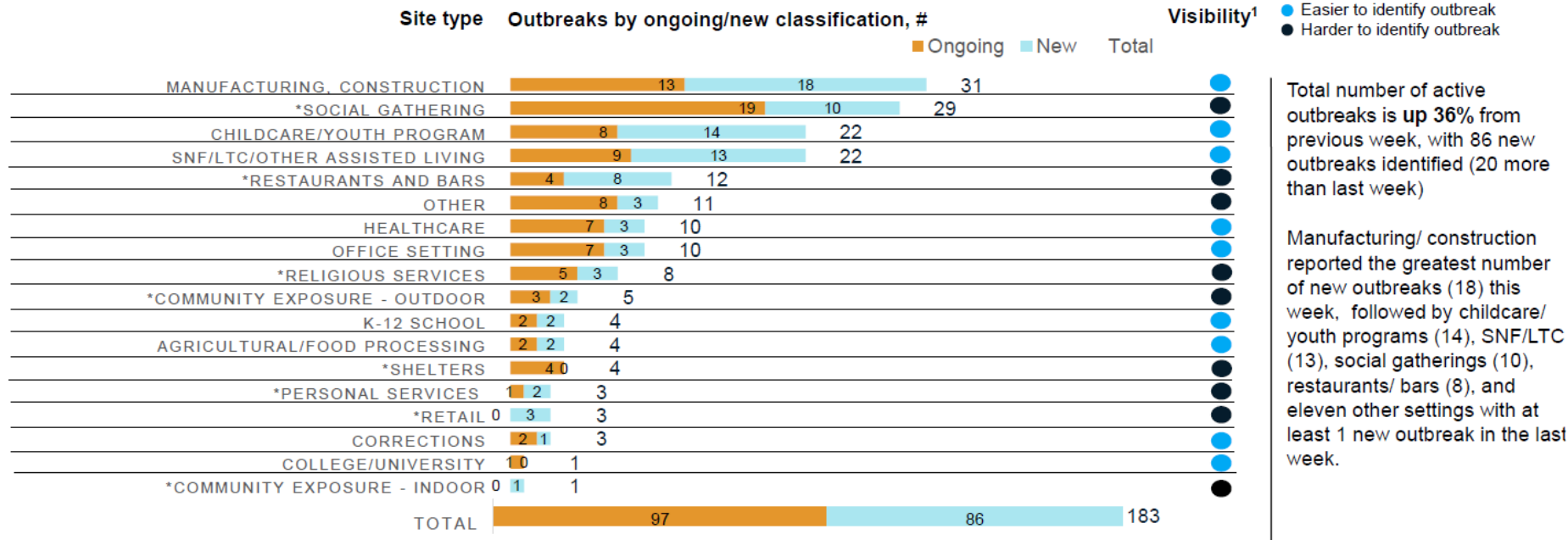


Allegan County School Age (5-11) COVID Cases by Referral Date



Number of Outbreaks Reported has Increased

Number of outbreak investigations by site type, week ending Aug 12



Total number of active outbreaks is **up 36%** from previous week, with 86 new outbreaks identified (20 more than last week)

Manufacturing/ construction reported the greatest number of new outbreaks (18) this week, followed by childcare/ youth programs (14), SNF/LTC (13), social gatherings (10), restaurants/ bars (8), and eleven other settings with at least 1 new outbreak in the last week.

1. Based on a setting's level of control and the extent of time patrons/residents spend in the particular setting, different settings have differing levels of ability to ascertain whether a case derived from that setting

NOTE: Many factors, including the lack of ability to conduct effective contact tracing in certain settings, may result in significant underreporting of outbreaks. This chart does not provide a complete picture of outbreaks in Michigan and the absence of identified outbreaks in a particular setting in no way provides evidence that, in fact, that setting is not having outbreaks.

Source: LHD Weekly Sitreps

ACHD has identified **3** (1 restaurant, 2 manufacturing/construction) **new outbreaks** this week (August 23 to August 25) and have **5** (2 childcare/youth programs, 1 LTCF, 1 Agricultural/food processing, 1 manufacturing/construction) **ongoing outbreaks** (July 7– August 22, 2021)

Sufficient Health Care Capacity

Statewide Hospital Capacity Report for COVID-19 08/23/2021**

Region	All Hospital Beds	All Adult Hospital Beds	All Hospital Inpatient Beds	All Hospital Inpatient Bed Occupancy	Adult Hospital Inpatient Beds	Adult Hosp Inpatient Bed Occupancy	ICU Beds	ICU Bed Occupancy	Adult ICU Beds	Adult ICU Bed Occupancy
Region 5	1680	1663	1426	1044	1386	1024	221	134	188	132
Region 6	3120	2714	2889	2189	2514	1932	397	308	245	194

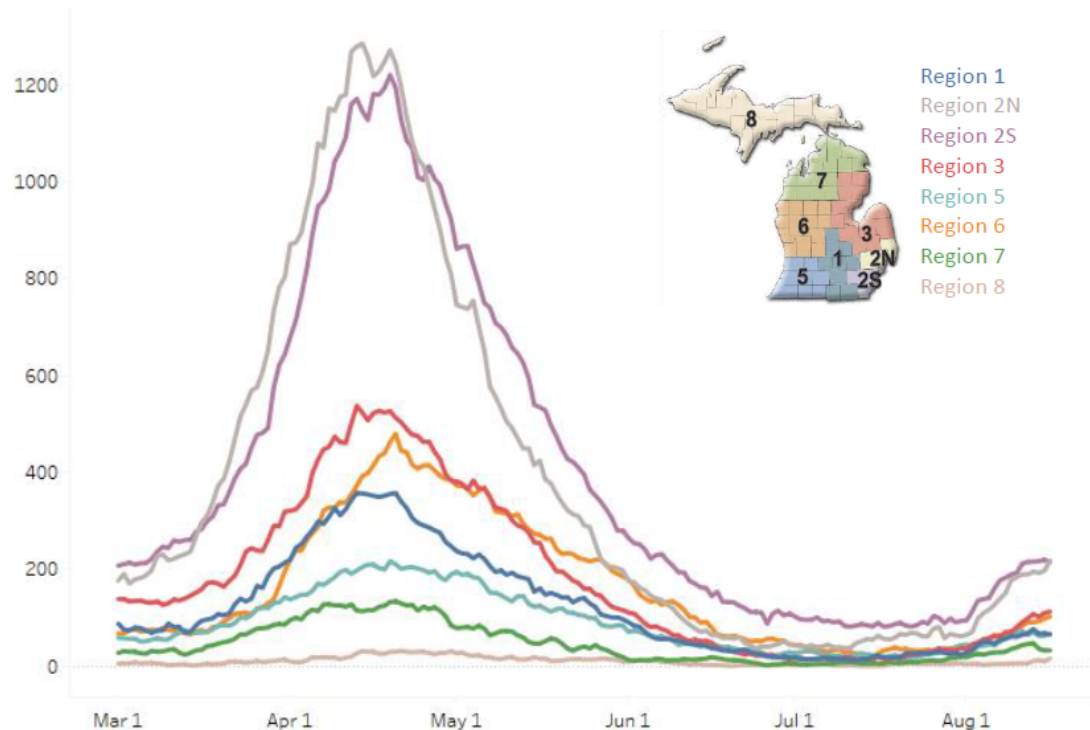
HCC Region	Region 5	Region 6
Total Hospitalized Adult Suspected/Confirmed	110	139
Adult Confirmed-Positive COVID	98	132
Hospitalized Peds Confirmed/Suspected	2	3
Hospitalized Ped Confirmed-Positive	1	3
Hospitalized and Ventilated COVID	7	21
Adult ICU Confirmed/Suspected COVID	18	26
ICU Adult Confirmed-Positive COVID	17	26
Prev Day COVID Related ED Visits	119	89

Region 5	Region 6
↑	↑
↑	↑
↑	↑
↔	↑
↑	↑
↑	↑
↑	↑
↑	↑

COVID-19 Metrics
8/23/21, by HCC Region

Statewide Hospitalization Trends: Regional COVID+ Census

Hospitalization Trends 3/1/2021 – 8/16/2021
Confirmed Positive by Region



All regions except Region 7 show increasing hospitalization trends this week. The fastest growth is in Regions 3, 6 and 8.

All regions except Region 8 are above 50/M population hospitalized with Regions 2S, 2N and 3 approaching 100/M.

Region	COVID+ Hospitalizations (% Δ from last week)	COVID+ Hospitalizations / MM
Region 1	65 (7%)	60/M
Region 2N	217 (23%)	98/M
Region 2S	214 (13%)	96/M
Region 3	112 (60%)	99/M
Region 5	66 (5%)	69/M
Region 6	102 (52%)	70/M
Region 7	32 (-9%)	64/M
Region 8	15 (200%)	48/M

Vaccine Works

- ▶ Majority of those hospitalized are not vaccinated
- ▶ There will be a small percentage of fully vaccinated people who still get sick, are hospitalized, or die from COVID-19.
 - ▶ As of August 17, there are 0.29% (**149/50,580**) reported vaccine breakthrough cases in Allegan County.
- ▶ Since January—
 - ▶ There have been 132 total hospitalizations and 59 deaths
 - ▶ 7 fully vaccinated individuals were hospitalized
 - ▶ There's been 1 death in Allegan County from a fully vaccinated individual

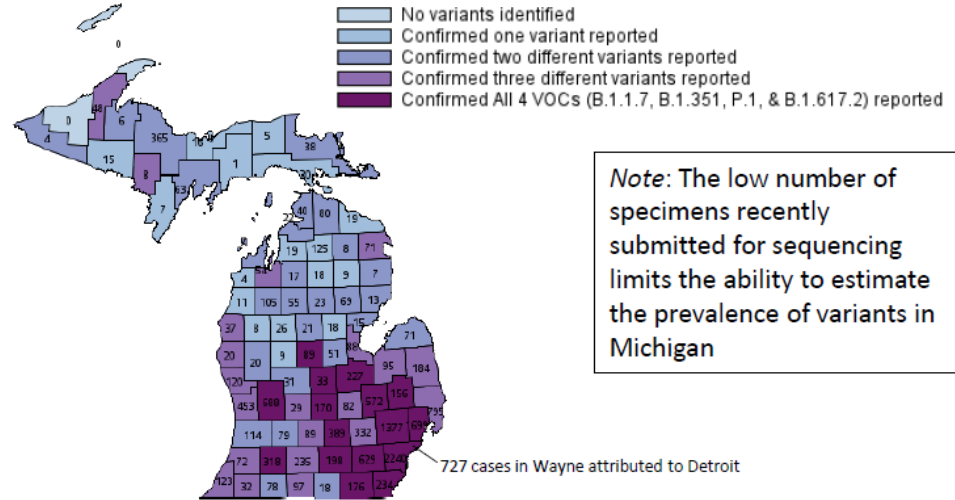
Identified COVID-19 Cases Caused by All Variants of Concern (VOC) in US and Michigan

Variants Circulating in United States, Jul 18 – Jul 31 (NOWCAST)

USA				
WHO label	Lineage #	Type	%Total	95%PI
Alpha	B.1.1.7	VOC	0.9%	0.2-2.0%
Beta	B.1.351	VOC	0.0%	0.0-0.2%
Gamma	P.1	VOC	0.5%	0.0-1.2%
Delta	B.1.617.2	VOC	83.4%	79.7-87.1%
	AY.3	VOC	13.4%	10.2-16.9%
	AY.2	VOC	0.5%	0.0-1.2%
	AY.1	VOC	0.1%	0.0-0.2%
Eta	B.1.525	VOI	0.0%	0.0-0.2%
Iota	B.1.526	VOI	0.1%	0.0-0.5%
	B.1.621		0.6%	0.0-1.5%
	B.1.621.1		0.2%	0.0-0.7%
	B.1.628		0.2%	0.0-0.7%
	Other*		0.1%	0.0-0.5%
	A.2.5		0.0%	0.0-0.2%
	B.1.626		0.0%	0.0-0.2%
	B.1.429	VOI	0.0%	0.0-0.2%
	B.1.427	VOI	0.0%	0.0-0.2%

* Enumerated lineages are VOI/VOC or are circulating >1% in at least one HHS region during at least one two week period; remaining lineages are aggregated as "Other".
 ** These data include Nowcast estimates, which are modeled projections that may differ from weighted estimates generated at later dates.
 # Sublineages of P.1 and B.1.351 (P.1.1, P.1.2, B.1.351.2, B.1.351.3) are aggregated with the parent lineage and included in parent lineage's proportion. AY.3.1 is aggregated with its parent lineage AY.3.

Variants of Concern in Michigan, Aug 16



Note: The low number of specimens recently submitted for sequencing limits the ability to estimate the prevalence of variants in Michigan

Variant	MI Reported Cases [†]	# of Counties	% Specimens in last 4 wks
B.1.1.7 (alpha)	13,652*	81	<1%
B.1.351 (beta)	85	24	<1%
P.1 (gamma)	329	35 (↑8)	<1%
B.1.617.2 (delta)	856 (↑506)	58 (↑8)	99%

* 534 cases within MDOC; † 37 cases with county not yet determined

Data last updated Aug 16, 2021
 Source: <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#variant-proportions> and MDSS

19 Allegan County has 114 reported cases of variants, with four different confirmed variants (as of 8/16/21)

Allegan County VACCINE DATA

Updated 8/24/21
Data as of 8/20/21



57.3%



70% OF ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS* VACCINATED BY END OF 2021

*Allegan County residents age 16+

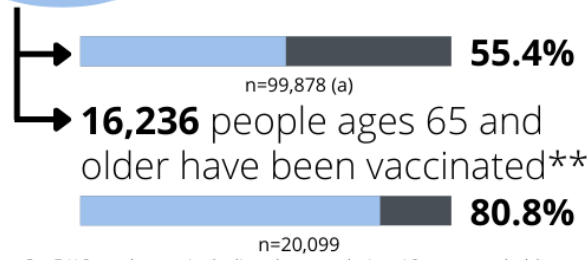
0 individuals aged 16+

93,149 individuals aged 16+

As of August 20, **55,299** people have been vaccinated**

55,299

people have been vaccinated**



16,236 people ages 65 and older have been vaccinated**

**Individuals given at least 1 dose of vaccine. On 5/18, we began including the population 12 years and older.
a): 2019 American Community Survey (ACS) population estimates for 12+ in Allegan County



Over 1 in 2 individuals are fully vaccinated (51.5%).

Over 3 in 4 individuals aged 65 and older are fully vaccinated (77.4%).

Fully Vaccinated: Individuals (12 years and older) receiving 2 doses of Pfizer or Moderna or 1 dose of J&J.

Total Doses Distributed*

85,220

*includes 1st and 2nd doses. Based on allocation process established by MDHHS to each county.

Total Doses Administered*

101,543

*includes 1st and 2nd doses and based on person's residence.

PLANNED CLINICS

4
Clinics

August 22, 2021 to August 28, 2021

100
First and second doses

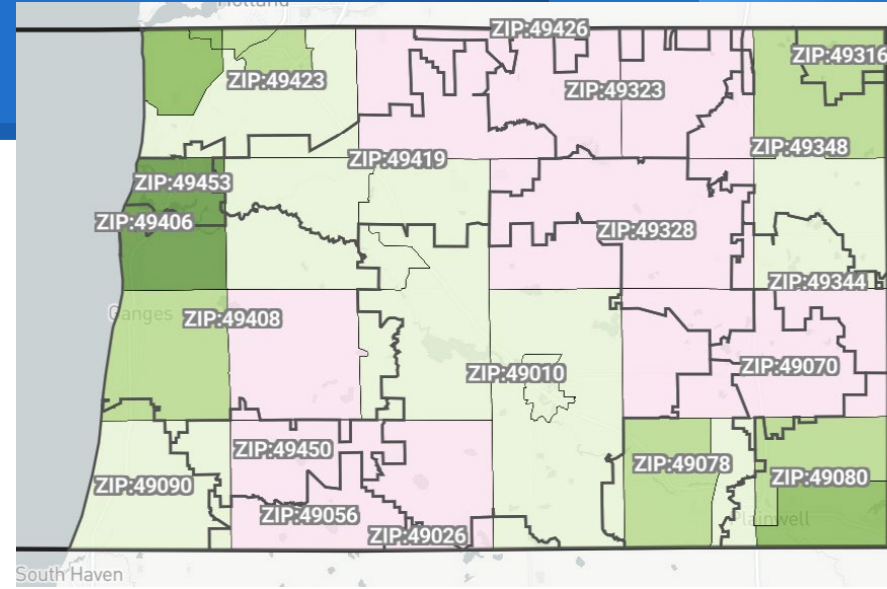
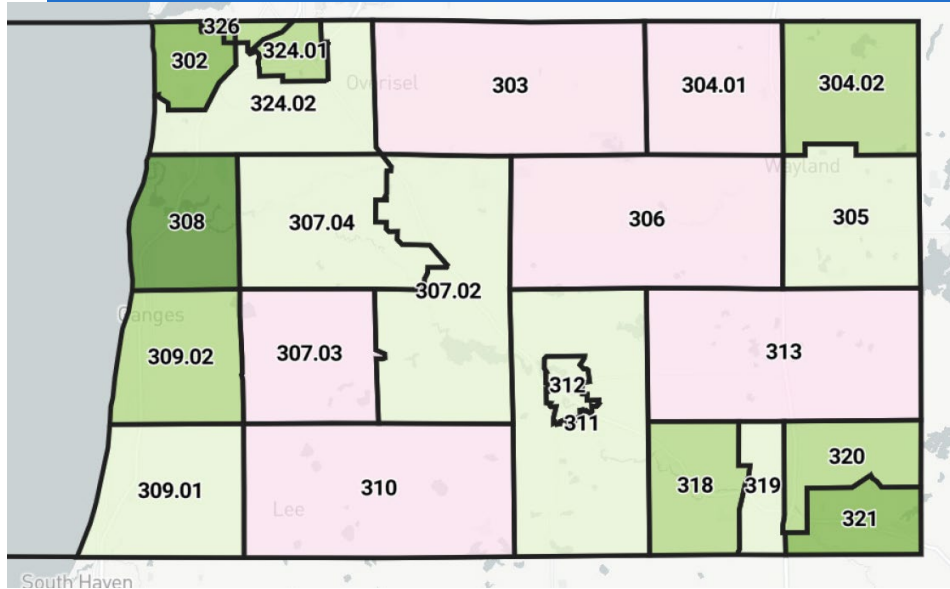
Note: Our goal of vaccinating 70% of the population accounted for the 16 and older population. With increasing the eligibility population, our vaccine coverage decreased. We are continuing to strive towards our goal of vaccinating 70% of residents 16 and older, which will reflect on the gauge at the top of this graphic.

6/1/2021 Update: Previous vaccine graphics included 96,451 as the population of Allegan County residents 12 years and older. After further review, 99,878 is a more accurate population estimation.



HEALTH Department

Data as of 8/24/21

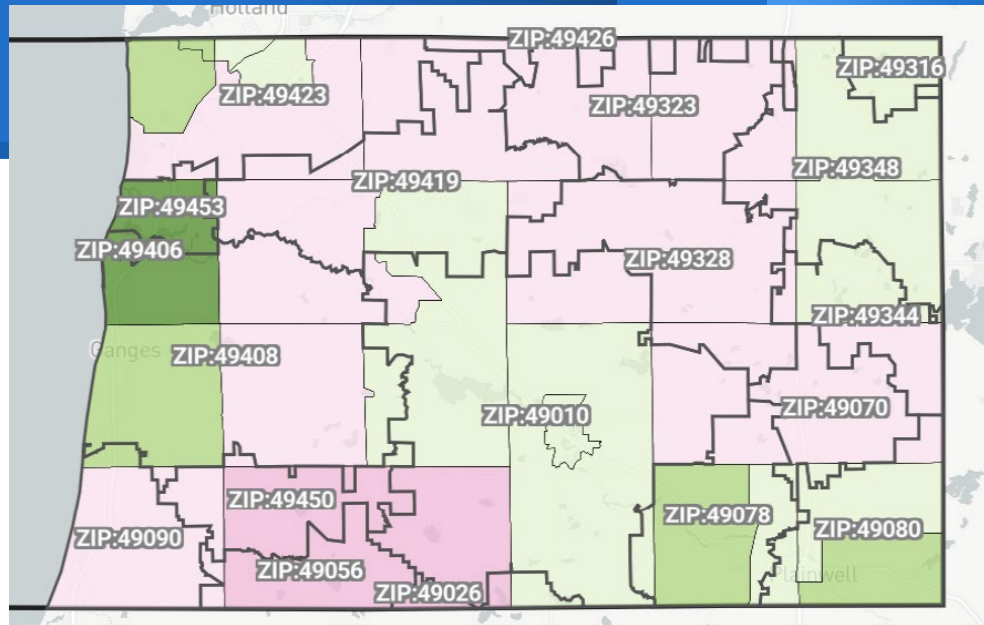
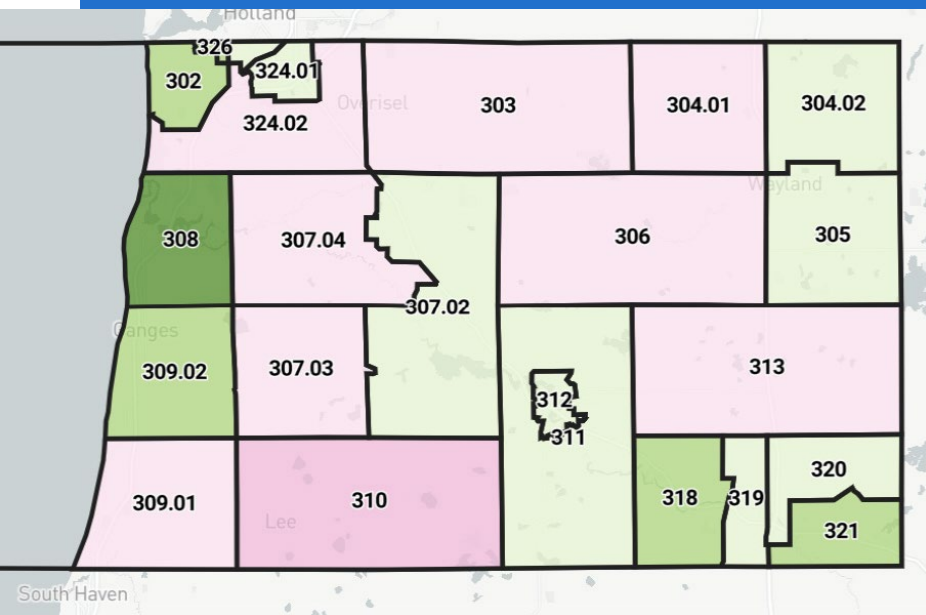


Color coded by: Received 1 or More Dose (% Ages 16+)

0-9% 10-19% 20-29% 30-39% 40-49% 50-59% 60-69% 70-79% 80-89% >90% <150 Population



Data as of 8/24/21



Color coded by: Fully Vaccinated (% Ages 16+)

0-9% 10-19% 20-29% 30-39% 40-49% 50-59% 60-69% 70-79% 80-89% >90% <150 Population



Public Health COVID-19 Advisory

Level of Community Transmission: High

Allegan County Health Department strongly recommends everyone to:



Wear a mask in public

In settings with a lot of people (restaurants, festivals, fairs, events, stores, etc.), wearing a mask provides you extra protection



Get a COVID-19 vaccine

This helps lessen the impact of severe illness, resulting in hospitalization or death

Actions including **social distancing, frequent handwashing, screening and testing, and isolation/quarantine** help lessen the level of transmission

#DoYourPart



HEALTH
Department

CDC Levels of Community Transmission

Allegan County Level of Community Transmission: High

Indicator - If the two indicators suggest different transmission levels, the higher level is selected	Low Transmission Blue	Moderate Transmission Yellow	Substantial Transmission Orange	High Transmission Red
Total new cases per 100,000 persons in the past 7 days	0-9.99	10-49.99	50-99.99	≥100
Percentage of NAATs ¹ that are positive during the past 7 days	0-4.99%	5-7.99%	8-9.99%	≥10.0%

Footnote:

Level of Community Transmission: This metric ** uses two indicators for categorization (1. Total number of new cases per 100,000 persons within the last 7 days and 2. Percentage of positive diagnostic and screening nucleic acid amplification tests (NAAT) during the last 7 days). INAAAT remains the "gold standard" for clinical diagnostic detection of SARS-CoV-2 and includes viral testing such as Nucleic Acid Amplification Tests (NAATs), which include reverse transcriptase-polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) tests. Total number of new cases per 100,000 persons within the last 7 days is calculated by adding the number of new cases in the county (or other administrative level) in the last 7 days divided by the population in the county (or other administrative level) and multiplying by 100,000. Percentage of positive diagnostic and screening NAAT during the last 7 days is calculated by dividing the number of positive tests in the county (or other administrative level) during the last 7 days by the total number of tests resulted over the last 7 days. If the two indicators suggest different transmission levels, the higher level is selected. Transmission categories include Blue (Low Transmission); Control is achieved largely through individual prevention behaviors and the public health response to identify and isolate cases or clusters. Threshold: Counties with fewer than 10 cumulative cases per 100,000 population in the past 7 days, and a cumulative NAAT percent test positivity result below 5% in the past 7 days. Yellow (Moderate Transmission); Adherence to individual and selected community level prevention strategies are needed. Threshold: Counties with 10-49 cumulative cases per 100,000 population or a cumulative NAAT test positivity result between 5.0-7.9% in the past 7 days. Orange (Substantial Transmission); Everyday activities should be limited to reduce spread and protect the health care system. Threshold: Counties with 50-99 cumulative cases per 100,000 population or a cumulative NAAT test positivity result between 8.0-9.9% in the past 7 days. Red (High Transmission); Significant measures are needed to limit contact between persons, with priority given to maintaining essential community activities and services (e.g., health care, transportation, food and agriculture, schools). Threshold: Counties with cumulative cases ≥100 per 100,000 population or a cumulative NAAT test positivity result ≥10.0% in the past 7 days. The Level of Community Transmission table displays the number of counties in each level and the change from the prior week.

TOOLS THAT HELP PREVENT COVID-19 IN SCHOOLS/BUSINESSES



What we are trying to do is to get the virus transmission level so low in the community that it can't continue to spread.

- These tools by themselves are helpful, but when paired together, we can get to our intended outcome (low to no virus transmission) quicker.
 - As community transmission increases, we need more tools to help provide protection
 - As vaccination rate within a community increases, fewer tools need to be practiced since there is a layer of protection

Mitigation Strategies are important to keep in place

- ▶ ACHD will provide modified quarantine to asymptomatic individuals (related to business continuity of operations or individual financial hardships) for businesses who have strict mitigation strategies in place (mask wearing, social distancing, frequent handwashing, health screening/testing).
- ▶ ACHD will provide modified quarantine for students identified as close contacts (between 3-6ft) when strict mitigation strategies are in place, including wearing a mask and having no symptoms.

If an individual gets COVID-19, this is a consideration for treatment that reduces risk of long-term health impacts



Scan QR Code for e-form

Monoclonal Antibody Therapy – Patient Profile Form (Rev 8/23/2021)

- ▶ Regeneron is one of the only effective therapies/medical treatments we have for COVID-19 infections.
- ▶ Regeneron is very effective at decreasing the severity of infection, especially in high risk and elderly patients.
- ▶ It is now also used as a preventive measure for high risk individuals who have been exposed to or test positive for COVID-19 before serious illness develops.
- ▶ It is widely available at no cost to all Michigan residents.

FDA approves Pfizer vaccines for 16+

- ▶ On August 23, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved the first COVID-19 vaccine.
- ▶ The vaccine has been known as the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine, and will now be marketed as Comirnaty (koe-mir'-na-tee), for the prevention of COVID-19 disease in individuals 16 years of age and older.
- ▶ The vaccine also continues to be available under emergency use authorization (EUA), including for individuals 12 through 15 years of age and for the administration of a third dose in certain immunocompromised individuals.

Read more from the FDA here: <https://bit.ly/3zf3l3Q>

ACHD K-6 Grades Mask Requirement

Read the full local health order [here](#).

Watch ACHD's presentation at the 8/20 Special Board of Commissioner's meeting [here](#).

▶ Summary of Requirement:

The Allegan County Health Departments requires that within educational institutions children in kindergarten through grade six must consistently and properly wear a facial mask covering both nose and mouth while inside any enclosed building or structure of the institution. The order also requires all persons, regardless of vaccination status, providing services to any child in kindergarten through grade six, and all persons providing services to students identified as medically fragile regardless of age, properly and consistently wear a face mask while inside any enclosed building or structure of the institution.

- ▶ The order is effective immediately and remains in effect until six weeks past the date the COVID-19 vaccine is authorized and available to persons age five years through age eleven, Allegan County is in the low transmission level for at least 7 days, or until further notice from the Health Officer.



Roadmap to decision making



Weekly/Bi-Weekly Meetings with School Superintendents, continued to emphasize mask wearing is strongly recommended

Meetings with Legal and other Michigan local health departments

New Guidance from American Academy of Pediatrics, CDC and MDHHS

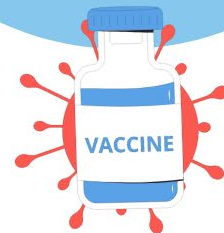
ACHD released updated COVID-19 School Guidance on 8/11/21, strongly recommending masks



Currently "High Transmission" in Allegan County

Surveillance of other communities/states at peak of surge

Vaccine Coverage on County level, zip code level, and age group



Recent Questions on Mask Order



Why this age group?

- Kids 5-11 do not have an available COVID-19 vaccine
- People 11 years and younger must rely on other mitigation strategies to be protected from COVID-19.
 - Masks are the next best effective form of prevention



Was the psychological impact to kids considered?

- Yes - risks vs. benefits
- We've prioritized in-person learning for kids.
 - Schools were in person or hybrid (with masks in place) since last year
- Kids and other vulnerable populations are prioritized for timely case investigation/contact tracing no matter case trends
- Concerns about interruptions in school due to quarantines and positive cases



What are other counties doing?

Currently, Genesee, Kalamazoo, Allegan, Ottawa and Kent County health departments are five that have issued orders.

Recent Questions on Mask Order

Why is this being handled differently than the flu?

MDHHS Laboratory Data

There were **0** new positive influenza results (OC, ON, OSE, OSW) reported by the MDHHS Bureau of Laboratories (BOL) during this time period.

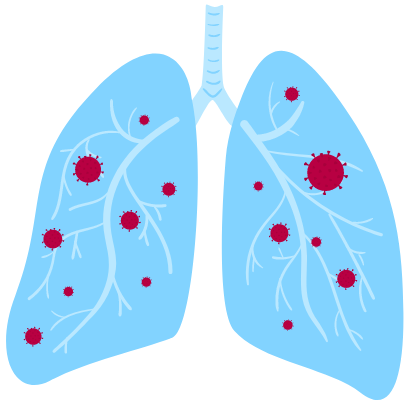
of Positive Respiratory Virus Results by Region

Flu Type, Subtype	C	N	SE	SW	Summer 2021 Total	2020-21 Flu Season Total
Flu A, H1N1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Flu A, H3N2	0	0	2	0	2	1
Flu B	0	0	0	0	0	4
Total	0	0	2	0	2	
2020-21 Total	0	0	5	0		5

Data is provisional and may change as additional results are reported.

Total influenza-associated pediatric deaths in the U.S. and Michigan by season are listed in the table below.

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
U.S. Total Source: CDC FluView	188	144	199	1
MI Total	3	3	6	0



According to the CDC, 490 children under age 17 years have died of COVID-19 in the US.

Recent Questions on Mask Order

Who is excluded?

The Order does not apply to:

1. Persons in the act of eating or drinking.
2. Persons outside if not engaged in activities involving direct physical contact.
3. Persons under the age of five years; however, supervised masking is strongly recommended.
4. Students with developmental conditions of any age attending school, although supervised masking is encouraged.
5. Teachers who are working with children who are hard of hearing or students with developmental conditions who benefit from facial cues. These teachers or staff must be vaccinated or comply with masking directive.
6. A person with a disability who cannot wear a mask, or cannot safely wear a mask, because of the disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA, 42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.) and Michigan Persons with Disabilities Act.

Recent Questions on Mask Order

Is there any compromise?

The Order remains in effect until six weeks past the date COVID-19 vaccine is authorized and available to persons aged five years through age eleven, or until further notice from the Health Officer

- If the CDC Level of Community Transmission is in **LOW for at least 7 days**

Indicator - If the two indicators suggest different transmission levels, the higher level is selected	Low Transmission Blue	Moderate Transmission Yellow	Substantial Transmission Orange	High Transmission Red
Total new cases per 100,000 persons in the past 7 days	0-9.99	10-49.99	50-99.99	≥100
Percentage of NAATs ¹ that are positive during the past 7 days	0-4.99%	5-7.99%	8-9.99%	≥10.0%

What this means:

These data points that tell us that there is less virus circulating within the community and less need for strict mitigation strategies. **NOTE:** these are not the only data points to consider since there are a lot of factors that can influence virus transmission

Sources:

<https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view>

https://covidactnow.org/us/michigan-mi/county/allegan_county/?s=21901116

Universal Masking vs. Individual Masking

Masks prevent infected persons from exposing others to SARS-CoV-2 by blocking exhalation of virus-containing droplets into the air (termed source control).

It is estimated that at least 50% or more of transmissions are from persons who never develop symptoms or those who are in the pre-symptomatic phase of COVID-19 illness.

In recent lab experiments, multi-layer cloth masks were more effective than single-layer masks, blocking as much as 50% to 70% of exhaled small droplets and particles.

Masks protect uninfected wearers. Masks form a barrier to large respiratory droplets that could land on exposed mucous membranes of the eye, nose, and mouth

Masks can also partially filter out small droplets and particles from inhaled air. Multiple layers of fabric and fabrics with higher thread counts improve filtration

The observed effectiveness of cloth masks to protect the wearer is lower than their effectiveness for source control

Sources:

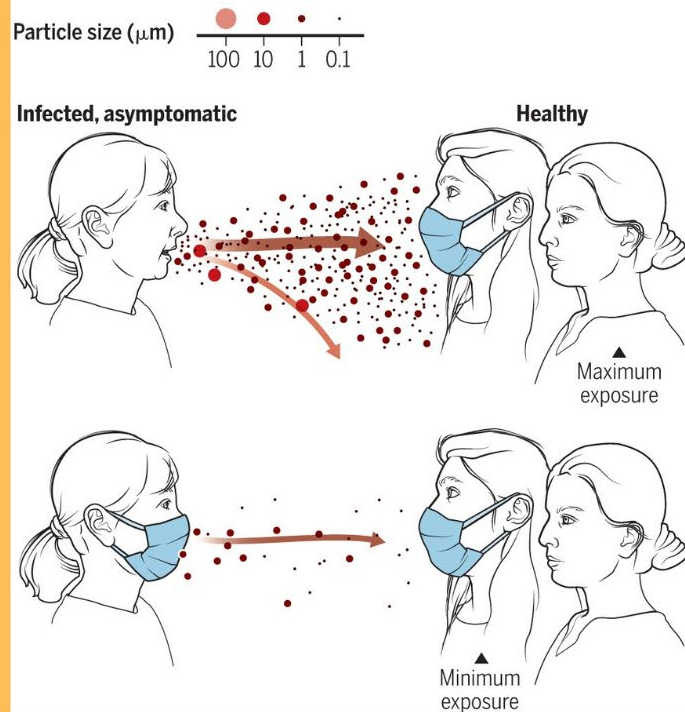
- Johansson MA, Quandelacy TM, Kada S, et al. SARS-CoV-2 transmission from people without COVID-19 symptoms. *JAMA Netw Open.* 2021;4(1):e2035057.
- Lindsley WG, Blachere FM, Law BF, Beezhold DH, Noti JD. Efficacy of face masks, neck gaiters and face shields for reducing the expulsion of simulated cough-generated aerosols. *Aerosol Sci Technol.* Published online January 7, 2021. doi:10.1080/02786826.2020.1862409
- Ueki H, Furusawa Y, Iwatsuki-Horimoto K, et al. Effectiveness of face masks in preventing airborne transmission of SARS-CoV-2. *mSphere.* 2020;5(5):e00637-20. doi:10.1128/mSphere.00637-20

Why masks are effective

Masks are not 100% effective, but they greatly reduce transmission

Masks reduce airborne transmission

Infectious aerosol particles can be released during breathing and speaking by asymptomatic infected individuals. No masking maximizes exposure, whereas universal masking results in the least exposure.

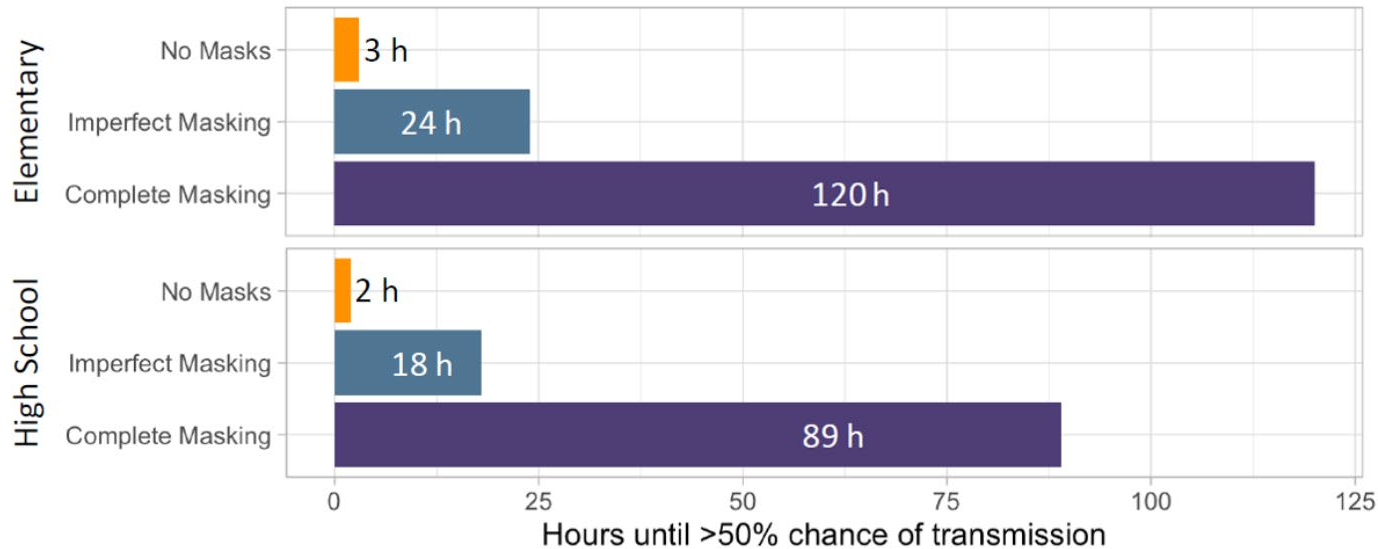


Sources:

- Reducing transmission of SARS-CoV-2 | Science (sciencemag.org)
- Mask adherence and rate of COVID-19 across the United States (nih.gov)
- An evidence review of face masks against COVID-19 | PNAS
- https://www.michigan.gov/documents/coronavirus/20210809_Data_and_modeling_update_vFINAL_732387_7.pdf
- <https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2021.08.10.21261726v1>
- https://caldercenter.org/sites/default/files/WP%20247-1220_updated_tyop.pdf
- <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/apa.15870#apa15870-bib-0004>
- <https://www.preprints.org/manuscript/202103.0271/v1>

Modeling: Masks can substantially reduce transmission in school settings

If 1 infectious child attends a class of 25 students, how long does it take for there to be a >50% chance of transmission occurring?



Estimates from the [COVID-19 Indoor Safety Guideline](#), based on [Bazant and Bush, A guideline to limit indoor airborne transmission of COVID-19, PNAS 2021](#). Simulations assume: delta strain, normal talking (not singing/etc.), with child age group for elementary and average between adult and child age groups for high school. Vaccine coverage was assumed to be 0% for elementary and 33% for high school, based on age-specific coverage rates as of 8/6/21. We assumed 95% mask fit/compliance for 'Complete Masking' and 75% for 'Imperfect Masking'.

Are masks harmful?

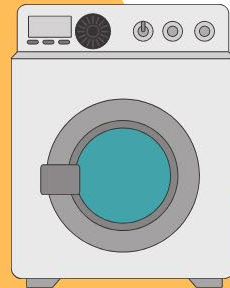


Children aged 7 to 13 years have been shown to be able to make accurate inferences about the emotions of others with partially covered faces.

Concerns about reduced oxygen saturation and carbon dioxide retention when wearing a mask have not been supported by available data, including recent statements from American Academy of Pediatrics.



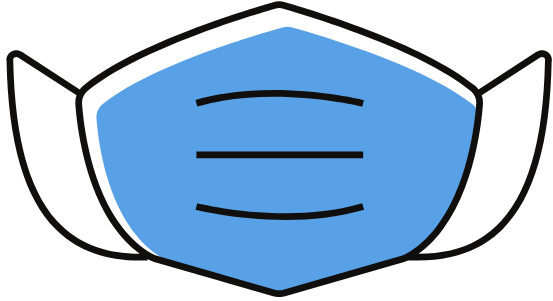
Cloth masks can be used safely more than once if you wash them each day. Proper laundering of cloth masks removes any viruses, bacteria or respiratory secretions that may build up on the mask. You should wash your cloth mask with soap and water after you are done using it for the day. It should be completely dry before you use it again. Clean, dry masks will not develop mold or make you sick.



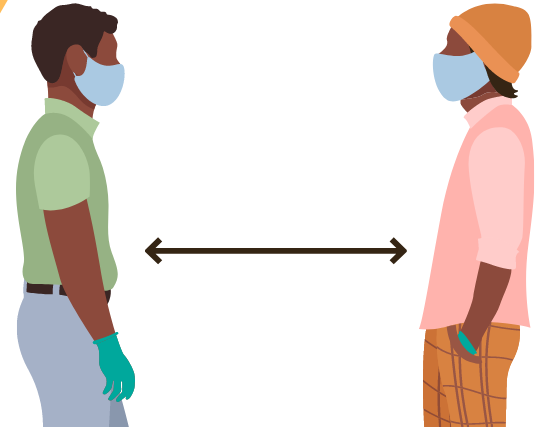
Sources:

- Ruba AL, Pollak SD. Children's emotion inferences from masked faces: Implications for social interactions during COVID-19. PLoS One. 2020;15(12):e0243708.
- Samannan R, Holt G, Calderon-Candelario R, Mirsaeidi M, Campos M. Effect of face masks on gas exchange in healthy persons and patients with COPD. Ann Am Thorac Soc. Published online October 2, 2020. doi:10.1513/AnnalsATS.202007-812RL
- <https://www.hopkinsallchildrens.org/ACH-News/General-News/Myths-about-Masks-and-Other-Coronavirus-Facial-Cov>

Is the virus too small for masks?



The virus cannot travel by itself. It relies on respiratory droplets to go from person to person



The Delta Variant has changed the game.

We are going into more concerning territory

- The Delta variant is highly contagious, more than 2x as contagious as previous variants and has a much higher viral load (transmits to more people from 1 person).
- When the CDC revised its guidance in May, the delta variant represented 1% of all cases. **Today** that number is more than 80%.
- Children can transmit the virus to others and can be sources for outbreaks
- Children can experience severe health outcomes from COVID-19 including MIS-C, Hospitalization, and Death
- Schools are starting full force in-person learning
- As a result, universal masking is a proven, safe, effective approach to reduce spread of the Delta variant.

Sources

<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamapediatrics/fullarticle/2783022>

https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/69/wr/mm6931e1.htm?s_cid=mm6931e1_w#suggestedcitation

<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7020a3.htm>

<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2780861>

Public Health does surveillance to inform strategies to prevent and control spread of disease



Sick kids running out of room at Omaha-area hospitals as start of school, COVID loom

THE OKLAHOMAN  **RSV + COVID: "At Oklahoma Children's Hospital, available pediatric beds are scarce as RSV surges"**



Baton Rouge: Kids sick with Covid are filling up children's hospitals in areas seeing spikes
daily advertiser Louisiana remains COVID-19 capital of U.S. as hospitals struggle to find beds and staff

Tennessean. 'All of them': Tennessee health chief says children's hospitals will fill up as the delta variant surges: "on pace to completely fill children's hospitals across the state by the end of next week."



After record admissions, Arkansas ICUs down to last 8 beds



Dallas County has no pediatric ICU beds left, county judge says

Quote from county judge Clay Jenkins: "That means if your child's in a car wreck, if your child has a congenital heart defect or something and needs an ICU bed, or more likely if they have Covid and need an ICU bed, we don't have one. Your child will wait for another child to die," Jenkins said. "Your child will just not get on the ventilator, your child will be CareFlighted to Temple or Oklahoma City or wherever we can find them a bed, but they won't be getting one here unless one clears."

Why put this order in place?

1

The best tool for combating COVID-19 is vaccination. **For the population who does not have access, the next best tool is the protection of face masks.**

2

Keeping children in school is a high priority since the start of the pandemic.

3

Universal Face Masking is effective

4

The Delta variant is more transmissible and the amount of detectable virus of infected individuals is much higher, even in fully vaccinated individuals

5

Parents of those under 11 years of age do not have a choice to get their child vaccinated since the age group is not yet eligible

6

This order is effective until 6 weeks after this age group is eligible and has access to an authorized COVID-19 vaccine or Allegan County is in low risk for 7 days



Mental Health Impacts

- ▶ Many of us, including children, have suffered mental health impacts related to this pandemic.
- ▶ This can impact ACES (Adverse Childhood Experience Scores)
- ▶ Businesses and schools: What resources are there to help families through this?
- ▶ Do our families have those resources?

ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES – ACES

What are Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)?

ACEs are potentially traumatic events that occur in a child's life:



Physical Abuse



Emotional Abuse



Sexual Abuse



Domestic Violence



Parental Substance Abuse



Mental Illness



Suicide or Death



Crime or Imprisoned Family

Causing lifelong medical, mental & social suffering

ACHD has started providing 3rd doses for immunocompromised and planning for boosters for general population

- ▶ ACHD planning for an increase in clinic size upon 3rd doses for general population in early fall.
- ▶ For interested organizations, complete this [interest form](#).



Upcoming COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics* for anyone 12 years and older



AUGUST VACCINE CLINICS



Make an appointment ahead of time by visiting www.allegancounty.org/covid

Thursday, August 26 | 11:00am-2:30pm

Saugatuck High School (mobile)

Thursday, August 26 | 5:30pm-7:00pm

ACATEC, 2891 116th St., Allegan (mobile)

Friday, August 27 | 11:00am-3:00pm

Love INC Pullman, 943 56th St. (mobile)

Saturday, August 28 | 9:00am-12:00pm

Allegan High School

September Clinics (flyer coming soon):

September 2 | 8am-2pm

Allegan Farmers Market

September 3 | 3pm-6pm

Ladders of Hope, 717 Main St.,
Fennville

September 7 | 1pm-5pm

Fennville Library

People can make an appointment ahead of time by visiting

www.allegancounty.org/covid

*Minors ages 12 to 17 will need a parent or legal guardian to accompany them to their appointment in order to provide consent to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.



HEALTH
Department

Confirmed Cyanobacteria Blooms in Swan Lake

**ADVISORY
CONFIRMED
CYANOBACTERIA
HARMFUL BLOOMS
PRESENT.**

**KEEP PEOPLE
AND PETS
OUT OF AREA.**

This Advisory remains in effect until future testing shows no harmful cyanobacteria present.



HEALTH
Department

Environmental Health (269) 673-5415



HEALTH
Department

3255 I22nd Avenue, Suite 200
Allegan, MI 49010

FREE

Preschool and Kindergarten Entrance Hearing and Vision Screenings

Please call (269) 673-5411 to
make an appointment.



Upcoming Clinics

9am – 12pm

By Appointment Only

Friday, September 3rd

Friday, October 1st

Friday, November 5th

"The ability to
hear and see--
the ability to
learn--is the
key to a child's
success."



Michigan's Public Health Code
requires screening during preschool
(ages 3 to 5) and again prior to
kindergarten entry. Once a child
begins elementary school, free
screenings continue on a regular
basis and are conducted by your
local health department.



michigan
HEARING & VISION
screening programs

Final thoughts

- ▶ Delta variant is present and fully vaccinated individuals can still transmit the virus, but have protection against severe illness/hospitalization and death
- ▶ Vaccines are widely available
- ▶ Mitigation strategies work to reduce transmission against virus
- ▶ To prevent outbreaks in your workplace, more mitigation strategies can be layered to reduce spread
- ▶ Treatment is available to help minimize COVID-19 illness for those infected

**ACHD COVID-19 Updates
are held on the 2nd and 4th
Wednesday of every
month.**



Questions?