



# COVID-19 AND OTHER EMERGING PUBLIC HEALTH TOPICS

## BOARD OF COMMISSIONER UPDATE

OCTOBER 27, 2022

*Data as of October 20, 2022*

### CONTENTS

<b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>COVID-19 MITIGATION COMPONENTS</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>ENHANCED ABILITY TO TEST</b> .....	<b>3</b>
COUNTY-LEVEL DATA AS OF OCTOBER 17, 2022 .....	3
<b>CASE INVESTIGATION AND CONTACT TRACING</b> .....	<b>3</b>
ALLEGAN COUNTY COVID-19 COMMUNITY LEVEL: LOW .....	3
OVERVIEW OF COVID-19 CASES AND DEATHS IN THE LAST TWO WEEKS (10/7/2022 TO 10/20/22) .....	3
CASE INVESTIGATION .....	4
EXPOSURE LETTERS AND CLOSE CONTACTS IN SCHOOL SETTINGS .....	5
OUTBREAKS & CLUSTERS IN ALLEGAN COUNTY .....	5
LONG TERM CARE & OTHER CONGREGATE CARE FACILITIES (LTCF) .....	5
<b>SUFFICIENT HEALTH CARE CAPACITY</b> .....	<b>6</b>
HOSPITALIZATIONS .....	6
DEATHS (7 DAY AVERAGE) .....	6
<b>BEST PRACTICES</b> .....	<b>6</b>
SCHOOLS .....	6
BUSINESSES .....	6
COMMUNICATIONS .....	6
RABIES REPORTED IN AN ALLEGAN COUNTY BAT .....	6
ALLEGAN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT LAUNCHES ALLEGAN COMMUNITY LINKS PROGRAM .....	7
BIVALENT COVID BOOSTERS FOR KIDS 5+ .....	7
<b>COMMUNITY VACCINATION/HERD IMMUNITY/TREATMENT</b> .....	<b>7</b>
COVID-19 VACCINE COVERAGE .....	8
VACCINATION COVERAGE BY AGE GROUP .....	8
VACCINATION COVERAGE BY ZIP CODE .....	8
VACCINE AVAILABILITY .....	8
VACCINE EFFECTIVENESS (VE) .....	8
LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT (LHD) BREAKTHROUGH DATA DISTRIBUTION .....	8
<b>COVID-19 SURVEILLANCE</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>EPIDEMIOLOGIC SURVEILLANCE</b> .....	<b>10</b>
<b>SOURCES</b> .....	<b>11</b>
<b>APPENDICES</b> .....	<b>12</b>

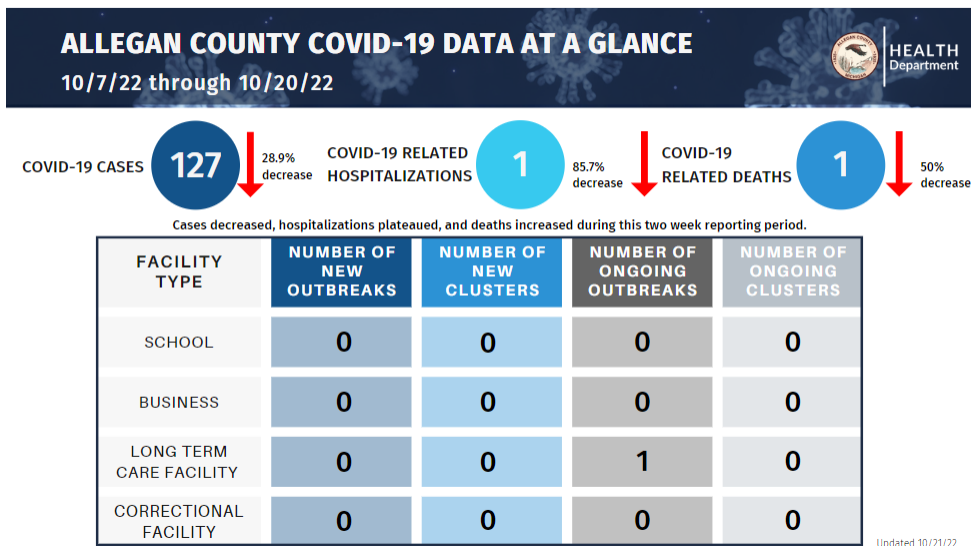
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The following report contains COVID-19-related data from **October 7, 2022 to October 20, 2022**, on the 5 mitigation components Allegan County Health Department (ACHD) previously identified. This report contains local COVID-19 data for Allegan County, information on vaccination data, wastewater surveillance, emerging variant updates, and other resources regarding COVID-19 mitigation. This report also contains epidemiological surveillance and health education on other ongoing and emerging public health topics including monkeypox (MPV), and other regional epidemiological topics at a glance. ACHD continues to monitor local, statewide, and global COVID-19 data, and continues to follow the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations. Previous BOC reports that may include background information for some of the topics discussed in this current report can be found [here](#).

WHAT'S NEW AT A GLANCE:

- ACHD launched the Community Links Program.
- Allegan County bat tests positive for rabies, 2<sup>nd</sup> this year.
- COVID-19 cases **decreased** in this two-week reporting period.
- There are two monkeypox cases in Allegan County.

An overview of COVID-19 data in Allegan County from **10/7/22 to 10/20/22** can be found in the graphic below:



COVID-19 MITIGATION COMPONENTS



Allegan County currently is at a low community transmission level for COVID-19. **ACHD continues to recommend the following:**

- Staying up-to-date on your COVID-19 vaccines
- Getting tested if you have symptoms, before and after traveling, and before gathering with others.

**Allegan County COVID-19 Community Level: Low**

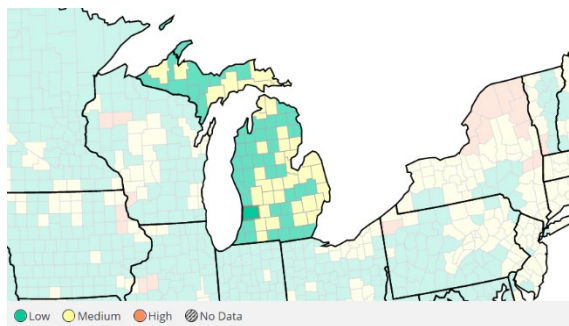
Allegan County Health Department recommends everyone to:

- Stay up to date on your COVID-19 Vaccines
- Get tested if you have symptoms

Actions including social distancing, frequent handwashing, wearing a well-fitted face mask, and isolation help lessen the level of transmission

Learn more about CDC's COVID-19 Community Levels [here](#). #DoYourPart

COVID-19 Community Levels are a tool to help communities decide what prevention steps to take based on the latest data. These Community Levels can be low, medium, or high and **are determined by looking at hospital bed utilization, hospital admissions, and the total number of new COVID-19 cases in an area.** Find more about COVID-19 Community Levels [here](#).



*Note: Counties surrounding Allegan County may be in a medium or high COVID-19 Community Level. If you work or visit other counties often, make sure to take precautions to protect yourself and others such as wearing a mask, washing your hands often, staying home if you feel sick, and social distancing when possible.*

*Use the CDC's [COVID-19 County Check tool](#) to find out what the community level is for the county you will be visiting.*

## ENHANCED ABILITY TO TEST

### COUNTY-LEVEL DATA AS OF October 17, 2022

The Test Positivity Rate for Allegan County is trending **downward**, after trending downward the week prior. See the latest information for Allegan County For the latest information, visit [Dashboard | CDC | MI Start Map](#).

At this stage of the pandemic, percent positivity alone is no longer a strong indicator of the total number of individuals who tested positive, due to several factors – one being at-home testing. It is best to evaluate percent positivity with another metric, such as COVID-19 concentration levels in wastewater, to get a more accurate idea of the prevalence of the virus in an area. **The current 7-day positivity rate for Allegan County as of October 17 was 11.8% with 451.2 daily tests administered per million. This indicates a 8.5% decrease in the 7-day positivity compared to the 9/30/2022 to 10/6/2022 reporting period, which had 526.8 daily tests administered per million.**

At-home tests are currently not reported in the Michigan Disease Surveillance System (MDSS) and therefore, are not included in the test positivity rates or case counts. **See the [Appendix for a list of testing resources available to community members](#).**

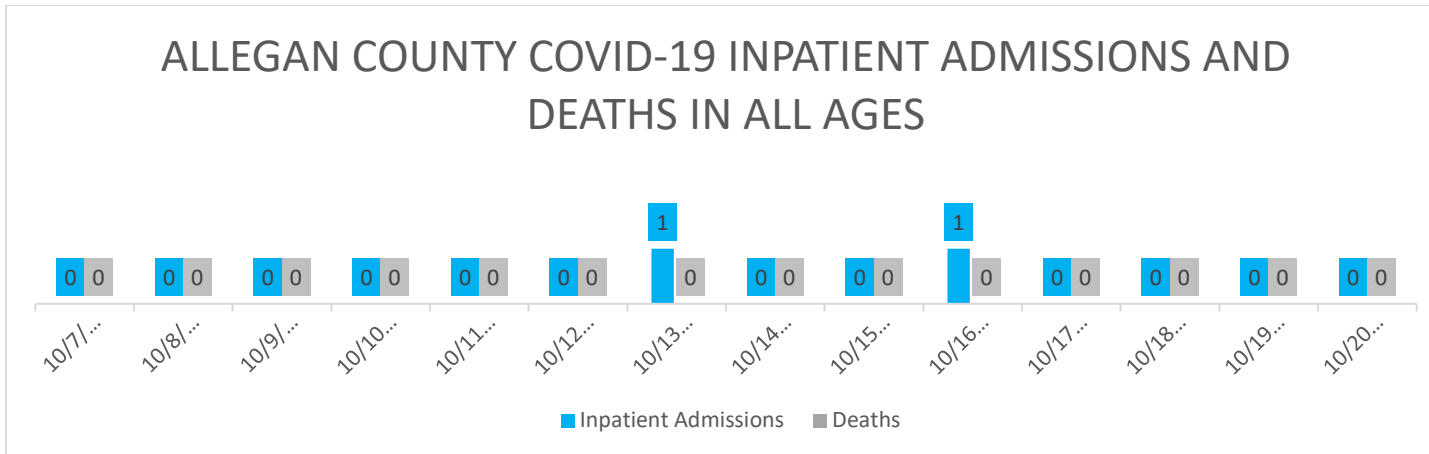
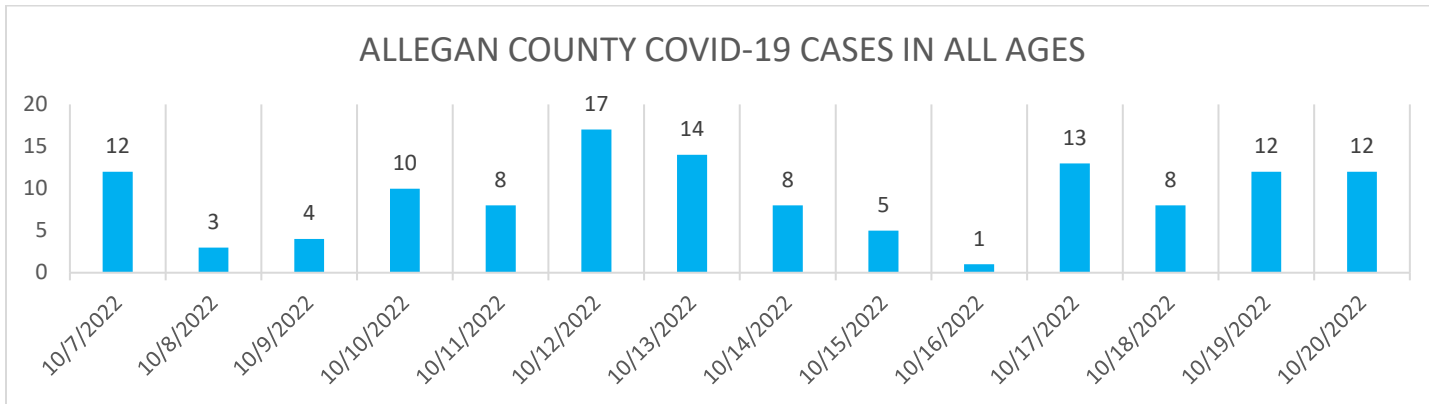
## CASE INVESTIGATION AND CONTACT TRACING

### ALLEGAN COUNTY COVID-19 COMMUNITY LEVEL: LOW

See the latest information for Allegan County For the latest information, visit [Dashboard | CDC | MI Start Map](#). As of 10/17/2022, Allegan County remained at a low COVID-19 community level based on the [CDC framework](#). **Data Takeaway: Models showed a decrease in cases compared to the 9/30/2022 to 10/6/2022 reporting period. During the period 10/11/2022-10/17/2022, Allegan County's new weekly case rate was 55 per 100,000 population with 65 weekly cases.**

**Weekly cases decreased by more than 18% since the 9/30/2022 to 10/6/2022 reporting period (67.8 per 100,000 – 80 total weekly cases).**

### OVERVIEW OF COVID-19 CASES AND DEATHS IN THE LAST TWO WEEKS (10/7/2022 to 10/20/22)



**DURING 10/7/2022 to 10/20/22 FOR ALLEGAN COUNTY:**

- **127 total cases** were reported via the Michigan Disease Surveillance System (MDSS)
  - 101 confirmed cases and 26 probable cases related to SARS-CoV2 infection as reported
- 2.4% of the cases were reported as asymptomatic
- 26.0% of cases were reported as ‘vaccine breakthrough’ cases, which has slightly decreased from the previous two weeks
- **Two** reported **hospitalizations**<sup>1</sup> related to SARS-CoV-2 infection
- There was **no deaths** related to SARS-CoV-2 infection
- **2.4%** of the cases were reported to be related to international, domestic, and/or in-state travel
- From 10/6/2022 to 10/19/2022, the positivity rate<sup>2</sup> was a reported 11.2%

**ACHD continues to monitor the COVID-19 metrics for hospitalizations and deaths as this can show the risk of a medically significant COVID-19 variant or healthcare system strain.**

**CASE INVESTIGATION<sup>3</sup>**

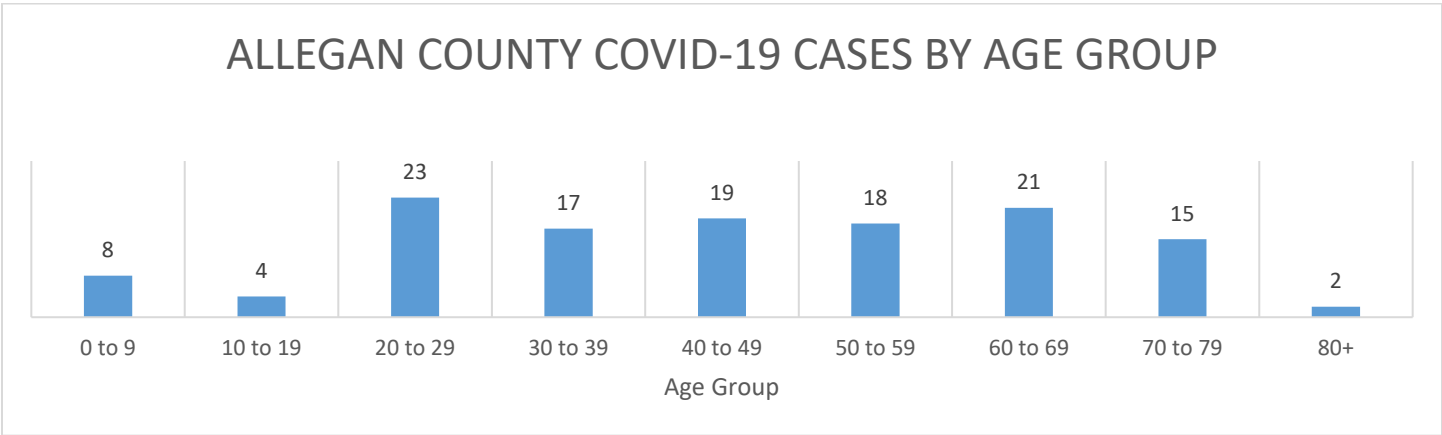
ACHD is currently working to investigate all communicable disease cases. During the case investigation process, ACHD works to ensure all basic needs are being met for individuals and their families. All cases receive a Patient Education Genius (PEG) notification that is provided via email or text messages for a case investigation form.

**CASES IN THE LAST TWO WEEKS, BY AGE GROUP (9/23/2022 to 10/6/22)**

<sup>1</sup> COVID-19 may not be a primary cause of hospitalization in some of the reported cases in MDSS due to current capacity and data limitations; these data reported in MDSS are often limited by factors such as delayed case investigations and data back-filling

<sup>2</sup> As reported in the MI-HAN Regional Data File; Positivity Rate is calculated for percent positive persons for day and county

<sup>3</sup> Case investigation consists of contacting the individual and asking standard questions related to the disease and identifying those who might have been exposed.



From 10/7/2022 TO 10/20/22 in MDSS: 18.1% of cases were reported in the 20 to 29 age group, which had the highest number of cases during this timeframe, and closely followed by the 60 to 69, at 16.5%, and 40 to 49 age groups, at 15.0 % each. In comparison to the previous reporting period (9/23/22 to 10/6/22), case counts have slightly increased for individuals in the 0 to 9 ages (Up to 8 from 6 previously).

- 3.1% of cases were in **quarantine** at the time of symptom onset or positive test
- 5.5% of investigated cases were **household close contacts**<sup>4</sup>
- 0.0% of cases were reported as **community contacts**<sup>5</sup>
- 0.8% of cases were close contacts to those who work or live in a **high-risk/congregate facility**

**Notifying close contacts helps individuals know about exposure and allows close contacts to make decisions based on their own risk assessment.**

**EXPOSURE LETTERS AND CLOSE CONTACTS IN SCHOOL SETTINGS**

As of September 20, ACHD is using a dashboard format for each school building to notify parents and families of potential exposures to certain reportable communicable diseases, rather than sending potential exposure letters.

This dashboard can be found on the [ACHD Website](#). If individuals do not have access to the internet or have language needs please call the Health Department at (269) 673-5411 option 1 for assistance.

**OUTBREAKS & CLUSTERS IN ALLEGAN COUNTY**

The table to the right shows the number of outbreaks<sup>6</sup> that ACHD has identified for high-risk settings from October 12, 2021 to October 21, 2022. **ACHD has identified no new outbreaks related to Long-Term Care Facilities<sup>7</sup> and no new outbreaks related to Schools, since the last update on October 6, 2022;** there was **one** ongoing outbreak reported to MDHHS as of October 21, 2022.

Type of Setting	Total Number of Outbreaks <sup>1</sup>
School	20
Business	8
Long Term Care <sup>1</sup>	31
Other Congregate Facilities <sup>1</sup>	3

ACHD has not identified any new outbreaks for businesses since February 17, 2022. ACHD has developed COVID-19 Business Mitigation Strategies Survey for businesses, Long-Term Care Facilities, daycares and schools to provide us with information on the current mitigation strategies they have in place. The surveys are sent out when an outbreak has been identified at a location.

**LONG TERM CARE & OTHER CONGREGATE CARE FACILITIES (LTCF)**

<sup>4</sup> Household contact: person lived with someone who tested positive and later tested positive themselves.  
<sup>5</sup> Community contact: person who was identified as a close contact in a setting other than a household  
<sup>6</sup> Outbreak investigation codes are assigned by the first date of onset  
<sup>7</sup> Data from 10/21/2021

From January 2022 to October 21, 2022, ACHD connected **22** LTCFs in Allegan County with the IPRAT<sup>8</sup> Team for additional mitigation assistance<sup>9</sup>. Refer to [MDHHS Data and Modeling](#) for overall statewide LTCF case counts in residents and staff. **ACHD shares forecasting wastewater readings with long-term and congregate care facilities in the monthly LTCF Newsletters, to help inform their COVID-19 mitigation strategies.**

612 resident cases and 55 resident deaths reported from January 1, 2020, to October 11, 2022<sup>10</sup>

920 staff cases have been reported from January 1, 2020, to October 11, 2022

## SUFFICIENT HEALTH CARE CAPACITY

### HOSPITALIZATIONS

Allegan County falls in the Region 5 Health Care Coalition. Some community members will also access hospitals in the Region 6 Health Care Coalition (Grand Rapids-Holland Region). For the latest information, visit [Dashboard | CDC | MI Safe Start Map](#).

Find the current percentage of inpatient beds treating COVID-19 patients, for the [Grand Rapids Region](#) (Region 6), and [Kalamazoo Region](#) (Region 5). The **Grand Rapids Region** had **3.6%** of inpatient beds that are COVID-19 positive, as of October 17, 2022, which is **2.4% lower** than the previous reporting period. The **Kalamazoo Region** had **7.0%** of inpatient beds that are COVID-19 positive, as of October 17, 2022, which is **0.8% lower** than the previous reporting period.

### HOSPITALS IN THE ALLEGAN COUNTY AREA

Hospital bed capacity information can be found on the MDHHS website: [Statewide Available PPE and Bed Tracking \(Michigan.gov\)](#)

### DEATHS (7 DAY AVERAGE)

The 7-day average for daily deaths is currently less than 1, and is reflected as 0 on the Michigan Safe Start Map. For a complete view of the 7-day average daily deaths for Allegan and other counties over the course of the pandemic visit, [Dashboard | CDC | MI Start Map](#)

## BEST PRACTICES

### SCHOOLS

No new information, please see the [previous report](#).

### BUSINESSES

No new information, please see the [previous report](#).

### COMMUNICATIONS

COVID-19 Health Education has been a mandated service in this response. The following are metrics related to COVID communication efforts from 10/7/2022 – 10/20/2022:

- 1 Social media posts
- 3 Education materials created/updated
- 1 Community Update sent out
- 1 School and Childcare Update sent out
- 1 LTCF Update sent out
- 1 Provider Update sent out

## RABIES REPORTED IN AN ALLEGAN COUNTY BAT

<sup>8</sup> MDHHS offers further support for facilities via the Infection Prevention and Resource Assessment Team (iPRAT) when ACHD identifies facilities that are experiencing a large number of positive COVID-19 tests.

<sup>9</sup> ACHD provides mitigation assistance to LTCFs that are identified as an outbreak facility through case investigations

<sup>10</sup> The information above represents COVID-19 data reported directly to MDHHS by licensed and operating Skilled Nursing, Home for the Aged and Adult Foster Care facilities (licensed to serve 13 or more individuals) in Michigan from January 1, 2020, through October 4, 2022

On The Allegan County Health Department (ACHD) reports a confirmed animal rabies case in a bat within Allegan County. This is the second rabies case verified in a bat in Allegan County this year. ACHD reminds community members about the importance of vaccinating their household pets and bat-proofing their homes.

If you choose to “bat-proof” your home, here are some suggestions:

- Carefully examine your home for holes that might allow bats entry into your living quarters. Caulk any openings larger than a quarter-inch by a half-inch. Use window screens, chimney caps, and draft guards beneath doors to attics, fill electrical and plumbing holes with stainless steel wool or caulking, and ensure that all doors to the outside close tightly.
- Prevent bats from roosting in attics or buildings by covering outside entry points. Find where the bats exit at dusk and keep them from coming back by loosely hanging clear plastic sheeting or bird netting over these areas. Bats can crawl out and leave, but cannot re-enter. When all the bats are gone, the openings can be permanently sealed.
- Install a chimney cap to prevent animals from living in your home.
- Call local Animal Removal Services which can be found in your local directory if you have a bat in your home that you are unable to remove, or for CDC tips on how you can safely contain the bat yourself, visit [Avoid risk of rabies from bats | Rabies | CDC](#).

The rabies virus, most often found in bats, is in the saliva of infected animals and is spread through bites or scratches. There are simple steps everyone can take to protect themselves from rabies:

- Have pets vaccinated regularly. This will protect them if exposed to animals with the disease and prevent them from becoming ill and infecting humans.
- Do not handle stray, wild, or dead animals.
- Keep pets indoors or supervised to limit their exposure to wild animals that may be rabid.
- Do not feed, or put water for, pets outside.
- Keep garbage securely covered, as these items may attract wild or stray animals.

If you are bitten by a domestic animal (such as a dog or cat), call Animal Control at (269) 673-0519 to report the injury. For non-domestic “wild” animals such as skunks, raccoons, foxes, and bats (not a cat or dog) call the ACHD at (269) 673-5411.

For more information on rabies, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/rabies/> or <https://www.michigan.gov/rabies>.

#### ALLEGAN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT LAUNCHES ALLEGAN COMMUNITY LINKS PROGRAM

The Allegan County Health Department launched a FREE, voluntary pilot program “Allegan County Community Links” that works to connect individuals to communities, health, and social service systems through a referral program with Community Health Workers (CHWs). This pilot program is available now through May 31, 2023, unless funding opportunities continue. Allegan County Community Links is designed to be an extension of existing community services and bridge gaps for individuals to help the community thrive. The goal of this program is to address social determinants of health, such as housing, access to care, or food security that affect individual health outcomes. The CHWs will also work with local agencies to help meet individuals’ needs.

Those interested in the program or who would like to refer someone to the program can fill out the [online referral form](#), or call ACHD at (269) 673-5411 and ask for a CHW. For more information, visit the program website at [www.allegancounty.org/health/community-links](http://www.allegancounty.org/health/community-links), send the CHWs an email at [communitylinks@allegancounty.org](mailto:communitylinks@allegancounty.org), or call ACHD at (269) 673-5411.

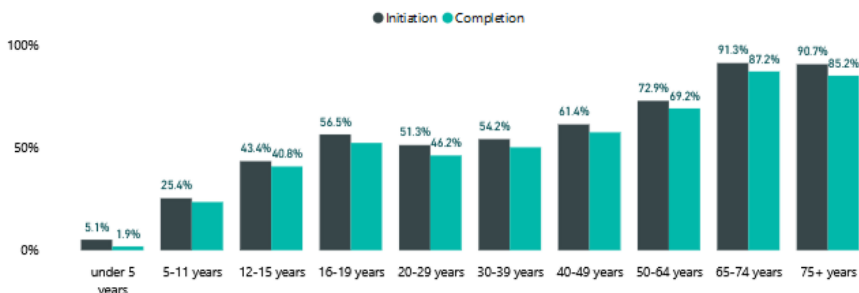
#### BIVALENT COVID BOOSTERS FOR KIDS 5+

The CDC recommends the bivalent COVID booster for children ages five years and older now. Allegan County residents interested in getting the bivalent booster for their children can call ACHD at (269) 673-5411 to schedule an appointment or to request more information. Vaccines are by appointment only. For other vaccine locations, visit [www.vaccinefinder.org](http://www.vaccinefinder.org).

#### COMMUNITY VACCINATION/HERD IMMUNITY/TREATMENT

## COVID-19 VACCINE COVERAGE

### COVID Vaccine Coverage by Age Group



Vaccine Coverage [here](#).

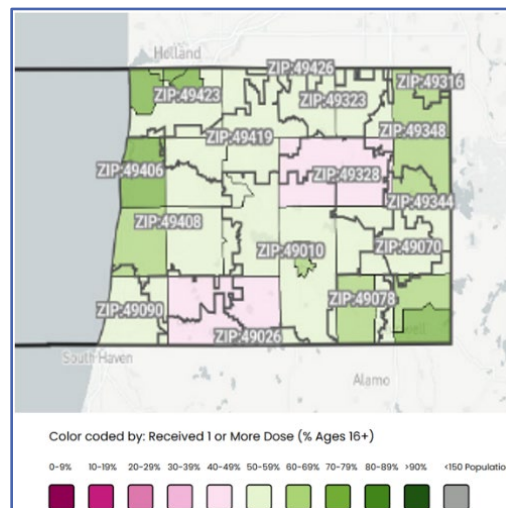
### VACCINATION COVERAGE BY ZIP CODE

The map on the right shows the vaccination rates for residents aged 16 and older who received at least one dose of vaccine. The data is at the census tract<sup>11</sup>-level (colored sections) with an overlay of Allegan zip codes. Areas in the center of the county, with lower population counts, appear to have the lowest vaccination rates, while perimeter areas on the East and West sides of the county have higher vaccination rates overall. This data is based on a total population count of 115,250 as recorded in the 2018 US Census.

### VACCINATION COVERAGE BY AGE GROUP

Data as of 10/21/2022

Explore the [MI Vaccine Dashboard](#) for the latest data. It is updated weekly on Wednesdays. The map on the left displays vaccine coverage for Allegan County. See Previous Reports for updates on



### Allegan County VACCINE DATA

Updated 10/21/22  
Data as of 10/19/22

**68%** of Allegan County residents age 16+ have received at least 1 dose of vaccine.

Comparison to surrounding counties:

- 62.5% Barry County
- 77.4% Kalamazoo County
- 78.5% Kent County
- 73.9% Ottawa County
- 73.5% Van Buren County

As of October 19, **69,430** people have been vaccinated\*\*

**59%** (n=118,081 (a)) of 16 and older have been vaccinated\*\*

**92.3%** (n=20,099) of 65 and older have been vaccinated\*\*

**About 6 in 11** individuals are fully vaccinated (55.16%).

**About 6 in 7** individuals aged 65 and older are fully vaccinated (87.64%).

Fully Vaccinated: Individuals (6 months and older) receiving 2 doses of Pfizer or Moderna or 1 dose of J&J.

Note: Our goal of vaccinating 70% of the population accounted for the 16 and older population. With increasing the eligible 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.

7/25/2022 Update: Previous vaccine graphics included 69,878 as the population of Allegan County residents 5 years and older. After further review, 118,081 is a more accurate population estimation for ages 6 months and older.

### VACCINE AVAILABILITY

Residents are encouraged to visit [www.vaccines.gov](http://www.vaccines.gov) to find vaccination clinics near them, or call ACHD at 269-673-5411 to schedule an appointment.

### VACCINE EFFECTIVENESS (VE)

Current [data](#) continues to show that COVID-19 vaccines are an important layer in reducing the severity of illness, and the burden of hospitalizations and deaths in children, adolescents, and adults, even with the emergence of the predominant new Omicron variants such as BA.4 and BA.5.

Being [up to date](#) on COVID-19 vaccines is crucial in reducing the burden of hospitalizations and deaths. Refer to further data from the CDC studies on nationwide COVID-19 VE Surveillance [here](#).

**BREAKTHROUGH SURVEILLANCE DATA:** For more information and the latest data on the rates of COVID-19 breakthrough cases, hospitalizations, and deaths, please refer to [CDC COVID Data Tracker: Rates of COVID-19 Cases and Deaths by Vaccination Status](#)

### LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT (LHD) BREAKTHROUGH DATA DISTRIBUTION

Refer to the [previous report from 6/21/22](#) for updates regarding breakthrough data distribution.

## COVID-19 SURVEILLANCE

<sup>11</sup> Census tracts are geographic entities within counties with similar characteristics such as population traits, school enrollment, poverty level, median household income, housing vacancy, etc.

Data as of October 20, 2022



7-DAY METRICS <sup>12</sup>	STATEWIDE (as of 10/21/22)	NATIONWIDE (as of 10/16/22)	GLOBAL (as of 10/16/22)
Cases	12,414	38,949	3.204M
Hospital Admissions	140.43	3,268	No data available
Deaths	173	328	9.479K
Percent Population Fully Vaccinated	65.2%	67.9%	No data available
Percent Positivity	10-14.9 %	8.8%	No data available

STATEWIDE (MICHIGAN)

- Find the latest [Michigan Coronavirus Data](#).
- Refer to the [October 18, 2022 MDHHS data and modeling](#) for current trends on cases, hospitalizations, and deaths associated with COVID-19.
- For more information and data on seasonal projections of cases, hospitalizations, and deaths, visit [COVID-19 Scenario Modeling Hub](#).

NATIONWIDE (UNITED STATES)

- Find the latest Nationwide data on [CDC’s Cases and Data website](#).
- For more information refer to the [CDC COVID Data Tracker Weekly Review](#)



GLOBAL

- For additional information and the global pandemic data, refer to [WHO’s weekly Epidemiological Situation Report](#)
- For more information on currently circulating variants<sup>13</sup> (including VOIs, VUMs, and VOCs) and its classifications, visit [Tracking SARS-CoV-2 Variants](#)

WASTEWATER SURVEILLANCE

See the most recent [MDHHS data and modeling update](#) for the Michigan SWEEP Sentinel Wastewater Summary.

Hope College has collaborated with ACHD to produce a dashboard, which displays the most recent wastewater readings and case counts.

Allegan Sewershed Sites	Trend Dates	Current Trend Patterns
TPA	10/20/2022 	Increasing
TPP	10/19/2022 	Increasing
TPDS	10/18/2022 	Increasing

With this dashboard, ACHD has been able to forecast a rise in cases, which has improved mitigation responses.

**The table above shows three Allegan sewer shed sites that has the most current and accurate data readings.**

**The adjacent map shows current wastewater sewer shed sites that Hope College is monitoring in Allegan County.**



The colored circles<sup>14</sup> of differing sizes represent the concentration of COVID-19 in the wastewater as of October

21, 2022 (TPA<sup>15</sup>, TPP<sup>16</sup>, TPDS<sup>17</sup>), which have existing data points for the most recent nine calendar days (10/7/2022 – 10/20/2022). Read more about the [method of using wastewater surveillance data](#), to monitor case patterns at individual and population levels as it relates to the SARS-CoV-2 infection.

<sup>12</sup> Statewide and Nationwide data [COVID Data Tracker Weekly Review | CDC](#); Global data update as of 9/18/2022 [COVID-19 Map - Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center \(jhu.edu\)](#)

<sup>13</sup> SARS-CoV-2 variants include variants of interest (VOI), variants under monitoring (VUM), and variants of concern (VOC)

<sup>14</sup> The areas with red circles seen on the map correlate with the increase in cases at LTCFs and other congregate care facilities during this reporting period

<sup>15</sup> Allegan Water Resource Recovery Facility

<sup>16</sup> Plainwell Wastewater Treatment Plant

<sup>17</sup> Douglas/Saugatuck Wastewater Treatment Plant

## EMERGING VARIANT UPDATES

---

- See [CDC Nowcast Projections](#) (nationwide) for data estimations on the predominant Omicron sublineages and additional information on CDC's monitoring of nationwide variant proportions [here](#).
- See the most recent [MDHHS data and modeling update](#) for the latest variant information.
- ACHD continues to monitor all Omicron sub-lineages and deploy response measures accordingly.

## EPIDEMIOLOGIC SURVEILLANCE

### MONKEYPOX (MPV)

---

For background information on MPV, refer to the [6/21/22 report](#).

**UPDATES:** Refer to the following links to view MDHHS and the CDC's MPV Situation Summary:

- [Michigan Case Counts](#)
- [2022 U.S. Map & Case Count](#)
- [2022 Monkeypox Outbreak Global Map](#)
- [State trends show an overall decrease of new cases by onset date of illness](#)

### HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA (HPAI)

---

HPAI has been detected in 63 out of 83 counties in Michigan including Allegan County (1 confirmed case).

### RECENT EMERGING HEALTH THREATS: AT A QUICK GLANCE

---

#### [Arboviruses](#)

- **UPDATES:** [Michigan Weekly Arbovirus Summary October 21, 2022](#) and the Annual EZID Surveillance Summary for 2021 can be found [here](#).

#### [Rabies](#)

- As of September 29, 2022, Rabies-positive animals in Michigan include **36 Bats** and **1 Skunk**. For positive animal counts by county, see this [map](#). There have been two bats in Allegan County that tested positive for rabies.

#### [Ebola](#)

- On September 20, 2022, the Ugandan Ministry of Health confirmed an outbreak of Ebola virus disease (EVD) (Sudan virus) in western Uganda. There are no cases of Ebola in the U.S., and the risk of the virus remains low domestically. The U.S. announced it will screen air passengers from Uganda, and that flights from Uganda are being redirected to one of five U.S. airports (Chicago is the closest one to Allegan County).
- MDHHS will share information with the local health department on travelers from Uganda. Local health departments will conduct a risk assessment and share health education information including, signs and symptoms of Ebola, what to do if symptoms occur, and how to notify public health officials should symptoms appear. The monitoring period for travelers coming from Uganda is 21 days.
- Please see the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Ebola website for the most current information. [www.cdc.gov/ebola](http://www.cdc.gov/ebola)

## SOURCES

- [Allegan County Health Department Facebook page](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [CDC COVID-19 Booster Interactive Tool](#)
- [CDC COVID-19 Data Tracker](#)
- [CDC Current Outbreak List | CDC](#)
- [CDC Flu](#)
- [CDC Health Alert Network](#)
- [CDC MPV Vaccine Locator](#)
- [CDC Provisional COVID-19 Deaths: Focus on Ages 0-18 Years](#)
- [CDC Stay Up-to-date on Vaccinations](#)
- [Find a COVID-19 Vaccine Near You](#)
- HONU
- [Infection Control: Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 \(SARS-CoV-2\)](#)
- [Interim Guidance for Managing Healthcare Personnel with SARS-CoV-2 Infection or Exposure to SARS-CoV-2 | CDC](#)
- [Lighthouse \(mi-lighthouse.org\)](#)
- [Long Term Care Data](#)
- [MDHHS Monkeypox Page](#)
- [MDHHS School Outbreak Reporting](#)
- [MDHHS: School Age Case Data Dashboard](#)
- [MI Bridges](#)
- [MI COVID response Data and Modeling](#)
- [MI Weekly Arbovirus Summary, 2022 \(michigan.gov\)](#)
- [Michigan Coronavirus: COVID-19 Vaccine](#)
- [Michigan COVID-19 Wastewater Testing and SWEEP Dashboard](#)
- [Michigan Coronavirus Data](#)
- Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Breakthrough Cases Data File
- Michigan Disease Surveillance System (MDSS)
- [CDC Swine Flu](#)
- [COVID-19 Bivalent Vaccine Boosters FDA page](#)
- [COVID Data Tracker Weekly Review](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard](#)
- CHN Associates, Student, and Family Assistance Program Monthly Report
- [Division of Vector-Borne Diseases \(DVBD\) | Division of Vector-Borne Diseases | NCEZID | CDC](#)
- [Ebola Disease caused by Sudan virus – Uganda \(who.int\)](#)
- [Michigan DNR Eyes in the Field](#)
- Michigan Health Alert Network (MIHAN)
- [MI Safe Start Map and CDC Indicators](#)
- [New COVID-19 Cases Worldwide - Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center \(jhu.edu\)](#)
- [Office of International Health and Biodefense - United States Department of State](#)
- [Our World in Data - Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Hospitalizations](#)
- [Previous BOC report from September 22, 2022](#)
- [Sewer Coronavirus Alert Network \(SCAN\) \(wastewaterscan.org\)](#)
- [US Food and Drug Administration](#)
- [World Health Organization Coronavirus Dashboard](#)
- <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-who> Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) Weekly Epidemiological Update and Weekly Operational Update2019/situation-reports

## Allegan County COVID-19 Community Level: LOW

Allegan County Health Department recommends everyone to:

**Stay up to date on your COVID-19 Vaccines**

**Get tested if you have symptoms, before and after traveling, and before gathering with others.**

Actions including social distancing, frequent handwashing, wearing a well-fitted face mask, and isolation help lessen the level of transmission. People may choose to mask at any time.

People with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19 should wear a mask.



Learn more about CDC's COVID-19 Community Levels by visiting [www.covid.cdc.gov](http://www.covid.cdc.gov)

#DoYourPart

## Allegan County COVID-19 Community Level: LOW

### Pick-up Free Masks

- Monday-Friday 8:30am to 4:30pm at the Allegan County Health Department (3255 122nd Ave, Allegan)
  - As supplies last
- At select local units of government and libraries.
  - Visit [allegancounty.org/covid](http://allegancounty.org/covid) to view the list of agencies under our Mask Information page.

### Find COVID-19 Treatments

- Find information and options near you: [michigan.gov/covid19therapy](http://michigan.gov/covid19therapy)
- View a test to treat location near you: [aspr.hhs.gov/TestToTreat](http://aspr.hhs.gov/TestToTreat)
- Talk to your doctor about treatment options if you test positive for COVID-19.

### Get Tested:

- Pick-up test kits locally:
  - Visit [www.allegancounty.org/covid](http://www.allegancounty.org/covid) to view pick-up locations under our Testing page.
- Find a community testing site near you at:
  - Allegan County Transportation Building (750 Airway Dr, Allegan) on Wednesdays and Fridays from 12 pm to 5 pm.
  - Visit [www.solvehealth.com](http://www.solvehealth.com) for more locations near you.

### Stay up-to-date on COVID-19 Vaccines

- Find vaccine clinics near you at [vaccines.gov](http://vaccines.gov)
- Or call ACHD at 269-673-5411 to schedule an appointment



Follow CDC's isolation guidelines and stay home if you develop symptoms or test positive.

#DoYourPart

FREE AT-HOME TEST KITS FROM MDHHS AVAILABLE AT 2 LIBRARIES IN ALLEGAN COUNTY:

- Allegan District Library (331 Hubbard St, Allegan)
- Fennville District Library (400 W Main St, Fennville)

FREE COMMUNITY TESTING EVENTS ARE HELD EVERY WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY AT THE ALLEGAN COUNTY TRANSPORTATION BUILDING FROM 12 PM – 5 PM. THESE EVENTS OFFER PCR AND RAPID TESTING OPTIONS.

VISIT THE [MDHHS COMMUNITY BASED POP-UP TESTING PAGE](#) TO SIGN UP FOR THE TESTING EVENTS AT ALLEGAN TRANSPORTATION BUILDING AND TO FIND OTHER TESTING SITES NEAR YOU.

Visit <https://www.solvehealth.com/covid-testing> to find additional COVID-19 sites near you.

COVID-19 testing location finder: [Coronavirus - Test](#)

If residents are struggling to find accessible testing, they can call ACHD at 269-673-5411 option 2 and we can help them navigate the systems.

## MONKEYPOX: What to Know



### How it spreads:

- Direct contact with the infectious rash, scabs, or body fluids
- Respiratory secretions during prolonged, face-to-face contact, or during intimate physical contact, such as kissing, cuddling, or sex
- Touching items (such as clothing or linens) that previously touched the infectious rash or body fluids
- Pregnant people can spread the virus to their fetus through the placenta

The illness typically lasts 2-4 weeks. People who do not have monkeypox symptoms cannot spread the virus to others.



### Symptoms:

- Fever
- Headache
- Muscle aches and backaches
- Chills
- Exhaustion
- Swollen lymph nodes
- A rash that can look like pimples or blisters

### Prevention:

- Avoid close, skin-to-skin contact with people who have a rash that looks like monkeypox.
- Do not touch the rash or scabs of a person with monkeypox.
- Do not kiss, hug, cuddle or have sex with someone with monkeypox.



- Do not share eating utensils or cups with a person with monkeypox.
- Do not handle or touch the bedding, towels, or clothing of a person with monkeypox.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer

If you feel sick or have symptoms, do not attend any gathering, and contact your healthcare provider.