



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)

COOLER WEATHER SAFETY: As the temperature drops and the days get shorter, windows are closed, sports and events move inside, and people gather for the holidays. We have all experienced how these changes often usher in the beginning of a season of respiratory illnesses. This year, colds, flu, and COVID will all be circulating. Please remember the basics including staying home when sick, washing your hands, and covering your coughs. COVID is widely circulating in our community so if you have any of the common symptoms, which include:

- fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, diarrhea, or nausea and vomiting.

If you are experiencing symptoms, it is important to rule out COVID with a test before interacting with others. Differences and similarities between flu and COVID-19 symptoms, and spread can be found on the [CDC webpage](#). Information on how and when to quarantine or isolate, as well as special resources for parents and students, are available by clicking on the menu options on our [Coronavirus webpage](#).

INFLUENZA VACCINES: Now is a good time to get your annual influenza vaccine. You can receive a flu shot and COVID vaccine at the same time regardless of whether you need a first, second, additional dose, or booster. Act quickly to ensure your immunity against the flu can develop before Thanksgiving.

PEDIATRIC COVID-19 VACCINE: Emergency Use Authorization was granted for the use of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine in children ages 5 to 11. The pediatric formulation of the vaccine is a two dose series, 21 days apart, and is a smaller amount than the vaccine for adults. The American Academy of Pediatrics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and your local health department strongly recommend the vaccine for eligible children.

Similar to what was recorded in adult vaccine trials, vaccination was nearly 91 percent effective in preventing symptomatic COVID-19 among children aged 5-11 years. The most commonly reported vaccine side effects, typically lasting one to three days, were pain at the injection site, tiredness, headache, chills, muscle pain, fever and joint pain with the most common side effect being a sore arm.

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

You can find a location to schedule a pediatric vaccine by going to [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov), enter a zip code and select Pfizer-BioNTech (ages 5-11). The health department began administering pediatric COVID vaccines this week. Please call 517-788-4468 to schedule an appointment. Also, look for information from your child's school regarding vaccines as some are arranging on site clinics.

BOOSTER DOSES: Booster doses have been approved for the Moderna and the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) COVID-19 vaccines. Recommendations regarding the time since the primary series, and who should receive a booster vary between the vaccines. Individuals can choose to receive the same vaccine that they did for the initial series or one of the other approved vaccines.

mRNA COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna) recipients

The following recipients of an mRNA primary series **should** receive a single COVID-19 booster dose (Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna or Janssen) at least 6 months after completion of the primary series:

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

The following recipients of an mRNA primary series **may** receive a single COVID-19 booster dose (Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna or Janssen) at least 6 months after completing their primary series based on their individual benefits and risks:

- People aged 18–49 years with [certain underlying medical conditions](#)
- People aged 18–64 years at increased risk for SARS-CoV-2 exposure and transmission because of occupational or institutional setting

Janssen COVID-19 vaccine recipients

- People aged ≥18 years who received a single dose Janssen as a primary vaccine **should** receive a single COVID-19 booster dose (Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna or Janssen) at least 2 months (8 weeks) after the initial dose.

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.

Moderately to severely immunocompromised people aged ≥18 years who received a 2-dose mRNA primary series and an additional mRNA additional dose (3 total mRNA vaccine doses) are eligible for a single COVID-19 booster dose (Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna or Janssen) at least 6 months after completing their third mRNA vaccine dose.

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 are looking for a pediatric dose, need a 1st or 2nd adult 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. As more residents are eligible for a vaccine, it has become harder to accommodate walk-ins. Scheduling an appointment guarantees a shorter wait. All COVID-19 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.

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.

Data: Jackson County Health Department reports the following data as of November 9, 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 5-11 year olds.

Number of Doses Administered to Jackson County Residents	Percent of Jackson County Residents over the age of 5 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>149,778</u>	55.6% Initial Dose 51.5% Completed Dose	83,143	77,012

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

Category	Jackson County	State of Michigan
COVID-19 Total Cases	22,400	1,329,089
COVID-19 Weekly New Cases per 100,000	495	321
COVID-19 7-Day Daily Case Average	112	4,575
COVID-19 Recovered*** Cases	19,208	1,026,195 (as of 11/5/2021)
COVID-19 Total Deaths	349	24,217
COVID-19 7-Day Positivity Rate	22%	15%

*Data as of October 27, 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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