

# Lakeview Area News

Thursday, January 21, 2021

## Health department waiting for more COVID-19 vaccine



**By Leslie Kinnee  
Public Information Officer,  
Mid-Michigan District Health Dept.**

The two approved vaccines for COVID-19, Moderna and Pfizer, continue to arrive slowly in Michigan. The main problem is that the manufacturers have not been able to produce vaccine quickly enough.

Last week the health department did begin vaccinating essential workers in group 1B. However, no new shipments of vaccine were received in our District—Clinton, Gratiot and Montcalm counties. As a reminder, 8,900 doses came into the District, of

which 1,600 came to the health department. By the end of this week the health department will have administered all but 400 of its doses, and the remaining doses are all assigned to someone for clinics next week. When more vaccine is available new clinics will be found on our website here.

People in our jurisdiction have a number of options for getting vaccinated:

- Patients of Spectrum Hospital providers can schedule a vaccination through their Spectrum MyChart here. Please understand there is very little vaccine, and most people

will have to wait for a vaccination.

- MidMichigan hospital has begun calling their own patients to schedule vaccinations. MidMichigan patients can get information here. Until more vaccine is available only a small number of people should expect to be called.

- Sparrow hospital finished vaccinating their health care providers and did vaccinate a small number of school personnel (1B). Sparrow is now out of vaccine and will resume when more comes in.

Please do not call the health department or hospitals requesting vaccine. There is no new vaccine at this time and phone lines are overloaded. Please sign up for our newsletter to ensure you hear about new clinics. Sign up here.

The health depart-

ment has placed a sizeable order of vaccine. Hospitals also expect to receive vaccine. We will not know until next week if we will receive any. If we get vaccine, we will be partnering with a pharmacy to do new clinics in our jurisdiction immediately.

We want to thank all our community partners at our three community collaboratives and emergency operations centers for helping us plan these upcoming clinics.

Mid-Michigan District Health Department serves the residents of Clinton, Gratiot and Montcalm Counties.

We take action to protect, maintain and improve the health of our community.

Advancing innovative solutions to achieve healthier outcomes

**CORONAVIRUS IN MID-MICHIGAN**

# Vaccination of high-risk people expected to take 14 weeks

**By Eric Baerren**

*ebaerren@medianewsgroup.com  
@ebaerren on Twitter*

The past few weeks, the rate at which people have died in central Michigan has been twice normal because of COVID-19, according to Mid Michigan District Health Department's health officer.

Marcus Cheatham, MMDHD health officer, announced that as he was laying out the strategy for distributing the COVID-19 vaccine. The thinking behind it is simple.

"We want to stop the mortality," he said in a video update to the three counties that fall under MMDHD jurisdiction: Gratiot, Montcalm and Clinton.

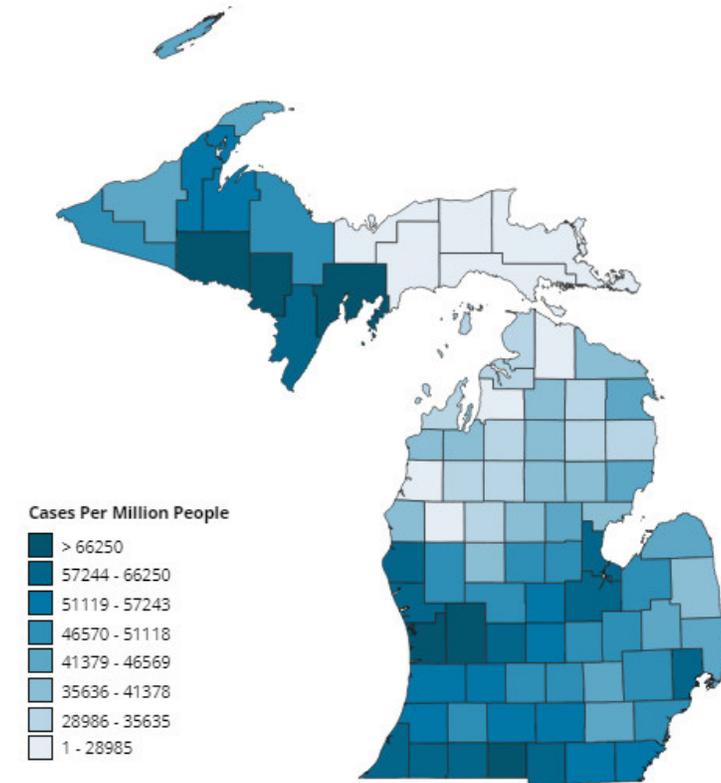
Of those three, Gratiot has the highest number of deaths at 88, a number that didn't increase as of Friday afternoon's update from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. Montcalm has 76; in Clinton, the total is 52, according to MDHHS records.

Of Gratiot's 88 deaths, more than two-thirds of them have involved residents of nursing homes. In numeric terms, that's 59 people.

MMDHD has received two shipments of the Moderna vaccines, one in December and one this month for a total of 3,200 doses. Another 14,950 doses have been sent to healthcare providers in MMDHD's three counties, and local privately-owned pharmacies are starting to receive some doses to vaccinate people in long-term living facilities.

Cheatham went through some quick math to estimate it'll take 14 weeks to fully vaccinate everyone in the highest-risk groups under MMDHD jurisdiction.

"By the time the snow starts to melt, all of our vulnerable folks will be vacci-



nated and we will start to be safe from the disease," he said.

An additional five confirmed cases were reported in Gratiot County on Friday, bringing its cumulative total to 2,366.

The only death reported across mid-Michigan on Friday was in Isabella County, where a total of 65 people have died. No information about the person was immediately available.

In terms of spread, the county remains mid-Michigan's lowest-risk county. According to a county-level dashboard hosted by the Brown University School of Public Health, Isabella's seven-day rolling average of new cases fell to 12.9 per 100,000 people.

An additional 11 cases were reported in the county Friday by the MDHHS for a cumulative total of 3,385.

That is 23 new cases for

Thursday and Friday. Central Michigan University confirmed that three of those cases were members of the CMU community through its Thursday update to its COVID-19 dashboard.

If CMU follows the same pattern it did for fall semester, however, that number undercounts the actual impact its return to campus will have on local COVID numbers.

In the fall, the university claimed only cases directly associated with members of its faculty, staff or students. It also claimed — erroneously — that it was barred from breaking down cases into whether they were faculty, staff or students, citing privacy concerns. Guidance promulgated by the United States Department of Education last March said universities could release information about cases that

didn't personally identify individuals with confirmed cases.

Ultimately, Central Michigan District Health Department announced that the return to campus was responsible for approximately 300 cases in Isabella County. Isabella County had double that number of confirmed cases in December.

Sixteen additional cases were reported in Clare County on Friday for a cumulative total of 1,267, with 67 deaths. No new deaths were reported on Friday.

Also on Friday, Clare County was moved back from the merely high-risk category to the highest risk of spread on the Brown University county-level dashboard. It had fallen to the category coded orange, but its rolling seven-day average of new cases per 100,000 people increased as of Wednesday to 30.9.

Total Confirmed Cases

**546,468**

Total COVID-19 Deaths

**14,070**

Daily Confirmed Cases

**2,157**

Daily COVID-19 Deaths

**17**

01/22/2021

[SEE CUMULATIVE DATA](#)

Elsewhere in mid-Michigan, no new deaths was reported Wednesday, with new and cumulative cases as follows:

- In Gladwin County, an additional seven cases were reported for a cumulative total of 1,172, with 35 deaths;

- In Mecosta County, an additional three cases were reported for a cumulative total of 1,731, with 17 deaths;

- In Midland County, an additional 21 cases were reported for a cumulative total of 4,039, with 50 deaths cases; and,

- In Montcalm County, an additional six cases were reported for a cumulative total of 3,098, with 76 deaths.

Statewide, another 17 deaths were reported for a total of 14,070 and another 2,157 cases were reported Monday for a cumulative total of 546,468.

# Vulnerable Population COVID-19 Vaccination Will Take Over Three Months to Complete

Posted on Wednesday, January 27th, 2021 and is filed under [News](#). You can follow any responses to this entry through the [RSS 2.0](#) feed. You can skip to the end and leave a response. Pinging is currently not allowed.

	Total in Target	Assume 70%
Health Care	11,784	8,248
Long Term Care	1,683	1,683
Essential Workers	16,835	11,784
Age >= 75	10,662	7,463
Age 65-74	15,712	10,998
High risk conds	45,454	31,817
	<b>102,130</b>	<b>71,993</b>

Mid-Michigan District  
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

This graph, shown in a video update given by MMDHD [Health](#) Officer Marcus Cheatham, breaks down the number of people in vaccine-eligible priority groups in Gratiot, Montcalm and Clinton counties. Considering that not all people will accept the vaccine, the MMDHD is aiming to vaccinate about 70 percent of these populations, as indicated in the right-hand column.

**By Emma Selmon**  
**Herald [News](#) Editor**

Vulnerable Gratiot County residents are receiving their COVID-19 vaccinations slowly but surely — and unfortunately, the “slowly” part continues to ring true.

Marcus Cheatham, health officer with the Mid-Michigan District Health Department (MMDHD), explained in a video update last week that it will likely take about 14 weeks — three and a half months — to vaccinate the majority of vulnerable populations.

In his Jan. 21 video, Cheatham explained that it’s important to focus early vaccination efforts on those most likely to be exposed to COVID-19, including healthcare workers, and those most likely to become more seriously ill if infected.

This will help lower the mortality rate, which, has been “twice as high as normal” in mid-Michigan over the past few weeks due to COVID-19 deaths, Cheatham said.

He also said that it’s important to vaccinate “certain essential workers” to keep the economy going.

Using census and survey data for Gratiot, Montcalm and Clinton counties, an MMDHD employee determined how many people are included in these top-priority categories — known as Group 1A and 1B — and how long it will take to vaccinate them.

Over 100,000 people in Gratiot, Montcalm and Clinton Counties are included in these categories, but not all people will accept the vaccine, Cheatham said. They aim to vaccinate at least 70 percent of this population in accordance with the state’s goal, but he is “afraid it’s not going to be that high.”

What continues to slow the distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine is the limited supply. Mid-Michigan directly received shipments of vaccine from the state on Dec. 28 and Jan. 20, accounting for over 18,000 doses. These were mostly distributed to area health care providers, with just a portion going to the MMDHD.

Aside from the vaccine distributed to local hospitals and the MMDHD, pharmacies such as CVS have been vaccinating vulnerable populations. Over 3,000 doses have entered the community this way, bringing the total up to about 21,000.

To vaccinate the 70,000 people in these priority populations will require 140,000 doses of vaccine, because both the Moderna and the Pfizer vaccine require two shots for full effectiveness.

Cheatham said that the MMDHD has been told to expect vaccine to continue to become available at the current rate, which is about 10,000 doses per week in the region.

“If nothing changes, it’s going to take us 14 weeks. So it’ll take us basically up until April to vaccinate everybody in Group 1A and 1B,” he said in the video.

There are a few scenarios in which these vaccinations occur a little bit faster.

It’s possible — though unlikely — that supply of the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines could increase. There are also other companies, including AstraZeneca and Johnson&Johnson, that are working on developing a one-dose vaccine. If those are approved and distributed, vaccinations could pick up.

As the vaccine slowly becomes available to more and more people, there are a number of places to receive the shots. The MMDHD itself, at its locations in Ithaca, Stanton and St. Johns, can perform a limited number of vaccinations onsite. The MMDHD is also working with the National Guard and other contractors and volunteers to set up community-based clinics in locations such as schools, businesses, or churches.

In addition, the vaccines will be available at the normal places a resident might get their flu shot: pharmacies and health care providers.

Links to information about all of the different options for vaccination can be found on the MMDHD’s website at <https://www.mmdhd.org/covid-vaccine-information/>.

While progress seems slow, Cheatham noted that there is currently enough vaccine in MidMichigan for 15 percent of the population, and that number will only continue to increase.

“We’re making our way to our goal,” he said. “And by the time the snow starts to melt, all of our vulnerable folks will be vaccinated, and we will start to be safe from this disease.”

### **COVID-19 Update: Three More Deaths in Gratiot**

From Tuesday, Jan. 19 to Tuesday, Jan. 26, three Gratiot County residents passed away from COVID-19, according to data from the State of Michigan. The county’s death toll now stands at 91.

Gratiot County also identified 42 new cases, bringing their cumulative cases count up to 2,383.

In Montcalm County, 41 new cases and five more deaths were reported, bringing their total up to 3,110 cases and 81 deaths. And in Clinton County, 77 more residents were diagnosed with COVID-19 and eight more passed away. Clinton County is now reporting a cumulative total of 4,190 COVID-19 cases and 59 deaths.

Elsewhere in mid-Michigan, Isabella County gained 44 cases and two deaths, bringing their totals up to 3,401 cumulative cases and 66 deaths. Midland County gained 129 cases and three deaths, bringing their totals up to 4,106 cases and 52 deaths. And in Saginaw County, 329 new cases were identified and 13 more residents passed away. Saginaw County is now reporting a cumulative total of 13,311 cases and 456 deaths.

Statewide, as of Tuesday, Michigan was reporting 552,556 COVID-19 cases and 14,405 COVID-19 deaths.

# Daily News

Thursday, January 28, 2021

## Local health department struggles with state's COVID-19 vaccine guidance, or lack thereof

By [Elisabeth Waldon](#) | on January 28, 2021



The Mid-Michigan District Health Department Board of Health met Wednesday morning for their annual organizational meeting. Pictured are, clockwise from top left, Health Officer Marcus Cheatham, Gratiot County commissioners Chuck Murphy and George Bailey, Director of Environmental Health Liz Braddock, Montcalm County Commissioner Adam Petersen (who was elected vice chairman of the Board of Health) and Montcalm County Commissioner Michael Beach. Not pictured but present were Clinton County commissioners Bruce DeLong (who was elected chairman of the Board of Health) and Dwight Washington. — DN Photo | Elisabeth Waldon

STANTON — The Michigan Department of Health & Human Services is recommending what little COVID-19 vaccine there is available to be used on both vulnerable adults and essential workers — a move the local health department doesn't necessarily agree with.

During the Mid-Michigan District Health Department (MMDHD) Board of Health meeting on Wednesday morning, Health Officer Marcus Cheatham provided an update about the ongoing COVID-19 vaccine shortage statewide. He reported that in a call with the state health department on Tuesday, the state recommended local health departments use 25% of available vaccine for essential workers and 75% of available vaccine for vulnerable adults.

“I don't know if 25/75 is right, but they're really wanting us to do both groups at the same time,” Cheatham admitted. “And they know it's going to make people mad. I've heard this directly: ‘Why did that 28-year-old snowplow driver get vaccinated? I'm 85 years old and this virus is going to kill me.’”

Cheatham said local health departments asked the state how to rank who to vaccinate first, second and third among essential workers (group 1B), but state officials declined to provide guidance on this and told local health departments to make that decision on their own.

“So health departments, do the best you can,” Cheatham summarized. “There’s not an ultimate guidance coming to us about how to do the 1Bs.”

The MMDHD, which covers Clinton, Gratiot and Montcalm counties, has only received three shipments of the Moderna vaccine so far — 1,600 doses on Dec. 28, 2020, another 1,600 doses on Jan. 17 and another 1,100 doses over this past weekend for a total of 4,300. An additional 14,550 doses went to hospitals in the three-county area and an additional 3,200 doses were provided to pharmacies for long-term care workers for a combined total of 18,850 for the three-county area (plus another 3,200 through a federal program for use at longterm care facilities to be administered by CVS Pharmacy).

With that total of 22,050 vaccines provided to the three-county area to date, Cheatham estimates 11,525 people will be currently vaccinated, or about 16% of the target population, with some of the remaining 84% of top priority groups not receiving the vaccine until April or later.

“The people who got vaccinated the first week will get their second shot the third or fourth week,” Cheatham summarized. “Some people won’t get their shot until the 14th week, depending if the supply holds up, or later. That’s a problem.

“Last week we had a big shortfall,” he noted. “We just got some good news yesterday (Tuesday). This is not a promise from the state, but they said they were going to get 155,000 doses of Moderna alone, not including Pfizer, into the state. Our district’s health department’s share is likely to be maybe 2,500 doses. I’m hoping next week will be better. We need a big shot of vaccine because we’re going to zero out on vaccines by Friday.”

Clinton County Commissioner Dwight Washington voiced concern about the state’s rollout of the vaccine process.

“It seems like the state is really trying to make a narrative that fits different agendas of politics and businesses than a narrative that fits the vaccination itself,” Washington said. “It seems like it’s just kind of a sloppy way of doing things. I’m not convinced that we can get through this the way that things are going.”

“I agree with you,” Cheatham said. “In the euphoria of the vaccine being made available, the CDC did drop the recommendation from (age) 75 to 65, which added thousands of people to the list and Michigan eagerly followed that advice and health departments then grabbed onto it also.

“We’re paying the price for an earlier euphoria that turned out not to be true,” he said.

## **BOARD OF HEALTH ORGANIZES**

Also on Wednesday, the Board of Health organized for the new year.

Clinton County Commissioner Bruce DeLong was elected the new chairman and Montcalm County Commissioner Adam Petersen was elected the new vice chairman.

The meeting was also the first for newly elected Montcalm County Commissioner Michael Beach, who joined DeLong, Petersen, Washington and Gratiot County commissioners George Bailey and Chuck Murphy on the board.

County commissioners on the Board of Health receive compensation of \$35 per day (up to three hours) or \$60 per day (more than three hours in one day) plus a \$500 annual stipend for the chairman of the board and shall be reimbursed for travel expenses.

However, Petersen, who resides in Montcalm Township, said he would once again be opting out of being paid, as he has previously done. Beach, who resides in Carson City, requested a copy of the payment opt-out form as well.

The Board of Health meets at 9 a.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month. All meetings are open to the public.

Visit [mmdhd.org/2021-board-of-health](http://mmdhd.org/2021-board-of-health) for monthly meeting information.

## CORONAVIRUS IN MICHIGAN



Cars line up at the Sparrow Laboratories Drive-Thru site on Thursday at the Frandor Shopping Center in Lansing. The site is offering registered COVID-19 vaccinations and testing. NICK KING/LANSING STATE JOURNAL

# HEALTH WORKERS ARE 'OPTIMISTIC'

County departments can expect arrival of more COVID vaccines

**Craig Lyons**

Lansing State Journal

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

LANSING – Greater Lansing health departments can expect a larger shipment of COVID-19 vaccines next week.

Until final numbers are released, officials won't know how much of an increase the departments will see or whether that will lead to more available appointments.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services notifies vaccine providers on Friday of the number of dosages allotted to them.

MDHHS expects to distribute 205,500 doses of the vaccine to local providers, up from 134,900 doses distributed the week of Jan. 24.

"The state told us yesterday they anticipate having more. I don't have a good sense of how much more," Colette Scrimger, the Barry-Eaton District



A sign directs people to the Barry-Eaton District Health Department's vaccination clinic. COURTESY OF BARRY-EATON DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT

**"We need a big shot of vaccine."**

**MMDHD Health Officer Marcus Cheatham**

See **VACCINES**, Page 5A

# Vaccines

Continued from Page 1A

Health Department health officer, said during a board of health meeting Thursday.

BEDHD expects to open another block of appointments for the vaccine on Friday, Scrimger said.

For the upcoming week, Michigan will receive 113,100 doses of Moderna and 62,400 doses of Pfizer, according to MDHHS spokesperson Lynn Sutfin. That includes 30,000 doses redirected from the long-term care program.

Of the doses distributed for the week of Jan. 24, BEDHD received 800 doses, the Mid-Michigan District Health Department, which includes Clinton County, received 500 doses and the Ingham County Health Department received 700 doses, according to state data.

Ingham County Health Officer Linda Vail said during a Tuesday media briefing that the department had received 700 doses of Moderna instead of the normal 1,950 doses of Pfizer.

ICHD spokesperson Amanda Darche said the state indicated that a larger allocation is coming for next

week, but the department will know for sure on Friday. "That's certainly something we're hoping for," Darche said. "We're optimistic, but it hasn't happened yet."

MMDHD Health Officer Marcus Cheatham said Wednesday that vaccination appointments remain limited because of the low supply of vaccine.

Appointments at MMDHD's vaccination clinics are currently full and Cheatham said the department will likely zero out its supply by Friday.

"We need a big shot of vaccine," Cheatham said.

## Health departments making progress on vaccinations

The ICHD has vaccinated 9,400 people at its clinics as of Wednesday. That includes 5,400 health care workers, 1,800 first responders and 2,200 people age 70 and older.

BEDHD has vaccinated 2,726 people in Eaton and Barry counties to date.

MMDHD has vaccinated 1,200 people in Clinton, Gratiot and Montcalm counties. Another 400 appointments are scheduled, according to the health department.

BEDHD and MMDHD did not have detailed breakdowns of which priority groups have been vaccinated to date.

## How to get in the vaccination queue

In Ingham County, registrations are available online through the health department at [hd.ingham.org](http://hd.ingham.org) or over the phone at 517-887-4311 if people do not have access to the internet or email.

People registered with ICHD will receive an email notification or call to confirm an appointment when one is available.

BEDHD has an online form for people to fill out at [barryeatonhealth.org](http://barryeatonhealth.org). Health department staff will reach out to people by phone to schedule an appointment once they've registered.

Scrimger said BEDHD will send out an email notification for people to schedule a vaccination. The number of slots available each week will be based on the number of vaccines available, she said.

MMDHD's clinics are currently full, but the department will post updates on its website at [mmdhd.org](http://mmdhd.org).

Contact reporter Craig Lyons at 517-377-1047 or [calyons@lsj.com](mailto:calyons@lsj.com).

# Daily News

Saturday, January 30, 2021

MID-MICHIGAN DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**

of

FINANCE COMMITTEE AND REGULAR  
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETINGS FOR 2021

***Finance Committee meetings held at 8:30 a.m. and Regular meetings held at 9:00 a.m. on the fourth Wednesday of every month, except for December.***

January 27	Organizational Meeting, Online
February 24	Online
March 24	Online
April 28	Administrative Offices, Stanton and Online
May 26	Clinton County Branch Office, St. Johns and Online
June 23	Gratiot County Branch Office, Ithaca and Online
July 21	Administrative Offices, Stanton and Online
August 25	Clinton County Branch Office, St. Johns and Online
September 22	Gratiot County Branch Office, Ithaca and Online
October 27	Administrative Offices, Stanton and Online
November 24	Clinton County Branch Office, St. Johns and Online

***Finance Committee at 9:30 a.m., Regular Meeting at 10:00 a.m.***

December 15 Gratiot County Branch Office, Ithaca and Online

The public will be afforded the opportunity to address the Board of Health with comments, including any item not on the agenda. To participate by video, access Zoom at the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84666735394?pwd=TXpMSGErRnk1d-ncyb2hHeFBFditTQT09>

and use **Meeting ID 846 6673 5394; Passcode 199616**. To participate by phone, call **1-312-626-6799**; then enter the Meeting ID.

The public wishing to participate will be muted during the business portion of the meeting. During the Public Comment portion of the meeting, the Chairperson will request comments and the public will be unmuted at that time. To contact a Board member to provide input before the meeting, please contact Cynthia Partlo, Board Secretary at the contact information below.

This meeting is open to all members of the public under Michigan's Open Meetings Act. The Mid-Michigan District Health Department will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired, interpreters, and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon one (1) week's notice. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Mid-Michigan District Board of Health by emailing, writing, or calling:

Cynthia M. Partlo, Board Secretary  
Mid-Michigan District Board of Health  
615 N. State St.  
Stanton, Michigan 48888-9702  
(989) 831-3610  
E-Mail: [cpartlo@mmdhd.org](mailto:cpartlo@mmdhd.org)

<b>BOARD OF HEALTH:</b>	Bruce DeLong Dwight Washington, Ph.D.	George Bailey Chuck Murphy	Michael R. Beach Adam Petersen
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Cynthia M. Partlo, Board Secretary  
Mid-Michigan District Board of Health  
615 N. State St.  
Stanton, Michigan 48888-9702  
(989) 831-3610  
E-Mail: [cpartlo@mmdhd.org](mailto:cpartlo@mmdhd.org)

**CORONAVIRUS IN MID-MICHIGAN**

# Fifteen new cases reported in region

State health officials confirm  
another death in Gratiot County

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**By Eric Baerren**

*ebaerren@medianewsgroup.com*

*@ebaerren on Twitter*

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Five new cases of COVID-19 were reported each in Gratiot, Isabella and Clare counties Tuesday, and there were single digits of new cases in every mid-Michigan county.

There was also one additional death in Gratiot County, according to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. It brings Gratiot's total number of deaths to 92.

No confirmation was available from Mid-Michigan District Health Department about the death. That health department, which covers Gratiot

**UPDATE » PAGE 2**



DON CAMPBELL — THE HERALD-PALLADIUM VIA AP

Parking spaces in downtown St. Joseph are reserved for five-minute pick-up only back in March 2020. Although indoor dining is now open in Michigan after two separate shutdowns, curbside pickup is still highly encouraged.

# Update

## FROM PAGE 1

County, stopped providing information about deaths, stopped updating their Gratiot and Montcalm case and death numbers last year and stopped responding to inquires about them after the new year. They resumed updating their website in January, but their cases and deaths lag the state's numbers by several days.

The five new cases brings Gratiot's cumulative total to 2,406.

The county's rate of positive test results over the last seven days is 2.32, the best of the three counties. That is generally accepted as a positive result.

According to a county-level database hosted by the Brown University School of Public Health, the county has a seven-day rolling average of 15.4. That is between the thresholds of the highest risk (higher than 25) and second-lowest risk (between one and 10). The dashboard combines both confirmed and probable cases whereas state data is based only on confirmed cases, with probable cases reported separately.

The five cases brings Isabella County's cumulative total to 3,441, with 68 deaths. The county's seven-day average of positive test results is 2.75, also considered a positive marker.

Isabella is the lowest of the three counties on the Brown University's dashboard in terms of color coding. It's rolling seven-day average of new cases per 100,000 people remained at 8.4 cases per 100,000 people as of Sunday. That is low enough that it is scored as the second-lowest level of spread.

The five new cases in Clare County brings its cumulative total to 1,341, with 67 deaths.

Clare County is highest of the three in both rolling seven-day averages in new cases per 100,000 people

and in positive tests rate. According to Brown University's county-level dashboard, it has a rolling seven-day average of 22.6 new cases per 100,000 people.

While Clare has fewer than 100,000 people, scoring new cases per 100,000 people weights the number of cases for the population, allowing a clearer indication of how quickly the disease is spreading among low population areas versus high population areas.

Clare's seven-day average positivity rate is 7.04 percent. According to the MI Safe Start map, a collaboration of the University of Michigan School of Information and School of Public Health, that would place Clare in the third tier.

The first is less than 3 percent, which would include Isabella and Gratiot counties. The second is between 3 and 7 percent. The third tier is between 7 and 10 percent. That is generally considered a cause for some concern.

Elsewhere in mid-Michigan, new deaths were reported in two counties, with new and cumulative cases and deaths as follows:

- In Gladwin County, an additional case was reported for a cumulative total of 1,209, with 39 deaths;

- In Mecosta County, one more death was reported for a total of 19, and an additional two cases were reported for a cumulative total of 1,782;

- In Midland County, one more death was reported for a total of 54, and an additional nine cases were reported for a cumulative total of 4,216; and,

- In Montcalm County, an additional 3 cases were reported for a cumulative total of 3,140, with 82 deaths.

Statewide, another 63 deaths were reported over the weekend for a total of 14,672 and another 1,203 cases were reported Tuesday for a cumulative total of 562,510. Of those deaths, 36 were discovered during a review of death certificates.

# Daily News

Wednesday, February 3, 2021

## Central Montcalm looking to replace drinking water well

State's new guidelines lowered max PFAS levels

By [Brandon Schreur](#) | on February 03, 2021



Under new guidelines from the Michigan PFAS Action Response Team (MPART), Central Montcalm Public School is looking to replace the drinking water well at the middle and high school before Sept. 30, 2021, in order to comply with the state's health advisory standards for PFAS. — DN Photo | Brandon Schreur

STANTON — New guidelines from the Michigan PFAS Action Response Team (MPART) have put Central Montcalm Public School in a position where they're now looking to drill a replacement drinking water well.

In 2018, the state of Michigan passed legislation mandating that all schools connected to private wells must have their water sources tested for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).

On July 13, 2018, Central Montcalm Middle and High School's drinking water well's test came back at 19 parts per trillion (ppt) for perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane (PFOS) and 64 total tested PFAS.

According to [data.michigan.gov](https://data.michigan.gov), a second test was done on Aug. 17, 2018, that came back at 27 ppt for PFOA and PFOS and 79 total tested PFAS. A third test on Sept. 14, 2018, showed 31 ppt for PFOA and PFOS and 91 total tested PFAS.

At the time, the health advisory criteria for both the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) was 70 ppt for PFOA and PFOS, meaning the school was below the maximum limits for all three tests.

“In August of 2018, we were first notified that PFAS was detected in the school drinking water at the middle and high school, although it was below the health advisory,” Central Montcalm Superintendent Amy Meinhardt told the Daily News. “We sent letters notifying parents of the detection. We have installed filters on all our drinking fountains.”

On Aug. 3, 2020, MPART (which includes members from EGLE, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and several other state agencies) updated their PFAS investigation guidelines and clean-up efforts across the state. Under the new drinking water standards, the maximum containment level for PFOA is eight ppt and the maximum containment level for PFOS is 16 ppt.

“MPART has established itself as a national leader in responding to PFAS contamination,” MPART Executive Director Steve Silver stated in a press release. “These new PFAS limits are an important regulatory tool that will allow us to expand our mission and protect more Michiganders from these contaminants.”

Stanton city officials have previously said that the school district has since installed a new drinking water well at the high school; however, while the district is currently looking to obtain funding for such action, a new well has not yet been installed.

While Central Montcalm’s three tests from 2018 now exceed the state’s new guidelines, the Mid-Michigan District Health Department (MMDHD) told the Daily News that the drinking water well is still in compliance with the state’s regulations as another year’s worth of testing needs to be done at the site.

“In 2018, if there was any hit with PFAS compounds that came back, we were watching it,” MMDHD Environmental Health Director Liz Braddock explained. “Right off the bat, we were very concerned about Tri County, whose water supply was very close to 70 ppt for PFOA and PFOS.”

Tri County Area Schools has since dug a new well at its Middle School since the 2018 tests that came back free of PFAS.

“Tri County was close to 62 (at that time), while Central Montcalm had a detection that was a bit more below the 70 ppt,” Braddock said. “It was still a detection. Move forward to (this August) and the PFAS rules have a new maximum containment level. The school now has to be tested on a new routine basis. The program, which we oversee for EGLE, has to have a year’s worth of new data. That didn’t go into effect until the summer of 2020.

“We know that, within a year’s time, it’s very likely (that well) will still be above the new maximum containment level of 8 ppt (for PFOA). While the well has not yet been replaced, it’s still in compliance with regulations because of the way that the program is run. They have to have a year’s worth of results (that come in above the maximum containment levels) for them to not be in compliance.”

Braddock said the school’s drinking well is considered a “non-community water supply,” meaning that it’s a water system that provides water for drinking or potable purposes to 25 or more persons at least 60 days per year or has 15 or more service connections.

She also noted that the maximum containment levels for PFAS contamination are strictly for drinking water and not for water used for other purposes.

“We tested the other drinking water wells on (Central Montcalm’s) campus,” she added. “The only one that we’re concerned about is the one that’s located by the high school. Luckily, they haven’t been in session for very long this year. We also tested the city of Stanton’s well for (municipal) drinking water, which came back non-detect. Other sites that we tested, such as (Montcalm Community College), also came back as non-detect.”

According to Braddock, Central Montcalm has until Sept. 30, 2021, to complete its yearly sampling.

Meinhardt said the school is now looking into an alternative drinking water source for the middle and high school.

“While we are still in compliance currently, the drinking water well is classified as a non-community drinking water supply and the current PFAS detection will exceed the new maximum containment levels for drinking water in Michigan,” she said. “We have been and will continue to work with EGLE and the health department to find a solution to eliminate PFAS from our water supply. We have submitted a grant application to (EGLE) to hopefully secure funds to drill a replacement drinking water well.”

“When we talk about alternative water sources, that could be anything from an approved filter to providing drinking water to the building,” Braddock added. “At this time, moving towards replacing the drinking water well would be a good alternative (for the district) because of the volume of people within the building.

“The application funding deadline (for EGLE) is Jan. 31, 2021, for the first round. Applications are reviewed per-quarter, so I anticipate that the school district would receive a response quickly. The school would not need to wait until the end of the annual testing before pursuing an alternative water supply.”

EGLE is currently investigating the cause for the contamination, with much of the department’s attention focusing on a city-owned landfill abandoned in 1980 located approximately 0.8 miles north of Central Montcalm High School.

While EGLE and Stanton are doing further PFAS testing at drinking wells around the former landfill, Braddock said anyone looking for more information about water testing or those wanting to learn about drinking water bacteria testing can contact the MMDHD at (989) 831-3607.

# Lakeview Area News

## Thursday, February 4, 2021

### 100 Acts of Kindness

**By John Kroneck, MA, LPC, CPC-R, Wellness & Prevention Services Supervisor. Mid-Michigan District Health Department**

Today we are finding ourselves more removed from our friends, family and social gatherings than ever before. This can leave people feeling isolated and lonely. Mental health challenges increase, addiction relapse increases, drug use increases and so forth.

One option to address the isolation is to focus on the good happening around us. In fact, research is stating that when we share kindness with each other, both people experience better health and well-being. It also has a positive effect on others who witness the kindness. This actually means that by being kind to one another and sharing stories of kindness we can make this a better world for our friends, family and even ourselves.

Beginning on Thursday, February 4th, we will start collecting stories about Acts of Kindness that we notice taking place throughout the Montcalm County area. You are invited to participate! When you see – or perform – an



act of kindness, let us know. We will share this throughout the county. Just tell us a few things like;

**WHO** was involved. Tell us about the characters (names will not be shared by us),

**WHERE** it took place. Tell us about the setting,

**WHAT** took place. (A form is available if you would like.)

Email the kindness information to John at **JKroneck@mmdhd.org** or call **989-831-3659**. Please include your email address and phone number, so we can follow up with you.

You may write a full story, if you would like. However, there is also a Creative Team being gathered to take events and turn them into short stories

and graphics. The Tamarack Writer's group is one of our Creative Team members. We are also seeking people with graphic art skills to turn the stories into graphics to post on social media and posters. If you would like to be part of this team – writing, graphics, other options – please let us know.

Then there is the Distribution Team. If you would like to help distribute the Acts of Kindness through your clubs, churches, municipalities, and/or social media pages, please let us know. It is our intention to engage everyone in the county to share in focusing on the goodness in our lives --- doing so by acknowledging simple acts of kindness.

This project is being supported by the Montcalm Prevention Collaborative, the Substance Abuse Advisory Council, the Montcalm Recovery & Integrated Services of Care, the Ionia/Montcalm Families Against Narcotics, and the Mid-Michigan District Health Department. Thank you for considering joining in on recognizing the good things happening in our neighborhoods.

# Gratiot County Herald

Thursday, February 4, 2021

## MID-MICHIGAN DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT PUBLIC NOTICE

of  
FINANCE COMMITTEE AND REGULAR  
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETINGS FOR 2021

*Finance Committee meetings held at 8:30 a.m. and Regular meetings held at 9:00 a.m. on the fourth Wednesday of every month, except for December.*

January 27	Organizational Meeting, Online
February 24	Online
March 24	Online
April 28	Administrative Offices, Stanton and Online
May 26	Clinton County Branch Office, St. Johns and Online
June 23	Gratiot County Branch Office, Ithaca and Online
July 21	Administrative Offices, Stanton and Online
August 25	Clinton County Branch Office, St. Johns and Online
September 22	Gratiot County Branch Office, Ithaca and Online
October 27	Administrative Offices, Stanton and Online
November 24	Clinton County Branch Office, St. Johns and Online

*Finance Committee at 9:30 a.m., Regular Meeting at 10:00 a.m.*

December 15 Gratiot County Branch Office, Ithaca and Online

The public will be afforded the opportunity to address the Board of Health with comments, including any item not on the agenda. To participate by video, access Zoom at the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84666735394?pwd=TXpMSGErRnk1dncyb2hHeFBFditTQT09> and use **Meeting ID 846 6673 5394**; **Passcode 199616**. To participate by phone, call **1-312-626-6799**; then enter the Meeting ID.

The public wishing to participate will be muted during the business portion of the meeting. During the Public Comment portion of the meeting, the Chairperson will request comments and the public will be unmuted at that time. To contact a Board member to provide input before the meeting, please contact Cynthia Partlo, Board Secretary at the contact information below.

This meeting is open to all members of the public under Michigan's Open Meetings Act. The Mid-Michigan District Health Department will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired, interpreters, and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon one (1) week's notice. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Mid-Michigan District Board of Health by emailing, writing, or calling:

Cynthia M. Partlo, Board Secretary  
Mid-Michigan District Board of Health  
615 N. State St.  
Stanton, Michigan 48888-9702  
(989) 831-3610  
E-Mail: [cpartlo@mmdhd.org](mailto:cpartlo@mmdhd.org)

# Daily News

Friday, February 5, 2021

## About 17K estimated to have received COVID-19 vaccine in MMDHD area

By [Elisabeth Waldon](#) | on February 05, 2021

STANTON — The Mid-Michigan District Health Department (MMDHD) may not be receiving enough COVID-19 vaccine for the local population, but it's making good use of what it's received thus far.



Mid-Michigan District Health Department Health Officer Marcus Cheatham reported on Tuesday that an estimated 16,824 people have received the COVID-19 vaccine to date in the health department's three-county area. — DN Photo | Elisabeth Waldon

MMDHD Health Officer Marcus Cheatham posted a video update on Tuesday about vaccine progress for the health department, which covers Clinton, Gratiot and Montcalm counties.

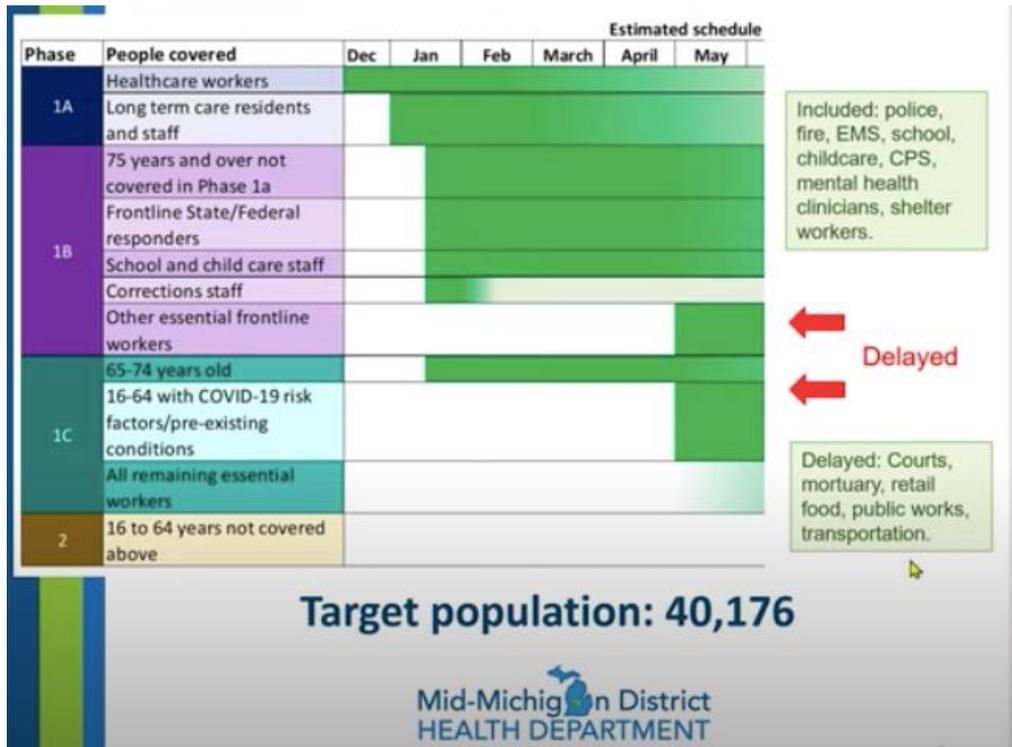
The MMDHD has received four shipments of the Moderna vaccine so far — 1,600 doses on Dec. 28, 2020, 1,600 doses on Jan. 18, 1,100 doses on Jan. 24 and 2,300 doses on Tuesday for a total of 6,600. Additional doses are going to hospitals and pharmacies in the three-county area for a grand total of 25,750 to date.

While the MMDHD's target population to vaccinate as soon as possible was originally 71,993 people, that target has now been reduced to 40,176 due to a continued vaccine shortage, according to Cheatham.

The MMDHD has currently used 5,970 of its 6,600 doses (or 90%), including 4,720 first doses and 1,250-second doses of the two-shot Moderna vaccine.

"Our performance is really good, we're achieving Dr. (Joneigh) Khaldun's goals for us," Cheatham noted.

According to the state of Michigan, 16,824 people in the MMDHD jurisdiction have been vaccinated, which matches the MMDHD’s estimated numbers — assuming local health care facilities have given an estimated 10,854 of their 15,550 doses so far, according to Cheatham. He noted the 16,824 number is based on where people live (people are counted as being vaccinated in the county they live in, even if they get vaccinated in another county or jurisdiction).



Healthcare workers, frontline state and federal workers, emergency workers, police and firefighters, child care and school staff, corrections staff and people 75 and older are currently receiving the COVID-19 vaccine in Clinton, Gratiot and Montcalm counties; however, a vaccine shortage continues to delay the vaccine for all other essential workers; people age 65 to 74; and people age 16 to 64 with risk factors and pre-existing conditions. — Screenshot

Cheatham said those who are currently being vaccinated include healthcare workers, frontline state and federal workers, emergency workers, police and firefighters, child care and school staff, corrections staff and people 75 and older; however, the vaccine continues to be delayed for all other essential workers (including courts, mortuary services, retail, food, public workers and transportation workers); people age 65 to 74; and people age 16 to 64 with risk factors and pre-existing conditions.

“There isn’t enough vaccination for everybody, I want to be clear about that,” Cheatham emphasized. “The vaccine is still scarce. It’s hard to get it.”

Cheatham said the MMDHD jurisdiction is at least getting its “fair share” of the vaccine based on the combined population of the three-county area.

“We’re about 1.8% of the population of Michigan and we’ve gotten about 1.8% of the doses that have flowed into our state,” he said. “We’re pretty lucky in mid-Michigan, we have four small hospitals and that’s boosted some of our numbers so we are getting our fair share of the vaccine.”

Cheatham said of the current priority group of 40,176 people targeted for the vaccine as soon as possible, some of those people won’t receive their first shot until April.

“The state has told us to only expect 2,000 to 3,000 doses a week into the jurisdiction — not just to the health department but to health care and the health department combined,” he said. “That’s not good. We have been told that the supply is probably going to be the same next week and the week after before it starts to open up. I’m not expecting a lot of vaccine in the very near future.”

Cheatham said the MMDHD is continuing to hold vaccine clinics at its three campuses in Clinton, Gratiot and Montcalm counties. He said the MMDHD has transferred several hundred doses of the vaccine to pharmacies in Greenville, Alma and DeWitt as well.

The MMDHD is coordinating with the Michigan National Guard to arrange to vaccinate hundreds of prison employees working at Gratiot and Montcalm county prisons as well.

Cheatham encourages people to continue to check the MMDHD website at [www.mmdhd.org/covid-vaccine-information](http://www.mmdhd.org/covid-vaccine-information) for updates about local vaccine ability through either the MMDHD or local healthcare or pharmacy facilities.

Ionia County Health Officer Ken Bowen says his county’s health department continues to work its way through Group 1B and is also hosting second dose clinics for Group 1A and schools.

“Our current focus for first doses is corrections staff and the over-65 population,” he noted.

Visit the Ionia County Health Department website at [ioniacounty.org/health/health-department](http://ioniacounty.org/health/health-department) for updates about vaccine availability in that county.

Montcalm County has had a total of 82 COVID-related deaths since March 2020, including 11 deaths in January of this year. Montcalm County has not reported any COVID-related deaths since Jan. 21.

Ionia County has had a total of 61 COVID-related deaths since March 2020, including 18 deaths in January of this year. Ionia County has not reported any COVID-related deaths since Jan. 28.

# British coronavirus variant confirmed in Eaton County

**Craig Lyons**

Lansing State Journal

USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

CHARLOTTE – Eaton County health officials confirmed the first case of the new British variant of the coronavirus in Greater Lansing.

The Barry-Eaton Health Department did not have details on the case as its investigation is ongoing, according to a press release. The variant — B.1.1.7 — was first detected in Washtenaw County in January and has since been found in Oakland, Kent and Calhoun counties.

Michigan has reported 29 cases of the B.1.1.7 variant, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The British coronavirus variant can spread more rapidly and may be tied to an increased chance of death, according to the CDC. Early research has indicated the COVID-19 vaccine is effective against the new strain.

The health department urged people to continue taking precautions against the virus as new variants become more prevalent:

- Wear a mask when around other people
- Stay six feet apart
- Wash your hand frequently
- Ventilate indoor spaces
- Get vaccinated as you are eligible and supply is available

## **Mutations ‘common and normal’**

Jennifer Morse, medical director for the Mid-Michigan District Health Department, said during a board of health meeting that mutations within the genetic code of viruses are “common and normal.” RNA viruses, like the novel coronavirus, can replicate faster than other viruses.

Variants detected include the British B.1.1.7, the South African variant 13.1.351 and the Brazilian variant P.1. Morse said there’s likely more variants out there but detecting the mutations requires genotyping samples for differences in the virus’ structure.

Morse said the new variants identified so far spread more effectively, could

**See VARIANT, Page 4A**

# Variant

Continued from Page 1A

cause more serious illness and lead to a higher death rate.

“This is concerning because it does tend to spread more quickly,” Morse said. “It’s really imperative we follow the same prevention measures.”

Manufacturers of the vaccines are looking at the vaccines’ effectiveness against new variants. Morse said RNA vaccines are easy to adapt to new variants as manufacturers just alter the sequence of the virus.

## Testing can detect new variants

The CDC reported the polymerase chain reaction, or deep nasal swab test, can detect new variants of the coronavirus.

People should get tested for the virus if they or someone close to them has symptoms. Those include a cough, sore throat, fever, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, a headache or a loss of taste or smell.

If a person has been in close contact with someone who tested positive for the virus, they should get tested. Health officials define close contact as being within 6 feet of someone for 15 minutes or longer.

## MID MICHIGAN

# One death, handful of COVID-19 local cases reported

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**By Eric Baerren**

*ebaerren@medianewsgroup.com*  
*Multimedia journalist*

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Based on most of the metrics, the safest place right now in mid-Michigan is Gratiot County.

With a 1.09 rolling seven-day average of test positivity, it has the lowest of Isabella, Gratiot and Clare counties. It also now has the lowest seven-day rolling average for new cases per 100,000 people.

According to a county-level dashboard hosted by the Brown University School of Public Health, Gratiot has an average of 6 new cases per 100,000 people as of Tuesday. That is in the category for counties with the second-lowest spread, and it is colored yellow on the dashboard map.

That dashboard combines probable cases and deaths. State data primarily uses confirmed cases and confirmed deaths, but probable cases and deaths is also available.

And, as of Thursday, its 94th death was announced. That is the highest of the three counties by 24. One more confirmed case was announced Thursday for a cumulative total of 2,425.

Based on deaths and confirmed cases, 3.8 of confirmed cases in Gratiot County end in death. If you add in the 301 probable cases and four probable deaths, for totals of 2,726 and 98, the percentage becomes 3.5.

The state's average case fatality rate is 2.6 percent for confirmed cases, 2.5 percent when probable cases and deaths are added.

No information was available about the person who died. Mid-Michigan District Health Department, which oversees Gratiot County, stopped providing information on deaths before Christmas.

At that time, the health department also stopped updating the number of deaths for Montcalm and Gratiot counties on its website. It resumed doing that after the new year without explaining why.

Isabella County is second in both test positivity and spread.

The county's six-day rolling average for test positivity is 2.96. That is the last seven days minus results reported by the state on Sunday.

On Sunday, the state reported a single-day positivity rate of more than 27 percent and 54 positive tests. That test rate is five times

COVID » PAGE 3

# COVID

FROM PAGE 1

higher than the other days in the last seven days and 10 times higher than the number of confirmed cases re-

ported that day.

As likely incorrect, it was not counted into Isabella's seven-day rolling average.

The county's seven-day rolling average for new cases is also 8.8 per 100,000 people. Like Gratiot, that is also in the second-lowest

risk category.

An additional six cases were reported in Isabella County on Thursday for a cumulative total of 3,486, with 70 deaths.

Isabella's case fatality rate for confirmed cases and deaths is 2.0 percent. When probable cases — 427 — and probable deaths — one — are added, it falls to 1.8 percent.

An additional three cases were reported Thursday in Clare County, for a cumulative total of 1,371, with 69 deaths.

The county's case fatality rate — the percentage of confirmed cases that end in death — is the highest of the three at 4.9 percent. When probable cases — 25 — and deaths — one — are added, it falls to 4.3 percent.

Clare County's population is older and poorer. Elderly people are the most

at-risk for dying from COVID-19, and poverty is associated with a greater rate of chronic health conditions due to poorer access to health care and highly nourishing diets.

Clare County also continues to lag the other two counties in indicators of disease spread.

Its seven-day rolling average for test positivity is 4.46 percent and its seven-day rolling average for new cases weighted for population is 14.8. Neither is considered terribly high, and it is in the second-highest risk category for spread on the county-level dashboard hosted by the Brown University School for Public Health. It is coded orange.

Elsewhere in mid-Michigan, no new deaths were reported, with new and cumulative cases and deaths as follows:

▪ In Gladwin County, three additional cases were reported for a cumulative total of 1,229, with 39 deaths.

▪ In Mecosta County, an additional nine cases were reported for a cumulative total of 1,848, with 19 deaths.

▪ In Midland County, an additional nine cases were reported for a cumulative total of 4,296, with 59 deaths.

▪ In Montcalm County, an additional four cases were reported for a cumulative total of 3,178, with 82 deaths.

Statewide, another 75 deaths were reported over the weekend for a total of 15,052 and another 1,284 cases were reported for a cumulative total of 572,179. Fifty-five of those deaths were discovered after a review of death certificates by the MDHHS.

## Morning Sun

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**UPDATE**

# COVID-19 situation worsens in Isabella

Gratiot, Clare counties  
see case improvement

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**By Eric Baerren**

*ebaerren@medianewsgroup.com*  
*@ebaerren on Twitter*

Just one new case of COVID-19 was reported over the weekend in both Gratiot and Clare counties, where key metrics continue to point to an improving situation. Those same metrics suggest mild spread of the disease in Isabella County.

In addition to the single case, a single death was reported in Gratiot County. No information about who died was available. Mid-Michigan District Health Department, which was providing that information, stopped before Christmas.

It brings the county's cumulative total number of cases to 2,429, with 95 deaths.

The county remains the lowest of Isabella, Gratiot and Clare counties in key metrics indicating spread of COVID-19. Its seven-day

**UPDATE » PAGE 3**

# Update

## FROM PAGE 1

rolling average number of new cases per 100,000 people is 3.9, among the lowest in Michigan.

On a county-level dashboard hosted by Brown University School of Public Health, the county remains in the second-lowest category for cases weighted for population. It is coded yellow on an accompanying map.

That dashboard combines confirmed and probable cases. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services's dashboard is largely based on confirmed cases and deaths, with information about probable cases and deaths available.

Gratiot's seven-day rolling average for test positivity is 1.15 percent. That is the percentage of diagnostic tests that produce a positive result. Lower is considered better. Less than 2 percent is considered low risk.

Isabella County's seven-day rolling average for test positivity is now the highest of Isabella, Gratiot and Clare

counties at 3.79. Last week, its rolling average was less than 3 percent.

Increasing test positivity rates are believed to indicate that the disease is spreading, although 3.79 is not considered very high.

The county did slip out of the second-lowest category on the county-level dashboard and into the second-highest with a seven-day rolling average of new cases weighted for population of 10.4. The second-highest category is counties with averages weighted for population of between 10 and 25.

An additional 17 cases were reported in Isabella County on Monday, increasing its cumulative total to 3,512. Those cases are spread out over three days for a daily average of just less than six.

Central Michigan University's COVID dashboard reported seven new cases there on Saturday.

Seventy people in Isabella County have died from COVID-19, and 68 have died in Clare County. No new deaths were reported in either county over the weekend.

Clare County's sole case brings its cumulative total to 1,374. It also has a 3.39 rolling seven-day average of test positivity and a 11.1 new cases weighted for age. Like Isabella County, it is in the second-highest category for current risk.

Elsewhere in mid-Michigan, one new death was reported, with new and cumulative cases and deaths as follows:

- In Gladwin County, one additional case was reported for a cumulative total of 1,231, with 39 deaths;
- In Mecosta County, an additional 14 cases were reported for a cumulative total of 1,870, with 19 deaths;
- In Midland County, one more death was reported for a total of 61, and an additional two cases were reported for a cumulative total of 4,306; and,
- In Montcalm County, an additional 13 cases were reported for a cumulative total of 3,199, with 82 deaths.

Statewide, another 8 deaths were reported over the weekend for a total of 15,158 and another 1,265 cases were reported for a cumulative total of 575,489.