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## PERSONAL HEALTH DIVISION

**For Immediate Release**

**February 4, 2021**

### **The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department COVID-19 Update**

Today there were six new cases of COVID-19 reported in Benzie County and no new cases reported in Leelanau County. Three new COVID-19 associated deaths were reported today. All three were Leelanau County residents (1- in his 70's, 2- in her 80's, 3- in his 80's).

As it is winter in Michigan, the Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department understands there is a chance for inclement weather on a planned clinic day. A clinic will be closed if that county's government center closes due to weather. Should a clinic be canceled, those with a scheduled appointment will be contacted and kept on the waiting list and contacted for a future appointment as vaccines become available.

Health department officials are providing free adult KN95 masks (not N95) at both of their county offices. Click here for a [complete list of free masks](#). Both the Benzie and Leelanau County Health Department offices will also have masks available to the public starting Monday, February 8. Grand Traverse County residents can call 211 for information about how to obtain masks.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) has closely monitored three metrics (significant reductions in cases, positivity, and hospitalizations) for stabilization or declines over the past several weeks. Michigan continues to see improvements, which has allowed for the additional relaxing of protocols and reopening of activities including [High schools' sports](#) starting Monday February 8<sup>th</sup>. In recent days:

- Hospital capacity dedicated to COVID-19 patients has been in ten-week decline, with current capacity at 6.6% for beds with COVID-19 patients. Peaked at 19.6% on Tuesday, Dec. 4.
- Overall case rates: Currently at 159 cases per million after peaking at 740 cases per million on Saturday, Nov. 14. Rate has been in solid decline for 24 days. The Traverse City region is now below 150 cases per million people.
- Positivity rate: The state positivity rate is currently at 4.9% and declining. This is the first-time positivity has been this low since mid-October. Traverse City region is currently at 5.5%.

"We know that many are feeling happy and encouraged by the resumption of some long-awaited activities such as sporting events and indoor dining," stated Lisa Peacock, Health Officer. "We must remember that while pandemic risk indicators continue to trend downward, there are still signs of significant spread of COVID-19 across the state, including a new variant that has emerged in several areas of southern Michigan."

The estimated time to complete vaccinating individuals 65 years and older and those eligible essential workers is mid-July 2021. Here is where we are currently (today's clinic information will be included into tomorrow's information):

- We have been receiving 200-400 1st doses per week over the past 2-3 weeks
- We are expecting allocations to become more predictable in the future
- Number of vaccine doses allocated for this week: 959 doses (appointments have been scheduled this week for all available doses)
- Number of vaccine doses administered this week: 311 doses (160- 1<sup>st</sup> dose, 151- 2<sup>nd</sup> dose)
- Total number of vaccine doses received: 2,782 doses
- Total number of vaccine doses administered: 2,133 doses

As of 4:00pm, the Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department is reporting:

- Total COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 850, Leelanau– 833
- Active COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 125, Leelanau– 138
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 695, Leelanau– 680
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Benzie – 30, Leelanau– 15
- Hospitalized: 121 total; 4 current

The State of Michigan has reported 565,251 cases and 14,778 deaths.

Visit our [COVID-19 Data Dashboard](#) for the latest local information including recovered data and contact tracing. Michigan Department of Health and Human Service Dashboard: [Dashboard](#). Additional and updated information can be found on our [Website](#) and [Facebook](#) or by calling our public information line 231-882-2197. If you have COVID-19 related question, fill out a quick [survey](#), email questions to [hotline@bldhd.org](mailto:hotline@bldhd.org), or call our public information line at 231-882-2197.

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