Washtenaw County Health Department

Vaccine Distribution and Strategy
Updated March 10, 2021

Vaccine Strategy Goals
Washtenaw County Health Department (WCHD) plays a crucial convening and coordination role in both the distribution and administration of vaccine in support of the goals identified by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS).

- 70% of Michiganders age 16 and up vaccinated as quickly as possible.
- 90% of doses received are administered within 7 days of arrival.
- 95% of people get their second dose of vaccine within the expected timeframe.
- There is no disparity in vaccination rates across racial and ethnic groups or by social vulnerability index.
- No Michigander should have to drive more than 20 minutes to reach a vaccination site.

Who is Currently Eligible to Receive the COVID-19 Vaccine under state guidance?
As of Monday, March 8, the following groups are eligible to request a vaccine appointment:
- Health care workers and long-term care facility staff/residents
- People 65 years old or older
- Some frontline essential workers with frequent or ongoing exposure as part of their work. This includes first responders, police officers, jail and prison staff, pre-K-12 teachers, and childcare providers
- Food processing or agricultural workers as of 3/1 (according to state guidelines this does not include grocery store, restaurant or food distribution workers yet)
- People 50 years old or older with medical conditions or disabilities - see a list of qualifying medical conditions or disabilities on pages 11-12 of this document. On Monday, March 22, everyone 50 years old or older will be eligible for vaccine.
- Caregiver family members and guardians age 16 and older of children who have special health care needs
- Anyone not included in the groups above is not eligible for vaccination yet. See the state's currently prioritization guidance here.

Emergency Vaccine Distribution
- Supplies of the COVID-19 vaccine at the local level are still limited but improving.
- Over time, the supply of vaccine will increase as will the number of providers.

Emergency Vaccine Distributors
**Vaccine Availability in Washtenaw County**
The effort to vaccinate community members includes hospital systems, local health departments and certain pharmacies who are approved vaccine providers. The Washtenaw County Health Department works alongside these providers to coordinate vaccination efforts, understand who they are vaccinating based on the state’s prioritization guidelines, and address gaps to ensure all eligible individuals have access to vaccine.

Washtenaw County Health Department maintains a web page with local vaccine providers. It is updated weekly on Tuesdays.

**Washtenaw County Health Department Vaccination Capacity**
WCHD is currently vaccinating eligible individuals who live or work in Washtenaw County. The Health Department has built up significant vaccination capacity and will expand as vaccine is more widely available. WCHD has established one mass vaccination clinic in the east side of the county that has capacity to provide 7,000-10,000 vaccinations weekly. A second mass vaccination site opened March 9 on west side of the county (Pierce Lake Elementary School). Initially it will operate one day per week with about 300-350 vaccinations per day. Eventually and pending vaccine availability, the Chelsea site can provide up to 1,500 vaccinations weekly.

Targeted, pop-up vaccination clinics are used to strengthen the equitable distribution of vaccines in coordination with state, health system, and community partners. Pop-up sites are targeted community locations where eligible individuals can be reached more easily. Examples include senior apartment buildings or centers, schools, churches, or neighborhoods. Such sites may be open to the public or closed. Depending on vaccine supply, 1-3 sites will and can be planned per week to provide anywhere from 100-2,000 vaccinations per event. Mobile vaccination teams (Nurse on the Run) are also deployed to reach group homes, assisted living, and eligible homebound individuals as resources allow.

Pop-up locations are planned in coordination with the hosting site and community partners and leaders; they are confirmed week by week as supplies are known.

Organizations or groups interested in collaborating on targeted pop-up clinics can complete this survey to let us know of their interest.

**Washtenaw County Health Department Registration and Scheduling**
- Individuals can complete a Health Department appointment request survey online.
- Those who need assistance with the request survey, can call 734-544-6700 or 211.
- When an appointment becomes available, the Health Department schedules eligible individuals for appointments by email or phone. This may take weeks depending on supplies or eligibility.
- If individuals are not currently eligible for scheduling, they are asked to wait to complete a request.

**Washtenaw County Health Department Allocation Plan**
Each week, all available vaccine is used to schedule appointments. About half is needed for second doses. The remaining half is divided roughly as follows to vaccinate those currently eligible and following state guidelines for health departments to dedicate the 75% of vaccine supply to older adults and the remaining 25% for eligible frontline essential workers.
To provide an equitable distribution, WCHD is also using local population estimates by zip code and evidence of COVID impact, as well as measures of social vulnerability.

This map of Washtenaw County shows higher Social Vulnerability Index in darker blue areas, recognizing that there are pockets of vulnerability throughout the county.

To efficiently deploy vaccine, the majority is used in the mass vaccination clinics and the remaining vaccine distributed to targeted pop-up clinics and mobile teams.

- **Pop-up Clinics** – 10%
- **Nurse on the Run** – 5%
- **Mass Vaccination Clinics** – 85%

**Example of Weekly Planning**

On Friday, the Health Department is told they will receive 5,000 total doses of vaccine.

- 2,500 are allocated for second doses
- 2,500 are allocated as first doses.

Of those 2500 first doses

- 250 are allocated for 1A healthcare workers.
- 2,250 are allocated for adults eligible by age and prioritizing those 65 and over (1,687) and eligible essential workers (563).

* Notice of weekly allocation is currently received on Fridays for the following week. This example does not reflect current allocation amounts.