NAVIGATION

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Additional information is available at Michigan.gov/Coronavirus

What is COVID-19?
COVID-19 is an illness caused by a relatively new respiratory virus (SARS-CoV-2). In December 2019, the virus began circulating in humans.

What are the symptoms of COVID-19?
Symptoms may appear two to 14 days after exposure to the virus. Common symptoms are:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches

- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

If you develop **emergency warning signs** for COVID-19, get **medical attention immediately:**

- Trouble breathing
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- New confusion
- Inability to wake or stay awake
- Pale, gray, or blue-colored skin, lips, or nail beds, depending on skin tone

This list is not all inclusive. Please consult your doctor for any other symptoms that are severe or concerning.

If I have had COVID-19, can I get it again?
Persons with SARS-CoV-2 antibodies (those who have had COVID-19) may have some short-term protection immediately following an infection, but this varies from person to person. Reinfection is possible for persons due to lack of immunity, which could happen for a number of reasons including waning immunity or infection with a new variant of the virus that is different from the original infection. Re-infected individuals could have a similar capacity to transmit virus as those infected for the first time.

Are some people at greater risk for becoming seriously ill from COVID-19?
COVID-19 is a relatively new disease and there is limited information regarding risk factors for severe disease. Based on what we know now, those at high-risk for severe illness from COVID-19 are:

- People aged 65 years and older
- Pregnant and recently pregnant people
- People of all ages with underlying medical conditions, particularly if not well controlled, including:
    - Cancer, chronic kidney disease, chronic lung diseases, including COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease), asthma (moderate-to-severe), interstitial lung disease, cystic fibrosis, and pulmonary hypertension, dementia or other neurological conditions, diabetes (type 1 or type 2), down syndrome heart conditions (such as heart failure, coronary artery disease, cardiomyopathies, hypertension), HIV infection, immunocompromised state (weakened immune system), liver disease, overweight and obesity, pregnancy, sickle cell disease or thalassemia, smoking, current or former, solid organ or blood stem cell transplant, stroke or cerebrovascular disease, which affects blood flow to the brain, substance use disorders.

It is important to remember that stigma and discrimination occur when people associate an infectious disease, such as COVID-19, with a population or nationality. COVID-19 does not target people from specific populations, ethnicities or racial backgrounds.

The pandemic is making me anxious, stressed or depressed. Is there help for my mental health?
A lot of people are feeling anxious, stressed or depressed because of the pandemic – even people who have never worried about their mental health in the past. This is normal and there are resources to help:

- Call 2-1-1 to find resources in your local community.
- Everyone in Michigan is invited to use Headspace – free of charge at Headspace.com/Michigan
- For people with existing mental health conditions who need extra support right now, call the Certified Peer Support Specialist Warmline. Call 1-888-733-7753, 10 a.m. to 2 a.m. daily.
- Michigan Stay Well Counseling Line: Call 1-888-535-6136 and press '8'
- National Disaster Distress Helpline: Call 1-800-985-5990 or text "TalkWithUs" to 66746
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: Call 1-800-273-8255 or text "TALK" to 741741

HOW THE VIRUS SPREADS

Additional information is available at Michigan.gov/Coronavirus

How does COVID-19 spread?
COVID-19 spreads when an infected person breathes out droplets and very small particles that contain the virus. These droplets and particles can be breathed in by other people or land on their eyes, noses, or mouth. In some circumstances, they may contaminate surfaces they touch. People who are closer than 6 feet from the infected person are most likely to get infected. COVID-19 is spread in three main ways:

- Breathing in air when close to an infected person who is exhaling small droplets and particles that contain the virus.
- Having these small droplets and particles that contain virus land on the eyes, nose, or mouth, especially through splashes and sprays like a cough or sneeze.
- Touching eyes, nose, or mouth with hands that have the virus on them.

Can the aerosolization of cleaning and disinfection products spread COVID-19?
There are no studies that indicate whether utilization of aerosol products will spread the virus.

Can I get COVID-19 from a mosquito or tick bite?
There is no data to suggest that COVID-19 can be spread through a mosquito or tick bite.

Can the virus that causes COVID-19 spread through drinking water?
The virus that causes COVID-19 has not been detected in drinking water. Conventional water treatment methods that use filtration and disinfection, such as those in most municipal drinking water systems, should remove or inactivate the virus that causes COVID-19.

Can someone spread the virus without being sick?
It's possible for people to spread the virus for about two days before experiencing signs or symptoms and many remain contagious for at least 5-10 days after signs or symptoms first appeared. If someone is asymptomatic or their symptoms go away, it's possible to remain contagious for at least 5-10 days after testing positive for COVID-19. It is important to wear a well-fitting mask around others for the full 10 days after your symptoms start or if you don't have symptoms, for 10 days after your positive test. Day 0 is the day you start having symptoms, or if you don't have symptoms, the day of your positive test.

Does the coronavirus live on surfaces?
Early in the pandemic there was concern about surface transmission. However, latest research suggests that this is unlikely to be a major route of transmission. Although SARS-CoV-2 can persist for days on inanimate surfaces, attempts to culture the virus from these surfaces were unsuccessful.

Can my pet get COVID-19? Can they give it to me?
A small number of pets worldwide, including cats and dogs, have been reported to be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, mostly after close contact with people with COVID-19.

– Based on the information available to date, the risk of animals spreading COVID-19 to people is considered to be low.
– The virus that causes COVID-19 can spread from people to animals including pets in some situations, mostly during close contact.
– If you are sick with COVID-19 (either suspected or confirmed by a test), restrict contact with your pets and other animals, just like you would around other people.

HOW TO PROTECT AGAINST ILLNESS
Additional information is available at Michigan.gov/ContainCOVID

How can I protect myself from getting COVID-19?
The best protection against COVID-19 is vaccination.

There are steps you can take that will also help prevent COVID-19, including:

– Stay up to date with your COVID-19 vaccine and booster. Some people, like those who are moderately or severely immunocompromised, are recommended to get an additional primary dose. Find out if you're up to date with you COVID-19 vaccinations at Michigan.gov/COVIDvaccineUpToDate.
– Wearing a well-fitting mask is a proven strategy to reduce your exposure to the virus. See the Mask Guidance for more information about when you should mask.
– Wash your hands with soap and water.
– Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.
– Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or upper sleeve when coughing or sneezing.
– Avoid contact with people who are sick.
– Stay home if you are sick and contact your health care provider.
– Keep at least 6 feet away from one another to the maximum extent possible.
– Frequently clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces such as tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks.
– If you are traveling, follow the CDC's guidance at CDC.gov/Travel.

Should I wear a mask to protect myself?

Current masking recommendations are available in Updated Masking Guidance for Michiganders.
There are some situations when you should wear a mask around others:
• While in COVID-19 isolation or quarantine.
• When in high-risk congregate settings (such as long-term care and health care facilities, jails, correctional facilities, and shelters).
• When local masking guidance, policies and/or orders from local health departments, organizations, businesses, event organizers and/or school districts requires masking.

You may also **choose** to wear a mask even if you do not fit into the above categories. Your reasons for choosing a mask may be related to your health, the health of those around you, the level of risk you are

willing to tolerate, or a sense of consideration for those around you who may be vulnerable. MDHHS supports those who wish to continue masking whatever their reasons may be.

MDHHS has provided [guidance for understanding your personal and household risk](#).

How should I clean my home to prevent the spread of COVID-19?
[Clean and disinfect](#) frequently touched surfaces daily. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets and sinks. If surfaces are dirty, clean them. Clean the area or item with soap and water or another detergent if it is dirty. Then, use a household disinfectant.

Please remember to:

- Use EPA registered cleaners that you would normally use in these areas. Most EPA registered household disinfectants should be effective. A full list of disinfectants can be found [here](#).
- Read and follow product labels for safe use. More is not always better!
- Keep all cleaning products locked away from children.
- Never mix bleach (chlorine) products with other chemicals. This can create toxic fumes.
- **In the event of a poison emergency**, contact the Michigan Poison Center at 800-2221222. If someone is unconscious or has trouble breathing, call 911 immediately.

THERAPIES TO TREAT COVID-19

Additional information is available at Michigan.gov/COVIDTherapy

There are treatment options for people who are at high-risk of severe illness from COVID-19. Learn more about the treatment options on the [State of Michigan's COVID-19 Therapeutics page.](#) COVID-19 treatment options are available for high-risk adults and children, including newborns, to reduce the risk of becoming seriously ill. **Vaccinations** remain the best way to protect a person from COVID, and are a preventative measure to reduce severity of illness and risk of hospitalization or, even, death.

Monoclonal antibodies

Monoclonal antibodies are laboratory-produced molecules engineered to serve as substitute antibodies that can restore, enhance or mimic the immune system's attack on cells. Monoclonal antibodies are designed to block viral attachment and entry into human cells, thus neutralizing the virus. It is important to talk to your doctor about therapeutics as soon as you get sick, as there is a small window in which they must be administered to be effective.

– **COVID-19 Treatment**
  Monoclonal antibody treatment is for people who have tested positive for COVID-19 and have mild to moderate symptoms. When administered to non-hospitalized patients as soon as possible after testing positive for COVID-19 and within 7 days of symptom onset, monoclonal antibody therapy may reduce symptoms and risk of hospitalizations and emergency room visits associated with COVID-19.

– **Post-exposure prophylaxis**
  Some monoclonal antibody therapies can be used to help prevent illness after being exposed to COVID-19 for those who are moderately or severely immunocompromised.

Talk to your doctor about whether you should get antibody treatment and where to get it. Providers or patients needing assistance locating an infusion site or connecting with a clinical trial, call the Monoclonal Antibody Therapy Call Center: English: 877-332-6585 | Spanish: 877-366-0310

Antiviral medications

Antiviral medications may help you recover from COVID-19 faster or prevent you from becoming seriously ill. The medication can boost the immune system, helping it fight off COVID-19 infection. Antivirals are prescribed after a person has tested positive for COVID-19 and within 5 days of symptom onset.

VACCINES

Additional information is available at Michigan.gov/COVIDVaccine

All Michiganders age 5 years and older are eligible to be vaccinated.

All Michiganders age 12 years and older are eligible to receive a booster dose.

How can I get vaccinated to protect myself from COVID-19?
All Michiganders aged 5 years and older are eligible to be vaccinated. Please visit
Michigan.gov/COVIDvaccine for the latest information about vaccination including:
- How to make an appointment for vaccination
- Frequently Asked Questions

Everyone is encouraged to stay up to date with their COVID-19 vaccinations, including additional doses for individuals who are immunocompromised and booster doses. Find out if you're up to date with you COVID-19 vaccinations at Michigan.gov/COVIDvaccineUpToDate.

After being vaccinated for COVID-19, how long before I will be protected?
It typically takes a few weeks for the body to build immunity after vaccination. That means it's possible a person could be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19 just before or just after vaccination and still get sick. This is because the vaccine has not had enough time to provide protection. People are considered fully vaccinated:

- 14 days after the second dose if given a two-dose vaccine (Pfizer, Moderna).
- 14 days after the one dose if given a one dose vaccine (Johnson & Johnson).

At this time, a booster dose is not required to be considered "fully vaccinated", but is recommended to be **up to date**. Booster doses help provide better protection from severe illness. Find out if you're up to date with you COVID-19 vaccinations at Michigan.gov/COVIDvaccineUpToDate.

Some activities are safer than others – even after being fully vaccinated. Individuals, especially those who are immunocompromised, should weigh their personal and household risk for COVID-19.

Are individuals who were vaccinated as part of a clinical trial considered fully vaccinated?
Individuals who received a full series of an active COVID-19 vaccine are considered fully vaccinated two weeks after completing the series **if** the vaccine is listed for emergency use by the World Health Organization **or** if vaccine efficacy has been independently confirmed (e.g., by a data and safety monitoring board).

- Currently the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine and the Novavax COVID-19 vaccine meet the criteria.
- Individuals who received a placebo or are not two weeks out from completing the series are not fully vaccinated.

Can I be vaccinated if I have been quarantined or isolated for suspected or confirmed COVID-19?
In general, people scheduled for COVID-19 vaccine who are exposed to SARS-CoV-2 virus (COVID-19 illness) and quarantined should reschedule vaccination after their quarantine period has ended in order to avoid the risk of exposing vaccinators to the virus. People diagnosed with SARS-CoV-2 infection (COVID-19 illness) before a scheduled vaccination should wait to be vaccinated until after recovery and the end of the isolation period to avoid the risk of exposing vaccinators to the virus.

Do I have to get the same vaccine type for my booster as I did for my initial vaccine?
No. You may choose which COVID-19 vaccine to receive for your booster dose. It is preferred to receive a Pfizer or Moderna over Johnson & Johnson for the primary series and booster doses. Individuals ages 5 through 17 years old may only receive the Pfizer booster. Some people may have a preference for the vaccine type that they originally received, and others may prefer to get a different booster. The CDC recommendation allows for mixing and matching of booster shots, meaning the booster doesn't have to be the same type of COVID-19 vaccine as your primary series. Discuss the benefits and risks of each product with your health care provider if you are unsure of which booster to get.

VARIANTS OF CONCERN
Additional information is available on the [CDC's New Variants Web Page](#)

What are variants of concern?
Viruses change through mutation, and new variants of a virus are expected to occur over time. The virus that causes COVID-19 (called SARS-CoV-2) is known to acquire, on average, one new mutation every two weeks.

How can I protect myself against new variants?
Actions that prevent the spread of COVID-19 will also prevent the spread of its new variants. Learn more about [how to protect yourself and others](#).

Can I get tested for variants of the virus that causes COVID-19?
Currently, all COVID-19 diagnostic tests can detect all variants, but they will not tell you which variant you have. If you test positive for COVID-19, your sample may be sent to a lab for sequencing to determine which variant is present.

How are new variants identified?
The MDHHS Bureau of Laboratories (BOL) conducts surveillance to quickly identify any variants of concern. The MDHHS BOL looks for variants among people who test positive for COVID-19. CDC is contracting with large commercial diagnostic labs to sequence samples across the United States. Other academic centers also conduct sequencing to identify variants.

TESTING FOR THE VIRUS

Additional information is available on the Michigan.gov/CoronavirusTest

Information about home testing in Public Guidance for At-Home COVID Testing

What do I do if I think I need to be tested for COVID-19?
Most people are eligible to be tested for COVID-19, even if they don't have symptoms. Look for a testing site using the Testing Site Look Up Tool or call the COVID-19 hotline at 888-535-6136 (press option 2) for help finding a site near you.

When will I get my test results?
Test result time varies based on which test you took and which lab performed the test. When you get tested, ask the health care provider or test site team how long it may take and how you will get your results. **Your health care provider or test site medical team will provide you with your results.** Due to privacy laws, laboratories, including the state lab (MDHHS Bureau of Laboratories), will not be able to provide you with results over the phone, even if the test is conducted there. If your symptoms get worse while you are waiting for results, contact your health care provider.

How will I get my test results?
Your health care provider or the test site medical team will provide your results to you. Make sure to ask how you will receive your results when you get tested.

Can I take a COVID-19 test at home?
Yes. There are home test kits available over the counter, but your doctor, school or employer may ask you to take an additional test to confirm your test result. Follow instructions in the At Home Testing Guidelines for the Public.

- If you test **positive**, it is important that you take steps right away to protect family, friends, coworkers, and others around you – like calling people you may have exposed, staying home and wearing a well-fitting mask. You may qualify for COVID-19 treatments that could reduce the risk of severe disease.
- A **negative** self-test result means that the test did not detect the COVID-19 virus and you may not have an infection, but it does not rule out a COVID-19 infection. Repeating the test within a few days, with at least 24 hours between tests, will increase the confidence that you are not infected. If you tested while you had symptoms and followed instructions carefully, a negative result means your current illness is probably not COVID-19.
- Use an FDA authorized At-Home Over the Counter test.

I heard I don't need a prescription to be tested?
In Michigan, we want anyone who needs a test to get one. Testing is available across the state. Most people are eligible to be tested for COVID-19, even if they don't have symptoms.

What do I do if I am sick and do not have a health care provider?
You can seek treatment at an urgent care facility. To get tested, you can find a testing site with the [Testing Site Look Up Tool](#) or call the COVID-19 hotline at 888-535-6136 for help finding a site near you.

How is a sample collected to test for COVID-19?
The are several [tests](#) and collection methods authorized by the FDA. Most tests use a nasopharyngeal, nasal, nasal swab, throat swab, or saliva test to collect the sample. In some situations, samples can be self-collected to reduce exposure to the health care workers supervising the collection. In other situations, a health care worker may take the sample for you in your vehicle or in an office. With any method, workers wear personal protective equipment PPE to protect themselves from exposure.

I had a rapid test and was instructed to be tested again even though the result was negative. What does this mean?
All COVID-19 tests, rapid or other, may require follow up testing. For example, if your virus level was low (this can be the case very early into your illness) the test may not be able to detect the virus. Follow the instructions of your doctor or test administrator to stay healthy – even if that means taking second test.

Do the COVID-19 tests ever produce false negatives?
Yes, sometimes. It is possible to receive a false negative test result – or to be too early in your illness for the test to be able to detect a positive. If you receive a negative test result and continue to have symptoms or are otherwise concerned about your health, call your doctor to consider being retested or to be tested for another illness.

What is antibody testing and how can I be tested?
Antibody testing is different than diagnostic testing for COVID-19. Antibodies can be found in the blood and in other tissues days or weeks **after** being infected with a virus. This can be useful to understand how illness affects the population as a whole, but it cannot be used to diagnose individuals or predict whether you may be protected from a future COVID-19 infection.

What we know:
- The FDA has authorized several antibody tests. There are also several tests on the market that have not been authorized.
- There are places in Michigan offering antibody testing, but there is no information about which test is being used, or if they may be using an unapproved test.
- An antibody test cannot help your doctor decide how to treat you or if it safe to return to work.

What we don't know:
- How good the current antibody tests are at detecting COVID-19 in individuals.
- If detection of antibodies means you have had COVID-19, or if it will detect other coronaviruses (like the common cold) that you may have had in the past.
- If detection of antibodies means you can still spread COVID-19.
- If detection of antibodies means you are immune to COVID-19.

If you have symptoms of COVID-19, like cough, fever and shortness of breath, you should contact your doctor and seek testing for COVID-19. Diagnostic testing for COVID-19 can ensure you get the right medical treatment, unlike antibody testing. You can find antibody testing sites at Michigan.gov/CoronavirusTest. If you choose to get tested, please understand the limitations of antibody testing and continue to protect yourself regardless of the result.

ISOLATION AND QUARANTINE
Additional information is available at Michigan.gov/ContainCOVID

If I am exposed to the virus, how long do I have to quarantine?

If you are exposed to someone who is positive for COVID-19 and:

Exposure is to a **personal/household contact:**
- Conduct symptom monitoring for 10 days; and
- Test at least one time if possible 3-7 days after exposure and if symptoms develop; and
- Wear a well-fitting mask for 10 days from the date of last exposure to protect others (home quarantine is an alternative for those who are unable or unwilling to mask); and
- Avoid unmasked activities or activities with higher risk of exposing vulnerable individuals** for 10 days from the date of last exposure

Exposure is to **other type of contact** (from a community, social or work setting):
- Conduct symptom monitoring for 10 days; and
- Test if symptoms develop; and
- Consider wearing and well-fitting mask around others for 10 days from the date of last exposure to protect others. At a minimum, wear a mask in settings with higher risk of exposing vulnerable individuals.

   ***Activities with higher risk of exposing vulnerable individuals** may include activities where you cannot mask, interactions with those who are immunocompromised or other high-risk individuals, and social/recreational activities in congregate settings.*

Who is considered a personal/household contact?
Personal/household contacts include individuals you share living spaces with, including bedrooms, bathrooms, living rooms and kitchens. It also includes those who live together, sleep over, carpool or have direct exposure to respiratory secretions from a positive individual (e.g. kissing, sharing drinks, changing diapers, etc...). This would include exposure in childcare settings for those under 2 years of age.

Should I get tested if I have to quarantine after being exposed to COVID-19?
If exposure is to a personal/household contact, test at least one time 3-7 days after exposure, if possible. If you develop symptoms, you should get tested.

What will happen if the local health department contacts me about COVID-19?
As public health capacity allows, local health departments may contact Michiganders who have tested positive and their contacts to check on health status, provide information about COVID-19, help identify needed services, and track the spread of infection in your community. They need to speak with the person directly impacted by COVID-19. If that person is not available, they may ask to speak to a spouse, parent or other trusted person.

Please also be on alert for scammers spoofing numbers from the local health departments (it appears as if the caller is calling from a recognizable number to encourage you to pick up the phone). MDHHS wants you to be aware that legitimate calls from the local health departments will **not**:
  – Ask for personal financial information such as a social security number or driver's license number.
  – Offer medication for prevention of COVID-19.
  – Ask for Medicaid or other insurance information for billing purposes.

How do I monitor myself for symptoms?
Screen yourself for symptoms of respiratory illness. If you develop symptoms and are concerned about your health, immediately isolate from others and contact your health care provider or get tested.

I have COVID-19 and have been isolating. When is it safe for me to leave my home?

Any individuals who tests positive for COVID-19 and/or displays COVID-19 symptoms (without an alternate diagnosis or negative COVID-19 test) should isolate regardless of vaccination status:

  • Isolate at home for the first 5 days (starting with the day after symptoms began or day after test was taken for those without symptoms); and
  • If symptoms have improved or no symptoms developed, return to normal activities, while wearing a well-fitted mask for the next 5 days to protect others.

  AND

  • If individual has a fever, stay home until fever free for a period of 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications before returning to normal activities while wearing a well-fitted mask, until the 10-day period is complete.

  OR

  • Isolate at home for 10 days if unwilling/unable to wear a mask.

Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 should also notify others whom they had contact with during the time they were contagious (beginning 2 days before symptoms started or testing positive if no symptoms are present). Prioritize notifying individuals who are personal/household contacts and immunocompromised or high-risk individuals.

Someone in my household was exposed (as a personal/household contact) to someone who tested positive for COVID-19. What should I do?
That exposed person in the household should follow quarantine guidance for a personal/household contact and appropriate precautions for cleaning, hand hygiene, and respiratory etiquette. If you receive any instructions from that person's employer or the local health department, follow them carefully. Others in the home are not required to quarantine. If anyone in the home experiences symptoms, isolate and get tested immediately.

EMPLOYMENT

Additional information about the workplace safety guidelines is available at Michigan.gov/LEO

Can my employer require me to bring a doctor's note (or negative test result) to return to work after I have been sick?
In Michigan, employers are not required to demand a doctor's note for employees to return to work following illness. If your employer requests a doctor's note, we encourage you to first work towards a resolution with your employer. If you are unable to resolve the issue, contact Michigan's Wage and Hour Division of Employment Relations at 517-284-7800. Learn more about workplace safety during COVID-19.

Does the State of Michigan require health care providers to have patients tested for COVID-19 prior to performing a surgery/procedure?
No. There is no State requirement for patient testing prior to a procedure, but people undergoing surgery are eligible for testing before a surgery or procedure. Hospitals and health care facilities may have their own rules for testing prior to medical procedures.

Health care providers use professional judgement to determine whether or not testing is reasonable prior to a procedure. If you have a procedure scheduled, you should contact your doctor if you have questions about your procedure, including any potential testing.

I have an employee who was diagnosed with COVID-19? What should I do next?
You should let your employees know that they may have been exposed to COVID-19. Do not identify the person with COVID-19. Make sure your employees are advised of the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and to stay home and get tested if they show symptoms of COVID-19.

- Employers should know the relevant laws and guidance for reopening their business.
- Employees (non-health care) who have symptoms of COVID-19 or have been diagnosed with COVID-19 should not return to work until release from isolation criteria is met.

Do I need to close my business if someone that works here is diagnosed with COVID19?

Not necessarily. You should immediately close the area where the employee worked and perform a thorough cleaning (wait 24 hours before cleaning or as long as possible):

- Clean all frequently touched surfaces including workstations, countertops, doorknobs, and elevator buttons.
- Use cleaning agents that are usually used per your industry standards and follow the directions on the label.
- [Detailed cleaning guidance](#) is available from the CDC. Remember to follow guidelines for communicating with employees and when the employee can return to work. Contact your local health department with any additional questions.
- Employers should know the relevant laws and guidance for reopening their business.
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Can I be fired for not coming to work if I have COVID-19?

No. You cannot be fired for not coming to work if:

- You have COVID-19.
- You have symptoms of COVID-19.
- You are caring for someone in your household who has COVID-19.
- You have been exposed to COVID-19.

DATA

Additional information is available at Michigan.gov/Coronavirus

What does the outbreak data on the website mean?
Numbers of outbreaks are reported to MDHHS by local health departments every week. In general, a COVID-19 outbreak is: two or more cases connected by place and time indicating a shared exposure outside of a household. For example, two new COVID-19 cases where it has been identified they visited the same restaurant on the same day, would be reported as an outbreak.

Outbreak data is presented in two tables:

1. The number of new outbreaks
    – Identified in the current reporting week.
    – Reported by setting and emergency preparedness region.
2. The number of ongoing outbreaks
    – Identified in previous weeks, but have had at least one new associated case reported in the last two weeks.
    – After two weeks with no new cases, the outbreak is considered closed and removed from the ongoing outbreaks.
    – Reported by setting and emergency preparedness region.

New and ongoing outbreaks are only counted once: new outbreaks are not also counted in the ongoing outbreak category. To learn more about outbreak data in your area, review the local data on your local health department website.

What is percent positivity and how is it used?
Percent positivity is the percentage of all COVID-19 diagnostic tests that are positive on a given day. This metric indicates whether enough tests are being done to detect most new cases. If enough diagnostic testing is being conducted each day, a low percent positivity (less than 3%) over a period of time can give us confidence that the spread of disease is under control.

Epidemiologists watch the percent positivity over weeks within an area since the number can fluctuate daily based on the number of tests performed.
– *Where can I find percent positivity data?*
  Percent positivity is posted on the "Confirmatory Testing" tab at [Michigan.gov/Coronavirus.](Michigan.gov/Coronavirus)
– *How is percent positivity calculated?*
  Percent positivity is the number of positive diagnostic tests in a given day divided by the total number of diagnostic tests performed that day.
    o Number of positive tests / Total number of tests performed in the same day = Percent positivity.

- o   Percent positivity data may include results from people who have tested positive more than one time, since that information is helpful in deciding if there are enough tests being performed. **However**, each individual is only included in the confirmed case count once.
- *Do other states follow percent positivity calculations?*
  Yes, percent positivity is important to epidemiologists across the country and worldwide. You can find national numbers for percent positivity on the [CDC data tracker](#).