

# Update for Saginaw County Officials 4/3/2020

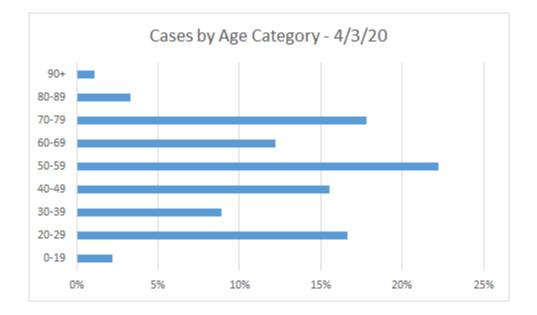
## Cases in Saginaw Co.

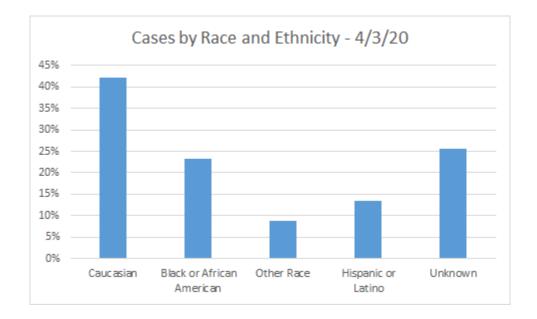
As of today, Saginaw County Health Department has been informed that 90 Saginaw County residents have tested positive for COVID-19. To date, 648 residents have been tested, with 186 negative results, 90 positives, and 372 pending.

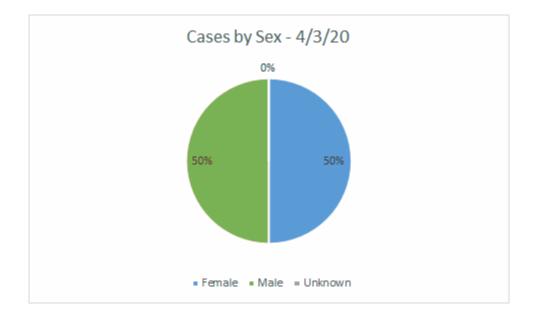
All testing from private labs may not be included in these numbers. Some pending tests may be for people who live out of the county.

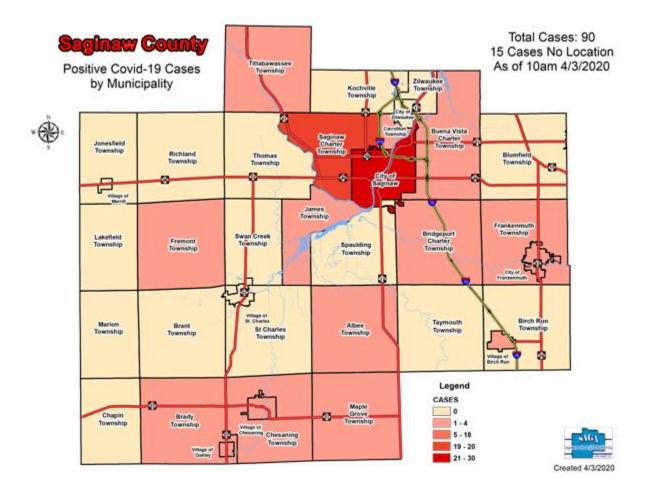
#### **County-Wide Data**

Due to the number of confirmed cases in the county, we are now able to share COVID-19 data broken down by zip code, age, gender and race. The information will be available on our website and we hope to update it daily going forward.









## **Medical Command and Control**

We want to put some perspective around the issue of personal protective equipment (PPE) and talk of shortages at both the local and state level. During periods of shortage, we will be asking those on the front lines of fighting COVID-19 to consider using PPE beyond its designated shelf life, decontaminating and reusing equipment, and deploying unconventional substitutes.

While Medical Command and Control develops a plan for optimization of PPE for Saginaw, the Michigan Department of Health & Human Services is providing strategies that can be utilized by healthcare workers. Here are some highlights of those strategies (available in full at <u>Michigan.gov/coronavirus</u>):

#### N-95 Respirators:

• Consider use of N-95 respirators beyond the manufacturer-designated shelf life.

- Consider limited re-use of N-95 respirators for COVID-19 patients according to CDC guidance.
- Decontamination and reuse of N-95 respirators according to CDC guidance may be considered.
- As a last resort, it may be necessary to use masks that have never been evaluated or approved by NIOSH.

## **Eye Protection:**

- Consider extending use of eye protection without removing between patient contacts.
- Prioritize eye protection for selected activities such as where splashes and sprays are anticipated.
- Consider using safety glasses (trauma glasses) that have extensions to cover the side of the eyes.

#### **Isolation Gowns:**

- Consider shifting disposable gowns to cloth isolation gowns (may require laundry operations personnel).
- Consider use of coveralls (requires training and practice prior to use).
- Consider use of isolation gowns so that it is worn by the same healthcare provider when interacting with more than one patient known to be infected with the same infectious disease when the patients are cohorted in the same location.

We will keep you updated as Medical Command and Control unrolls its county-wide plan.

If the Saginaw County Health Department can help you in any way to better protect citizens and staff and prevent the spread of COVID-19, please reach out to us. I also encourage you to refer to our website at <u>www.saginawpublichealth.org</u> and our Facebook page. We continue to post executive orders, timely information and videos to answer some of the most urgent questions we are receiving from partners and the public.

Be well.

Christina Harrington, MPH - Health Officer

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