



# STATE OF MICHIGAN JOINT INFORMATION CENTER

## NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**May 6, 2009, 5:30 p.m.**  
**Release #: 16**

### **State of Michigan Scales Back Emergency Response to Influenza A (H1N1) Outbreak**

*Michigan continues to closely monitor Influenza A (H1N1) activity*

LANSING, Mich. – Governor Jennifer M. Granholm today announced the state's Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and Joint Information Center (JIC) will be deactivated at the close of business today. The SEOC was partially activated beginning April 27 and the JIC was activated April 28 as a precaution to protect citizens and provide information in response to the Influenza A (H1N1) outbreak.

The Michigan Department of Community Health Emergency Coordination Center (CHECC) will remain fully activated with reduced staffing levels to oversee reporting of potential Influenza A (H1N1) cases in Michigan and provide public health officials with updated information.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has determined that most U.S. cases of Influenza A (H1N1) have not been severe and are comparable in severity to seasonal influenza. Currently, the State of Michigan has eight confirmed cases of Influenza A (H1N1) and 47 probable cases.

The Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) continues to encourage citizens to follow common-sense steps to prevent spreading any type of influenza, including:

- Stay home from work or school if you are sick;
- Wash your hands frequently;

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- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you sneeze or cough, and throw the tissue in the trash after you have used it;
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth;
- Try to avoid close contact with people who appear sick.

The SEOC was staffed by members of several state agencies to monitor the outbreak with local, state and federal agencies. The SEOC, located in Lansing, coordinates response and recovery efforts of state agencies and local government. The Michigan Department of State Police Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division oversees the SEOC.

The JIC served as the state's central communications hub. It was staffed by public information officers from various state agencies. They were responsible for gathering, monitoring and disseminating information to keep the public aware of any and all developments relating to the outbreak. MDCH will begin addressing all Influenza A (H1N1) media inquiries on May 7.

Citizens can call the Michigan 2-1-1 public information line regarding this outbreak of Influenza A (H1N1) virus. Michigan 2-1-1, sponsored by the Michigan Association of United Ways, is available 24-hours per day, seven days per week. Those not in the 2-1-1 coverage area can call the 2-1-1 toll free number at (800) 552-1183.

Additional information is available online at [www.michigan.gov/h1n1flu](http://www.michigan.gov/h1n1flu) or [www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu](http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu).

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**NOTE: BEGINNING MAY 7 – ALL MEDIA INQUIRIES SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO MDCH AT (517) 241-2112.**