



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Weekly COVID-19 Risk Update

KEARNEY – Two Rivers Public Health updated the weekly risk dial on Wednesday, November 17, 2021. The risk dial remains in the red “Pandemic” level of risk.



Risk Dial for COVID-19
Two Rivers Public Health
Published Nov 17, 2021

- 384 cases of COVID-19 were recorded in TRPHD between November 10 - November 16. This is over 25% increase from the weekly average recorded in September and October.
- Testing access has increased across Buffalo County, resulting in a steady lowering of the positivity rate, unlike in Dawson, Phelps and Gosper counties, where between a quarter and a third of all tests conducted outside long term care facilities were positive in the last week. The COVID case rate as a proportion of the population in Nebraska is twice the national average.
- Only 1 out of 28 ICU beds are currently available across TRPHD, almost 40% of ICU beds in use are occupied by COVID patients. Across TRPHD, less than 25% of the medical and surgical in-patient beds are currently available. Staffing shortages continue to impede efforts to expand bed availability, both in Two Rivers district and across Nebraska.
- A public COVID testing site is now open in Kearney city at the Buffalo County Fairgrounds. Testing results will be available the same day and are offered Mondays & Wednesdays 9:30AM - 12:30PM. Those desirous of COVID testing are requested to register at www.trphd.org for scheduling.
- As of Oct 5, 2021, 47% of TRPHD’s total population and almost 59% of the adult population (18+ years) has received minimum doses as recommended (1 or 2 as indicated), compared to about 57% of the entire state population. TRPHD strongly urges all unvaccinated vaccine-eligible residents to avail of the COVID vaccination through their healthcare provider, pharmacy or TRPHD. For schedule of vaccination clinics, see www.trphd.org
- For these reasons, the risk dial is increased slightly from last week in the ‘pandemic’ zone. The increased dial reading reflects weekly case incidence, drop in ICU availability and the higher hospitalization rates across the county.

ABOUT TWO RIVERS PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Two Rivers Public Health Department engages collaborative partners, community leaders and the public to promote healthy lifestyles, provide preventative education, assure environmental quality, and create more healthy and safe communities for all who live within the district. Follow TRPHD on Facebook and Twitter @2RPHD

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