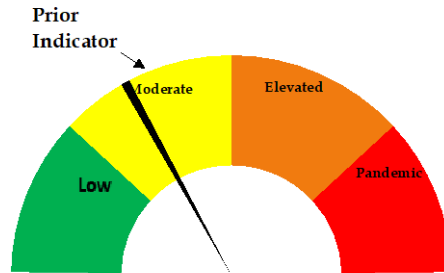


Risk Dial Apr 15, 2021



**Risk Dial for COVID-19**  
**Two Rivers Public Health**  
**Published April 15, 2021**

- ICU bed occupancy is over 60% across TRPHD, but COVID-related admissions have remained below 5% for the past 5 weeks (see <https://www.trphd.org/> for details). There are no COVID patients on ventilator support currently.
- The recent outbreak of cases in congregate living facilities continue to be investigated.
  - Positivity rates among older residents has increased, and there seems to be an observed uptick in reinfection cases reported to contact tracers.
- Testing utilization continues to drop across the districts. Testing sites are reassessing routine scheduling due to a precipitous drop in demand. Positivity rates have increased for tests conducted outside of residential facilities although overall rates are still below 10%. We are monitoring new cases and tracing connected cases and potential contacts as before. See weekly report (Apr 7 - Apr 13) at <https://www.trphd.org/covid-19/weekly-reports.html> for details.
- As of April 13, 2021, one out of every three eligible residents of TRPHD has been fully vaccinated. TRPHD is the fourth-largest health department in Nebraska, and the first to fully vaccinate over a third of its residents. See weekly vaccination report at <https://www.trphd.org/covid-19/vaccination-reports.html> for details.
- For these reasons, the risk dial is downgraded from the previous week, although risk is still assessed to be “moderate”.

*The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services has paused use of the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) COVID-19 vaccine after Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recommendations following reports of six women who have been hospitalized with severe blood clots after receiving the vaccine dose, including one woman in Douglas county. The women were aged between 18-48 years.*

*To date, over 6.8 million doses of Janssen vaccine have been administered in the United States, over 31,500 in Nebraska, and 1560 in Two Rivers Health District.*

*Symptoms in the 6 hospitalized individuals included fever, malaise, headache, back pain and other unexplained pain. Symptoms typically began 6-13 days after vaccination, and hospital admission was within 15 days, on average. More than 55% of the Janssen vaccine was administered before 22nd of March in Two Rivers Health District*



## Weekly report Apr 7 – Apr 13, 2021

### Overview

The weekly report will look at COVID-19 cases in TRPHD across different time periods, presenting graphs showing daily progress of cases and a weekly summary in conclusion

- The tables describe total tests conducted and positive cases across TRPHD. We show positive cases and tests conducted by county, age and gender from **April 7 – April 13** (1 week) and **March 16 – April 13** (4 weeks). We describe cases in residential facilities separately from other residents of the district.
- The first set of graphs look at the progress of the pandemic from **April 1, 2020 – April 13, 2021** (1 year) across all counties.
  - We describe the 7-day rolling average <sup>1</sup> of positive cases across TRPHD since April, describing cases by age categories (**1 year**)
- The second graph describes the **total tests conducted** and **positives detected (7-day rolling average)** from **November 11 – April 13** for each of the seven counties in Two Rivers Health District. Only tests conducted outside residential facilities are considered. Also displayed is the weekly **test positivity rate**.
  - Positivity rate is for all tests conducted outside residential facilities <sup>3</sup>
- The third set of graphs describe the daily average of cases (7-day rolling average) from **March 9 – April 6**.
  - Progress is described by age, county and city of residence.
  - Also depicted are countywide rates per 100,000 population and citywide rates per 10,000 population.
- The final graph shows positive cases in **Residential facilities**, displaying each week's cases by the county where the facility is located (Oct – Mar) <sup>2</sup>

*COVID test positivity rate has increased over the past three weeks, especially in Phelps and Kearney counties, although overall test positivity rate is still below 10% for the district. Increased incidence among seniors (65+) is worrying. Test utilization has dropped further for both TestNebraska and private hospitals. Vaccinations are now offered to everyone over 16 years of age in the district, and 34.3% of the district is fully vaccinated. Those eligible for the vaccine are advised to contact their physician or register at Two Rivers Health Department ([www.trphd.org](http://www.trphd.org)). In the meantime, residents are advised to continue to adhere to strict preventive measures (social distancing, correct and consistent masking) at all times to protect themselves and others.*

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<sup>1</sup> 7-day rolling average refers to the sum of the cases reported on that day and the preceding 6 days divided by 7. This number is presented for each day to 'smooth out' the line for cases.

<sup>2</sup> For information on residential facilities, please see appendix 3



### Testing & Vaccination Overview

- As of Apr 13, over 44,500 residents of Two Rivers Health District were tested at least once for COVID-19. Over 122,000 tests have been conducted since March 1, 2020, almost 11,000 of these tests were positive.<sup>3</sup> TRPHD has publicly notified 118 deaths due to COVID across the district.
- As of April 13, 34.5% of TRPHD’s eligible population (including almost 80% of residents aged 65 and over) has been fully vaccinated. TRPHD is the first health department in Nebraska to fully vaccinate over a third of its eligible population.

Details of all tests conducted in Two Rivers’ Health District the past 1 week and 4 weeks is displayed below

	Apr 7 - Apr 13 (1 week)			Mar 16 - Apr 13 (4 weeks)		
	Total Tests	Positive Results	Positivity Rate	Total Tests	Positive Results	Positivity Rate
Hospital/ Clinic	504	36	7.1%	1534	127	8.3%
TestNebraska	80	26	32.5%	290	55	19.0%
Residential Facility	1446	16	1.1%	4382	25	0.6%
Lab/ Pharmacy	65	2	3.1%	470	11	2.3%
Other	80	3	3.8%	255	11	4.3%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2175</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>3.8%</b>	<b>6,931</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>3.3%</b>

- A total of 6798 tests were availed by residents and staff of long-term care and other **residential facilities** in the last 4 weeks. Details are provided below:

Residential Facility In:	Apr 7 - Apr 13 (1 week)			Mar 16 - Apr 13 (4 weeks)		
	Total Tests	Positive Results	Positivity Rate	Total Tests	Positive Results	Positivity Rate
Buffalo	576	14	2.4%	2129	16	0.8%
Dawson	160	0	0.0%	619	1	0.2%
Franklin	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%
Gosper	19	0	0.0%	30	0	0.0%
Harlan	40	0	0.0%	144	0	0.0%
Kearney	181	0	0.0%	283	0	0.0%
Phelps	398	1	0.3%	917	2	0.2%
Outside TRPHD	72	1	1.4%	260	6	2.3%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1446</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1.1%</b>	<b>4382</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>0.6%</b>

<sup>3</sup> Note: The minor differences between the numbers reported and totals displayed on [www.trphd.org](http://www.trphd.org) dashboards is explained by testing in residential facilities and isolated rapid test results that are not reflected in the state’s public dashboards. Tests of persons missing date of birth are excluded from the analysis



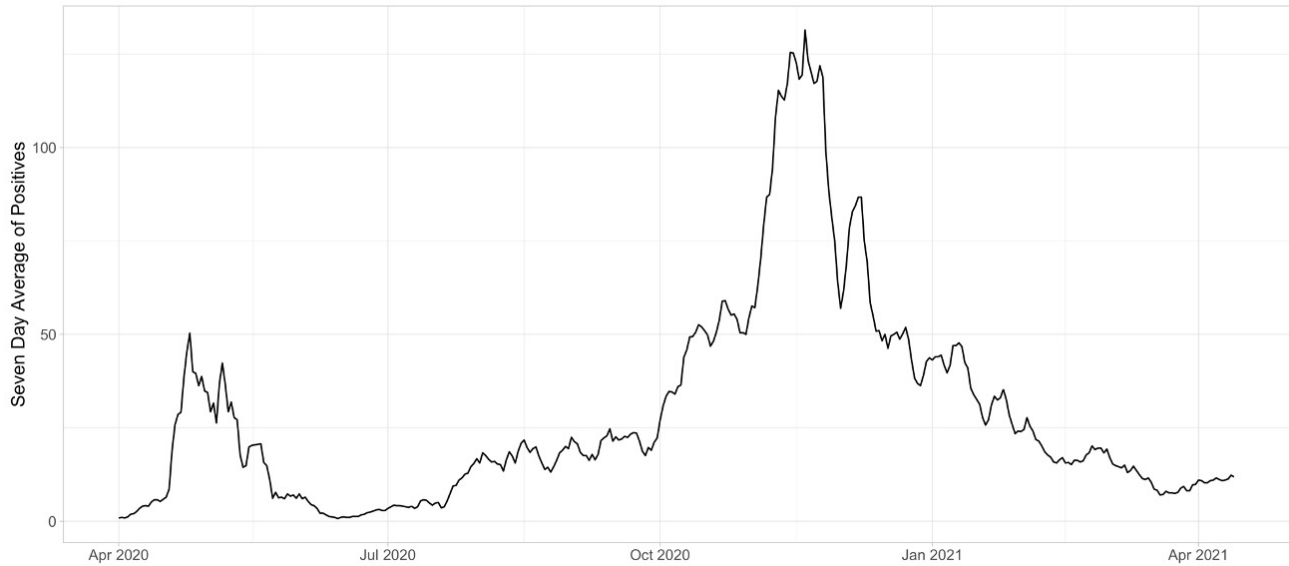
Excluding residential facilities, a total of 3801 tests were conducted in the past 4 weeks. The following table gives details of positive cases in the past week and past 4 weeks by county, age categories and gender.

	Apr 7 - Apr 13 (1 week)			Mar 16 - Apr 13 (4 weeks)		
	Total tests conducted	Positive cases	P. rate (%)	Total tests conducted	Positive cases	P. rate (%)
<b>County</b>						
Buffalo	451	44	9.8%	1431	120	8.4%
Dawson	182	6	3.3%	746	34	4.6%
Franklin	12	1	8.3%	35	1	2.9%
Gosper	4	0	0.0%	21	1	4.8%
Harlan	12	1	8.3%	37	5	13.5%
Kearney	23	6	26.1%	89	10	11.2%
Phelps	39	9	23.1%	179	32	17.9%
Data missing/ not disclosed	6	0	0.0%	11	1	9.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>729</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>9.2%</b>	<b>2,549</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>8.0%</b>
<b>Age (in yrs)</b>						
0-17	104	8	7.7%	328	13	4.0%
18-29	211	15	7.1%	718	50	7.0%
30-39	102	10	9.8%	402	38	9.5%
40-49	92	7	7.6%	319	27	8.5%
50-59	85	4	4.7%	319	25	7.8%
60-69	68	5	7.4%	254	19	7.5%
70-79	42	7	16.7%	133	12	9.0%
80-89	17	6	35.3%	52	12	23.1%
90+	8	5	62.5%	24	8	33.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>729</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>9.2%</b>	<b>2,549</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>8.0%</b>
<b>Gender</b>						
Female	424	44	10.4%	1411	106	7.5%
Male	304	23	7.6%	1128	98	8.7%
Data missing/ not disclosed	1	0	0.0%	10	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>729</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>9.2%</b>	<b>2,549</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>8.0%</b>

- The graph below describes 7-day rolling average of COVID-19 across TRPHD from **April 1, 2020 - April 13, 2021**.
- The second graph describes 7-day rolling average of COVID-19 cases by age across TRPHD for the same time period. The height of the graph corresponds to total cases and the thickness of each colored band corresponds to each age group.

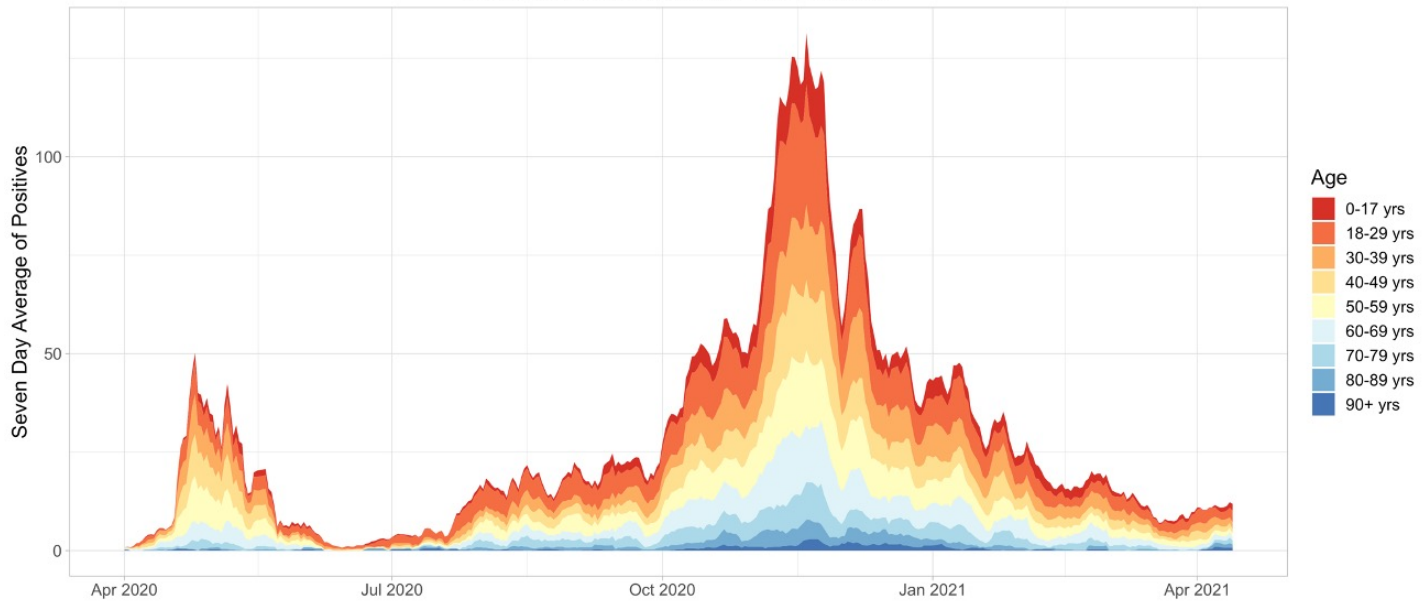
**7 Day Rolling Average of Two Rivers**

Graph displays data from April 1st to April 13th



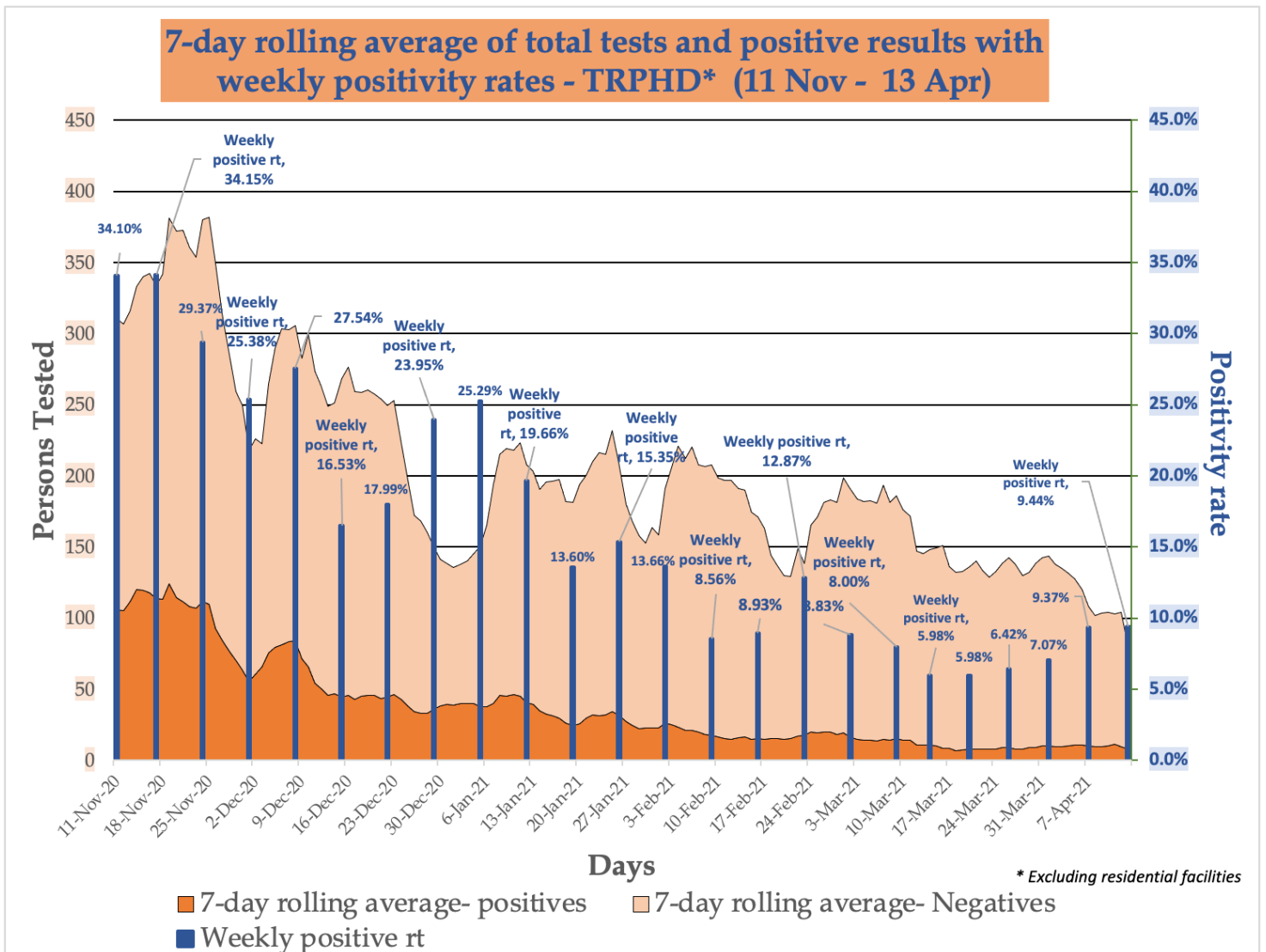
**7 Day Rolling Average of COVID-19 Cases in Two Rivers by Age**

Graph displays data from April 1st to April 13th



Information Updated as of 4/13 at 8 p.m.

- The graph below describes the **total tests conducted** across Two Rivers Health District, divided into **negative and positive results received** <sup>4</sup> from **November 11 to March 9**. The height of the graph corresponds to all tests done that week (7-day rolling average) and the two colors denote negative and positive results.
- Also shown is the **weekly test positivity rate**, denoted by vertical bars on the x-axis (right). Only tests outside of residential facilities were included.



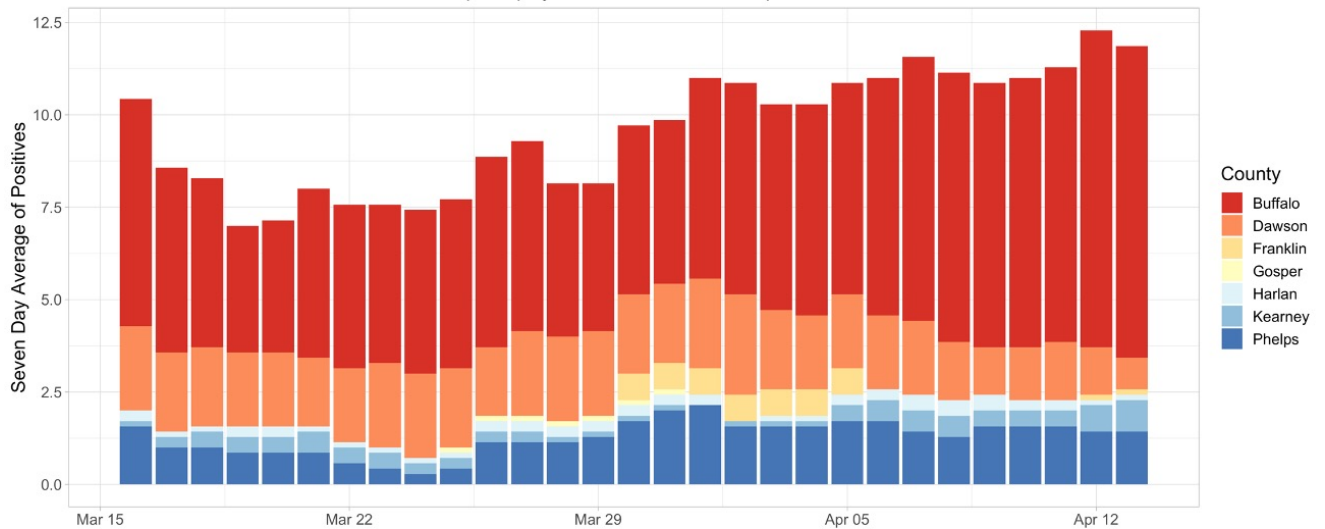
<sup>4</sup> For information on total tests and test positivity rate, please see appendix 1  
516 W 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 108  
Kearney, NE 68845



- The following bar graph describes the 7-day rolling averages of COVID-19 cases by county for the past four weeks (Mar 16 – Apr 13).
- The second graph describes the same data per 100,000 population.<sup>5</sup>

### 7 Day Rolling Average of COVID-19 Cases in Two Rivers by County

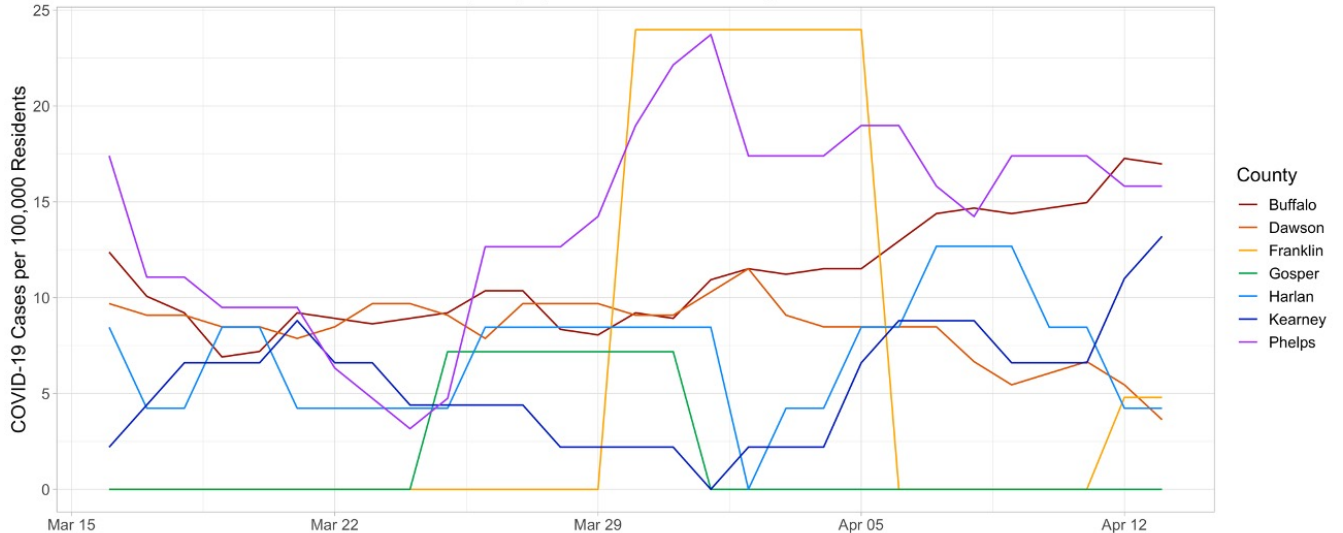
Graph displays data from Mar 16th to April 13th



Information Updated as of 4/13 at 8 p.m.

### 7 Day Rolling Average of COVID-19 Cases Per 100,000 Resident in Two Rivers by County

Graph displays data from Mar 16th to April 13th



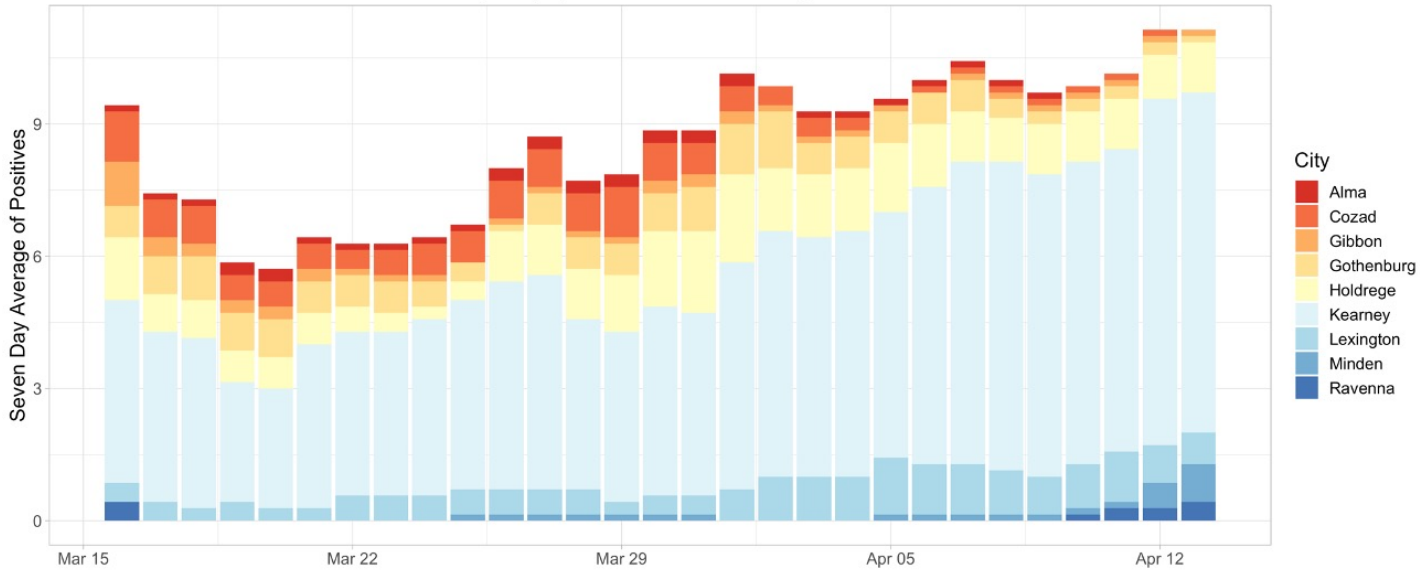
Information Updated as of 4/13 at 8 p.m.

<sup>5</sup> Please note: When comparing counties, we describe rates per 100,000 population. This is roughly equal to the total population of Two Rivers Health Department (~97,000)

- The following bar graphs describes the 7-day rolling averages by city for the past four weeks (Mar 16 - Apr 13) in TRPHD. The graph above shows cities with population above 1100 and the one below shows the graph for cities with less than 1100 residents. The scale is different for both graphs.

### 7 Day Rolling Average of COVID-19 Cases in Cities > 1,100 Residents

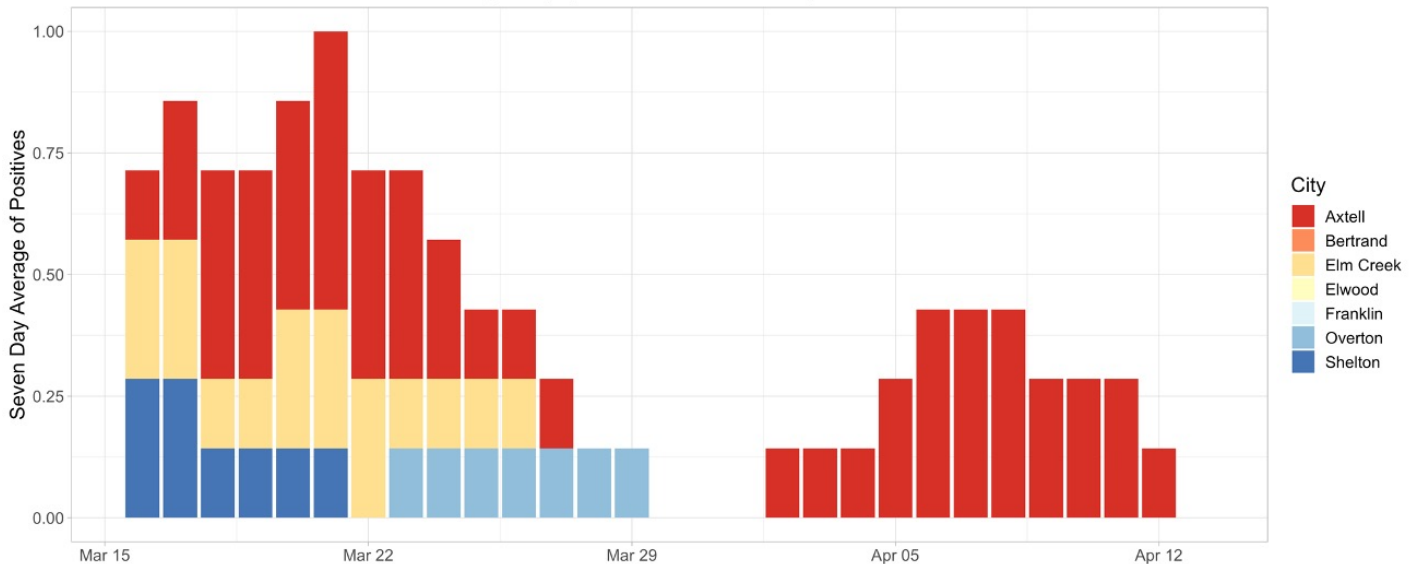
Graph displays data from Mar 16th to April 13th



Information Updated as of 4/13 at 8 p.m.

### 7 Day Rolling Average of COVID-19 Cases in Cities with 500-1,099 in Residents

Graph displays data from Mar 16th to April 13th



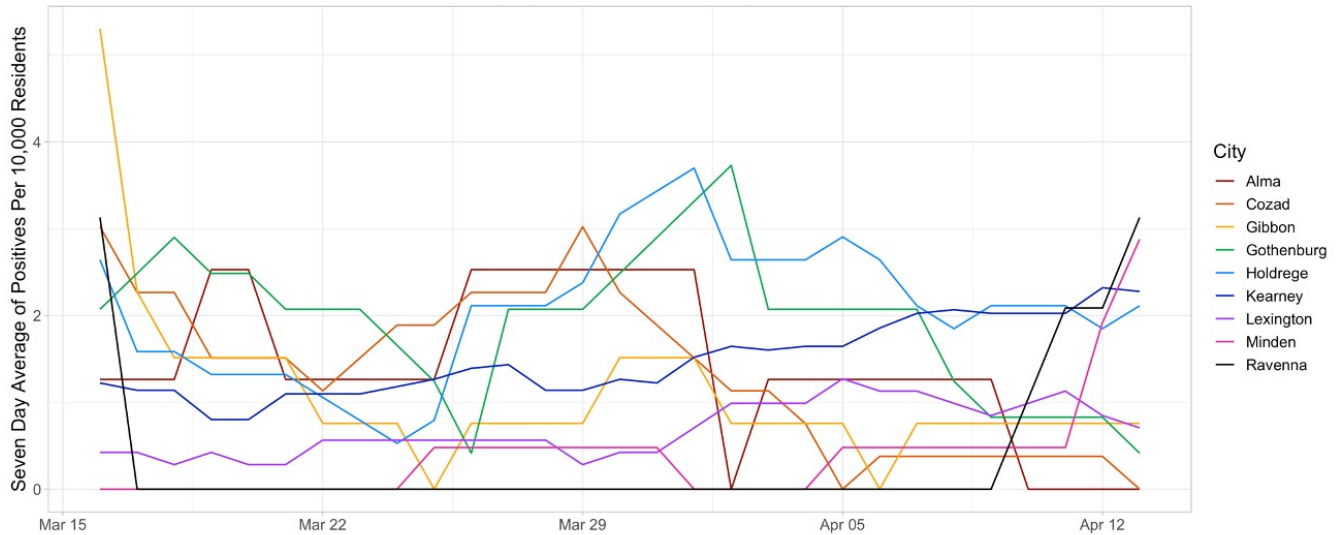
Information Updated as of 4/13 at 8 p.m.



- The following line graph describes the 7-day rolling average of COVID cases per 10,000 population in cities across TRPHD for the past four weeks (Mar 9 – Apr 6) <sup>6</sup>
- The graph above shows cities with population above 1100 and the one below shows the graph for cities with less than 1100 residents. The scale is different for both graphs.

**7 Day Rolling Average of COVID-19 Cases  
Per 10,000 Residents in Cities > 1,100 Residents**

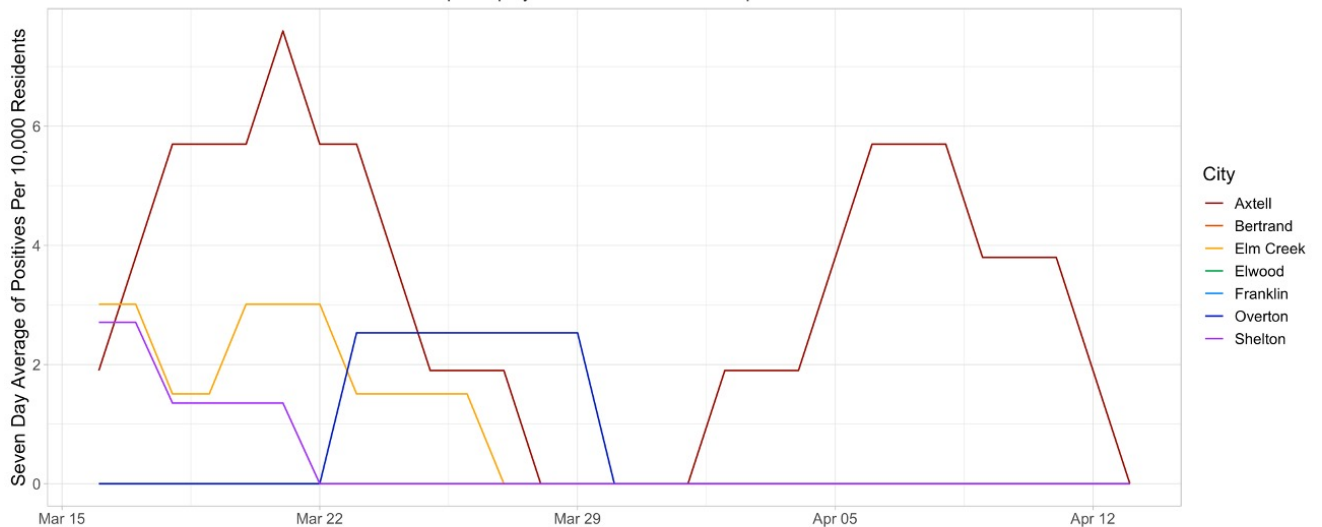
Graph displays data from Mar 16th to April 13th



Information Updated as of 4/13 at 8 p.m.

**7 Day Rolling Average of COVID-19 Cases  
Per 10,000 Residents in Cities with 500-1,099 in Residents**

Graph displays data from Mar 16th to April 13th



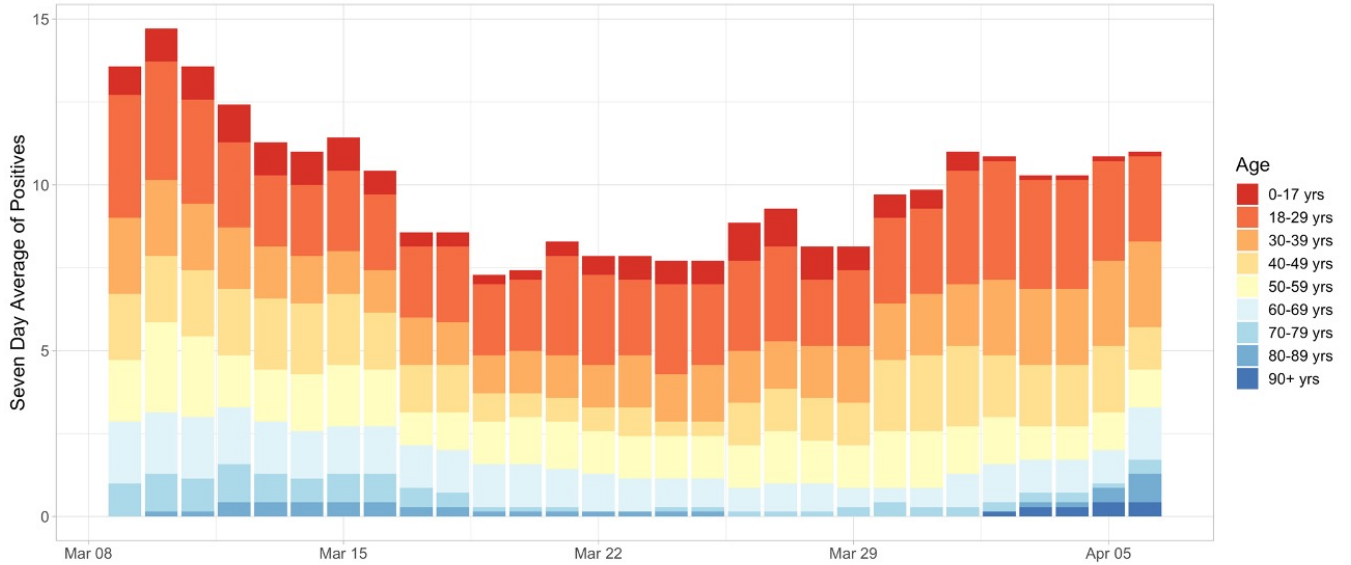
Information Updated as of 4/13 at 8 p.m.

<sup>6</sup> Please note: When comparing cities, we describe rates per 10,000 population. This is roughly equal to the total population of Lexington (~10,000)

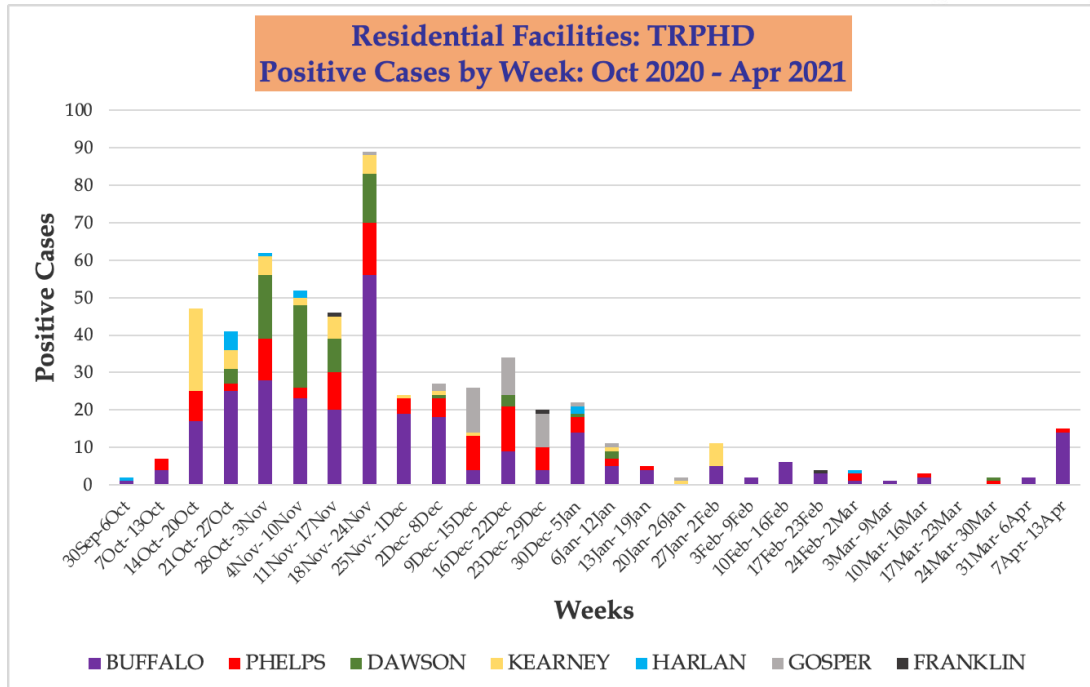
- The graph below describes the **7-day rolling average** of cases from **Mar 9 – Apr 6** by age. The height of the graph corresponds to total cases and the thickness of each colored band corresponds to each age group.
- The second graph shows the distribution of cases per week in **residential facilities** in the district, broken up by county (**Sep 30 – Apr 13**). Regular and widespread testing in long term care facilities in TRPHD began in early October.

**7 Day Rolling Average of COVID-19 Cases in Two Rivers by Age**

Graph displays data from Mar 9th to April 6th



Information Updated as of 4/6 at 8 p.m.





### Weekly summary

- Two Rivers Health Department is continuing to investigate an ongoing COVID outbreaks at congregate living facilities in Buffalo county. The increased incidence of cases in persons aged 60 and over is indicative of this sudden increase in cases.
- Positivity rates have increased for tests conducted outside of residential facilities. Overall positivity rates for the district are inching upwards toward 10% in the past three weeks after weeks of decline previously. We are monitoring new cases and tracing connected cases and potential contacts as usual.
- Testing utilization continues to drop across the districts. Testing sites are reassessing routine scheduling due to a precipitous drop in demand.
- As of April 14, 2021, 34.5% of TRPHD's eligible population has been fully vaccinated. TRPHD is the fourth-largest health department in Nebraska, and the first to fully vaccinate over a third of its residents. See weekly vaccination report at <https://www.trphd.org/covid-19/vaccination-reports.html> for details
- ICU bed occupancy is over 60% across TRPHD, but COVID-related admissions have remained below 5% for the past 5 weeks (see <https://www.trphd.org/> for details). There are no COVID patients on ventilator support currently.
- COVID-19 vaccination continues to be provided via through private clinics, hospitals, and Vaccines For Children (VFC) clinics across the district, including at Two Rivers Health Department. All persons aged 16 and over are eligible for the vaccine. Those desirous of receiving the vaccine are advised to contact their physician or register at [www.trphd.org](http://www.trphd.org)

*To conclude, COVID test positivity rate has increased over the past three weeks, especially in Phelps and Kearney counties, although overall test positivity rate is still below 10% for the district. Increased incidence among seniors (65+) is worrying. Test utilization has dropped further for both TestNebraska and private hospitals. Vaccinations are now offered to everyone over 16 years of age in the district, and 34.3% of the district is fully vaccinated. Those eligible for the vaccine are advised to contact their physician or register at Two Rivers Health Department ([www.trphd.org](http://www.trphd.org)). In the meantime, residents are advised to continue to adhere to strict preventive measures (social distancing, correct and consistent masking) at all times to protect themselves and others.*

*The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services has paused use of the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) COVID-19 vaccine after Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recommendations following reports of six women who have been hospitalized with severe blood clots after receiving the vaccine dose, including one woman in Douglas county. The women were aged between 18-48 years.*

*To date, over 6.8 million doses of Janssen vaccine have been administered in the United States, over 31,500 in Nebraska, and 1560 in Two Rivers Health District.*

*Symptoms in the 6 hospitalized individuals included fever, headache, back pain, other unexplained pain and malaise. Symptoms typically began 6-13 days after vaccination, and hospital admission was within 15 days, on average. More than 55% of the Janssen vaccine was administered before 22nd of March in Two Rivers Health District*



## APPENDIX 1

### Background

The Two Rivers Public Health Department (TRPHD) covers 7 counties in central Nebraska, reaching 97,132 people who live and work in the health district spread across roughly 4663 square miles. Over three quarters of residents live in Buffalo and Dawson county, a tenth live in Phelps county, and the remaining 15% is spread somewhat comparably among the four counties of Kearney, Harlan, Franklin and Gosper in decreasing order of population. The largest cities are Holdrege (pop. 5408), Lexington (pop. 10115) and Kearney (pop. 33867) meaning that well over half the residents of TRPHD live in three cities, and over a third are in Kearney alone. The population of all 7 counties in TRPHD are shown below.

County	Population
Buffalo	49,659
Dawson	23,595
Franklin	2,979
Gosper	1,990
Harlan	3,380
Kearney	6,495
Phelps	9,034
<b>TRPHD total</b>	<b>97,132</b>
Nebraska state	1,934,408
United States	328,239,523

- Data is presented as 7-day rolling averages for daily numbers and absolute counts for cumulative cases. The 7-day rolling average is the sum of all cases reported on that day plus the previous six divided by 7.
- Total (cumulative) cases refer to all COVID cases that have been confirmed by testing in the district since the beginning of the pandemic in TRPHD (March 19)
- All tests refers to all types of tests conducted across the Health District, including laboratory-based PCR and rapid antigen.
- Average positivity rate refers to a seven-day rolling average positivity rate, which is the sum of all cases for that day and the previous six divided by the sum of all tests done in that day and the previous six. This is also the same as the “weekly positivity rate”
- In cases that call for comparison across larger areas (counties v/s state of Nebraska, for eg), we present the count per 100,000 population. 100,000 roughly corresponds to the population of Two Rivers Health District (97,132)
- In cases that call for comparison between cities, (Kearney v/s Minden for eg), we present a count per 10,000 population. 10,000 roughly corresponds to the population of Lexington (10,115), the second largest city in TRPHD.
- Deaths due to COVID-19 are identified in death certificates (usually COVID -19 is the Underlying Cause of Death) and attested by the attending physician or medical examiner/ coroner. Each case is further investigated by TRPHD over telephone - the next



of kin is contacted, condolences conveyed and exit interviews conducted by Department staff before releasing a public notification. For further details on the procedure for COVID-19 death certification, please see <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvss/vsrg/vsrg03-508.pdf>

- For calculation, we use the 2019 mid- year census estimate (American Community Survey, ACS) and data from The Atlantic’s COVID tracking project (<https://covidtracking.com/data>)

## APPENDIX 2

### Total (cumulative) cases per 100,000 population

The total/ cumulative case counts are the **total** cases confirmed by testing in an area (county, city, state or health district) calculated from the first recorded case (in case of TRPHD this is March 19, 2020). This is expressed as a fraction of the total population of the area and standardized to 100,000 persons. A population of 100,000 is used to compare counties as it is comparable to the overall population of Two Rivers Health District (97,032).

Total (cumulative) cases / 100,000 persons is calculated as:

**[(Total positive test results for residents in the region)] / (mid-year population) \* 100,000**

### Daily average of cases per 100,000 population

The daily average (7-day rolling) of cases is the sum of all cases reported on that day plus the previous six divided by 7. This is expressed as a fraction of the total population of the area and standardized to 100,000 persons. A population of 100,000 is used to compare counties as it is comparable to the overall population of Two Rivers Health District (97,032).

Daily average of cases / 100,000 persons is calculated as:

**[(7-day rolling average of cases among residents)] / (mid-year population) \* 100,000**

## APPENDIX 3

About a third of all tests conducted since March in the district have been availed by residents or staff of residential facilities. “Residential facilities” include long-term care facilities, in-patient psychiatry services, retirement villages, veterans’ homes and correctional facilities within Two Rivers Health District.

Considering the specific nature of COVID risk of long-term residents of institutional facilities and taking into account the frequent testing performed at facilities, we present numbers separately for long term care facilities and others in the district.