



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 20, 2022

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CONTACT PERSON

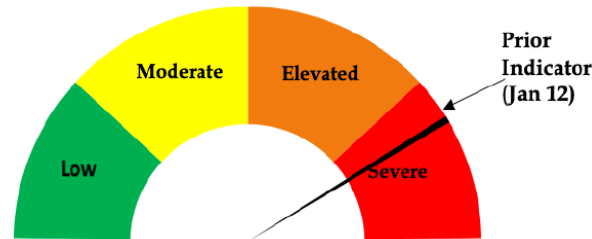
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Weekly COVID-19 Risk Update

KEARNEY – Two Rivers Public Health updated the weekly risk dial on Thursday, January 20, 2022. The risk dial increased within the red “Severe” level of risk.



**Risk Dial for COVID-19
Two Rivers Public Health
Published Jan 20, 2022**

- 1038 cases of COVID-19 were recorded in TRPHD between January 12 - January 18. Excluding testing in long term care facilities, 40% of all COVID tests in the district are positive. 73 positive results were reported from long-term testing this past week (includes both staff and residents).
- The current COVID surge seems to be growing more rapidly than any of the previous outbreaks, and the week-to-week increase (about 300 cases/ week for the past three weeks) seems to be mainly driven by persons aged 50 years or less
- As of Jan 18th, a little over half of the total population of TRPHD has received the minimum prescribed dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. Over 40% of those persons had also received their booster shots. The risk of hospitalization or serious illness following infection is significantly higher for unvaccinated persons.
- As of Tuesday morning, there were 4 available ICU beds in TRPHD. Med/Surg bed availability is just over 30% across the district currently. Over 1/4th of all admitted in- patients are COVID-positive
- A public COVID testing site is open at the Buffalo County Fairgrounds (Kearney city). Testing results are available the same day and are offered Mondays & Wednesdays 9:30AM - 12:30PM. Those desirous of COVID testing are required to register at www.trphd.org for scheduling.
- 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 raised from last week in the ‘severe’ (red) zone. The dial reflects the continued rapid increase in new cases, ICU bed availability and dramatically elevated test positivity rates across TRPHD.

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