



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 30, 2021

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CONTACT PERSON

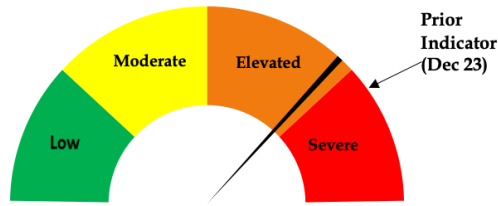
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Weekly COVID-19 Risk Update

KEARNEY – Two Rivers Public Health updated the weekly risk dial on Thursday, December 30, 2021. The risk dial has dropped to the orange “Elevated” level of risk.



**Risk Dial for COVID-19
Two Rivers Public Health
Published Dec 30, 2021**

- 186 cases of COVID-19 were recorded in TRPHD between December 22 - December 28. A little over 10% of all tests recorded in the district are positive. Between December 12-25, Omicron made up 3% of COVID specimens sequenced in the state of Nebraska.
- COVID test positivity rate is high in Dawson and Gosper County (15% and 52% respectively), however, overall tests conducted has dropped dramatically across the district. About 30% less tests were conducted in the past week as compared to three months previously in September, although test positivity rate is roughly equal.
- As of Wednesday morning, there were 10 available ICU beds in TRPHD. Med/Surg bed availability is less than 30% across the district currently. 9 patients are on ventilator support, 8 of them suffering from COVID-19.
- A public COVID testing site is available in Kearney city at the Buffalo County Fairgrounds. 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 <https://login.registermytime.com/tw/2rphd> for scheduling.
- As of Dec 29, 2021, half of the total population of TRPHD has received the minimum recommended dose of COVID vaccine (1 or 2 as indicated). 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 <https://vaccinate.ne.gov/en-US/>
- For these reasons, the risk dial is lowered from last week and is now in the ‘elevated’ (orange) zone. The dial reading reflects lower test positivity rates across TRPHD, improved ICU and hospital bed availability across the district.

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