



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 17, 2022

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CONTACT PERSON

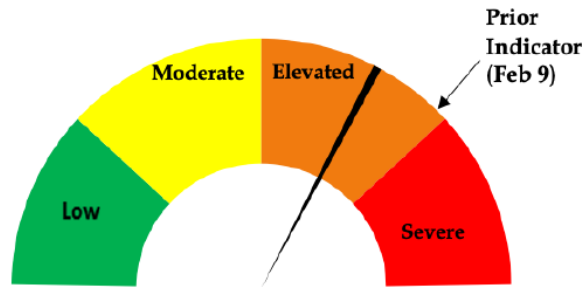
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Weekly COVID-19 Risk Update

KEARNEY – Two Rivers Public Health updated the weekly risk dial on Thursday, February 17, 2022. The risk dial decreased within the orange “Elevated” level of risk.



Risk Dial for COVID-19 Two Rivers Public Health Published Feb 17, 2022

- 175 cases of COVID-19 were recorded in TRPHD between February 9 - February 15. This is the fourth successive week in a row that cases have dropped, positive cases have declined by 35-55% every week since 19 January, 2022.
- Two Rivers Public Health Department received a large amount of COVID-19 test results on February 14th, 2022 which is affecting the test results on the department dashboard. The results, although reported Monday, date back as far as October 2021.
- Test positivity rate is under 20% in every county, and as low as 14% in Buffalo County, which accounts for about 65% of the tests conducted in non-long term care facilities in the past week. Positivity rates have fallen across all age groups in the last month.
- TRPHD announced an additional 3 deaths due to COVID this week, taking the total toll for the district to 200.
- As of Feb 15th, a little over 51% of the total population of TRPHD has received the minimum prescribed dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. Vaccination rates have shown little appreciable difference in the past month, perhaps predictive of long-term trends. The risk of hospitalization or serious illness following infection is significantly higher for unvaccinated persons.
- As of Tuesday morning, there were 7 ICU beds available in TRPHD (out of 33 overall). Over 40% of ICU beds were occupied by COVID positive patients.
- COVID testing is available at the Buffalo County Fairgrounds (Kearney city) Mondays & Wednesdays 9:30AM 11:30AM starting Monday, February 21st, 2022. Those interested are required to register at <https://login.registertime.com/tw/2rphd> 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 <https://www.trphd.org/covid-19/event-calendar.html>
- For these reasons, the risk dial is lowered from last week in the ‘elevated’ (orange) zone. The dial reflects the continued drop in new COVID cases, falling test positivity rates and consistent ICU bed availability.

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