

NEWS RELEASE

April 19, 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Myra Stoney, Health Director, director@swhealth.ne.gov, 308-345-4223

COVID-19 Update for Southwest Nebraska

Two cases of COVID-19 were reported in Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department (SWNPHD) between April 11 - April 17, 2022. In the past 4 weeks, 12 cases of COVID were reported from the 9-county health district. One additional death from COVID-19 was also reported, bringing the total to 110 deaths due to COVID-19 in SWNPHD.

“The low numbers of positive COVID tests are a welcome change for us at SWNPHD and for the hospitals and clinics in our area,” said Myra Stoney, Health Director at SWNPHD. “We encourage residents to be ready for the next wave that may come by having home test kits on hand and getting booster doses of their COVID shots. The health department has free home test kits available.” 42% of all SWNPHD residents are fully vaccinated. About 48% of those who are fully vaccinated have received their booster dose of vaccine. **SWNPHD recommends a first booster for all residents aged 12 and over; a second optional booster is available for residents aged 50 and over.** Talk to your healthcare provider if you have questions about whether to get a COVID-19 vaccine booster or call SWNPHD to talk to the Public Health Nurse.

Weekly report Apr 11 – Apr 17, 2022

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

- The first table describes total COVID positive cases detected from **Apr 11 – Apr 17, 2022 (1 week)** & the past 4 weeks (**Mar 19 – Apr 17, 2022**) in Chase, Dundy, Hayes, Hitchcock, Frontier, Furnas, Keith, Perkins, and Red Willow counties. Positive results are described as weekly and monthly **COVID cases/10,000 population**.
- The second table describes all COVID tests conducted in SWNPHD from **Apr 11 – Apr 17, 2022 (1 week)** & the past 4 weeks (**Mar 19 – Apr 17, 2022**). We describe **total tests, positive cases and test positivity rate** by age and gender.
- The third table shows the **proportion of persons fully vaccinated** in SWNPHD. Data is described by **county and age** category. Data current as of **Apr 17, 2022**.
- The first graph looks at the weekly progress of the pandemic from **April 1, 2020 – Apr 17, 2022** across all 9 counties in SWNPHD.
- The second graph describes the **average daily case rate (7-day rolling) by age** from **April 1, 2020 – Apr 17, 2022**, dividing the population by **10-year age categories**.
- The third graph describes the **daily COVID tests** in SWNPHD from **April 17, 2020 – April 17, 2022** further divided as **positive** or **negative**. The graph also describes the average **test positivity rate (7-day rolling average)**¹.

¹ (7-day rolling average) test positivity rate = (Sum of positive results for preceding 7 days) / (Sum of all tests conducted in the preceding 7 days)

The table below describes COVID positives/10,000 population and the positivity rate for the **past week (Apr 11 – Apr 17, 2022)** & the past 4 weeks (**Mar 19 – Apr 17, 2022**)

	Total Population	Apr 11 – Apr 17(1 week)		Mar 19 – Apr 17 (4 weeks).	
		Positive cases/10,000 population	Test Positivity rate	Positive cases/10,000 population	Test Positivity rate
Chase	3,734	0.0	0.0%	5.4	3.2%
Dundy	2,023	0.0	0.0%	0.0	0.0%
Frontier	2,609	3.8	8.3%	7.7	3.8%
Furnas	4,786	0.0	0.0%	6.3	2.0%
Hayes	943	0.0	0.0%	0.0	0.0%
Hitchcock	2,843	0.0	0.0%	0.0	0.0%
Keith	8,099	0.0	0.0%	2.5	0.5%
Perkins	2,907	0.0	0.0%	3.4	0.8%
Red Willow	10,806	0.9	2.8%	1.9	1.0%
TOTAL	38,750	0.5	1.1%	3.1	1.1%

The table below describes COVID tests conducted, positives and the positivity rate by age and gender for the **past week (Apr 11 – Apr 17, 2022)** & the past 4 weeks (**Mar 19 – Apr 17, 2022**).

Age (in yrs)	Apr 11 – Apr 17(1 week)			Mar 19 – Apr 17 (4 weeks).		
	Tests	Positive cases	Test Positivity rate	Tests	Positive cases	Test Positivity rate
0-17	15	0	0.0%	73	1	1.4%
18-29	28	0	0.0%	182	2	1.1%
30-39	30	1	3.3%	149	3	2.0%
40-49	31	0	0.0%	164	0	0.0%
50-59	27	0	0.0%	185	4	2.2%
60-69	27	0	0.0%	165	1	0.6%
70-79	15	0	0.0%	92	0	0.0%
80-89	11	1	9.1%	115	1	0.9%
Total	184	2	1.1%	1,125	12	1.1%
Gender						
Female	125	0	0.0%	807	6	0.7%
Male	57	2	3.5%	312	6	1.9%
Data missing/ not disclosed	2	0	0.0%	7	0	0.0%
Total	184	2	1.1%	1,126	12	1.1%

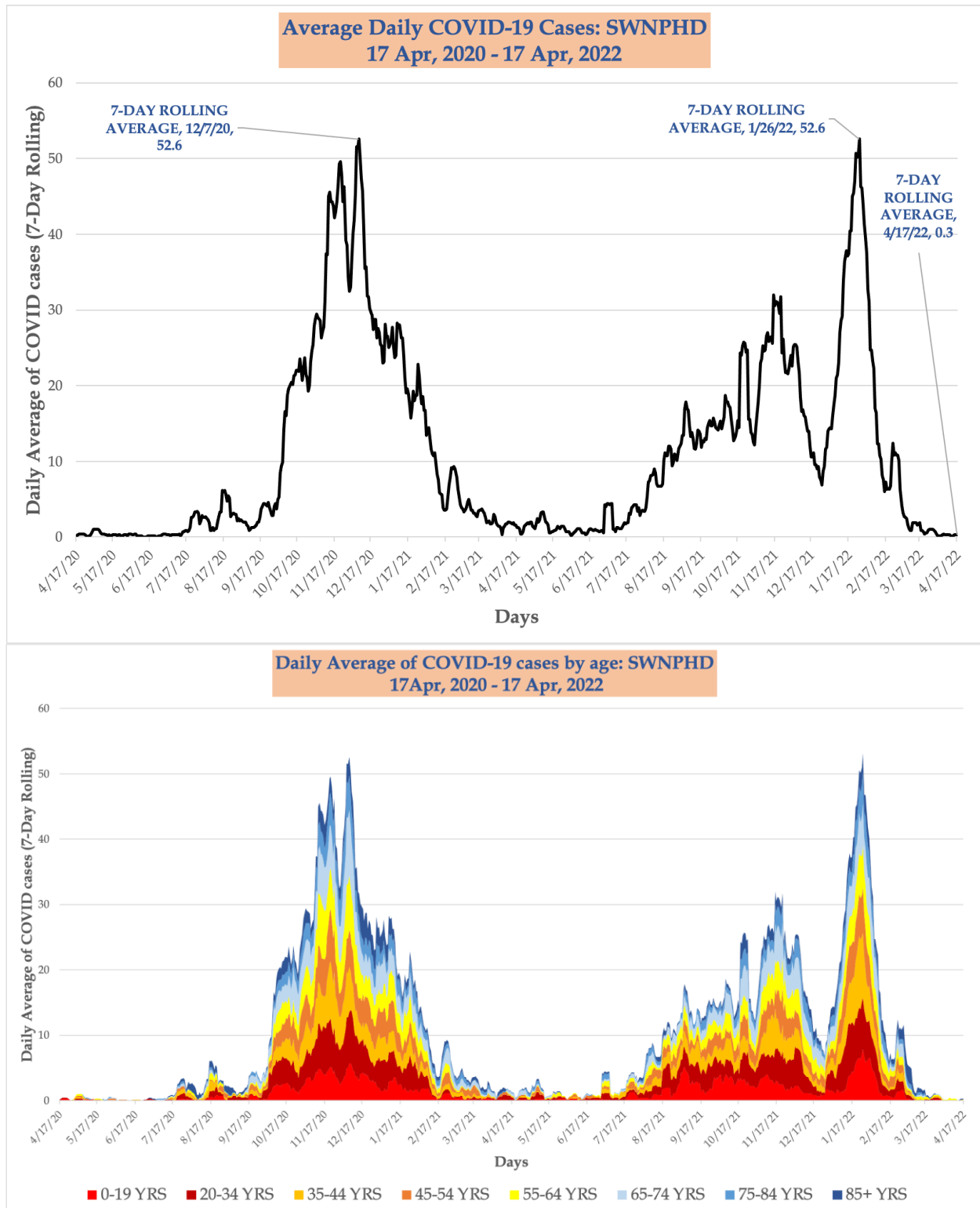
Vaccines are currently available to all eligible residents aged 5 years and over. Details of vaccination rates by age in each of the nine counties in Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department is shown below. Percentages have been rounded off to the nearest whole number.

Only 1st (Janssen) & 2nd doses (Moderna & Johnson & Johnson) have been considered, booster doses have not been counted to calculate the “completely vaccinated” rate. Date spans the period from **Dec 15, 2020 – Apr 17, 2022.**

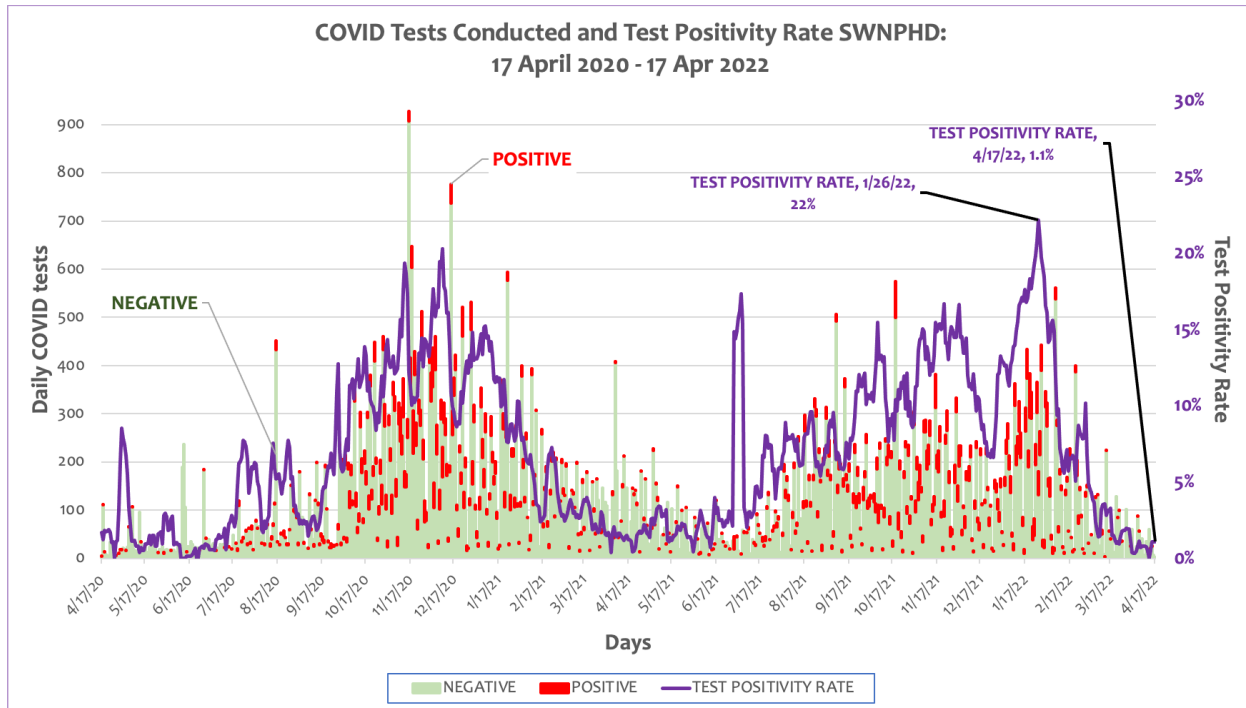
	0-19 YRS	20-34 YRS	35-44 YRS	45-54 YRS	55-64 YRS	65-74 YRS	75-84 YRS	85+ YRS	ALL AGES
Chase	12%	34%	38%	47%	50%	83%	73%	65%	43%
Dundy	7%	21%	23%	33%	41%	67%	100%	41%	31%
Frontier	7%	31%	37%	44%	50%	62%	54%	100%	37%
Furnas	16%	42%	49%	50%	62%	83%	92%	77%	50%
Hayes	8%	23%	33%	19%	30%	72%	48%	53%	29%
Hitchcock	7%	23%	35%	34%	47%	77%	52%	64%	36%
Keith	14%	37%	44%	43%	61%	64%	67%	85%	45%
Perkins	10%	31%	41%	47%	53%	73%	82%	56%	41%
Red Willow	11%	34%	45%	44%	59%	93%	68%	87%	44%
SWNPHD	11%	33%	42%	43%	55%	76%	70%	74%	43%

0% - 24%	Less than 1/4th received 1 or 2 dose as recommended
25% - 49%	1/4ths to 1/2 received 1 or 2 dose as recommended
50%- 74%	1/2 to 3/4ths received 1 or 2 dose as recommended
75% & higher	Over 3/4ths received 1 or 2 dose as recommended

- The first graph below describes the **average daily number of new cases** across all 9 counties of Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department from 5 May 2020 – 17 April 2022. Daily average is depicted by the 7-day rolling average of cases. The second graph describes the daily average of cases by age. The width of the graph represents the average number of new COVID cases for the previous 7-days, and the individual colors describe the ages.
- In general, blue = 65+ years, Yellow & Orange = 35-64 year olds, Red = Less than 35 year olds.



- The graphs below describe the **daily COVID tests** in SWNPHD from **April 17, 2020 – April 17, 2022**, further divided as **positive or negative**.
- The graph also describes the average **test positivity rate (7-day rolling average)²**. The graph depicts the entire district: Chase, Dundy, Furnas, Frontier, Hayes, Hitchcock, Keith, Perkins, and Red Willow counties.
- The height of the bar graph represents the total tests conducted on that day.
- The running line graph tracks **7-day positivity rate** among all COVID tests in the last 2 years.
- *Scale is different for the bar and line graph – see both axes.*



SWNPHD is located at 404 West 10th St (1 block north of Arby’s) in McCook and can be reached by calling 308-345-4223. The website www.swhealth.ne.gov contains many resources and additional information helpful to prevent disease, promote and protect health. You can also follow SWNPHD on Facebook and Instagram. SWNPHD serves Chase, Dundy, Frontier, Furnas, Hayes, Hitchcock, Keith, Perkins, and Red Willow counties.

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² (7-day rolling average) test positivity rate = (Sum of positive results for preceding 7 days) / (Sum of all tests conducted in the preceding 7 days)