

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COVID Update for Southwest Nebraska

Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department (SWNPHD) had 29 cases of COVID-19 recorded in the past week (Aug 22 – Aug 28). About 50 new cases were detected on average every week for the last two months. Two deaths from COVID-19 were also reported in August. COVID test positivity rates overall have gone down the past month, while case rates among residents over 60 years spiked briefly in the past month before dropping again.

A booster dose of COVID vaccine is recommended for everyone age 5 to 49. For those age 50 and over, 2 booster doses are recommended to protect from severe disease and hospitalization from COVID-19.

Monthly report Aug 1 – Aug 28, 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 in the **past week (Aug 22 – Aug 28, 2022)** & the past 4 weeks (**Aug 1 – Aug 28, 2022**) in Chase, Dundy, Hayes, Hitchcock, Frontier, Furnas, Keith, Perkins, and Red Willow counties. Positive results are described as bi-weekly and monthly **COVID cases/10,000 population**.
- The second table describes all COVID tests conducted in SWNPHD from **Aug 22 – Aug 28, 2022 (1 week)** & **Aug 1 – Aug 28, 2022 (4 weeks)**. 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. We define “fully vaccinated” as the proportion of persons who have received the minimum recommended dose (2 for Pfizer & Moderna; 1 for Janssen vaccines). Data is described by **county and age category**. Data current as of **Aug 28, 2022**.
- The first graph looks at the progress of the pandemic from **April 1, 2020 – Aug 28, 2022** across all 9 counties in SWNPHD. We describe the **daily COVID positive case rate (7-day rolling average¹)** across SWNPHD².
- The second graph describes the **average daily case rate (7-day rolling) by age** from **April 1, 2020 – Aug 28, 2022**, dividing the population by **10-year age categories**.
- The third set of graphs describe the **average daily case rate (7-day rolling) April 1, 2020 – August 28, 2022** in each of the 9 counties in SWNPHD, described as **per 10,000 residents**.
 - The first graph describes Chase, Keith, Red Willow, and Furnas counties
 - The second graph describes Hitchcock, Hayes, Perkins, Dundy, and Frontier counties

¹ 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.

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)

The table below describes COVID positives/10,000 population and the positivity rate for the **past 1 week (Aug 22 – Aug 28, 2022)** & the past 4 weeks (**Aug 1 – Aug 28, 2022**)

	Total Population	Aug 22 – Aug 28 (2 weeks)		Aug 1 – Aug 28 (4 weeks).	
		Positive cases/10,000 population	Test Positivity rate	Positive cases/10,000 population	Test Positivity rate
Chase	3,734	10.7	23.5%	40.2	25.0%
Dundy	2,023	4.9	0.9%	54.4	3.0%
Frontier	2,609	7.7	15.4%	61.3	26.7%
Furnas	4,786	12.5	20.7%	39.7	17.4%
Hayes	943	10.6	20.0%	31.8	14.3%
Hitchcock	2,843	14.1	12.1%	52.8	4.0%
Keith	8,099	6.2	17.2%	49.4	27.8%
Perkins	2,907	6.9	28.6%	24.1	21.2%
Red Willow	10,806	3.7	2.7%	16.7	2.8%
TOTAL	38,750	7.5	7.3%	37.2	8.0%

The table below describes COVID tests conducted, positives and the positivity rate by age and gender for the **past 1 week (Aug 22 – Aug 28, 2022)** & the past 4 weeks (**Aug 1 – Aug 28, 2022**)

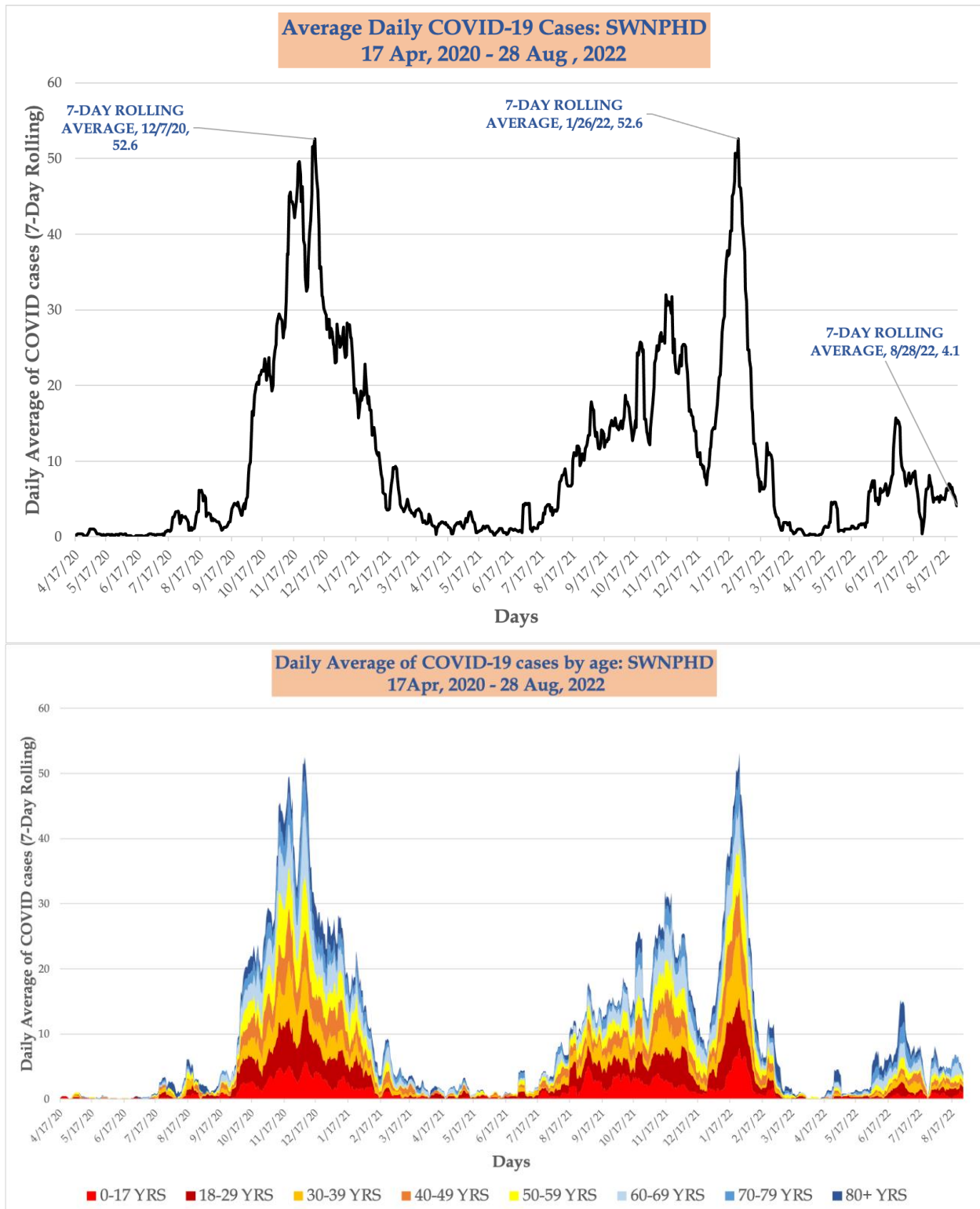
Age (in yrs)	Aug 22 – Aug 28 (2 weeks)			Aug 1 – Aug 28 (4 weeks).		
	Tests	Positive cases	Test Positivity rate	Tests	Positive cases	Test Positivity rate
0-17	29	6	20.7%	132	17	12.9%
18-29	66	6	9.1%	277	20	7.2%
30-39	34	1	2.9%	165	12	7.3%
40-49	49	4	8.2%	243	16	6.6%
50-59	68	4	5.9%	305	22	7.2%
60-69	41	2	4.9%	222	18	8.1%
70-79	46	4	8.7%	171	28	16.4%
80-89	64	2	3.1%	296	11	3.7%
Total	397	29	7.3%	1,811	144	8.0%
Gender						
Female	300	20	6.7%	1,370	91	6.6%
Male	97	9	9.3%	441	53	12.0%
Missing/ did not disclose	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%
Total	397	29	7.3%	1,811	144	8.0%

- Details of vaccination rates by age in each of the nine counties in Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department is shown below. The legend for color codes is also displayed. Percentages have been rounded off to the nearest whole number. Vaccines are currently available to all eligible residents aged 5 years and over.
- Only 1st (Janssen) & 2nd (Moderna & Johnson & Johnson) doses (Moderna & Johnson & Johnson) have been considered, booster doses have not been counted to calculate the “completely vaccinated” rate. Data spans the period from **15 Dec, 2020 – 28 Aug, 2022**.

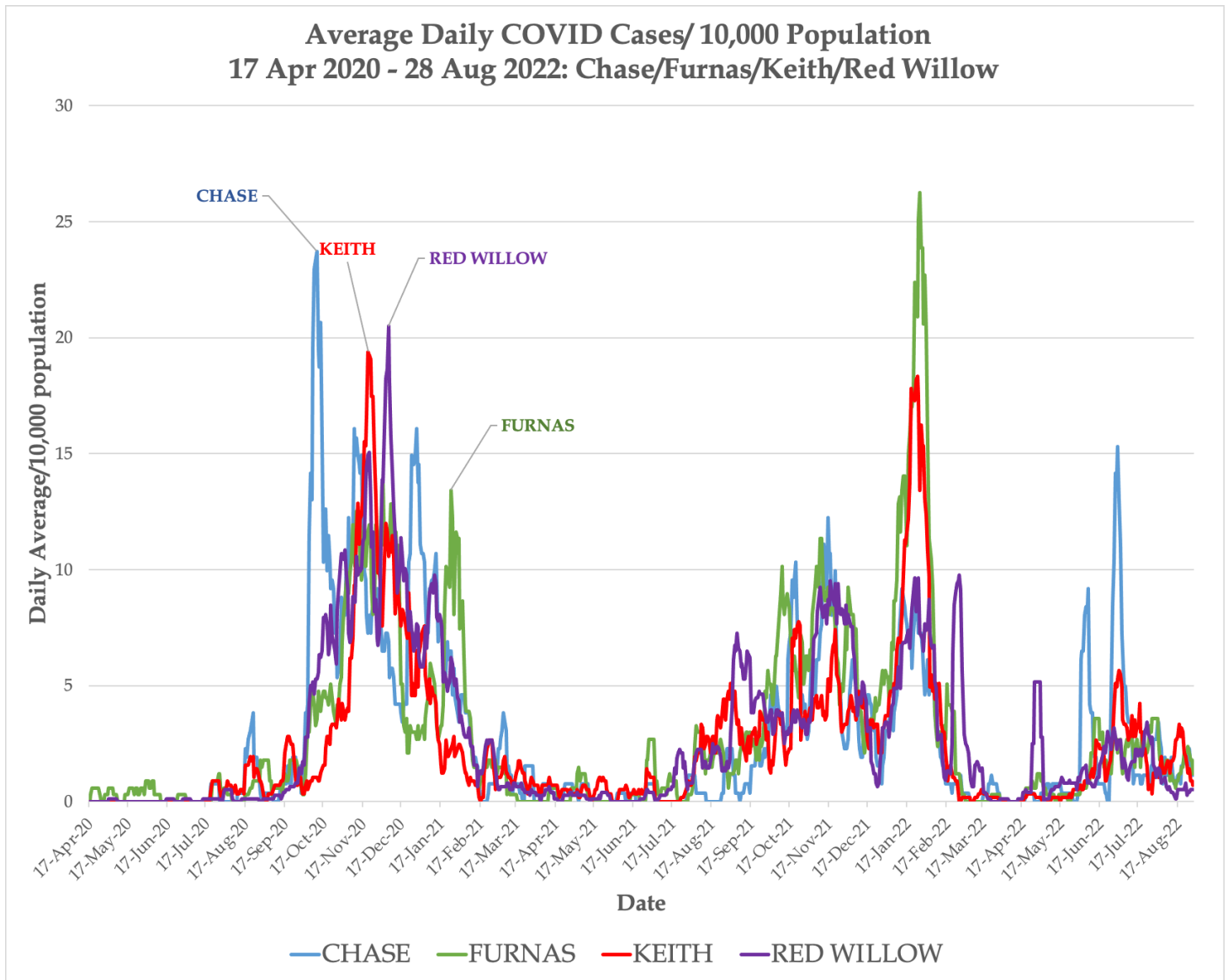
	0-19 YRS	20-34 YRS	35-44 YRS	45-54 YRS	55-64 YRS	65-74 YRS	75-84 YRS	85+ YRS	ALL AGES
Chase	12%	35%	38%	47%	50%	83%	74%	70%	43%
Dundy	7%	21%	22%	33%	40%	67%	100%	39%	30%
Frontier	7%	31%	37%	43%	50%	61%	55%	94%	37%
Furnas	17%	42%	50%	51%	62%	84%	92%	76%	51%
Hayes	8%	25%	34%	19%	30%	73%	51%	40%	29%
Hitchcock	8%	24%	36%	35%	47%	77%	51%	67%	36%
Keith	15%	38%	44%	44%	61%	65%	68%	85%	46%
Perkins	10%	32%	41%	48%	53%	74%	80%	54%	41%
Red Willow	12%	35%	46%	44%	59%	94%	68%	86%	44%
SWNPHD	12%	34%	42%	44%	55%	77%	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

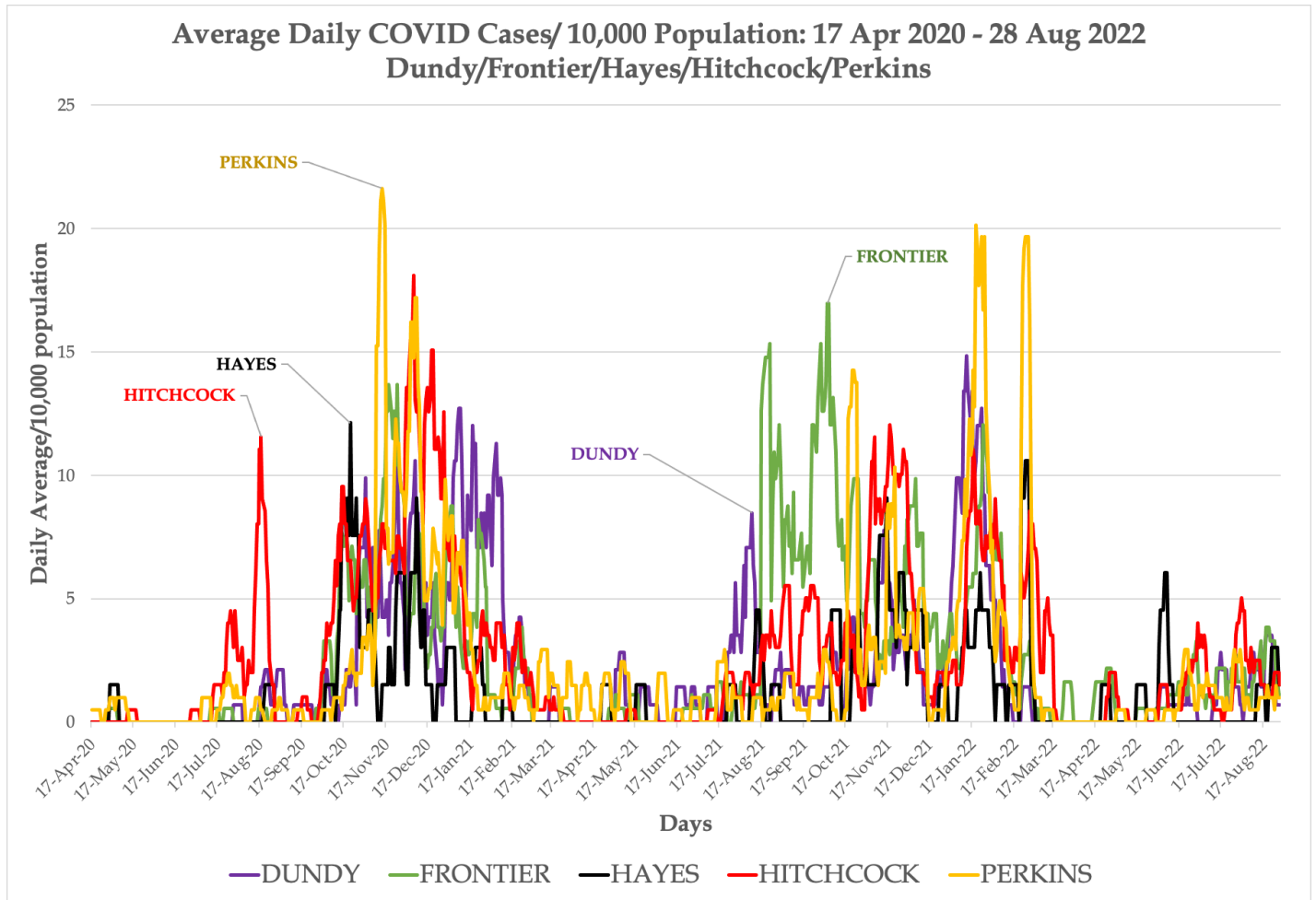
- The first graph below describes the **average daily number of new cases** across all 9 counties of Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department from 17 Apr 2020 – 28 Aug 2022. Daily average is depicted by the 7-day rolling average of cases.
- The second graph describes daily average of cases by age. Graph width represents average number of new COVID cases for the previous 7 days, and individual colors describe age
- In general, blue = 65+ years, Yellow & Orange = 35-64 year olds, Red = Less than 35 year olds.



- The graph below describes the **average daily number of new cases/ 10,000 population in Chase, Keith, Red Willow, and Furnas counties** from 5 May 2020 – 28 Aug 2022.
- Height of the graph corresponds to the average number of new COVID cases proportional to the population of the county.
- Population of the counties are **Chase (3,734), Furnas (4,786), Keith (8,099) & Red Willow (10,806)**, according to the 2020 American Community Survey.



- The graph below describes the **average daily number of new cases/ 10,000 population in Hitchcock, Hayes, Perkins, Dundy, and Frontier counties** from 5 May 2020 – 28 Aug 2022.
- Height of the graph corresponds to the average number of new COVID cases proportional to the population of the county.
- Population of the counties are **Dundy (2,023), Frontier (2,609), Hayes (943), Hitchcock (2,843) & Perkins (2,907)**, according to the 2020 American Community Survey.



Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department serves Chase, Dundy, Frontier, Furnas, Hayes, Hitchcock, Keith, Perkins, and Red Willow counties. You can follow us on Facebook and Instagram or view the website at www.swhealth.ne.gov which contains many resources and additional information helpful to prevent disease, promote and protect health. Call (308) 345-4223; one number three locations, McCook, Imperial, and Ogallala.

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