

NEWS RELEASE

March 23, 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

COVID-19 Update for Southwest Nebraska

- 5 cases of COVID-19 were recorded in Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department (SWNPHD) between March 14 - March 20, 2022. 1.2% of all COVID tests were positive in SWNPHD in the past week. Test Positivity Rate is at the lowest point since early July 2021.
- 42% of all SWNPHD residents are fully vaccinated. 48% of those who received the minimum recommended dose (1 or 2 doses as indicated) have also received their vaccine boosters.

Weekly report Mar 14 – Mar 20, 2022

Overview

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 **Mar 14 – Mar 20** (1 week) and **Feb 21 – Mar 20** (4 weeks) 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 **Mar 14 – Mar 20** (1 week) and **Feb 21 – Mar 20** (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 **Mar 20, 2022**.
- The first graph looks at the weekly progress of the pandemic from **April 1, 2020 – Mar 20, 2022** across all 9 counties in SWNPHD. We describe the **daily COVID positive case rate (7-day rolling average¹)** across SWNPHD.
- The second graph describes the **average daily case rate (7-day rolling) by age** from **April 1, 2020 – Mar 20, 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 – Mar 20, 2022** in each of the 9 counties in SWNPHD, described as **per 10,000 residents**.

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.

The table below describes COVID positives/10,000 population and the positivity rate for the **past week (Mar 14 – Mar 20, 2022)** & the past 4 weeks (**Feb 21 – Mar 20, 2022**)

	Total Population	Mar 14 – Mar 20 (1 week)		Feb 21 – Mar 20 (4 weeks).	
		Positive cases/10,000 population	Test Positivity rate	Positive cases/10,000 population	Test Positivity rate
Chase	3,734	2.7	4.5%	2.7	0.9%
Dundy	2,023	0.0	0.0%	14.8	2.7%
Frontier	2,609	0.0	0.0%	7.7	4.2%
Furnas	4,786	0.0	0.0%	14.6	3.4%
Hayes	943	0.0	0.0%	42.4	12.1%
Hitchcock	2,843	0.0	0.0%	24.6	2.1%
Keith	8,099	2.5	1.2%	45.7	5.6%
Perkins	2,907	0.0	0.0%	6.9	1.9%
Red Willow	10,806	1.9	2.7%	41.6	7.9%
TOTAL	38,750	1.3	1.2%	27.9	5.0%

The table below describes COVID tests conducted, positives and the positivity rate by age and gender for the **past week (Mar 14 – Mar 20, 2022)** & the past 4 weeks (**Feb 21 – Mar 20, 2022**)

Age (in yrs.)	Mar 14 – Mar 20 (1 week)			Feb 21 – Mar 20 (4 weeks).		
	Tests	Positive cases	Test Positivity rate	Tests	Positive cases	Test Positivity rate
0-17	18	0	0.0%	160	12	7.5%
18-29	64	1	1.6%	311	13	4.2%
30-39	47	0	0.0%	229	14	6.1%
40-49	55	0	0.0%	291	8	2.7%
50-59	62	2	3.2%	300	14	4.7%
60-69	59	0	0.0%	322	17	5.3%
70-79	42	0	0.0%	190	9	4.7%
80-89	55	2	3.6%	373	21	5.6%
Total	402	5	1.2%	2,176	108	5.0%
Gender						
Female	294	2	0.7%	1,562	61	3.9%
Male	108	3	2.8%	592	45	7.6%
Data missing/ not disclosed	0	0	0.0%	22	2	9.1%
Total	402	5	1.2%	2,176	108	5.0%

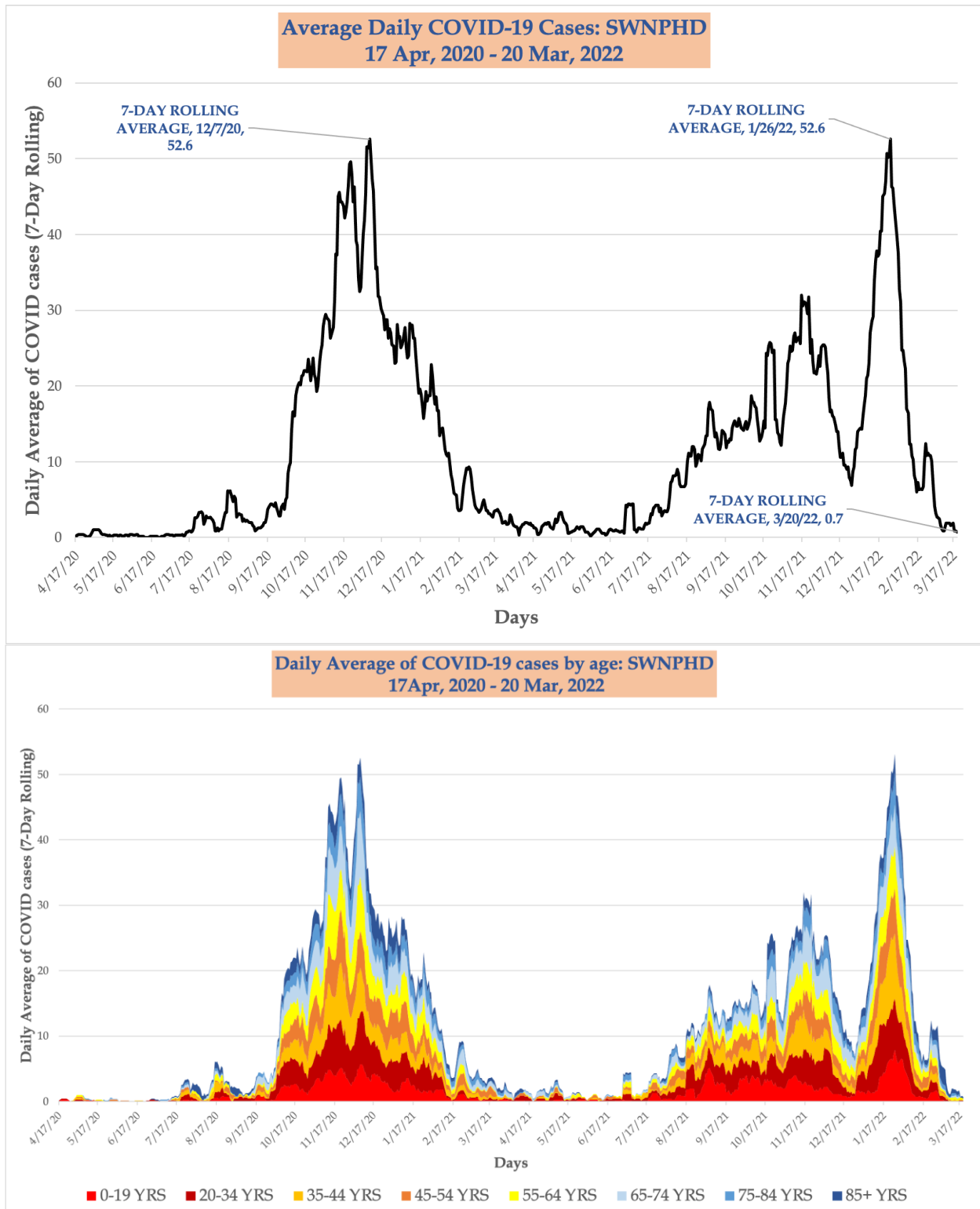
Details of vaccination rates by age in each of the nine counties in Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department is shown below. The legend for color codes used is also displayed. Percentages have been rounded off to the nearest whole number. Vaccines are currently available to all eligible residents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

Only 1st (Janssen) & 2nd 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 – Mar 20, 2022.**

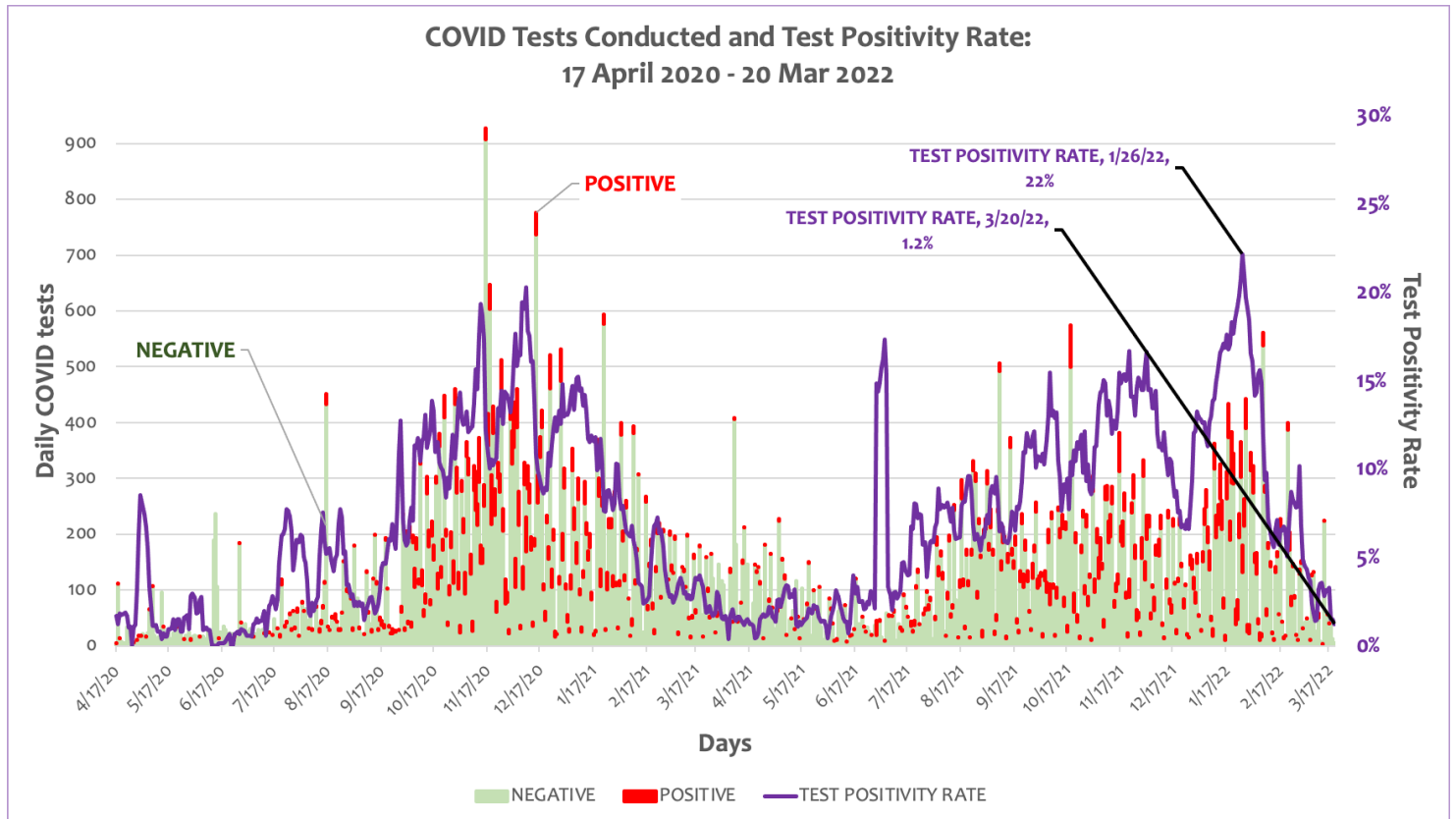
	0-19 YRS	20-34 YRS	35-44 YRS	45-54 YRS	55-64 YRS	65-74 YRS	75-84 YRS	85+ YRS	ALL AGES
Chase	11%	34%	38%	47%	50%	83%	74%	65%	43%
Dundy	7%	22%	22%	33%	41%	66%	100%	41%	31%
Frontier	7%	31%	37%	43%	50%	62%	54%	100%	37%
Furnas	15%	41%	48%	49%	61%	83%	91%	78%	50%
Hayes	8%	23%	33%	20%	31%	74%	48%	50%	29%
Hitchcock	6%	23%	34%	34%	47%	77%	51%	64%	36%
Keith	14%	37%	44%	44%	61%	64%	67%	86%	45%
Perkins	10%	30%	41%	46%	52%	72%	81%	56%	41%
Red Willow	11%	34%	45%	44%	59%	93%	68%	87%	44%
SWNPHD	11%	33%	41%	43%	55%	76%	69%	75%	42%

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 May 5 2020 – March 20 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 – March 20, 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 including 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 23 months. The highest positivity rate was on January 26, 2022, during the Omicron surge.
- 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)