

About Us

The Two Rivers Public Health Department (TRPHD) serves a population of 97,423 across seven counties in South-Central Nebraska, spanning 4,663 square miles. TRPHD is the 4th largest health district in Nebraska, its population mostly clustered around the I-80 corridor. Over 3/4th of residents live in Buffalo & Dawson, 10% in Phelps, and 15% in Kearney, Harlan, Franklin and Gosper Counties in decreasing order. The largest cities are Holdrege (pop. 5,515), Lexington (pop. 10,348) and Kearney (pop. 33,790); over half of the residents of TRPHD live in these three cities, over a third in Kearney city alone. Currently, there are seven health systems reporting Influenza (Flu) and Influenza-like Illness (ILI) surveillance data across the district: three in Buffalo and Dawson, two in Phelps, one each in Franklin, Harlan, and Kearney, and none Gosper Counties.

TRPHD engages collaborative partners, community leaders, and the public to promote healthy and safe communities for all who live within the district. TRPHD envisions a health district where all are able to safely and actively live, learn, work, and play in their communities. TRPHD facilitates collaborative, partnerships, and unique approaches that educate, empower, and engage local community partners, health providers, political decision-makers, community leadership, and the public.

Report Summary

- TRPHD saw rising Influenza A cases across the region as test positivity rates in Dawson, Phelps, Harlan, and Kearney Counties rose, in addition to a cluster in Buffalo County.
- Influenza-like-Illness Hospitalizations continue to remain high; the past 4 weeks accounted for over 40% of all ILI hospitalizations since October.
- RSV, COVID, and Flu B rates continue to remain low compared to previous years.

Data Insights

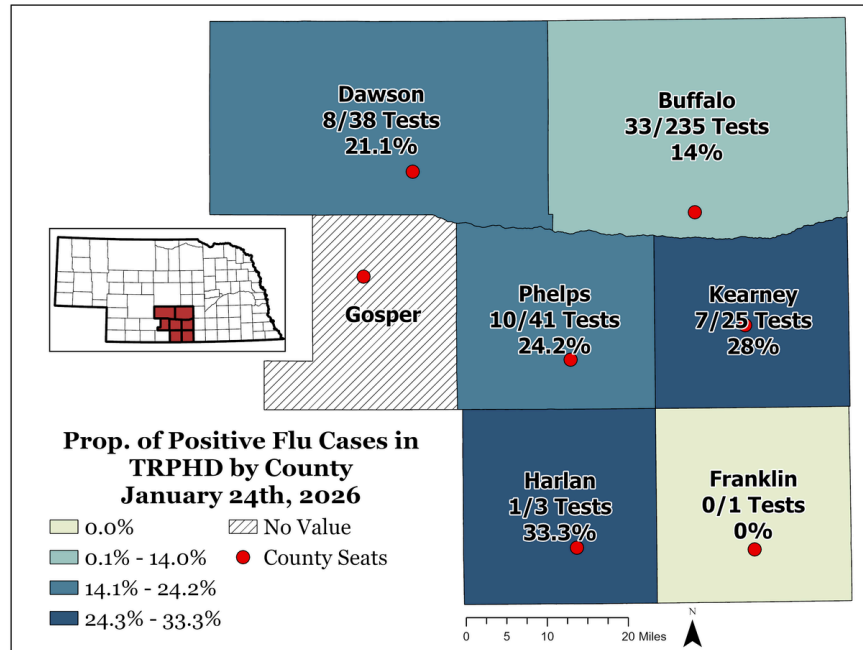
- Overall Respiratory Disease Positivity Rate is calculated by the following equation:
 - We applied a 3% overlap adjustment between Flu A and Flu B positive tests to account for the likelihood that a small percentage of individuals tested positive for both.

$$PR = \frac{((PosFluA + PosFluB - 0.03 \times (TotalFluTests)) + PosRSV + PosCOVID)}{(TotalFluTests + TotalRSVTests + TotalCOVIDTests)}$$

- Flu and RSV county data is collected from Nebraska Flu ILI Surveillance.
- COVID-19 county data is collected from the National Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NEDSS).
- Weekly Case counts of any infection exceeding 150% of the corresponding week in the previous year will trigger an alert for heightened incidence across the district.

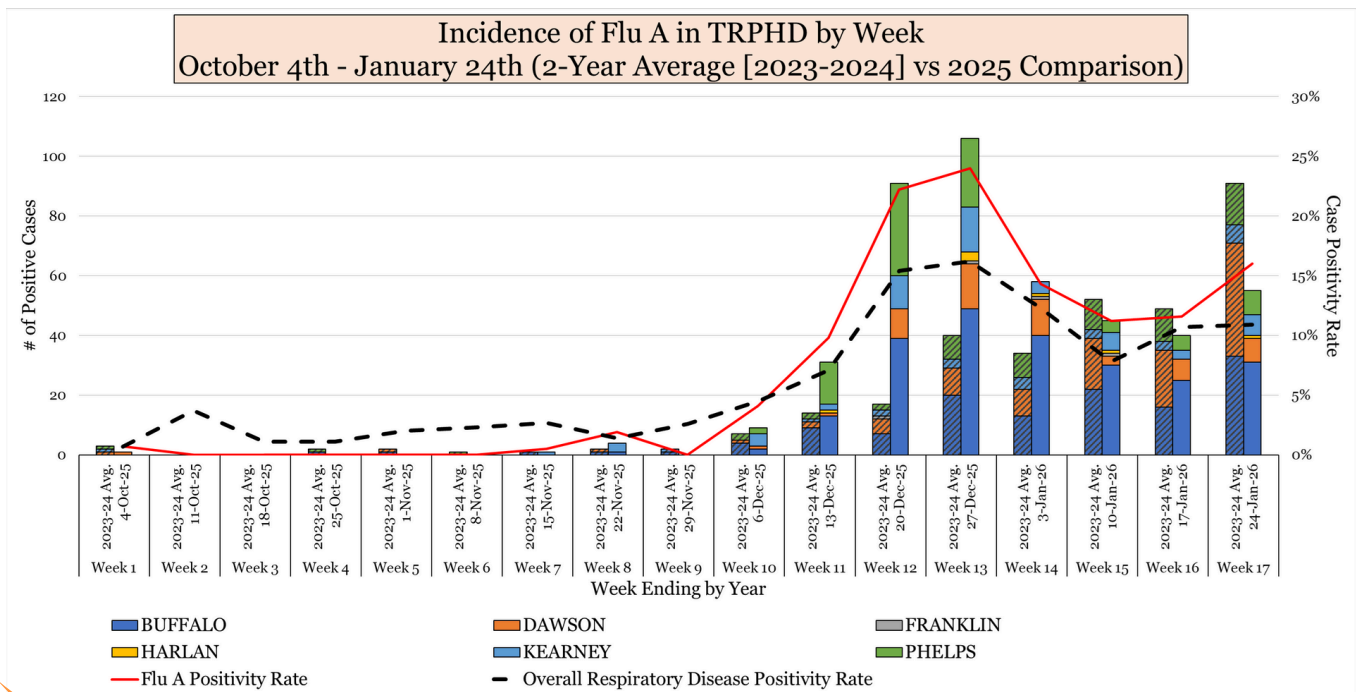
TRPHD Flu Cases

January 24, 2026



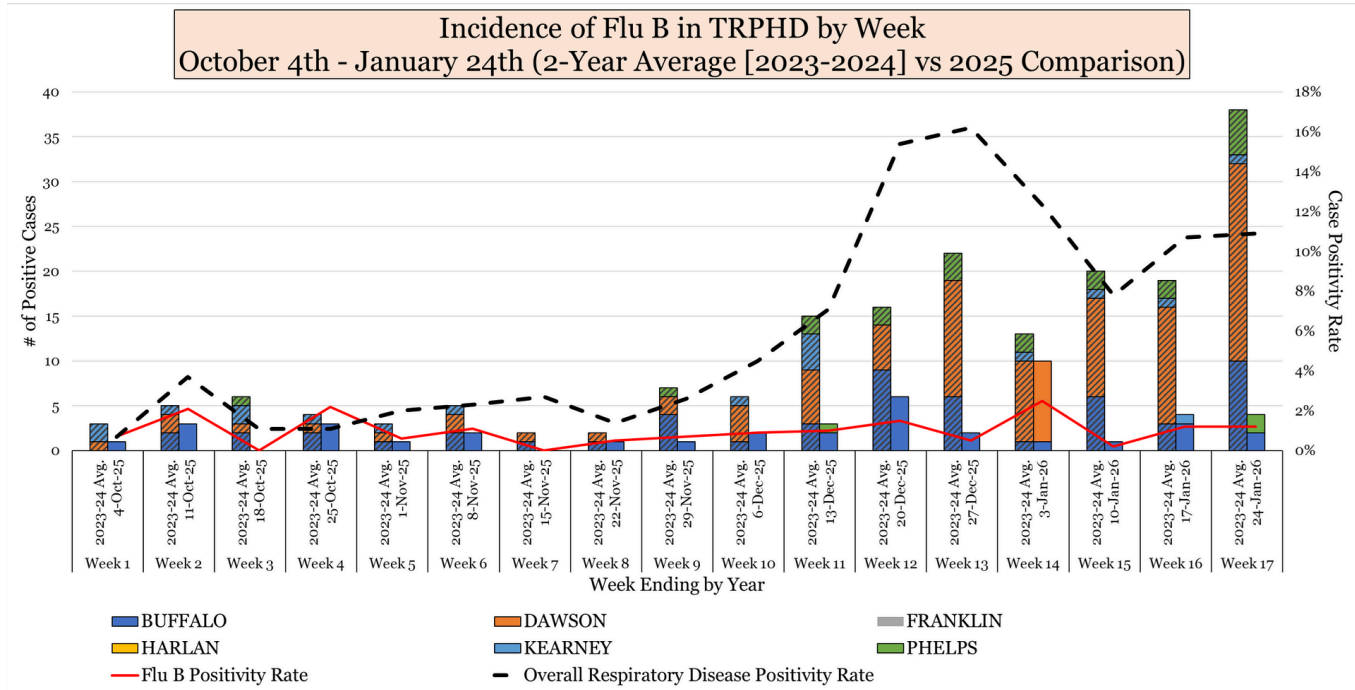
Influenza

- Influenza A continues to rise in TRPHD while Influenza B cases remain flat.
- The prevalence of Flu A cases in Buffalo, Kearney, Phelps, and Dawson Counties indicates a widespread and rapid infective path.



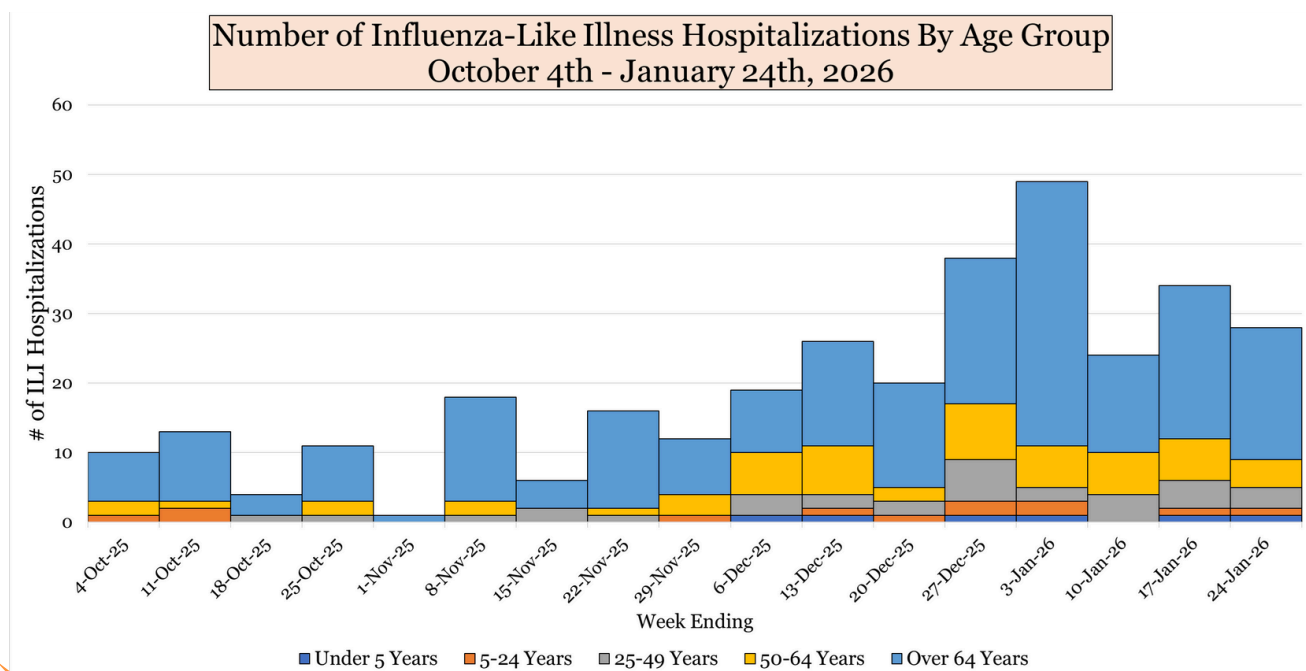
TRPHD Flu Cases

January 24, 2026



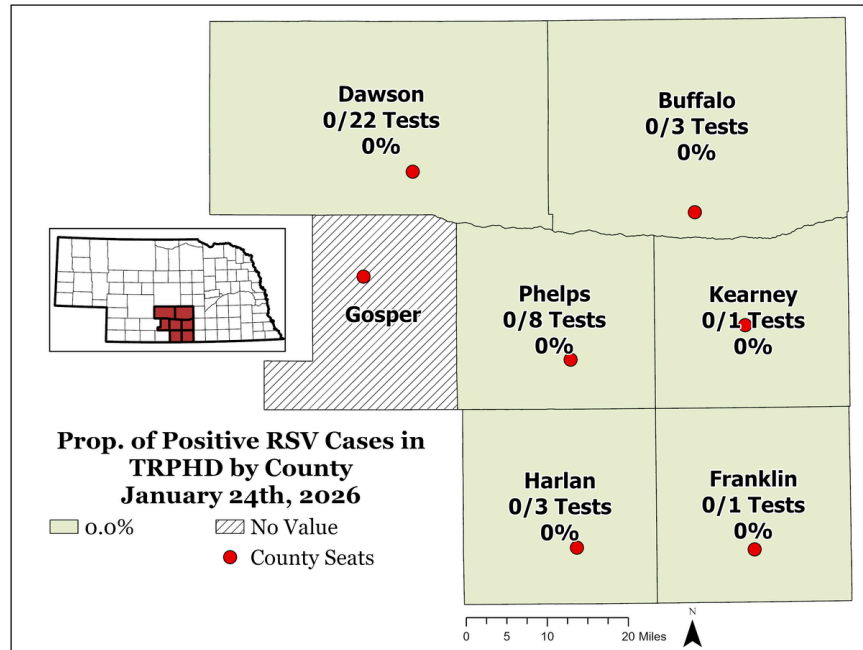
Influenza

- Influenza-like-Illness (ILI) related hospitalizations continued to remain high across TRPHD. An average of 38 weekly hospitalizations was recorded in the past month.
- Over 40% of all ILI Hospitalizations since October were in the past 4 weeks.



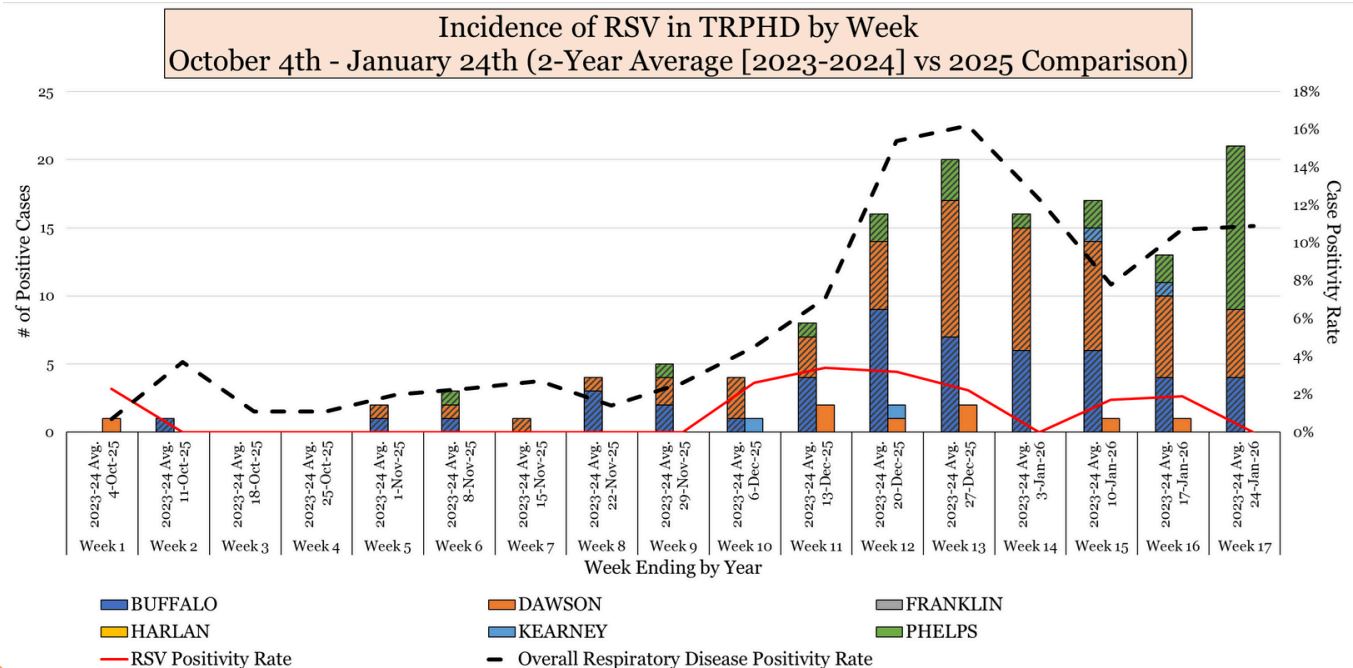
TRPHD RSV Cases

January 24, 2026



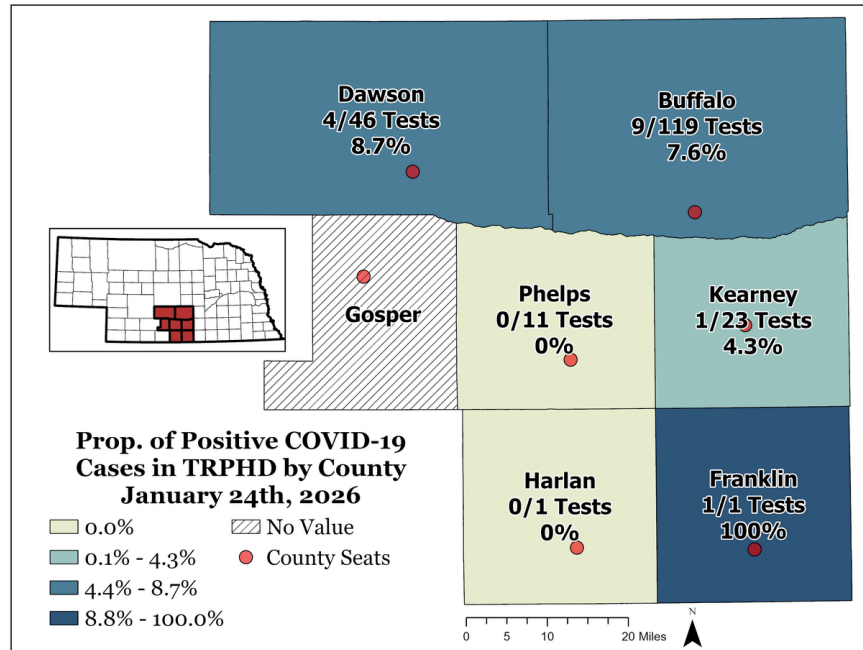
Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)

- No RSV cases were recorded in TRPHD in the past week.



TRPHD COVID-19 Cases

January 24, 2026



COVID-19

- COVID incidence seems to have dropped across TRPHD in the past week.
- Weekly COVID test positivity rates dropped below 8% in TRPHD for the first time this year.

