

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 has seen a dramatic rise in Influenza A cases in the previous 2 weeks, also reflected in the steady rise of Influenza-like-Infections (ILI) - linked hospitalizations in the past 5 weeks.
- RSV and COVID incidence continue to remain low across the district.
- TRPHD strongly urges all eligible persons to access flu vaccines in a timely manner to avoid severe disease.

Data Insights

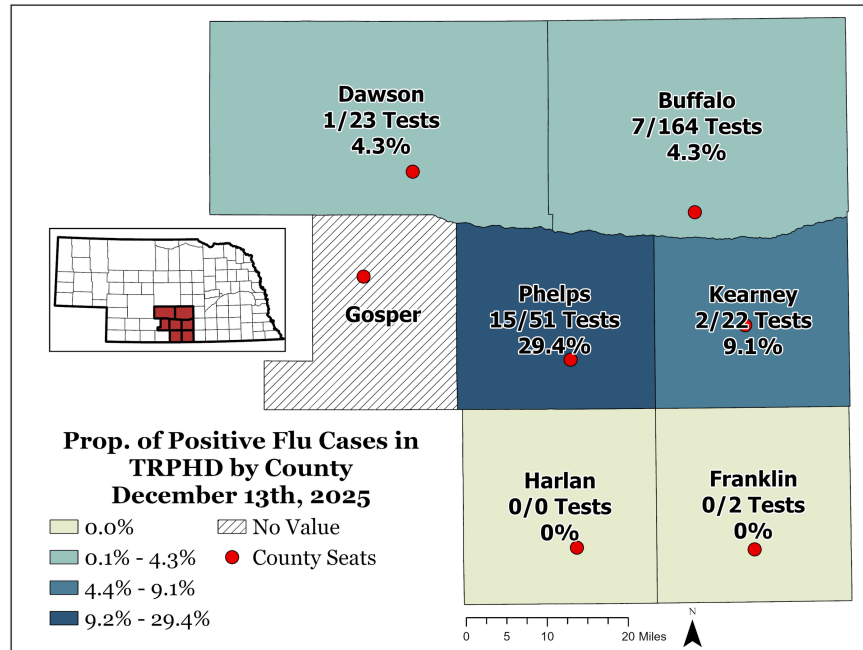
- Overall Respiratory Disease Positivity Rate is calculated by the following equation:
 - We applied a 3% overlap adjustment between Flu A and Flu B positive tests to account for the likelihood that a small percentage of individuals tested positive for both.

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

- 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.

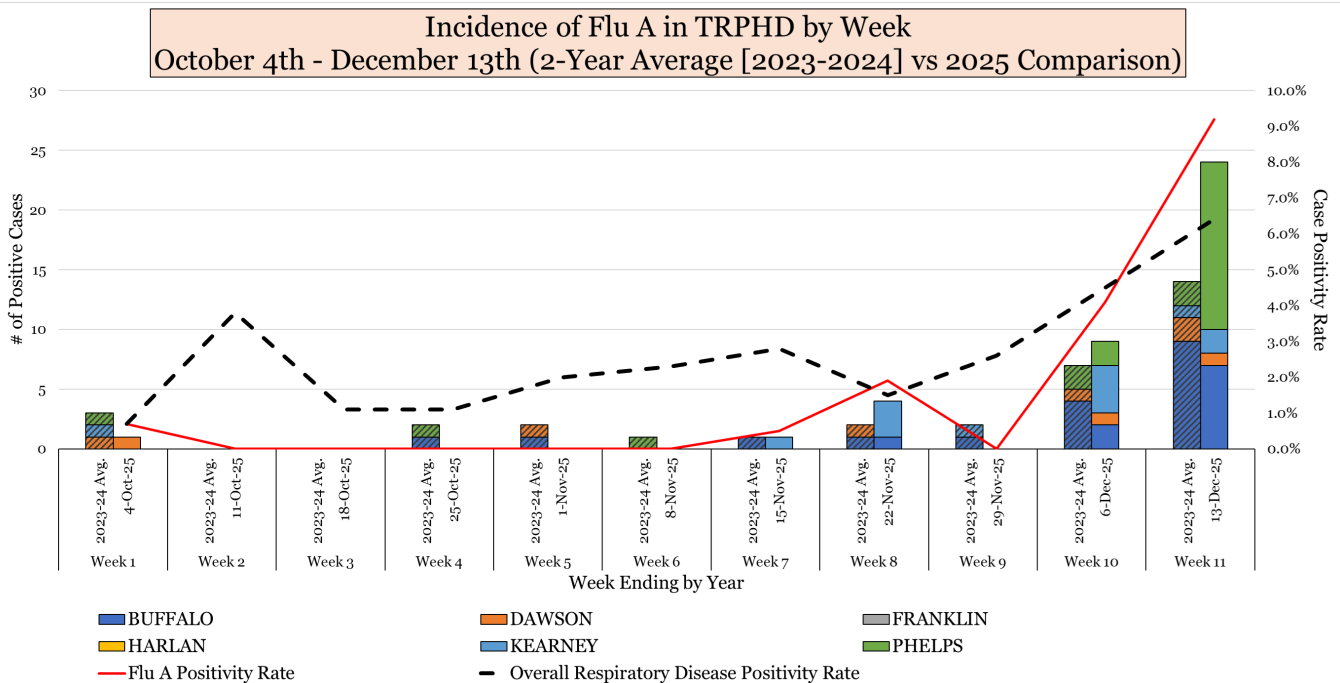
TRPHD Flu Cases

December 13, 2025



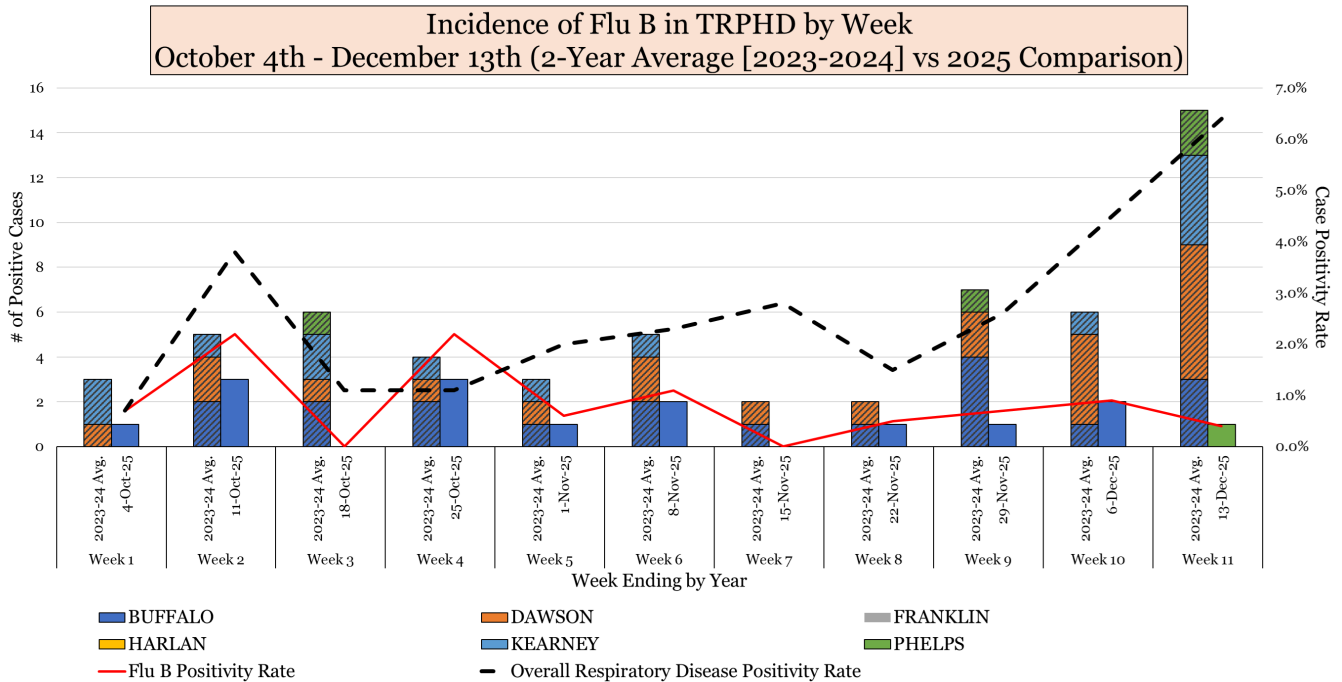
Influenza

- Influenza A cases have risen across TRPHD, especially in Phelps County, where up to a third of all tests returned positive.
- Influenza B cases, however, have been considerably lower than the long-term average.



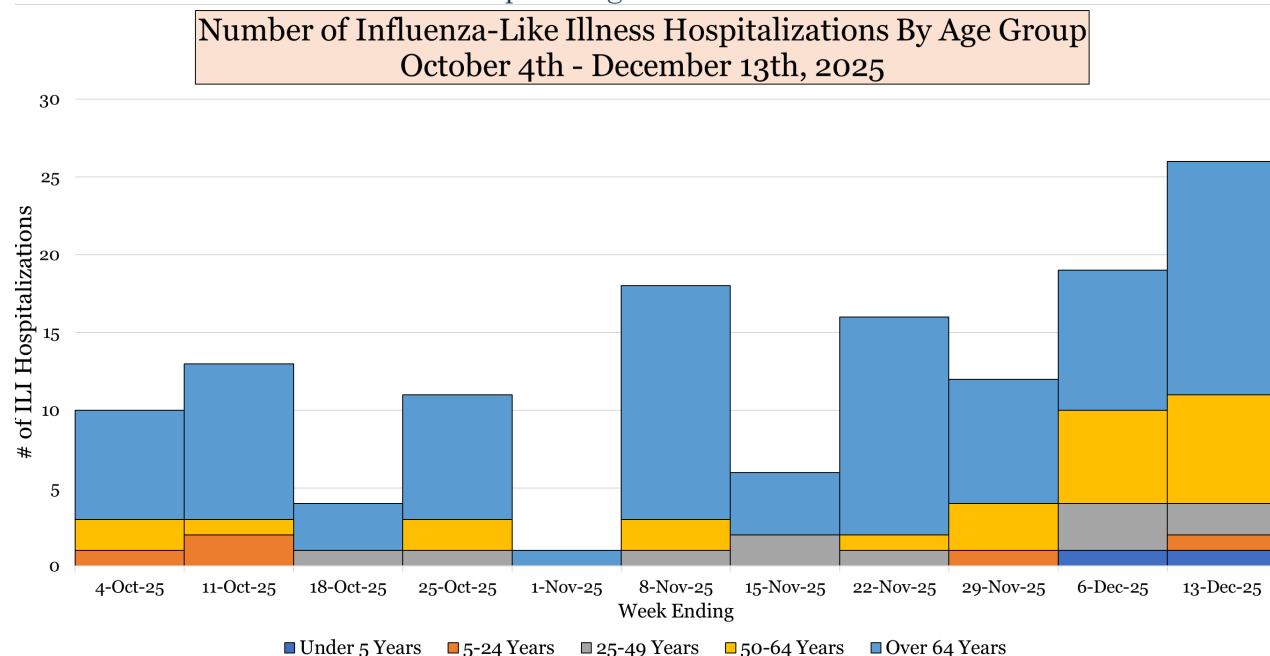
TRPHD Flu Cases

December 13, 2025



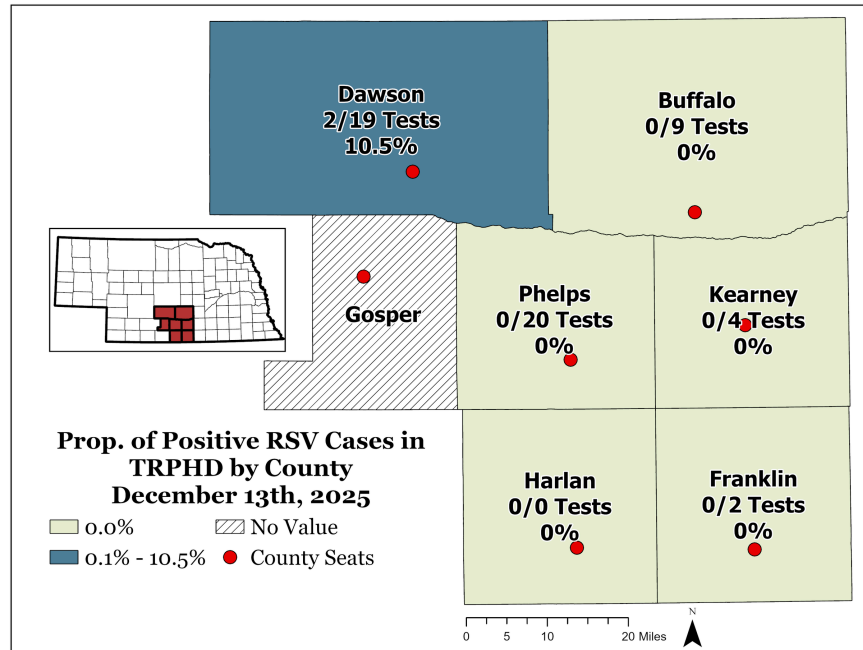
Influenza

- Hospitalizations due to Influenza-like-Illnesses (ILI) has been steadily increasing across the past 4 weeks.
- The persistent presence of 50-64 year olds and the increase in hospital occupancy are cause for close consideration and planning.



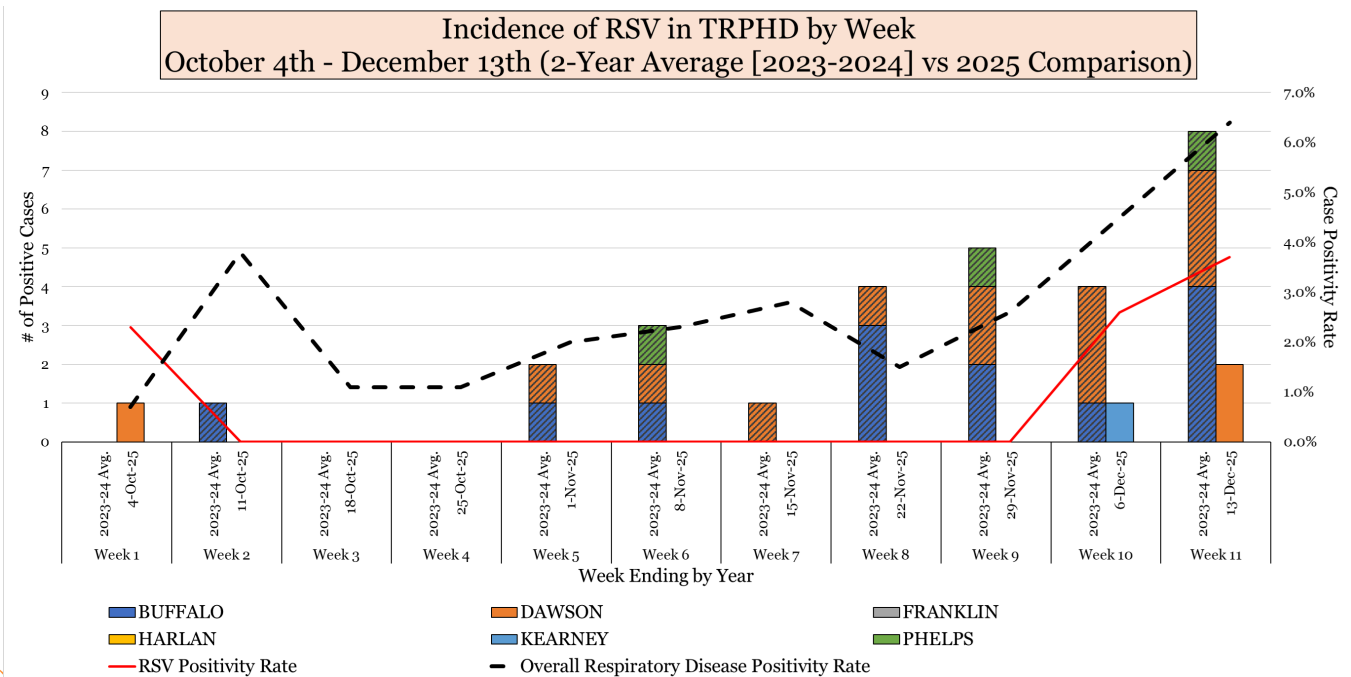
TRPHD RSV Cases

December 13, 2025



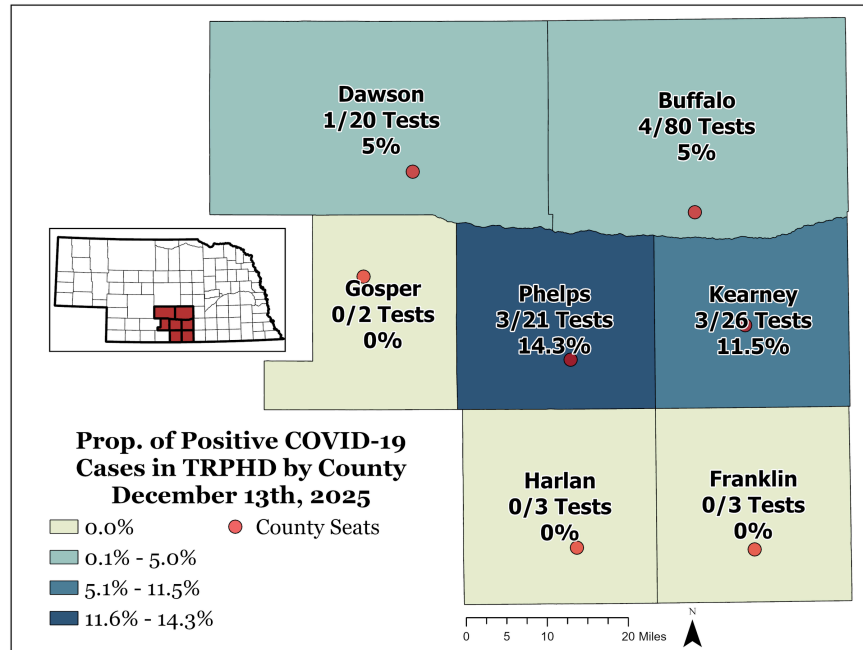
Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)

- 2 cases of RSV were detected in TRPHD in the past week, both in Dawson County.
- RSV incidence has been appreciably lower than in previous years in 2025.



TRPHD COVID-19 Cases

December 13, 2025



COVID-19

- COVID incidence in TRPHD has remained significantly lower than in previous years.
- Test Positivity Rate has not breached 10% this season, unlike previous years, where more tests were conducted overall, with higher positivity rates.

