

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: two in Buffalo, two in Dawson, one each in Harlan, Kearney, and Phelps, and none in Franklin or 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

- Two Rivers had a quiet start to flu season last week, with 2 cases of influenza B recorded in Buffalo County.
- 5 cases of COVID were reported from Buffalo and Kearney Counties. This is less than 14% of the long term average of cases reported for this time in the year.
- Although weekly flu testing seems to continue along 2024 rates, low incidence of respiratory disease continues to mark the early respiratory season 2025-26.

Data Insights

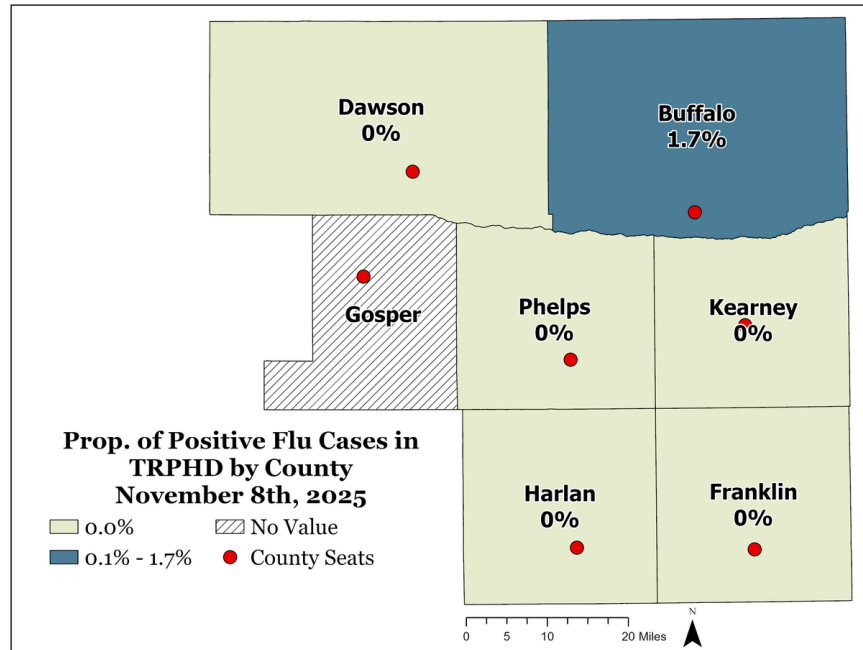
- Overall Respiratory Disease Positivity Rate is calculated by the following equation:
 - We applied a 3% overlap adjustment between Flu A and Flu B positive tests to account for the likelihood that a small percentage of individuals tested positive for both.

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

- 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.

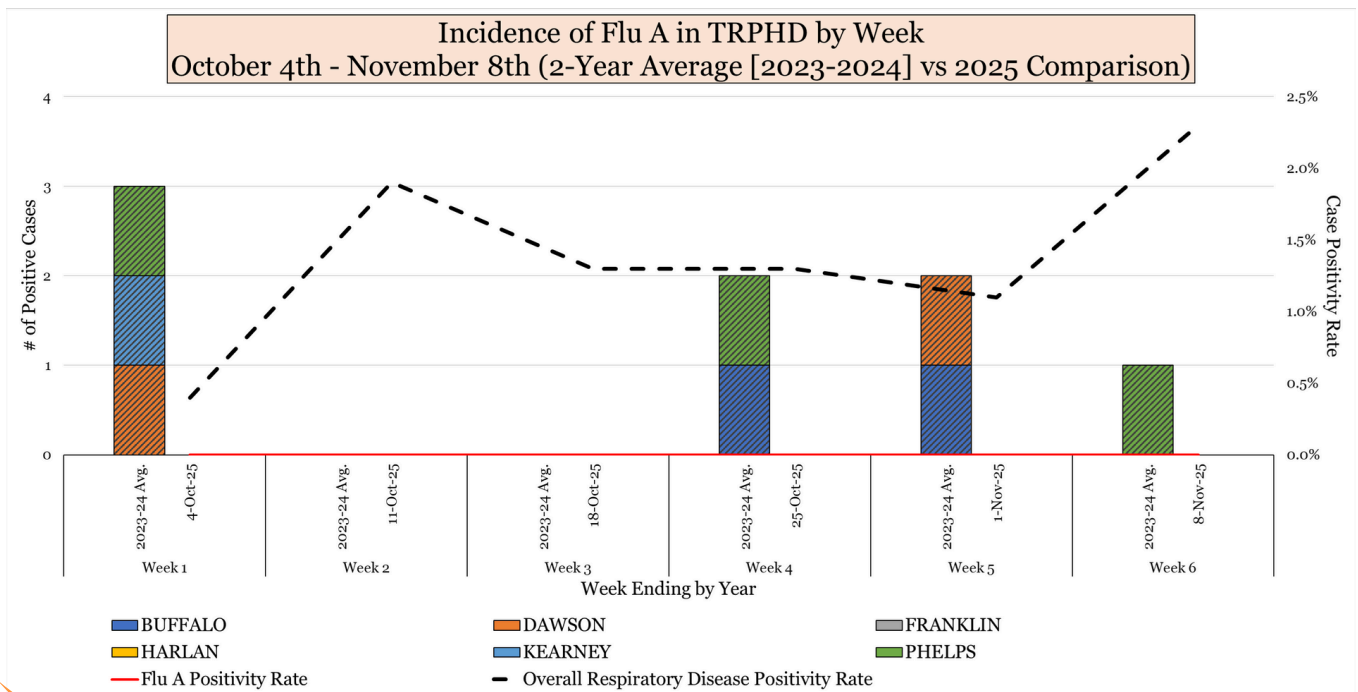
TRPHD Flu Cases

November 8, 2025



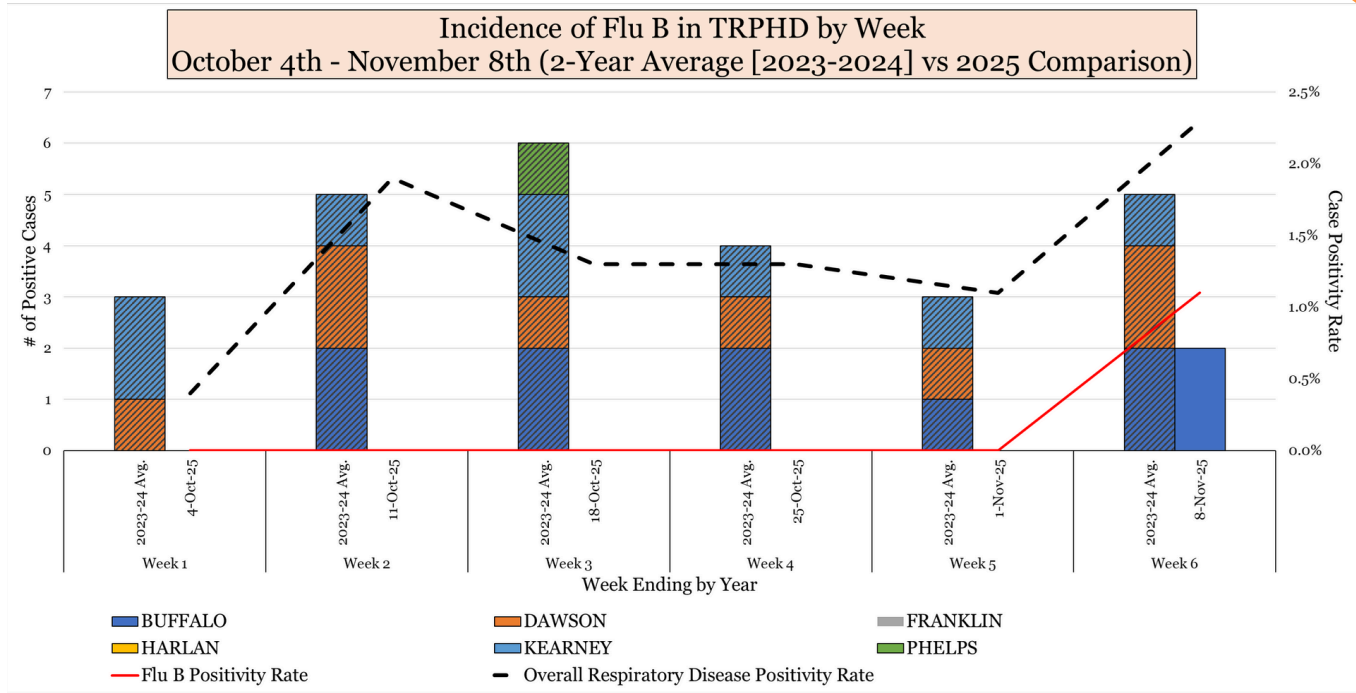
Influenza

- Only 2 cases of flu B were detected across TRPHD in the past week. No new flu A cases were reported.
- Testing is robust, over 180 tests were conducted across the district in the past week.



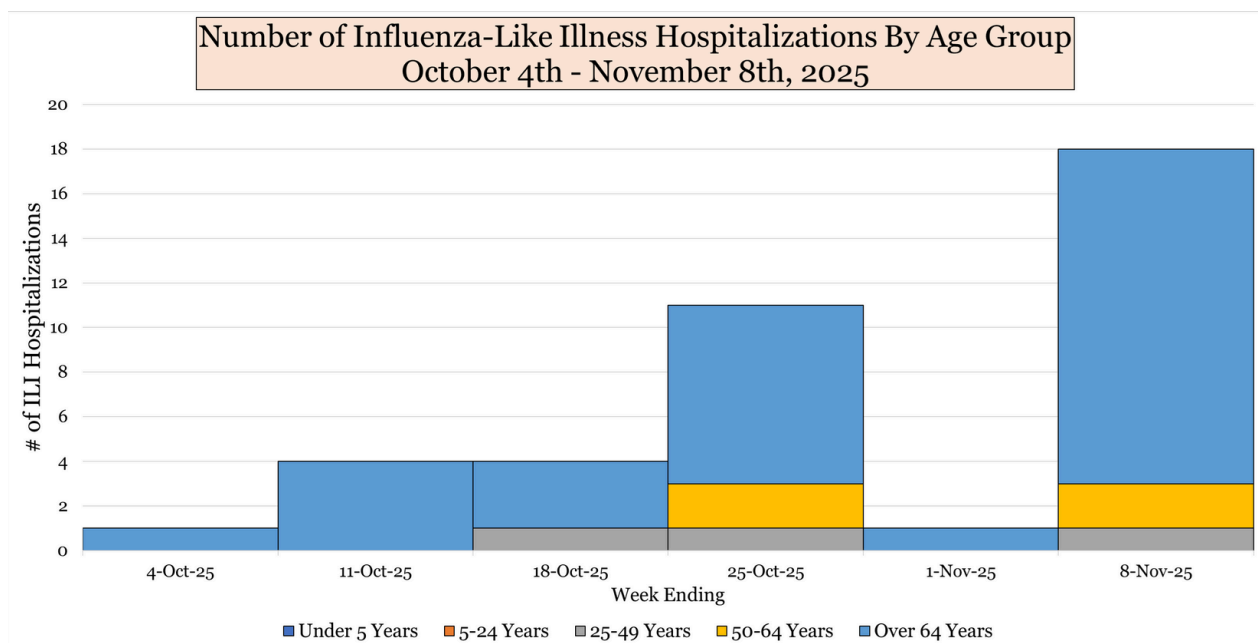
TRPHD Flu Cases

November 8, 2025



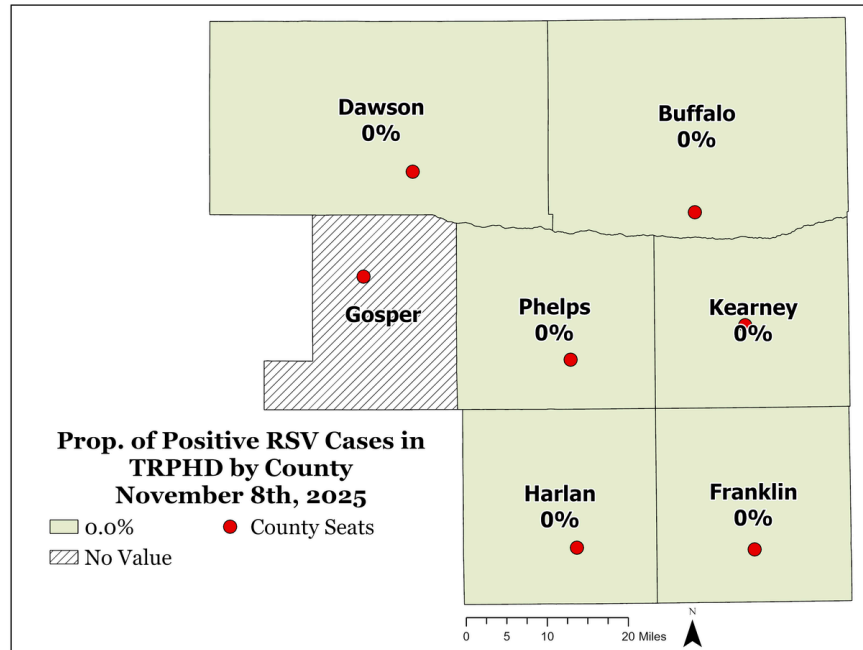
Influenza

- Over 18 hospitalizations for influenza-like-illnesses (ILI) were recorded in this week. This is over 1.5 times the highest weekly ILI hospitalization census for this respiratory season.



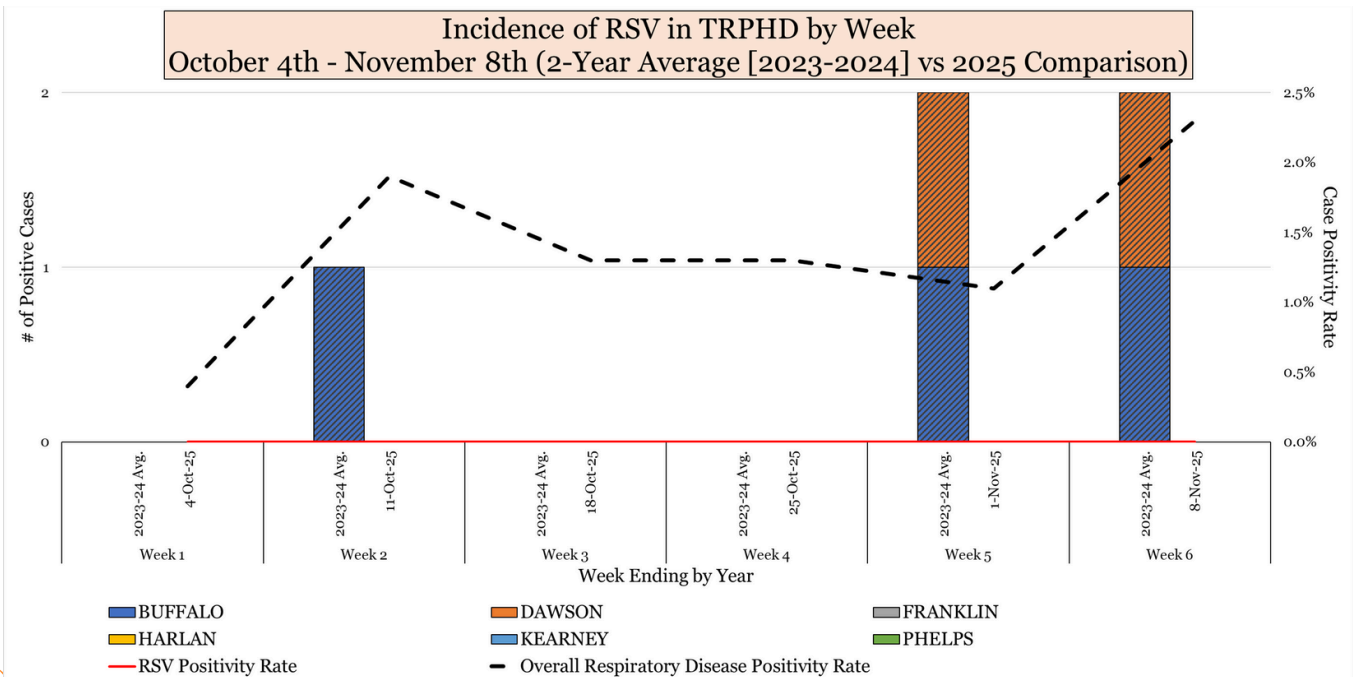
TRPHD RSV Cases

November 8, 2025



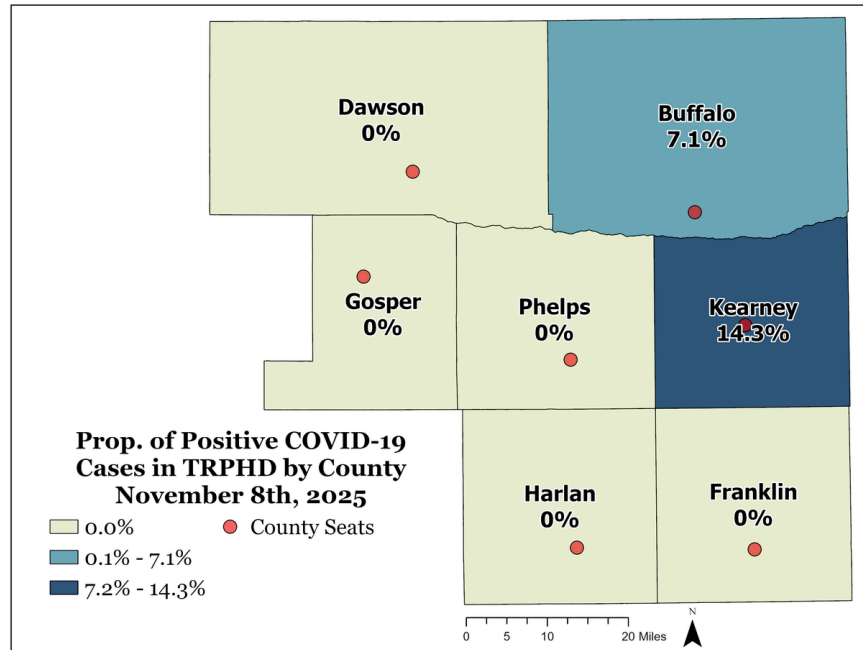
Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)

- No new cases of RSV were detected in the past week in TRPHD.



TRPHD COVID-19 Cases

November 8, 2025



COVID-19

- 5 new cases of COVID were reported from Buffalo and Kearney Counties in the past week. COVID Test positivity rate is 5%.
- COVID incidence is significantly lower compared to the long term average for this time of the year in TRPHD.

