• 224 cases of COVID-19 were recorded in TRPHD between December 15 - December 21. A little under 10% of all tests recorded in the district are positive. Over 50% of all tests outside long term facilities in Holdrege were positive in the last month, compared to 15 & 20% of tests in Lexington and Kearney cities respectively.

• As of Wednesday morning, there were 6 available ICU beds in TRPHD. Med/Surg bed availability is about 30% across the district currently. 14 patients are on ventilator support, half of them suffering from COVID-19.

• A public COVID testing site is now open in Kearney city at the Buffalo County Fairgrounds. Testing results are available the same day and are offered Mondays & Wednesdays 9:30AM - 12:30PM. Those desirous of COVID testing are required to register at www.trphd.org for scheduling.

• As of Dec 22, 2021, half of the total population of TRPHD has received the minimum recommended dose of COVID vaccine (1 or 2 as indicated). Over 51% of the population has received at least one dose so far. TRPHD strongly urges all unvaccinated vaccine-eligible residents to avail of the COVID vaccination through their healthcare provider, pharmacy or TRPHD. For schedule of vaccination clinics, see www.trphd.org

• For these reasons, the risk dial is lowered from last week in the ‘severe’ (red) zone. The dial reading reflects lower test positivity rates across TRPHD, improved ICU and hospital bed availability, and lower case rates in two of the three major cities in the district.
To conclude, 224 new COVID cases were detected in the Two Rivers area last week. ICU bed availability has improved, although med/surg bed availability continues to hover around 30% across the district. COVID patients account for half of all ventilator use currently. TRPHD has scheduled mobile vaccination clinics across the district, schedule can be found at https://www.trphd.org/covid-19/event-calendar.html. TRPHD is also operating a public COVID testing site at the Buffalo County Fairgrounds 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM, Mondays and Wednesdays. Those eligible for vaccines or booster doses are advised to contact their physician or their local pharmacy. To access services through Two Rivers health department, residents are required to visit www.trphd.org to register an appointment (for COVID testing or vaccination).