



## COMMUNITY CARE NETWORK OF KANSAS

Health. Equity. Justice.

### What We Know Now

November 24, 2021

*A compilation of the latest news surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic from the Community Care Network of Kansas. Published on Mondays, Wednesdays and*



*Fridays. Visit our [COVID-19 Resources](#) page for complete, updated information.*

### Community Care Member Update

**Today's Spotlight** is on **HealthCore Clinic**, which offered this timely message for the holiday:

“Thanksgiving is a fun time to be around family, friends and loved ones. Taking precautions can make this a much safer time than it was in 2020. Getting vaccinated is the best defense against COVID-19, however, it is important to still wear a mask when gathering and to practice social distancing. Check out our safety tips ([here](#)) to have a happy and healthy Thanksgiving this year.”

\* \* \*

We also wish everyone a happy and healthy Thanksgiving. The Community Care office will be closed Thursday and Friday in observance, and will reopen Monday, November 29.

### From KDHE/Governor's Office/Statehouse

Latest statistics: 461,163 positive cases, 6,673 deaths, 15,582 hospitalizations and 20 MIS-C cases (Multi-system Inflammatory Syndrome in Children associated with COVID-19). Since Monday, there have been 2,943 new cases, 30 deaths and 92 hospitalizations reported.

According to the Kansas WebIZ vaccination tracker ([here](#)), 3,464,062 doses have been administered in Kansas out of the 4,486,180 doses distributed. 1,745,362 people (56.2% of the population) have had



COMMUNITY CARE  
NETWORK OF KANSAS  
Health. Equity. Justice.

[www.communitycareks.org](http://www.communitycareks.org) 11.24.2021

their first dose; 1,394,863 (48.8%) have had their second doses; and 323,836 have had their third dose of the vaccine series.

Governor Laura Kelly signs bill in response to federal vaccine mandate. Read the press release [here](#).

There will be no COVID-19 Update for Local Partners webinar this week. The next one will be from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. (CST) Thursday, December 2. Dial-in: (312) 626-6799; ID: 349 823 849; Password: KDHECOVID.

### **From the White House COVID-19 Team**

The latest state profile report from Washington shows Kansas:

- In the red zone for new case rate with 268 per 100,000 population, ranked 30<sup>th</sup> in the nation;
- In the light red zone for test positivity with 10.2%, ranked 38<sup>th</sup>;
- In the orange zone for hospitalizations with 5.9 confirmed and suspected admissions per 100 beds, ranked 28<sup>th</sup>;
- In the yellow zone for rate of COVID-19 deaths with 0.7 per 100,000 population, ranked 5<sup>th</sup>;
- 1,887,295 people received at least one vaccine dose (64.8% of total population);
- 1,575,790 people fully vaccinated (54.1% of total population, 31<sup>st</sup> in the nation); and
- With a “high” community transmission level.

### **From the White House**

Update on implementation of COVID-19 vaccine requirement for federal employees. The federal government has achieved 96.5% compliance (with 92.0% receiving at least one dose). Read the full briefing [here](#).

### **From the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

CDC issued several updates, including:

- COVID-19 Forecasts: Deaths ([here](#)),
- Previous COVID-19 Forecasts: Hospitalizations ([here](#)),
- COVID-19 Forecasts: Cases ([here](#)),
- Improving Ventilation in Your Home ([here](#)),
- Cases in the U.S. ([here](#)), and
- Overall U.S. COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution and Administration ([here](#)).

### **From the U.S. Food & Drug Administration**

In the latest Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update ([here](#)), FDA announced it had authorized three over-the-counter COVID-19 antigen diagnostic tests:

- InBios SCoV-2 Ag Detect Rapid Self-Test ([here](#)),
- Access Bio CareStart COVID-19 Antigen Home Test ([here](#)), and
- Becton, Dickinson and Company BD Veritor At-Home COVID-19 Test ([here](#)).

## From the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

HHS, through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), began distributing \$7.5 billion in American Rescue Plan (ARP) Rural payments to providers and suppliers impacted by the pandemic and who serve rural Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and Medicare beneficiaries. Recipients included 692 Kansas providers who received a collective \$135 million. The news release can be read [here](#).

HHS announced the availability of \$35 million in ARP funding to enhance and expand the telehealth infrastructure and capacity of Title X family planning providers. "These ARP funds will facilitate the delivery of quality family planning services and reduce access barriers for people living in America who rely on the healthcare safety net for services," said Adm. Rachel Levine, Assistant Secretary for Health. Applicants can begin the application process on [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) and apply by February 3, 2022. More information about the Title X family planning program can be found [here](#).

Statement by HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra on OMB release of federal COVID-19 vaccination data. Read the release [here](#).

## From the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Providers that received one or more Provider Relief Fund (PRF) payments totaling more than \$10,000 during the first payment Received Period must report by November 30 to avoid further enforcement actions like repayment or other debt collection activities. The original deadline to report on how providers used the funds was September 30, but HHS observed a 60-day grace period. For more information, click [here](#). The PRF Reporting Portal is [here](#).

## From Media Reports

COVID rates are getting worse in Kansas ahead of Thanksgiving. These counties have the worst numbers. Read more at The Topeka Capital-Journal [here](#).

See where U.S. COVID cases and hospitalizations are surging. Read more at The New York Times [here](#).

Kansas lawmakers pass a bill to allow exemptions to vaccine mandates, and governor will sign it. Read more at Kansas News Service [here](#).

Kansas Gov. Laura Kelly signs special session bill allowing unvaccinated workers to keep jobs. Read more at the Kansas Reflector [here](#).

