



NEWS RELEASE

Mary Brumage
Public Information Officer
(970) 522-3741 x1257
maryb@nchd.org

July 8, 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW AND IMPROVED NORTHEAST COLORADO HEALTH DEPARTMENT COVID-19 DATA DASHBOARD

Sterling, Colo. – July 8, 2022: As we continue to track COVID-19 for the longer term, we want to ensure that our community has access to relevant data. Because of this, the Northeast Colorado Health Department (NCHD) has updated our COVID-19 dashboard with improved navigation, combined case and vaccination data, and more informative details. As our capacity grows, we continually have access to new data for tracking trends over time. Therefore, the new dashboard will be updated three times a week on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday by 10 am. Another notable improvement is the data will now scale appropriately to be viewable from mobile devices.

New navigation buttons across the top of the dashboard will allow users to view detailed case, hospitalization, death, and vaccination data, as well as an overview button that includes an at-a-glance summary of our six-county health district. The default view is reported cases in the health district within the last 7 days, but filters allow users to view different timeframes and specific counties.

Additional improvements include removing the incarcerated population filtering option and active cases chart. This information has become less relevant over time and is no longer an accurate representation of what is occurring in the community. However, we

continue to track all outbreaks, including those among incarcerated, long-term care facilities, and schools, so that information is available for decision-makers when needed.

The most significant revision was with the way in which Covid-19 deaths are reported. Previously reported deaths were among cases with Covid-19, which included 331 total, some of whose primary cause of death was not Covid-19. Now, with access to more detailed Vital Statistics data, we can now report deaths due to Covid-19, meaning there are 311 total deaths in our health district which Covid-19 was listed as the cause of death on the death certificate.

Please note that there are often lags in deaths reported due to the time it takes to process death certificates and identify the cause of death. Death data is updated once a week and is grouped monthly to better see the trends over time. In addition, any months with 3 or fewer deaths are suppressed due to privacy.

For any questions regarding the changes or NCHD data in general, please contact Shanna Wisdom, Data Analyst, at shannaw@nchd.org or 970-522-3741 ext 1273.

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