

COVID cases rise in Atchison Co; KDHE identifies cluster sites

(KAIR)--A five-case increase, over a one week period, in the number of active coronavirus cases in Atchison County.

The uptick is shown in virus-related statistics released Wednesday by the Atchison County office of the Northeast Kansas Multi-County Health Departments.

According to the figures, Atchison County currently has 46 active cases of COVID-19, compared to 41 active cases reported November 10.

The latest statistics show that five of the Atchison County cases involve children under the age of 5; five cases involve children between the ages of 5 to 12; seven cases are those aged 13 to 21; 12 are aged 22 to 35; three are 36 to 50; six are 51 to 65; and eight of the cases involve those over the age of 65.

The number of hospitalizations in Atchison County, due to the coronavirus, increased by one over the one week period, with 6 currently hospitalized.

The county has has 2,494 cases since the start of the pandemic.

27 have died.

Meanwhile, the state of Kansas has recorded a sixth child death related to COVID-19, as well as an uptick in school-based COVID clusters.

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment's update Wednesday showed 152 active clusters, up from 143 last week.

Among the clusters are 54 in K-thru-12 schools, encompassing 694 cases. The number is up from 45 K-thru-12 clusters a week ago. The clusters include 19 schools considered exposure locations, up from seven a week ago.

KDHE defines exposure locations as places with five or more COVID cases in the past 14 days.

Among area northeast Kansas schools on the list is Effingham USD 377, with five cases; Jefferson West Elementary, with 5 cases; Troy USD 429 pre-K-thru-8, with 10 cases; Valley Falls Elementary 2nd grade, with 6 cases; and Valley Heights Junior High in Blue Rapids, with 9 cases.

