

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.**

