

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

From: Shalei Shea, RN BSN

McPherson County Health Department Director and McPherson County Health Officer

May 20, 2021

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19) IN MCPHERSON COUNTY

COVID-19 data in McPherson County can be found on the home page of mcpersoncountyks.us, under "McPherson County COVID-19 Dashboard." This data will continue to be updated Tuesdays and Thursdays of each week. Written releases like this one will be posted once a week on Thursdays, unless needed otherwise.

After assessing current new case trends, vaccination rates, and CDC and KDHE recommendations, McPherson County Health Department (MCHD) recommends the following beginning May 20, 2021:

- Individuals that have been fully vaccinated for at least 2 weeks do not need to wear masks or distance (unless in a healthcare setting like a hospital)
- Entities and businesses may continue to be more stringent in both private and public situations at their discretion

Quarantine guidelines for fully vaccinated individuals have changed. Vaccinated persons with an exposure to someone with COVID-19 are not required to quarantine if they have been fully vaccinated for at least 2 weeks and have remained asymptomatic since the exposure. Previously there was a time cap of 6 months after being fully vaccinated.

Quarantine guidelines for those that have been diagnosed with COVID-19 by PCR or antigen testing have not changed. At this time, someone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 has a presumed 6 month immunity. Someone that has been exposed to COVID-19 but has been diagnosed with COVID-19 within the 6 months prior to exposure are not required to quarantine.

McPherson County is vaccinating anyone 12 years old and above for COVID-19. You may call MCHD at 620-241-1753, your local healthcare provider, or pharmacy for an appointment. You may also search for locations using vaccinefinder.org.

- As of May 20, 2021, according to the Kansas Immunization Registry, KSWEBIZ, 15,276 doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered to McPherson County residents. The majority of doses administered have been Moderna (10,710), followed by Pfizer (3,981) and Johnson and Johnson/Janssen (585).
- As of May 19, 2021, according to the CDC COVID Data Tracker (<https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view>), 36.5% of McPherson County's population has been fully vaccinated. 42.7% of the population 12 years old and above are vaccinated, 46.9% of the population 18 years old and above are vaccinated, and 77.8% of the population 65 years old and above are vaccinated. More information can be found on their website.

KDHE and MCHD continue to mandate a 10-day quarantine for Kansans. **This quarantine does not apply if you have been fully vaccinated for at least 2 weeks and are asymptomatic.**

- Traveled on or after May 20 to Maine or the Colorado counties of Alamosa, Baca, Costilla, Dolores, Mesa, Mineral, Otero, Prowers, Rio Grande, Saguache, Sedgwick or Yuma, Costa Rica, French Guiana, Georgia, Lithuania or the Netherlands
- Traveled on or after May 6 to the Colorado counties of Adams, Arapahoe, Archuleta, Bent, Conejos, Crowley, Douglas, Elbert, El Paso, Fremont, Huerfano, Jefferson, Larimer, or Pueblo, or Cabo Verde, India, Maldives or Seychelles
- Traveled on or after April 22 to Minnesota, Argentina, Bahrain or Sweden
- Traveled between March 12-May 20 to State of Palestine
- Traveled between April 22-May 20 to Croatian, Cyprus or Turkey
- Traveled between May 6-May 20 to Colorado counties of Bent, City and County of Denver, Chaffee, Lake, Park, Phillips, Rio Blanco or San Juan
- Traveled between April 8-May 20 to Pennsylvania
- Traveled between March 26-May 20 to Delaware, Michigan or Rhode Island
- Attended/traveled to a mass gathering event out-of-state of 500 people or greater where individuals did not 6-foot distance and wear masks
- Traveled on a cruise ship or river cruise