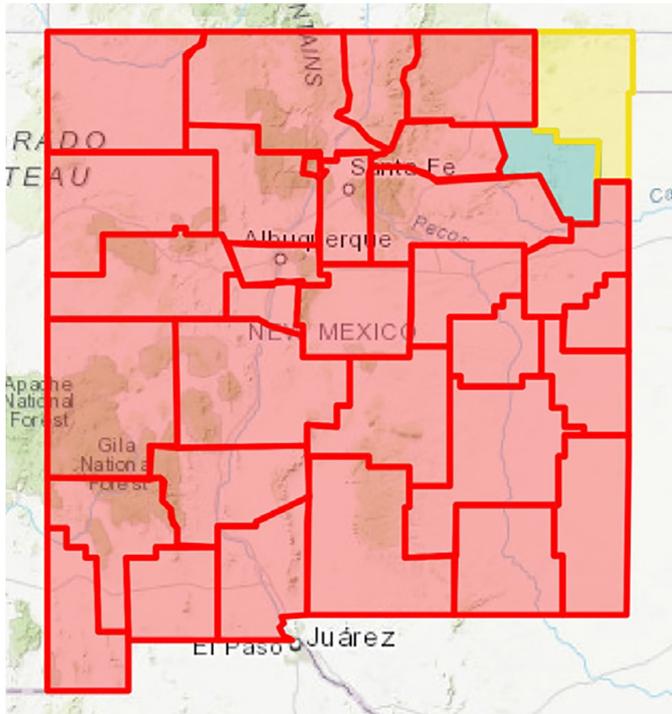


January 13 dashboard shows two counties outside the red zone for COVID-19

Written by Staff Reports
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SANTA FE – The New Mexico Department of Health announced the updated statewide COVID-19 map for the two-week period beginning Jan. 13, with 30 counties at the Red Level.

Twenty counties saw a higher average daily per-capita rate of new cases in the last two weeks, and 17 counties saw a higher test positivity rate; 16 counties worsened in both metrics. Only 12 counties improved in both of the two health gating criteria metrics.

The state's county-by-county system uses key health metrics – the per-capita daily incidence of new COVID-19 cases and average COVID-19 test positivity within county borders – to determine the level of public health risk and requirement for each county.

A county that meets one criterion may operate at the Yellow Level; a county that meets both may operate at the Green Level.

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Harding County met both health metric thresholds and may now operate at the Green Level.

Union County met one of the health metric thresholds – with a positivity rate of 3.8 percent – and may operate at the Yellow Level.

Catron County, which had reached the Yellow Level on Dec. 30, saw dramatic increases in both health metrics and returned to the Red Level requirements on Jan. 15.

Eleven counties, one third of the state's counties, reported a positivity rate below 10 percent, close to the state threshold of 5 percent.

WORSENING PER-CAPITA CASE RATES

Between Dec. 30 and Jan. 13, 20 counties saw their per-capita new daily case rate increase. Those counties are: Catron, Colfax, Curry, De Baca, Doña Ana, Eddy, Grant, Hidalgo, Lincoln, Los Alamos, Luna, McKinley, Otero, Quay, Rio Arriba, San Juan, Sandoval, Santa Fe, Sierra, and Taos.

Catron, Hidalgo, Lincoln, Sierra and Quay saw the greatest increases by percentage.

McKinley County has the highest average daily per-capita case rates, at 104.9 per 100,000 as of Jan. 13. It is followed by San Juan County (103.4), Eddy County (102.4), Chaves County (85.6) and Lea County (84.8). The state threshold for moving to a less restrictive level is 8 per 100,000.

The counties of Bernalillo, Chaves, Cibola, Guadalupe, Harding, Lea, Mora, Roosevelt, San Miguel, Socorro, Torrance, Union and Valencia saw improvements in their per-capita new daily case rate, with Harding, Mora, Union, Socorro and Roosevelt making the greatest improvements by percentage.

WORSENING POSITIVITY RATES

Seventeen counties saw their test positivity rates increase. Those counties are: Catron, Colfax, De Baca, Doña Ana, Eddy, Grant, Guadalupe, Hidalgo, Lincoln, Luna, McKinley, Otero, Quay, Rio Arriba, Sandoval, Santa Fe and Sierra.

Catron, Quay, Lincoln, De Baca and Otero saw the greatest increases by percentage.

De Baca County has the highest positivity rate in the state, with 31.25 percent of tests returning positive as of Jan. 13. It is followed by Lea County (30.69 percent), Eddy County (27.26 percent), Catron County (20.69 percent) and McKinley County (20.41).

The state threshold for moving to a less restrictive level is 5 percent.

The counties of Bernalillo, Chaves, Cibola, Curry, Harding, Lea, Los Alamos, Mora, Roosevelt, San Juan, San Miguel, Socorro, Taos, Torrance, Union and Valencia saw improvements in their test positivity rate.

Harding, Union, Socorro, Mora and Roosevelt made the greatest improvements by percentage.

POPULOUS COUNTIES

Bernalillo, Doña Ana, Santa Fe, Sandoval and San Juan — the state's five most populous counties, saw mixed results, with three of the five worsening in both health metrics.

Bernalillo County, meanwhile, improved in both metrics, and San Juan improved in one of the

two.

The color-coded tier system – Red Level, Yellow Level and Green Level – enables counties to shed restrictions and provide local communities the flexibility to operate more day-to-day activities as soon as public health data shows the virus is retreating within their borders.

The public health order, the red-to-green framework and frequently asked questions are all available at cv.nmhealth.org/redtogreen , where New Mexicans can also view the test positivity rate and new case incidence for each county as of Dec. 2.

The new statewide vaccine dashboard website introduced on Jan. 14 at <https://cvvaccine.nmhealth.org/public-dashboard.html> , offers key up-to-the-day statistics about the state’s vaccination effort, including vaccines received in New Mexico, vaccines administered, vaccines administered in the last seven days, and total registrants to New Mexico’s vaccine registration website, vaccinenm.org. The site also features a map with the location of every active vaccination provider in the state.

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