EXECUTIVE ORDER AND COVID-19 UPDATE

9/14/21 All Business Meeting



GUNNISON COUNTY COVID-19 PROGRESSION

Month	Positive Cases	Among Locals	% Cases Locals	Among Youth	% Cases Youth	% Cases Not Vaccinated	% Hospitalizations Not Vaccinated
July	63	39	62%	7	11%	79%	97%
August	182	139	76%	26	14%	72%	94%
September until 9/7	84	74	88%	25	30%	71%	95%
September Prediction	>350			>100			



CASES WEEK OF 9/5 - 9/11/21

- Testing yielded 54 positives for Gunnison County residents
 - This includes individuals with a Gunnison County address and Western students
- The Gunnison Watershed School District has developed a new tracker and graphic display for COVID-19 cases related to the schools
 - Information can be found <u>here</u>
 - There is also a data studio that shows daily testing related to GWSD



VACCINATION UPDATE

- More than 11,000 Gunnison County residents are fully vaccinated
 - This represents nearly 72% of the vaccine eligible population
 - OR 63% of the total population of the County
- Vaccination continues to prove the best defense against COVID-19
- Since July 1, 74% of cases in Gunnison County are in individuals not/not fully vaccinated
- Statewide, approximately 90% of COVID-19 hospitalization are individuals not/not fully vaccinated
- Statewide, vaccinated individuals are:
 - 3.4x less likely to be infected
 - 3.7x less likely to be hospitalized
 - 5.8x less likely to die from COVID-19
- Vaccines widely available in Gunnison County with Pfizer available through Clark's Market, Gunnison Valley Family Physicians in CB, and by appointment with HHS



PRESIDENT'S EXECUTIVE ORDER

- This is not legal advice and I am not an attorney. Please contact your own representation as needed
- Requires Department of Labor/OSHA to create a Emergency Temporary Standard
 - This is forthcoming but is expected to be written in 'weeks'
 - OSHA is expected to have the ability to lobby fines to business (up to \$14k per)
- Applies to businesses with 100+ employees
- Also seems to apply to any healthcare provider that receives reimbursement for Medicare/Medicaid
- Requires vaccination OR weekly COVID-19 testing
- Requires employers to provide paid-time-off for vaccination or any resulting adverse side effect that requires an employee to miss work
- *Federal employees & contractors covered by Executive Orders with more direction expected by 9/24



ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

- President Biden has also announced the use of the Defense Production Act to accelerate, and subsidize, the production of rapid COVID-19 tests
 - This is necessary to support the alternative to vaccination as positioned by the Executive Order
- Theoretically, rapid tests will be more readily available and sold at cost in major brick and mortar pharmacies across the country in the coming weeks
 - Walmart, Kroger, and Amazon has also offered a price concession
- Also 'called' upon large venues (sports stadiums, music venues, etc.) to require vaccination or proof of a negative COVID-19 test before entry
 - There is no obligation for this, but it was requested



GJ CHAMBER INFO SESSION

- Additionally, the Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce will be hosting an informational event on the President's Executive Order
 - Wednesday, 9/14/21
- Those seeking more information or wishing to attend, please reach out to Diane Schwenke and ask about attendance at the Wednesday webinar
 - diane@gjchamber.org



QUESTIONS?

