

THIS IS A RAPIDLY EVOLVING AND FLUID SITUATION. INFORMATION AND ACTION ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANY TIME. BE PREPARED TO BE FLEXIBLE AND PATIENT.

The situations, numbers, website links, data, and etc. described below were current as of Monday, 4/19/2021 at 3:40 p.m.

PLEASE DISTRIBUTE THIS WIDELY

4/19/2021 Crowley/Otero COVID-19 Update #1: Status Update

Please take the time to read and understand this entire message.

Internet links: Before I send out each update, I check the links to make sure they are active. However, links do change from time to time, so the links I sent out today may not be the same tomorrow. You may have to search around a bit.

1. Current Crowley/Otero COVID-19 Status:

- ✓ NOTE: Even though the statewide COVID-19 Dial was discontinued on 4/16/2021, I continue to use both Dial 2.0 and 3.0 PON metrics as a gauge to COVID-19 status in Crowley and Otero Counties.
- ✓ Crowley
 - Currently compliant for both Dial 2.0 and 3.0 PON. In fact, Crowley is currently “green across the board” for Dial 3.0 PON metrics.
 - Current epi curve shows a short-lived increase, brief stabilization, then a decline.
 - What does this mean?: Currently, case incidence rates, test positivity, and testing rates are all looking good in Crowley County. Let’s keep it this way, so please continue to closely follow the local public health requirements/recommendations as outlined below. And to all of those that are doing this to the very best of your ability, THANKS!
 - CDPHE currently has Crowley County categorized as Green Level ([COVID-19 dial dashboard | Colorado COVID-19 Updates](#))
- ✓ Otero
 - Currently noncompliant for both Dial 2.0 and 3.0 PON.
 - The current epi curve shows a gentle incline to the slope when compared to our last surge, which displayed a very steep slope. Additionally, the 7 day average recorded for 4/17/2021 shows a very slight decline to the slope. Current daily changes in our 1 week incidence rates are interspersed with increases, decreases, and no change. This can be contrasted with our last surge, which consistently displayed daily increases in case rates over the previous days.
 - What does this mean?: We are seeing a steady appearance of new cases on the front end, but at the same time we are seeing a similar (not exactly the same) number of cases drop off of the back end of the 1 week incidence rate, which has a sort of stabilizing effect on the epi curve (slight to no increase in slope) and the weekly incidence rate. We need to do our best to ensure that we do not see another surge in cases that makes the slope of the epi curve steep and results in daily increases in case numbers when compared to the previous days. Please continue to closely follow the local public health requirements/recommendations as outlined below. And to all of those that are doing this to the very best of your ability, THANKS!
 - CDPHE currently has Otero County categorized as Blue Level ([COVID-19 dial dashboard | Colorado COVID-19 Updates](#))
- ✓ Additional/new public health requirements: Based upon the most current data, I do not see a need to implement new/additional public health requirements at this time. Please continue to closely follow the requirements/recommendations found in #2 directly below so we can keep it this way.

2. Crowley/Otero Post Statewide COVID-19 Dial Requirements & Recommendations: Effective 4/16/2021 and until further notice, the following are the local COVID-19 requirements & recommendations for Crowley and Otero Counties after the expiration of the statewide COVID-19 Dial:

- ✓ **REQUIREMENTS:**

- **Masks continue to be required in the following settings/places (statewide requirement):**
 - Schools (including for extracurricular activities);
 - Child care centers;
 - Indoor children’s camps;
 - Public-facing state government facilities;
 - Emergency medical and other healthcare settings (including hospitals, ambulance service centers, urgent care centers, non-ambulatory surgical structures, clinics, doctors’ offices, and non-urgent care medical structures);
 - Personal services (i.e. hair salons, nail salons, esthetician services, body art professionals, etc.);
 - Limited health care settings as defined by Public Health Order (PHO) 20-36;
 - Congregate care facilities (nursing facilities, assisted living residences, intermediate care facilities, and group homes); &
 - Prisons and jails.

▪ **Under current state requirements, 6 foot social distancing is required between parties in mass indoor gatherings that exceed 100 people (for unvaccinated people or when vaccination status is unknown).**

✓ **RECOMMENDATIONS (NOT REQUIREMENTS) Additionally, I am making the following recommendations to help keep our case rates low:**

▪ **I would strongly urge all those that have not been vaccinated to wear a mask when in any public places, including employees/staff of businesses.**

▪ **If you have been vaccinated but you have not had 14 full days elapse since being vaccinated with Johnson and Johnson vaccine, or 14 full days have not elapsed since your booster shot (second shot) of Moderna or Pfizer vaccine, please wear a mask when in any public places, including employees/staff of businesses. This 14 day period allows your body the necessary time to develop immunity.**

Keeping COVID-19 cases down is a collective effort, we are all relying on one another, and we are all in this together. It’s up to us.

Richard Ritter, Executive Director
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