FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 17, 2021

43 new cases, 38,623 recoveries, and one more death related to COVID-19

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – On Thursday, the Navajo Department of Health, in coordination with the Navajo Epidemiology Center and the Navajo Area Indian Health Service, reported 43 new COVID-19 cases for the Navajo Nation and one more death. The total number of deaths is now 1,570. The report indicates that 38,623 individuals have recovered from COVID-19. 406,460 COVID-19 tests have been administered. The overall total number of positive COVID-19 cases is now 40,659, including one delayed reported case.

Navajo Nation COVID-19 positive cases by Service Unit:

- Chinle Service Unit: 7,199
- Crownpoint Service Unit: 3,870
- Ft. Defiance Service Unit: 4,711
- Gallup Service Unit: 6,679
• Kayenta Service Unit: 3,480
• Shiprock Service Unit: 7,274
• Tuba City Service Unit: 5,023
• Winslow Service Unit: 2,401

* 22 residences with COVID-19 positive cases are not specific enough to place them accurately in a Service Unit.

On Thursday, the state of Arizona reported 2,911 new cases, Utah reported 1,306 new cases, and New Mexico reported 1,299 cases.

“Get vaccinated for COVID-19, get your booster shot, and if you’re going to be around others during the holiday please get tested beforehand. We did not see a large surge after the Thanksgiving holiday and that’s thanks to all of our Navajo people for taking precautions. We have to continue that great effort and remain safe through the Christmas and New Year holidays. Please be safe, continue to pray, and please practice the safety measures that our health care experts put forth,” said Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez.

Health care facilities across the Navajo Nation continue to administer COVID-19 vaccines. If you would like to receive one of the COVID-19 vaccines, please contact your health care provider and schedule an appointment.

“We are in this together and we all have to support each other and keep pushing back on COVID-19. The holidays are a time of celebration among family and friends, but please do your best to ensure your safety and the safety of others,” said Vice President Myron Lizer.

For more information, including helpful prevention tips, and resources to help stop the spread of COVID-19, visit the Navajo Department of Health’s COVID-19 website: http://www.ndoh.navajo-nsn.gov/COVID-19. For COVID-19 related questions and information, call (928) 871-7014.

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