



The Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President

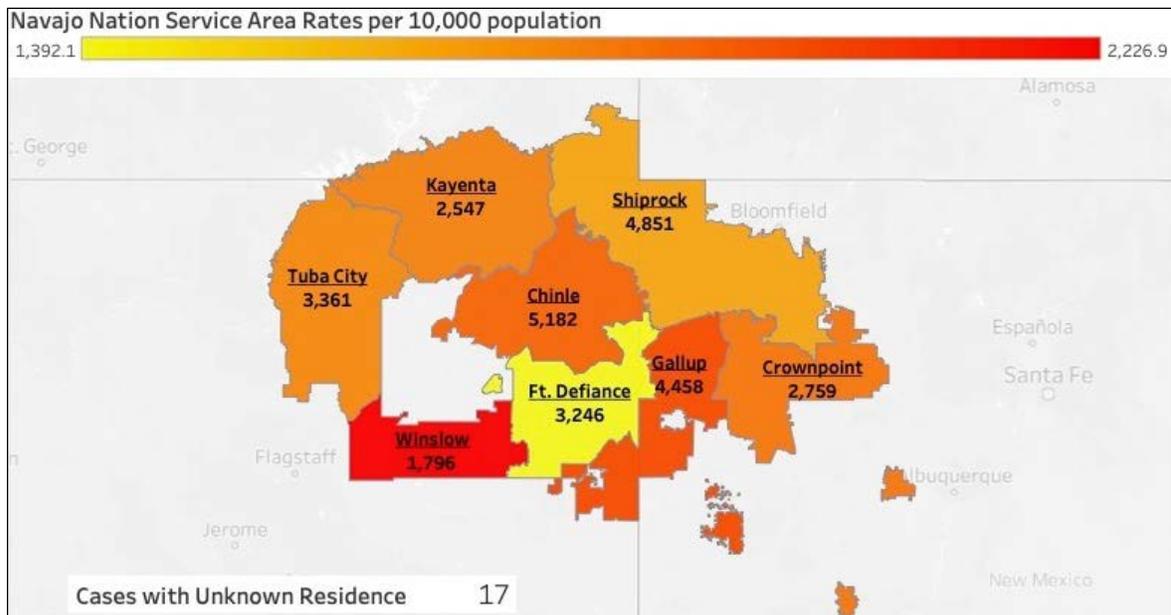
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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135 new cases, 14,374 recoveries, and three more deaths related to COVID-19 as weekend vaccinations continue



WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – On Saturday, the Navajo Department of Health, in coordination with the Navajo Epidemiology Center and the Navajo Area Indian Health Service, reported 135 new COVID-19 positive cases for the Navajo Nation and three more deaths. The total number of deaths is now 1,014 as of Saturday. Reports indicate that 14,374 individuals have recovered from COVID-19, and 231,739 COVID-19 tests have been administered. The total number of positive COVID-19 cases is now 28,217, including seven delayed reported cases.

Navajo Nation COVID-19 positive cases by Service Unit:

- Chinle Service Unit: 5,182
- Crownpoint Service Unit: 2,759
- Ft. Defiance Service Unit: 3,246
- Gallup Service Unit: 4,458
- Kayenta Service Unit: 2,547
- Shiprock Service Unit: 4,851

- Tuba City Service Unit: 3,361
 - Winslow Service Unit: 1,796
- * 17 residences with COVID-19 positive cases are not specific enough to place them accurately in a Service Unit.

On Saturday, the state of Arizona reported 5,119 new cases, Utah reported 1,468, and New Mexico reported 752 new cases. With the 57-hour weekend lockdown lifted, Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez visited the Gallup Indian Medical Center's vaccine site at the UNM-Gallup campus in Gallup, N.M. on Saturday, as health care workers offered approximately 800 doses of the COVID-19 vaccines to residents that live within the Gallup Service Unit.

"It's very uplifting to see many of our people, including many elders, receiving the COVID-19 vaccine. For nearly one year now, we've had an uphill battle against this virus. To see the smiles on the faces of our elders as they receive the vaccine inspires hope and reminds us all of the resilience of our Navajo people. We are overcoming COVID-19, but it is taking time and we all have to do our part to reduce the spread of the virus. Please adhere to the daily curfew from 9:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. each day. This is not the time to travel or to hold family gatherings. Keep fighting COVID-19 and don't let your guard up. Stay home as much as possible, wear a mask or even two masks in public, avoid crowds, practice social distancing, and wash your hands often," said President Nez.

On Sunday, Jan. 31, beginning at 9:00 a.m. (MST), Tséhootsooí Medical Center in Fort Defiance, Arizona will hold a drive-thru COVID-19 vaccine event for individuals 55 years and older with a medical record established at Tséhootsooí Medical Center and who live within the Fort Defiance Service Unit. 1,000 doses will be available on a first come, first serve basis. If you plan to receive the vaccine, please bring your ID and plan to arrive early. Long waiting times are anticipated so please bring snacks, water, and other necessary items. All vaccinations are voluntary. Please call (928) 729-3435 for more information or if you have questions regarding this vaccine event.

"We are making progress against COVID-19 thanks to the work of our health care workers, first responders, and many others who are contributing in many ways. Please be safe and continue to stay home as much as possible. The risks associated with COVID-19 are much greater in areas off the Navajo Nation, so please remain home and continue to take all precautions. Be safe and keep praying for all of our people," 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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