

Variants of interest cases climb in local counties

**(KAIR)--Atchison County has eight coronavirus cases listed as caused by variants of concern.**

**That's according to the latest statistics released Monday by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.**

**According to KDHE, the eight cases involve four different variants, which are named by health officials as those of concern due to evidence of an increase in transmissibility, and a more severe disease, leading to increased hospitalizations or death.**

**Two cases each, involving one variant of concern, are confirmed in Brown and Doniphan counties, while Jefferson County has 14 involving three variants. One variant-related case is confirmed in Jackson County, while ten cases, involving three variants, are confirmed in Leavenworth County. Six cases are listed in Nemaha County while five are confirmed in Pottawatomie County. According to state health officials, the cases in those two counties involve the one same variant in both.**

**As of May 15, Atchison County had a total of 15 active coronavirus cases, with one hospitalized.**

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