

As of October 31, there have been a total of 1,940 doses of H1N1 vaccine distributed by Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department and 1209 doses or 62.3 percent have been administered. Eighteen health care providers are vaccinating residents in southwest Nebraska. Mass immunization clinics have been done in several locations across the health district. Perkins County Schools, Hitchcock County Schools, Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture, Cambridge Schools, Arapahoe Schools and the McCook community have all had a mass immunization. Mass immunizations are advertised locally and more will be held weekly until Thanksgiving.

“The mass immunization clinics are being advertised locally, said Heidi Wheeler, Emergency Response Coordinator with Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department. “Check within your community to get the location and time.”

“We continue to receive limited amounts of H1N1 vaccine and supplies and will continue to distribute these to the medical providers as quickly as possible,” she said.

The CDC priority groups targeted for the H1N1 vaccine at this time include:

- Pregnant women
- Caregivers of children less than 6 months of age
- Persons aged 6 months to 24 years of age
- Health care and Emergency Services personnel
- Persons aged 25-64 years who have medical conditions that put them at higher risk for influenza related complications.