



July 24, 2020

For immediate release

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Panhandle total: 411, Active: 79, Recovered: 326, Deaths: 6

“We wish to express our heartfelt sympathy in the passing of a Scotts Bluff County female in her 70s with underlying health conditions. We must continue all increased prevention to guard our most vulnerable populations,” shared Paulette Schnell, Scotts Bluff County Health Department Director.

Her death is the sixth in the Panhandle due to COVID-19. Unified Command confirms seven more cases of COVID-19 in the Panhandle:

County	Demographics	Exposure Type
Cheyenne	Female in her 50s	Community Spread
Morrill	Male in his 70s	Travel
Scotts Bluff	Female in her 40s	Community Spread
Scotts Bluff	Female in her 50s	Travel
Scotts Bluff	Male in his 30s	Community Spread
Scotts Bluff	Male in his 40s	Close Contact
Scotts Bluff	Male in his 50s	Community Spread

The investigations are complete, all close contacts will be quarantined and actively monitored twice daily for fever and respiratory symptoms by public health officials.

One new recovery in Scotts Bluff County brings the total recoveries to 326.

Testing information and access for the Panhandle area:

- Chadron Community Hospital: Mondays & Fridays, 7-9am
 - Testnebraska.com
 - Collections are at 821 Morehead Street (Old Hospital ER Entrance next to Wilson Park)
- Community Action Health Center in Gering: Mondays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays, 7-8am
 - <https://tinyurl.com/y7msahzq>
- Morrill County Community Hospital: Daily
 - Call for testing, same day results, insurance will be billed

- Regional West Health Services: Monday-Friday, Noon-4pm
 - [Testnebraska.com](https://www.testnebraska.com)
 - This site is not currently showing up on the testing locations, but it is showing up as a testing option when completing the assessment.
- Increased testing through Test Nebraska to be coming soon to Alliance, Gordon, and Sidney!
- Contact your local hospital or clinic for information on testing access.

March 2-July 24, 2020

Total Tests Conducted: 7,186

Positive: 411

Cumulative Positivity Rate: 5.7%

Recovered: 326

Active Cases: 79

Active Hospitalizations: 3

Total Cumulative Hospitalizations: 41

Deaths: 6

- **Banner County: 2 cases (recovered)**
- **Box Butte County: 9 cases (5 active, 4 recovered)**
- **Cheyenne County: 25 cases (3 active, 22 recovered)**
- **Dawes County: 4 cases (recovered)**
- **Deuel County: 1 case (recovered)**
- **Garden County: 4 cases (recovered)**
- **Kimball County: 17 cases (2 active, 15 recovered)**
- **Morrill County: 57 cases (5 active, 52 recovered)**
- **Scotts Bluff County: 277 cases (63 active, 208 recovered, 6 deaths)**
- **Sheridan County: 9 cases (1 active, 8 recovered)**
- **Sioux County: 6 cases (recovered)**

Panhandle Public Health District, Region 21, 22, and 23 Emergency Management, and Scotts Bluff County Health Department are working as a unified command on this evolving situation. Essential updates will be regularly communicated to the public and community partners.

For the most up to date information from the CDC, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

Panhandle Public Health District is working together to improve the health, safety, and quality of life for all who live, learn, work, and play in the Panhandle. Our vision is that we are a healthier and safer Panhandle Community. Visit our website www.pphd.org.