



November 9, 2020

For immediate release

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Dawes County COVID death reported, Panhandle is now in the red at severe risk for COVID spread

Panhandle total: 3,645; Active: 1,657; Recovered: 1,972; Deaths: 17

A Dawes County female in her 90s is the most recent COVID death being reported, this brings the total deaths in the Panhandle to 17.

“We are deeply saddened to hear of her passing. We wish her family and friends peace and comfort during their time of loss,” expressed Kim Engel, Panhandle Public Health District Director.

The Panhandle Risk Dial has now entered red equating to severe risk of COVID spread. Guidance for when home and outside the home: at work, social settings and in public can be found at www.pphd.org.

Governor Ricketts announced today an updated Directed Health Measure that will take effect on Wednesday, November 11. Details can be found at <http://pphd.org/COVID-19.html>.

Unified Command confirms 538 more cases of COVID in the Panhandle and 200 recoveries since last reporting on Thursday, November 5. The investigations are underway, all close contacts will be quarantined.

| All Ages: 538 | | Recovered: 200 | |
|---------------|-------|----------------|-------|
| County | Cases | County | Cases |
| Banner | 0 | Banner | 0 |
| Box Butte | 45 | Box Butte | 24 |
| Cheyenne | 57 | Cheyenne | 23 |
| Dawes | 37 | Dawes | 23 |
| Deuel | 2 | Deuel | 3 |
| Garden | 6 | Garden | 1 |
| Grant | 0 | Grant | 0 |
| Kimball | 11 | Kimball | 8 |
| Morrill | 23 | Morrill | 21 |
| Scotts Bluff | 338 | Scotts Bluff | 81 |
| Sheridan | 19 | Sheridan | 16 |

| | | | |
|-------|---|-------|---|
| Sioux | 0 | Sioux | 0 |
|-------|---|-------|---|

| Exposure Type | |
|---------------------|-----|
| Community | 14% |
| Close Contact | 21% |
| Travel | 0% |
| Under Investigation | 65% |

Testing information and access for the Panhandle area:

- You can sign up for the following free testing at [Testnebraska.com](https://www.testnebraska.com) or 402-207-9377:
 - Box Butte General Hospital in **Alliance**: Monday-Friday, 9-10am
 - 212 East 24th Street
 - **Chadron** Community Hospital: Mondays & Fridays, 7-9am
 - 821 Morehead Street (Old Hospital ER Entrance next to Wilson Park)
 - **Other testing opportunities for symptomatic patients may be available through the hospital as ordered by your Primary Care Practitioner, call the hospital at 747-2466 with questions.**
 - **Gordon** Memorial Hospital: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 2-4pm
 - Regional West Health Services in **Scottsbluff**: Tuesdays & Fridays, 1pm-4pm; Call 308-630-2100 for other testing opportunities for symptomatic patients.
 - **Sidney** Regional Medical Center: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays, 7-9:30am
- Community Action Health Center in **Gering**: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays, 7-8am
 - Testing is free, sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/yydxr5mc>
- Alliance Community Pharmacy in **Alliance**: Monday-Friday, 7:30am-6pm; Saturday-Sunday, 9am-5pm
 - For people experiencing symptoms, same day results. Call 308-629-1045 for appointment, fee is \$125.
- Morrill County Community Hospital in **Bridgeport**: Daily
 - Call 308-262-1616 for testing, same day results, insurance can be billed.
- Contact your local hospital or clinic for information on testing access.

March 2-November 9, 2020

- **Total Tests Conducted: 21,955**
- **Positive: 3,645**
- **Cumulative Positivity Rate: 16.6%**
- **Recovered: 1,972**
- **Active Cases: 1,657**
- **Deaths: 17**
- **Active Hospitalizations: 78**
- **Total Cumulative Hospitalizations: 242**
- **Last week's positivity rate: 60.9%**

- **Last week's total cases: 894**
- **Doubling rate: 15 days**

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.