



December 10, 2020

For immediate release

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Thirteen COVID-related deaths in the Panhandle reported, Panhandle total deaths 95

Thirteen additional COVID-related deaths in the Panhandle are being reported. This brings the total deaths in the Panhandle to 95. The deaths are being announced as follows:

- **Cheyenne County**
 - Two males in their 60s
- **Kimball County**
 - Male in his 80s
- **Morrill County**
 - Female in her 80s
 - Two males: one in his 70s & one in his 80s
- **Scotts Bluff County**
 - Four females: one in her 70s, two in their 80s, & one in her 90s
 - Two males: one in his 60s & one in his 80s
- **Sheridan County**
 - Male in his 80s

“We share our heartfelt sympathies with the friends and loved ones in the loss of our fellow Panhandle residents. We wish you peace and comfort especially during this holiday season,” said Kim Engel, Panhandle Public Health District Director.

As we are enduring months of the COVID pandemic, we all may know someone that experienced the virus through mild, moderate, or severe symptoms, hospitalization, or had a friend or loved one pass from it. On a busy Scottsbluff street, fastened to a tree holds the story of a life lost to COVID. It states, “COVID killed John, my brother, please wear a mask.”

Each person’s story is unique and we remind our fellow Panhandle residents why this underscores the importance of dealing more kindly with one another and remaining stringent with COVID prevention.

Unified Command confirms 263 more cases of COVID in the Panhandle since last reporting on Monday, December 10. Recoveries are available on the Panhandle dashboard at www.pphd.org. The investigations are underway, all close contacts will be quarantined.

All Ages: 263

County	Cases
Banner	1
Box Butte	29

Cheyenne	25
Dawes	13
Deuel	5
Garden	3
Grant	0
Kimball	51
Morrill	17
Scotts Bluff	101
Sheridan	17
Sioux	0
Under Investigation	1

Exposure Type	
Community	33%
Close Contact	40%
Travel	0%
Under Investigation	27%

March 2-December 10, 2020

- **Total Tests Conducted: 28,069**
- **Positive: 6,790**
- **Recovered: 5,108**
- **Active Cases: 1,587**
- **Last Week's Positivity Rate: 58.9%**
- **Deaths: 95**
- **Active Hospitalizations: 52**
- **Total Cumulative Hospitalizations: 411**
- **Last week's cases: 501**
- **Doubling time (November 5-December 8): 33 days**

Avoid the Three Cs:

- **Avoid Crowded Places** – Avoid gathering in groups where you cannot maintain 6-foot of distance from others
- **Avoid Close Contact** – Wear a mask over your nose and mouth or maintain 6-foot distance when you are spending more than 15 total minutes with people you don't live with
- **Avoid Confined Spaces** – Avoid enclosed spaces with poor ventilation

Current COVID testing access can be found at www.pphd.org.

The Panhandle COVID dashboard is updated weekdays at 4:30 pm MT and available at www.pphd.org. For the most up to date information from the CDC, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

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.

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.