



July 27, 2020

For immediate release

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**Fair & 4-H organizers are working hard for a safe experience for all, fair-goers must be responsible when attending as well**

**Panhandle total: 415, Active: 68, Recovered: 341, Deaths: 6**

We understand how important 4-H and county fairs are to our communities and have been working very diligently with each of them for a safe experience for all attending to ensure compliance with the Governor’s Directed Health Measure.

Nebraska Extension has done an outstanding job overall with the reinforcement of safety practices through setting up shows, judging, and all the intricacies of 4-H projects in a very safe manner. The fairs have also been organizing and coordinating for the most up-to-date safety experiences, but attendees have an important role of staying in compliance with the safety precautions as well.

- Do not attend if you are experiencing any symptoms
- Sit as a household or as a group of eight at least six feet from other groups
- Wash or sanitize your hands frequently
- Wear a mask when possible and especially if you cannot practice social distancing

Unified Command confirms four more cases of COVID-19 in the Panhandle:

County	Demographics	Exposure Type
Box Butte	Male in his 60s	Community Spread
Morrill	Female in her 20s	Close Contact
Morrill	Female in her 60s	Close Contact
Scotts Bluff	Female in her teens	Close Contact

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

Fifteen new recoveries: four in Box Butte County, one in Kimball County, two in Morrill County, and eight in Scotts Bluff County brings the total recoveries to 341.

**Testing information and access for the Panhandle area:**

- Chadron Community Hospital: Mondays & Fridays, 7-9am
  - [Testnebraska.com](https://www.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>
- Gordon Memorial Hospital: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 2-4pm
  - [Testnebraska.com](https://www.testnebraska.com)
- Morrill County Community Hospital: Daily
  - Call 308-262-1616 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 and Sidney!
- Contact your local hospital or clinic for information on testing access.

**March 2-July 27, 2020**

**Total Tests Conducted: 7,311**

**Positive: 415**

**Cumulative Positivity Rate: 5.7%**

**Recovered: 341**

**Active Cases: 68**

**Active Hospitalizations: 4**

**Total Cumulative Hospitalizations: 41**

**Deaths: 6**

- **Banner County: 2 cases (recovered)**
- **Box Butte County: 10 cases (2 active, 8 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 (1 active, 16 recovered)**
- **Morrill County: 59 cases (5 active, 54 recovered)**
- **Scotts Bluff County: 278 cases (56 active, 216 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](http://www.pphd.org).