



June 21, 2021

For immediate release

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"We have a solution for COVID; we just need to use it." Dr. Matthew Donahue, Acting State Epidemiologist, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.

"The overall bottom line is – **vaccine is working** – keeping people out of the hospital, reducing transmission throughout our state; and it's doing it despite the presence of each of the primary variants detected in Nebraska." Stated Dr. Matthew Donahue, MD, Acting State Epidemiologist, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. Dr. Donahue joined to discuss the implications for the variants circulating specific to the Panhandle and the role of vaccination.

"It's all of our responsibility to talk to our loved ones and friends about vaccination. Vaccination is why fewer people are dying, why fewer people are hospitalized, and it's how we are getting back to normal." Dr. Donahue urged all of us to talk about why we chose to be vaccinated.

"Choosing vaccination is making our homes, workplaces, and get-togethers safer. We have a solution; we just need to use it."

There are 31 cases of the Delta B1617 variant identified in Nebraska; eight are in the Panhandle. If you have questions about the COVID vaccine, please reach out to your medical provider.

COVID Vaccine is available across the Panhandle; anyone 12 and older can get vaccinated! There is no charge for the vaccine.

- **Box Butte/Grant:** <https://tinyurl.com/25mwaapu> | [safeway.com](https://www.safeway.com)
 - *Walk-ins welcome*
 - **Dave's Pharmacy: Hemingford & Alliance**, Monday-Friday, 8 AM - 5:30 PM
 - **Alliance Community Pharmacy**, Monday-Friday, 7:30 AM - 6 PM
- **Cheyenne/Deuel:** <https://tinyurl.com/5b5uac8p> | [walmart.com](https://www.walmart.com) | [safeway.com](https://www.safeway.com)
- **Dawes/Sioux:** <https://tinyurl.com/x5d5nnbn> | [walmart.com](https://www.walmart.com) | [safeway.com](https://www.safeway.com)
 - *Walk-ins welcome*
 - **Western Community Health Resources**, Monday-Friday, 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM
- **Garden:** To schedule an appointment visit [vaccinate.ne.gov](https://www.vaccinate.ne.gov) and a provider will call you
 - *Walk-ins welcome*
 - **Regional West Garden County Clinic Front Desk**, Monday-Friday, 8 AM - 5 PM
- **Kimball:** <https://tinyurl.com/d2u8txrs>

- *Walk-ins welcome*
- **Kimball Health Services**, Monday-Friday, 8 AM - 4:30 PM
- **Morrill:** <https://tinyurl.com/sb8mvumm>
 - *Walk-ins welcome*
 - **Morrill County Hospital Clinic**, Wednesdays, 8 AM - 4 PM
- **Sheridan:** <https://tinyurl.com/cvrmkv38>
 - *Walk-ins welcome*
 - **Gordon Rural Health Clinic**, Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM- 9:30 AM
- **Scotts Bluff/Banner:** <https://tinyurl.com/w6b84fkf> | walmart.com | safeway.com | walgreens.com
 - *Walk-ins welcome*
 - **Gering CAPWN Health Center**, Monday-Friday, 9 AM-12 PM & 1 PM-4 PM
 - **Scottsbluff County Immunization Clinic**, Monday-Friday, 9:40 AM-12:30 PM & 1:30 PM-5:30 PM

People who are fully COVID vaccinated will not be required to quarantine due to close contact. If you have lost your COVID vaccine card, go to <https://tinyurl.com/2zh7uhhu>.

We are reporting the death of one Dawes County Female in her 80s. "We share peace and comfort with her friends and loved ones," said Engel.

Unified Command confirms 11 more cases of COVID in the Panhandle since last reporting on Monday, June 14. The investigations are underway; all close contacts will be quarantined.

Youth: 2	
0 – 9	0
10-19	2

All Ages: 11	
County	Cases
Banner	0
Box Butte	5
Cheyenne	1
Dawes	0
Deuel	0
Garden	0
Grant	0
Kimball	0
Morrill	1
Scotts Bluff	4
Sheridan	0

Sioux	0
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Exposure Type	
Community	36%
Close Contact	45%
Travel	0%
Under Investigation	18%

March 2, 2020-June 21, 2021

- **Total Tests Conducted: 39,748**
- **Positive: 9,165**
- **Last 14 days (active) cases: 25**
- **Last week's cases: 12**
- **Last week's positivity rate: 6.8%**
- **Deaths: 197**
- **Active Hospitalizations: 3**
- **Total Cumulative Hospitalizations: 555**

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

The Panhandle COVID dashboard is now being updated on Mondays only prior to the 3:30pm MT briefing 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.