



September 10, 2020

For immediate release

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**Governor’s Directed Health Measure moving to phase four tomorrow, September 11
Panhandle total: 730, Active: 84, Recovered: 640, Deaths: 6**

As we move into phase four of the Governor’s Directed Health Measure beginning tomorrow, September 11, the following sections will be updated to guidance and use is recommended:

- Bars & Restaurants
- Childcare Facilities
- Churches
- Gyms/Fitness Centers/Health Clubs/Health Spas
- Salons/Barber Shops/Massage Therapy Services/Tattoo Parlors
- Sports
- Wedding & Funeral Reception Venues

Indoor gatherings are at 75% of rated occupancy and outdoor at 100% of rated occupancy. Plans for reopening or expanding to new capacity limits must be submitted on Panhandle Public Health District’s website at: <http://pphd.org/COVID-19.html>.

An outline of the changes can be found here: <http://dhhs.ne.gov/Documents/COVID-19-Outline-of-Changes-to-Upcoming-DHMs-Phase-IV.pdf> with guidance documents (to be updated) accessible here: <http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/COVID-19-Nebraska-Guidance-Documents.aspx>.

Please continue all of the important precautions to protect you, your loved ones, and your community from the spread of COVID. Wear a mask when possible, stay at least six feet away from others, monitor for any symptoms, and stay home if you are not feeling well. Please practice these safety tips out of an abundance of kindness and humility for others.

Unified Command confirms 20 more cases of COVID in the Panhandle since last reporting on Tuesday, September 8. The investigations are complete, all close contacts will be quarantined and actively monitored for symptoms by public health officials.

Children 19 and under: 6		
County	Cases	Exposure Type
Dawes	3	Community Spread

Scotts Bluff	1	Close Contact
Scotts Bluff	2	Community Spread

Adults: 14		
County	Cases	Exposure Type
Box Butte	2	Community Spread
Cheyenne	1	Community Spread
Dawes	2	Close Contact
Dawes	1	Community Spread
Garden	1	Community Spread
Morrill	2	Community Spread
Scotts Bluff	4	Close Contact
Scotts Bluff	1	Community Spread

Unified Command confirms 18 more recoveries in the Panhandle:

Recovered: 18	
County	Total
Box Butte	2
Dawes	3
Scotts Bluff	11
Sheridan	2

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
 - Ambulance Bay on the east side of the emergency department, watch for the green arrows
 - **Chadron** Community Hospital: Mondays & Fridays, 7-9am
 - Collections are at 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**: Monday-Friday, Noon-4pm
 - **Sidney** Regional Medical Center: Tuesdays & Thursday, 7-9am
- Community Action Health Center in **Gering**: Mondays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays, 7-8am
 - Testing is free, sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/yydxr5mc>
- Morrill County Community Hospital in **Bridgeport**: Daily
 - Call 308-262-1616 for testing, same day results
- Contact your local hospital or clinic for information on testing access.

March 2-September 10, 2020

- **Total Tests Conducted: 12,805**
- **Positive: 730**
- **Cumulative Positivity Rate: 5.7%**
- **Recovered: 640**
- **Active Cases: 84**
- **Deaths: 6**
- **Active Hospitalizations: 7**
- **Total Cumulative Hospitalizations: 70**

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.