

STAY HOME – STAY HEALTHY – STAY CONNECTED

For more COVID-19 Information from the region, including previous issues of this report, click [here](#).

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Purpose: The purpose of this report is to provide an update to city officials within Region 22 about the current COVID-19 Pandemic. It is essential to keep in mind that this information often changes rapidly. Any questions, suggestions or concerns can be directed:

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COVID-19 Nebraska Cases:

As of 4:45 p.m., April 23, 2020. This information is updated daily and can be found by clicking [here](#).

United States Totals

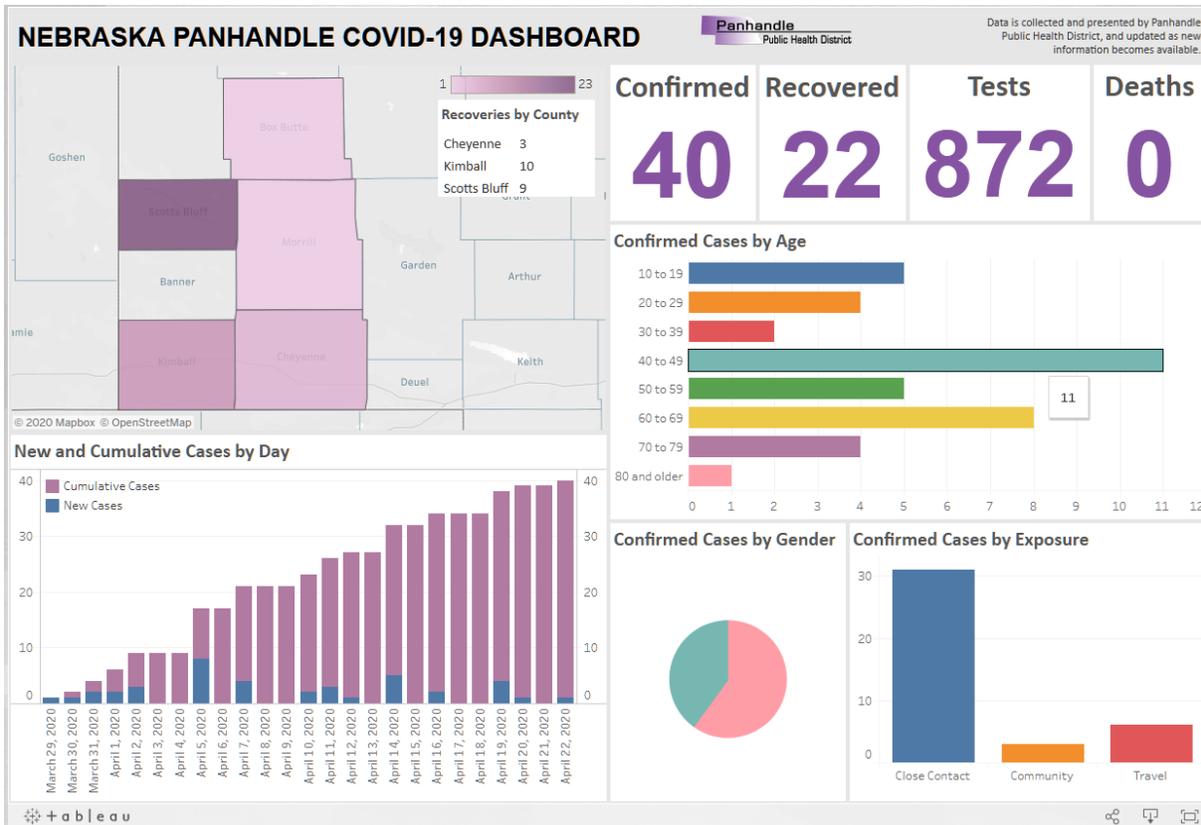
Total cases 828,441
Total Deaths 46,379

[Link to US CDC](#)

Nebraska totals

Positive tests 2,124
Negative tests 16,488
Total tested 18,701
Deaths 47

This dashboard is hot-linked to [phd.org](#).



Panhandle Cases:

Source: [Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services](#)

County	Panhandle	Scotts Bluff	Kimball	Cheyenne	Box Butte	Morrill
Total Tests	711*	283	80	164	51	63
Negative Tests	671	260	70	159	50	62
Positive Tests	40	23	10	5	1	1
Deaths	0	0	0	0	0	0
Recovered	22	9	10	3	0	0

* Does not include pending tests.

Spotlight on Recoveries

We wanted to bring attention to the fact that, while the Panhandle continues to have positive cases identified, we also have a number of residents that have recovered from the disease and are out of isolation. Of particular note is that Kimball County, a county that once had the highest case count in the Panhandle, now has no active cases. All ten positive cases have recovered and are out of isolation. Panhandle-wide, the recoveries are over 50% of the total cases. And so far, there have been no COVID-related deaths in the Panhandle. The low rate of spread in the Panhandle is a testament to the high adherence to the social distancing guidelines. Keep up the good work!

FEMA Grants Portal

New Information – The current COVID-19 crisis in Nebraska has been declared a Major Disaster by FEMA. The Disaster number is DR-4521. This declaration is made for the Public Assistance Program, which allows, states, counties, cities and villages to file a Request for Public Assistance (RPA). This also allows school systems and certain Private Non-Profits to file an RPA as well. All entities should be in the FEMA Grants Portal. If your entity has not yet registered in the Grants Portal, there are instructions and guides located [here](#). Even if your entity does not anticipate having costs associated with this disaster, still register in the portal. There are several pieces of information that needs to be uploaded into the system that can reside there until the next disaster. This includes insurance information, payroll policies, mutual aid agreements, etc. The entity does not have to know your exact costs or final expenditures to file the RPA. FEMA uses the number of RPA filings as a guideline to determine their staffing levels to be sent to the states when the time comes. Once again, that website is <https://nema.nebraska.gov/recovery/nebraska-covid-19-dr-4521>

Scams and Fraud

Homeland Security reminds everyone to be careful. There are many scams and fraud schemes trying to take advantage of the COVID-19 crisis. Do not click on unsolicited emails or texts. Ensure a secure browser connection. Make sure the URL begins with **https** only. Verify website trust seals before placing any online orders. Official U.S. Government websites end in **.gov** so inspect the URL of the website and verify the destination. Do not assume that an email that seems to come from someone you know is actually coming from them. Look at the sender's actual email address. The FBI has seen a rise in fraud schemes related to the crisis. Scammers are leveraging the COVID-19 pandemic to steal money, personal information, or both. Do research before clicking on links purporting to provide information on the virus; donating to a charity online or through social media; contributing to a crowdfunding campaign; purchasing products online; or giving up personal information in order to receive money or other benefits.

Governor Ricketts Rolls Out “TESTNEBRASKA.COM”

During his daily press briefing on Tuesday, Governor Ricketts announced a new initiative that will be starting in about 7 days. Partnering with a number of private companies, the State of Nebraska unveiled Test Nebraska. This new initiative has plans to be able to test up to 3,000 Nebraskans per day. For comparison, the State lab currently has a capacity of about 800-1000 tests per day. The public-private partnership will provide Nebraska an additional 500,000 tests than it currently has. Persons are encouraged to go now to www.testnebraska.com to begin an assessment. Testing will take place in phases. Phase one will be the health, medical and first responders. Phase two will be looking for those people who are symptomatic. Phase three will be the long-term phase and will be more asymptomatic population sampling. This testing will be free to the public. The State of Nebraska is paying for this testing.

Strategic National Stockpile

New Information – Since mid-March, three shipments of PPE have been distributed from the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) to each of the four regional states. Quantities were determined based on population recorded in the 2010 U.S. census. To date, the federal government has provided the following quantities from the national stockpile:

- *Iowa: Approximately 283,000 surgical masks, 261,000 pairs of gloves, 119,000 N95 respirators, 47,000 surgical gowns, 58,000 face shields and 1,900 coveralls.*
- *Kansas: Approximately 274,000 surgical masks, 257,000 pairs of gloves, 115,000 N95 respirators, 46,000 surgical gowns, 56,000 face shields and 1,900 coveralls.*
- *Missouri: Approximately 418,000 surgical masks, 336,000 pairs of gloves, 115,000 N95 respirators, 68,000 surgical gowns, 83,000 face shields and 2,000 coveralls.*
- *Nebraska: Approximately 227,000 surgical masks, 231,000 pairs of gloves, 96,000 N95 respirators, 39,000 surgical gowns, 47,000 face shields and 1,800 coveralls.*

Resources:

How to wear cloth face coverings and CDC guidance on homemade cloth face coverings click [here](#).

To find a Comparison of COVID-19 Loan Programs – Forgiveness Terms click [here](#).

Map of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in U.S. Counties: [March 1 through Today](#).

Small Business Guidance and Loan Resources can be found [here](#).

Nebraska DHHS COVID-19 information can be found [here](#).

For information on Potential Community Exposure Sites, please click [here](#).

To read the most recent Directed Health Measure (DHM) from the Governor, click [here](#).

The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency Daily Situation Report can be found [here](#). The information on this site is For Official Use Only, not to be shared with the general public.