

March 26, 2020 3:00 p.m.

Testing Update for Pueblo, CO #PuebloCOVID19

Public Health Officials from the Pueblo Department of Public Health and Environment announced two women tested positive for COVID-19. The two females ages 80 and 82 are unrelated cases from Pueblo County.

“As the number of positive COVID-19 cases increase, it is evident COVID-19 is in our community,” stated Randy Evetts public health director at the Pueblo Department of Public Health and Environment. Evetts added, “It is important to follow social distancing of six feet or more from each other to protect our family, friends, and neighbors.”

Public Health described one of the positive cases announced today was linked to the bridge games at the Colorado Springs Bridge Center where an individual from El Paso County tested positive earlier this March.

Public Health investigations are being conducted on these two new positive COVID-19 cases. Both of these cases live independently.

To date, in Pueblo County:

- There have been 217 tests administered in Pueblo County (including the 90 taken at the State Fairgrounds 3/19/20) sent to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and commercial labs are awaiting results. Currently it is taking seven or more days for test results to be reported to Pueblo’s Public Health.
- 73 tests previously sent have been returned with negative results.
- 137 test are pending
- 7* tests previously sent have been returned with positive results, five from Pueblo County, one from Crowley County, and one from Huerfano County.

*Please note, results are not all Pueblo County residents. Pueblo’s hospitals serve and test individuals from outside of Pueblo County.

Everybody has a responsibility to protect the community and our most vulnerable in Pueblo by:

- Minimize social activities and being physically close to other people.
- If you feel symptoms of shortness of breath, cough, temperature of 100.4 or higher, call your medical provider before visiting them.
- **Do not go to the emergency room unless medically necessary.**
- Wash your hands with soap regularly.

- Cough or sneeze into elbow or tissue.
- Stay home when you're sick.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth.
- Avoid close contact with sick people.
- Clean surfaces frequently touched.

Pueblo Department of Public Health and Environment encourages residents to seek out credible, reliable sources of information on COVID-19:

- www.puebloemergency.info
- Pueblo's COVID-19 Hotline 719-583-4444

All public and media inquiries in Pueblo are answered through the local hotline at Pueblo's Joint Information Center. Pueblo COVID-19 Hotline is answering questions 8 AM – 5 PM, Monday – Friday, 719-583-4444.