



LAS ANIMAS-HUERFANO COUNTIES DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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<https://www.colorado.gov/la-h-health>

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Kim Gonzales, Public Health Director

Huerfano County Reports Sixth Confirmed Case and Las Animas County Reports Thirteenth Confirmed Case of COVID-19

Las Animas Huerfano Counties District Health Department has received confirmation that two more Las Animas County residents have tested positive for Coronavirus Disease/COVID-19. Las Animas County now has thirteen cases within the county. Huerfano County has received confirmation of its sixth confirmed case within the community and is recovering.

The positive COVID-19 case in Las Animas includes a male in his 60's and a woman in her 30's who are recovering at home. Huerfano County COVID-19 positive case is a male in his 80's. The Las Animas Huerfano Counties District Health Department public health nurse has begun a contact investigation to determine if there were any additional exposures.

As we continue to see increases in cases for our neighboring counties and states, it's important to remain vigilant in our defense against COVID-19. As it was in the beginning, the following measures remain your best and first line of defense:

- Wash your hands thoroughly and often
- Continue to keep 6 feet of distance between you and others when at all possible
- Wear a facial covering when you are away from your home, and are unable to maintain 6 feet of distance from others.

As information continues to evolve around COVID-19 symptoms, there is one symptom that wasn't initially top of mind, and that is "a new loss of taste or smell". In a study done at University of California San Diego Health, it was found that if you have smell and taste loss, you are more than 10 times more likely to have the COVID-19 infection than any other causes of infection. However, the most common first sign remains fever, but fatigue and loss of smell and taste follow as other very common initial symptoms.

A list of symptoms is below; this list does not include all possible symptoms. Please also keep in mind that individuals can test positive, and be completely asymptomatic.

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat

- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea.

More information can be found at: <https://www.colorado.gov/la-h-health>
or at <https://covid19.colorado.gov/>. You can also find information on Facebook at Las Animas Huerfano
Counties District Health Department.