

## Media Information:

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## Yellowstone County Reports COVID-19 Related Deaths

**Billings, MT** – RiverStone Health, Yellowstone County's public health department, reports two more Yellowstone County residents have died due to COVID-19 related illness.

On Friday, October 23, a man in his 50s passed away in a Yellowstone County hospital.

On Saturday, October 24, a man in his 80s passed away in a Yellowstone County hospital.

To protect the privacy of the deceased and their families, RiverStone Health will not release further information.

These most recent deaths are reflected on the Sunday, October 25 state COVID-19 tracking map.

"In this time of sadness, I hope that the families and friends of the deceased find comfort in memories of joyous occasions and that their grief lessens in time," said John Felton, Yellowstone County Health Officer, President and CEO of RiverStone Health.

"An analysis by the Kaiser Family Foundation puts deaths from COVID-19 as the nation's thirdleading cause of death in 2020, behind only heart disease and cancer. And as of October 15, the confirmed COVID-19 mortality rate is 66.5 deaths per 100,000 population. Claiming the lives of more than 225,000 Americans, 297 Montanans and now 85 Yellowstone County residents, we all must work together to prevent more families from having to bury loved ones," said Felton.

To date, 5,952 Yellowstone County residents have been infected with COVID-19 and 85 have died.

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