

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 additional Yellowstone County residents have died due to COVID-19 related illness.

On Monday, December 7, a woman in her 80s passed away in a Yellowstone County hospital.

On Tuesday, December 8, a man in his 70s 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 Thursday, December 10 state COVID-19 tracking map.

RiverStone Health continues to work with the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services to reconcile discrepancies with the total number of deaths reported for Yellowstone County.

"I offer my sincere condolences to the families and friends of the deceased. I hope that the care and love of those surrounding them bring comfort and peace while they mourn the loss of their loved ones," said John Felton, Yellowstone County Health Officer, President and CEO of RiverStone Health.

"Deaths occurring in the holiday season are especially painful and losing loved ones to COVID-19 is even more tragic. While there is a safe and effective vaccine on the way, it doesn't come soon enough for the nearly 290,000 American families that have lost loved ones throughout the pandemic. While we wait for vaccine to become more plentiful, we must continue to help prevent more illness and death by wearing masks, maintaining our distance, avoiding crowds, washing hands, and staying home when ill," said Felton.

To date, 12,273 Yellowstone County residents have been infected with COVID-19 and 129 have died.