



## Navajo Nation: Covid-19 positive cases increase by 175 as 57-hour weekend lockdown begins

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** December 18, 2020

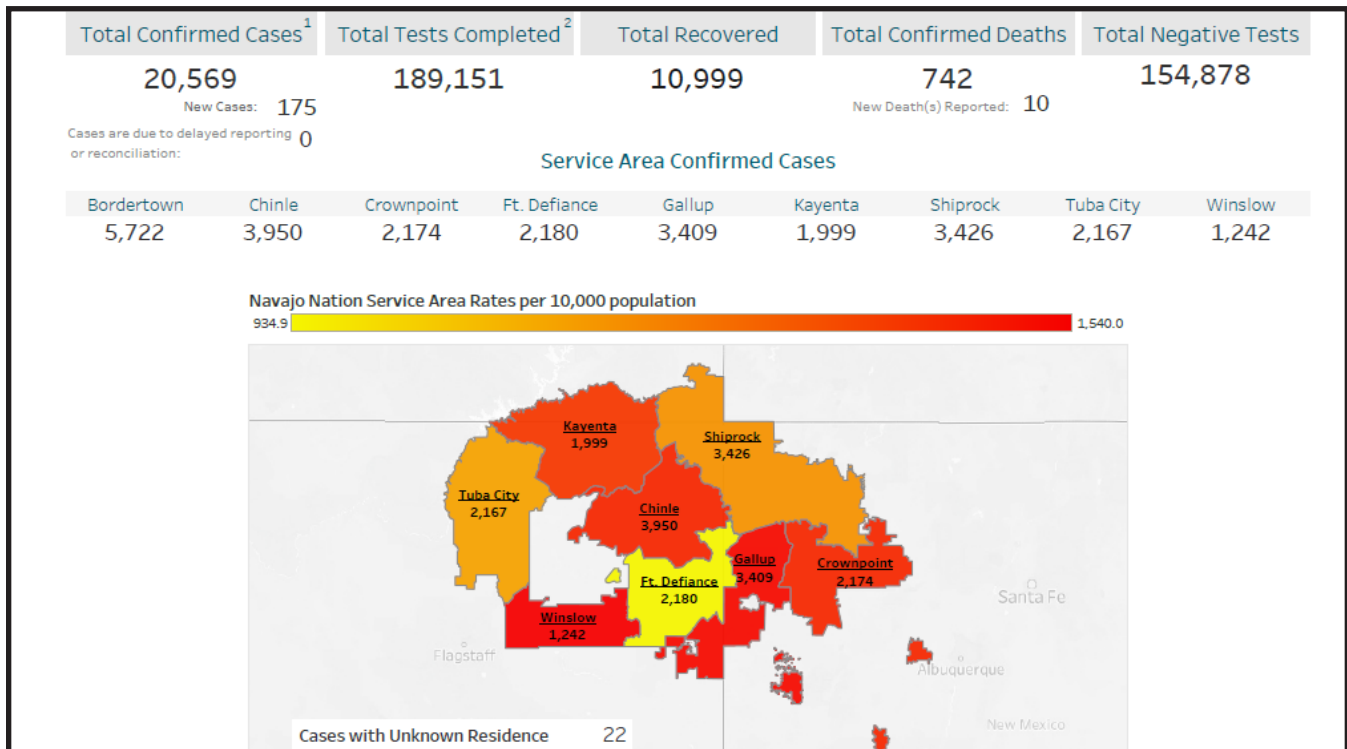


PHOTO: A screenshot of the Navajo Department of Health’s Covid-19 data dashboard for December 18, 2020. The website is accessible at: <https://www.ndoh.navajo-nsn.gov/COVID-19/Data>.

**WINDOW ROCK, Ariz.** — The Navajo Nation’s update to the coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic situation report from the Health Command Operations Center (HCOC) for December 18, 2020 included data for testing, results, recoveries and mortalities related to Covid-19 in and around the Navajo Nation.

175 new confirmed cases of Covid-19 were reported on Friday with 0 cases due to delayed reporting bring the total confirmed positive cases on the Navajo Nation to 20,569. The total number of mortalities related to Covid-19 increased by 10 within the 24-hour period, a total of 742 reported deaths since March. The report included 10,999 recovered cases. A total 189,151 Covid-19 tests have been completed with 154,878 tests that were returned with negative results.

“With more than 100 new cases reported yesterday and 175 new cases reported today, the number of Covid-19 cases on the Navajo Nation is pushing hospitals towards full capacity. Please stay home and do not gather together to celebrate the coming holidays in crowds or with people you don’t live with. We don’t feel the effects of this pandemic and the spread of this virus right away. Neither the symptoms nor the strain on our first responders is seen instantly, it takes anywhere from 2 to 14 days after exposure to see symptoms, but it can still be spread around during that time. Let’s follow the CDC guidelines together because that is how we will get through this,” said Speaker Seth Damon.

The Navajo Nation's three-week stay-at-home (shelter in place) order and 57-hour weekend lockdown continues this weekend from 8:00 p.m. on December 18 through 5:00 a.m. on December 21.

The Navajo Nation's roads remain closed to visitors, who are advised to refrain from traveling to the Navajo Nation. Tribal parks are not accessible to visitors and tourists during the declared public health emergency.

## More Data

### Navajo Nation Covid-19 Cases by Service Unit:

Chinle Service Unit:	3,950
Gallup Service Unit:	3,409
Shiprock Service Unit:	3,426
Crownpoint Service Unit:	2,174
Ft. Defiance Service Unit:	2,180
Kayenta Service Unit:	1,999
Tuba City Service Unit:	2,167
Winslow Service Unit:	1,242
Bordertowns:	5,722

62 chapters reported positive cases with the communities of heightened concern being: Kayenta (14), Tonalea (8), Shiprock (7), Tuba City (7), Leupp (6), Rock Springs (6), St. Michaels (6), Tachee/Blue Gap (6), Tsayatoh (6) and Cameron (5).

The NDOH and the Navajo Epidemiology Center provided the updated Covid-19 figures in coordination with tribally-controlled Public Law 19-638 healthcare facilities and the Navajo Area Indian Health Service. More information, including Covid-19 testing locations, can be found on the Navajo Nation's Covid-19 website at: <https://www.ndoh.navajo-nsn.gov/COVID-19>.

The HCOC General Hotline can be reached at (928) 871-7014. Inquiries and requests may be sent to [NNHCOCPlans@navajo-nsn.gov](mailto:NNHCOCPlans@navajo-nsn.gov). The HCOC hours of operation are Monday-Friday from 8am to 5pm, Saturday from 8am to 12pm and Sunday on standby status.

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