

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

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Big Horn County Announces 57th Death from COVID-19

18 newly-confirmed cases added

HARDIN, MONTANA (December 14, 2020) – Big Horn County today announced the 57th death of a County resident due to complications from the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19). The decedent is a woman in her 70's who was hospitalized prior to her death today, Monday, December 14, 2020.

Her family, friends, and the entire Big Horn County community is in the thoughts and prayers of the Big Horn County COVID-19 Response Unified Coalition as we all mourn her loss.

This is the 9th death recorded in December. The County's fatality rate is 2.8% (57 deaths out of 2,059 total cases).

Big Horn County added 18 new cases of COVID-19 on Monday, December 14, 2020. Four (4) patients were asymptomatic (without symptoms) and 14 presented with symptoms when tested. Seven (7) patients likely contracted the virus through community spread and 11 cases could be traced by public health to previously-known cases of coronavirus.

The new cases are:

Age Ranges	Female	Male	Totals
Under age 10	-	1	1
Age 10 – 19	3	4	7
Age 20 – 29	-	2	2
Age 30 – 39	1	2	3
Age 40 – 49	2	-	2
Age 50 – 59	-	-	-
Age 60 – 69	-	1	1
Over age 70	2	-	2
Totals	8	10	18

Total confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 in Big Horn County:

Age Ranges	Female	Male	Totals	Recovered	Active	Deaths
Under age 10	77	82	159			
Age 10 – 19	169	166	335			
Age 20 – 29	177	151	328			
Age 30 – 39	173	162	335			
Age 40 – 49	148	109	257			
Age 50 – 59	147	105	252			
Age 60 – 69	127	101	228			
Over age 70	99	66	165			
Totals	1,117	942	2,059	1,910	92	57

Recoveries in the County increased by 66 to 1,910. 57 persons are deceased. Of the 92 active cases, 74 patients are quarantining and recovering at home. The number of Big Horn County resident patients currently hospitalized in the region is 18.

Month	Number of Cases	Number of Deaths
April	3	-
May	27	-
June	44	3
July	249	5
August	357	8
September	294	7
October	456	17
November	473	8
December (12/14/2020 to date)	156	9
Total since Pandemic Began	2,059	57

With the holiday season, it is more important than ever to follow the three W's: Wash your hands; Watch your distance from other people; Wear a mask. The County asks all residents to please continue stay home more often and to avoid events or gatherings. Also, the Board of County Commissioners and Board of Public Health ask everyone to wear a mask and social distance when outside of their homes and in public. Masks are required when engaged in indoor activities, such as shopping. Masks are not necessary in the event that residents are outdoors and unlikely to come within six (6) feet of other people, such as while taking advantage of our beautiful county, to work, recreate, or exercise outside.

Tracking down contacts to a positive case (contact tracing) is one of the best tools public health can use to slow the spread of the virus. If you believe you were in the presence of a recently confirmed COVID-19 case for more than five (5) minutes, please call public health so that a nurse may interview you and determine what level of exposure you have:

- IHS Public Health Nursing: (406) 638-3478
- Big Horn County Public Health: (406) 665-8720

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Big Horn County is the sixth largest county in Montana, at approximately 5,023 square miles, and with a population exceeding 13,000. The local government was established January 13, 1913. Hardin is the County Seat. <https://www.bighorncountymt.gov/> For more information about the County's COVID-19 response, please visit our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/BHCMTResponds>.