

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Big Horn County Announces 13 Newly-confirmed Cases of COVID-19 *65 new recoveries*

HARDIN, MONTANA (December 21, 2020) – After no new cases on Sunday, December 20, 2020, Big Horn County added 13 new cases of COVID-19 on Monday, December 21, 2020. Four (4) patients were asymptomatic (without symptoms) and nine (9) presented with symptoms when tested. Six (6) patients likely contracted the virus through community spread and seven (7) 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	-	3
Age 20 – 29	-	-	-
Age 30 – 39	2	1	3
Age 40 – 49	1	2	3
Age 50 – 59	-	-	-
Age 60 – 69	1	-	1
Over age 70	2	-	2
Totals	9	4	13

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

Age Ranges	Female	Male	Totals	Recovered	Active	Deaths
Under age 10	82	85	165			
Age 10 – 19	174	170	344			
Age 20 – 29	180	152	332			
Age 30 – 39	181	165	346			
Age 40 – 49	150	113	263			
Age 50 – 59	150	108	258			
Age 60 – 69	130	103	233			
Over age 70	105	69	174			
Totals	1,152	965	2,117	1,975	83	59

Recoveries in the County increased by 65 to 1,975. 59 persons are deceased. Of the 83 active cases, 60 patients are quarantining and recovering at home. The number of Big Horn County resident patients currently hospitalized in the region is 23.

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 (12/21/2020 to date)	214	11
Total since Pandemic Began	2,117	59

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>.