

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

Rhonda Johnson, Public Information Officer, Big Horn County
(406) 679-0572

rjohnson@bighorncountymt.gov

Big Horn County Announces 46th Death from COVID-19

27 newly-confirmed cases added

HARDIN, MONTANA (November 17, 2020) – Big Horn County today announced the 46th death of a County resident due to complications from the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19). The decedent is a man in his 80's who was hospitalized prior to his death. He died today, Tuesday, November 17, 2020.

This is the 6th death recorded in November. The County's fatality rate is 2.7% (46 deaths out of 1,730 total cases).

We at the Big Horn County COVID-19 Response Unified Coalition extend our heartfelt sympathies to his family and friends on his loss.

Big Horn County added 27 new cases of COVID-19 on Tuesday, November 17, 2020. Four (4) patients were asymptomatic (without symptoms) and 23 presented with symptoms when tested. Of the 27 cases, 11 were likely contracted through community spread and 17 cases could be traced by public health to previously-known cases of coronavirus.

The new cases are:

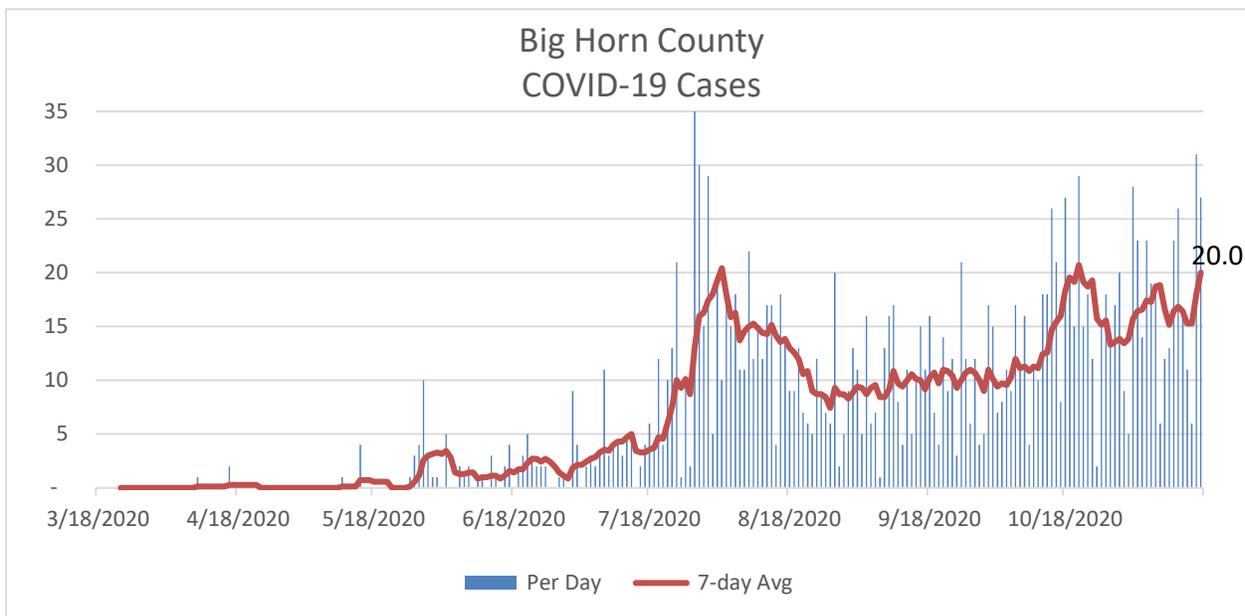
Age Ranges	Female	Male	Totals
Under age 10	2	1	3
Age 10 – 19	2	1	3
Age 20 – 29	2	-	2
Age 30 – 39	4	3	7
Age 40 – 49	1	3	4
Age 50 – 59	1	3	4
Age 60 – 69	-	1	1
Over age 70	2	1	3
Totals	14	13	27

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

Age Ranges	Female	Male	Totals	Recovered	Active	Deaths
Under age 10	69	70	139			
Age 10 – 19	137	133	270			
Age 20 – 29	153	135	288			
Age 30 – 39	147	144	291			
Age 40 – 49	119	95	214			
Age 50 – 59	124	91	215			
Age 60 – 69	96	86	182			
Over age 70	79	52	131			
Totals	924	806	1,730	1,506	178	46

Recoveries in the County remain at 1,506. 46 persons are deceased. Of the 178 active cases, 162 patients are quarantining and recovering at home. The number of Big Horn County resident patients currently hospitalized in the region is 16.

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 (11/17/2020 to date)	300	6
Total since Pandemic Began	1,730	46



With the rising trend in new COVID-19 cases, 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>.