

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Big Horn County Announces 36th Death from COVID-19

Five (5) additional cases of coronavirus

HARDIN, MONTANA (October 19, 2020) – Big Horn County today announced the 36th death of a County resident due to complications from the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19). The decedent is a man in his 70’s who was hospitalized prior to his death.

This is the 13^h death recorded in October. The County’s fatality rate remains at 2.9% (36 deaths out of 1,228 total cases).

The Big Horn County COVID-19 Response Unified Coalition shares in the sadness of his family, friends, and the entire community of Big Horn County during this difficult time.

Big Horn County added an additional five (5) new cases of COVID-19 on Sunday, October 18, 2020, for a total on the day of 27. All five (5) presented with symptoms when tested and likely contracted the virus through community spread, as there are no known contacts with previous cases at this time.

The new cases are:

Age Ranges	Female	Male	Totals
Under age 10	-	-	-
Age 10 – 19	-	-	-
Age 20 – 29	-	-	-
Age 30 – 39	-	1	1
Age 40 – 49	-	1	1
Age 50 – 59	1	1	2
Age 60 – 69	-	-	-
Over age 70	1	-	1
Totals	2	3	5

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

Age Ranges	Female	Male	Totals	Recovered	Active	Deaths
Under age 10	51	55	106			
Age 10 – 19	90	102	192			
Age 20 – 29	108	97	205			
Age 30 – 39	107	114	221			
Age 40 – 49	80	60	140			
Age 50 – 59	78	65	143			
Age 60 – 69	69	63	132			
Over age 70	53	36	89			
Totals	636	592	1,228	1,037	155	36

Recoveries in Big Horn County remain at 1,037. 36 persons are deceased. Of the 155 active cases, 135 patients are quarantining and recovering at home. The number of Big Horn County resident patients currently hospitalized in the region is 20.

Month	Number of Cases	Number of Deaths
April	3	-
May	27	-
June	44	3
July	249	5
August	357	8
September	294	7
October to date (10/18/2020)	254	13
Total since Pandemic Began	1,228	36

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>.