

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

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Big Horn County Announces Eight (8) Newly-confirmed Cases of COVID-19
Includes two (2) over the age of 70

HARDIN, MONTANA (October 16, 2020) – Big Horn County added eight (8) new cases of COVID-19 on Saturday, October 17, 2020. Six (6) presented with symptoms and two (2) were asymptomatic (without symptoms) when tested. Four (4) patients were found through contact tracing of previously-reported patients and four (4) 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	-	1	1
Age 20 – 29	2	-	2
Age 30 – 39	1	-	1
Age 40 – 49	1	-	1
Age 50 – 59	1	-	1
Age 60 – 69	-	-	-
Over age 70	2	-	2
Totals	7	1	8

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

Age Ranges	Female	Male	Totals	Recovered	Active	Deaths
Under age 10	50	54	104			
Age 10 – 19	88	100	188			
Age 20 – 29	105	96	201			
Age 30 – 39	105	111	216			
Age 40 – 49	79	58	137			
Age 50 – 59	76	64	140			
Age 60 – 69	69	60	129			
Over age 70	50	36	86			
Totals	622	579	1,201	1,037	129	35

Recoveries in Big Horn County remain at 1,037. 35 persons are deceased. Of the 129 active cases, 110 patients are quarantining and recovering at home. The number of Big Horn County resident patients currently hospitalized in the region is 19.

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 (10/17/2020)	227	12
Total since Pandemic Began	1,201	35

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>.