

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Big Horn County Announces 21 Newly-confirmed Cases of COVID-19

219 new cases of the coronavirus in October

HARDIN, MONTANA (October 16, 2020) – Big Horn County added 21 new cases of COVID-19 on Friday, October 16, 2020. Of the 21 new patients, 16 presented with symptoms and five (5) were asymptomatic (without symptoms) when tested. Nine (9) patients were found through contact tracing of previously-reported patients and 12 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	1	2	3
Age 10 – 19	1	1	2
Age 20 – 29	3	2	5
Age 30 – 39	3	2	5
Age 40 – 49	-	-	-
Age 50 – 59	-	1	1
Age 60 – 69	2	2	4
Over age 70	1	-	1
Totals	11	10	21

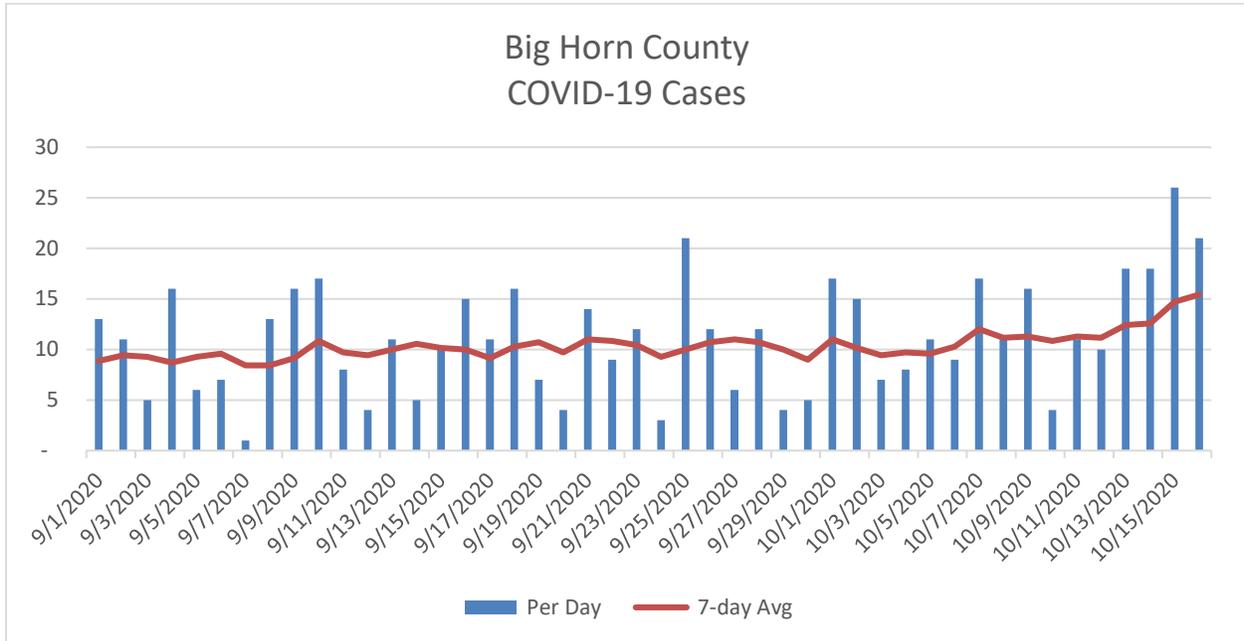
Total confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 in Big Horn County:

Age Ranges	Female	Male	Totals	Recovered	Active	Deaths
Under age 10	50	54	104			
Age 10 – 19	88	99	187			
Age 20 – 29	103	96	199			
Age 30 – 39	104	111	215			
Age 40 – 49	78	58	136			
Age 50 – 59	75	64	139			
Age 60 – 69	69	60	129			
Over age 70	48	36	84			
Totals	615	578	1,193	1,037	122	34

Recoveries in Big Horn County remain increased by 74 to 1,037. 34 persons are deceased. Of the 122 active cases, 103 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 (10/16/2020)	219	11
Total since Pandemic Began	1,193	34

From late August through the first part of October, the seven-day average – which is used to show a trend line in a volatile situation – for new cases of COVID-19 was fairly steady between 9 and 11 new cases per day. However, with the increase in new cases over the last few days, the trend in new cases has risen, and reached over 15 new cases per day on Friday, October 16, 2020.



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>.