

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 Two (2) Deaths from COVID-19
21 newly-confirmed cases of the coronavirus

HARDIN, MONTANA (October 13, 2020) – Big Horn County today announced the deaths of two (2) County residents due to complications from the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19). One (1) decedent is a man in his 60’s who died on Sunday, October 11, 2020 and one (1) is a woman in her 70’s who passed on Monday, October 12, 2020. Neither patient was hospitalized prior to their deaths.

With their passing, Big Horn County’s death toll from COVID-19 has reached 31 and the County’s fatality rate is 2.8% (31 out of 1,110 total).

The Big Horn County COVID-19 Response Unified Coalition wishes their family, friends, and the entire community of Big Horn County comfort and strength in this time of sorrow.

Big Horn County added 11 new cases of COVID-19 on Sunday, October 11, 2020 and 10 new cases on Monday, October 12, 2020 for a two-day total of 21 new cases of COVID-19. Of the 21 new patients, 17 presented with symptoms and four (4) were asymptomatic (not showing 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	-	-	-
Age 10 – 19	1	1	2
Age 20 – 29	3	3	6
Age 30 – 39	1	-	1
Age 40 – 49	3	3	6
Age 50 – 59	2	-	2
Age 60 – 69	-	1	1
Over age 70	2	1	3
Totals	12	9	21

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

Age Ranges	Female	Male	Totals	Recovered	Active	Deaths
Under age 10	47	50	97			
Age 10 – 19	82	94	176			
Age 20 – 29	94	89	183			
Age 30 – 39	97	107	204			
Age 40 – 49	71	55	126			
Age 50 – 59	68	62	130			
Age 60 – 69	60	57	117			
Over age 70	45	32	77			
Totals	564	546	1,110	963	116	31

Recoveries in Big Horn County remain at 963. 31 persons are deceased. Of the 116 active cases, 98 patients are quarantining and recovering at home. The number of Big Horn County resident patients currently hospitalized in hospitals in the region is 18.

Month	Number of Cases
April	3
May	27
June	44
July	249
August	357
September	294
October to date (10/12/2020)	136

As fall deepens and winter approaches, more activities are moving indoors, making the spread of the coronavirus more likely. 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>.