

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
Increasing Death Toll to 21
10 newly-confirmed cases in County

HARDIN, MONTANA (September 13, 2020) – Big Horn County today announced the 20th and 21st deaths of County residents due to complications from the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19). One decedent is a man in his 60's who was hospitalized prior to his death, and one is a man in his 80's who had not been hospitalized prior to his death.

The Big Horn County COVID-19 Response Unified Coalition offers our deepest condolences and warmest sympathies to their families, friends, and the entire community of Big Horn County for their tragic losses.

Big Horn County added ten (10) new cases of COVID-19 on Sunday, September 13, 2020. Nine (9) patients presented with symptoms and one (1) was asymptomatic (without symptoms) when tested. Seven (7) patients likely contracted the virus through community spread, as there are no known contacts with previous cases at this time, and three (3) were found through contact tracing of previously-reported patients.

The new cases are:

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

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

Age Ranges	Female	Male	Totals	Recovered	Active	Deaths
Under age 10	31	36	67			
Age 10 – 19	57	65	122			
Age 20 – 29	67	71	138			
Age 30 – 39	67	88	155			
Age 40 – 49	50	41	91			
Age 50 – 59	47	50	97			
Age 60 – 69	44	42	86			
Over age 70	32	19	51			
Totals	395	412	807	676	110	21

Recoveries in Big Horn County remain at 676. 21 persons are deceased. Of the 110 active cases, 98 patients are quarantining and recovering at home. The number of Big Horn County resident patients currently hospitalized is 12.

Month	Number of Cases
April	3
May	27
June	44
July	249
August	357
September to date (9/13/2020)	127

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.

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>.