

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

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**Big Horn County Announces 18 Newly-confirmed Cases of COVID-19**  
*17 patients hospitalized*

**HARDIN, MONTANA** (August 16, 2020) – Big Horn County added 18 new cases of COVID-19 on Saturday. Twelve (12) of the newly-confirmed cases 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. Six (6) patients were tested as a result of contact with previously-confirmed positive patients and were asymptomatic (had no symptoms) when tested.

The new cases are:

Age Ranges	Female	Male	Totals
Under age 10	-	1	<b>1</b>
Age 10 – 19	1	2	<b>3</b>
Age 20 – 29	-	3	<b>3</b>
Age 30 – 39	1	2	<b>3</b>
Age 40 – 49	2	-	<b>2</b>
Age 50 – 59	1	1	<b>2</b>
Age 60 – 69	-	3	<b>3</b>
Over age 70	1	-	<b>1</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>18</b>

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

Age Ranges	Female	Male	Totals	Recovered	Active	Deaths
Under age 10	24	28	<b>52</b>			
Age 10 – 19	41	44	<b>85</b>			
Age 20 – 29	41	43	<b>84</b>			
Age 30 – 39	45	60	<b>105</b>			
Age 40 – 49	34	30	<b>64</b>			
Age 50 – 59	30	36	<b>66</b>			
Age 60 – 69	29	32	<b>61</b>			
Over age 70	19	11	<b>30</b>			
<b>Totals</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>13</b>

Recoveries in Big Horn County remain at 263. 13 persons are deceased. Of the 271 active cases, 254 patients are quarantining and recovering at home. The number of Big Horn County resident patients currently hospitalized remains at 17.

Month	Number of Cases
April	3
May	27
June	44
July	249
August to date (8/16/2020)	224

Big Horn County wants to remind all residents of the County to please 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>.