

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

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

*11 County residents currently hospitalized*

*Update in number of deaths in County, lowered to 12*

**HARDIN, MONTANA** (August 7, 2020) – Big Horn County added 18 new cases of COVID-19 on Thursday. Of the newly-confirmed cases, 12 presented with symptoms 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 a previously-confirmed positive patients and were asymptomatic when tested.

The new cases are:

Age Ranges	Female	Male	Totals
Under age 10	2	-	<b>2</b>
Age 10 – 19	1	4	<b>5</b>
Age 20 – 29	3	1	<b>4</b>
Age 30 – 39	-	1	<b>1</b>
Age 40 – 49	2	-	<b>2</b>
Age 50 – 59	2	1	<b>3</b>
Age 60 – 69	-	1	<b>1</b>
Over age 70	-	-	-
<b>Totals</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</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	17	22	<b>39</b>			
Age 10 – 19	31	29	<b>60</b>			
Age 20 – 29	32	28	<b>60</b>			
Age 30 – 39	32	44	<b>76</b>			
Age 40 – 49	27	26	<b>53</b>			
Age 50 – 59	21	31	<b>52</b>			
Age 60 – 69	23	22	<b>45</b>			
Over age 70	14	9	<b>23</b>			
<b>Totals</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>12</b>

Total cases of COVID-19 increased to over 400, or more than 3% of the County’s residents, with current active cases at 260 or nearly 2% of the population.

Population	Total Cases	% Pop. Positive	Active Cases	% Pop. Active
13,376	408	3.050%	260	1.944%

Recoveries in Big Horn County remained at 136. Two (2) decedents were last night determined to be residents of other counties, a woman in her 70's reported on July 30, 2020 and a man in his 60's reported yesterday, August 6, 2020, lowering the County's total to 12 persons deceased. Of the 260 active cases, 249 patients are quarantining and recovering at home. The number of Big Horn County resident patients currently hospitalized increased to 11.

The County has seen 85 new cases in the first six (6) days of August 2020.

Month	Number of Cases
April	3
May	27
June	44
July	249
August to date (8/6/2020)	85

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>.