

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Big Horn County Announces Three (3) Deaths from COVID-19
Increasing Death Toll to 14
18 newly-confirmed cases in County

HARDIN, MONTANA (August 6, 2020) – Big Horn County today confirmed three (3) deaths due to 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) of individuals residing in the County. With these three, the County’s death toll rises to 14. One (1) decedent was a woman in her 40’s, one (1) was a man in his 60’s, and one (1) was a man in his 70’s. All three (3) patients had been hospitalized prior to their deaths.

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 three (3) additional cases on Tuesday and 15 cases on Wednesday for a total of 18. Of the newly-confirmed cases, one (1) patient was tested as a result of contact with previously-confirmed positive patients and 17 likely contracted the virus through community spread, as there are no known contacts with previous cases at this time. One (1) patient was asymptomatic when tested and 17 presented with symptoms.

The new cases are:

| Age Ranges | Female | Male | Totals |
|-------------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| Under age 10 | - | - | - |
| Age 10 – 19 | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| Age 20 – 29 | - | 3 | 3 |
| Age 30 – 39 | 2 | - | 2 |
| Age 40 – 49 | - | 3 | 3 |
| Age 50 – 59 | - | 2 | 2 |
| Age 60 – 69 | 1 | - | 1 |
| Over age 70 | 2 | - | 2 |
| Totals | 7 | 11 | 18 |

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

| Age Ranges | Female | Male | Totals | Recovered | Active | Deaths |
|-------------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Under age 10 | 15 | 22 | 37 | | | |
| Age 10 – 19 | 30 | 25 | 55 | | | |
| Age 20 – 29 | 29 | 27 | 56 | | | |
| Age 30 – 39 | 32 | 43 | 75 | | | |
| Age 40 – 49 | 25 | 26 | 51 | | | |
| Age 50 – 59 | 19 | 30 | 49 | | | |
| Age 60 – 69 | 23 | 21 | 44 | | | |
| Over age 70 | 14 | 9 | 23 | | | |
| Totals | 187 | 203 | 390 | 136 | 240 | 14 |

Recoveries in Big Horn County remained at 136. 14 persons are deceased. Of the 240 active cases, 237 patients are quarantining and recovering at home, and three (3) patients are hospitalized.

| Month | Number of Cases |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| April | 3 |
| May | 27 |
| June | 44 |
| July | 249 |
| August to date (8/5/2020) | 67 |

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