

Chair & County Health Officer,

Dr. Charles Stringham

Board Members,

Ken Tipton, County Commission Chair

Marlene Brissenden, County Commissioner

Jim French, County Commissioner

Ron Cerri, County Commissioner

Mike Bell, County Commissioner

Mike Allen, Humboldt County Sheriff

# Humboldt County Health Board

Humboldt County Courthouse  
50 West Fifth Street Room 205  
Winnemucca, Nevada 89445



November 5, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Nicole Maher, PIO  
Humboldt County Health Board  
Phone: (775) 761-2624  
Email: nicole@winnemucca.net

## **HUMBOLDT COUNTY REPORTS 192 TOTAL CONFIRMATIONS, 42 ACTIVE CASES**

WINNEMUCCA, Nev.— Humboldt County has been notified of one more positive case of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), raising the county's total to 192.

Overall, 150 of Humboldt County's cases were identified through Humboldt General Hospital, one was identified through community-based screening, nine were identified through the Golden Valley Medical Center, 15 were identified through testing at the Ridley's Pharmacy, and 17 were confirmed out of area.

In addition, the Office of the Humboldt County Community Health Nurse has completed 60 tests, with 58 negative and two results pending. Any positives through the Community Health Nurse are reported as part of Humboldt County's total number of cases.

The Fort McDermitt Paiute Shoshone Tribe is reporting 113 total cases; 97 were confirmed through the Fort McDermitt Wellness Center, eight were tested out of area, while eight were tested through the National Guard community-based testing on July 26. In all, Fort McDermitt has completed 1,389 tests, 106 people have recovered, one person has died, and the tribe has six active cases.

Based on available information, close contacts of the newest Humboldt County case are being identified or have been notified and are following self-isolation procedures to prevent community spread of the virus.

Brief summary information of Humboldt County's latest case follows:

- Case 192 – A woman in her 30s, whose case remains under investigation. She is self-isolating at home.

Of the previous 191 cases, 146 have recovered, 41 are self-isolating and four have died; Humboldt County has 42 active cases.

Nevada is averaging approximately 1,000 new cases of COVID-19 each day. Hospitalizations also are on the rise across the state. While Humboldt County doesn't have any current hospitalizations, in the past month, at least six people have been hospitalized before being released locally or transferred to higher level care.

But there are a few bright spots in what seems an otherwise dismal time in the fight against the coronavirus.

Humboldt County Health Officer Charles Stringham, MD, said there are several distinct differences between the current wave and the first wave in April.

“Perhaps the most important difference—and something we can celebrate—is this is no longer a totally unknown virus,” he said. “Medical staff has experience treating this disease and we have much more data on transmission, symptoms, recovery, long-term effects and more. We are light years ahead of where we were seven months ago.”

The other good news, according to Dr. Stringham, is that hospitals have adequate stores of personal protective equipment. “When we began this fight, PPE was in serious demand,” he said. “Now, hospitals, including Humboldt General Hospital, are reporting sufficient supplies.”

Not only that, but supply chains are close to normal, meaning hospitals can access additional PPE as needed.

“We spend a lot of time looking at the negative aspects of this disease cycle,” said Dr. Stringham, “but we are learning and growing as we go along.”

The doctor added, “Certainly we are making strides in reducing the danger of the current COVID situation, but I also know the knowledge and experience we are gaining now will help in future times as we face other potential disease threats.”

To prevent the spread of COVID-19 in Humboldt County:

- Stay home to limit exposure, and wear a facial covering if going out in public is necessary.
- Maintain 6 feet of distance from other people at all times.
- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid visiting sick people or those who are self-isolating.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, and throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Self-isolate if they have had a known exposure, or if they are awaiting COVID-19 test results.
- Stay informed. The COVID-19 situation is changing frequently. Up-to-date information is available on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [website](#).

The Humboldt General Hospital Screening Clinic has moved to the HGH West Campus, located at 51 E. Haskell Street. From 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, the clinic offers drive-thru screening for asymptomatic and symptomatic persons. Those who are experiencing severe COVID-like symptoms should go directly to the HGH Emergency Department.

The Office of the Humboldt County Community Health Nurse also is offering testing to asymptomatic persons with no known exposure. For more information or to make an appointment, residents may call the clinic at (775) 623-6575.

Free cloth masks are available to community members at the Olsen's and Ridley's pharmacies, courtesy of the Mucca Mask Makers, or by messaging the group on Facebook @Mucca Mask Makers.

Local COVID-19 information is available in Spanish @CovidEspanol. Humboldt County COVID-19 updates and information are available in English at @HumboldtCountyNV and @StopHumboldtCoronavirus.

###