

Chair & County Health Officer,

Dr. Charles Stringham

Board Members,

Ken Tipton, County Commission Chair

Jesse Hill, County Commissioner

Jim French, County Commissioner

Ron Cerri, County Commissioner

Tom Hoss, County Commissioner

Mike Allen, Humboldt County Sheriff

Humboldt County Health Board

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



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

HUMBOLDT COUNTY REPORTS THREE NEW CASES, 1013 TOTAL CONFIRMATIONS

WINNEMUCCA, Nev.—Humboldt County has been notified of three more positive cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), raising the overall total to 1013.

Based on available information, close contacts of the newest Humboldt County cases 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 cases follows:

Case #	Gender	Age Range	Contact	Status
1013	Man	20s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
1012	Woman	20s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
1011	Woman	90s	Investigation in progress	Hospitalized

One COVID-19 patient is currently hospitalized locally and 13 have died. Humboldt County is currently conducting an audit of positive cases from all testing entities. Until that process is complete, updated recovery and active case numbers will not be available.

Nevada as a whole continues to see a downward trend in the number of cases, hospitalizations and deaths from COVID-19.

Nevada's test positivity rate dropped again Thursday, falling from 18.3% to 18%, continuing a trend of declines that began on January 14. The record of 22.3% was reported on December 8, 2020.

Humboldt County is seeing the same downward progress, moving from a high of nearly 40% test positivity rate last month to 10.5% today. For the first time in months, the lower numbers may see Humboldt moved off the state's flagged list for elevated disease risk.

Humboldt County Health Officer Charles Stringham, MD, said he is very pleased with the downturn in cases, hospitalizations and deaths. Still, he urged caution and continued preventative measures.

“We have been here before several times, when our cases numbers have significantly dropped, and we felt like we were past the worst of it,” he said. “I hope that is the case this time, especially with our vaccination efforts, but we’re not there yet.”

Dr. Stringham noted that the South African variant of the COVID-19 virus was identified in the southeast today for the first time; the United Kingdom variant has already been identified in at least 20 states.

Not only that, but Dr. Stringham said even a few local gatherings with the current variant could send the virus spiraling again.

“We still have a lot of questions about this virus,” he said, “but the one thing we know is it is very infectious: it’s purpose is to spread.”

The doctor added, “Please continue to use caution and do the right things. With enough time and careful effort, we will finally be able to declare victory, but for now, we’re still in the fight.”

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](#).

COVID-19 testing locations in Humboldt County include:

- **Humboldt General Hospital Screening Clinic** - Offers drive-thru screening for asymptomatic persons from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday (closed from noon to 1 p.m. for lunch), and by-appointment screening with a provider for symptomatic persons from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday (closed from noon to 1 p.m. for lunch; call 775-623-5222, ext. 1379 to schedule an appointment). Located at 51 E. Haskell Street, across from Humboldt General Hospital.
- **Golden Valley Medical Center** - Private clinic owned by Nevada Gold offers screening for asymptomatic and symptomatic persons. Call (775) 625-4653 for an appointment.
- **Ridley's Pharmacy** - Offers in-vehicle, self-administered asymptomatic and symptomatic testing. Go [here](#) and follow the prompts to schedule an appointment.
- **HGH Emergency Department** - Those who experience severe COVID-like symptoms should go directly to the HGH Emergency Department, which is open 24 hours a day, or call 9-1-1 for emergency assistance.

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

Humboldt County has established a COVID-19 vaccine recorded information line. Call (775) 375-3200 to hear the latest about vaccine allocations, local distribution opportunities and changes as they occur. The line will be updated with new information every Monday and Thursday, or as needed.

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