

Humboldt County Health Board



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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 354 TOTAL CONFIRMATIONS, 76 ACTIVE CASES

WINNEMUCCA, Nev.— Humboldt County has been notified of 15 more positive cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), raising the county's total to 354.

The Fort McDermitt Paiute Shoshone Tribe is reporting 140 positive cases. In all, Fort McDermitt has completed 2,173 tests, 126 people have recovered, one person has died, and the tribe has 13 active cases.

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 354 – A woman in her 40s, who had contact with a previously reported case. She is self-isolating at home.
- Case 353 – A woman in her 30s, who had contact with a previously reported case. She is self-isolating at home.
- Case 352 – A man in his 30s, whose case remains under investigation. He is self-isolating at home.
- Case 351 – A female teen, who had contact with a previously reported case. She is self-isolating at home.
- Case 350 – A female child, who is a close contact of a previously reported case. She is self-isolating at home.
- Case 349 – A man in his 60s, who had contact with a previously reported case. He is self-isolating at home.
- Case 348 – A man in his 40s, whose case remains under investigation. He is self-isolating at home.
- Case 347 – A man in his 70s, whose case remains under investigation. He is hospitalized.
- Case 346 – A man in his 50s, who had contact with a previously reported case. He is self-isolating at home.
- Case 345 – A woman in her 30s, who had contact with a previously reported case. She is self-isolating at home.
- Case 344 – A woman in her 20s, whose case remains under investigation. She is self-isolating at home.

- Case 343 – A woman in her 30s, whose case remains under investigation. She is self-isolating at home.
- Case 342 – A man in his 20s, whose case remains under investigation. He is self-isolating at home.
- Case 341 – A female teen, whose case remains under investigation. She is self-isolating at home.
- Case 340 – A woman in her 40s, who had contact with a previously reported case. She is self-isolating at home.

Of the previous 339 cases, 273 have recovered, 56 are self-isolating, five are hospitalized, and five have died; Humboldt County has 76 active cases.

Local residents continue to share posts on social media that reference a [study](#) of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) showing that a high percentage of people who wore masks became infected with the new coronavirus.

Humboldt County Health Officer Charles Stringham, MD, said unfortunately the study has been misrepresented on social media, seemingly contradicting the conclusive evidence that masks—in combination with other preventive measures—do prevent COVID-19 infections.

“In the study, both groups of people with and without coronavirus, demonstrated high levels of mask use (85% and 88.7% respectively),” said Dr. Stringham. “However, the study found that a greater number of infected people had been to locations where masks cannot be worn effectively.”

Dr. Stringham said because those study participants more routinely removed their masks in those kinds of public locations, they had higher rates of infection versus those who did not remove their masks in public.

“The message here is clear,” said Dr. Stringham. “When we remove our masks around those not of our household, we increase our risk of exposure.”

Dr. Stringham reminded that health authorities have never said masks alone will slow the spread of the coronavirus, only that they will have an impact when combined with other prevention methods, such as social distancing and hand washing.

“We have every evidence that masks, in combination with other preventive measures, do help reduce the risk of infection. I plead with all our local residents: Please protect yourselves and those around you by doing the right things.”

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 screening for asymptomatic and symptomatic persons. Open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, 51 E. Haskell Street, across from Humboldt General Hospital. Call the posted number and then wait for assistance.
- **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.

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](#).

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