

Humboldt County Health Board



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HUMBOLDT COUNTY REPORTS 706 TOTAL CONFIRMATIONS, 426 ACTIVE CASES

WINNEMUCCA, Nev. — Humboldt County has been notified of 19 more positive cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), raising the county’s total to 706.

The Fort McDermitt Paiute Shoshone Tribe reports 159 positive cases. In all, Fort McDermitt has completed 2,438 tests, 151 people have recovered, one person has died, and the tribe has seven 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 #	Gender	Age Range	Contact	Status
706	Woman	30s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
705	Woman	20s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
704	Woman	20s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
703	Woman	60s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
702	Female	Teen	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
701	Man	30s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
700	Man	40s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
699	Woman	40s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
698	Male	Teen	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
697	Woman	20s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
696	Woman	60s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
695	Female	Teen	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
694	Man	60s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
693	Man	50s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
692	Man	30s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
691	Female	Teen	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
690	Man	30s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
689	Woman	30s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating

Case #	Gender	Age Range	Contact	Status
688	Man	70s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating

Of the previous 687 cases, 273 have recovered, 400 are self-isolating, seven are hospitalized locally, and seven have died; Humboldt County has 426 active cases.

The City of Winnemucca continues to test wastewater from homes and businesses to help identify COVID-19 disease clusters before they spread. December 8, the manholes near the Warmouth, Railroad and Skyland subdivisions, and the Melarkey, Harmony, Bridge and Mizpah subdivisions showed high concentrations of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19.

Humboldt County Health Officer Charles Stringham, MD, said while someone with COVID-19 might not experience symptoms for several days, people have been shown to shed virus RNA seven to 10 days before identifying the virus.

The City of Winnemucca retrieves five wastewater samples each week: one from the headworks at the wastewater treatment plant and four from specific manhole areas within the city.

“The City of Winnemucca cannot determine exactly how many people in the identified areas may be affected,” he said, “but when we see elevated wastewater levels, then we know we can expect an upward trend in COVID-19 infections.”

Dr. Stringham said residents who live within the affected manhole areas should be watchful of symptoms.

“We don’t want people to be alarmed about an increased trend in their neighborhood,” said Dr. Stringham, “but we do want them to use that information to stay alert and to be prepared.”

Dr. Stringham added, “If you believe you may be experiencing COVID-like symptoms, please be tested as soon as possible.”

The doctor said early testing not only helps local health officials quickly identify cases and mitigate the virus’s spread, but it also helps ensure that those affected by the virus have the appropriate supports to weather the illness.

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.

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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