

Humboldt County Health Board



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HUMBOLDT COUNTY REPORTS 813 TOTAL CONFIRMATIONS, 335 ACTIVE CASES

WINNEMUCCA, Nev.— Humboldt County has been notified of 11 more positive cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), raising the county’s total to 813.

The Fort McDermitt Paiute Shoshone Tribe reports 175 positive cases. In all, Fort McDermitt has completed 2,552 tests, 165 people have recovered, one person has died, and the tribe has nine 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
813	Woman	70s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
812	Woman	30s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
811	Man	80s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
810	Man	30s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
809	Man	50s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
808	Man	30s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
807	Woman	20s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
806	Woman	40s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
805	Woman	30s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
804	Woman	30s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
803	Woman	20s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating

Of the previous 802 cases, 467 have recovered, 320 are self-isolating, four are hospitalized locally, and 11 have died; Humboldt County has 335 active cases.

Local residents have begun to wonder about a new strain of coronavirus that has been responsible for a rapid increase in COVID-19 cases in London and southeast England. Public health professionals in the UK

are evaluating the characteristics of this new variant, which has been reported in about 60 percent of new cases in England since November.

Humboldt County Health Officer Charles Stringham, MD, said viruses constantly change through mutation, and new variants of a virus are expected to occur over time. Sometimes new variants emerge and disappear. Other times, new variants emerge and start infecting people. Multiple variants of the virus that causes COVID-19 have been documented in the United States and globally during this pandemic.

While Dr. Stringham said news of a new variant in the UK may seem frightening, he said residents should rely on what scientists know so far.

“Initial studies suggest that the new variant may spread more easily from person to person,” said Dr. Stringham. “However, so far, scientists in the UK see no evidence that infections by this variant cause more severe disease.”

Certainly, there is more to learn about the new variant, said the doctor, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention continue to work with European authorities to discover any additional differences.

“But for now, we understand that the vaccines that are in play are equally effective on the older and the new variants of the virus,” he said.

“The most important thing people can do is continue to use precautions and take advantage of the chance to be vaccinated when that opportunity presents itself.”

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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