

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 881 TOTAL CONFIRMATIONS, 403 ACTIVE CASES

WINNEMUCCA, Nev.—Humboldt County has been notified of 17 more positive cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), raising the county’s total to 881.

The Fort McDermitt Paiute Shoshone Tribe reports 184 positive cases. In all, Fort McDermitt has completed 2,657 tests, 175 people have recovered, one person has died, and the tribe has 10 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
881	Woman	90s	Investigation in progress	Hospitalized
880	Man	20s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
879	Man	80s	Investigation in progress	Hospitalized
878	Woman	70s	Investigation in progress	Hospitalized
877	Man	50s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
876	Woman	20s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
875	Woman	60s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
874	Man	30s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
873	Woman	20s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
872	Man	30s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
871	Woman	30s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
870	Woman	50s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
869	Woman	20s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
868	Man	20s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
867	Woman	20s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
866	Male	Teen	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
865	Man	20s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating

Of the previous 864 cases, 467 have recovered, 379 are self-isolating, seven are hospitalized locally, and 11 have died; Humboldt County has 403 active cases.

Nearly 900 people in Humboldt County have been infected with the coronavirus since last March and a frequent question is: how long does immunity to the virus last?

Humboldt County Health Officer Charles Stringham, MD, said “The immune system’s memory is rather like our own: it remembers some infections clearly, but has a habit of forgetting others.”

For example, Dr. Stringham said measles is highly memorable; one bout should give lifelong immunity (as provided through the MMR vaccine). However, there are many others that are fairly forgettable. Children can get RSV (respiratory syncytial virus) multiple times in the same winter.

The coronavirus has not been around long enough to know how long immunity lasts; however, research at King’s College London suggests levels of antibodies that kill coronavirus wane over a three-month time period.

“It is possible to continue to be re-infected by this virus,” said Dr. Stringham, adding that Humboldt County has confirmed one case of reinfection.

“For it to be a new case, it must be more than 90 days since the person was infected with the first illness,” said Dr. Stringham. “It can happen, and it will happen, if people are not cautious.”

Dr. Stringham urged, “We have many people who are outside that three-month immunity period and they need to exercise the same precautions as everyone else: wear a mask, maintain an appropriate distance and keep your hands clean.”

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.

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