

April 13, 2020 "Stay LOCAL Naysayers don't be VOCAL"
2:00 PM
Big Horn County
COVID-19 Update/Response



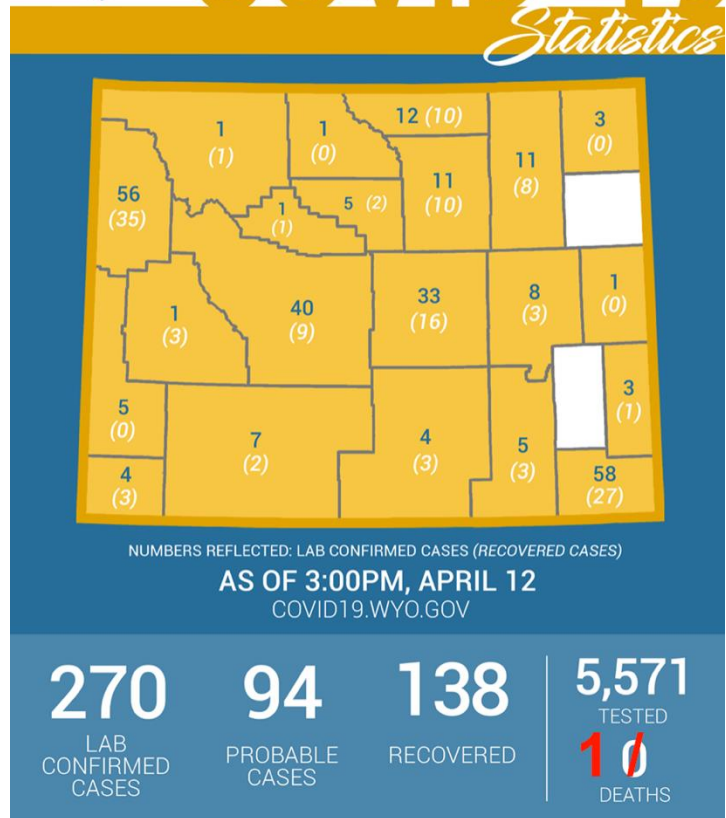
COVID-19 Statistics

For Immediate Release

Yesterday afternoon we documented our FIRST CASE IN BIG HORN COUNTY. In this case social distancing was not carefully followed, there were potentially 20 verified exposures both within and outside our county in the last several days while having symptoms. Some of these contacts also have symptoms and will be tested. All of these persons under investigation have been given Public Health Isolation and Quarantine Orders:

Public Health Isolation & Quarantine Order

"The Wyoming Department of Health has reasonable cause to believe that you may have been exposed to a communicable disease that affects the public health: Coronavirus Disease 19 (COVID-19).



Under the authority of Wyoming Statutes §§ 35-1-240(a)(ii) and (iii) and as necessary for the protection of the public health, you are hereby ordered to implement the following isolation and quarantine measures effective immediately:

- 1. You shall remain at your home. You may leave only to seek medical care or to spend time outside on the property as long as you distance yourself from others.*
- 2. You shall not have close, prolonged contact with others. Close, prolonged contact is defined as being within six (6) feet of others for greater than ten (10) minutes.*
- 3. You shall notify the Wyoming Department of Health if you develop signs or symptoms of Coronavirus Disease 19 (COVID-19) (fever, cough, shortness of breath, or sore throat).*

If you do not comply with this Order, you may be subject to criminal prosecution under Wyoming Statutes §§ 35-1-105 and -106."

Now that COVID-19 is here and documented, I hope the naysayers will be more understanding and that we can work together to continue the community efforts that to date have kept us free of the virus. We need to be even more vigilant to keep it from spreading to others.

We now have 270 cases in Wyoming, with 94 probable cases, and we are fortunate that 138 people have fully recovered, and as of this morning we now have recorded our FIRST DEATH in Johnson County. We have tested over 5500 in the state. We were the 3rd to last county in Wyoming and one of the last counties in the US to record a case. I'm concerned we will see a cluster of cases here in the next several

weeks. If we have 1 positive case, models suggest that we have 11 possible others for everyone tested positive and with 15 close contacts in our county we may have the potential for as many as 165 infected in our county – that could be as high as 1% of our county’s population.

It is even more important that we stay at home and continue good hygiene and social distancing.



The Governor has urged,
“Stay home”
“Wash your hands”
“Maintain 6 feet of distance”
“Do NOT congregate in groups of more than 10”
“Don’t mob stores or allow your kids to gather up for play dates”
“THAT IS THE BEHAVIOR WE NEED! IT IS CRITICAL THAT WE BEHAVE THIS WAY!”



While I don’t feel think that we will be digging mass graves in Greybull like they are in New York, it depends on YOU and what YOU do. As of Saturday, there were more than 20,000 fatalities among our American brothers and sisters. More than a tenth of those died Friday. Even though deaths are rising, hospital admissions are tailing off in many cities and surge isn’t what we projected. This is due to more recent stay at home orders and social distancing efforts put in place after the deceased were infected.

We have to presume that everyone has been infected and is a carrier.

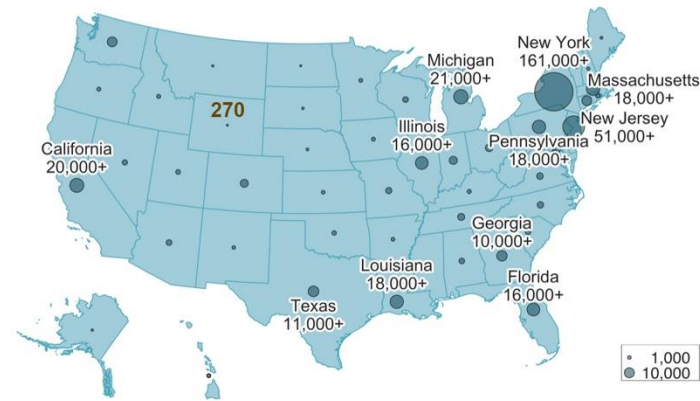
- Stay home
- Stay distant
- Wear a mask

We need to continue to STAY LOCAL. Naysayers don’t be VOCAL.
Wyoming has not seen its peak yet and we don’t want to let up.

If you need help finding a health care provider or additional information on COVID call **211**.

Number of coronavirus cases by US state

Of the 465,000 confirmed cases in the US, many have been in New York



Source: Johns Hopkins University, updated: 10 Apr 10:00 BST

someone in immediate danger of harming themselves, should **call 911**. Anyone experiencing suicidal thoughts is encouraged to call the U.S. National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at **1-800-273-TALK (8255)** or text **“WYO” to 741-741** for the Crisis Text Line. Veterans can call: 1 800-273-8255.

Respectfully,
David Weston, Fairbanks, MD, FAAP
Big Horn County Health Officer
and the entire
Big Horn County Incident Management Team

Anyone who feels that they may be at risk of harming themselves, or who knows of

COVID-19 TIPS

SOCIAL DISTANCING

- Social distancing means staying home.
- It helps prevent the spread of COVID-19 in WY.
- If people stay home, the virus has less chance to spread.
- The virus impacts everyone and can be deadly for some.

ANYONE can spread the virus to another person. Social distance makes the difference for people you care about and your local health care system.

- 1 Stay at home
- 2 Join friends online
- 3 Get food to-go

Hello

You can stop the spread to **your friends** by moving your coffee dates and happy hours online

STAY UP TO DATE AT COVID19.WYO.GOV

Now from the SHERIFF:

FYI, the news is running here pretty hard. Social media is rampant with information, some accurate and a plethora of inaccurate.

Just that quick, this enemy was allowed to hitch a ride on a non-compliant host and come into our county through the back door, much like the Trojan horse was brought into the city in days of old.

The enemy always looks for a weak point to make its attack.

It is imperative for us now not to play a blame game but, to work together more than ever to protect our loved ones, by taking social distance guidelines seriously, and not allowing the virus' beachhead to expand. We have to drive the virus back into the sea.

It doesn't matter if you believe this virus is a conspiracy, a political power play, or an assault on our constitutional rights, that more people are dying in other ways, or that the government should have taken more or less action.

The COVID-19 virus is here it's real, and regardless of the above, we need to work together to protect our rights, economy, and specifically at this moment our health.

We can't hope to tackle the economy, the Constitution, or politics if we can't work together on something as small and simple as washing our hands, staying apart, and using some common sense.

If we can't just Do the Five, we are as ineffective as the politicians we often complain about.

Ken Blackburn, Big Horn County Sheriff
and the entire
Big Horn County Incident Management Team

For Sources of Information on COVID-19:

1. Big Horn County Public Health Website:
<https://www.bighorncountywy.gov>
<https://www.bighorncountywy.gov/departments/public-health>
2. Big Horn County COVID-19 INFORMATION LINE 307-568-4031
Or Email us @ covid-19@bighorncountywy.gov
3. Park County Public Health Coronavirus Information Line: 754-1870 or 527-1870
(Updated regularly). Big Horn County may use this.
4. Up to date announcements from Wyoming Department of Health as they are released Wyoming Department of Health
Website: <https://health.wyo.gov/publichealth/infectious-disease-epidemiology-unit/disease/novel-coronavirus>.
5. CDC Website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/index.html>
6. Wyoming Department of Health State Orders:
<https://health.wyo.gov/publichealth/infectious-disease-epidemiology-unit/disease/novel-coronavirus/covid-19-orders-and-guidance/>