



March 8, 2021

News release

For more information,
please contact Karen Sullivan
(406) 497-5003
ksullivan@bsb.mt.gov

**Almost half of Butte-Silver Bow's eligible population
has received at least one COVID-19 vaccination dose**

More than 48 percent of the population in Butte-Silver Bow eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine has received at least one vaccination dose, according to Unified Health Command officials facilitating the county's vaccination clinics.

Data released by the State of Montana on Monday show 483.0 vaccine doses per 1,000 population in Butte-Silver Bow, as of last week. An estimated 28,576 of Butte-Silver Bow's residents are eligible for COVID-19 vaccinations; a pediatric COVID-19 vaccine is not yet available.

A total of 13,802 doses have been administered in Butte-Silver Bow, with 8,254 individuals receiving one dose, and 5,549 individuals being fully immunized.

More information on vaccine distribution in Butte-Silver Bow and in Montana may be found at:
<https://montana.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=7c34f3412536439491adcc2103421d4b>.

Butte-Silver Bow Health Officer Karen Sullivan said Monday that last week's Unified Health Command COVID-19 vaccination clinics at the Butte Civic Center resulted in an estimated 1,130 people receiving their first dose and an estimated 1,560 receiving their second dose.

A first-dose clinic will be held this Wednesday at the Civic Center, with about 1,100 registration slots available. This is the first clinic that will be held under Phase 1B+ of Montana's vaccine rollout plan, meaning that everyone 60 years of age and older is eligible, as well as those ages 16 to 59 with certain underlying health conditions, which include asthma; cystic fibrosis; liver disease; cancer; chronic kidney disease; chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD); Down Syndrome; heart conditions, such as heart failure, coronary artery disease, or cardiomyopathies; immunocompromised state (weakened immune system) from solid organ transplant; severe obesity, with a body mass index of 40 or greater; sickle cell disease; and Type 1 and 2 diabetes mellitus. On a case-by-case basis, medical providers may recommend to the clinic individuals with other conditions that place them at elevated risk for COVID-related complications.

Registration for vaccines may be made online at <https://butteciviccenter.com>, or by calling the Civic Center Box Office at 406-497-6401. Registration may also occur by walking up to the Box Office in the Civic Center lobby at the following times: Mondays 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Tuesdays 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Reservations may also continue to be made by calling the Butte-Silver Bow Health Department's COVID Call Center at 406-497-5008. Those arriving at the Civic Center are required to show identification and a registration/ticket number.



THE CITY-COUNTY OF Butte-Silver Bow

Health Department
25 W. Front St., Butte, MT 59701
Ph: 406-497-5020 Fax: 406-497-5095
<http://co.silverbow.mt.us/135/Health>

On Monday, the Health Department released its weekly data report. As of Sunday, March 7, the department was reporting 3,820 positive cases in the county, since Butte-Silver Bow was informed of its first case March 13, 2020. Of those, 3,700 have recovered, and 39 cases remain active. Since the beginning of the COVID-19 event, the county has seen 81 COVID-related fatalities.

For the week of Feb. 27-March 5, the Health Department reported 54 newly confirmed cases of COVID-19, down 17 cases from the previous week of Feb. 13-19, when 71 new cases were reported.

Based on those 54 new cases, daily average cases for the week of Feb. 27-March 5 was eight, down from the previous week's daily average cases of 10. Cases per 100,000 population for the week of Feb. 27-March 5 was 22, down from 29 per 100,000 the previous week.

The county's current positivity rate – the percent of people testing positive in a given time period – went down from the previous time period, decreasing to 5.7 percent in the time period of Feb. 25-March 2, down from 6.2 percent during the previous time period.

“We have been working for months on those two metrics – cases per 100,000 population and positivity rate,” said Sullivan, adding that communities should strive for COVID-19 cases of below 25 per 100,000 population, and a positivity rate below 10 percent.

If positive performance on those two metrics can be sustained, restrictions established in the county regarding capacity limits and crowd sizes would be lightened, Sullivan said. If the metrics see longer-term sustainability, restrictions regarding establishment closing times and capacity limits, as well as crowd sizes, would be rescinded. Sullivan said the county's Board of Health would determine whether to continue a mandate regarding the wearing of face coverings in public places.

-30-