

South Central Public Health District 1020 Washington Street North Twin Falls, ID 83301 208-737-5900 www.phd5.idaho.gov



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## COVID-19 cases doubled in south central Idaho over last four weeks. New record high number of cases reported in a single day.

SOUTH CENTRAL IDAHO – Data collected over the last month shows COVID-19 case counts are trending upward across the region, with significant increases in six of the district's eight counties.

In the last four calendar weeks the case count across the district doubled, rising from a reported 187 cases in the last week of August to a total of 471 by the end of Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup>. **One of those days, September 24<sup>th</sup>, recorded the district's largest single day case jump: 151 cases.** 

"We're seeing consistent case increases in six of our eight counties." said Logan Hudson, Public Health Division Administrator. "This isn't one event exposing people to the disease. This isn't one county facing a surge. We're looking at an increasing trend across most of the district that may continue to rise if people don't take precautions."

Twin Falls, Blaine, Cassia, Camas, and Minidoka counties saw significant case increases over the last four weeks. Jerome county's cases surged in the middle of that time, but have leveled out again. Lincoln county's cases rose slightly and have dropped significantly since. See more specific data in the graph included below.

"Most of the spread we are seeing starts when one person is infected at work or at a social event and then unintentionally brings the disease home to their family. If we can incorporate social distancing and mask use into our daily lives we can continue to socialize but protect our families from disease," said Tanis Maxwell, Epidemiology Program Manager. SCPHD is running two hotlines for information about COVID-19: one in Spanish, at (208) 737-5965, and one in English at (208) 737-1138. The hotline is open on business days from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Please refer to <u>https://phd5.idaho.gov/coronavirus</u> for daily numbers, guidance, and resources. Refer to <u>https://phd5.idaho.gov/coronavirus-dashboard/</u> for weekly demographic and data updates.

