

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 8/27/2021

RAVALLI COUNTY COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

Ravalli County has continued to see an increase in positive cases this week. The state is reporting a 33% increase in new cases. Currently, Montana is averaging about 600 new cases a day with Delta being the dominate variant in Montana since July. Hospitalizations for the state of Montana are averaging 220-240 cases a day. Montana has 2000 documented breakthrough cases. Delta variant accounts for the majority of breakthrough cases. Ravalli County has 34 total breakthrough cases with 28 of those occurring in August. The Montana state lab has reported 100% of swabs sequenced for the month of August have been Delta.

Pfizer received FDA approval earlier in the week. Pfizer is approved for 12 years of age and older. 52% of the eligible population of Ravalli County has gotten their vaccine with only 24% of the 12-17 year old population having received vaccination.

Ravalli County Public Health recommends residents talk to their physician regarding vaccination. Vaccine is available at Ravalli County Public Health on Tuesdays, walk-ins are welcome. A layered prevention strategy is recommended, which includes:

- Frequent Hand Washing
- Physical Distancing
- Keep Cohort Group Small
- Avoid Unnecessary Exposures
- Masking When Appropriate, particularly with a known exposure.
- Stay Home When Sick

With valley schools starting, Ravalli County Public Health wishes everyone a safe and healthy 2021/22 school year.

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