

SITREP

MHA

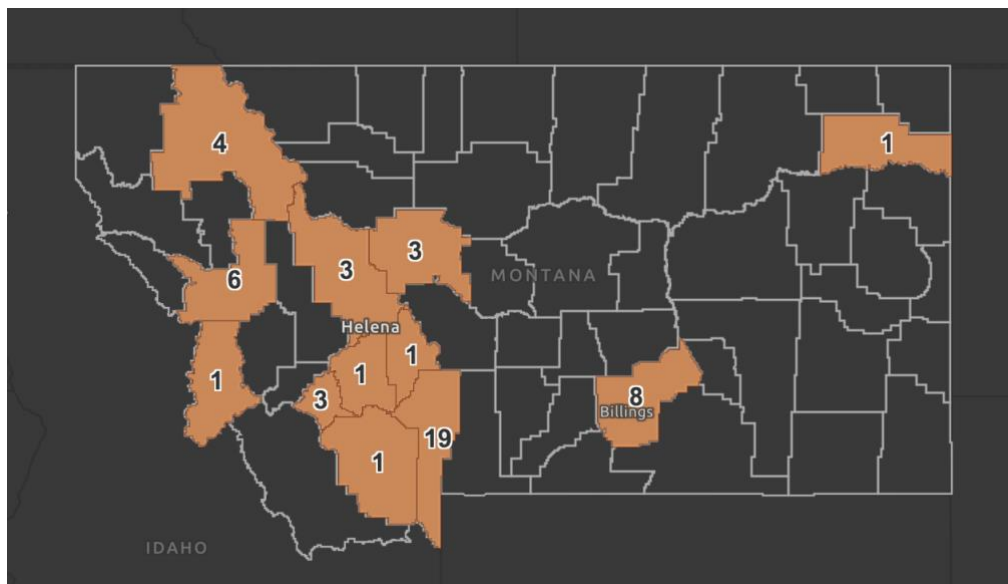
MONTANA
HOSPITAL
ASSOCIATION

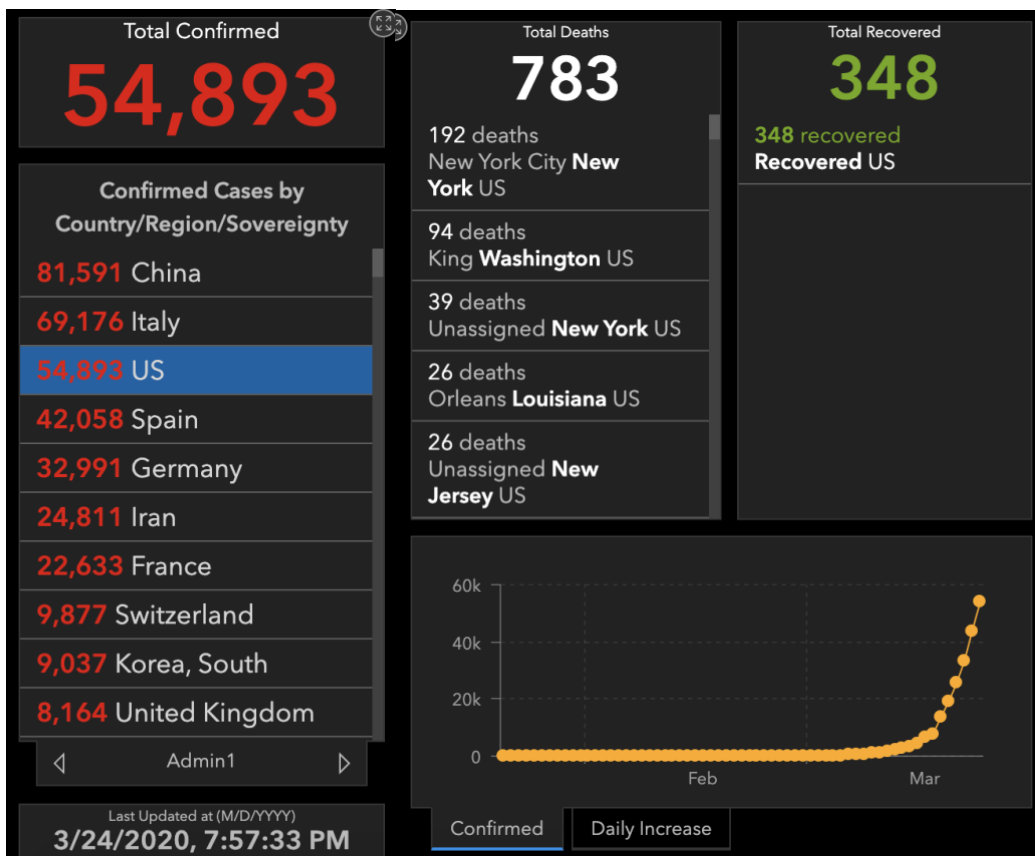
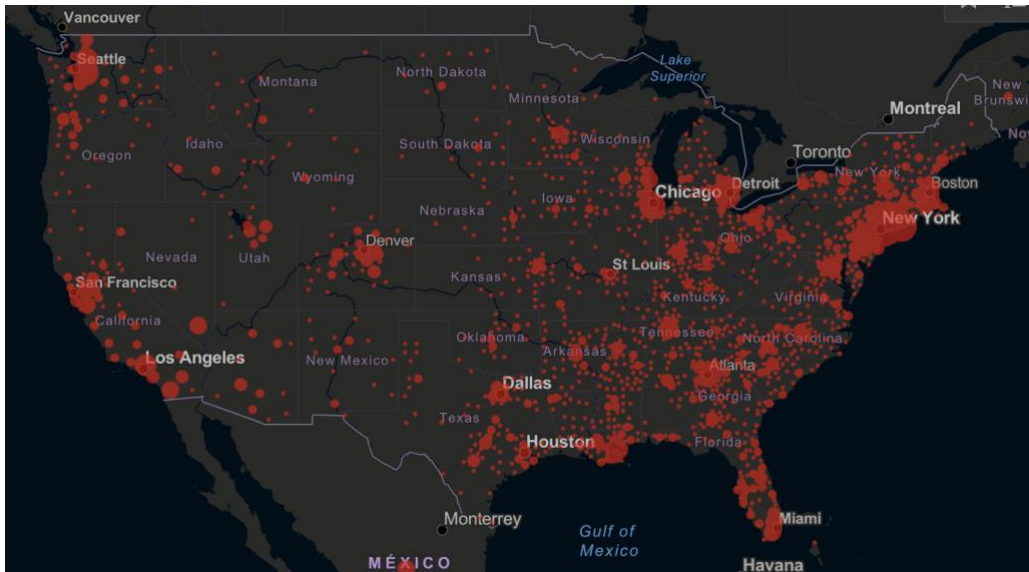
Montana Hospital Association - Situation Report

March 24, 2020

COVID-19

REPORTED CASES	
Montana <i>New in last 24 hours: 6</i>	51
United States <i>New in last 24 hours: 10,992 (+25%)</i> Source: CSSE Global Outbreak Dashboard	54,893
WA	2,221
ID	50
WY	28
ND	32
SD	28





Hospitals, doctors and nurses urge Americans to stay home to combat COVID-19. The American Hospital Association, American Medical Association and American Nurses Association today urged the public to stay home as the nation continues efforts to combat COVID-19. "Physicians, nurses and our entire medical community are urging all people to stay at home," the groups wrote in a [letter](#) to the American public. "We are honored to serve and put our lives on the front line to protect and save as many lives as possible. But we need your help. Physical distancing and staying at home are the key to slowing the spread of 2019 novel

coronavirus (COVID-19) to give physicians, nurses and everyone on the front lines a fighting chance at having the equipment, time and resources necessary to take on this immense challenge. Those contracting COVID-19 are your family, friends, and loved ones. That's why we're urging the public to #StayHome as we reach the critical stages of our national response to COVID-19. Of course, those with urgent medical needs, including pregnant women, should seek care as needed. Everyone else should #StayHome."

OPERATIONS

New Guidance on Testing from DPHHS for the State of Montana. Montana is aggressively working to contain the spread of COVID-19. Testing of symptomatic patients suspected of COVID-19 is critical to contain the spread in your community. State health officials have issued [new guidance](#) on who should be tested, testing priorities and lab capacity. Please distribute widely to all healthcare providers in your community.

CDC updates COVID-19 guidance for those at higher risk of infection. CDC recently [updated prevention tactics](#) for populations at a higher risk of contracting COVID-19. Groups include those over the age 65; people with underlying health conditions, especially ones that weaken the immune system such as HIV; and people living in long-term care facilities. CDC said there is not enough research on the virus' effects on pregnant women, but monitoring for infection is recommended.

Defense Production Act triggered to increase testing, mask supplies. The Federal Emergency Management Agency said today that the Defense Production Act is being used to access 60,000 test kits, each with the capacity to serve approximately 300-400 patients. FEMA Administrator Peter Gaynor also told various media outlets that the administration would insert DPA language into the federal government's contracts for procuring 500 million personal protective masks.

FDA updates testing FAQs. The agency answers new, additional questions on its [FAQ](#) on diagnostic testing for SARS-CoV-2.

PLANNING

Resource Reporting to Juvare (EMResource). Continue to report bed availability and PPE item inventory. Please complete all daily updates by 8:00AM each morning. For assistance, contact your [Healthcare Preparedness Program \(HPP\) region coordinator](#).

LOGISTICS

NIH launches COVID-19 safety training platform. The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, part of the National Institutes of Health, has launched a [website](#) offering COVID-19 safety training resources for frontline responders, including hospital and other health care workers. In collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, Occupational Safety and Health Administration and National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, NIEHS [said](#) it plans to use funding from the March 6 supplemental emergency funding package to expand the virtual training platform.

PPE fraud and scam alert. Montana hospitals and healthcare providers may be approached by illegitimate organizations and individuals claiming to be legitimate distributors and suppliers. Today, an attempt was made to defraud a member hospital out of about \$75,000. Fortunately, the scam was revealed before an order was made. This is not an isolated incident. The FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center has issued a [warning](#) on COVID-related fraud schemes. If you have any questions about the validity of an offer, please contact MHA VP of Shared Services Sean Becker at 406-457-8019 or sean.becker@mtha.org. If you are aware of PPE purchasing options that outstrip your buying power, please contact Sean to review and work with MHA members to facilitate a joint venture.

PPE from Strategic National Stockpile shipping today through Thursday. This is the first set of emergency stockpile PPE to be distributed in Montana from the federal stockpile, and will first ship to hospitals, EMS providers and federally qualified health centers (FQHCs). The next set from SNS will go to county and tribal health offices.

FDA provides instructions to manufacturers importing PPE. The Food and Drug Administration today [adjusted](#) its [import screening](#) to expedite personal protective equipment and clarified types of PPE that can be imported without engaging with FDA. To provide flexibility, FDA will facilitate access to critical legitimate PPE and devices and monitor the import systems to prevent and mitigate potential issues. FDA established an email, COVID19FDAIMPORTINQUIRIES@fda.hhs.gov for industry representatives to address questions or concerns.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

HHS identifies security vulnerability that could affect health care, public health sector. The Department of Health and Human Services March 21 shared

information with its partners identifying a potential threat to network security that could affect the health care and public health sector during the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, to prepare for the urgent need for certain staff to work remotely, a health care facility purchased off-the-shelf computers from a major online retailer. In preparing these devices, the organization's information technology team determined that many of them contained malware. HHS says that providers purchasing resources during the COVID-19 emergency should take standard precautions and not assume the condition of existing packaging or the reseller involved assures device or network safety.

Managing supply chain risk. Resources include the [U.S. Department of Commerce's National Institute of Standards and Technology](#) and the [Healthcare Sector Coordinator Council](#). If your organization is considering used or refurbished PCs due to supply chain issues, read this succinct [reference guide](#) on how to deploy new PCs safely.

COMMUNICATIONS

Listen Now: [March 24 CMS Call with Hospitals & Health Systems](#)

SITREP Archive. Daily Situation Reports archived [here](#).

State of Montana COVID-19 Hotline: 1-888-333-0461

Montanans can also email questions to covid19info@mt.gov. State public health officials will be responding to inquiries from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday.

MHA Incident Management Team: esf8@mtha.org

REFERENCE LINKS

GENERAL

Contact Information: [Local & Tribal County Health Departments](#)

[MHA COVID-19 Member Resources](#)

[State of Montana COVID-19 Information](#)

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention COVID-19 Information](#)

[Healthcare Professionals Preparedness Checklist](#) (CDC)

[Hospital Preparedness Tool](#) (CDC)

[COVID-19 FAQs for Healthcare Providers](#) (CDC)

EMS

[EMS Infectious Disease Playbook](#) (ASPR/TRACIE)

[Montana EMS Guidance](#) (DPHHS)

REGULATORY

[EMTALA Requirements and Implications Related to COVID-19](#) (CMS)

CLINICAL CARE

[March 13 | Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity \(COCA\) Call](#) (CDC)

[Guidelines for Collecting, Handling and Testing Clinical Specimens](#) (CDC)

[Clinical Guidance for Management of Patients with Confirmed COVID-19](#) (CDC)

[Criteria for Evaluation and Reporting of Persons Under Investigation](#) (CDC)

NEW: [COVID-19 and Underlying Medical Conditions](#) (CDC)

NEW: FAQs: [Higher Risk Persons](#) & [Underlying Conditions](#) (CDC)

RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES

UPDATED: [Guidance for Retirement Communities and Independent Living](#) (CDC)

UPDATED: [Preventing the Spread of COVID-19 in Retirement Communities and Independent Living Facilities](#) (CDC)

UPDATED: [COVID-19 Checklist: Older Persons](#) (CDC)

TELEHEALTH

[Medicare Telehealth FAQ](#) (CMS)

[Montana Medicaid Coverage & Reimbursement Policy for Telehealth Services](#) (DPHHS)

[Telehealth Toolkit for General Practitioners](#) (CMS)

[Telehealth Toolkit for Providers of End-Stage Renal Disease Patients](#) (CMS)

NEW: Watch: [“COVID-19 Telehealth Waiver Made Simple”](#) (PYA)

INFECTION PREVENTION & CONTROL

[Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Patients with Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19 in Healthcare Settings](#) (CDC)

[Additional Guidance for Infection Control and Prevention of COVID-19 in Home Health Agencies](#) (CMS)

[Additional Guidance for Infection Control and Prevention of COVID-19 in Dialysis Facilities](#) (CMS)

[Additional Guidance for Infection Control and Prevention of COVID-19 in Nursing Homes](#) (CMS)

[Additional Guidance for Infection Control and Prevention of COVID-19 by Hospice Agencies](#) (CMS)

PPE

[Strategies for Optimizing the Supply of PPE](#) (CDC)

[Extending the Use and/or Reusing Respiratory Protection During Disasters](#) (APIC)

[Temporary Enforcement Guidance – Healthcare Respiratory Protection](#) (OSHA)

[PPE Supply Equivalents & Price Guide](#) (AHRMM)

WORKFORCE PROTECTION & SUPPORT

[Management of Healthcare Personnel with Potential Exposure to Patients with COVID-19](#) (CDC)

[Criteria for Return to Work for Healthcare Personnel](#) (CDC)

[Montana Hospital Mutual Aid System Memo & Agreement](#)

COMMUNITY MITIGATION STRATEGIES

[Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission](#) (CDC)

[Tips to Keep Children Healthy While School's Out](#) (CDC)

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