

# SITREP

MHA

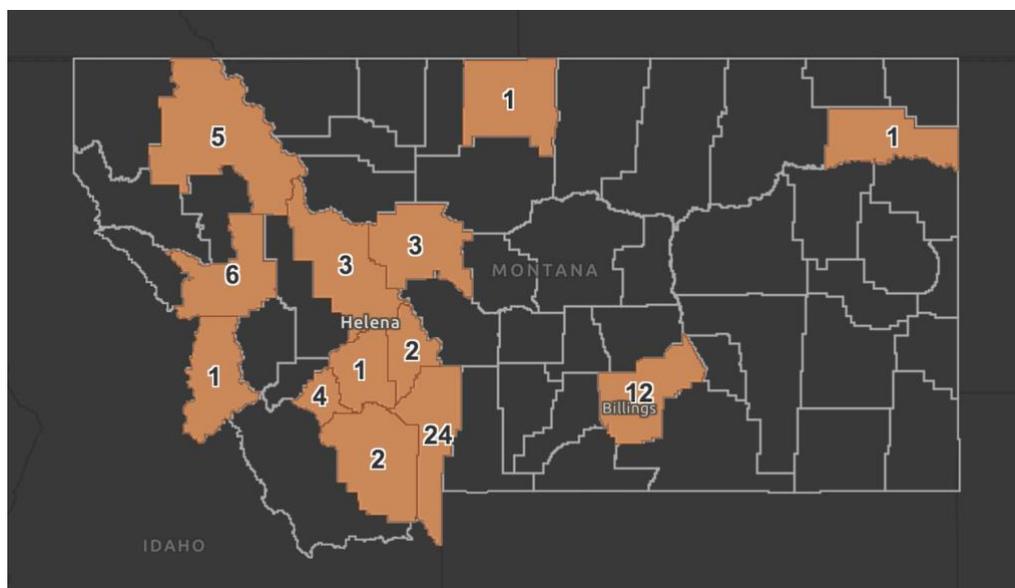
MONTANA  
HOSPITAL  
ASSOCIATION

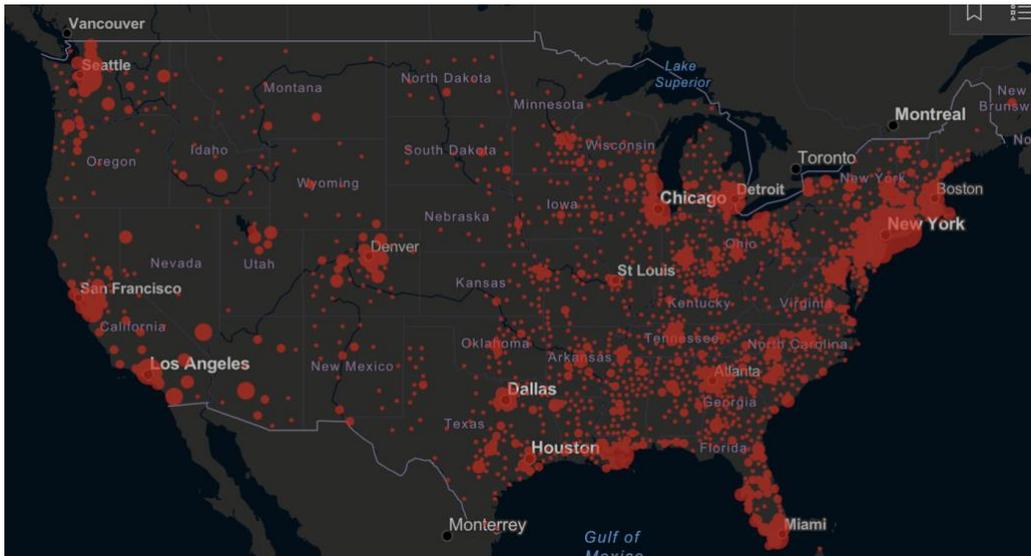
Montana Hospital Association - Situation Report

March 25, 2020

## COVID-19

REPORTED CASES	
<b>Montana</b> <i>New in last 24 hours: 14</i>	<b>65</b>
<b>United States</b> <i>New in last 24 hours: 14,125 (+26%)</i> Source: CSSE Global Outbreak Dashboard	<b>69,018</b>
<b>WA</b>	<b>2,580</b>
<b>ID</b>	<b>123</b>
<b>WY</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>ND</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>SD</b>	<b>41</b>





The Senate unanimously passed a \$2.2 trillion emergency relief bill Wednesday night aimed at limiting the financial trauma that the coronavirus pandemic is inflicting on the United States, and lawmakers acted with unusual speed to produce the largest economic rescue package in the nation's history, [reports The Washington Post](#) this evening. The legislation, which passed 96-0, would send checks to more than 150 million American households, set up enormous loan programs for businesses large and small, pump money into unemployment insurance programs, greatly boost spending on hospitals, and much more.

## OPERATIONS

**Reducing transmission of COVID-19 in the behavioral health setting.** The Joint Commission and National Council on Behavioral Health has made their recent webinar available to healthcare leaders who want an overview of the spectrum of clinical presentations of coronavirus and specific suggestions for decreasing the risk of transmission in the behavioral health setting. Access a [replay](#) of the webinar here.

## PLANNING

**PPE burn rate calculator.** This [spreadsheet-based model](#) provides information for healthcare facilities to plan and optimize the use of PPE for response to coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). This tool calculates the average consumption rate, also referred to as a “burn rate,” for each type of PPE entered in the spreadsheet. This information can then be used to estimate the remaining supply of PPE based on the average consumption rate. The spreadsheet is open-ended and can be used to calculate the use of other types of PPE as well.

**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

**Intalere COVID-19 Coronavirus Resource Center.** The Intalere Incident Command Group (ICG) task force has opened up its emergency management program and internal processes [resource center](#) to members and non-members to support COVID-19 impacted medical facilities. Complete and submit the MHA Intalere [Participation Agreement](#) to access MHA’s negotiated rates. Intalere is provider owned (Intermountain Health) and managed (Virginia Mason). There is no cost to sign up or access these rates as MHA’s goal is to increase volume and improve tier pricing for all of MHA’s membership. For questions and to return a signed copy, contact MHA Ventures Group Purchasing Coordinator Kristyn Egbert at [kristyn.egbert@mtha.org](mailto:kristyn.egbert@mtha.org) or 406-457-8022.

**The Joint Commission issues PPE FAQs.** Straightforward and easy-to-understand guidance on PPE in shortage situations: [FAQ on Mask Considerations](#) and [FAQ on Conserving Facemasks and Respirators During a Critical Shortage](#).

## FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

**National Uniform Billing Committee issues COVID-19 claims guidance.** The National Uniform Billing Committee has [issued guidance](#) to help healthcare providers flag claims for COVID-19-related services. Specifically, NUBC recommends that institutional claims for COVID-19-related services include the "DR" condition code for a national or regional disaster/emergency and use one of four applicable diagnosis codes. In addition, hospitals and health systems that have moved COVID-19 testing to off-campus facilities should use the hospital outpatient type of bill (O13x), main hospital address and National Provider Identifier for these claims, the guidance states.

**HHS issues PHI guidance for COVID-19 first responders.** The Department of Health and Human Services' Office for Civil Rights yesterday [issued guidance](#) on disclosing protected health information about individuals who have been infected with or exposed to COVID-19. The guidance outlines the following circumstances for when and what information can be disclosed without HIPAA authorization, including names or other identifying information about individuals:

- When needed to provide treatment;
- When required by law;
- When first responders may be at risk for an infection; and
- When disclosure is necessary to prevent or lessen a serious and imminent threat.

The document further states that in these situations, PHI can be shared with law enforcement, paramedics, other first responders and public health authorities so they can take extra precautions or use personal protective equipment. The guidance also states that these individuals or groups should use or disclose "minimum necessary" PHI to meet the disclosure's purpose.

**DLI to expedite professional licensure registration.** Montana Department of Labor and Industry Business Standards Division (BSD) has developed an [interstate licensure recognition registration process](#) to allow expedited registration of professionals who hold an active, unrestricted license in another state to begin working in Montana. As a reminder, nurses who hold a multistate compact license in another state (verifiable on <http://www.nursys.com>) do NOT need to complete this registration process.

**Disaster privileges: how long do they last?** The Joint Commission issued an FAQ on [Duration for Continuing Disaster Privileges](#) for Volunteer Licensed Independent Practitioners.

**DOL answers common COVID-19 workforce questions.** The U.S. Department of Labor has [released information](#) on common issues employers and employees face when responding to COVID-19, and its effects on wages and hours worked under the Fair Labor Standards Act, job-protected leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act, and paid sick leave and expanded family and medical leave under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act. The new law allows employers of healthcare providers or emergency responders to elect to exclude such employees from eligibility for the leave provided under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act.

## COMMUNICATIONS

**COVID-19 Communications Toolkits.** [NRHA toolkit](#) is based on CDC messaging and guidance. Additional communications toolkits and resources from the CDC and AHA are expected soon.

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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

**NEW:** [March 24 Memo to Montana Healthcare Providers on COVID-19 Testing](#) (DPHHS)

[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)

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

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

## RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES

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

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

[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)

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](#)

[COVID-19 Safety Training Resources](#) (NIH)

## **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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