

# SITREP



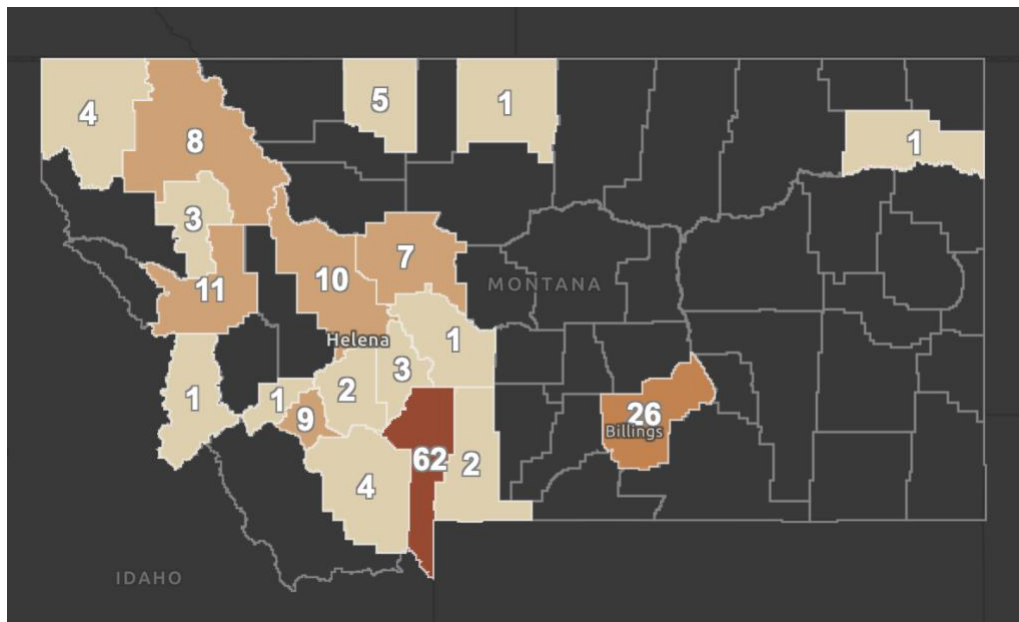
MONTANA  
HOSPITAL  
ASSOCIATION

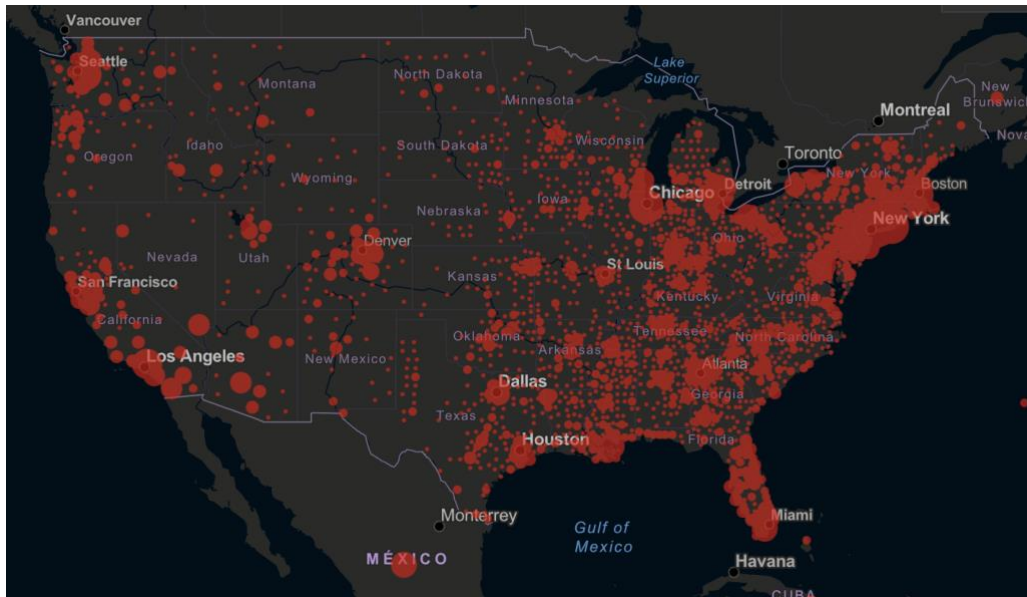
Montana Hospital Association - Situation Report

March 29, 2020

## COVID-19

REPORTED CASES	
<b>Montana</b> <i>Hospitalized: 8</i> <i>New in last 48 hours: 40 (+33%)</i> Source: <a href="#">Montana COVID-19 Dashboard</a>	<b>161</b>
<b>United States</b> <i>New in last 48 hours: 38,039 (+36%)</i> Source: <a href="#">Johns Hopkins CSSE Global Outbreak Dashboard</a>	<b>142,502</b>
<b>WA</b>	<b>4,896</b>
<b>ID</b>	<b>310</b>
<b>WY</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>ND</b>	<b>98</b>
<b>SD</b>	<b>90</b>





**Congress passes coronavirus relief legislation.** The House Friday passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (H.R. 748), shortly after the Senate unanimously approved the legislation. President Trump signed the legislation, which is the third large-scale congressional effort in response to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

The legislation provides financial relief and resources to individuals, families and businesses particularly hard hit by the COVID-19 public health emergency. It also includes a number of important health care provisions, including an emergency

fund for hospitals and health systems, a Medicaid disproportionate share hospital cut delay, temporary elimination of the Medicare sequester, and a Medicare diagnosis-related group add-on payment that together are estimated to make available \$117 billion in new funding for urban and rural hospitals and health systems.

## OPERATIONS

**CMS releases telehealth toolkit for LTC facilities.** CMS yesterday issued an [electronic toolkit](#) on telehealth and telemedicine for Long-Term Care Nursing Home Facilities. Most of the information is directed towards providers establishing a permanent telemedicine program, but also helps those interested in the temporary deployment of a telemedicine program.

**FDA approves nasal swabs for testing.** In an [update issued March 26](#), the FDA recommends that, for symptomatic patients, nasal swabs (that access just the front of the nose rather than the depth of the nasal cavity) could be used. This would provide COVID-19 testing that is more comfortable for patients, allows self-collection of samples at collection sites, and that can be performed with a simpler and more readily available swab.

## 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](#).

**Repurposing ventilators.** FDA has issued [guidance allowing ventilators from outpatient surgical centers and clinics](#) to be modified by changing a vent. This policy will assist states with being able to identify a whole new range of ventilators that could be easily converted, add to their supply, and focused at the point of the need in their states. Anesthesiologists Patient Safety Foundation (APSF)/American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) has issued guidance on [purposing anesthesia machines as ICU ventilators](#).

## LOGISTICS

**Emergency PPE requests.** All requests for emergency PPE and other resources must be submitted to the local county LEPC or Disaster and Emergency Services/Emergency Management coordinator.

## FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

**CMS expands Medicare Accelerated Payment Program.** In order to increase cash flow to providers of services and suppliers impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic,

CMS has expanded its current Accelerated and Advance Payment Program to a broader group of Medicare Part A providers and Part B suppliers. The expansion of this program is only for the duration of the public health emergency. Details on eligibility and the request process are outlined in this [fact sheet](#).

## COMMUNICATIONS

**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)

[MHA Consensus Statement on the Cancellation of Elective Procedures](#)

### EMS

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

[Montana EMS Guidance](#) (DPHHS)

### REGULATORY

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

[PHI Guidance for COVID-19 First Responders](#) (OCR/HHS)

### CLINICAL CARE

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

[Evaluating and Testing Persons for COVID-19](#)(CDC)

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

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

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

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

[Discontinuation of Transmission-Based Precautions of Patients with COVID-19](#)  
(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)

[Conserving Facemasks and Respirators During a Critical Shortage](#) (TJC)

[PPE Burn Rate Calculator](#) (CDC)

## **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)

[COVID-19 and the American Workplace Toolkit](#) (US Dept. of Labor)

[Memo on Registration for Out-of-State Licensees](#) (MT DLI)

## **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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