

SITREP



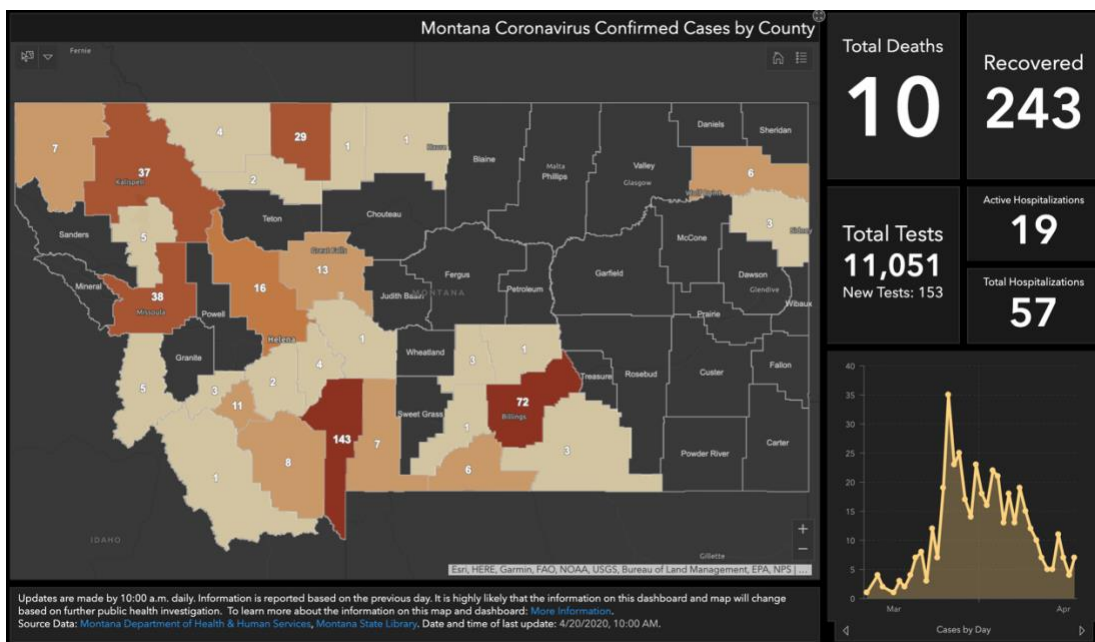
MONTANA
HOSPITAL
ASSOCIATION

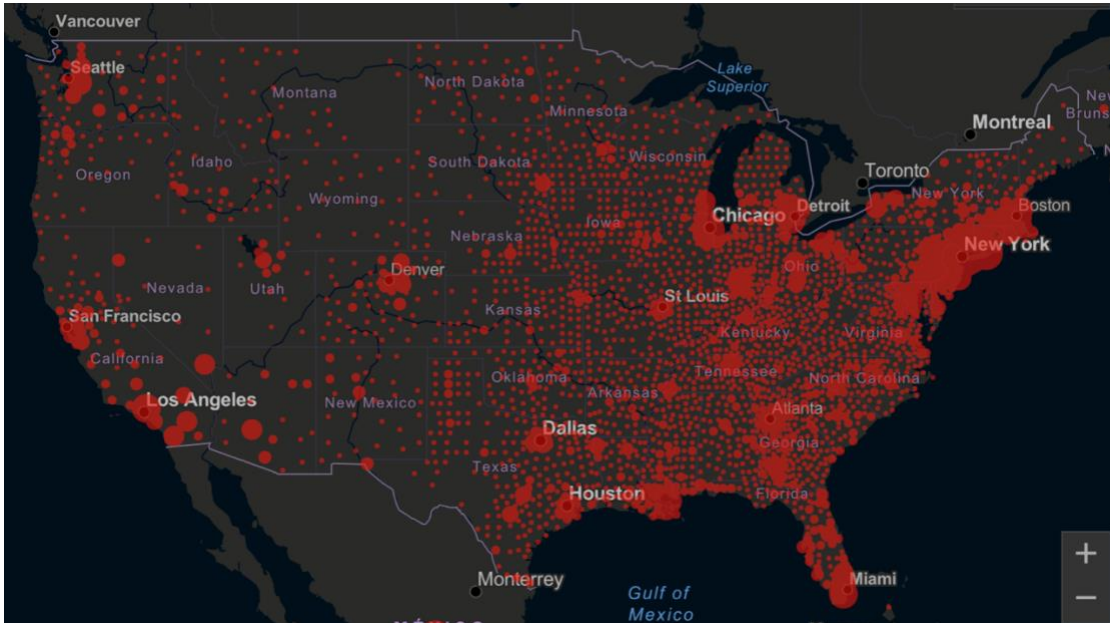
Montana Hospital Association - Situation Report

April 20, 2020

COVID-19

REPORTED CASES	
Montana <i>New in last 24 hours: 0 (+0%)</i> <i>Hospitalizations, Total: 57 (Last 24hrs: +2)</i> <i>Hospitalizations, Active: 19 (Last 24hrs: +1)</i> <i>Recovered: 243 (Last 24hrs: +0)</i> <i>Deaths: 10 (Last 24hrs: +0)</i> Source: Montana COVID-19 Dashboard	433
United States <i>New in last 24 hours: 28,252 (+4%)</i> Source: Johns Hopkins CSSE Global Outbreak Dashboard	787,370
WA	12,085
ID	1,736
WY	317
ND	627
SD	1,755





Congressional leaders and the Trump administration are closing in on an approximately \$470 billion interim package to provide additional COVID-19 relief

to small businesses, healthcare providers and hospitals. Congress is likely to vote on a package this week.

Specifically, the package adds \$310 billion to the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and \$60 billion to the Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) Program – both programs overseen by the Small Business Administration (SBA) that have run out of funding. The agreement would also include additional health provider relief, though less than what Democrats had demanded – \$75 billion (instead of \$100 billion) for the Provider Relief Fund and \$25 billion (instead of \$30 billion) for COVID-19 testing.

Lawmakers may include bipartisan policy fixes in this new package that would affect implementation of the CARES Act (116-36). First, the new package may include a provision creating an exception to allow government-owned hospitals – which includes a large chunk of rural hospitals and rural health clinics – to participate in the Paycheck Protection Program.

As for the dispersal of the Provider Relief Fund, HHS Secretary Alex Azar informed lawmakers last week that HHS needs up to a week-and-a-half to finalize formulas and timelines for the next tranche of funding, despite Administrator Verma hinting that funding would be distributed by the end of last week. The second wave of funding will likely be aimed at more specific provider groups in need of additional support.

Last week, Senate Finance Democrats urged HHS to consider the following factors for future distribution of funds: (1) providers excluded by the methodology applied to the first tranche of funds (i.e., facilities and providers did not receive Medicare fee-for-service reimbursements in 2019), such as Medicaid-dependent safety net providers, and those with variable payer mix, including Medicare Advantage; (2) impact of lost revenues as a result of a moratorium on elective care; (3) burden on community-based organizations providing essential care to help keep patients at home; and (4) severity of the outbreak in a geographic area.

OPERATIONS

CMS: Nursing homes must directly report COVID-19 cases. CMS April 19 [announced](#) nursing homes now must report cases of COVID-19 directly to the CDC to advance data collection and surveillance related to the pandemic. The CDC will provide the reporting tool and CMS intends to make public the data. The agency also will require nursing homes to inform residents and their families of COVID-19 cases in their facilities, in accordance with existing privacy laws and regulations.

HHS, FEMA compile COVID-19 best practices. HHS has [created a webpage](#) with resources for healthcare planning and infectious disease, among others. FEMA's Healthcare Resilience Task Force also recently released a [package of COVID-19 resources](#) specifically for hospitals. Further, FEMA yesterday shared a website that compiles [lessons learned](#) from around the country, including for medical practitioners.

PLANNING

State of Montana announces changes, clarifies required data and resource reporting. In keeping with federal data reporting requests and requirements, and recognizing existing data collection systems already in place in Montana, DPHHS clarified data reporting by hospitals in this [memo](#) released April 16.

- **Juware/EMResource:** Continue to report bed availability and ventilator capacity by 8:00 a.m. daily.
- **PPE Survey Tool:** PPE data will be reported to a [new PPE Survey Tool](#) instead of EMResource.
- **COVID-19 Patient Survey Tool:** Used to collect hospitalization data, and only to be used at the direction of DPHHS officials following acquisition of confirmed COVID-19 patient.

LOGISTICS

Volunteer registration continues. Montana Healthcare Mutual Aid System (MHMAS) has registered nearly 2,000 volunteers through its [volunteer registration platform](#). MHMAS is a secure, web-based online registration system used to register, verify and credential volunteer healthcare professionals before a major disaster or public health emergency occurs. Registration is open to Montana's health and medical professionals, as well as non-medical professionals who would like the opportunity to volunteer to respond to "all hazards" incidents.

Submit PPE needs to DES coordinator in order to ensure allocation. In order to receive an allocation of emergency PPE, healthcare organizations MUST [submit needs to their local DES coordinator](#). Allocation is ongoing and supplies are limited.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

Second application window for USDA telemedicine grant program. The USDA Rural Development Service will open a second application window for funding under the [Distance Learning and Telemedicine \(DLT\) grant program](#), the agency [announced](#) today. The new window also makes available an additional \$25 million provided for the DLT grant program under the CARES Act. Applicants eligible for

DLT grants include most state and local governmental entities, federally recognized tribes, nonprofits, and for-profit businesses.

COMMUNICATIONS

Call recordings and webinar playbacks. Missed a call or webinar promoted in MHA's daily COVID-19 Call & Webinar Alert? Many are recorded, and are [posted here](#) once available.

COVID-19 Resource Library. MHA has built a [library](#) of helpful resources and sample material from other hospitals, healthcare organizations and states in their response to COVID-19.

HHS hospital-specific COVID-19 questions: HospitalCOVID19@hhs.gov

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: [County & Tribal Health Departments](#)

Contact Information: [County & Tribal DES Coordinators](#)

[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](#)

[Summary of Funding Opportunities for Hospitals](#) (Compiled by MHA)

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)

[Summary of COVID-19 Emergency Declaration Waivers and Flexibilities](#) (CMS)

[Provider-specific Fact Sheets on Waivers and Flexibilities](#) (CMS)

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)

[March 26 Diagnostic Testing Update re: Swabs](#) (FDA)

[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)

[Caring with Limited Resources during the COVID-19 Crisis](#) (AHA)

[Optimizing Ventilator Use during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#) (HHS)

LONG-TERM CARE & 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)

[COVID-19 Long-Term Care Facility Guidance](#) (CMS)

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)

[Telehealth Toolkit for Long-Term Care Nursing Home Facilities](#) (CMS)

[Informational Bulletin: Utilization of Telehealth for Treatment of SUDs](#) (CMS)

Watch: [CMS Telehealth FAQ video](#) (CMS)

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)

[Strategies for Optimizing the Supply of N95 Respirators](#) (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)

[PPE Emergency Use Authorizations](#) (FDA)

[Decontamination and Reuse of Filtering Facepiece Respirators](#) (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)

[FFCRA FMLA and Paid Leave FAQs](#) (US DOL)

[MHMAS Volunteer Registration System](#)

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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