

# SITREP



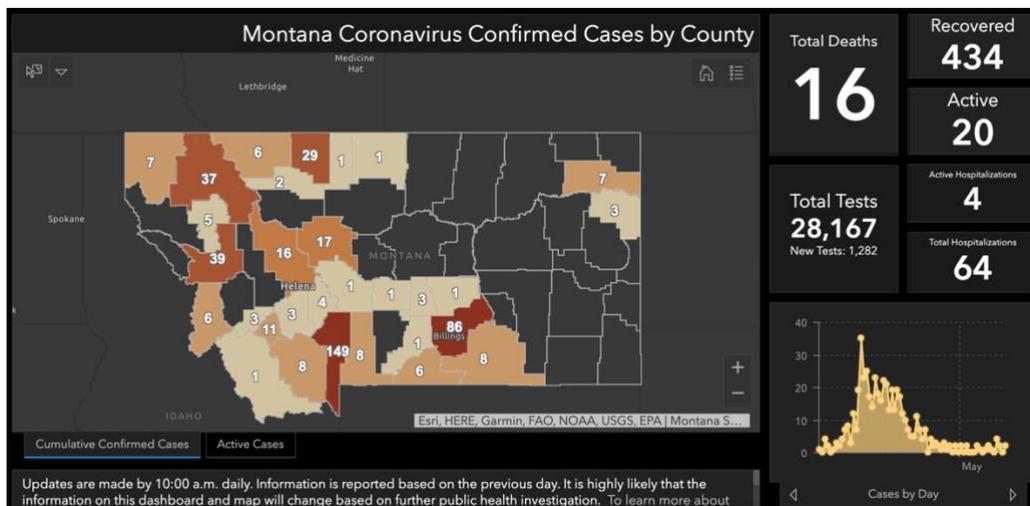
MONTANA  
HOSPITAL  
ASSOCIATION

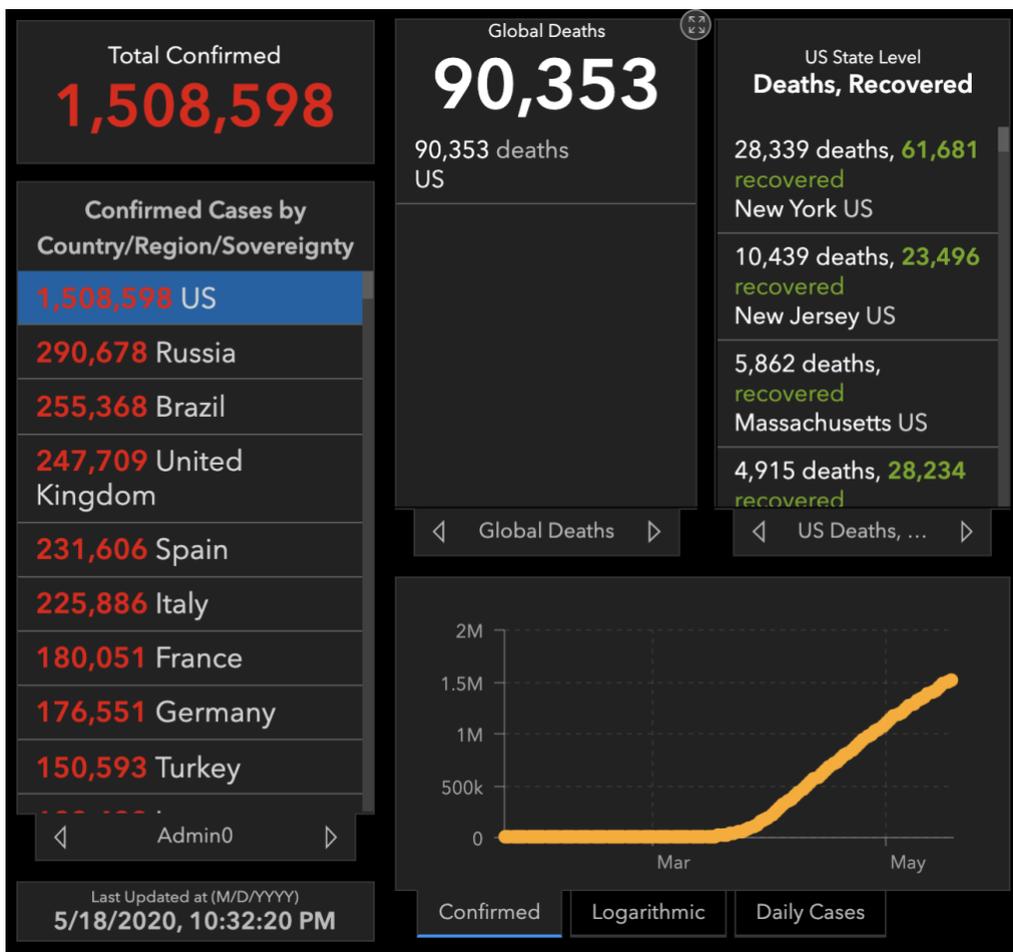
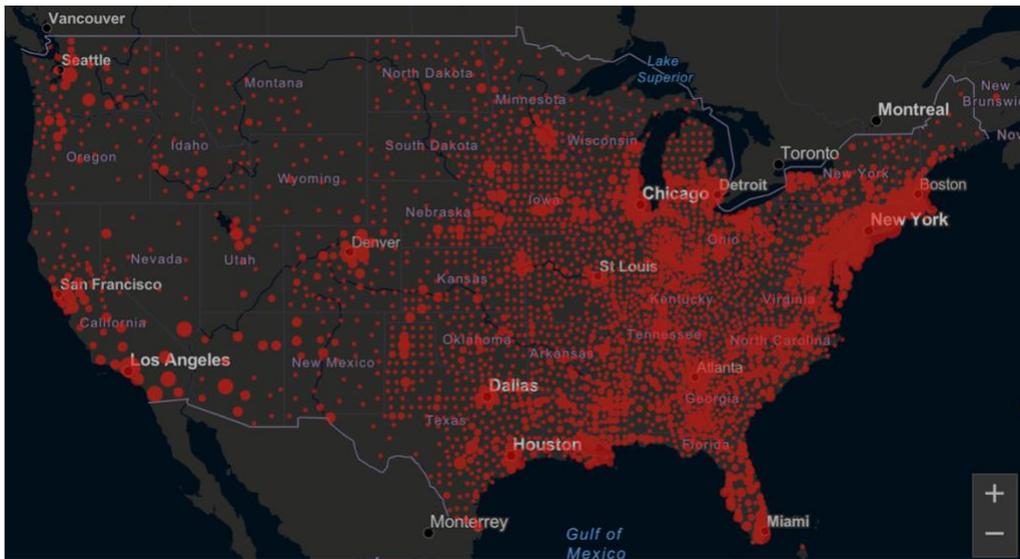
## Montana Hospital Association - Situation Report

May 18, 2020

# COVID-19

REPORTED CASES	
<b>Montana</b> <i>New in last 24 hours: +2</i> <i>Active Cases: 20 (Last 24hrs: +1)</i> <i>Recovered: 434 (Last 24hrs: +3)</i> <i>Hospitalizations, Total: 64 (Last 24hrs: +1)</i> <i>Hospitalizations, Active: 4 (Last 24hrs: +1)</i> <i>Deaths: 16 (Last 24hrs: +0)</i> Source: <a href="#">Montana COVID-19 Dashboard</a>	<b>470</b>
<b>United States</b> <i>New in last 24 hours: 21,841 (+1%)</i> Source: <a href="#">Johns Hopkins CSSE Global Outbreak Dashboard</a>	<b>1,508,598</b>
<b>WA</b>	<b>18,611</b>
<b>ID</b>	<b>2,455</b>
<b>WY</b>	<b>766</b>
<b>ND</b>	<b>1,931</b>
<b>SD</b>	<b>4,027</b>





## OPERATIONS

**At-home COVID-19 sample collection kit gains FDA authorization.** The FDA Saturday [authorized](#) the emergency use of Everlywell, Inc.'s COVID-19 Test Home Collection Kit. The product is a standalone, at-home, nasal-swab sample collection kit that can be sent to specified labs for subsequent COVID-19 diagnostic testing using certain tests separately authorized by FDA for use with the new kit. The labs

authorized to test specimens collected using the authorized kit are Fulgent Therapeutics and Assurance Scientific Laboratories. Individuals must be screened via an online questionnaire, the results of which are reviewed by health care professionals, in order to gain access to the kit. Results are returned to the patient through Everlywell's independent physician network and online portal.

**Studies: COVID-19 virus can spread through feces, surfaces contaminated by presymptomatic patients.** Infectious virus in feces is a common manifestation of COVID-19, according to a [study](#) from China published today in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Emerging Infectious Diseases journal. "Our findings indicate the need for appropriate precautions to avoid potential transmission of SARS-CoV-2 from feces," the authors said. "Discharge and hospital cleaning practices should consider this possibility for critically ill patients or those who died who had high viral loads and are more likely to shed infectious virus."

Another [study](#) from China published in the journal investigated environmental contamination in two rooms of a quarantine hotel after two presymptomatic students who stayed there were laboratory-confirmed as having coronavirus disease. "We detected SARS-CoV-2 RNA on eight (36%) of 22 surfaces, as well as on the pillow cover, sheet, and duvet cover," demonstrating that presymptomatic patients can easily contaminate environments, the authors said. "Our data also reaffirm the potential role of surface contamination in the transmission of SARS-CoV-2 and the importance of strict surface hygiene practices, including regarding linens of SARS-CoV-2 patients," they said.

## PLANNING

**State announces changes to data reporting.** DPHHS announced changes to data reporting effective May 11. For questions, please contact your [Regional Coordinator](#).

- **Hospitals:** Continue reporting to Juvare/EMResource as follows:
  - Daily: Bed and ventilator counts
  - Weekly (every Friday): PPE
  - Following treatment of COVID-19 patient(s): COVID-19 patient data, as directed by public health officials
- **Long-Term Care Facilities:** May reduce their bed and PPE reports to the Regional Coordinators to Fridays only. Regional Coordinators will email out a survey link weekly to each facility for bed and PPE data.

## LOGISTICS

**Montana DES receives 500,000 N95 masks.** Governor Steve Bullock today [announced](#) that Montana received a shipment of 500,000 N95 masks from FEMA to the state's warehouse. The state's stockpile of PPE currently includes over 800,00 KN95 masks, over 220,000 surgical masks, over 97,000 face shields, over 240,000 gloves, and over 60,000 gowns.

**No-cost service to decontaminate N95 masks.** The [Battelle presentation](#) from the May 8 webinar includes an overview and FAQs on the program. This no-cost service to Montana healthcare providers allows reuse of N95 masks up to 20x.

**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

**Study: Medicaid enrollment outpacing projections, spurred by COVID-19.** State Medicaid programs are reporting an uptick in enrollment compared with their fiscal year 2020 projections, due in part to the COVID-19 pandemic. The [research](#), unveiled Friday by the Kaiser Family Foundation, reveals that nearly all surveyed states that were able to provide projections anticipate their FY 2020 enrollment to grow beyond what was anticipated. More than half also expect the same impact on their Medicaid spending for the same period. Furthermore, nearly all states with projections expect this trend to continue into FY 2021 for both enrollment and spending. Medicaid budget shortfalls stemming from enrollment increases are a reported concern; 40% of surveyed states expect deficits in FY 2020, and nearly all expect shortfalls for FY 2021.

**Gov. Bullock invites hospitals to join sentinel surveillance team, ramp up testing via EDs statewide.** Last week, Governor Bullock met with MHA to share his plan to dramatically increase testing to 60,000 tests per month. As part of the plan, Gov. Bullock has [invited](#) hospitals to join state's sentinel surveillance team. Participating hospitals agree to test asymptomatic individuals who present in the emergency department. The state will provide free test kits, PPE and process all COVID-19 tests free of charge to participating hospitals and their clinics. The supplies also can be used to screen staff who qualify for the free testing.

**Chart: COVID-19 Telehealth Flexibilities.** View key telehealth changes and flexibilities at the federal level, summarized into one [chart](#) by Wynne Health Group. The chart incorporates legislative changes, waivers, certain insurer

flexibilities, and the Centers for Medicaid and Medicaid Services' (CMS') interim final rules with commend periods (IFCs).

**Paycheck Protection Program loan forgiveness instructions and application released.** SBA today released the [loan forgiveness instructions and application](#) for borrowers. As required by the CARES Act, Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans will be fully forgiven if funds are used for eligible payroll costs incurred or paid during the eight-week covered period and other allowable expenses (including business mortgage interest payments, rent or lease payments, business utility payments). At least 75 percent of the forgiven amount must have been used for payroll costs.

The application form provides step-by-step instructions on how to calculate the forgiveness amount. It also includes a new exception from the loan forgiveness reduction for borrowers that made a good-faith, written offer to rehire an employee during the covered period which was rejected by the employee. Additionally, the application form notes a safe harbor that exempts certain borrowers from the loan forgiveness reduction if they meet the following conditions:

- The borrower reduced its FTE employee levels in the period beginning February 15, 2020, and ending April 26, 2020; and
- The borrower restored its FTE employee levels by not later than June 30, 2020 to its FTE employee levels in the borrower's pay period that included February 15, 2020.

## 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. New additions today include:

- [Telehealth](#): COVID-19 Federal Telehealth Flexibilities Chart
- [Nursing Homes](#): Toolkit on State Actions to Mitigate COVID-19 Prevalence in Nursing Homes
- [Clinical Care/Reopening](#): Language on Visitation

**HHS hospital-specific COVID-19 questions:** [HospitalCOVID19@hhs.gov](mailto: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](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: [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](#)

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

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

[CDC What's New](#) (CDC)

### 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)

[Symptom-based Strategy to Discontinue Isolation for Persons with COVID-19](#) (CDC)

## 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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