

SITREP



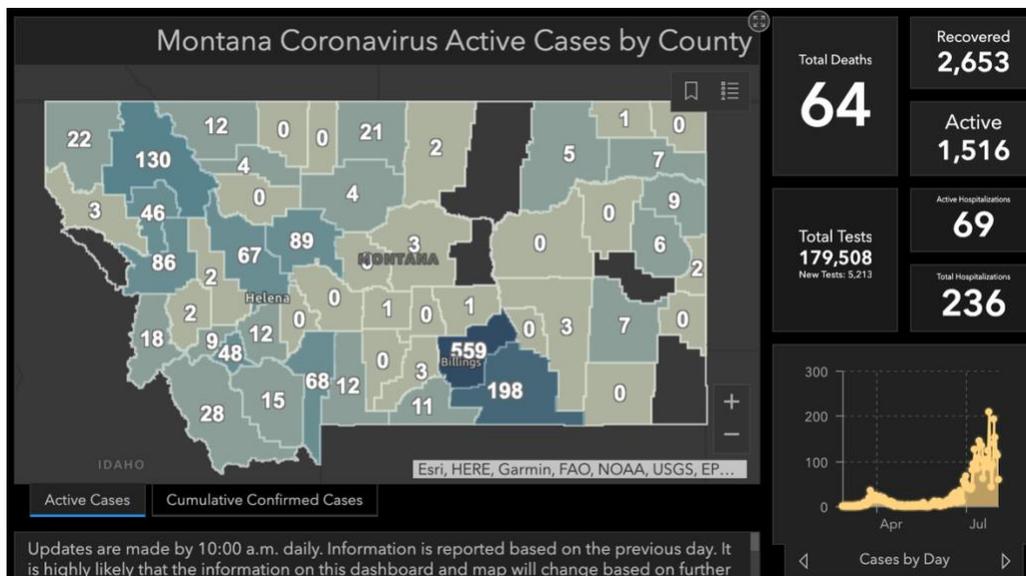
MONTANA
HOSPITAL
ASSOCIATION

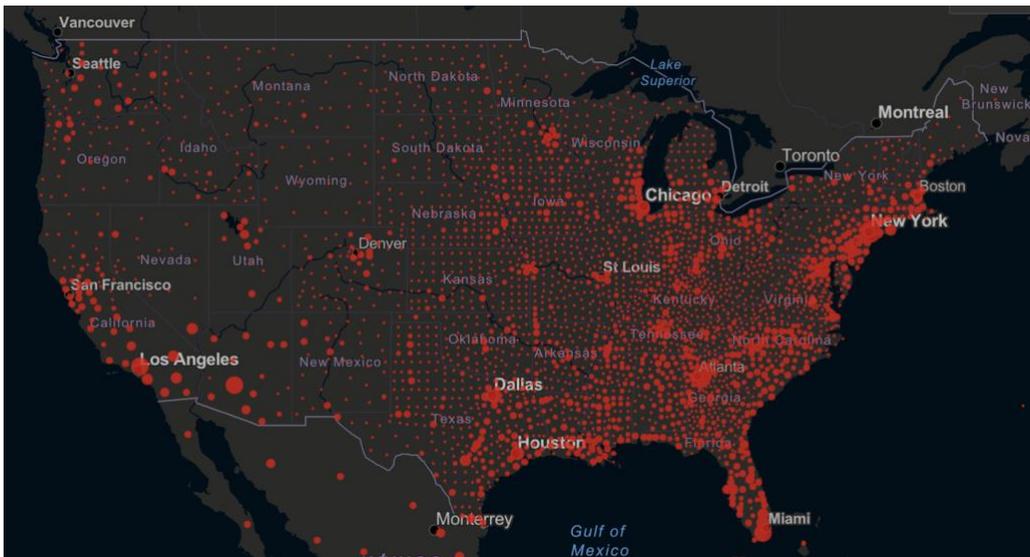
Montana Hospital Association - Situation Report

August 3, 2020

COVID-19

REPORTED CASES	
Montana <i>New in last 72hrs: 268 (+2% per day average)</i> <i>Active Cases: 1,516</i> <i>Recovered: 2,653</i> <i>Hospitalizations, Total: 236</i> <i>Hospitalizations, Active: 69</i> <i>Deaths: 64 (Last 72hrs: +4)</i> Source: Montana COVID-19 Dashboard (Updated 10:00 a.m.)	4,233
United States <i>New in last 72hrs: 178,891 (+1% per day average)</i> Source: Johns Hopkins CSSE Global Outbreak Dashboard	4,675,628
WA	58,173
ID	21,110
WY	2,808
ND	6,660
SD	8,955





OPERATIONS

HHS, Defense Department invest in manufacturing demonstration to produce 100 million COVID-19 investigational vaccine doses. HHS Friday [announced](#) that it will partner with the Department of Defense to fund the advanced development — including clinical trials and large-scale manufacturing — of a COVID-19 investigational vaccine from Sanofi and GlaxoSmithKline. The investment is expected to yield 100 million fill-finished doses, meaning vaccine doses are packaged and ready to ship immediately if clinical trials are successful and the Food and Drug Administration authorizes its use.

Campaign encourages convalescent plasma donation. President Trump Thursday [announced](#) a national call to action and campaign to encourage individuals who recover from COVID-19 to donate their plasma, which may contain antibodies that could help other patients fight the virus. As part of the effort, the Department of Health and Human Services released several [public service announcements](#) featuring public health experts. The campaign seeks to dramatically increase convalescent plasma donations by the end of August. [The Fight Is In Us](#) website screens and directs consumers to FDA-licensed donor facilities and hospitals where plasma can be safely donated.

FDA releases FAQs on remdesivir EUA, antibody tests. The FDA Thursday updated its [FAQs](#) on the emergency use authorization of remdesivir for use on certain hospitalized COVID-19 patients. The document includes information on the changes to Gilead's fact sheets for healthcare providers and patient caregivers. FDA this week also posted a [patient-and-consumer-focused FAQ](#) about SARS-CoV-2 antibody, or serology, testing, including a guide to understanding test results and where to obtain them.

CDC study of overnight youth camp highlights importance of COVID-19 mitigation strategies. A [study](#) released Friday by the CDC demonstrates that SARS-CoV-2 spreads efficiently in youth-centric settings, resulting in high attack rates among persons in all age groups. The authors found that, despite efforts by officials at an overnight camp in Georgia to implement most recommended strategies to prevent COVID-19 transmission, 76% of those tested who attended the camp tested positive for COVID-19 because not all recommended mitigation steps were strictly followed. The camp had incorporated some CDC guidelines, including cohorting attendees by cabin and enhancing cleaning, but did not require campers to wear masks, nor were windows and doors opened for extra ventilation. In addition, activities in which the campers engaged, such as singing and cheering, are believed to aid in virus transmission.

PLANNING

Assisted living data portal launched, submit data by 3 p.m. MT today. A new [data collection website](#) enables licensed/registered/certified assisted living providers to share information requested by HHS for possible federal aid due to COVID-19. Please submit your data by 3:00 p.m. MT on August 3, 2020. Any licensed/registered/certified assisted living provider, including memory care and CCRCs, in the U.S. and its territories can submit data regardless of membership status.

HHS requests daily data reporting to TeleTracking. HHS recently [announced](#) significant changes to the process for hospitals to fulfill the agency's request for daily data reporting on bed capacity, utilization, personal protective equipment (PPE) and in-house laboratory testing data. HHS notes it will no longer ask for one-time requests for data to aid in the distribution of remdesivir or any other treatments or supplies. This means that the daily reporting is the only mechanism used for the distribution calculations. For issues with accessing the TeleTracking portal or questions about the data, contact TeleTracking Technical Support at 1-877-570-6903.

Continue resource reporting to State. Until further notice, continue reporting the following data as follows. 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: Bed and PPE counts to be reported weekly on Fridays. Use this [survey link](#) weekly to report bed and PPE data.

LOGISTICS

Submit PPE needs to DES coordinator in order to ensure allocation. Until further notice, healthcare organizations MUST [submit needs to their local DES coordinator](#) in order to receive an allocation of emergency PPE.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

Coverage of physician telehealth services provided to SNF residents. The current COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) does not waive any requirements related to Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Consolidated Billing (CB); however, CMS added CPT codes 99441, 99442, and 99443, to the [list of telehealth codes](#) coverable under the waiver during the COVID-19 PHE. These codes designate three different time increments of telephone evaluation and management service provided by a physician. Providers can bill for these physician services separately under Part B when furnished to a SNF's Part A resident.

Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) will reprocess claims for CPT codes 99441, 99442 and 99443 with dates of service on or after March 1, 2020, that were denied due to SNF CB edits. Providers do not have to do anything. If you already received payment from the SNF for these physician services, return that payment to the SNF once the MAC reprocesses your claim.

MT DPHHS issues guidance for providers billing Medicaid for youth outpatient psychotherapy services. In its August [Claim Jumper](#), Montana DPHHS clarifies billing requirements for youth outpatient psychotherapy sessions. The session limit has been expanded to 24 sessions from 10 sessions during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Brief examines use of Telehealth by Medicare beneficiaries during PHE. HHS' Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE) last week released a [brief](#) examining the changes in Medicare fee-for-service primary care visits and use of telehealth at the start of the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE). The analysis found Medicare primary care visits dropped precipitously from mid-March at the start of the pandemic, at the same telehealth visits increased for primary care. Nearly half of Medicare primary care visits were provided via telehealth in April, compared with less than one percent before the PHE in February. Telehealth use was lower in rural areas.

The report concludes there is evidence that Medicare's new telehealth flexibilities played a critical role in helping to maintain access to primary healthcare services - when many beneficiaries and providers were concerned with transmission of COVID-19. Future research could examine whether these flexibilities were effective and if telehealth may have improved access to care and health outcomes among underserved beneficiaries.

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 lists and general sources of information on a wide range of COVID-19-related issues

[MHA COVID-19 General Resources page](#)

CLINICAL OPERATIONS

Resources on infection prevention and control, EMS operations, telehealth operations and care for specific populations from federal and state resources

[MHA COVID-19 Clinical Operations page](#)

LONG-TERM CARE & RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES

CDC and CMS resources specific to maintaining safe conditions in long-term care and retirement communities

[MHA COVID-19 Long-Term Care & Retirement Communities page](#)

SUPPLY CHAIN RESOURCES

Resources from AHRMM, AHA, Intalere, CDC and other sources on sourcing, conserving and properly using PPE

[MHA COVID-19 Supply Chain Resources page](#)

WORKFORCE PROTECTION & SUPPORT

MT DLI, CDC, OSHA and NIH toolkits, FAQs and other resources to protect employees and allow staff to return to work

[MHA COVID-19 Workforce Protection & Support page](#)

COMMUNITY MITIGATION STRATEGIES

CDC resources on community mitigation strategies

[MHA COVID-19 Community Mitigation Strategies page](#)

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

Guidance, fact sheets and other resources on regulatory waivers and flexibilities in addition to catalogued financing information related to the CARES Act and other COVID-19 funding assistance

[MHA COVID-19 Finance & Administration page](#)

COMMUNICATIONS

Archive of MHA COVID-19 related communications as well as sample communications documents, toolkits and other resources from state and national levels

[MHA COVID-19 Communications page](#)

TESTING

FAQs, recommendations and other CDC, FDA and MT DPHHS resources related to COVID-19 testing

[MHA COVID-19 Testing page](#)

PLANNING

Best practices and planning documents from CDC, facilities on the front lines and MT DPHHS

[MHA COVID-19 Planning page](#)

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