SITREP

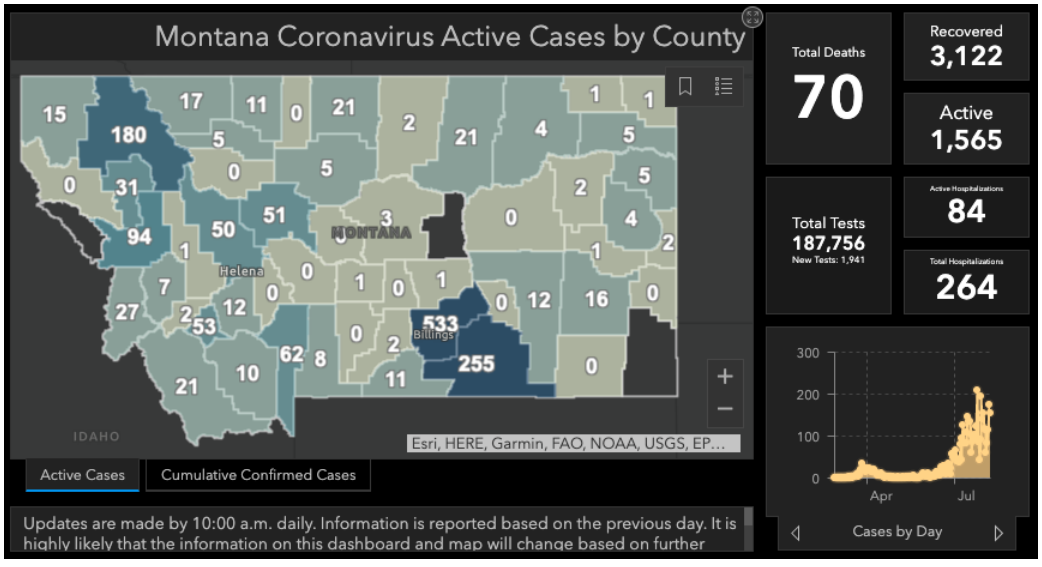
MHA Montana Hospital Association

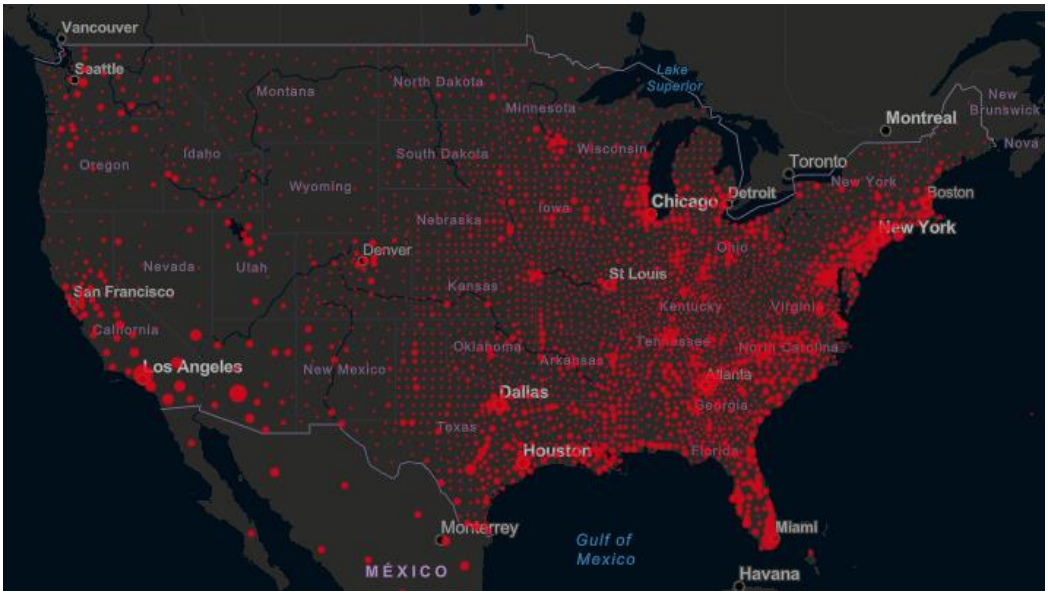
Montana Hospital Association - Situation Report

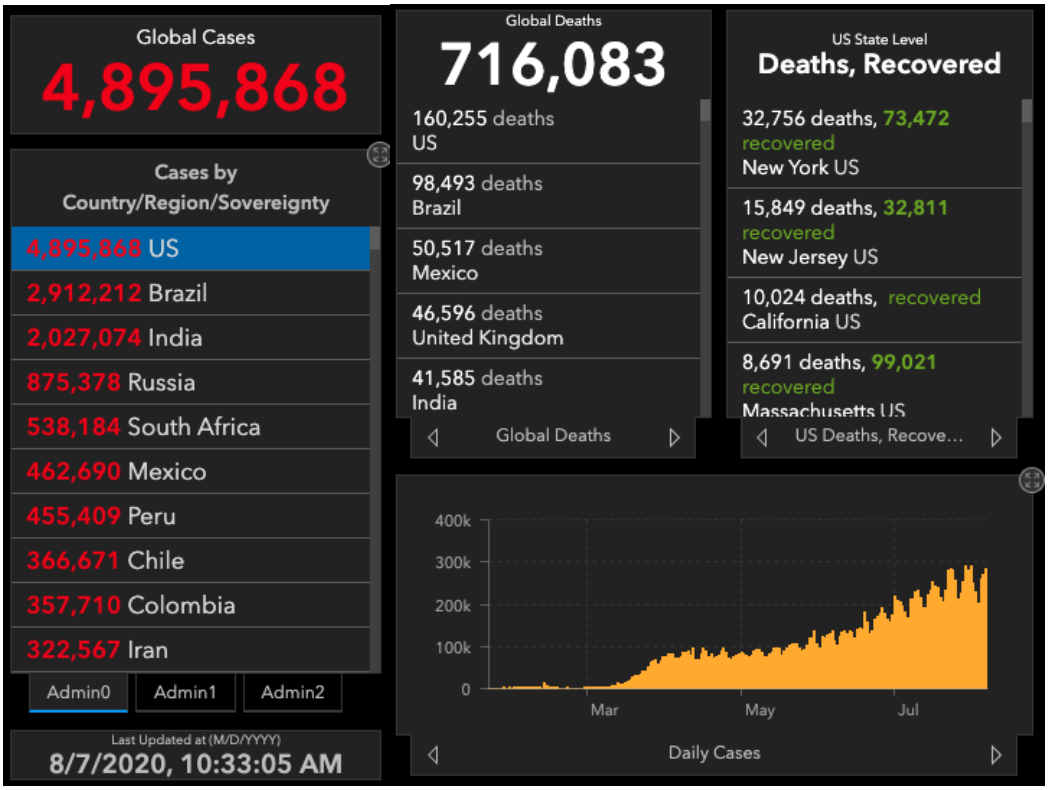
August 7, 2020

COVID-19

REPORTED CASES	
Montana ***New in last 24hrs: 155 (+3%)*** ***Active Cases: 1,565 (-8)*** ***Recovered: 3,122 (+158)*** ***Hospitalizations, Total: 264 (+5)*** ***Hospitalizations, Active: 84 (-3)*** ***Deaths: 70 (Last 24hrs: +5)*** **Source: Montana COVID-19 Dashboard (Updated 10:00 a.m.)**	**4,757**
United States ***New in last 24hrs: 69,007 (+1%)*** **Source: Johns Hopkins CSSE Global Outbreak Dashboard**	**4,895,868**
WA	**60,917**
ID	**23,401**
WY	**2,953**
ND	**7,326**
SD	**9,273**







Gov. Bullock directs $20 million to support testing for college students, announces option for counties to conduct mail ballots for November election. Governor Steve Bullock yesterday announced that he will direct up to $20 million in funding to the Montana University System (MUS) to support its fall semester COVID-19 strategy for testing students.

MUS will prioritize rapid detection and isolation of new COVID-19 cases, rapid contact tracing for each of those cases, and rapid quarantine and testing of individuals who have had close contact with positive COVID-19 cases. To prioritize resources, MUS will not test each student arriving to its campuses, but tests will

be available to those who need them and MUS will also use epidemiological surveillance testing to improve effectiveness of mitigation efforts.

In another announcement yesterday, Gov. Bullock issued a directive to county election officials allowing expanded voting by mail and early voting for the November general election. Whether or not they provide mail ballots, all counties will be required to offer in person voting opportunities and take precautions to ensure Montanans have the option to register or vote safely.

The directive permits counties, at their discretion, to expand access to voting by mail and early voting. Counties that opt to vote by mail will still require counties to allow in person voting. All counties must ensure appropriate social distancing to provide safe voting and voter registration for all Montanans.

OPERATIONS

Study to evaluate potential COVID-19 treatment regimen in hospitalized patients. The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases has launched a clinical trial to evaluate a potential COVID-19 treatment regimen for hospitalized patients that combines remdesivir with interferon beta-1a, a medication approved to treat multiple sclerosis that laboratory studies suggest may benefit patients with COVID-19. The trial expects to enroll more than 1,000 hospitalized adults with COVID-19 in the United States and abroad who have abnormal chest X-rays or need supplemental oxygen or mechanical ventilation. Preliminary results are expected this fall.

NIH project to create COVID-19 medical imaging tools. The National Institutes of Health Wednesday announced the Medical Imaging and Data Resource Center, a public-private initiative that will create medical imaging tools to detect and personalize therapies for COVID-19 patients. "This effort will gather a large repository of COVID-19 chest images, allowing researchers to evaluate both lung and cardiac tissue data, ask critical research questions, and develop predictive COVID-19 imaging signatures that can be delivered to healthcare providers," said Guoying Liu, program lead for the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering.

CDC reports 15 methanol poisonings from hand sanitizer. Hospitals have treated at least 15 patients in Arizona and New Mexico for methanol poisoning associated with alcohol-based hand sanitizers, according to a CDC report released Wednesday. Six of the patients developed seizures, four died and three were discharged with visual impairment. The FDA has warned healthcare providers and the public not to use hand sanitizers containing methanol, and recently updated its do-not-use list of hand sanitizer products.

First state launches COVID-19 contact tracing app based on Apple/Google platform. Virginia yesterday launched the first COVID-19 contact tracing app based on the exposure notifications system application programming interface developed by Apple and Google. The free COVIDWISE app relies on Bluetooth technology rather than collecting users' personal information or location data. Developers said the app can notify users if they have come in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. COVIDWISE uses random Bluetooth keys that change every 10 to 20 minutes. iOS and Android devices on which the app is installed will anonymously share these random keys if they are within close proximity for at least 15 minutes. Each day, the device downloads a list of all random keys associated with positive COVID-19 results submitted by other app users and checks them against the list of random keys it has encountered in the last 14 days. In the event of a match, COVIDWISE may notify the individual, taking into account the date and duration of exposure, and Bluetooth signal strength, which is used to estimate proximity.

PLANNING

Updates to NHSN's LTCF COVID-19 Module effective Aug. 10. On Monday, August 10, updates will be deployed to the NHSN LTCF COVID-19 Module Resident Impact and Facility Capacity pathway. New testing questions will be added regarding facility access and capacity for COVID-19 viral testing of residents and facility personnel. The previous questions *Does your facility have access to COVID-19 testing while the resident is in the facility?* and *If YES, what laboratory type?* will be removed after August 9, 2020.

The updated data collection form, form instructions, and CSV templates will be available on Monday, August 10, 2020 on the LTCF COVID-19 Module webpage. Send questions to the NHSN Helpdesk: NHSN@cdc.gov with "LTCF" in the Subject line.

HHS revises COVID-19 hospital daily data reporting request, decreases frequency of reporting for supply-related fields. HHS updated its guidance and frequently asked questions (FAQs) regarding the agency's request for daily COVID-19-related hospital data reporting. Notable changes include:

Supply Data. HHS makes two significant changes to the process of reporting certain supply data.

- Hospitals may decrease the frequency of reporting supply-related data fields — i.e., items 26-32 in the guidance document's table — from daily to three times per week. Specifically, HHS is asking hospitals to report these data on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

- For the data fields asking hospitals for the days of on-hand supply (i.e., items 27 and 28 in the guidance document's table), hospitals now have the option of selecting a range of days, rather than calculating a specific number.

HHS Hospital Data Liaisons. As of the week of July 27, HHS has begun to deploy "Hospital Data Liaisons." These teams are working collaboratively with states to obtain information about barriers to reporting complete data, and over time, are expected to help states and hospitals obtain additional clarification and guidance around reporting requests.

FAQs. In addition to an FAQ on hospital data liaisons, HHS includes five other FAQs that address, among other topics, how to fix data errors, how organizations (like hospital associations) can get access to data, and what hospitals should do if they cannot report data on weekends.

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

Updated toolkit for managing workforce challenges. ASPR's TRACIE updated its COVID-19 Workforce Virtual Toolkit, providing a curated set of resources and tools for decision-makers managing healthcare workforce challenges in response to the COVID-19 emergency.

Updated list of counterfeit respirators. NIOSH yesterday updated its list of counterfeit respirators and/or respirators misrepresenting NIOSH approval.

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.

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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