

SITREP



MONTANA
HOSPITAL
ASSOCIATION

Montana Hospital Association - Situation Report

Publication notice:

Publication of the SITREP will pause Dec. 30 through Jan. 1 with the exception of any urgent breaking news.

Publication will resume as normal on Monday Jan. 4.

December 29, 2020

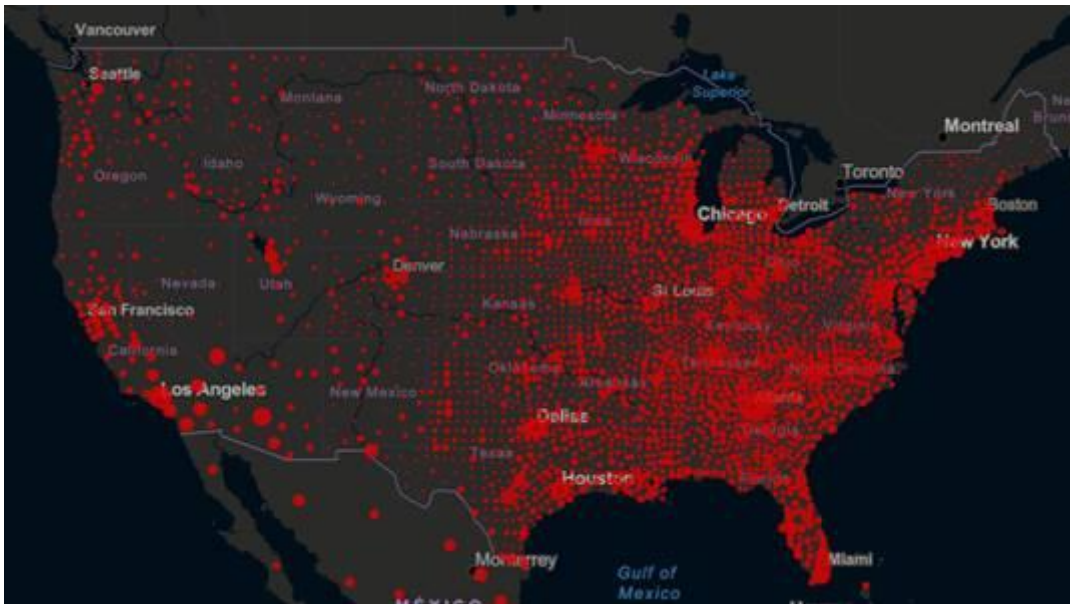
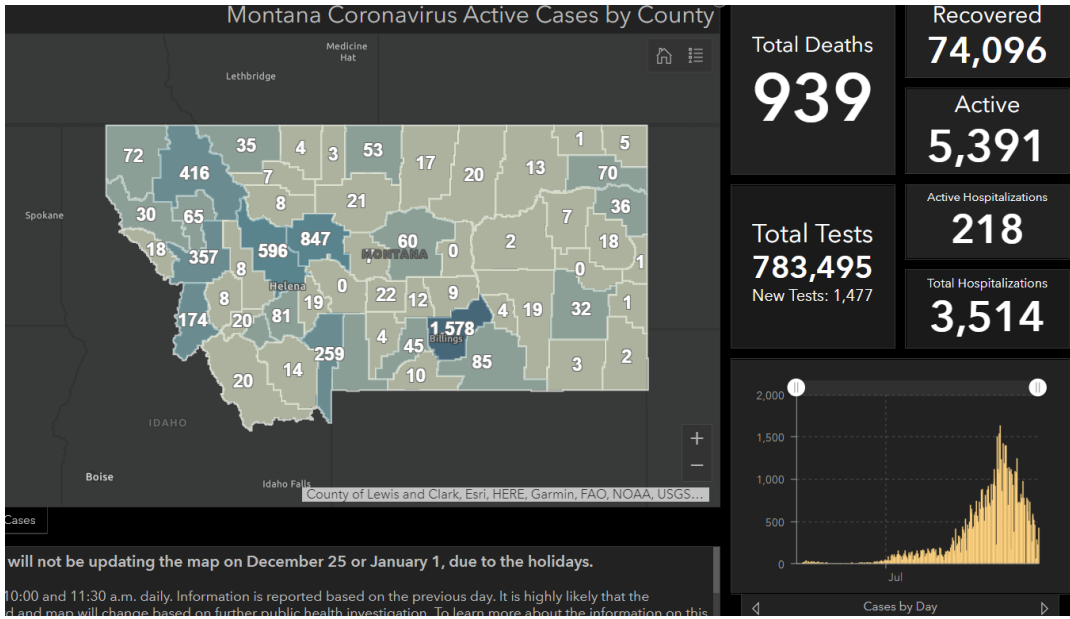
COVID-19

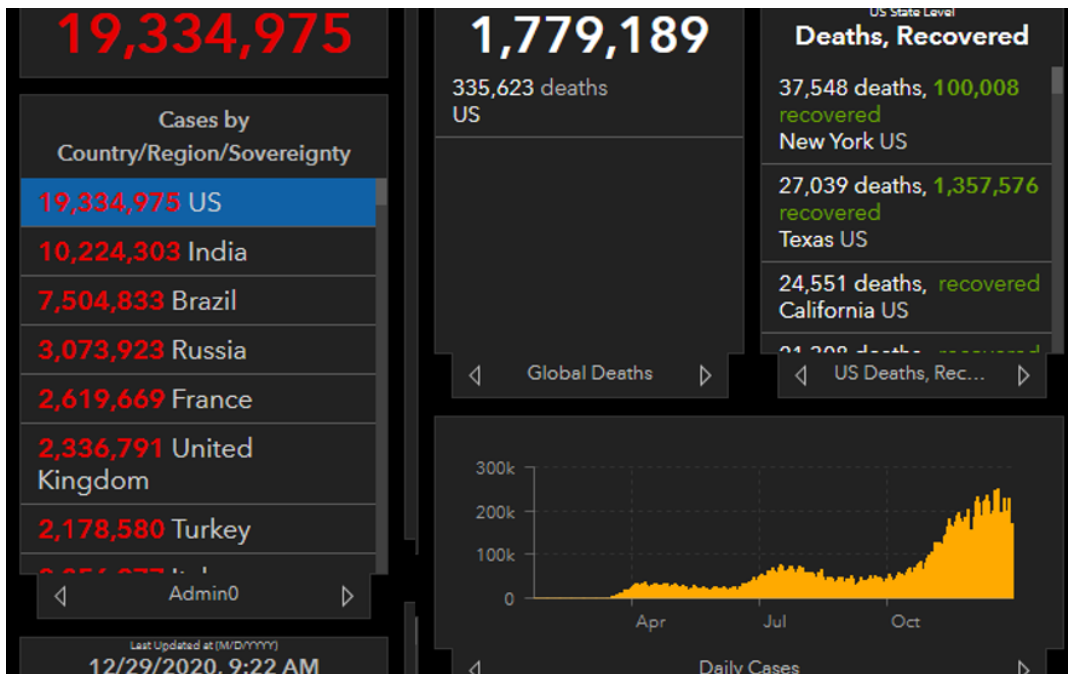
REPORTED CASES	
Montana <i>New in last 24hrs: 426 (+less than 1%)</i> <i>Active Cases: 5,391 (-200)</i> <i>Recovered: 74,096 (+615)</i> <i>Hospitalizations, Total: 3,514 (+50)</i> <i>Hospitalizations, Active: 218 (+5)</i> <i>Deaths: 939 (Last 24hrs: +12)</i> Source: Montana COVID-19 Dashboard (Updated 10:00 a.m.)	80,426
United States <i>New in last 24hrs: 183,324 (+1%)</i> Source: Johns Hopkins CSSE Global Outbreak Dashboard	19,334,975
WA	238,672
ID	137,010
WY	43,704
ND	91,557
SD	97,657

See the latest Montana reports on [COVID-19 in Schools](#), [COVID-19 in LTC and Assisted Living](#),

[Hospital Occupancy and Capacity](#) and the latest [State COVID-19 Epi Profile](#).

Source: [State of Montana DPHHS COVID-19 Demographics Webpage](#)





PLANNING

HHS issues updated COVID-19 data reporting guidance. HHS on Nov. 9 updated its [guidance to hospitals](#) on the reporting of COVID-19-related data. The guidance includes two key changes stemming from the CMS' Dec. 2 [interim final rule](#) expanding the requirement for hospitals to report COVID-19 data. Influenza data fields will be mandatory starting on Friday, December 18. Therapeutic data fields are now optional, but will likely be mandatory beginning on Friday, January 8.

HHS data reporting platform - Single data entry fulfills state and federal requirements. MHA has purchased a new HHS Data Reporting Platform with COVID-19 grant funding. This creates a single, secure data entry point to fulfill both state and federal requirements, including state PPE resource allocation and HHS Teletracking mandates. This single-entry system is especially critical with CMS' rules that require such reporting as a Condition of Participation for Medicare and Medicaid. Hospitals will face possible termination of Medicare and Medicaid payments if unable to correct reporting deficiencies. See the complete details on the new platform [here](#).

As of September 8, 2020 hospitals should utilize EMResource for statewide bed availability, PPE and Remdisivir data, as well as, all TeleTracking data points, including HHS lab testing. Upon entering HHS data into EMResource, Juvare will

automatically upload data to TeleTracking on behalf of your facility daily. Facilities may continue entering their own data into TeleTracking if they choose. All laboratories conducting COVID-19 testing and reporting patient-specific results – including hospital labs, nursing homes, and other facilities conducting testing for COVID-19 – will be required to comply. If a laboratory does not report the required information, CMS will impose a civil monetary penalty in the amount of \$1,000 a day for the first day, and \$500 for each subsequent day.

As of October 1, 2020 long-term care facilities must report all PPE and bed reporting to EMResources. The previous weekly is inactive on October 1, 2020. Facilities that need assistance should email hppcoordinators@mtha.org.

For questions, please contact your [Regional Coordinator](#).

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 AND ADMINISTRATION

CMS COVID-19 vaccines coding and billing resources. During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE), Medicare will cover and pay for the administration of the Moderna and Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines (when furnished consistent with the EUA). Review CMS' updated [payment and HCPCS Level I CPT code structure](#) for specific COVID-19 vaccine information. Only bill for the vaccine administration codes when you submit claims to Medicare; don't include the vaccine product codes when the vaccines are free. For more information on COVID-19 vaccine coding and billing, see CMS' [COVID-19 Provider Toolkit](#) and [COVID-19 FAQs](#).

CMS announces Acute Hospital Care At Home program. CMS on Nov. 25 [announced](#) the Acute Hospital Care At Home program for Medicare patients. The program expands on the successful Hospital Without Walls program authorized in March. CMS approved waivers for six health systems with extensive experience providing acute hospital care at home to participate immediately. Other hospitals and health systems may [submit a waiver request](#) online.

PYA releases article on PRF take-aways from Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021. On Sunday, Dec. 27, the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 was signed into law. In 5600+ pages, the Act includes material changes to aspects of the CARES Act Provider Relief Fund (PRF), the Payroll Protection Program (PPP), the 2021 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule, and out-of-network billing. PYA has outlined the key provisions that recipients of PRF distributions should take into consideration. Read the article [here](#).

COMMUNICATIONS

CDC updates COVID-19 Vaccination Communication Toolkit. The CDC recently updated its [COVID-19 Vaccination Communication Toolkit](#) for medical centers, clinics, and clinicians. Resources include social media resources, videos and FAQs as well as other digital and print resources.

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](#)

###