

# SITREP



MONTANA  
HOSPITAL  
ASSOCIATION

Montana Hospital Association - Situation Report

January 5, 2021

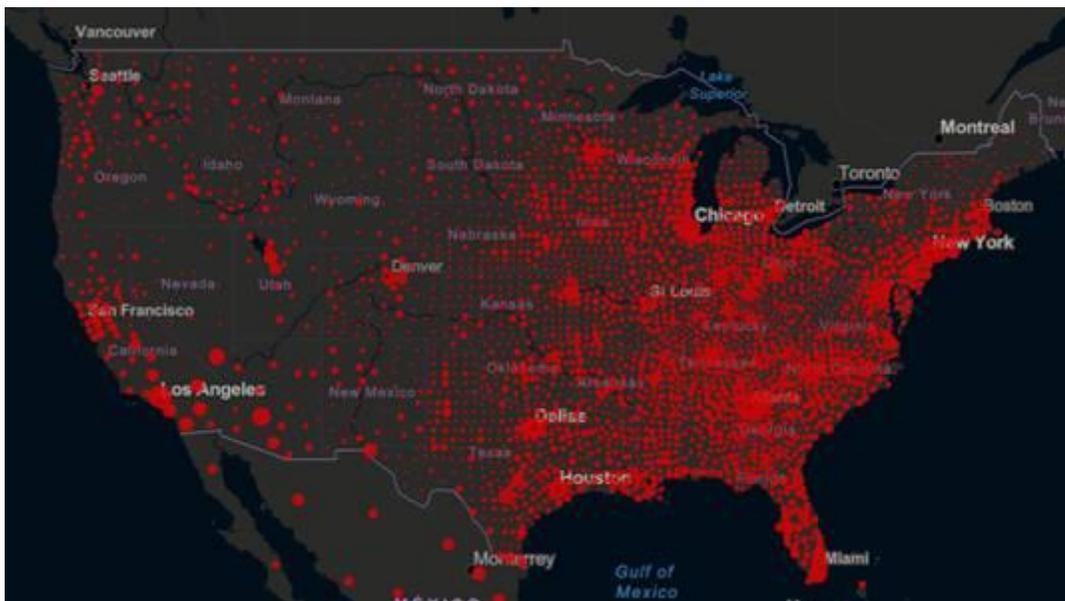
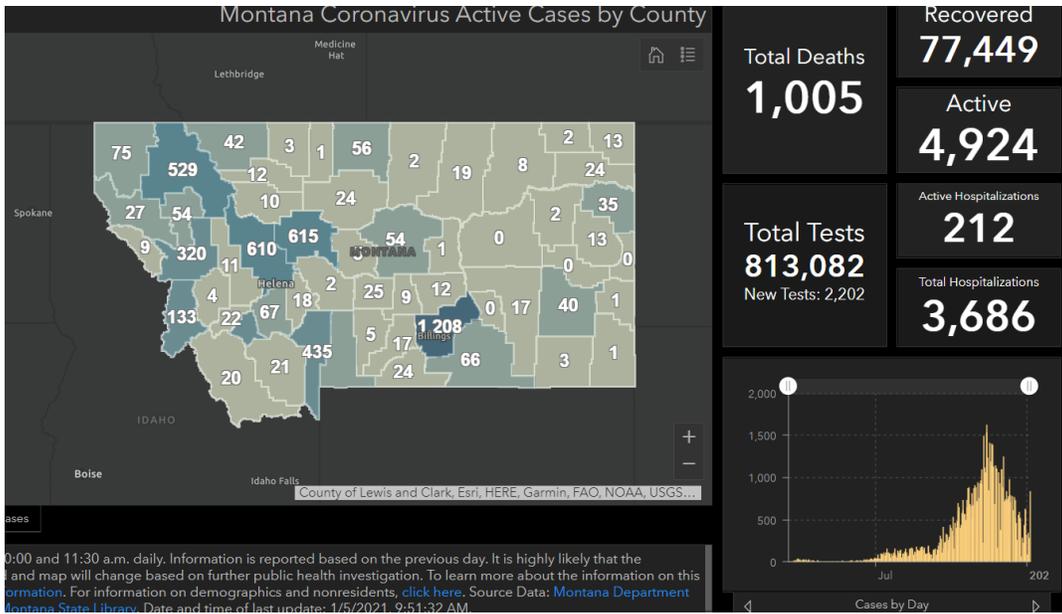
## COVID-19

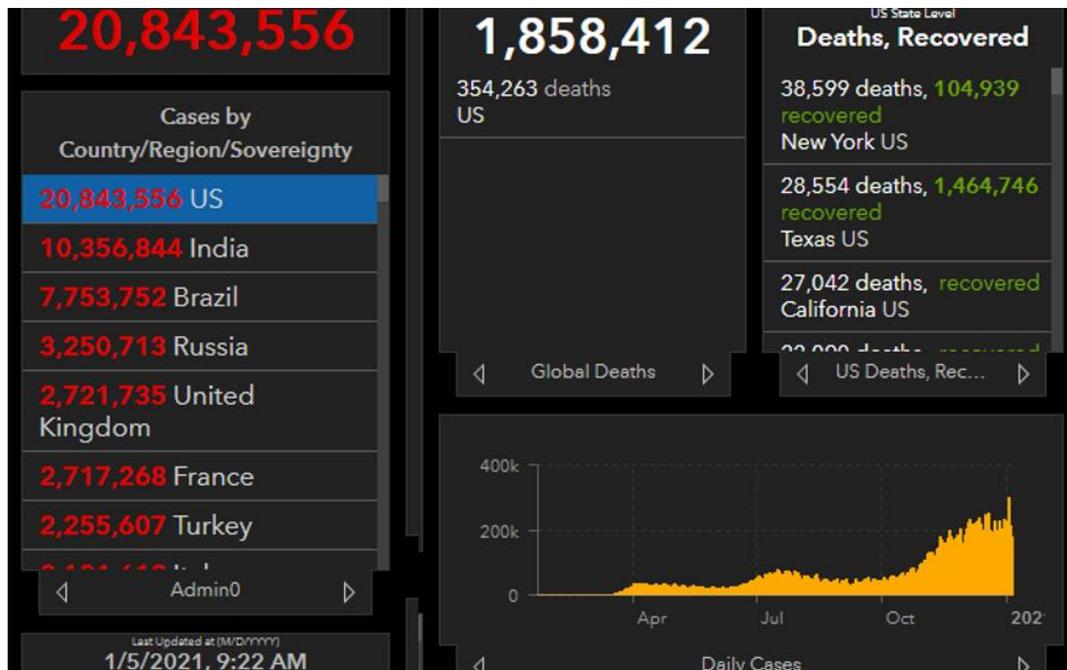
REPORTED CASES	
<b>Montana</b> <i>New in last 24hrs: 834 (+1%)</i> <i>Active Cases: 4,924 (-132)</i> <i>Recovered: 77,449 (+816)</i> <i>Hospitalizations, Total: 3,686 (+36)</i> <i>Hospitalizations, Active: 212 (+21)</i> <i>Deaths: 1,005 (last 24hrs: +30)</i> Source: <a href="#">Montana COVID-19 Dashboard</a> (Updated 10:00 a.m.)	<b>83,378</b>
<b>United States</b> <i>New in last 24hrs: 193,615 (+1%)</i> Source: <a href="#">Johns Hopkins CSSE Global Outbreak Dashboard</a>	<b>20,843,556</b>
<b>WA</b>	<b>256,435</b>
<b>ID</b>	<b>143,305</b>
<b>WY</b>	<b>45,257</b>
<b>ND</b>	<b>93,240</b>
<b>SD</b>	<b>100,643</b>

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](#)





**Legislative Session begins; Governor Gianforte sworn in.** On Monday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, the 67<sup>th</sup> Montana Legislative Session began at the State Capitol in Helena. Also on Monday Greg Gianforte was also sworn in as Montana’s 25<sup>th</sup> governor. Read more on the start of the Legislative Session [here](#) and on Governor Gianforte’s swearing in [here](#).

## OPERATIONS

**New NIH COVID-19 research includes insights on coronavirus’ effect on patients’ brains; blood thinner trial enrollment paused.** New [research](#) conducted by the NIH is shedding light on how COVID-19 affects patients’ brains. Researchers reported evidence of damage caused by thinning and leaky brain blood vessels in tissue samples from patients who died shortly after contracting COVID-19. However, there were no signs of SARS-CoV-2 in tissue samples, suggesting the damage was not caused by a direct viral attack on the brain.

The NIH on Dec. 22 also announced it paused enrollment for one group of patients participating in three clinical trial platforms working in conjunction with one another to test the effects of full doses of anticoagulants in COVID-19 patients. Researchers determined that among critically ill COVID-19 patients requiring ICU support, therapeutic anticoagulation drugs did not reduce the need

for organ support. The trials will continue [enrollment](#) of moderately ill hospitalized COVID-19 patients.

## 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](mailto:hppcoordinators@mtha.org).

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

## LOGISTICS

**FEMA extends rule limiting scarce PPE resources to domestic use.** FEMA has extended through June 30, 2021, with changes, a [temporary final rule](#) designating certain scarce health and medical resources exclusively for domestic use during the COVID-19 pandemic. The rule continues to apply to surgical N-95 respirators, surgical masks, nitrile surgical and exam gloves, level 3 and 4 surgical gowns and surgical isolation gowns, and adds specific syringes and hypodermic needles to the covered materials list.

**FDA updates device shortage list during COVID-19 public health emergency.** The FDA last month added to its [device shortage list](#) several device types, along with clarifying notes and resource links. The list now includes pipette tips and micro pipettes in the testing supplies and equipment category; changes also were made to the categories and grouped items. FDA said it will continue to update the list as the COVID-19 public health emergency persists. Find additional information on the FDA's COVID-19 [medical device supplies FAQs page](#).

**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

**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](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 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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