

# Montana's EMS Agencies and Trauma Centers

# A System in Crisis



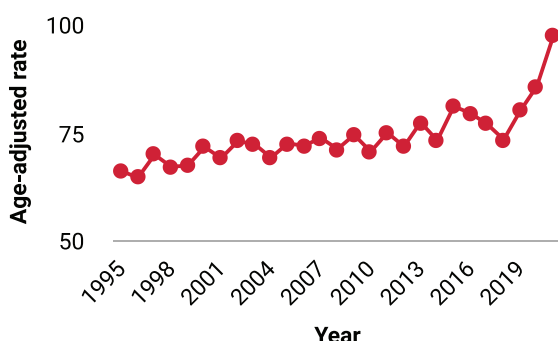
MONTANA  
EMS, TRAUMA SYSTEMS &  
INJURY PREVENTION PROGRAM

## Montana's EMS and Trauma System is in crisis and needs support

Since 1995 the injury death rate has increased by 50%

# 50%

increase in injury death rate since 1995



# 400

calls responded to per day by EMS Agencies



# 60%



of the ground transporting EMS agencies in Montana are volunteer-based.

**There are times when no one is available to respond to 911 calls.**

**Large and small hospitals are having trouble sustaining critical trauma care capabilities for their communities.**

This affects about **1 in 11 Montanans**, who could have poorer outcomes after suffering from injuries.

# 6



communities dropped their state trauma designation since 2013 (40,000 residents affected)

# 2



communities decreased the level of trauma services they provide (90,000 residents affected)

# 56



All 56 Montana Counties are classified as "Ambulance Deserts."

*One county reported that the local volunteer service was unable to respond to a 911 call 140 times in 2022*

## Solutions

DPHHS' Medicaid should pay ambulance services that treat patients who do not need transport to emergency departments.

Pass the bill authorizing an ambulance provider assessment to increase CMS Medicaid payments.

Fund a grant program to trauma centers to offset training, preparedness costs and unrecovered treatment costs associated with illicit drug use.

Increase funding for the Emergency Medical Service Providers Grant Program

Authorize EMS as an essential service in Montana.