



# Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for April 6, 2020

**KY COVID-19 Update as of 5 PM: 54 new cases; 1,008 Total Positive  
19,955 Tests; 14 additional death; Total 59**

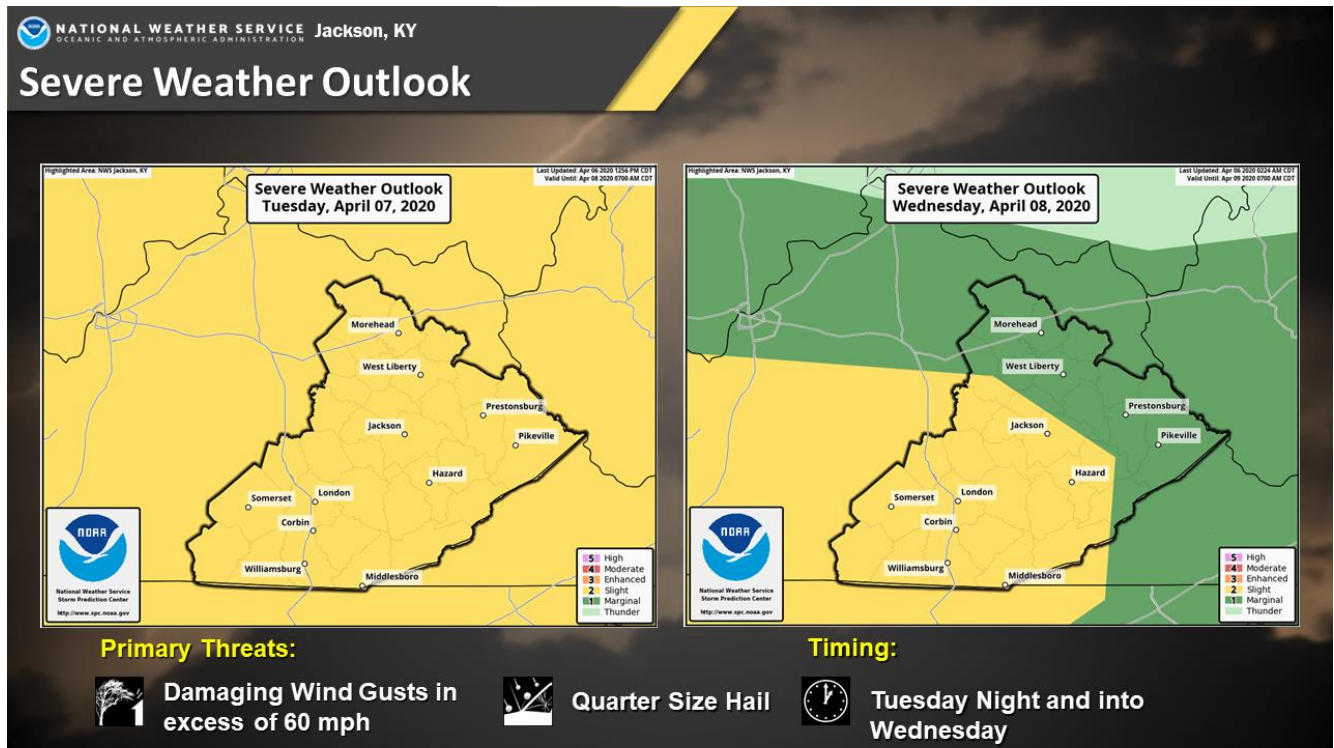
(Governor's Office) Gov. Andy Beshear on Monday made a call to action for any person, organization or business that can donate more personal protective equipment (PPE) for frontline workers in the fight against the novel coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). A new hotline (1-833-GIVE PPE) and website ([giveppe.ky.gov](http://giveppe.ky.gov)) have streamlined the entire donation process. In addition, PPE donations now are being accepted at all 16 Kentucky State Police posts across the commonwealth and at Transportation Cabinet offices in Louisville and Lexington.

Gov. Beshear said Saturday that Kentucky is adopting on a voluntary basis the new guidance from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommending that people wear cloth masks in some situations. The new CDC guidance on masks can be found [here](#). "Cloth masks do not eliminate the need for you to do all of the social distancing," Dr. Stack, Commissioner of Public Health, said.

Full press release: <https://kentucky.gov/Pages/Activity-stream.aspx?n=GovernorBeshear&priId=118>

## URGENT - SECURE YOUR TENT SURGE SHELTERS

If your facility or program erected a temporary or tent surge shelter to address COVID-19 triage and treatment, note that there is a developing chance of severe storms coming Tuesday and Wednesday. Tuesday covers virtually all of the state, while Wednesday covers most of southern Kentucky west of Pulaski. High winds, potential hail, and tornadoes are all possible. Keep up with your local forecasts, and consider potential alternate plans.



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**NWS Paducah:** Tuesday through Sunday - There is a chance of thunderstorms Tuesday night and then a better chance of thunderstorms Wednesday night. The potential for a few strong to severe storms appears to be increasing some, especially for Wednesday night.

**NWS Wilmington:** Tuesday through Sunday - Thunderstorms are expected Tuesday through Tuesday night. Some strong to severe storms are possible, mainly late Tuesday evening through Tuesday night, with damaging winds and large hail being the primary threats. A tornado cannot be ruled out.

## **The Federal Government Is Planning To Order 5-Minute Coronavirus Tests — But Not Nearly Enough For Everyone Who Needs One**

The White House has said the machine will revolutionize the beleaguered testing system in the US. But the feds have only planned to order enough tests for up to 5,500 people, according to emails obtained by BuzzFeed News.

Read more: <https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/stephaniemlee/coronavirus-5-minute-test-abbott-trump-states>

## **US Law Enforcement Seeing Rise in Domestic Violence Calls During Coronavirus Lockdowns**

[NBC News](#) reports, “Reports of domestic violence increased in March in many cities around the country as the coronavirus pandemic spread, according to law enforcement officials – raising concerns about families’ safety as they isolate at home.” According to NBC News, “Of the 22 law enforcement agencies across the United States that responded to NBC News’ request for data on domestic violence calls, 18 departments said they had seen a rise in March. The rise in reports of domestic violence incidents comes as shelters for abuse victims scramble to find ways to stay open. Many regularly operate near capacity and sometimes turn to local hotels to house families when they run out of space, which gets expensive quickly. Several nonprofit shelters said they’ve canceled or postponed fundraisers because of stay-at-home orders, blowing six-figure holes in their annual budgets.” Source: [IACP Newsletter April 6, 2020](#).

## **US Law Enforcement Gets Creative To Stay Safe, Keep Order During Coronavirus Outbreak**

[NBC News](#) (4/4, Schuppe) reported, “Enforcing social distancing is one of the many ways the coronavirus pandemic has unexpectedly transformed American policing over the past few weeks, compelling” police officers “to drop their routines and find new ways to protect the public and themselves. They’re relaxing traffic enforcement and leaving medical calls to fire and ambulance services. They’re taking nonemergency reports by phone and substituting arrests for tickets and summonses. They’re avoiding going into homes and buildings. They’re staggering shifts and holding outdoor roll calls. They’re breaking up otherwise ordinary gatherings and ordering people out after curfew to go home.” NBC News added, “That doesn’t mean officers aren’t responding to serious crimes and emergency calls; authorities say that will never change,” but “the other adjustments are necessary, they say, to prevent outbreaks among their ranks, which could quickly overwhelm an agency and lead to dangerous staffing shortages.”

The [Washington Post](#) (Jouvenal, Hermann, Morse) reported, “When the leaders of D.C., Maryland and Virginia announced unprecedented stay-at-home orders this week to control spread of the coronavirus, the moves sparked questions about how far police might go to enforce them,” but “as one of the nation’s largest metropolitan regions has snapped shut, the campaign to keep people from going out for all but the most essential trips to jobs, grocery stores, doctors and pharmacies has so far relied more on education than enforcement.” According to the Post, “Police across all three jurisdictions have the power to charge residents with misdemeanors if they violate the stay-at-home orders – a conviction can carry jail time and fines in the thousands,” but “a Washington Post survey of local departments has found only one such arrest in the region in the first days the orders were in effect.” The Post added, “Local police departments have also made clear they won’t employ more heavy-handed tactics some residents feared, like checkpoints, random stops of drivers to ensure their trips are essential and asking people to present documentation about why they are out,” and “instead, nearly every department has told officers to urge people to follow the new rules and rely on arrests only as a final option.”

Source: [IACP Newsletter April 6, 2020](#).

## **COVID-19 What's New?**

**NIOSH Revised Guidance:** On April 3, OSHA issued updated enforcement guidance for respiratory protection due to the shortage resulting from the pandemic. Extended use, reuse and use of expired N-95s may be allowed under certain circumstances. A summary is supplied here and further detail is available at the OSHA website link below.

### **Citation guidance:**

OSHA will, on a case-by-case basis, exercise enforcement discretion when considering issuing citations under 29 CFR § 1910.134(d) and/or the equivalent respiratory protection provisions of other health standards in cases where:

- The employer has made a good faith effort to obtain other alternative filtering facepiece respirators, reusable elastomeric respirators, or PAPRs appropriate to protect workers;

- The employer has monitored their supply of N95s and prioritized their use according to CDC guidance ([www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/release-stockpiled-N95.html](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/release-stockpiled-N95.html); [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/respirators-strategy/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/respirators-strategy/index.html));
- Surgical masks and eye protection (e.g., face shields, goggles) were provided as an interim measure to protect against splashes and large droplets (note: surgical masks are *not* respirators and do not provide protection against aerosol-generating procedures); and
- Other feasible measures, such as using partitions, restricting access, cohorting patients (healthcare), or using other engineering controls, work practices, or administrative controls that reduce the need for respiratory protection, were implemented to pro

#### **All employers:**

- ***Extended use or reuse of N95s:***

In the event extended use or reuse of N95 FFRs becomes necessary, the same worker is permitted to extend use of or reuse the respirator, as long as the respirator maintains its structural and functional integrity and the filter material is not physically damaged, soiled, or contaminated (e.g., with blood, oil, paint).[7] Employers must address in their written RPPs the circumstances under which a disposable respirator will be considered contaminated and not available for extended use or reuse. Extended use is preferred over reuse due to contact transmission risk associated with donning/doffing during reuse. When respirators are being re-used, employers should pay particular attention to workers' proper storage of the FFRs in between periods of reuse.

- Users should perform a user seal check each time they don a respirator and should not use a respirator on which they cannot perform a successful user seal check. See 29 CFR § 1910.134, Appendix B-1, [User Seal Check Procedures](#). [8]
- Employers should train workers to understand that if the structural and functional integrity of any part of the respirator is compromised, it should be discarded, and that if a successful user seal check cannot be performed, another respirator should be tried to achieve a successful user seal check.
- If reuse of respirators is necessary, an appropriate sequence for donning/doffing procedures should be used to prevent contamination, and training needs to address appropriate donning/doffing procedures. See [www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/pdfs/PPE-Sequence-508.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/pdfs/PPE-Sequence-508.pdf).

- ***Use of expired N95s:***

In the event that N95s are not available and the employer has shown a good faith effort to acquire the respirators or to use alternative options, as outlined below, CSHOs should exercise enforcement discretion for the use of N95 FFRs beyond the manufacturer's recommended shelf life, including surgical N95s. [9]

- Employers may use only previously NIOSH-certified expired N95 FFRs found at [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/release-stockpiled-N95.html](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/release-stockpiled-N95.html). Workers should be notified that they are using expired N95s.
- Purchasers and users of personal protective equipment should not co-mingle products that are past their manufacturer's recommended shelf life (i.e., expired) with items that are within their shelf life.
- Employers should visually inspect, or ensure that workers visually inspect, the N95 FFRs to determine if the structural and functional integrity of the respirator has been compromised. Over time, components such as the straps, nose bridge, and nose foam material may degrade, which can affect the quality of the fit and seal.
- Where an employer has expired N95s available from their own stored cache (i.e., not from the U.S. Strategic National Stockpile), the employer should seek assistance from the respirator manufacturer or independent lab regarding testing of those stored respirators prior to use.

#### **Healthcare employers only:**

- Expired N95s generally must *not* be used when HCP:
  - Perform surgical procedures on patients infected with, or potentially infected with, SARS-CoV-2, or perform or are present for procedures expected to generate aerosols or procedures where respiratory secretions are likely to be poorly controlled (e.g., cardiopulmonary resuscitation, intubation, extubation, bronchoscopy, nebulizer therapy, sputum induction).
    - In accordance with CDC guidance for optimizing the supply of respirators, employers should prioritize the use of N95 respirators by activity type. When HCP perform or are present for aerosol-generating procedures or procedures where respiratory secretions are likely to be poorly controlled, use respirators (including N95 FFRs; other FFRs; non-disposable, elastomeric respirators; and PAPRs) that are still within their manufacturer's recommended shelf life, if

available, before using respirators that are beyond their manufacturer's recommended shelf life. See [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/respirators-strategy/contingency-capacity-strategies.html](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/respirators-strategy/contingency-capacity-strategies.html). The CDC guidance also addresses scenarios in which other crisis standards of care may need to be considered, but this enforcement guidance is not intended to cover those scenarios.

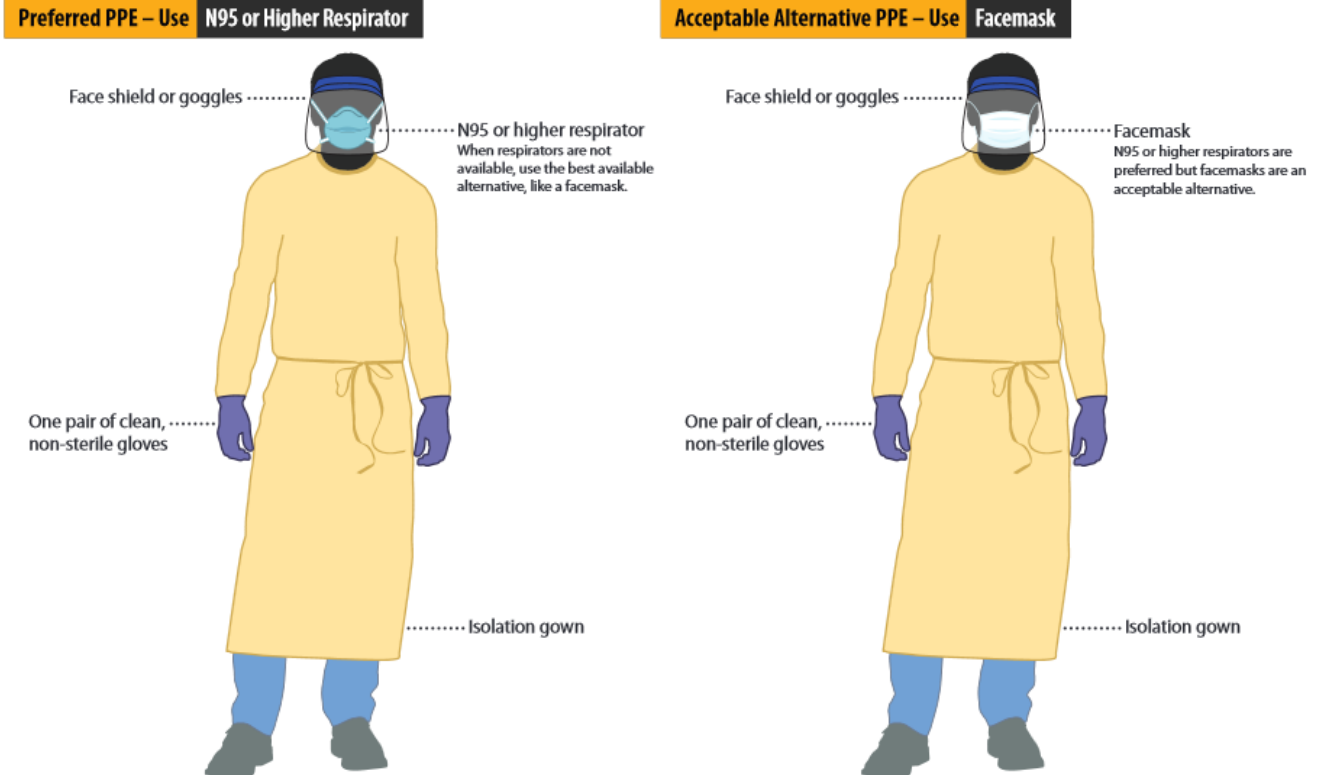
Source: <https://www.osha.gov/memos/2020-04-03/enforcement-guidance-respiratory-protection-and-n95-shortage-due-coronavirus>

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**CDC - Testing in the US (April 6):**

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-updates/testing-in-us.html>

**CDC: Use Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)  
When Caring for Patients with Confirmed or Suspected COVID-19**

Source: [https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/A\\_FS\\_HCP\\_COVID19\\_PPE.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/A_FS_HCP_COVID19_PPE.pdf)



**CDC Public Service Announcements (5-PSAs) (April 6):**

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/communication/public-service-announcements.html>

**CDC - Communication Resources for Travelers (April 6)**

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/communication-resources.html>

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**Bronx Zoo tiger's positive coronavirus test  
did not go unnoticed by Louisville zookeepers**

Read more: <https://www.courier-journal.com/story/news/local/2020/04/06/louisville-zoo-health-safety-precautions-and-livestreams-coronavirus/2954344001/>

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**Kroger to limit the number of shoppers in stores to encourage physical distancing**

Read more: <https://thehill.com/changing-america/well-being/prevention-cures/491438-kroger-to-limit-the-number-of-shoppers-in-stores>

The KHREF Emergency Preparedness Update is assembled several times a week. When events make it necessary, the Update may be sent out several times a day to keep our hospital and the healthcare community advised on preparedness news and information. Most of this information is compiled from open sources, and where possible reference links will be provided. There is an archive of [Emergency Preparedness Updates available here](#). If you would like to add or delete, or have something you would like to contribute to a future edition of the Emergency Preparedness Update, please contact [rbartlett@kyha.com](mailto:rbartlett@kyha.com) (include your current email address). The preparedness program for the Kentucky Hospital Association (KHA) and KHREF are supported by US DHHS ASPR HPP funds through a contract with Kentucky Public Health.