



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for May 24, 2020

Gov. Beshear: Be Safe this Memorial Day Weekend *No new deaths reported Saturday*

“As we recover, we are depending on Kentuckians to take the steps necessary to protect one another this weekend and every day and weekend moving forward,” the Governor said in a [press release](#). The Governor constantly reminded Kentuckians to be safe while they take time to honor those who have sacrificed much for our country. The Governor and state health officials are asking all Kentuckians to keep gatherings to 10 or fewer people. Other [guidance](#) includes wearing masks, maintaining social distancing of six feet or more, gathering outside instead of inside, washing hands frequently and covering food and individually wrapping plates.

24 States Had Better Be Very, Very Careful *Imperial College London issues a sobering assessment of the virus*

(Newser) – A new [coronavirus model](#) says 24 states might have high transmission rates if they reopen without any effort to curb the contagion, the [Washington Post](#) reports. Researchers at Imperial College London drew on case information and cell phone location data to estimate each state's virus reproduction number, dubbed "Ro" or "R naught"—meaning the number of people each infected person will infect. The reproduction number is below 1 in 26 states and the District of Columbia, but above 1 in 24 states, including (from the highest Ro factor down) Texas, Arizona, Illinois, Colorado, Ohio, Minnesota, Indiana, Iowa, Alabama, Wisconsin, Mississippi, Tennessee, Florida, Virginia, New Mexico, Missouri, and Delaware (KY is on the GOOD list. See the full list at [Mother Jones](#)). Full story: <https://www.newser.com/story/291309/24-states-might-have-epidemic-virus-rates.html>

Coronavirus pandemic updates from around the globe

What you need to know (CNN):

- The numbers: More than 5.3 million cases of [Covid-19](#) have been reported [worldwide](#), as well as at least 341,000 deaths, according to Johns Hopkins University.
- In the US: The country has [more than 1.6 million](#) cases. And a top infectious disease expert said it's "conceivable" the US could have a coronavirus vaccine by December.
 - White House economic adviser says unemployment will reach "north of 20%" in May
- British political aide in hot water: UK PM Boris Johnson is under pressure to sack a top aide over multiple reported lockdown breaches.
- Brazil spikes: Brazil recorded more than 16,500 new cases within 24 hours, meaning the country has the second-highest total number of confirmed cases worldwide after the US.
- Argentina extends coronavirus lockdown until June 7

How Coronavirus Spreads

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/how-covid-spreads.html>

Young Adults Turning Up With Troubling Condition, Too

<http://newser.com/s291230>

UK's COVID-19 study aims to vaccinate more than 10,000

<https://www.newser.com/article/15766bd4403ab54e1651e926763b932f/uks-covid-19-study-aims-to-vaccinate-more-than-10000.html>

Defense officials push Trump for longer National Guard deployment to fight virus

Read more: <https://www.politico.com/news/2020/05/22/national-guard-deployments-mark-esper-274628>

Android And iPhone Users Beware the Hidden Dangers with New Contact Tracing Apps

(Forbes) *[Note: This is a column piece that expresses the author's concerns about Contact-Tracing software.]* Apple and Google have [launched](#) their watered down “contact-tracing” platforms into the world. Only “contact-tracing” has now become “[exposure notification](#),” and judging by all the evidence to-date, they're not going to be effective enough to make a difference. Worse, they introduce a set of dangerous security risks that have not been addressed. False hopes, false starts. Let's clear something up from the start. Contact-tracing is *not* an opt-in Bluetooth app that *might* register your proximity to an infected person, under a very limited set of circumstances, including that you're both fully running the app. No, contact tracing *is* a [manually-intensive, surveillance-heavy, privacy-intrusive process](#) where a combination of brute-force measures and meticulous attention to detail, under the purview of well-trained operatives, roots out the spread of infection.

Full story: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/zakdoffman/2020/05/22/contact-tracing-apple-google-coronavirus-security-update-android-iphone/#5ca0578a1d59>

Related - Coronavirus Contact-Tracing Apps Miss the Point About Privacy

Forbes - Full story: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/simonchandler/2020/05/04/coronavirus-contact-tracing-apps-miss-the-point-about-privacy/>

Magnitude 2.5 earthquake recorded in southern Kentucky Friday morning

(WLEX) A magnitude 2.5 earthquake was recorded in southern Kentucky shortly before 2:00 a.m. Friday morning. The U.S. Geological Survey said the earthquake was 9km NNW of North Corbin, Kentucky, between London and Keavy. There were no immediate reports of damage. See maps on: <https://www.lex18.com/news/covering-kentucky/magnitude-2-5-earthquake-recorded-in-laurel-county>

Hurricane Forecast Isn't Great News

More storms than usual are forecast for the Atlantic

(Newser) Because the pandemic wasn't enough of a challenge: A stronger-than-usual hurricane season is forecast for the Atlantic. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration predicts up to 19 named storms, including up to 10 hurricanes, reports the [Wall Street Journal](#). The typical numbers are 12 and 6, respectively. Of those hurricanes, three to six could rise to the level of "major" hurricanes, or Category 3 and above. The hurricane season officially launches on June 1 and runs to Nov. 30. Already, emergency planners are worrying about how to manage shelters in an age of social distancing, notes the [Journal](#) and the [AP](#). Read more: <http://newser.com/s291234>

U.S. agencies ask FCC to rescind Ligado spectrum decision

[Note: This deals with a vendor's plan to build a new 5G system in the spectrum used by the world's GPS network.]

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-telecom-wireless-idUSKBN22Y2W1>

CIDRAP Webinar: **Living in a COVID-19 World**

Tuesday, May 26, from 1 - 4 PM ET/noon to 3:00 PM CT

Moderated by Tom Brokaw of NBC.

[Register now.](#)

(CIDRAP) Much of the recent national COVID-19 discussion has focused on a false choice between the economy and public health. Instead of having separate conversations about health care and about the economy, it is essential to consider them simultaneously to develop an effective recovery plan. This virtual conversation with leading health and economics experts will focus on ways to begin reopening the economy safely, while maximizing health as we aggressively pursue an effective COVID-19 vaccine or therapy.

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 be added or deleted, or have something you would like to contribute to a future edition of the Emergency Preparedness Update, please contact 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.