



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for May 26, 2020

Kentucky COVID-19 Update

Kentucky has 8,951 confirmed cases as of 5 PM today.
There were 387 new cases over the three-day holiday weekend showing a downward trend.
There were 141 cases on May 24, 122 on May 25, and 117 on May 26.
Kentucky had +3 new deaths; for a total of 394.
Kentucky has tested 193,576 (+22,238) individuals
Kentucky has 3,115 (+46) patients who have recovered
Kentucky has 117 (+0) counties reporting at least one positive case

During the Governor's regular press conference today, Secretary Eric Friedlander, Secretary of the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, provided an update on efforts to address a coronavirus outbreak at a Jefferson County facility. The state is closely monitoring the situation at Nazareth Home Clifton. Secretary Friedlander and Dr. Stack. State agencies are working with facility operators and Louisville Metro to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and protect the residents and staff there.

"Long-term care facilities across the world, across the nation and across this state have been and will continue to be a challenge. So we've started aggressive testing. We've tested over 11,000 staff and residents in facilities across Kentucky. This weekend, we tested an entire facility, Nazareth Clifton, in Louisville. We had many positives, 39 residents and 20 staff," said Secretary Friedlander. "Over time, it became clear that facility was going to have a hard time finding enough [healthy] staff to take care of all residents, so we began an aggressive plan to transfer COVID-19 positive residents out to local hospitals. We were able to transfer those residents into the hospitals successfully and stabilize that facility. We made sure we were making the right decisions for everyone there, both staff and residents."

Full press release: <https://kentucky.gov/Pages/Activity-stream.aspx?n=GovernorBeshear&prId=181>

White House goal on testing nursing homes unmet

(AP) — Nearly two weeks ago the White House [urged governors](#) to ensure that every nursing home resident and staff member be tested for the coronavirus within 14 days. - ***It's not going to happen.***

A review by The Associated Press found that at least half of the states are not going to meet White House's deadline and some aren't even bothering to try. [As noted above, Kentucky IS testing nursing home residents and staff.] Nursing homes residents, who are typically older and often have underlying medical conditions, have been particularly hard hit by the virus. More than 36,000 residents and staff have died from outbreaks at the nation's nursing homes and long-term care facilities, according to an AP tally. . That is more than a third of all deaths in the U.S. that have been attributed to the virus.

Read full AP story" <https://apnews.com/681479be1d9f1a0fea4d64b1a44d5b9e>

Reopening when we're not quite ready to thwart Covid-19 means managing risk *There are four types, health expert writes*

(Kentucky Health News) No state "has met the metrics to safely reopen," so the nation "needs to move to the public health strategy of harm reduction," says former Baltimore health commissioner Leana Wen. "So what does that mean in terms of choices each of us makes — what's safe to do and what's not?" Wen, an emergency physician and visiting professor at **George Washington University's** Milken Institute School of Public Health, offers four concepts from other harm-reduction strategies:

- Relative risk,
- Pooled risk,
- Cumulative risk and
- Collective risk.

Read more: <http://kyhealthnews.blogspot.com/2020/05/reopening-when-were-not-quite-ready-to.html>

Related - HHS Secretary Azar says "health requires reopening": <http://kyhealthnews.blogspot.com/2020/05/national-health-secretary-says-health.html>

Federal coronavirus testing plan puts burden on states

(AP) — The Trump administration's new strategy for coronavirus testing puts much of the burden on states while promising to provide supplies such as swabs and material to transport specimens. The plan, which was delivered Sunday to members of Congress, drew harsh criticism Monday from Democrats. In a joint letter, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer, New Jersey Rep. Frank Pallone Jr.

and Washington Sen. Patty Murray said the administration “still does not have a serious plan for increasing testing to stop the spread of the virus.”

The [81-page document](#) from the Department of Health and Human Services says, “State plans must establish a robust testing program that ensures adequacy of COVID-19 testing, including tests for contact tracing, and surveillance of asymptomatic persons to determine community spread.”

It says the federal government will “ensure that States have the collection supplies that they need through December 2020.” To that end, the administration plans to acquire and distribute 100 million swabs and 100 million tubes of viral transport media.

Full story: <https://apnews.com/95b4123551de95bbab96ec4c82e1ee4d>

Related Washington Post story: https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/trump-administration-vows-in-new-report-to-distribute-100-million-swabs-to-states-by-years-end/2020/05/24/9c02d240-9d06-11ea-ac72-3841fcc9b35f_story.html

**American Hospital Association
Highlights Harrison Memorial Hospital as the
Community Face for COVID-19 Together**
<https://www.aha.org/other-resources/2020-05-18-hospital-and-community-face-covid-19-together>

CIDRAP Roundup

US COVID-19 hospitalizations up as officials respond to Memorial Day festivities

Link: <https://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2020/05/us-covid-19-hospitalizations-officials-respond-memorial-day-festivities>

WHO Halts Hydroxychloroquine Trial Over Safety Concerns

(NPR - May 25) - The World Health Organization says it is temporarily halting its clinical trials that use hydroxychloroquine to treat COVID-19 patients over published concerns that the drug may do more harm than good. The move comes after the medical journal [The Lancet](#) reported on Friday that patients getting hydroxychloroquine were dying at higher rates than other coronavirus patients.

Read more: <https://www.npr.org/sections/coronavirus-live-updates/2020/05/25/861913688/who-halts-hydroxychloroquine-trial-over-safety-concerns>

CDC, states' reporting of virus test data causes confusion

(AP) Elected officials, businesses and others are depending on coronavirus testing and infection-rate data as states reopen so that they will know if a second wave of contagion is coming — and whether another round of stay-at-home orders or closings might be needed.

But states are reporting those figures in different ways, and that can lead to frustration and confusion about what the numbers mean. In some places, there have been data gaps that leave local leaders wondering whether they should loosen or tighten restrictions. In others, officials are accused of spinning the numbers to make their states look better and justify reopening.

Learn more: <https://apnews.com/35eb04e1bd10c2eb6b0a3677d3ec131b>

Coronavirus 'immunity passports' are a terrible idea that could backfire, experts warn

(CNN) [Some governments](#) are considering using a blood test to determine whether people can return to work, school and other public activities [during the coronavirus pandemic](#). Lack of certain antibodies would mean you don't have an "immunity passport" and are therefore not allowed to venture out in public. Those who have them would be issued certificates to roam and restart economies -- so the vulnerable can stay home. But the World Health Organization [and other experts say that's a terrible idea](#).

Read more: <https://www.cnn.com/2020/05/22/health/immunity-passport-coronavirus/index.html>

CDC Coronavirus [What's New?](#) Extracts

- ✓ [Public Service Announcements \(PSAs\)](#) Tuesday, May 26, 2020
- ✓ [Resources for State, Local, Territorial and Tribal Health Departments](#) Tuesday, May 26, 2020
- ✓ [Travelers Prohibited from Entry to the United States](#) Tuesday, May 26, 2020 << Includes China, Brazil, Iran, parts of Europe & UK
- ✓ [When You Can be Around Others After You Had or Likely Had COVID-19](#) Tuesday, May 26, 2020
- ✓ [How to discontinue home isolation](#) Tuesday, May 26, 2020
- ✓ [Running Essential Errands](#) Tuesday, May 26, 2020
- ✓ [COVID-19 Travel Recommendations by Country](#) Tuesday, May 26, 2020

- ✓ [Large-scale Geographic Seroprevalence Surveys](#) Monday, May 25, 2020 << To find people with antibodies, even if asymptomatic.
- ✓ [Interim Guidance for Administrators of US Institutions of Higher Education](#) Monday, May 25, 2020
- ✓ [COVID-19 Surge](#) Monday, May 25, 2020 << Modeling tool to estimate in demand for services.
- ✓ [Evaluating and Reporting Persons Under Investigation \(PUI\)](#) Monday, May 25, 2020
- ✓ [CDC Diagnostic Test for COVID-19](#) Sunday, May 24, 2020
- ✓ [If You Are Sick](#) Sunday, May 24, 2020
- ✓ [Resources for Community and Faith-Based Leaders](#) Sunday, May 24, 2020
- ✓ [FAQs for Administrators and Leaders at Community- and Faith-Based Organizations](#) Sunday, May 24, 2020
- ✓ [Frequently Asked Questions and Answers: Coronavirus Disease-2019 \(COVID-19\) and Children](#) Sunday, May 24, 2020

Extract from the latest [COVID-19 OSHA Alerts](#)

- **Coronavirus: Prevent Worker Exposure to Coronavirus (COVID-19): OSHA Alert NEW** ([OSHA 3989 - 03 2020](#)) (English: [PDF](#) · Spanish: [PDF](#))
- **Coronavirus: COVID-19 Guidance for Dental Practitioners: OSHA Alert NEW** (OSHA 4019 - 2020) (English: [PDF](#) · Spanish: [PDF](#))
- **Coronavirus: COVID-19 Guidance for Nursing Home and Long-Term Care Facility Workers: OSHA Alert NEW** (OSHA 4025 - 2020) (English: [PDF](#) · Spanish: [PDF](#))

Johns Hopkins: Health Security Headlines

Extracts from [May 26, 2020](#)

[Stockholm Won't Reach Herd Immunity In May, Sweden's Chief Epidemiologist Says](#) (*NPR*) Sweden's controversial approach to fighting the coronavirus pandemic has so far failed to produce the expected results, and there are calls within the country for the government to change its strategy. "We have a very vivid political debate," Karin Olofsdotter, Sweden's ambassador to the United States, told NPR. "I don't think people are protesting on the streets but ... there's a very big debate, if this [strategy] is the right thing to do or not, on Facebook and everywhere."

[WHO Warns of a 'Second Peak' in Areas where COVID-19 Declining](#) (*Reuters*) Countries where coronavirus infections are declining could still face an "immediate second peak" if they let up too soon on measures to halt the outbreak, the World Health Organization said on Monday. The world is still in the middle of the first wave of the coronavirus outbreak, WHO emergencies head Dr Mike Ryan told an online briefing, noting that while cases are declining in many countries they are still increasing in Central and South America, South Asia and Africa.

[China Accuses US of Spreading 'Conspiracies'](#) (*BBC*) China's foreign minister has accused the US of spreading "conspiracies and lies" about the coronavirus, ratcheting up tensions between the two nations. The US has been infected by a "political virus" that compels some politicians to repeatedly attack China, Wang Yi told reporters on Sunday. He urged the US to "stop wasting time and stop wasting precious lives" in its response to the Covid-19 outbreak. Tensions between Washington and Beijing have escalated as the virus has spread.

[\(Just when you thought COVID-19 was getting under control...\) Taiwan Raises Travel Alert for Chinese Provinces over H9N2 Concerns](#) (*Taiwan News*) Taiwan's Central Epidemic Command Center (CECC) on Monday (May 25) raised its travel advisory for the Chinese provinces of Shandong and Fujian to a Level 2 alert, following reports of children infected with avian influenza A (H9N2) in both places.

Coronavirus: Experts warn of bioterrorism after pandemic

(*Deutsche Welle*) The Council of Europe has warned of a potential increase in the use of biological weapons, like viruses or bacterias, in a post-coronavirus world. Terrorists would not forget "lessons learned" during the pandemic. "The COVID-19 pandemic has shown how vulnerable modern society is to viral infections and their potential for disruption," the council's Committee on Counter-Terrorism said in a statement.

The [deliberate use of disease-causing agents](#) — like viruses or bacterias — as an act of terrorism "could prove to be extremely effective." Damage to humans and economies could be "significantly higher" than that of a "traditional" terrorist attack.

The council's security experts called on the 47 Council of Europe member states to prepare to fight a biological weapons attack by engaging in training exercises. UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres said in April he sees a growing danger of bioterrorism attacks that aim to create a pandemic similar to that of the coronavirus.

Full story: <https://www.dw.com/en/coronavirus-experts-warn-of-bioterrorism-after-pandemic/a-53554902>

Read more: [Ricin — an easy-to-obtain bio-weapon from the internet](#)

Read more: ['Islamic State' exploiting coronavirus and conflict to rise again](#)

'Maskne': Suffering from acne or breakouts under your mask? Here's what to do

Protective face masks prevent the spread of COVID-19, but they're not preventing breakouts or facial acne, many users say. "Maskne," or acne that tends to form around the areas of your face covered by protective masks, is becoming more and more common as Americans don protective face coverings in the fight against COVID-19.

Learn more: <https://www.foxnews.com/lifestyle/maskne-acne-breakouts-under-mask-what-to-do>

**NPR Coronavirus FAQs:
Can You Catch Coronavirus Through The Eyes?
Will Goggles Reduce The Risk?**

NPR: <https://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2020/05/22/861299427/coronavirus-faqs-can-i-catch-it-through-the-eyes-will-goggles-help>

Is Telehealth Here to Stay?

We need to usher in a new era of patient care

(MedPage Today "Second Opinions") - The COVID-19 pandemic has rapidly accelerated the adoption of telehealth, with emergency physicians delivering care whenever patients need it, and wherever they are located. "The genie's out of the bottle," said Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Administrator Seema Verma.

It is clear, even after just a few months, that the expansion of telehealth has significantly strengthened emergency care delivery beyond the four walls of the emergency department. As more patients see telehealth as a safe and convenient option, it is hard to imagine ever retreating to the way things were before. Improving the ability for patients to communicate with their doctors remotely during this national emergency can save lives. At the same time, encouraging telehealth helps emergency physicians protect patients and care teams on the frontlines from exposure to the virus while preserving personal protective equipment.

First, Congress should change the Medicare telehealth statute. Once the pandemic ends, CMS loses its ability to grant Medicare the telehealth flexibilities that allow any physician to provide services from any physical location. Congress can ensure patient access to telehealth after the pandemic by repealing the "originating site" requirement, which forces patients to travel to certain healthcare facilities to receive telehealth services instead of allowing them to receive medical attention from the comfort of their home.

Read more: https://www.medpagetoday.com/practicemanagement/informationtechnology/86651?xid=nl_secondopinion_2020-05-26&eun=g173976d0r

US DHS CISA Releases

Rural Emergency Medical Communications Demonstration Project Notice of Funding Opportunity

Eligible applicants from public and state controlled institutions of higher education are encouraged to submit applications before June 24

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency recently released the Rural Emergency Medical Communications Demonstration Project (REMCDP) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) [Search for [PD-REM-20-001](#).] This opportunity will fund demonstration projects that address the [National Emergency Communications Plan](#) (NECP) and examine communications barriers and identify solutions that enhance existing emergency communications infrastructure.

Applications are due June 24. The NOFO and information on how to apply can be found on [grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) or at <https://www.cisa.gov/remcdp>.

In an effort to identify innovative solutions to improve the delivery of rural medical communications, the REMCDP grant provides funding for recipients that can demonstrate their ability to leverage existing technologies and engage non-medical professionals to help establish or sustain statewide medical communications systems and utilize existing infrastructures to improve the delivery of rural medical care. Eligible applicants may apply for up to \$2,000,000 for a two-year period of performance and will be awarded to a maximum of two recipients.

Fears of coronavirus second wave prompt flu push at U.S. pharmacies

(Reuters) - U.S. pharmacy chains are preparing a big push for flu vaccinations when the season kicks off in October, hoping to curb tens of thousands of serious cases that could coincide with a second wave of coronavirus infections.

CVS Health Corp, one of the largest U.S. pharmacies, said it is working to ensure it has vaccine doses available for an anticipated surge in customers seeking shots to protect against seasonal influenza. Rival chain Rite Aid Corp has ordered 40 percent more vaccine doses to meet the expected demand. Walmart Inc and Walgreens Boots Alliance said they also are expecting more Americans to seek these shots.

A Reuters/Ipsos poll of 4,428 adults conducted May 13-19 found that about 60 percent of U.S. adults plan to get the flu vaccine in the fall. Typically fewer than half of Americans get vaccinated. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends the vaccine for everyone over age 6 months. Getting a flu shot does not protect against COVID-19, the respiratory disease caused by the novel coronavirus for which there are no approved vaccines. Read more: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-flu-focus-idUSKBN2321F0>

COVID-19 Vax Safe, Produced Responses in Healthy Chinese Adults

First human trial for adenovirus type-5 vectored vaccine adequate to move into phase II, researchers say

(MedPage Today) An adenovirus type-5 (Ad5) vectored vaccine against the COVID-19 coronavirus was well-tolerated and provoked immune responses in healthy volunteers, Chinese researchers reported. [Virus-specific antibodies as well as neutralizing antibodies increased at day 14](#), peaking at day 28 post-vaccination, and most adverse events were mild to moderate, reported Wei Chen, PhD, of Beijing Institute of Biotechnology, and colleagues writing in *The Lancet*.

At least 100 vaccines against COVID-19 are currently in development, with at least eight starting clinical trials, the authors noted, among them Moderna's mRNA vaccine, and the University of Oxford's non-replicating chimpanzee adenovirus-vectored vaccine, which was [recently shown to be protective in a small preclinical trial](#). Full story: <https://www.medpagetoday.com/infectiousdisease/covid19/86664>

Administration Asks Supreme Court to Block Order Directing Federal Prison to Release Medically Vulnerable Inmates

(IACP News) The [Los Angeles Times](#) (5/23, Savage) reported the Administration "is asking the Supreme Court to intervene for the first time in a case related to COVID-19, to block a judge's order that a low-security federal prison in Ohio transfer, release or send home some of its elderly and medically vulnerable inmates." The Times adds, "The court, which could act this weekend, is thrust into the fray as state and federal prisons nationwide have become hot spots for infections and illness from the coronavirus, and prison officials have searched for ways to thin their populations." Lawyers for the American Civil Liberties Union on Friday "told the justices it would be 'a tremendous mistake' for the high court to intervene. They noted the Ohio judge had yet to order the release of a single inmate."

Related - Bureau of Prisons to Begin Moving Roughly 6,800 New Inmates to Its Facilities

(IACP News) [USA Today](#) (5/22, Phillips) reported the Bureau of Prisons "will begin moving about 6,800 recently sentenced federal inmates to its facilities, one of the first steps toward easing movements of prisoners across the federal prison system." The agency "has been housing newly sentenced prisoners in local detention centers across the country, as coronavirus cases in the federal prison system mount." USA Today adds, "Officials said prisoners will first be taken to quarantine sites and temporary detention centers, where they will be processed and tested for coronavirus. Inmates will be tested again before they're moved to their assigned prisons."

Fears of Canadian condom shortage mask Covid-19's real sexual health crisis

Canada's health care providers are warning that coronavirus shutdowns are negatively influencing another outbreak: sexually transmitted diseases. Nine of the country's 10 provinces had declared STI outbreaks before the coronavirus arrived. Then shelter-in-place directives impeded access to prevention, testing and treatment as clinics slashed services and labs became backed up by Covid-19 tests. Now health experts are warning the

lockdown could intensify a recent resurgence in syphilis, chlamydia and even antibiotic-resistant strains of gonorrhea.

Learn more: <https://www.politico.com/news/2020/05/26/condom-shortage-canada-coronavirus-279423>

CDC warns of aggressive rats facing shortage of garbage to eat

Officials say rats have resorted to open warfare and eating their young as closures reduce edible waste

(The Guardian) The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has warned of “unusual or aggressive” behavior in American rats as a consequence of more than two months of human lockdown for city-dwelling rodents who now find themselves unable to dine out on restaurant waste, street garbage and other food sources. Last month, according to the national health body, dumpster-diving rats were observed resorting to eating their young in the wake of urban shutdowns.

“Community-wide closures have led to a decrease in food available to rodents, especially in dense commercial areas,” the [CDC](#) said in recently updated rodent-control guidelines. “Some jurisdictions have reported an increase in rodent activity as rodents search for new sources of food. Environmental health and rodent control programs may see an increase in service requests related to rodents and reports of unusual or aggressive rodent behavior.”

Full story: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/may/25/us-city-lockdowns-rat-aggression-lack-food-waste>

**Autopsies Turn Up Strange Feature of COVID-19 Lungs
Study finds more thrombi and a new puzzle in the vessels**

(MedPage Today) A close look at the body after death from COVID-19 turned up some potentially novel differences in the lungs.

Histology showed the same diffuse alveolar damage with perivascular T-cell infiltration in the lungs of seven people who died with acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS) from COVID-19 as in those from seven decedents with [ARDS from influenza A \(H1N1\)](#).

However, the vascular damage was different as [reported in the New England Journal of Medicine](#).

Read more: <https://www.medpagetoday.com/infectiousdisease/covid19/86669>

Teaching Kids to Hide From Gunfire: Safety Drills At Day Care and At Home

(NPR) In communities across the United States this spring, families are dealing with more than just the threat of the coronavirus outside their homes. In the midst of violence that does not stop even during a pandemic, children continually search for safety, peace and a quiet place. "Safer at Home" slogans don't guarantee safety for them.

NPR 4-minute podcast and story link: <https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2020/05/24/859654068/teaching-kids-to-hide-from-gunfire-safety-drills-at-day-care-and-at-home>

Related - Spike in Shootings Forces New York City Police to Redeploy Coronavirus Resources

[Newsday \(NY\)](#) (5/25, DeStefano) reports, “Faced with an explosion of gun violence in Brooklyn amid the coronavirus pandemic, NYPD commanders said they are pulling officers from social distancing detail and deploying them to parts of the borough and other places affected by the increase in shootings.” Newsday adds, “Despite an initial drop in major crimes immediately after the pandemic emergency measures started kicking in for New York City the week of March 12, shootings have increased in the past month to levels higher than at the start of the crisis, police statistics show. From 145 shootings that week in March, the number of incidents rose to 276 citywide through May 17. ‘Over the last 28 days, we have seen a large increase in shootings in Brooklyn, specifically the East Flatbush and Canarsie areas,’ NYPD Chief of Department Terence A. Monahan said in an interview with Newsday. ‘Brooklyn, as a whole, for the last 28 days was up to 30 from nine on shootings incidents.’ That is an increase of 233% for the borough, and the big driver has been gang violence, which appears to have reasserted itself as the pandemic has played out, Monahan said.”

Furry friends back on the job at Norton Children's Hospital



(WLKY) A few furry friends have returned to Norton Children's Hospital. The Heel, Dog, Heal facility dogs are back. Norton Children's Hospital welcomed Rosa, Holly, Doc, Henry, Juno, Yarie, Pepper, Zeke and Dawn back to work on May 13. The dogs were temporarily removed to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. A "flat dog" version of the dogs visited with the front-line employees in the meantime. According to their [Facebook page](#), the dogs will visit staff for their first two weeks back and if

everything goes as planned, they will begin to visit patients. Norton's Heel, Dog, Heal facility dog program provides trained dogs and handlers to provide comfort to families during their time of need.

Story link: <https://www.wlky.com/article/furry-friends-back-on-the-job-at-norton-childrens-hospital/32653495>

Do you have an emergency plan for this?
Alligator likely dumped at Kentucky Lake

Check out the story: <https://www.lex18.com/fish-and-wildlife-officials-alligator-likely-dumped-at-kentucky-lake>

US Judge Rules Law Enforcement Needs Warrant *Just To Look At Your Smartphone's Lock Screen*

Learn more: <https://mashable.com/article/fbi-warrant-phone/>

Chinese city plans to turn coronavirus app into permanent health tracker

(The Guardian) A Chinese city is planning to make a health-tracking app introduced as part of the coronavirus response a permanent fixture for its population of 10 million. Versions of the app have been used across mainland China. It displays a QR code with an individual's virus status, which can be used to determine the extent to which the individual is allowed to move about.

Authorities in the city of Hangzhou, a tech hub where the app was first launched, have announced they will seek to launch a broader version to monitor people's health.

In the proposed app an individual's status would be color-coded and scored out of 100 based on medical records, physical test results, levels of activity and other lifestyle choices such as smoking.

Although apps used during the outbreak have [raised concerns about privacy](#) and a lack of transparency in how they operate, Chinese people generally appear to have accepted them as necessary. However, the push to make a permanent version appears to have crossed a line for some. "Outside of the epidemic periods, it has strong privacy issues," said one commenter on a news article posted to Weibo.

Read more: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/may/26/chinese-city-plans-to-turn-coronavirus-app-into-permanent-health-tracker>

'Fastest ever' internet speed recorded in Australian research project
How about 44.2 Terabits per second?

Have you ever wanted to download 1000 HD films in a single second? Maybe not, but according to a study from three universities in Australia, it's now possible. The technology has the capacity to support high-speed internet connections of 1.8 million households in Melbourne simultaneously, as well as billions across the world during peak periods.

Researchers from Monash, Swinburne and RMIT universities were able to achieve a data speed of 44.2 Terabits per second (Tbps), breaking the record for the world's fastest internet data speed from a single optical chip. The feat was achieved by using a micro-comb, a small and light alternative to the industry-standard 80 lasers.

It has the potential to ease the burden on worldwide internet infrastructure as demand for bandwidth swells to unprecedented heights as COVID-19 keeps people home and more dependent on the internet to work, learn and connect.

Learn more: <https://futurefive.com.au/story/fastest-ever-internet-speed-recorded-in-australian-research-project>

----- From HHS ASPR Cybersecurity Updates from May 23rd -----

Microsoft Warns Against a COVID-19 Email Phishing Campaign
Uses a WHO Report from Johns Hopkins to lure you in!

In a series of tweets, [Microsoft warned against a COVID-19 email phishing campaign](#). ***The phishing emails take the appearance of being from the Johns Hopkins Center and have the subject line "WHO COVID-19 SITUATION REPORT."*** It includes an Excel document which shows a map of COVID-19 cases in the US but also downloads a malicious macro in the background. This macro runs a Remote Access Tool that lets the attacker gain access to and control the target's computer.

Newly-Discovered Malware Targets Linux-based Servers and IoT Devices for use in DDoS Botnets

HC3 has released [Analyst Note on Newly-Discovered Kaiji Malware Targets Linux-based Servers and IoT Devices for use in DDoS Botnets](#). A malware researcher discovered the Kaiji malware. Kaiji uses brute-force attacks against the more than 21 million Internet of Things (IoT) devices and Linux-based servers with public-facing SSH services. Once compromised, the server or device becomes part of a larger botnet designed to launch Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attacks, while the malware continues to search for additional, locally-stored SSH keys.

Google Releases Security Updates for Chrome

Google has released Chrome version 83.0.4103.61 for Windows, Mac, and Linux. This version addresses vulnerabilities that an attacker could exploit to take control of an affected system. The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) encourages users and administrators to review the [Chrome Release Note](#) and apply the necessary updates.

Apple Releases Security Update for Xcode

Apple has released a security update to address a vulnerability in Xcode. A remote attacker could exploit this vulnerability to take control of an affected system. The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) encourages users and administrators to review the Apple security page for [Xcode 11.5](#) and apply the necessary update.

CDC Webinar

2020 Hurricane Season During COVID-19

Wednesday, May 27, at 1 p.m. ET.

More on this webinar & connection info:

https://emergency.cdc.gov/epic/learn/2020/webinar_20200527.asp

ASPR Clinical Rounds

Emergency Department: Recovery and Preparing for a Second Wave

Thursday, May 28, 2020

12:00 PM EDT / 9:00 AM PDT

[Click here for registration](#)

Join presenters to discuss emergency management resources and information that can be utilized to improve effective hospital and emergency department function during the COVID-19 pandemic.

InfraGard "Securing Health Sector" - 6th in the series

Friday, May 29, 1 PM ET

Threats to Vaccine Researchers and Manufacturers

Featured speakers are intelligence analysts from the Counterintelligence and Cyber Divisions of FBIHQ

You must register in advance at <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6483010135762557451>.

Connection details will arrive directly from GoToWebinar.

CMS Lessons from the Front Lines: COVID-19

Friday, May 29, at 12:30 - 2:00 pm ET

[Click here for connection information](#)

Join CMS Lessons from the Front Lines to learn about CMS flexibilities, best practices during the COVID-19 pandemic, updates from the federal response, and to hear perspectives from care providers.

Ensuring Healthcare Safety Throughout the COVID-19 Pandemic Webinar

Tuesday, June 2, at **2:00 pm ET << CORRECTED TIME!**

[Click here for registration and connection information](#)

ASPR TRACIE, in collaboration with the HHS/FEMA COVID-19 Healthcare Resilience Task Force, is hosting this webinar to share experiences and lessons learned from healthcare systems who have planned, implemented, and managed operational adaptations due to COVID-19 in their organizations to strengthen healthcare resilience and maintain safety.

[Note: Apparently previous ASPR announcements shows it as 3 PM ET, but when you register it will populate 2 PM on your Outlook schedule.]

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 (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.



CISA
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DEFEND TODAY, SECURE TOMORROW



CYBER HYGIENE SERVICES

REDUCING THE RISK OF A SUCCESSFUL CYBER ATTACK

Adversaries use known vulnerabilities and phishing attacks to compromise the security of organizations. The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) offers several scanning and testing services to help organizations reduce their exposure to threats by taking a proactive approach to mitigating attack vectors.

- **Vulnerability Scanning:** Evaluates external network presence by executing continuous scans of public, static IPs for accessible services and vulnerabilities. This service provides weekly vulnerability reports and ad-hoc alerts.
- **Web Application Scanning:** Evaluates known and discovered publicly-accessible websites for potential bugs and weak configuration to provide recommendations for mitigating web application security risks.
- **Phishing Campaign Assessment:** Provides an opportunity for determining the potential susceptibility of personnel to phishing attacks. This is a practical exercise intended to support and measure the effectiveness of security awareness training.
- **Remote Penetration Test:** Simulates the tactics and techniques of real-world adversaries to identify and validate exploitable pathways. This service is ideal for testing perimeter defenses, the security of externally-available applications, and the potential for exploitation of open source information.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How much does it cost? CISA cybersecurity assessment services are available at no cost.

Who can receive services? Federal, state, local, tribal and territorial governments, as well as public and private sector critical infrastructure organizations.

When will my services begin? Vulnerability Scanning and Web Application Scanning typically begin within one week of returning the appropriate forms.

Who performs the service? Cyber Hygiene services are provided by CISA's highly trained information security experts equipped with top of the line tools. Our mission is to measurably reduce cybersecurity risks to the Nation by providing services to government and critical infrastructure stakeholders.

GET STARTED

Email us at vulnerability_info@cisa.dhs.gov with the subject line "Requesting Cyber Hygiene Services" to get started.

CONNECT WITH US
www.cisa.gov

For more information,
email vulnerability_info@cisa.dhs.gov



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