



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for July 3, 2020

Kentucky and America are at war with the coronavirus

(Frankfort) Gov. Andy Beshear on Friday updated Kentuckians on the state's continued efforts to fight the novel coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19).

"This 4th of July weekend, it's important to keep in mind how committed Kentuckians have been to combatting COVID-19, which spreads easily and quickly between people. Kentuckians' selflessness was demonstrated over Passover/Easter weekend and again over Memorial Day weekend," said Gov. Beshear. "This weekend, we have another opportunity to show care and consideration for our fellow Kentuckians, especially those at higher risk for severe illness and even death. Let's be the best Kentuckians that we are capable of being. Let's all commit to doing our part to ensure a safe and healthy Independence Day weekend for all." The Governor said Kentucky and America are at war with the coronavirus.

As of 4 p.m. July 3, Gov. Beshear said there were at least 16,376 coronavirus cases in Kentucky, 299 of which were newly reported Friday. Unfortunately, Gov. Beshear reported four new deaths Friday, raising the total to 585 Kentuckians lost to the virus. ([Daily report](#))

Press release: <https://kentucky.gov/Pages/Activity-stream.aspx?n=GovernorBeshear&prId=245>

[The Governor said that his next press briefing will be held on Thursday, July 9, at 4 p.m. EDT.]

Restraining order granted against KY Governor's COVID-19 executive orders

(LEX 18) — A Kentucky judge has entered a statewide temporary restraining order against some of Governor Andy Beshear's COVID-19 executive orders. It comes following a lawsuit brought by several northern Kentucky businesses and joined by Attorney General Daniel Cameron. The lawsuit challenges the constitutionality of Governor Beshear's use of executive power during the COVID-19 pandemic. In a hearing this week, Circuit Court Judge Richard A. Brueggemann ruled in favor of the Kentucky businesses.

The order stops the statewide enforcement of the Governor's executive orders as they apply to childcare centers and automobile racetracks.

The lawsuit argues that since Governor Beshear declared an emergency on March 6th, he has arbitrarily issued complex, overbroad, and often conflicting orders.

Story link: <https://www.lex18.com/news/coronavirus/judge-grants-temporary-restraining-order-against-some-of-gov-beshears-covid-19-executive-orders>

Study confirms new version of coronavirus spreads faster, but doesn't make people sicker

(CNN) A global study has found strong evidence that a new form of [the coronavirus](#) has spread from Europe to the US. The new mutation makes the virus more likely to infect people but does not seem to make them any sicker than earlier variations of the virus, an international team of researchers reported Thursday.

The study, [published in the journal Cell](#), builds on some earlier work the team did that was [released on a preprint server](#) earlier in the year. Shared information on genetic sequences had indicated that a certain mutant version of the virus was taking over. Now the team has not only checked more genetic sequences, but they have also run experiments involving people, animals and cells in lab dishes that show the mutated version is more common and that it's more infectious than other versions.

Full story: <https://www.cnn.com/2020/07/02/health/coronavirus-mutation-spread-study/index.html>

Gov. Beshear updates Kentuckians on changes to driver's license, motor vehicle documentation renewals and expiration

Read more: <https://www.wkyt.com/2020/07/03/gov-beshear-updates-kentuckians-on-changes-to-drivers-license-motor-vehicle-documentation-renewals-and-expiration/>

Specialized ambulance to support UK Kentucky Children's Hospital Mobile Intensive Care Unit bought by Walmart and Dairy Queen

See and read more: <https://www.wkyt.com/2020/07/02/specialized-ambulance-serves-kentucky-children/>

Kentucky Fairgrounds COVID Field Hospital 'Mothballed'

Learn more: <https://wfpl.org/kentucky-fairgrounds-covid-field-hospital-mothballed/>

Coronavirus infections rising in 36 states as July Fourth weekend starts

(CNN) As Americans head into a holiday weekend in the [shadow of a ravaging coronavirus pandemic](#), some governors are rethinking their stance on face coverings after days of record infections.

The US reported 39,736 new cases on Friday, one day after a new daily record of more than 52,000 cases [eclipsed one set on Wednesday](#).

More than two months after the first peak affected just a handful of states, the virus is cresting again across the South and Southwest. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention projects nearly 148,000 deaths in the US by the end of the month.

Coronavirus has killed more than 129,000 people and infected over 2.7 million nationwide, according to Johns Hopkins University. Infection rates are rising in 36 states, with patients rapidly filling hospitals across the South and West. Full story: <https://www.cnn.com/2020/07/03/health/us-coronavirus-friday/index.html>

Trump administration moves ahead with plan to open new pandemic office as coronavirus crisis intensifies

(CNN) The Trump administration disbanded the National Security Council's [pandemic response](#) office in 2018 -- and now, on the defensive after a failed response to the coronavirus pandemic, they are planning to launch a similar office at the State Department.

The National Security Council hosted an interagency meeting Thursday to discuss the plans for the office, which will fall under the leadership of a new position: coordinator for pandemics, a senior administration official said.

Full story: <https://www.cnn.com/2020/07/02/politics/trump-state-dept-new-pandemic-office/index.html>

Home-made fireworks explosion in Elizabethtown, injures multiple people

Story link: <https://www.whas11.com/article/news/kentucky/multiple-people-injured-in-elizabethtown-home-explosion-officials-say/417-0a362632-9f26-4cae-a245-1112315f4f97>

A Safer 4th Is One Without Backyard Fireworks
<https://news360.com/article/532050246>

More fireworks in Americans' hands for July 4 raises risks

(AP) — For many Americans, the Fourth of July will be more intimate this year. It also could be riskier. Saturday will be unlike any Independence Day in recent memory. From Atlanta to San Diego, hundreds of fireworks shows have been canceled as officials restrict large gatherings during the coronavirus pandemic, especially as infections surge across the U.S.

With fewer professional celebrations, many Americans are bound to shoot off fireworks in backyards and at block parties. And they already are: Sales have been booming. Some public safety officials say consumer fireworks in more hands means greater danger of injuries and wildfires in parts of the country experiencing dry, scorching weather.

“The general public is buying more than ever before,” said Steve Houser, president of the National Fireworks Association. Fires are just one cause for concern. Some doctors fear injuries will increase this year as more people experiment with fireworks at home.

Dr. Erin Miller, a hand surgeon at Harborview Medical Center in Seattle, said she amputated 42 fingers due to fireworks injuries last year while she was on call during the Fourth of July. She has simple advice for revelers: Do not use larger fireworks like mortars and cherry bombs. “Do not mix alcohol or any other substances if you’re choosing to use fireworks,” she added.

Full story: <https://www.bostonherald.com/2020/07/03/more-fireworks-in-americans-hands-for-july-4-raises-risks/>

Seventh FMC-Lexington inmate suffers coronavirus-related death

Learn more: <https://www.lex18.com/news/coronavirus/seventh-fmc-inmate-suffers-coronavirus-related-death>

Promising Results for Experimental COVID-19 Vaccine in Early Testing: Pfizer
<https://news360.com/article/532144251>

Scientists Find Source of COVID Clots
<https://news360.com/article/532144205>

Why nurses are being furloughed during the pandemic
<https://www.cnn.com/videos/health/2020/07/03/hospitals-losing-money-during-coronavirus-pandemic-nr-vpx.cnn>

**Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Under Lockdown:
When The Protectors Are The Most Vulnerable**

Read more: https://www.huffpost.com/entry/grandparents-raising-grandchildren-coronavirus-vulnerable_n_5ef5197cc5b6acab283f0af5

Singapore is on track to face its worst dengue outbreak in history

(CNN) Singapore has just begun to get its second wave of coronavirus under control. Now, it's on track to face its worst-ever outbreak of another viral infection: [dengue](#).

More than 14,000 dengue cases have been reported in the city-state since the start of the year, according to the [National Environment Agency](#) (NEA). The total number for the whole year is expected to exceed the 22,170 cases reported in 2013 -- the largest dengue outbreak in Singapore's history, the agency said.

Dengue is a [viral infection transmitted](#) by the Aedes mosquito, the same insect responsible for spreading Zika, chikungunya and yellow fever. It is commonly found in hot, wet regions of the tropics and subtropics during the rainy months. More: <https://www.cnn.com/2020/07/03/asia/singapore-dengue-intl-hnk/index.html>

Coronavirus Stupid Awards

Hundreds of teens at 'pong fest' party exposed to coronavirus, officials say

learn more: <https://www.cnn.com/2020/07/01/us/texas-teens-party-coronavirus/index.html>

**Young People throw Coronavirus Parties
with a Payout to the first one who gets infected**

Learn more: <https://www.cnn.com/2020/07/02/us/alabama-coronavirus-parties-trnd/index.html>

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.