



# Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for July 23, 2020

**KY COVID Update - 4 PM July 22**  
**518 new cases; Total 24,540**  
**560,161 tests; Positivity rate 4.92%**  
**14 cases are children five and under**  
**3 new deaths; Total 677**

Governor's Press release: <https://kentucky.gov/Pages/Activity-stream.aspx?n=GovernorBeshear&prld=276>  
KDPH Daily Summary: <https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/covid19/COVID19DailyReport.pdf>

## COVID Sweeps through another KY Prison

A coronavirus outbreak "has ravaged the", a state prison in Oldham County, killing three inmates and infecting at least 168 inmates and 14 employees" over the last two weeks, John Cheves reports for the **Lexington Herald-Leader**. "The prison, which is primarily meant to hold medically vulnerable inmates," is Kentucky's third to have a major outbreak. Six inmates have died; at least seven more have died at a federal prison in Lexington. "The **Department of Corrections** website confirms a recent scattering of employee infections at prisons including Bell County Forestry Camp, Kentucky State Penitentiary, Lee Adjustment Center, Northpoint Training Center and Roederer Correctional Complex," Cheves reports. "With inmate visitation canceled due to the coronavirus pandemic, prison staff are the primary people moving between the institutions and outside communities each day, potentially carrying the virus with them."

Inmates [are suing](#) the department in federal court "for what they describe as a slow, clumsy response," Cheves reports. Department spokeswoman Lisa Lamb "said Tuesday that prison officials are carefully screening anyone who enters the prisons for symptoms of covid-19; they have increased cleaning of the facilities using a germicide and bleach solution; and they have provided masks for all inmates and employees, for mandatory usage." Story link: <https://www.kentucky.com/news/coronavirus/article244374692.html>

## Confusion spreads over system to determine priority access to Covid-19 vaccines

(Stat News) As manufacturers around the world race to develop Covid-19 vaccines, a parallel effort has begun to figure out who in the United States should get them first — and how those doses should be distributed.

But already the effort is being complicated by tensions over who gets to make those critical decisions, with some groups feeling sidelined and multiple new actors crowding the stage.

On Tuesday, the National Academy of Medicine, tasked by top U.S. health officials, named an expert panel to develop a framework to determine who should be vaccinated first, when available doses are expected to be scarce. But that panel is ostensibly encroaching on the role of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, a panel that has made recommendations on vaccination policy to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for decades, including drawing up the vaccination priority list during the 2009 H1N1 flu pandemic.

Learn more: <https://www.statnews.com/2020/07/22/confusion-spreads-over-system-to-determine-priority-access-to-covid-19-vaccines/>

## Coronavirus infections slowing down in critical hotspots *Change in new COVID-19 cases in past week*

([AXIOS - Click on the link for graphic](#)) The pace of new coronavirus cases slowed over the past week, but things are still getting worse in most of the country.

**The big picture:** After weeks of explosive growth, the number of new infections in the U.S. is still climbing — but not quite as fast as it has been.

**By the numbers:** The number of new coronavirus cases in the U.S. shot up by over 20% per week for the past month. This week, it rose by a comparatively modest 7%. That doesn't mean we're getting better. The U.S. may be leveling off, but it's leveling off at a very high rate of infection. The country is averaging roughly 66,000 new cases per day.

**Several of the worst hotspots** experienced slower growth this week than they have throughout July.

New confirmed infections rose by 3% last week in Texas, and by 9% in California. Florida's caseload did not change. Arizona saw its second consecutive week of improvement. Arizona was one of only five states to experience a significant decline in new infections over the past week, while 24 states, along with Washington, D.C. and Puerto Rico, saw increases of at least 10%.

**Between the lines:** Axios uses a rolling seven-day average to minimize the effects of any abnormalities in how and when new cases are reported.

**The bottom line:** 66,000 new cases per day is a recipe for [overworked hospitals](#), strained supply lines, prolonged school closures and, of course, thousands of preventable deaths.

-----  
**With COVID deaths climbing, US inks deal for vaccine doses**

(CIDRAP) The number of daily COVID-19 deaths in the United States topped 1,000 yesterday, the first time in more than a month the country has crossed that threshold. The increase in COVID-19 deaths has been expected with the spike in infections around the country.

The Trump administration announced a nearly \$2 billion agreement with US drug maker Pfizer and German biotechnology company BioNTech for hundreds of millions of vaccine doses pending approval of their COVID-19 vaccine candidate. Under the agreement between the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and Pfizer and BioNTech, the companies will supply 100 million doses of their vaccine candidate to the US government if it demonstrates safety and efficacy in an upcoming phase 3 trial and is approved by the FDA. The \$1.95 billion contract allows the US government to buy and additional 500 million doses but does not fund any research and development. Pfizer and BioNTech are evaluating four vaccine candidates under their BNT162 program. Early data on the most advanced candidate—BNT162b1—showed that it produced neutralizing antibodies in volunteers that were at or above the levels found in the plasma of patients who had recovered from COVID-19. The companies said in a [press release](#) that if upcoming trials to evaluate safety and efficacy are successful, they could seek Emergency Use Authorization from the FDA as early as October.

The Trump administration has also signed an agreement with AstraZeneca to secure doses of the vaccine developed by researchers at Oxford University, which also produced an immune response in early trials. Earlier this month, HHS announced a \$1.6 billion agreement with Novavax to fund a phase 3 clinical trial and manufacturing of the company's COVID-19 vaccine candidate.

In other news, Minnesota, Ohio, and Indiana today became the latest states to institute a statewide [mask mandate](#). Ohio will require people older than 9 to wear face masks in indoor settings and outdoors when social distancing isn't possible starting tomorrow, the [Washington Post](#) reported. Indiana's mandate, beginning on Jul 27, calls for masks when people can't socially distance. According to the [National Governor's Association](#), 24 other states currently have full mandatory mask rules.

Full story: <https://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2020/07/covid-deaths-climbing-us-inks-deal-vaccine-doses>

**[Related story - Study: COVID-19 antibodies decay quickly after mild illness](#)**

**Other stories:**

- Total coronavirus cases in California is now [No. 1 in cases](#) among U.S. states, with 413,000 since the start of the pandemic. Officials are [acquiring protective gear and more hospital beds](#). (*Los Angeles Times*)
- Meanwhile, New York state, the former record-holder where the virus is now largely under control, is [walling itself off](#) (metaphorically) from half the country. (*NBC New York*)
- As of 8:00 a.m. ET Thursday, the [unofficial COVID-19 toll](#) in the U.S. was 3,971,343 cases and 143,193 deaths, up about 69,000 and 1,120, respectively, from the same time a day ago.
- Nationwide death tolls are back at 1,000 a day. Some experts expect to see [1 million new cases in two weeks](#). (*CNN*)
- (MedPage Today) [No Hanky-Panky at HHS's New COVID Data Hub, Contractor Says - CDC had a say](#) (July 22, 2020)

-----  
**US Deploys Federal Agents to Chicago, Albuquerque; Considers other cities**

- President Trump announced on Wednesday that he is sending federal agents to Chicago and Albuquerque, New Mexico. [USA Today](#) (7/22, Jackson, Johnson, Phillips) reports "Trump promised that the action was just the beginning of federal deployments to cities across the country where crime has spiked in recent months."
- [NBC News](#) (7/22) reports, "Trump has suggested that he is considering sending federal law enforcement to New York, Philadelphia, Detroit, Baltimore as well as other cities."

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

- [Cases & Deaths by County](#) Thursday, July 23, 2020
- [Dr. Robert R. Redfield Statement on SARS-CoV-2 infections](#) Wednesday, July 22, 2020
- [Contact Tracing for COVID-19](#) Wednesday, July 22, 2020
- [Contact Tracing](#) Wednesday, July 22, 2020
- [Investigating a COVID-19 Case](#) Wednesday, July 22, 2020
- [Contact Tracing](#) Wednesday, July 22, 2020
- [Cruise Ship Crew Member Disembarkations](#) Wednesday, July 22, 2020
- [Interim COVID-19 Contact Tracing Communications Toolkit for Health Departments](#) Wednesday, July 22, 2020

- [Businesses and Workplaces](#) Wednesday, July 22, 2020
- [Communication Materials](#) Wednesday, July 22, 2020
- [Cases in the U.S.](#) Wednesday, July 22, 2020
- [Duration of Isolation and Precautions for Adults with COVID-19](#) Wednesday, July 22, 2020
- [Interim Guidance on Management of Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) in Correctional and Detention Facilities](#) Wednesday, July 22, 2020
- [Testing Data in the U.S.](#) Wednesday, July 22, 2020
- [COVID-19 Electronic Laboratory Reporting Implementation by State](#) Wednesday, July 22, 2020
- [Information for Healthcare Professionals about Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) Wednesday, July 22, 2020
- [Testing demand keeps CDC lab fellow on the go](#) Wednesday, July 22, 2020
- [COVID-19 Travel Recommendations by Country](#) Wednesday, July 22, 2020
- [Responder Stories](#) Wednesday, July 22, 2020
- [Evidence used to update the list of underlying medical conditions that increase a person's risk of severe illness from COVID-19](#) Wednesday, July 22, 2020
- [Childcare Programs and Summer Camps](#) Tuesday, July 21, 2020
- [One-Stop Shop for COVID-19 Resources](#) Tuesday, July 21, 2020
- [Commercial Laboratory Seroprevalence Survey Data](#) Tuesday, July 21, 2020
- [Interactive Serology Dashboard for Commercial Laboratory Surveys](#) Tuesday, July 21, 2020

-----  
**FDA Coronavirus [What's New?](#)**

- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Update: Daily Roundup](#) July 22, 2020
- [FDA In Brief: Findings from Real-World Data Study Reveal Higher Risk of Hospitalization and Death Among Cancer Patients with COVID-19, Underscore Health Disparities](#) July 22, 2020
- [Virtual Town Hall Series - Immediately in Effect Guidance on Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Diagnostic Tests](#) July 22, 2020
- [FDA's Ongoing Work to Support and Advance COVID-19 Diagnostic Test Accuracy and Availability](#) July 21, 2020
- FDA reissued an [EUA for sample pooling in COVID-19 diagnostic testing to Quest Diagnostics](#). The Quest test is the first COVID-19 diagnostic test to be authorized for use with pooled samples
- The FDA issued [new guidance](#) for vital transport media during the COVID-19 public health emergency to help expand the availability of transport media used to transport certain clinical specimens for testing.
  - Additionally, the FDA posted answers to [frequently asked questions](#) relating to the development and use of transport media during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

-----  
**Virtual Resources**

- ✓ [ASPR TRACIE Novel Coronavirus Resources](#)
- ✓ [FEMA Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Response](#)
- ✓ [NBEOC Dashboard](#)
- ✓ [CDC COVID-19 Homepage](#)
- ✓ [CDC What's New](#)
- ✓ [Science Policy & Guidance Update](#) provides an overview of new and updated guidance released by the federal government.
- ✓ [FDA's Emergency Use Authorization web page](#)
- ✓ [COVID-19 Uninsured Program Portal](#)

-----  
**CDC: Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and Diabetes:  
 The Importance of Prevention, Management, and Support  
 Tuesday, July 28, at 2:00 pm ET [Click here for connection information](#)**

During this Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA) Call, presenters will focus on current information about the impact and increased risk for COVID-19 complications in people with diabetes and the importance of diabetes prevention, management, and support.

-----  
**ASPR: Use of Telemedicine in Alternate Care Sites  
 Tuesday, July 28, 2:00 p.m. ET, [Click here for registration](#)**

The COVID-19 pandemic and the associated community mitigation efforts enacted have altered the delivery of and access to healthcare across the U.S. Healthcare providers are looking for new and innovative ways to deliver patient care to accommodate social distancing and community mitigation measures. The use of telemedicine has grown significantly in recent months. In addition to being used by outpatient providers, telemedicine plays an integral role in Alternate Care Sites (ACS). ACS are one of many alternate care strategies intended to provide additional hospital surge capacity and capability. HHS ASPR and ASPR TRACIE are hosting this webinar where speakers will discuss operations, management, and lessons learned from using telemedicine in these settings.

<https://join.onstreammedia.com/go/41054140/townhall>  
Dial In: 1-877-594-8353 - Passcode: 56350822#

-----

**Save the Date:** August 4, 3 PM ET

**Feedback from the front-line in Texas and Florida hospitals**

[Representatives from hospitals in both states on their experiences, lessons learned and recommendations.]

<https://join.onstreammedia.com/go/41054140/townhall>  
Dial In: 1-877-594-8353 - Passcode: 56350822#

-----

InfraGard National Webinar: **Cybersecurity in the Age of COVID-19**  
Wednesday, 7/29/2020, at 11:00 AM EDT/10 AM CDT)

REGISTER HERE: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7894556567851625483>

InfraGard: **DOJ's Role in the Investigation and Prosecution of Cyber Crime**  
Wednesday, July 29, 2 PM ET

The webinar is open to members and non-members. Considering the topic of the webinar, members are strongly encouraged to invite members of the legal departments of their respective organizations to attend the session. To register for the webinar, please use the following link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5431222811770518031>

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency released its [COVID-19 Recovery CISA Tabletop Exercise Package](#), assisting stakeholders in assessing recovery and business continuity plans related to organizational recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic

-----

If you or your organization is considering using the **Earth Ex 2020 Exercise** for training later this summer/fall you may want to consider participating in their Facilitator Training session tomorrow. It is intended for anyone who is going to be a facilitator for EARTH EX. This is not a requirement to play EARTH EX, but just an opportunity to learn more about how to facilitate a successful EARTH EX exercise.

Here is the link: **Initial Facilitator Training Session – TODAY >> 23 July – 2 pm EDT**

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/98188994602623500>

This webinar is for anyone serving as a facilitator for the EARTH EX 2020 exercise or anyone who would like to know more about the exercise. During this session, panelists will present the exercise design, highlight techniques and recommendations on engaging participants. This short session will address how to set up the event to maximize learning, and areas to focus on to improve organizational resilience. This session will be an excellent opportunity to refine exercise plans and gain insights into the events planned as part of the EARTH EX 2020 exercise.

-----

**There is another Final Facilitator Training Session "How to Play Earth Ex" on August 20th at 2 PM EDT.**

This session will present the new Battle Rhythm Manager interface, outline each Phase of the 2020 exercise, and explore the new Monte Carlo inject engine. Participants will leave with a full understanding of how to implement the EARTH EX 2020 exercise to maximize its potential for their organization. **Register>** [How to Play EARTH EX](#)

-----

**EarthEX 2020** - Registration is open

The fourth annual Emergency All-sector Response Transnational Hazard Exercise will be available for play from September 1 to October 31, 2020 - worldwide. Individuals, families, business continuity planners, emergency managers, community and program coordinators. **Everyone is invited to register and participate. Learn how to be better prepared!**

**To register:** <https://battlerhythm.net/Registration/register.html>

Address questions to: [EarthEx@eiscouncil.org](mailto:EarthEx@eiscouncil.org)

**Other related webinars of potential interest...**

**Global Supply Chain Threats – 29 July – 2 pm EDT**

This EARTH EX 2020 training series webinar is an awareness primer for anyone wanting a better understanding of the current global supply chain threats, their causes, and actions that can be planned or taken to increase operational resilience. Register here>> [Global Supply Chain](#)

**Global Continuity Issues and Requirements – 12 August – 2 pm EDT**

This EARTH EX 2020 training series webinar will address the significant issues that are driving the need for a comprehensive framework for reaching global continuity and resilience requirements. Register here>> [Global Continuity Issues](#)

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.