



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for July 28, 2020

KY COVID Update - 4 PM July 28th
532 new cases; Total positive: 28,126
599,251 tests; Positivity rate 5.08 %
10 new deaths; Total 719

KDPH Daily Summary: <https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/covid19/COVID19DailyReport.pdf>

Kentucky reports 532 new COVID-19 cases, 10 deaths

(WKYT) Gov. Beshear announced 532 new COVID-19 cases on Tuesday, bringing the state total to 28,126 cases. The governor says the state is seeing a 5.08 percent positivity rate. That's the first time in four days that the state's positivity rate has gone down. Among the new cases reported Tuesday were 21 children under the age of five. The governor also announced 10 new deaths, bringing the state total to 719. There are currently 584 people hospitalized for COVID-19, 115 people in the ICU, and at least 7,470 people have recovered.

In addition to the mask mandate and social gathering order that was put in place last week, the governor officially announced Monday the closing of bars for two weeks and a 25 percent capacity limit for restaurants. Story link: <https://www.wkyt.com/2020/07/28/watch-live-gov-beshear-holds-news-conference-on-covid-19/>

The pandemic is overwhelming U.S. public health capacity in many states. *What now?*

(NPR) When the coronavirus pandemic began, public health experts had high hopes for the United States. After all, the U.S. literally invented the tactics that have been used for decades to quash outbreaks around the world: Quickly identify everyone who gets infected. Track down everyone exposed to the virus. Test everyone. Isolate the sick and quarantine the exposed to stop the virus from spreading.

The hope was that a wealthy country like the United States would deploy those tried-and-true measures to rapidly contain the virus — like quickly dousing every ember from a campfire to keep it from erupting into a forest fire.

Today, that hope has been extinguished — not the fire. A return to more restrictive shutdowns of businesses and public gatherings is likely necessary in many places, public health leaders say, to bring the number of cases low enough that "test, trace and isolate" can be used to douse epidemic embers.

"Right now we are experiencing a national forest fire of COVID that is readily consuming any human wood that's available to burn," says Michael Osterholm, director of the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy at the University of Minnesota.

Listen to podcast and read more: <https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2020/07/28/894858475/pandemic-is-overwhelming-u-s-public-health-capacity-in-many-states-what-now>

Pfizer-BioNTech begin late-stage study of lead COVID-19 vaccine candidate

Read more: <https://news360.com/article/533985042>

Pandemic depressing vaccination rates *It is safe to take our kids to health-care providers*

([KyForward News](#)) Not as many Kentucky children are getting critical vaccinations as they did previous years, tracking a nationwide trend of parents staying away from health-care centers to avoid the coronavirus.

Last April, 27,906 Kentucky 1-year-olds were vaccinated for diseases such as Hepatitis B, influenza, polio and measles/mumps/rubella. But only 17,463 1-year-olds were vaccinated in April 2020.

And only 4,219 4-6-year-olds, a crucial age range for key vaccinations, were immunized in Kentucky in April 2020, fewer than one-fourth the 18,394 vaccinated in April 2019. That's according to data compiled by the state Cabinet for Health and Family Services. The data is voluntarily reported, so the actual numbers may be higher.

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, vaccination rates nationwide are down. On average, about two-thirds of infants at 5 months old from 2016 to 2019 received vaccinations, but only half did in May 2020.

The CDC reports similar trends among all Americans under 18, with non-influenza vaccination rates decreasing by 21.5%. Jones said the trend puts children and babies at higher risk for diseases like measles, whooping cough, chickenpox, and others that can be prevented with vaccinations. The trend worries public-health officials, doctors and others.

Smoking and vaping can make covid-19 more severe

(UK) Though studies are still ongoing, more is known about the risks of smoking and covid-19. Early reports found people sickened with covid-19 had worse outcomes if they smoked. Recent studies have found that people who smoke have double the risk of severe infection compared to those who do not smoke.

Smoking and vaping: Damage to the lungs' natural defenses against invasive bacteria and viruses. Expose users to chemicals that weaken the immune system and limit the body's ability to fight infection. Increase the risk of heart and lung disease, conditions which increase the risk of severe complications from covid-19.

The hand-to-mouth action of smoking and vaping can increase the risk of exposure to bacteria and viruses. Smoking one pack a day results in around 300 hand-to-mouth contacts. Smoking and vaping also decrease mask-wearing time, limiting protection from virus exposure.

----- **CDC Coronavirus What's New?**

- [Cases & Deaths by County](#) Tuesday, July 28, 2020
- [Public Service Announcements \(PSAs\)](#) Tuesday, July 28, 2020
- [Crew Disembarkations through Commercial Travel](#) Tuesday, July 28, 2020
- [Cruise Ship Crew Member Disembarkations](#) Tuesday, July 28, 2020
- [Businesses and Workplaces](#) Tuesday, July 28, 2020
- [Cases in the U.S.](#) Tuesday, July 28, 2020
- [Worker Safety and Support](#) Tuesday, July 28, 2020
- [COVID-19 Travel Recommendations by Country](#) Tuesday, July 28, 2020
- [Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility](#) Tuesday, July 28, 2020
- [Isolate If You Are Sick](#) Sunday, July 26, 2020

----- **FDA Coronavirus What's New?**

- [July 27, 2020 - Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Update: Daily Roundup July 27, 2020](#)
- [July 27, 2020 - Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Update: FDA Reiterates Warning About Dangerous Alcohol-Based Hand Sanitizers Containing Methanol, Takes Additional Action to Address Concerning Products](#)

----- **Johns Hopkins: Health Security Headlines - Extracts from July 28, 2020**

[Research Reveals Heart Complications in COVID-19 Patients](#) (*CIDRAP*) Two German studies published today in JAMA Cardiology show abnormal heart imaging findings in recently recovered COVID-19 patients, and cardiac infections in those who have died from their infections.

[Pandemic Is Overwhelming U.S. Public Health Capacity in Many States. What Now?](#) (*NPR*) A return to more restrictive shutdowns of businesses and public gatherings is likely necessary in many places, public health leaders say, to bring the number of cases low enough that "test, trace and isolate" can be used to douse epidemic embers.

[Illness-Related Work Absence in Mid-April Was Highest on Record](#) (*JAMA Internal Medicine*) Information from population employment surveys could shed additional light on the pandemic's effect on the health and behavior of the nation's workforce.

[Spread of Hepatitis B in Children Under Five, Lowest in Decades: WHO](#) (*UN News*) The global prevalence of potentially-deadly hepatitis B in children under age five, dropped to under one per cent in 2019 – down from five per cent in the pre-vaccine decades between the 1980s and early 2000s, the World Health Organization (WHO) reported on Monday.

----- **Kentucky Dept. of Agriculture warns *Don't plant unwanted seeds that arrive in the mail***

(LEX 18) — Agriculture Commissioner Dr. Ryan Quarles is warning Kentuckians of unsolicited foreign seeds that are being shipped to people across the Commonwealth.

Over the weekend, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA) was notified of several Kentuckians who had received unsolicited seed packets that appear to have originated by China. The types of seeds are unknown and may be harmful. The packages were sent by mail.

If you receive a suspicious package of seeds that you did not order:

- ✓ Do not plant (could contain invasive species)
- ✓ Contact the Kentucky Department of Agriculture immediately (502) 573-0282 or Ag.Web@ky.gov

- ✓ Put the package and seeds in a zip lock bag and wash your hands immediately

Commissioner Quarles said Kentucky is the fourth state [known to receive suspicious packages of seeds](#).

Story link: <https://www.lex18.com/news/covering-kentucky/dont-plant-unwanted-seeds-that-arrive-in-the-mail-kentucky-dept-of-agriculture-warns>

**Tracking Potential Tropical Cyclone Nine in Atlantic
Projected to hit Miami Sunday**

Read more: <https://www.cnn.com/interactive/2020/weather/gonzalo-storm-path-tracker/index.html>

KY Hospital Association TOWN HALL meetings

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

CDC Clinicians Call:

COVID-19 & Telehealth Implementation: Stories from the Field

Date: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 - Time: 2:00pm-3:30pm (ET)

Please click the link below to join the webinar: <https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1608721092>

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

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](#)

Why Should You Get a UPS?

<https://news360.com/article/533975682>

One last word...

New York EMS captain recounts pandemic's horrors amid concerns of second wave

(NBC) "Will we know that what we did worked? Or will we be right back to where we started? And that's the terrifying part," EMS Capt. AJ Briones said of a possible second wave.

Watch and read more: <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/new-york-ems-captain-recounts-pandemic-s-horrors-amid-concerns-n1234812>

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 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.