

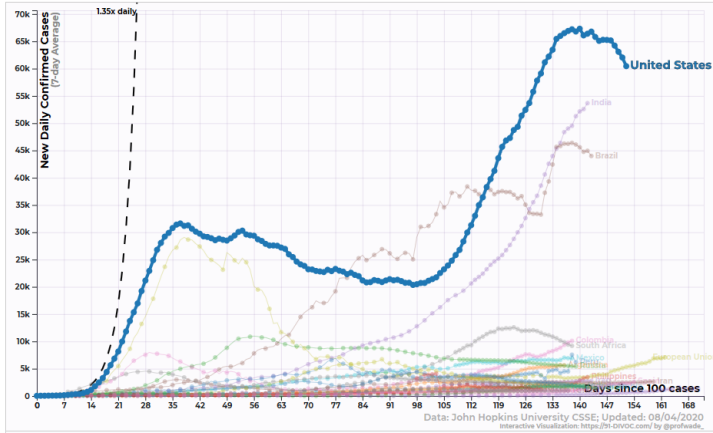


Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for August 4, 2020

COVID-19 is widespread in the U.S., but there are some states doing things right

(CNN) [US leaders](#) have struggled to enforce social gathering rules and mask mandates as residents push for a return to normal life amid a rampant spread of [coronavirus](#). But while people may be tired of the pandemic,

New Confirmed COVID-19 Cases per Day



there's still a long way to go, one world health official said Monday. In the US, the spread of the virus is more widespread than ever before, prompting White House coronavirus response coordinator Dr. Deborah Birx to say over the weekend the country has entered a ["new phase"](#) of the pandemic. But there are some states that have gotten it right by not letting up on restrictions after their case numbers began dipping.

Across the country, more than 4.7 million have been infected since the start of the pandemic and at least 155,469 have died. Health officials project there will be thousands more deaths in the coming weeks. At least 13 states have reported more than 100,000 coronavirus infections and four of them -- California, Florida, Texas and New

York -- have recorded more than 400,000. Full story: <https://www.cnn.com/2020/08/04/health/us-coronavirus-tuesday/index.html>

Related - [Trump blasts Birx after she warns coronavirus pandemic is 'extraordinarily widespread'](#)

Frontline workers wearing PPE still at more than three times the risk of Covid-19 infection

(CNN) Wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) when caring for patients with Covid-19 isn't enough to completely eliminate the threat from the virus for frontline workers, according to [a new study](#) from King's College London. Health care workers with adequate gloves, gowns and face masks still had 3.4 times the risk of contracting the coronavirus compared to the general population, the study found, and minority health care workers had an even greater risk of testing positive. African American, Latino and other minority care providers were five times more likely to contract Covid-19 than their White counterparts, the study found.

Full story: <https://www.cnn.com/2020/07/31/health/ppe-covid-risks-high/index.html>

Related - [Despite Mask Wars, Americans Support Aggressive Measures To Stop COVID-19](#)

Story link: <https://www.npr.org/2020/08/04/898522180/despite-mask-wars-americans-support-aggressive-measures-to-stop-covid-19-poll-fi>

Track US COVID-19 in Real-Time

Learn more: <https://www.medpagetoday.com/infectiousdisease/covid19/85354>

40% of Americans continue to put off medical care

(Axios) Roughly 40% of Americans have postponed getting medical care due to the coronavirus outbreak. That number has stayed around 40% in all 12 weeks of the Census Bureau's [Household Pulse Survey](#). [Story & graph: <https://www.axios.com/census-americans-delayed-medical-care-coronavirus-99913086-58d5-4200-9fc3-6fab08030aba.html>]

KHA PSA: "KY's Hospitals are Ready to Care for You!": <https://youtu.be/zVo11f2AQ-k>

More COVID cases being reported in Kentucky children

learn more: <https://www.wkyt.com/2020/08/03/more-covid-cases-being-reported-in-kentucky-children/>

Students need to be tested every 2-3 days for colleges to safely reopen

(Yale News July 31) To safely reopen college campuses this fall, students need to be screened for SARS-CoV-2 infection every two or three days, finds a new study led by the Yale School of Public Health.

The research, published today in JAMA Open Network, comes as universities across the United States are grappling with whether and how to reopen for the fall 2020 semester. Residential campuses — with their communal living and dining spaces, crowded classrooms, and populations of young adults eager to socialize — pose a particular challenge. For many U.S. colleges, COVID-19 represents an existential dilemma: Either they open their doors to students in September or they face severe financial consequences.

Learn more: <https://news.yale.edu/2020/07/31/students-need-be-tested-every-2-3-days-colleges-safely-reopen>

Nursing home plan limits supply of free COVID-19 tests

(AP) The Trump administration's plan to provide every nursing home with a fast COVID-19 testing machine comes with an asterisk: The government won't supply enough test kits to check staff and residents beyond an initial couple of rounds.

A program that sounded like a game changer when it was announced last month at the White House is now prompting concerns that it could turn into another unfulfilled promise for nursing homes, whose residents and staff represent a tiny share of the U.S. population but [account for as many as 4 in 10 coronavirus deaths, according to some estimates](#). The weekly cost of testing employees could range from more than \$19,000 to nearly \$38,000, according to estimates by the national organization LeadingAge.

Read full AP story: <https://apnews.com/267eb99ba143f39d9d51dee32f0512a8>

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

- [Businesses and Workplaces](#) Tuesday, August 4, 2020
- [Guidance for Dental Settings](#) Tuesday, August 4, 2020
- [COVID-19 Travel Recommendations by Country](#) Tuesday, August 4, 2020
- [Interim Considerations for Health Departments for SARS-CoV-2 Testing in Homeless Shelters and Encampments](#) Monday, August 3, 2020
- [Toolkit for K-12 Schools](#) Monday, August 3, 2020
- [Quarantine If You Might Be Sick](#) Monday, August 3, 2020
- [Returning to Work](#) Monday, August 3, 2020

FDA Virtual Town Hall

[The immediately in effect guidance](#)

"Policy for Coronavirus Disease-2019 Tests During the Public Health Emergency (Revised)"

includes policies specific to this public health emergency.

August 5th, 12:15 to 1:15 PM ET

[Learn more with links for slides and call: <https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/workshops-conferences-medical-devices/virtual-town-hall-series-immediately-effect-guidance-coronavirus-covid-19-diagnostic-tests-08052020>]

Planners - Take Notice:

Those under age 40 now outnumber their older generations

Learn more: <https://www.newser.com/story/294458/this-may-be-a-demographic-shock-to-boomers.html>

HHS ASPR Cyber Alert:

Taidoor Malware Used by Chinese Government Actors

This Malware Analysis Report (MAR) is the result of analytic efforts between the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and the Department of Defense (DoD). Working with U.S. government partners, CISA, the FBI, and DoD identified a malware variant used by Chinese government cyber actors, which is known as TAIDOOR. For more information on Chinese malicious cyber activity, please visit www.cisa.gov.

The FBI has high confidence that Chinese government actors are using malware variants in conjunction with proxy servers to maintain a presence on victim networks and to further network exploitation. CISA, the FBI, and DoD are distributing this MAR to enable network defense and reduce exposure to Chinese government malicious cyber activity.

This MAR includes suggested response actions and recommended mitigation techniques. Users or administrators should flag activity associated with the malware and report the activity to CISA or the FBI Cyber Watch (CyWatch), and give the activity the highest priority for enhanced mitigation.

Malicious binaries identified as a x86 and x64 version of Taidoor were submitted for analysis. Taidoor is installed on a target's system as a service dynamic link library (DLL) and is comprised of two files. The first file is a loader, which is started as a service. The loader decrypts the second file, and executes it in memory, which is the main Remote Access Trojan (RAT).

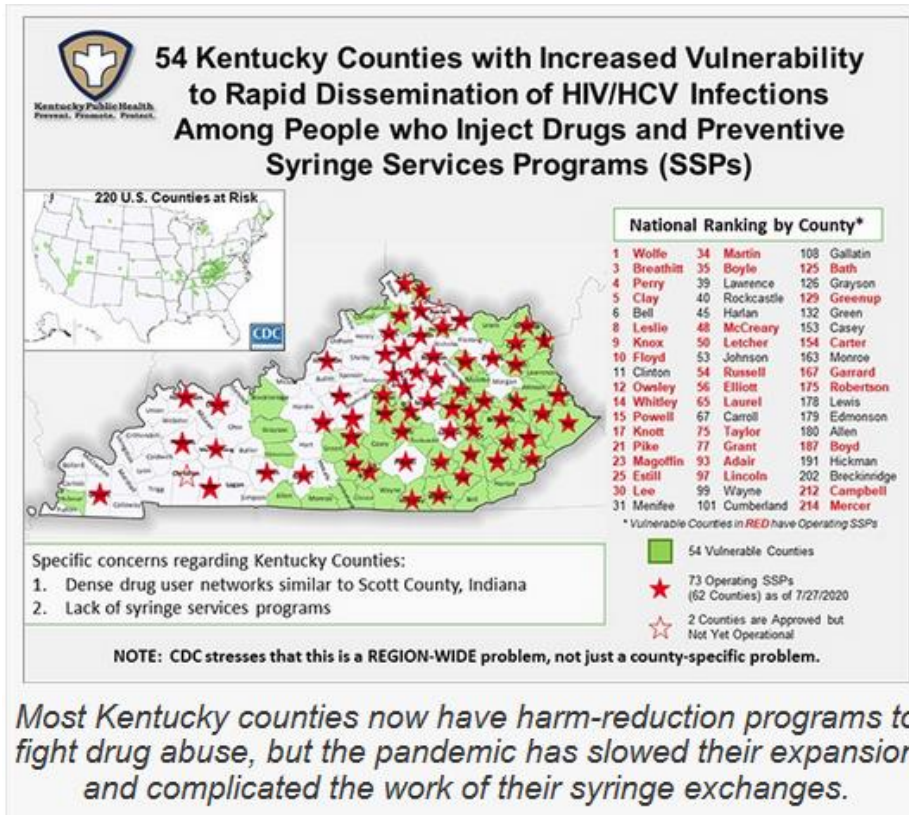
Read [the full Malware Analysis Report](#) for mitigation techniques and further information.

**Many Kentucky counties lack syringe exchanges;
includes 20 most vulnerable to disease outbreaks**

(KyForward News) Most Kentucky counties now have harm-reduction programs to fight drug abuse, but the coronavirus pandemic has slowed their expansion and complicated the work of their syringe exchanges.

Still, they've all continued to offer some level of service during the pandemic. Sixty-three counties have harm-reduction programs, and one more is in the works, but that will still leave 56 of the 120 counties without one.

Tony Cox, director of the Bracken County Health Department, which has the newest program, encouraged those counties to be open-minded. "Communities are hesitant, and we do understand their concerns, but I



would encourage any and all communities to educate themselves, along with their policymakers and even the citizens in the community, to find out exactly what a harm reduction/syringe exchange program is really all about," he said. "It is about getting dirty needles off the street and off of our playgrounds and off of the places we go, certainly that's a huge part of it. But it is also a program that is about helping the people in our community as well that need help because they are addicted to drugs. Be open minded and get educated."

Such programs have been able to stay open through the pandemic because the Department of Public Health designated them an essential service. Kentucky has 74 operational syringe exchange locations in 63 of its 120

counties. Since mid-July 2019, when Kentucky Health News did its last syringe exchange roundup, five more counties have been marked on the state Cabinet for Health and Family Services map of exchanges and the counties deemed most vulnerable to HIV and hepatitis C outbreaks.

Learn more here, and [the program below](https://www.kyforward.com/many-kentucky-counties-lack-syringe-exchanges-includes-20-most-vulnerable-to-disease-outbreaks/): <https://www.kyforward.com/many-kentucky-counties-lack-syringe-exchanges-includes-20-most-vulnerable-to-disease-outbreaks/>

KY Public Health's *Harm Reduction Program* "Virtual Open House" via Zoom

Thursday, August 6, 2020 from 10:30 A.M. – 12:30 P.M. (EDT)
Join via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/99859937593> Meeting ID: 998 5993 7593

This is the first in a series of "virtual open houses" to showcase outstanding community-based harm reduction programs in SAMHSA/HHS Region 4 that support national strategies to address the Substance Use crisis and end the HIV epidemic. Topics will include Kentucky's Opioid Response Efforts, Mobile and public health syringe programs.

Registration for the **2020 Kentucky Harm Reduction Summit** is now open at
<https://www.cecentral.com/live/18867>

The Harm Reduction Summit is scheduled for **Wednesday, August 19, 2020** and **Thursday, August 20, 2020** from **10:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M. (EDT)**. The summit will be conducted virtually via Zoom with key note speakers, multiple breakout sessions, and two panel discussions. Continuing education information can be found at <https://www.cecentral.com/live/18867/accreditation>

Gun Background Checks Rose 79% in July

[\(IACP News\)](#) The [Washington Times](#) (8/3, Sherfinski) reports gun background checks "surged 79% in July compared to last year amid national unrest, protests and rioting, according to data released Monday by the FBI." The Bureau "ran more than 3.6 million checks through the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) last month – a 79% increase compared to July 2019." According to the Times, the 3.6 million figure is also "the third-highest monthly total ever recorded, behind the 3.9 million checks in June and the 3.7 million checks in March."

Burn and Soft Tissue Injury ECHO
"The Great Outdoors!": ATV injuries"

August 5th from 12:00-1:00pm MT (2 PM ET/1 PM CT)

Register and log-in to the [Crisis Standards of Care](#) (CSC) website, then navigate to the "Project ECHO" tab to join the live session. They offer AMA PRA Category 1.0 credit(s)™, Nursing Contact Hours, and EMS CME credit at no cost. Visit the Utah [CSC Website](#) and navigate to the "Project ECHO" tab for instructions on how to claim CME and CEU credit(s). Address questions to: Annette.Matherly@hsc.utah.edu.

[FYI - The next program in this series will be October 14th on "Treatment of Complicated Skin Rashes".]

HHS Telemedicine Hack
Workflows and Documentation

Wednesday, August 5, at 12:00 - 1:00 pm ET [Click here for registration](#)

Telemedicine use has grown exponentially during the COVID-19 pandemic to support the wide adoption of telemedicine, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) is partnering with the ECHO Institute at the University of New Mexico and the Public Health Foundation's TRAIN Learning Network to deliver a 10-week, virtual peer-to-peer learning community called Telemedicine Hack. This learning collaborative will be an opportunity for healthcare delivers to gain the knowledge and skills needed to implement video-based telemedicine into their practices. [Learn more here.](#)

NETEC WEBINARS

Next week's webinars will be divided into a two-part event (Wednesday, **August 5 and Friday, August 7**) focusing on [Supply Management and Inventory Control during COVID-19](#).

Both webinars will be at Noon CT / 1:00 PM ET / 10:00 AM PT. [Register Now](#)

CMS: Lessons from the Front Lines: COVID-19
Friday, August 7, 12:30 p.m. ET, [Click here to join](#)

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.

To listen to the audio files and read the transcripts from CMS COVID-19 Stakeholder calls, visit the [CMS Podcast and Transcripts page](#).

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](#)**

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.