



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for August 12, 2020

KY COVID-19 Update from August 11, 2020

([From Governor's Press Release](#)) As of 4 p.m. Aug. 11, Gov. Beshear said there were at least 35,793 coronavirus cases in Kentucky, 562 of which were newly reported Tuesday. Eighteen of the newly reported cases were from children ages 5 and younger, including an 18-day-old from Hardin County, a 1-month-old from Rowan County and a 3-month-old from Lincoln County. Unfortunately, Gov. Beshear reported eight new deaths Tuesday, raising the total to 783 Kentuckians lost to the virus. As of Tuesday, there have been at least 711,017 coronavirus tests performed in Kentucky. The positivity rate currently stands at 5.87%. To see all recent daily reports, [click here](#).

Red Cross makes plea for more volunteers amid pandemic

(WLEX) The American Red Cross Bluegrass Chapter is always searching for volunteers, but the coronavirus pandemic has made the need even more urgent. Volunteers are needed for a range of things like casework, registration and disaster services.

Volunteers are especially needed to assist in sheltering efforts. Volunteers are needed for staffing shelter reception, registration, feeding, dormitory, information collection and more. Healthcare workers are also needed in shelters to assess people's health, including watching for COVID-19 symptoms. Specifically, the Red Cross is looking for: RN, LPN, LVN, APRN, NP, EMT, paramedic, MD/DO, or PA with an active, current, and unencumbered license.

To register or to ask questions, email kyvolunteerservices@redcross.org.

Full story: <https://www.lex18.com/news/coronavirus/local-red-cross-chapter-puts-out-call-as-urgency-for-volunteers-increases-amid-pandemic>

Texans are seeing how dangerous coronavirus can be as cases soar past 500,000

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/08/12/health/us-coronavirus-wednesday/index.html>

Dr. Fauci fears COVID-19 and the flu could be a 'difficult time'

(DailyMail) Dr. Anthony Fauci cautioned Americans that a 'difficult time' could overtake the U.S. come fall if the COVID-19 outbreak and flu season strike the country in tandem. He also called for a 'universal wearing of masks' at schools because it could slow the virus' spread and mitigate infections.

Fauci, a White House coronavirus task force member, made the concerning revelation during ABC News' World News Tonight with anchor David Muir on Monday. According to him, if Americans don't fully embrace donning masks and social distancing, they could be faced with dual outbreaks that could inundate the country.

Story link: <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8614293/Dr-Fauci-fears-convergence-COVID-19-flu-fall-difficult-time.html>

Survey finds most parents nervous to take their kids for vaccinations due to COVID-19

(Scienmag) Vaccination rates in the U.S. have plummeted amid COVID-19, something experts warn could lead to the next pandemic of dangerous and preventable childhood diseases. A new national survey by Orlando Health finds while the vast majority of parents (84%) believe vaccines are the best way to protect their children from infectious diseases, two-thirds are still nervous to take their kids to their pediatrician's office due to COVID-19. The survey also found that skepticism about vaccines is a major issue, with 38 percent of parents responding that they don't believe their child needs all the vaccines recommended by their pediatrician.

Read more: <https://scienmag.com/survey-finds-most-parents-nervous-to-take-their-kids-for-vaccinations-due-to-covid-19/>

Coronavirus may spread much farther than 6 feet in indoor spaces with poor ventilation

(CBS) As students head back to school, parents and teachers are increasingly concerned about how the [coronavirus](#) could spread — especially in buildings with inadequate ventilation. John Lednicky studies viruses at the University of Florida. "There was a lot of controversy about SARS-CoV-2 being transmitted or not being transmitted through airborne routes," Lednicky told CBS News. Analyzing air samples in a hospital room, Lednicky's team found infectious virus can spread through the air — up to 16 feet away from an infected patient — through tiny droplets called aerosols. That's important because, until recently, attention has mainly focused on respiratory spread of the virus within 6 feet.

Full story: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/coronavirus-droplets-spread-farther-six-feet-indoor-spaces-ventilation/>

'AeroNabs' Promise Powerful, Inhalable Protection Against COVID-19

(UCSF) As the world awaits vaccines to bring the COVID-19 pandemic under control, UC San Francisco scientists have devised a novel approach to halting the spread of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes the disease. Led by UCSF graduate student Michael Schoof, a team of researchers engineered a completely



synthetic, production-ready molecule that straitjackets the crucial SARS-CoV-2 machinery that allows the virus to infect our cells. As reported in a new paper, [now available on the preprint server bioRxiv](#), experiments using live virus show that the molecule is among the most potent SARS-CoV-2 antivirals yet discovered.

In an aerosol formulation they tested, dubbed "AeroNabs" by the researchers, these molecules could be self-administered with a nasal spray or inhaler. Used once a day, AeroNabs could provide powerful, reliable protection against SARS-CoV-2 until a vaccine becomes available. The research team is in active discussions with commercial partners to ramp up manufacturing and

clinical testing of AeroNabs. If these tests are successful, the scientists aim to make AeroNabs widely available as an inexpensive, over-the-counter medication to prevent and treat COVID-19.

Learn more: <https://www.ucsf.edu/news/2020/08/418241/aeronabs-promise-powerful-inhalable-protection-against-covid-19>

Running Low on New N95s?

Reach for These Alternatives — Some worked almost as well in a lab study

(MedPage Today) Expired as well as fresh N95 respirators cleaned with hydrogen peroxide solution retained over 95% of fitted filtration efficiency, a small laboratory study found. N95 respirators in the wrong size had around 90%-95% fitted filtration efficiency, while two imported respirators authorized by the CDC, but not approved by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), were much less effective, reported Emily Sickbert-Bennett, PhD, of UNC Healthcare in Chapel Hill, and colleagues writing in JAMA Internal Medicine.

Shortage of personal protective equipment during COVID-19 forced the CDC to develop "contingency and crisis strategies to provide alternatives for respirators," the authors noted. However, they added that comparative fitted filtration efficiencies, including filtering efficiency of material and fit to the face, for these respirator alternatives have yet to be quantified, and "health care facilities are faced with prioritization of their available options without clear data to guide decision-making."

Read more: <https://www.medpagetoday.com/infectiousdisease/covid19/88010>

Toyota helped Bullard, a family-owned manufacturer in Cynthia, step up PPE production to save lives

(KyForward News) Producing high-quality personal protective equipment (PPE) is a point of pride and passion to the team at Bullard – a fifth-generation, family-owned safety equipment manufacturer located in Cynthiana. Now, in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic – it's downright personal.

With demand of its healthcare-related products skyrocketing, Bullard teamed up with Toyota to increase production in warp speed. Shortages of faceshields, respirators and hoods – all critical to caring for patients with COVID-19 – led to increases in demand for Bullard's products reaching as much as 30-times normal orders. Doing nothing to meet the high demand was not an option.

Bullard doubled production capacity for respirators and significantly reduced the time from when a customer placed the order to when that order was shipped. Initial improvements cut that time in half; the addition of the automated calibration machine made deliveries 85-percent faster.

Learn more: <https://www.kyforward.com/toyota-helped-bullard-a-family-owned-manufacturer-in-cynthia-step-up-ppe-production-to-save-lives/>

Johns Hopkins: Health Security Headlines Extracts from [August 7th](#) and [August 11, 2020](#)

[Exclusive: Over 900 Health Workers Have Died of COVID-19. And the Toll Is Rising.](#) (Kaiser Health News)

More than 900 front-line health care workers have died of COVID-19, according to an interactive database unveiled Tuesday by The Guardian and KHN. Lost on the Frontline is a partnership between the two newsrooms that aims to count, verify and memorialize every U.S. health care worker who dies during the pandemic. It is the most comprehensive accounting of U.S. health care workers' deaths in the country.

[Inspired by Llamas' Unique Antibodies, Scientists Create a Potent Anti-Coronavirus Molecule](#) (STAT)

Inspired by a unique kind of infection-fighting antibody found in llamas, alpacas, and other camelids, a research team at the University of California, San Francisco, has synthesized a molecule that they say is among the most potent anti-coronavirus compounds tested in a lab to date.

[Association Between Youth Smoking, Electronic Cigarette Use, and Coronavirus Disease 2019](#) (*Journal of Adolescent Health*) COVID-19 diagnosis was five times more likely among ever-users of e-cigarettes only (95% confidence interval [CI]: 1.82–13.96), seven times more likely among ever-dual-users (95% CI: 1.98–24.55), and 6.8 times more likely among past 30-day dual-users (95% CI: 2.40–19.55).

[Trump Considers Banning US Re-entry by Citizens Who May Have Coronavirus](#) (*The New York Times*) Under the proposal, the government could block a citizen or legal resident's entry if an official "reasonably believes" the person had been exposed to or was infected with the communicable disease.

[NTI Report Looks at the Importance of Cybersecurity at Nuclear Facilities](#) (*Homeland Preparedness News*) The Nuclear Threat Initiative's NTI Index shows that only 47 percent of countries have a response plan in place for a cyberattack on a nuclear facility. Further, NTI reveals that most of those nations do not have adequate regulations for cybersecurity. The NTI Index found that only 34 percent receive a high score for cybersecurity.

[Gates Foundation Teams Up With Vaccine Maker to Produce \\$3 COVID-19 Shots](#) (*WSJ*) The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation said it is backing the world's largest vaccine maker, Serum Institute of India, to churn out 100 million doses of coronavirus vaccine for poorer countries and price them at less than \$3. The move comes as governments around the world, including the U.S. and U.K., strike vaccine production deals with the manufacturers of a handful of promising, late-stage vaccine development projects.

[Moderna Backtracks to Open Covid Vaccine Trial to Those With HIV](#) (*Bloomberg*) After pressure from advocates in recent weeks, Moderna Inc. will now allow individuals living with HIV to be part of a late-stage clinical trial of its Covid-19 vaccine candidate. Moderna had previously said it would exclude people with HIV from the trial.

Related from WSJ - [Moderna inks \\$1.5 billion coronavirus vaccine deal with U.S.](#) Moderna's vaccine uses a novel gene-based technology known as messenger RNA, which carries instructions from DNA to the body's cells to make certain proteins.

[COVID-19: Mental Health and Economic Problems Are Worse in US Than in Other Rich Nations](#) (*BMJ*) Covid-19 has caused mental health problems, economic hardship, and lack of trust in national leadership among about a third of US adults, higher rates than in nine other high income countries, a survey by the Commonwealth Fund shows. The private foundation's president, David Blumenthal, a coauthor of the report, said, "People in other countries are living a different, better, reality. Americans should realize that our country can do better, too. We can start by ensuring everyone can get and afford the healthcare they need, and by implementing public health measures such as mask wearing, social distancing, and robust testing and tracing that can help us stop covid-19, as so many others have effectively accomplished."

[CDC COVID-19 Homepage](#)
[CDC What's New](#) (Extracts)

- [Cases & Deaths by County](#) Wednesday, August 12, 2020
- [Community Mitigation \(Non-US Settings\)](#) Tuesday, August 11, 2020
- [Guidance for K-12 School Administrators on the Use of Cloth Face Coverings in Schools](#) Tuesday, August 11, 2020
- [Interim Laboratory Biosafety Guidelines for Handling and Processing Specimens Associated with Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#) Tuesday, August 11, 2020

Other Resources:

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

**Genesis HealthCare Questions Viability
\$213-M lost revenue and skyrocketing expenses**

(McKnight) Adverse effects from the coronavirus have forced [Genesis HealthCare](#) to raise "substantial doubt" about its ability to operate in the near future. Genesis said in an earnings release that — without taking into account future government funding and other mitigating plans — that it's unlikely the company will be able to "generate sufficient cash flows to meet its required financial obligations, including its rent obligations, its debt service obligations and other obligations due to third parties."

Genesis operates 500 skilled nursing centers and assisted/senior living communities in 34 states nationwide, including here in Kentucky. 241 facilities have reportedly had one or more positive cases.

Full story: <https://www.mcknights.com/news/genesis-questions-companys-viability-after-pandemic-causes-213m-in-lost-revenue-skyrocketing-expenses/>

**Don't eat that sausage and bratwurst in your freezer
before you check this USDA health alert**

(USA Today) The Department of Agriculture has issued a public health alert saying Bluegrass Provisions Co. of Crescent Springs, Kentucky, produced sausage products that may be contaminated with a disease-causing bacteria called *Listeria monocytogenes*.

The USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service did not request a recall because it is believed that the products are no longer on the market and are past their use or freeze-by dates, it said in a news release. The ready-to-eat smoked sausage products were produced on April 22 and shipped to distributors and retail locations in Kentucky, Ohio, North Carolina and Virginia.

Full story: <https://www.usatoday.com/story/money/food/2020/08/09/sausage-recall-potential-listeria-contamination-bluegrass-provisions/3330594001/>

**Look before you lock: Child safety advocates worry about hot car deaths
amid COVID-19 stress and rising temperatures**

(USA Today) In the first seven months of 2020, 14 children in the U.S. died in hot cars, according to child safety website KidsAndCars.org. That's significantly down from the record-setting years of 2018 and 2019.

Full story: <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2020/08/04/hot-car-deaths-child-safety-covid-19-stress/3296612001/>

Next Generation 911 (NG911) Roadmap Progress Report

The [NG911 Roadmap Progress Report](#), a follow-up resource to the 2019 NG911 Roadmap, tracks and shares progress made at the national level – by a variety of stakeholders – toward a nationwide NG911 system.

As 911 leaders and organizers forge ahead in creating interconnecting 911 systems, technical and nontechnical tasks need to be completed at the national level to ensure information sharing and avoid duplication of efforts.

This collaborative tool:

- Identifies primary goals and specific national-level tasks that need to be accomplished by the 911 community to achieve full migration to NG911.
- Shares the community's progress toward completing identified tasks.
- Highlights opportunities where contribution from leaders like you is still needed.

If you or your organization has made progress in any of the tasks, please let the program know by emailing nhtsa.national911@dot.gov (Source: 911.gov)

Related - 5G Telecom webinar series from InfraGard
"The Known and Unknown Perils Facing the U.S. 5G Network
and What We Can Do to Protect our Data."

Date: Aug 18, 2020

Time: 1:00 PM EDT

Please register at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5551849133054803980>

NSA offers advice on how to reduce location tracking risks

The National Security Agency (NSA) today has published guidance on how to expose as little location information as possible while using mobile and Internet of Things devices, social media and mobile apps.

As the agency explains, protecting your geolocation data can be the difference between being tracked wherever you go or knowing that your location can't be used to monitor your movements and daily routine.

Devices like smartphones and tablets use a combination of methods to determine a user's location including Global Positioning System and wireless signals such as Wi-Fi, cellular and Bluetooth.

Disabling these can drastically reduce the exposed location data by blocking devices from sharing real-time geolocation information with cellular providers or rogue bases stations when powered on or during use.

This can also prevent threat actors from determining your device's location with the help of wireless sniffers which calculate it based on signal strength. However, even if disabled, when some device radios are re-enabled they may still transmit saved location information. (Source: [Bleeping Computer](#))

Federal report highlights key ways to prevent school attacks

(AP) School officials nationwide should improve mental health resources, monitor student social media accounts and improve physical security measures, according to a Justice Department report on school safety released Tuesday.

The report, compiled by the department's School Safety Working Group, examined what the panel believes are the 10 most essential actions that officials can take to prevent mass shootings and other attacks in schools across the U.S.

School administrators around the nation are grappling with whether to resume in-person classes and restructuring to increase social distancing and other measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19. But they also must balance those changes with security measures and protocols that have been put in place in recent years to prevent violence.

Among the report's key findings is the need for a comprehensive school safety assessment, which would be updated annually and would be a foundation for educators to evaluate potential vulnerabilities. School officials often forget to address whether there's an ability to send an emergency mass notification to students and parents, as well as plans for reuniting families in case of a shooting or a lockdown, the report found. It said school officials should also address the possibility of so-called copy-cat attacks after a mass shooting or other incident at another school.

The report also highlights the importance of mental health services and employees with specialized training to deal with those experiencing a mental health crisis. The report points to the findings of the Secret Service and U.S. Department of Education that many attackers involved in mass attacks at schools had felt depressed or desperate or have experienced a history of suicidal thoughts, though many had not received a formal mental health evaluation or diagnoses. Full story: <https://apnews.com/52bcc11c943e130f77e9271516ac2c5b>

Murder Rate Has Spiked 37% Compared To Last Year in 20 Major US Cities

(IACP News) The [New York Times](#) (8/11, Eligon, Dewan, Bogel-Burroughs) reports that "across 20 major cities, the murder rate at the end of June was on average 37 percent higher than it was at the end of May, according to Richard Rosenfeld, a criminologist at the University of Missouri-St. Louis." The Times adds, "Nationally, crime remains at or near a generational low, and experts caution against drawing conclusions from just a few months. But President Trump has used the rising homicide numbers to paint Democratic-led cities as out of control and to blame protests against police brutality that broke out after the killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis in late May." The Times also reports that "in city after city, crime overall is down, including all types of major crime except murder, aggravated assault and in some places, car theft."

City Crime Stats: <https://citycrimestats.com/static/files/COVIDCrimeHighlights072320.pdf>

TSA Finds 3 Times Usual Rate of Guns at Checkpoints, Despite Drop in Air Traffic

(NPR) The number of people flying on commercial jetliners is down 75% from last summer, but the rate of those getting caught either inadvertently or deliberately trying to bring a gun on board is soaring.

Transportation Security Administration officers are finding guns in carry on bags at security checkpoints at a rate three times higher than they did last summer. And 80% of those guns are loaded.

The TSA reports that officers seized more than 300 guns from backpacks, shoulder bags, purses and other carry on baggage in July, a rate of 15.3 guns for every one million people screened. That's compared to a rate of 5.1 guns per million people screened in July of last year.

The rate is "particularly alarming, given that TSA screened about 75% fewer passengers in July 2020, over the previous year's volume," the agency said in a news release.

Story link: <https://www.npr.org/2020/08/11/901443466/tsa-finds-3-times-usual-rate-of-guns-at-checkpoints-despite-drop-in-air-traffic>

Plans For Aug 28th March On Washington Adjusted To Comply With Coronavirus Restrictions

(IACP News) The [AP](#) (8/11, Morrison, Khalil) reports that a "national commemoration of the 1963 civil rights March on Washington is being reconfigured to comply with coronavirus protocols in the District of Columbia." While "marchers will arrive via charter buses from surrounding communities on Aug. 28, the Rev. Al Sharpton, one of the organizers, will ask some to join satellite marches planned in states that are considered hot spots for COVID-19." Sharpton said, "We're following protocol. ... The objective is not how many thousands of people will be (in Washington). It'll still be a good crowd." The commemoration "will begin with a rally at the Lincoln Memorial" after which "participants in Washington will march to the Martin Luther King, Jr. memorial in West Potomac Park, next to the National Mall, and then disperse." According to Sharpton, participants will be required to wear masks.

Rare "boomerang" earthquake detected under the Atlantic for first time

(CBS) For years, scientists have been attempting to track an extremely rare "boomerang" earthquake. Now, they've recorded one in the ocean for the first time — and it's even more bizarre than they expected.

Earthquakes are the result of rocks breaking on a fault, which is a boundary between two plates. A "boomerang" earthquake, also known as a "back-propagating supershear rupture," means the fracture travels away from the initial crack before returning to it at even faster speeds, scientists said.

Researchers said the quake traveled in one direction between the South American and African tectonic plates, then boomeranged back to the start at ultra-fast speeds — breaking the "seismic sound barrier" — a sonic boom of sorts.

Learn more: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/rare-boomerang-earthquake-detected-atlantic-ocean/>

InfraGard Webinar
"Current State of Civil Unrest"
Thursday, August 20, 11 AM ET/10 AM CT

Register: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3750443367065719051>

Webinar: Mass Violence and Terrorism Volunteer Management

Join the Department of Justice's Office for Victims of Crime webinar Mass Violence and Terrorism Volunteer Management for an in-depth look at the Volunteer Management victim assistance protocol. This webinar is part of the [Terrorism: Planning, Response, Recovery, and Resources Toolkit](#) web training series. Next offering: [Monday, August 17, 2020, from 1-2:30 p.m. Eastern.](#)

Volunteers play a key role in communities in the aftermath of crises, disasters, emergencies and incidents of mass violence. Many government, nongovernmental, nonprofit, faith-based and philanthropic agencies and organizations rely on volunteers to supplement their existing staff to increase their capacity to respond.

Engaging volunteers in mass violence incident response enhances your ability to serve the needs of victims, survivors and the community. Learn:

- Factors related to using volunteers in disaster response.
- The importance of recruiting, vetting, training and managing volunteers.
- Ways volunteers can address the needs of survivors, families and responders.
- The process of coordinating response agencies and volunteers.

This webinar is part of the [Terrorism: Planning, Response, Recovery, and Resources Toolkit](#) training series. (Source: [DOJ OVC](#))

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.