



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for September 7, 2020

Kentucky COVID-19 Update

([From Press Release](#)) – Gov. Andy Beshear on Sunday updated Kentuckians on the state’s continuing efforts to fight the novel coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19). “This week we recorded 4,742 new coronavirus cases. Last week we had 4,503. That means we’ve set a record for the number of weekly new cases for the second consecutive week. We’re facing the challenge of our lifetimes and we must do better”, he said.

As of 2 p.m. Sept. 6, Gov. Beshear announced at least 52,774 cases in the commonwealth, 313 of which were newly reported Sunday. Forty-three of the newly reported cases were from children age 18 and younger, of which two were ages 5 and under. The youngest was just 27 days old. The Governor announced three more deaths on Sunday, bringing the death total to 996.

KY COVID-19 Info: <https://govstatus.egov.com/kycovid19>

Fauci Issues Warning to 7 States

Several of KY’s border state’s included!

(Newser) Anthony Fauci has a message for the Midwest: Please be careful. America's top infectious disease expert says seven states with rising COVID-19 rates should take extra care this Labor Day weekend to avoid trouble in the fall, the [New York Post](#) reports. "There are several states that are at risk for surging, namely North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, Arkansas, Missouri, Indiana, Illinois," Fauci told [Bloomberg](#) this week. "Those states are starting to see an increase in the percent positive of their testing; that is generally predictive that there's going to be a problem." Among the seven states, Illinois has the highest official coronavirus tally with at least 241,704 cases, [Newsweek](#) reported Friday.

Read more: <https://www.newser.com/story/295868/fauci-issues-warning-to-7-states.html>

Related - The Labor Day gatherings health experts warned against are popping up all over the U.S

(CNN) Labor Day weekend celebrations are in full swing -- and many include the large crowds of people health experts feared would form.

[Covid-19](#) doesn't have to stop Labor Day celebrations, health experts said this week. But with [more than 6.2 million Americans](#) infected with the virus and a death toll of 188,538 from the disease, according to data from [Johns Hopkins University](#), the festivities should look a lot different this year. To avoid outbreaks, experts including Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, said people should continue to keep distance, wear masks and avoid groups as they enjoy the weekend.

"We don't want to see a repeat of the surges that we have seen following other holiday weekends," Fauci said, referring to the outbreaks that followed Memorial Day and the Fourth of July. "We don't want to see a surge under any circumstances, but particularly as we go on the other side of Labor Day and enter into the fall."

(Learn more: <https://www.cnn.com/2020/09/06/health/us-coronavirus-sunday/index.html>)

Two-thirds of Americans say they won't get a coronavirus vaccine

- A new poll about coronavirus vaccines shows that two-thirds of Americans aren't willing to get a COVID-19 vaccine.
- A quarter of those interviewed says they won't ever get the vaccine, while 44% of them said they'd rather wait and see how the initial round of immunization goes.
- The recent controversies about vaccine emergency use abroad and in the US might explain why some people might be more reticent than before to these potentially life-saving drugs.

Learn more; <https://bgr.com/2020/09/05/coronavirus-vaccine-update-poll-resistance/>

COVID Model Has a Frightening Projection

It sees 410K deaths in US by Jan. 1, even more if we move more toward herd immunity

Learn more: <http://newser.com/s295802>

For COVID-19 Survivors, Virus Test 1 Month Out May Be Needed

<https://news360.com/article/537052843>

CDC Refutes Social Media Rumors That COVID Death Data Is Inaccurate

(MedicineNet) Rumors suggesting that [COVID-19](#) deaths in the United States are much lower than reported are due to people misinterpreting standard death certificate language, a Centers for Disease Control and [Prevention](#) official says. Social media conspiracy theories claiming that only a small percentage of people reported to have died from [COVID-19](#) actually died from the disease have cited death certificates that list other underlying causes, *CNN* reported. But that doesn't mean the patients did not die from [COVID-19](#), said Bob Anderson, chief of mortality statistics at the CDC.

"In 94% of deaths with [COVID-19](#), other conditions are listed in addition to [COVID-19](#). These causes may include chronic conditions like [diabetes](#) or [hypertension](#)," Anderson explained in a statement, *CNN* reported. "In 6% of the death certificates that list [COVID-19](#), only one cause or condition is listed," he noted.

"The underlying cause of death is the condition that began the chain of events that ultimately led to the person's death. In 92% of all deaths that mention COVID-19, COVID-19 is listed as the underlying cause of death."

Read more: <https://www.medicinenet.com/script/main/art.asp?articlekey=246084>

Study finds using electronic cigarettes can lead to 'substantially increased risk' for teens and young adults of developing covid-19

(KY Health News) Electronic cigarettes are linked to a "substantially increased risk" of covid-19 among teens and young adults, a new study says.

"This study tells us pretty clearly that youth who are using vapes or are dual-using [e-cigarettes and cigarettes] are at elevated risk, and it's not just a small increase in risk; it's a big one," the lead researcher, Dr. Shivani Mathur Gaiha, a postdoctoral researcher at **Stanford University**, said in a [news release](#).

The study, published in the *Journal of Adolescent Health*, found that people from 13 to 24 who use e-cigarettes have a "substantially increased" risk of becoming infected with the coronavirus and exhibiting symptoms of covid-19, such as coughing, fever, tiredness, and difficulty breathing.

The researchers found that among young people who were tested for the coronavirus, those who used e-cigarettes were five to seven times more likely to be infected than those who did not.

In Kentucky, 26.1 percent of high-school students use e-cigarettes frequently (on 20 or more of the 30 days before the survey) and 8.7% use e-cigs daily, according to the 2019 Youth Risk Behavior Survey.

Flame Meets Hand Sanitizer, Sending Woman to ICU

(Newser) Not only should you [not consume hand sanitizer](#), you should avoid open flames immediately after putting some on your hands—as a Texas woman learned the hard way. Kate Wise of Round Rock is recovering in the ICU after suffering burns to her entire body. She says she was trying to light sage after using hand sanitizer on Sunday when the flame "lit my whole hand on fire," per [CBS Austin](#). That was just the start. Wise believes the flame then spread to a nearby bottle of rubbing alcohol, which exploded. "It obviously went all over my face. In a matter of, like, five seconds, my whole body was just consumed in flames," she tells [KHOU](#). Wise was able to rip off her burning clothes and get herself, her disabled daughter, and her pets outside.

Learn more: <https://www.newser.com/story/295800/flame-meets-hand-sanitizer-sending-woman-to-icu.html>

A U.S. Pandemic of Depression, Too? Rates Are Triple Pre-COVID Levels

<https://news360.com/article/536968565>

Cyberbullying Could Rise During Lockdown, But Parents Can Stop It

<https://news360.com/article/536968535>

FBI: "Suspicious" Package Mailed To COVID-19 Researchers

After COVID-19 researchers on the East Coast received a package containing an "unknown substance," the University of Washington told 500 of its staff to be on alert.

Learn more: <https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/kenbensinger/suspicious-package-covid-19-researchers-fbi>

Speeding Begun in Pandemic Traffic Hasn't Ended Yet

(Newser) Some drivers took advantage of roads and highways emptied by the coronavirus pandemic by pushing well past the speed limit, a trend that continues even as states try to get back to normal. The Iowa State Patrol recorded a 101% increase from January through August over the four-year average in tickets for speeds exceeding 100mph, along with a 75% increase in tickets for speeds of 25mph or more over the posted speed limit. California Highway Patrol officers issued more than 15,000 tickets from mid-March through Aug. 19 for speeds exceeding 100mph, the [AP](#) reports, more than a 100% increase over the same time period a year ago.

That includes a continuing spike from May on. The most likely explanation is drivers taking advantage of more open roads because of the pandemic, said a spokesman for the California agency.

Read more: <https://www.newser.com/story/295859/speeding-begun-in-pandemic-traffic-hasnt-ended-yet.html>

Could You Save a Life After Mass Violence?



(MedicineNet) Most Americans aren't confident that they could provide lifesaving help after mass violence or other emergencies, a nationwide poll shows.

While most respondents felt they could call 911 and about half said they could provide information to first responders, far fewer said they could do much more. Only 42% were confident they could provide [first aid](#) and 41% said they could apply a tourniquet to stop bleeding. Learn more: <https://www.medicinenet.com/script/main/art.asp?articlekey=246095>

Helicopters Pull 200 From California Wildfire

(Newser) More than 200 people were airlifted to safety after a fast-moving wildfire trapped them in a popular camping area in California's Sierra National Forest. The California Office of Emergency Services said Black Hawk and Chinook helicopters were used for the rescues that began late Saturday and continued through the overnight. At least two people were severely injured and 10 more suffered moderate injuries, the [AP](#) reports.

Read more: <https://www.newser.com/story/295860/helicopters-pull-200-from-wildfire.html>

Related - 'A risk to firefighters':

Administration's drone ban makes it harder to stop wildfires

(The Guardian) As wildfires grow in size and frequency, more resources are needed to keep them in check. But experts say a [Trump administration](#) directive halting the purchase of new drones jeopardizes the rise of cutting-edge technology, curtailing the ability to manage wildfires and potentially putting more lives in danger.

In October 2019, the US Department of the Interior [grounded its fleet](#) of more than 800 drones and put a freeze on buying new ones due to concerns of Chinese spying. Many of the devices were used in wildfire fighting and prevention, including starting prescribed burns, a key tool [in controlling wildfire](#). The interior department carries out more than 10,000 drone flights a year on average, according to federal documents.

This year, a shortage of drones has made it more difficult to contain fires raging across the western United States, insiders at the interior department said in an internal memo obtained by [the Financial Times](#).

Read more: https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2020/sep/06/wildfires-trump-ban-chinese-drones?CMP=oth_b-aplnews_d-1

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.