



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update - 1 for September 9, 2020

Kentucky Crosses 1,000 Deaths

This afternoon, Governor Andy Beshear reported that Kentucky has crossed the 1,000 lives lost to the coronavirus (actual number is 1,004). There were 667 new cases, with a total of 53,977. 558 hospitalized, with 76 on ventilators. The positivity rate today continues at under 4%, at 3.84%,

There will a change in the schedule of events on Thursday with a special service to be held in the morning within the capitol rotunda that will be streamed live, and at 5:30 PM the Governor will have an address to the state rather than an update briefing.

Fayette County Public Schools encourages teachers, families to monitor students' state of mind

(KyForward News) Given the pressures of the COVID-19 pandemic and distance learning, Fayette County Public Schools encourages staff and families to be especially aware of their students' state of mind.

"There's an added concern. One, the stress of having to manage school in a different way," said Shericka Smith, district coordinator of Extended School Services, Social Work, and Mental Health Services. "But also, our students are forced to be isolated and not have social interaction with peers and teachers, and they don't have access to a mental health professional or counselor as soon as they would in school.

"Even though we're virtual, there are still resources available," she noted. "We're still in the schools every day, and we're still working to protect and monitor as best we can."

Fortunately, FCPS jump-starts the school year each fall with informative lessons that cover the warning signs of suicide and tell students in grades 6-12 how to get help. "We really stress to the students, even if you're not feeling this way, you may know of a peer who is," Smith said. With the district using Non-Traditional Instruction (NTI), the staff is disseminating these resources online by mid-September, which coincides with ***national Suicide Prevention Week (Sept. 6-12)***.

- 24/7 Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 800-273-TALK (8255)

- *In Spanish: 888-328-9454*

- Crisis Text Line: Text HOME to 741741

About National Suicide Prevention Month

- **September is National Suicide Prevention Month.** All month, mental health advocates, prevention organizations, survivors, allies, and community members unite to promote suicide prevention awareness.
- **National Suicide Prevention Week** is the Monday through Sunday surrounding World Suicide Prevention Day. It's a time to share resources and stories, as well as promote suicide prevention awareness.
- **World Suicide Prevention Day is September 10.** It's a time to remember those affected by suicide, to raise awareness, and to focus efforts on directing treatment to those who need it most.

More resources and Info: <https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/promote-national-suicide-prevention-month/>

Virus death rate 5 times higher in prisons than state as a whole, even higher when adjusted for age, sex and race; both 3rd in U.S.

(KY Health News) Kentucky prisons have the third highest covid-19 death rate compared to death rates for the disease among the state's whole population, even after rates are adjusted for the sex, age, race and ethnicity of inmates, says a **study** from the **National Commission on Covid-19 and Criminal Justice**.

As of mid-August, the report found Kentucky's prisons' covid-19 death rate was five times the state's overall, unadjusted death rate from the disease: 89.5 deaths per 100,000 prisoners, compared to 18.1 deaths per 100,000 residents.

After adjusting for inmates' demographic characteristics, the prisons' covid-19 death rate was 13.8 times higher than the overall death rate for the disease in Kentucky.

In coronavirus cases, Kentucky's prisons ranked eighth in the nation, with a case rate 7.9% higher than the state as a whole. The researchers were not able to make demographic adjustments in case figures due to a lack of available data. Kentucky reports demographics of cases, but many states do not.

As of Sept. 8, the **Kentucky Department of Corrections** reported 888 inmates and 151 staff had tested positive for the coronavirus. Of those, 786 inmates and 144 staff had recovered. The [online report](#) says there

has been one staff death and 13 inmate deaths from the virus. The report shows 11 prison deaths and 851 prison cases in Kentucky as of Aug. 19. <Click the headline above to read more.>

Johns Hopkins: Health Security Headlines
Extracts from [September 9, 2020](#)

[Comparison of Clinical Features of COVID-19 vs Seasonal Influenza A and B in US Children](#) (*JAMA Network Open*) In this cohort study of US children with COVID-19 or seasonal influenza, there was no difference in hospitalization rates, intensive care unit admission rates, and mechanical ventilator use between the 2 groups. More patients hospitalized with COVID-19 than with seasonal influenza reported clinical symptoms at the time of diagnosis.

See Also: **[Kids with COVID-19, Flu Equally Prone to Severe Illness](#)** (*CIDRAP*)

[Why COVID-19 Is More Deadly in People with Obesity—Even if They're Young](#) (*Science*) A constellation of physiological and social factors drives those grim numbers. The biology of obesity includes impaired immunity, chronic inflammation, and blood that's prone to clot, all of which can worsen COVID-19. And because obesity is so stigmatized, people with obesity may avoid medical care.

[Coronavirus Cases Spike Among School-age Children in Florida, While State Orders Some Counties to Keep Data Hidden](#) (*Washington Post*) A month into the forced reopening of Florida's schools, dozens of classrooms — along with some entire schools — have been temporarily shuttered because of coronavirus outbreaks, and infections among school-age children have jumped 34 percent. But parents in many parts of the state don't know if outbreaks of the virus are related to their own schools because the state ordered some counties to keep health data secret.

[U.S. Needs 193 Million Covid-19 Tests Per Month to Reopen Schools and Keep Up With Pandemic, New Report Says](#) (*STAT*) The U.S. may need up to 193 million coronavirus tests each month in order to safely reopen schools and fortify nursing homes, according to a new report published Wednesday. Current testing capacity in the U.S. is about 21 million tests per month, according to the Covid Tracking Project.

[The Coronavirus is Mutating — Does it Matter?](#) (*Nature*) Researchers still have more questions than answers about coronavirus mutations, and no one has yet found any change in SARS-CoV-2 that should raise public-health concerns, Sheahan, Grubaugh and others say. But studying mutations in detail could be important for controlling the pandemic. It might also help to pre-empt the most worrying of mutations: those that could help the virus to evade immune systems, vaccines or antibody therapies.

[DARPA Deploys Automated Radiation Detection System to Port Authority of New York and New Jersey](#) (*Homeland Preparedness News*) **[After five years of development, the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency](#)** (DARPA) has greenlit an automated, networked radiation detection system known as SIGMA for use by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, promising new protections for the region.

CDC Clinician Call – [Telehealth & Health Equity](#)
September 15, 2-3 PM ET

ZOOM Link: <https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1602147588>

More info: https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2020/callinfo_091520.asp?deliveryName=USCDC_1052-DM37515

CDC Clinician's Call – [Testing & Treatment of Seasonal Flu during COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

September 17, 2-3 PM ET

ZOOM Link: <https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1604984692>

2020 Virtual KY Healthcare Coalition Conference
October 20-22

[Agenda](#)

[Register Today](#)

[Sponsor/ Exhibit Opportunities](#)

Questions: info@kshe.org

The KHEREF 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 KHEREF are supported by US DHHS ASPR HPP funds through a contract with Kentucky Public Health.