



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for November 14, 2020

Kentucky Breaks Another COVID-19 Record

(From [Press Release](#)) Today, Gov. Andy Beshear reported the state's highest number of COVID-19 cases yet again with the test positivity rate reaching almost 9% as the commonwealth's alarming spread of the coronavirus continues with more than 11,500 cases and 68 deaths in the last four days alone.

"If we don't grab ahold of those [red zone county reduction recommendations](#), if we don't see those steps being done and ultimately see those numbers coming down, we are going to have no choice but to take additional steps as we move forward," Gov. Beshear said. "Please take this seriously. You are either a part of the solution fighting the good fight to help other people or you're helping to spread this virus."

The Governor said Saturday was again worse than previous days, with 419 children alone testing positive and COVID-19 in every part of the commonwealth.

"So please, do your part. Do your civic duty. Wear your mask. There is so much suffering out there right now," Gov. Beshear said. "If we're not careful, it's going to get even worse than this, which is almost unimaginable compared to where we were months ago."

As of 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 14, Gov. Beshear reported the following COVID-19 numbers:

- New cases today: 3,303
- New deaths today: 11
- Positivity rate: 8.95%
- Total deaths: 1,658
- Currently hospitalized: 1,378
- Currently in ICU: 308
- Currently on ventilator: 167

Physician predicts spike in US Covid-19 cases after Thanksgiving

(CNN) US [coronavirus cases](#) will spike after Thanksgiving, further stressing health care systems and prompting new restrictions, an emergency physician said Saturday.

Meanwhile, states continue to report soaring numbers of new cases, hospitalizations and deaths, and several governors have already announced measures to try to gain control before winter.

Dr. James Phillips, chief of disaster medicine at George Washington University Hospital, told CNN's Erica Hill he is "terrified" about what's going to happen this holiday season.

"We're going to see an unprecedented surge of cases following Thanksgiving this year, and if people don't learn from Thanksgiving, we're going to see it after Christmas as well," Phillips said.

Already, [grim indicators offer a glimpse](#) of what's to come. A little more than a week after the US first topped 100,000 daily infections, it reported a record of more than 184,000 new cases Friday. Hospitalizations also hit a new high -- for the fourth consecutive day -- with more than 68,500 Covid-19 patients nationwide, according to the [COVID Tracking Project](#). And the country's death toll has topped 1,300 at least three times this week.

Learn more: <https://www.cnn.com/2020/11/14/health/us-coronavirus-saturday/index.html>

Covid-19 death toll could double this winter to 439,000, new model projects

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/researchers-covid-19-death-toll-could-double-winter-world-war-n1247726>

More than 130 Secret Service members are in quarantine This 'Does Not Bode Well for White House Security'

(Newser) More than 130 Secret Service members are in quarantine following positive coronavirus tests or contact with a colleague who tested positive, sources tell the [Washington Post](#). In other words, the virus "has sidelined roughly 10% of the agency's core security team." About 1,300 officers guard the White House and vice president's residence and provide security on presidential trips as part of the Secret Service's Uniformed Division. "Being down more than 100 officers ... does not bode well for White House security," a former senior Secret Service supervisor tells the *Post*, which adds that the cases are believed to be at least partly linked to the president's campaign rallies before Election Day.

Read more: <https://www.newser.com/story/298737/this-does-not-bode-well-for-white-house-security.html>

AHA releases new resources for Wear A Mask, United Against the Flu campaigns.

(From [AHA Today](#)) To continue amplifying the important message of protecting against both COVID-19 and the flu, AHA's Wear A Mask and United Against the Flu campaigns released [new resources](#), including new sample social media messages and graphics that hospitals and health systems can use to reiterate the importance of getting a flu shot, wearing a mask and practicing good hygiene.

Visit AHA's [Wear A Mask webpage](#) for a complete suite of resources that you can customize and use in your own communities.

Asteroid's Odds of Hitting Earth Just Improved

(Newser) In nine years, a big asteroid will come close enough to Earth that it will be visible with the naked eye. In 2036, Apophis will make a return trip, and Earthlings will again be safe. The year 2068, however, might be a different story. Scientists just made some new calculations and concluded that they can't rule out a collision with Earth, reports [LiveScience](#). An impact remains unlikely, but that year is no longer in the *definitely* safe category. A post at [Phys.org](#) explains that astronomers factored in something called the Yarkovsky effect, which happens when the sun hits one side of an asteroid. "As the heat radiates away from the asteroid, a small amount of energy pushes back against the asteroid, forcing it to turn slightly," reads the post.

Read more: <https://www.newser.com/story/298639/asteroids-odds-of-hitting-earth-just-improved.html>

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.