



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for March 22, 2021

Gov. Beshear: Positivity Rate Declines Again as Vaccinations Increase

Governor also updates Kentuckians on declining COVID-19 cases, deaths in the state's long-term care facilities

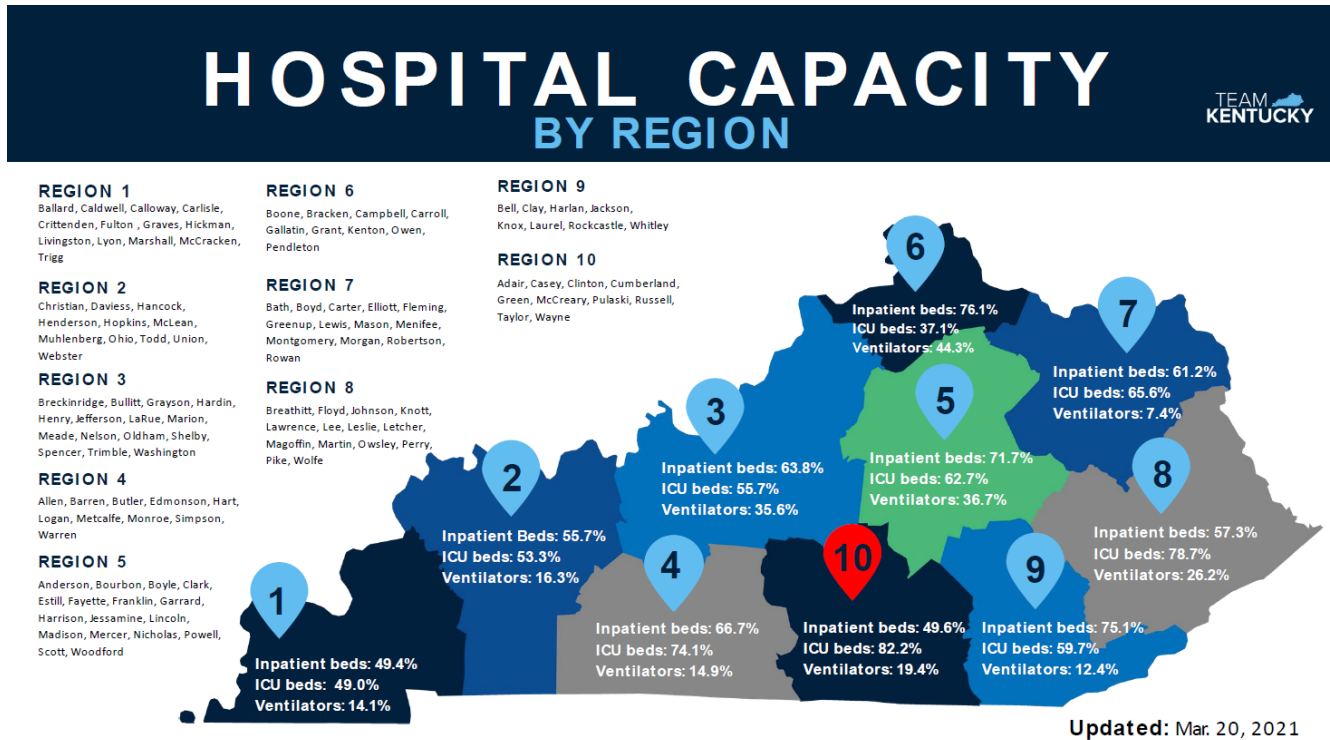
(From [press release](#)) On Monday, Gov. Andy Beshear announced the state's lowest positivity rate since July 3, 2020, and updated Kentuckians on COVID-19 vaccinations. More than 1,186,000 Kentuckians have been vaccinated already.

"Our long-term care facilities and our skilled nursing homes were some of the hardest-hit communities during this pandemic, not only with cases and deaths, but with the separation from loved ones for over a year," said Gov. Beshear. "The vaccine has changed everything for long-term care, but this progress depends on us. As these facilities reopen their doors, they need us, everybody else in Kentucky, to sign up for the vaccine."

As of 4 PM today there were 294 new cases reported, with a positivity rate of 2.93% There were 11 new deaths today, with 50 new audit deaths (for a total of 5,799).

Gov. Beshear also signed [House Bill 95](#) (HB 95), protecting the health and lives of Kentuckians with diabetes by capping the cost of insulin at \$30 per 30-day supply for those with state-regulated health care plans or plans purchased on the marketplace exchange, state employees and people under group plans. Before it was sent to the Governor's desk, HB 95 passed the Kentucky House of Representatives and Kentucky Senate without a single negative vote.

To view the [full daily report](#), [incidence rate map](#), information on [testing locations](#), [vaccines](#), [contact tracing](#), [school reports and guidance](#), [guidance for health care providers](#) and the White House Coronavirus Task Force reports for Kentucky and more, visit kycovid19.ky.gov.



CDC director warns coronavirus variants could spark another avoidable surge

(CNN) Dr. Rochelle Walensky, director of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, said Monday that she's worried the United States could see "another avoidable surge" of Covid-19 if mitigation measures — such as mask-wearing, physical distancing and avoiding crowds or travel — are not followed.

Full story: <https://www.cnn.com/2021/03/22/health/us-coronavirus-monday/index.html>

[Related CIDRAP story - COVID cases up slightly as spring break threatens progress](#)

AstraZeneca: US Data shows vaccine effective for all ages

Scientists say it offers strong protection from disease, 100% protection on hospitalization, death

(Newser/AP) March 22 - AstraZeneca's COVID-19 vaccine provided strong protection against disease and complete protection against hospitalization and death across all age groups in a late-stage U.S. study, the company announced Monday.

AstraZeneca said its experts also identified no safety concerns related to the vaccine, including a rare blood clot that was identified in Europe. Scientists found no increased risk of clots among the more than 20,000 people who got at least one dose of the AstraZeneca shot.

Although AstraZeneca's vaccine has been authorized in more than 50 countries, it has not yet been given the green light in the U.S. The U.S. study comprised more than 30,000 volunteers, of whom two-thirds were given the vaccine while the rest got dummy shots.

In a statement, AstraZeneca said its COVID-19 vaccine had a 79% efficacy rate at preventing symptomatic COVID and was 100% effective in stopping severe disease and hospitalization. Investigators said the vaccine was effective across all ages, including older people — which previous studies in other countries had failed to establish.

The early findings from the U.S. study are just one set of information AstraZeneca must submit to the Food and Drug Administration. An FDA advisory committee will publicly debate the evidence behind the shots before the agency decides whether to allow emergency use of the vaccine.

Read more: <https://www.newser.com/article/3496bc0acaffd9764c561a1f8539eed9/astrazeneca-us-data-shows-vaccine-effective-for-all-ages.html>

If you need a sweet incentive to get the shot...

Krispy Kreme offers free glazed donut to those who show COVID vaccine card

(NBC) Starting Monday, Krispy Kreme is offering customers an extra incentive to get vaccinated — a free Original Glazed doughnut to those who present their vaccine card at any Krispy Kreme store in the U.S. And it isn't just a one-time offer — those with vaccine cards can return every single day for free donuts through the end of 2021.

Read more: <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/krispy-kreme-offers-free-glazed-donut-those-who-show-covid-n1261768>

Johns Hopkins: Health Security Headlines from [March 22, 2021](#)

[Covid-19: Eight in 10 Wuhan Residents with Antibodies Had No Symptoms, Finds Study](#) (BMJ) More than three quarters of Wuhan residents who tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 antibodies had experienced no covid-19 symptoms and just under half developed long lasting neutralising antibodies, show results from the first long term seroprevalence study from the epicentre of the outbreak in China.

[Covid-19: Stronger Warnings Are Needed to Curb Socialising After Vaccination, Say Doctors and Behavioural Scientists](#) (BMJ)

[US Hospital Capacity Managers' Experiences and Concerns Regarding Preparedness for Seasonal Influenza and Influenza-like Illness](#) (JAMA Network Open)

6 Months of Summer? Researchers See Possibility

<http://newser.com/s303960>

SBA disaster loans available to homeowners

SBA loans are available to qualifying homeowners, renters and private nonprofit business organizations as well. That's one of the messages the SBA wants to get to local residents as the SBA works with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, also known as FEMA, to try and get disaster relief to those with damages or other losses related to the February winter storms. [<Read More >](#)

To make the flooding worse, Spiders and snakes swarm Australian homes as they flee record flooding

Learn and see more: <https://www.cnn.com/2021/03/22/australia/spider-exodus-australia-scli-intl/index.html>

See YouTube video: [Swarms of Millions of Spiders Flee Australia Floods](#)

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 Preparedness@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.

NATIONAL POISON PREVENTION WEEK

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!



MON, MARCH 22

AAPCC & Safe Kids
Partner Chat

Times:

1:00 PM ET,
12:00 PM CT,
10:00 AM PT

Target Audience:

All Ages

TUES, MARCH 23

Virtual Storytime &
Tox Tales

Times:

1:00 PM ET,
12:00 PM CT,
10:00 AM PT

Target Audience:

Elementary Schoolers

WED, MARCH 24

Toxic Trivia
Kahoot! Game

Times:

1:00 PM ET,
12:00 PM CT,
10:00 AM PT

Target Audience:

Teens

THURS, MARCH 25

Tox Talk: When
Life Happens...

Times:

1:00 PM ET,
12:00 PM CT,
10:00 AM PT

Target Audience:

Adults

THURS, MARCH 25

Virtual Escape
Room

Times:

Available to play
any time after:
1:00 PM ET,
12:00 PM CT,
10:00 AM PT

Target Audience:

Teens & Adults



Visit www.facebook.com/aapcc to watch
all live and recorded events



