



# Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for June 3, 2021

## Kentucky COVID Update for June 3rd

(KY [Daily Report](#)) There were 429 new cases reported today, with 65 in the 18 or under classification. The positivity rate was 2.5%. Region 10 was the only area which had ICU capacity in use at 88.89%. There were 65 new deaths recorded.

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### Fauci says he's cautiously optimistic

#### US will be able to vaccinate children under 12 by Thanksgiving

(CNN) Dr. Anthony Fauci is "cautiously optimistic" that children younger than 12 will be eligible to get a Covid-19 vaccine by Thanksgiving, he said on CNN's "New Day" on Thursday.

"We are now doing studies that are ongoing as we're speaking, studies that are looking at what we call age de-escalation, children from 12 to 9 and then 9 to 6 and then 6 to 2 and then 6 months to 2 years," Fauci, the director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, told CNN's John Berman.

"We hope that as we approach the end of this calendar year, we'll have enough information to vaccinate children of any age," he said. "So, I'm cautiously optimistic we might be there by the end of the year."

The Pfizer-BioNTech Covid-19 vaccine is available for children age 12 and up, but those younger are not currently eligible to get vaccinated. Children under 12 are [far less likely to have severe cases](#) of Covid-19, but they can still get infected and spread it to others.

Vaccinating school-aged children is a key part of a safe return to normalcy for the education system. The CDC has advised [schools to prioritize universal mask use](#), but it has also said vaccinated people have such strong protection that [they do not need to wear masks in most situations](#).

In comments to [NBC Nightly News](#) on Wednesday, Fauci said if some communities continue to see high levels of infections, children under 12 will likely still have to wear masks when school returns.

Read more: <https://www.cbs58.com/news/dr-fauci-says-hes-cautiously-optimistic-us-will-be-able-to-vaccinate-children-under-12-by-thanksgiving>

### CIDRAP: [Dental workers found to be at increased COVID-19 risk](#)

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#### More evidence of frequent antibiotic use noted in COVID patients

(CIDRAP) Research published yesterday in *The Lancet Microbe* shows that COVID-19 patients in the United Kingdom in the first wave of the pandemic rarely had bacterial co-infections or secondary infections, yet frequently received antibiotics.

The [study](#) by a team of UK researchers looked at data from more than 48,000 COVID-19 patients treated at 260 hospitals in England, Scotland, and Wales from Feb 6 through Jun 8, 2020, and found that only 13% had bacterial co-infections or secondary infections. But 85% received one or more antibiotics during their hospital stay, with broad-spectrum antibiotics used frequently, and more than a third received antibiotics for their illness before being hospitalized.

Full story: <https://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2021/06/more-evidence-frequent-antibiotic-use-noted-covid-patients>

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### US to send 80-M COVID vaccine doses to other nations

(UPI) The White House announced Thursday that the U.S. government will send at least 80 million [COVID-19](#) vaccine doses to needy countries overseas by the end of this month, following up on a pledge President [Joe Biden](#) made to help last month.

Officials said 19 million doses will go to the international COVAX initiative, which works to provide struggling nations with supplies of coronavirus vaccine. COVAX will receive about 75% of the United States' unused doses, they said.

Learn more: [https://www.upi.com/Top\\_News/US/2021/06/03/joe-biden-covid-vaccine-overseas/4821622736019/](https://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2021/06/03/joe-biden-covid-vaccine-overseas/4821622736019/)

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### Johns Hopkins: Health Security Headlines Extracts from [June 2nd](#) & [June 3, 2021](#)

[U.S. Nursing Home Deaths Drop Sharply](#) (*New York Times*) Nearly a year ago, more than 43 percent of coronavirus deaths in the United States were tied to long-term-care facilities. Now, the deaths of people connected to such facilities has dropped to 31 percent, according to a New York Times database, revealing an improving picture for the oldest Americans. Since vaccines have arrived, deaths in nursing homes, in particular,

have fallen significantly. According to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, nursing homes across the United States reported more than 5,000 deaths per week from early December through mid-January. Since late March, the homes have reported fewer than 300 deaths a week.

**Vietnam Virus Mutation Not a New Variant, WHO Says** (*Washington Post*) The World Health Organization's representative in Vietnam said the coronavirus mutation first detected there does not meet the global health body's definition of a new variant, although it is still very transmissible and dangerous. "There is no new hybrid variant in Vietnam at this moment based on WHO definition," Kidong Park told Nikkei Asia. Instead, what Vietnamese officials found was a mutation of a variant first detected in India, he said, referring to the B.1.617.2 variant that the WHO now calls Delta. Hanoi said Saturday that, using genetic sequencing, it has found a highly infectious new variant that combines characteristics of variants previously detected in Britain and India. Health Minister Nguyen Thanh Long told reporters that the new variant was particularly contagious via air, while viral cultures revealed it replicates extremely quickly.

**Israel Sees Probable Link Between Pfizer Vaccine and Myocarditis Cases** (*Reuters*) Israel's Health Ministry said on Tuesday it had found the small number of heart inflammation cases observed mainly in young men who received Pfizer's (PFE.N) COVID-19 vaccine in Israel were likely linked to their vaccination. Pfizer said in a statement that it was aware of the Israeli observations of myocarditis and said no causal link to its vaccine had been established.

**The UK Has a Plan for a New 'Pandemic Radar' System** (*Wired*) As it happens, an effort to repair disease detection was announced just one day after that paper appeared online. On May 21, United Kingdom prime minister Boris Johnson said his government will create a new "global pandemic radar" to track Covid variants and emerging diseases, built on the UK's known expertise in genomic sequencing for tracking Covid strains within its borders. "We need to build a system of disease surveillance fit for the 21st century, with real-time data sharing and rapid genomic sequencing and response," Johnson said at the time.

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**Average daily pace of newly administered Covid-19 vaccines falls below 1 million**

CNN story link: <https://www.cnn.com/2021/06/03/health/us-coronavirus-thursday/index.html>

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**VA watchdog: Drunk pathologist misdiagnosed thousands of veterans**

(UPI) A pathologist at a Veterans Affairs hospital in Arkansas misdiagnosed thousands of veterans resulting in "devastating, tragic and deadly" consequences, according to a report released Wednesday.

The [report](#) by the VA's Office of Inspector General found that former pathologist Robert Levy routinely worked while under the influence of alcohol, and leadership at Veterans Health Care System of the Ozarks in Fayetteville, Ark., failed to promote "a culture of accountability" at the facility.

Full UPI story: [https://www.upi.com/Top\\_News/US/2021/06/02/Veterans-Affairs-drunk-pathologist-Robert-Levy-misdiagnosed-thousands-veterans-Arkansas-facility/6621622672555/](https://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2021/06/02/Veterans-Affairs-drunk-pathologist-Robert-Levy-misdiagnosed-thousands-veterans-Arkansas-facility/6621622672555/)

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**Save-the-Date: 2021 Kentucky Harm Reduction Summit**

(KDPH) Please reserve **August 11-12, 2021** for the **2021 Kentucky Harm Reduction Summit** that will be held virtually via Zoom from 9:00 A.M. – 3:30 P.M. (EDT) each day, with an hour for lunch, networking, and exhibitor sessions. The two-day agenda will include:

- ✓ National, State, Regional and Local Guest Speakers
- ✓ Multiple Breakout Sessions
- ✓ Panel Discussions
- ✓ Exhibitor and Vendor Sessions

Enduring Materials with continuing education credit: <https://www.cecentral.com/hrs-2020>

KyOD2A Article: <https://kiprc.uky.edu/sites/default/files/2020-11/KyOD2A%20Happenings%20-%20Vol%201%20Issue%202.pdf>

**if you have any questions:**

- James R. House, Mobile Harm Reduction Program Administrator, Department for Public Health, at (502) 330-5950 or [jamesr.house@ky.gov](mailto:jamesr.house@ky.gov)
- Kyndall Raburn, Public Health Associate, Department for Public Health, at (502) 892-8022 or [kyndall.raburn@ky.gov](mailto:kyndall.raburn@ky.gov)

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**Ohio Lawmakers Consider Bill to Give Police Officers,  
First Responders \$1,000 Pandemic Bonus**

**Florida passed a \$1,000 bonus for 174,000 first responders last month**

Read more: <https://www.foxbusiness.com/politics/ohio-police-officers-first-responders-pandemic-bonus>

## US blood supply is safe from Coronavirus

(UPI) [COVID-19](#) does not pose a threat to the safety of the United States' blood supply under existing donor screening guidelines, researchers report.

For the study, the investigators reviewed the results of tests for the presence of COVID-19 in nearly 18,000 pools of donated blood, representative of over 257,800 single blood donations that were collected between March and September 2020 from six U.S. metropolitan regions.

Only three of the samples tested positive, and all had very low concentrations of the virus. The researchers concluded that the likelihood of a transfusion recipient receiving blood with trace amounts of COVID-19 was approximately 0.001% -- a little over 1 in 100,000 -- and that the likelihood of coronavirus transmission by blood transfusion was insignificant compared to airborne transmission.

Read more: [https://www.upi.com/Health\\_News/2021/06/01/coronavirus-blood-donor-risk-donations-study/3291622573917/](https://www.upi.com/Health_News/2021/06/01/coronavirus-blood-donor-risk-donations-study/3291622573917/)

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**[NYTimes Analysis: Last Year's Homicide Spike Appears To Be Persisting](#)**  
**[US Cities Anticipate Violent Summer](#)**  
**[IACP's The Lead has more Policing News](#)**

***Is your child safe on the internet?***  
***Thursday, June 3rd, 6 PM ET***

***Available through the Norton Children's Facebook page***

An Internet Safety Facebook Live Discussion will occur with Lt. Mike Bowling, commander of the electronic branch of the Kentucky State Police, on Thursday evening at 6 PM ET. He will be sharing important information on how to keep kids safe while they are on the internet. To join the event tomorrow, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, please go to Norton Children's Hospital Facebook page at 6:00pm!

Adults and children are spending more time online than ever before. These days, our link to the outside world and relationships comes from the internet — for school, homework, connecting with friends, playing games and more. When used responsibly, the internet is a great asset, but like anything else, there are people whose intent is to use it to victimize others. Unsupervised internet usage has created an open forum for predators to seek out children.

This discussion will include:

- Potential dangers and tips to prevent online solicitation
- Harassment
- Illegal behaviors
- Popular social media platforms
- Dangers to look for as a parent
- And more

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## Summer fire and life safety

(US Fire Administration) Share [summer outreach materials](#) to help increase awareness about outdoor fires and severe storms, and to communicate safety messages for:

- ✓ Grills and firepits.
- ✓ Fireworks.
- ✓ Boats and pools.

## Protecting wildland firefighters from smoke exposure

Anticipated 2021 staffing shortages and COVID-19 make it critical to protect wildland firefighters from smoke exposure this fire season. Learn about the hazards of wildland fire smoke exposure and the importance of assessing opportunities to reduce exposure against operational objectives. [Read the article](#)

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 [Preparedness@kyha.com](mailto:Preparedness@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.

## Fires can happen anywhere

At virtually any time

*Are You Ready?*

17 June, Thursday 2 pm (EDT)

Join the EIS Council for this first webinar in the EARTH EX-21 Training Series as they tackle one of the most devastating threats humans face – *uncontrolled fires in a populated area*.



A panel of Fire Service and Emergency Management professionals will share real-world stories and hard lessons learned from some of the most devastating fires in recent memory.

This session will address preparedness measures that can save your life, critical emergency response and emergency management actions, as well as essential evacuation considerations.

Finally, this session will address the critical lifeline issues that underpin restoration. Speakers will include:

- **Robert Lewin** is a CEM and Principle at Resolute Associates. Robert serves as the Director of the Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Management and the Fire Chief for CAL FIRE/San Luis Obispo County Fire. EOC Director EOC during the Thomas Fire and resulting Montecito Debris Flow. Most recently, he assisted the Fresno County, California EOC on the Creek Fire disaster.
- **Walter English**, CEM, Emergency Manager, City of Fairfax, Virginia. Walter serves as a critical part of the National Capital Region preparedness and response. Walter has experience in dealing with both emergency management and complex catastrophes in an urban environment.
- **Ross Holloway** is a Managing Partner at Utility Response Training Associates. Ross's experience includes his service as the Northwest MAC Group Representative for the Oregon Department of Forestry for the 2020 Oregon Fires. These included the Riverside, Beach Creek, and Holiday Farm fires, the three most extensive in the Labor Day fires in Oregon.

**Register**

[EARTH EX 21](#), which opens for play worldwide on 1 September and remains open through 31 October 2021. Our exercise is web-based, self-paced, and available to start and finish any time participants need. This year's exercise is climate change-based and involves two climate-related disasters that participants have to figure out how to deal with the scenario updated interactive media. EARTH EX is perfect for play during COVID-19 as players found in 2020. Players can participate from remote locations using various video conference platforms and the EARTH EX platform, the Battle Rhythm Manager.

Please plan on joining in the annual exercise that many thousands of participants have played! Watch a short video on EarthEx 20 to see what this is all about: <https://vimeo.com/415498592>

### **NO PREPARATION REQUIRED**

- ✓ A locally facilitated, “Come as you are” exercise.
- ✓ For organizations, as an out-of-the-box senior level exercise, it provides an opportunity to examine and rehearse critical executive and operational decisions required before a full operational exercise.
- ✓ For individuals, families and community groups, it will help with basic preparations, and with planning that can help secure and sustain participants during an extreme disaster.

**Mark the Dates – Watch for EarthEx 21 Registration Information**