



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

## KY Covid-19 Update for Tuesday

(WYMT) Governor Andy Beshear announced more than 1,800 cases of COVID-19 on Tuesday. More specifically, he announced 1803 new cases of the virus found in Kentucky, bringing the state's total case number to 487,871. 372 of Tuesday's new cases were children 18 and younger. 824 Kentuckians remain hospitalized with 263 in the ICU. 96 patients remain on a ventilator. The state's positivity rate climbed to 9.88%, the 39th consecutive day with an increase in the positivity rate.

Gov. Beshear also announced four deaths Tuesday, bringing the state's death toll to 7,352.

2,325,008 Kentuckians have gotten at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine with 7,140,350 tests have been administered thus far.

As of Tuesday, 73 of the state's 120 counties are in the red zone on the state's COVID-19 incidence rate [map](#), including 17 in the mountains. Clay County continues to lead the state with an incidence rate of 108.4 per 100,000 people. Story link: <https://www.wyvt.com/app/2021/08/03/governor-beshear-announces-more-than-1800-cases-tuesday/>

## Louisville hospital systems praised and criticized for requiring employee COVID-19 vaccinations

(WDRB) Louisville's mayor and local health experts applauded local hospitals Tuesday for requiring employees to be vaccinated against COVID-19. Norton Healthcare and Baptist Health announced that move Monday, joining U of L Health, which implemented the requirement in May. The hospital systems said the rapid spread of the delta variant, primarily among those who are unvaccinated, is the reason for the mandate. The hospitals say there will be vaccine exceptions for approved religious and medical reasons.

But not everyone is happy with the vaccine mandate. A group formed on Facebook is planning a "Protest for Medical Freedom" outside Baptist Health in Elizabethtown on Wednesday morning.

Link to video report and article: [https://www.wdrb.com/news/louisville-hospital-systems-praised-and-criticized-for-requiring-employee-covid-19-vaccinations/article\\_7c560dfa-f475-11eb-879c-e39d9b43a64f.html](https://www.wdrb.com/news/louisville-hospital-systems-praised-and-criticized-for-requiring-employee-covid-19-vaccinations/article_7c560dfa-f475-11eb-879c-e39d9b43a64f.html)

## CDC issues new eviction ban for most of US through Oct. 3

Learn more: <https://apnews.com/article/joe-biden-business-health-coronavirus-pandemic-65770ddb7396b08b4cb6f6a074cc5ca3>

## All 50 states report rising vaccination rates as COVID infections surge

Story: <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/50-states-report-rising-vaccination-rates-covid-infections/story?id=79224863>

## Some Missouri Residents Getting COVID Shots in Secret, Fearing Loved Ones' Ire

(MedicineNet) Some Missourians are sneaking off to get [COVID-19](#) shots because their family and friends would disapprove, a doctor says. A pharmacist at a hospital told Dr. Priscilla Frase, a hospitalist and chief medical information officer at Ozarks Healthcare in West Plains, Mo., that "they've had several people come in to get vaccinated who have tried to sort of disguise their appearance and even went so far as to say, 'please, please, please don't let anybody know that I got this [vaccine](#).'"

Only 41% of Missouri's population is fully vaccinated, the 13th lowest rate among all states, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and [Prevention](#). In recent weeks, Missouri has had some of the highest rates of new cases as infections spread among unvaccinated people, *CNN* reported.

Studies of the three authorized U.S. [vaccines](#) have shown that they provide strong protection against infection and severe illness. The vast majority of people hospitalized and dying of [COVID-19](#) are unvaccinated, the CDC has said.

But a Kaiser Family Foundation poll released earlier this month found that most people who had decided one way or the other on vaccination back in January hadn't changed their minds since. Of those who were unvaccinated at the start of the year, only about 8% had changed their minds, the poll found.

Full story: <https://www.medicinenet.com/script/main/art.asp?articlekey=262142>

## Related story - Texts about COVID-19 vaccines increase uptake

(CIDRAP) Sending follow-up text message reminders about receiving a COVID-19 vaccination improved appointment scheduling and vaccination rates in the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) Health system, according to a *Nature* [study](#) yesterday.

The randomized, controlled trial included 93,354 Californians who were eligible in early 2021 (ie, those above 65 or at high risk for poor COVID-19 outcomes). Of those who didn't receive a follow-up text, 7.20% made

appointments within 6 days of the first invitation anyway and 13.89% received their first dose within 4 weeks at UCLA Health. Receiving a follow-up text on the next business day, however, increased appointments and vaccinations by 6.07 and 3.57 percentage points, respectively.

Read more: <https://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2021/08/texts-about-covid-19-vaccines-increase-uptake>

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**[Influenza Vaccine: FluGen Demonstrates Vaccine-Induced Protection Against a Highly Drifted H3N2 Influenza Virus in a Human Challenge Study](#)**

(*Outbreak News Today*) Clinical-stage vaccine company, FluGen today announced the publication of results from its Phase 2 human challenge study of Bris2007 M2SR, the Company's investigational, supra-seasonal, live, single-replication, intranasal influenza (flu) vaccine. Results published in the Journal of Infectious Diseases show that subjects with vaccine-induced neutralizing antibodies were protected against infection and illness following challenge with an antigenically distinct virus. This is believed to be the first demonstration of vaccine-induced protection against a highly drifted H3N2 influenza virus in a human challenge study.

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***KY Governor Issues State of Emergency Due to Severe Storm Damage in Nicholas County***

(From [Press Release](#)) Today, Gov. Andy Beshear [issued](#) a state of emergency following a severe storm July 30 in Nicholas County that resulted in historic flooding, with severe impacts to infrastructure, government properties and private properties. The county received 4.07 inches of rain, which caused major flash flooding in downtown Carlisle and along Brushy Fork Creek, causing multiple road closures, flooded streets and inundated vehicles. One resident died of drowning.

State of Emergency: [https://governor.ky.gov/attachments/20210803\\_Executive-Order\\_2021-565\\_SoE\\_Nicholas-County.pdf](https://governor.ky.gov/attachments/20210803_Executive-Order_2021-565_SoE_Nicholas-County.pdf)

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**Rapid tapering of opioid pain drugs poses serious risks to users, study finds**

Read more: [https://www.upi.com/Health\\_News/2021/08/03/opioids-tapering-overdose-crisis-study/2791627997686/](https://www.upi.com/Health_News/2021/08/03/opioids-tapering-overdose-crisis-study/2791627997686/)

**NEWLY RELEASED:** [\*\*\*Crisis Standards of Care: Ten Years of Successes and Challenges: Proceedings of a Workshop\*\*\*](#)

**FEMA Releases Emergency Operation Center Toolkit Documents**

(NIMS Alert 30-21) FEMA has released [two Emergency Operations Center \(EOC\) Toolkit documents](#). The toolkit is a collection of guidance and best practices for emergency management, specifically the emergency operations center community.

These documents include:

- [EOC How-to Quick Reference Guide](#)
- [EOC References and Resources Tool](#)

These documents assist jurisdictions with developing emergency operations centers that can successfully meet their needs. The toolkit covers topics such as hazard vulnerability assessments, physical site selection, mitigation, considerations, emergency operations center capabilities and requirements, information management systems, and training and exercises. In addition, these documents ensure alignment with the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

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**[2021 Healthcare Coalition Conference](#)**

*"Flexible + Focused + Forward"*

**Tuesday, September 28 - Thursday, September 30, 2021**

**Owensboro, KY**

**[AGENDA - REGISTRATION - HOTEL INFO](#)**

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**[KSHE CHC Workshop & Exam](#)**

September 27 7 AM – 4 PM

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**[Annual Gold Scramble](#)**

September 27 w/8 AM shotgun start

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.