



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for August 4, 2021

Beshear reports highest single-day COVID-19 case total in months Positivity rate over 10%

(WKYT) Governor Beshear reported 2,583 new COVID-19 cases on Wednesday, bringing the state total to 490,399 cases. The governor says the state is seeing a 10.08% positivity rate. Of Wednesday new cases, 512 are in kids 18 or younger. The governor says Wednesday's case total is the highest since Feb. 3. There were 10 new COVID-19 related deaths reported on Wednesday. That brings the state total to 7,362. As of Wednesday, 889 people are hospitalized for COVID-19 related reasons, 275 are in the ICU, and 100 are on ventilators.

Story link: <https://www.wkyt.com/2021/08/04/beshear-reports-highest-single-day-covid-19-case-total-months-positivity-rate-over-10/>

Watch press conference: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f-rczmMonxU&pp=sAQA>

----- MadPage Today: COVID-19 Update

- The FDA hopes to fully approve the [Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine by early September](#). (*New York Times*)
- South Korea announced at least two cases of [the Delta Plus variant](#), which is thought to be even more infectious than the Delta variant. (*Washington Post*)
- As of Wednesday at 8:00 a.m. EDT, the [unofficial U.S. COVID-19](#) toll was 35,242,078 cases and 614,317 deaths, increases of 108,109 cases and 559 deaths versus this time a day ago.
- The CDC extended a [ban on evictions in parts of the country](#) with substantial or high COVID transmission until Oct. 3. (*CNN*).

----- WHO calls for moratorium on COVID-19 boosters

(CIDRAP) Amid a global COVID-19 surge fueled by the highly transmissible Delta (B1617.2) variant, the World Health Organization (WHO) today called for a moratorium on booster vaccine doses to allow the global supply to fill gaps in lower-income countries. At a media briefing today, WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, PhD, said that it's unacceptable that countries that have already used most of the vaccine supply will be using even more of it.

Read full story: <https://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2021/08/who-calls-moratorium-covid-19-boosters>

----- GAO recommends federal action to better prepare for biological incidents

(*AHA Today*) The Department of Health and Human Services and other federal agencies should work through the Biodefense Steering Committee to ensure the Biodefense Coordination Team defines the capabilities needed to prepare for and respond to significant biological incidents such as COVID-19; monitors and reports on findings from interagency exercises and real-world incidents; and recommends action to address identified challenges, according to a [report](#) released today by the Government Accountability Office. The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act called for GAO to review federal efforts to prepare for, respond to and recover from COVID-19. The agency reviewed interagency response plans and exercises and real biological incidents between 2009 and 2019 to identify opportunities to better achieve National Biodefense Strategy objectives.

----- Johns Hopkins Health Security Headlines Extracts from [August 4, 2021](#)

[Is the Delta Variant Making Younger Adults 'Sicker, Quicker'?](#) (*New York Times*) Physicians working in Covid hot spots across the nation say that the patients in their hospitals are not like the patients they saw last year. Almost always unvaccinated, the new arrivals tend to be younger, many in their 20s or 30s. And they seem sicker than younger patients were last year, deteriorating more rapidly.

[Surprise Dip in UK COVID Cases Baffles Researchers](#) (*Nature*) Scientists are scratching their heads over the precipitous decline in daily COVID-19 infections in the United Kingdom following their rapid rise earlier in the year. Officially recorded new cases more than halved in just two weeks: from a high of 54,674 on 17 July to 22,287 on 2 August. "Nobody really knows what's going on," says epidemiologist John Edmunds at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM). In particular, it's not clear whether this sudden trend indicates that the peak of the third wave has passed, or whether it is a blip caused by complex social factors.

[China's Delta-driven COVID-19 Clusters Expand](#) (*CIDRAP*) A COVID-19 flare-up in the Chinese city of Nanjing has spread to more cities and provinces, including Wuhan, where officials ordered mass testing for

nearly 12 million of the city's residents. China is among several Asian nations battling a virus resurgence, along with Japan, where one of the country's top doctors called for government officials to impose a national state of emergency.

[**Nursing Homes Confront New Covid Outbreaks Amid Calls for Staff Vaccination Mandates**](#) (*New York Times*) About 133,000 nursing home residents died of Covid over the course of the pandemic, although the death rate has plummeted in recent months with more than 80 percent of residents now vaccinated. Overall, Covid deaths among nursing home residents and staff members accounted for nearly one-third of the nation's pandemic fatalities.

[**FDA Extends Emergency Authorization for REGEN-COV Antibody Use for COVID-19 Cases**](#) (*Homeland Preparedness News*) REGEN-COV was confirmed for continued use against COVID-19 cases deemed at high risk for progression to hospitalization or death last week, with the extension of its Emergency Use Authorization by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

[**U.S. Lawmakers Urge HHS to Expand Domestic Manufacturing, Technologies for Pharmaceutical Stockpile**](#) (*Homeland Preparedness News*) In a letter dispatched last week, five U.S. representatives called on Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra to tap domestic manufacturing and new technologies to grow the national stockpile of important pharmaceuticals and reduce reliance on foreign production.

ASPR TRACIE

[**The Express: August 2021**](#)

This issue of The Express highlights the following new resources:

- [**Pediatric Lessons Learned from COVID-19: Immediate and Future Implications**](#) (Speaker Series)
- [**The Role of Support Services during COVID-19: ASPR TRACIE Experiences from the Field**](#) (e.g., physical, respiratory, and occupational therapy)
- [**mAbs Calculator Tool**](#)
- [**Natural Disasters Topic Collection**](#).
- Cyber breaches continue to affect healthcare. Check out their [**Healthcare Cybersecurity Resources Page**](#).
- [**Novel Coronavirus Resources Page**](#)
- The National Institutes of Health [**Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Treatment Guidelines**](#), and
- Link to CDC's [**Coronavirus webpage**](#),

InfraGard National Webinar

August 17 @ 9:00 am - 1:00 pm PST

IMA Webinar Broadcast: Countering Active Terrorist Cells in the Homeland (C.A.T.C.H.)

Presented by InfraGard Los Angeles

**This class is eligible for 4 ASIS CPE credits.

Featuring a special opening briefing by John Cassara, Regional Representative for the National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC) for Southern California, Arizona, and Hawaii. Countering Active Terrorist Cells in the Homeland (C.A.T.C.H.) is a unique training course that seeks to provide an all-encompassing approach to the current threat of Terrorism and Homegrown Violent Extremism (HVE) inside the U.S. This one-day training course will outline the foundational factors that contribute to HVE and the radicalization and recruitment of Americans. An understanding of the three main pillars of the Islamic State and Al-Qaida – Radical Ideology, Extremist Doctrine and Strategic Messaging will be provided. New threat vectors – like the increased targeting of Police and Military personnel will be discussed, as well as, recent terrorist Tactics, Techniques and Procedures. Pre-Incident Indicators that are always present in the time-line leading up to a terrorist attack will be illuminated. Finally, Challenges for the Future will be addressed, as a prelude to a presentation on viable Counter-Terrorism Strategies, What Works and Lessons Learned. [**Click to register.**](#)

Questions: [**IGLATraining@infragardlosangeles.org**](mailto:IGLATraining@infragardlosangeles.org)

[**Fire Department Pipeline Response, Emergency Planning, and Preparedness Toolkit**](#)

(DomPrep Journal) Millions of miles of pipelines stretch across the United States, transporting hazardous materials through thousands of communities. The National Volunteer Fire Council and the Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration want to help fire departments prepare for pipeline incidents. The Fire Department Pipeline Response Emergency Planning & Preparedness (FD PREPP) Toolkit is a free resource designed to help departments conduct pre-incident planning, increase preparedness, and improve response. [**View Full Report**](#)



EARTH EX 2021: Fires and Floods

Coming soon - The largest resilience exercise in history begins Sept. 1, building on last year's exercise: > 12000 participants, 2400 organizations, 41 nations.

Registration is now open for a unique series of focused training webinars for added sector-focused disaster readiness and exercise preparation.

EARTH EX for Emergency Managers - Special Webinar

We will focus the discussion on specific ways to integrate the wildfire and flood threats into the emergency exercise and training plans for all parts of the emergency management team.

Added wildfire and flood learning and essential EARTH EX training information for Emergency Managers in all states and nations, including Homeland Security, Community Emergency Response Teams, local Emergency Planning Committees and Emergency Support Function teams.

Friday, August 13, 1 pm EDT

[Register](#)

Community Resilience Workshop

Join the community-leadership disaster training webinar: Community resilience opportunities addressing impacts of climate change-driven disasters and other Black Sky scenarios. *A/so* - a special focus on energy emergencies.

Subject matter experts will offer state-of-the-art public and private sector capability updates, review restoration priorities and discuss preparedness and partnerships opportunities:

- Lucas McDonald is the Director of Emergency Operations for Walmart Inc.
- Mike Harryman, Oregon's first State Resilience Officer
- David Lusk, Director, Global Security Operations Center (GSOC)
- Chauncia Willis, Co-Founder and CEO of the Institute for Diversity and Inclusion in Emergency Management (I-DIEM) and owner of the Global Resilience Group, LLC.

Thursday, August 19, 2 pm EDT

[Register](#)

EARTH EX - 2021 - Facilitators Training Webinar #2

Provides essential information for group facilitators and team leaders for EARTH EX. Offers multiple techniques to get the most out of the exercise, with a special focus on exercise goals, objectives and learning opportunities.

A/so - Special guidelines for use of the Facilitators and Users Guides.

Thursday, August 19, 3 pm EDT

[Register](#)

EARTH EX 2021 World Status Webinar:

The Opening Event for this year's exercise

Participants in this year's *opening event* will learn from specialists reviewing the climate change-driven factors causing the unprecedented wildfire and flooding events around the world.

This webinar will focus on real-world, cascading infrastructure impacts of weather disasters, and critical, prioritized planning for life saving and sustaining measures.

Join some of the world's most respected resilience experts to prepare for the largest cross-sector resilience-focused exercise in history.

Thursday, August 31, 2 pm EDT

[Register](#)

EARTH EX 2021 is free again this year! The exercise will be available for play on every land mass and all time zones, worldwide, from 1 September through 31 October, 2021.

[Play EARTH EX](#)

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.