



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for August 14, 2021

Governor reports 10th-highest day of new cases since pandemic began

(WKYT) Governor Beshear reported 4,009 new COVID-19 cases on Friday, bringing the state total to 512,224 cases. The governor says the state is seeing an 11.83% positivity rate. Of Friday's new cases, 929 are in kids 18 or younger. The governor says this is the 10th-highest day of new cases since the pandemic began.

There were 12 new COVID-19 related deaths reported on Friday. That brings the state total to 7,426.

As of Friday, 1,424 people are hospitalized for COVID-19 related reasons, 391 are in the ICU, and 185 are on ventilators.

Story with video link: <https://www.wkyt.com/app/2021/08/13/gov-beshear-reports-10th-highest-day-new-cases-since-pandemic-began/>

Louisville area hospitals watch capacity levels as COVID-19 cases increase

(WAVE) - Baptist Health, Norton Healthcare, and UofL Health are keeping a close eye on hospital capacity levels as they continue to receive an influx of patients with COVID-19.

"It's important for people to understand being sick and the increase in COVID is really going to start putting a pressure on us and our capability of providing care for everybody in town," Dr. Hugh Shoff, the associate chief medical officer for University of Louisville Hospital and an emergency medical physician said. "As we're in the summer our trauma population is up. Our hospitals are full and so on top of that, having COVID coming back is concerning for us from a health care standpoint."

The number of positive COVID-19 patients at UofL Health has quadrupled since July. It is caring for more than 80 COVID-19 patients, with 20 in the intensive care unit. UofL Health hospitals still have capacity to treat patients and accept transfers, however, Shoff said those who are unvaccinated and in the hospital with COVID-19 are taking resources and beds from other patients.

Norton Healthcare is currently using 72.5% of its operational beds, but the healthcare system is used to running at those levels and at even higher capacities in the intensive care units. There is a plan in place to increase capacity if need be, however, staffing could become an issue in some units if cases continue to increase.

"Nursing continues to be a staffing challenge for us like it is everywhere," James Frazier, Norton Healthcare's vice president of medical affairs said. "I think it's a combination of the market we're in, the environment that we're in; I think healthcare burnout is a real thing." Norton is working to recruit employees to ensure staffing will not impact patient care. The healthcare system is currently caring for 127 COVID-19 patients in its hospitals with 36 in the ICU. Frazier told WAVE 3 News out of the 127 positive coronavirus patients, only 12 were vaccinated.

"Just a little over 10 percent of the folks we have in the hospital have had the vaccine," Frazier said. "We know that it works, we know that it protects you, it protects your family, please get the vaccine."

Story: <https://www.wbko.com/app/2021/08/13/ky-hospitals-watch-capacity-levels-covid-19-cases-increase/>

KY Infectious disease specialist believes we're on pace for bigger surge as delta variant spreads

Learn more: <https://www.wkyt.com/app/2021/08/13/infectious-disease-specialist-believes-were-pace-bigger-surge-delta-variant-spreads/>

U.S. administers 355.8 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines

(Reuters) The United States has administered 355,768,825 doses of COVID-19 vaccines in the country as of Saturday morning and distributed 415,915,655 doses, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said. Those figures are up from the 354,777,950 vaccine doses the CDC said had gone into arms by Aug. 13 out of 414,376,925 doses delivered. The agency said 197,685,048 people had received at least one dose while 168,090,925 people are fully vaccinated as of Saturday.

Story: <https://www.reuters.com/article/health-coronavirus-usa-cdc/u-s-administers-355-8-million-doses-of-covid-19-vaccines-cdc-idUSFWN2PK17Z>

COVID-19 Stories in the News

Lambda Variant Turns Up in Japan, Linked to Olympics

Japanese health ministry didn't disclose case until after Games ended

Learn more: <https://www.newser.com/story/309822/first-case-of-lambda-variant-in-japan-linked-to-olympics.html>

Covid-19 hospitalizations are surging again, but they're different this time

Read more: <https://www.cnn.com/2021/08/13/health/covid-hospitalizations-younger-not-vaccinated/index.html>

Children hospitalized with COVID-19 in U.S. hits record number

Reuter's story: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-usa/children-hospitalized-with-covid-19-in-u-s-hits-record-number-idUSKBN2FF0EY>

Tennessee faces hospital staffing issues COVID cases soar, available ICU beds dwindle

Read more: <https://fox17.com/news/local/tennessee-faces-hospital-staffing-issues-as-covid-cases-soar-available-icu-beds-dwindle-pandemic-delta-coronavirus-united-states-vaccine-mississippi>

Related story - Vanderbilt adult hospital & ER full, declining transfers from many hospitals

Full story: <https://fox17.com/news/local/vanderbilt-hospital-er-completely-full-declining-transfer-requests-for-many-adult-covid-19-delta-vaccination-vaccine-infection-unvaccinated-coronavirus-sick-patients-emergency-department>

'Hospitals Are Full From Memphis to Natchez to Gulfport' *Hospital leaders say delta surge has pushed Mississippi system to breaking point*

Learn more: <http://newser.com/s309751>

Health care workers give behind-the-scenes look at Baptist Health Paducah's COVID-19 unit

See and learn more: https://www.wpsdlocal6.com/news/health-care-workers-give-behind-the-scenes-look-at-baptist-health-paducahs-covid-19-unit/article_0ed1a854-fc8e-11eb-a3fa-4f475adcd725.html

US orders for monoclonal antibodies up 1,200% as Covid-19 cases spike

See more: <https://www.cnn.com/2021/08/12/health/covid-19-antibody-treatments-1200-increase-in-orders/index.html>

DHS Seizes 'Low-Quality' Fake Vaccination Cards Sellers advertise bogus documents openly online

Learn more: <https://www.newser.com/story/309832/there-appears-to-be-a-market-for-bogus-vaccination-cards.html>

CDC Clinician's Call

Additional mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines for Moderately to Severely Immunocompromised People Tuesday, August 17 @ 2 PM ET

Zoom link: <https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1602130331?pwd=RStLbjVHQUZzSENWNXIVOEh2QUJLUT09>

As Children's COVID Cases Surge, There's Another Virus On The Rise

(NPR) Early versions of COVID-19 largely spared children but the [delta variant](#) proved to be much less discriminating, and has led to more child hospitalizations. Now, health care workers on the front lines say there is another frightening prospect looming: a surge in children diagnosed with a combination of COVID-19 and respiratory syncytial virus.

Pediatric hospitals in Texas — and around the country — are **reporting unseasonably early outbreaks of RSV**, a respiratory virus that mostly manifests as a mild illness with cold-like symptoms in adults but that can cause pneumonia and bronchiolitis in very young children. The CDC reports it can be life-threatening in infants and young adults. RSV infections typically occur in the late fall, winter and early spring, the CDC explains.

Full story: <https://www.npr.org/2021/08/14/1027663917/rsv-covid-children>

Do you know the story of Dr. Henry Heimlich? "The Man Behind the Maneuver"

(WNYC) In the 1970s, choking became national news: thousands were choking to death, leading to more accidental deaths than guns. Nobody knew what to do. Until a man named Henry Heimlich came along with a big idea. Since then, thousands and thousands -- maybe even millions -- have been rescued by the Heimlich maneuver. Yet the story of the man who invented it may not have such a happy ending.

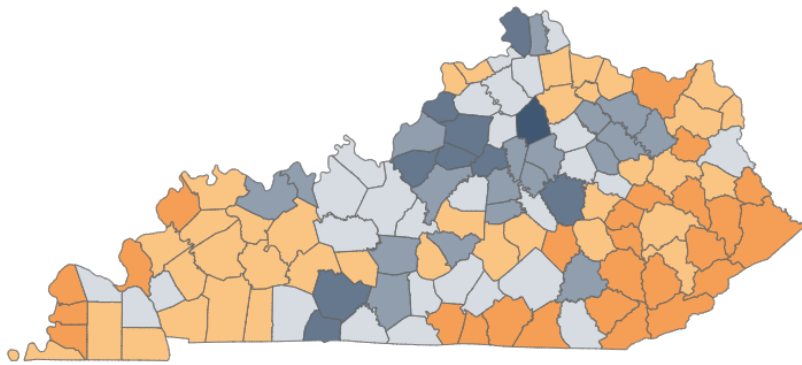
List to the Radiolab Podcast: <https://www.wnycstudios.org/podcasts/radiolab/articles/273532-heimlich>

Census: Kentucky Cities Drive Growth, Rural Population Declines

(WFPL) Rural Kentucky, especially in far-eastern and western parts of the state, saw sharp declines in population over the last ten years, according to new data released by the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).

Meanwhile populations increased in areas around urban hubs like Louisville, Lexington, Bowling Green and across the Ohio River from Cincinnati.

The data sets the stage for state lawmakers to draw new legislative and congressional district boundaries—the contentious redistricting process that takes place every ten years after the census.



Scott County, which includes Georgetown just north of Lexington, experienced the largest percentage increase in population with 21.2%. Other top-growers were Warren County with 18.2%, Boone County, with 14.4% and Shelby County, with 14.2%.

Bell County, which includes Middlesboro on the Virginia border, had the sharpest drop with 16%. The other counties with the sharpest population declines were all in eastern

Kentucky, with Owsley County losing 14.8%, Cumberland County losing 14.1% and Knott County losing 12.8%. Overall, Kentucky's population increased by about 3.8% since the 2010 census.

Full story: <https://wfpl.org/census-shows-population-declining-in-rural-kentucky/>

- ✓ More on Louisville's census: <https://worldpopulationreview.com/us-cities/louisville-ky-population>
- ✓ More on Lexington's census: <https://worldpopulationreview.com/us-cities/lexington-ky-population>
- ✓ More on Kentucky's county populations: <https://worldpopulationreview.com/us-counties/states/ky>
- ✓ 200 Largest US cities: <https://worldpopulationreview.com/us-cities>

Study of Rural Shootings

“Shooting First and Asking Questions Later”

(WFPL) *This article was published in partnership with [The Marshall Project](#), a nonprofit news organization covering the U.S. criminal justice system, and [The New York Times](#). Sign up for The Marshall Project's [newsletter](#), or follow them on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#).*

As police shootings have become a flashpoint in U.S. cities, The Marshall Project and the Kentucky Center for Investigative Reporting spent a year examining those urban killings' little-publicized counterparts in rural America.

Officers in rural areas fatally shot about 1,200 people from 2015 through 2020, while in cities there were at least 2,100 such deaths, according to the news organizations' analysis of [data compiled by The Washington Post](#); no comprehensive government database exists.

The data analysis found that, although the rate of rural police shootings was about 30% lower than the urban rate when adjusted for population, the rural incidents mirrored many of the dynamics of police shootings that have come under scrutiny in cities.

And even as deadly police shootings declined in cities and rural communities during this time, according to the analysis, the rural decrease was more modest: about 9% versus 19%.

Police and sheriff's departments that each had a single deadly shooting account for hundreds of the rural fatalities. But in a handful of states, including Kentucky, Pennsylvania and Texas, state troopers are responsible for many of the deaths.

Rural shootings by the Kentucky State Police, the agency with the largest number of such deaths in the six-year period, illustrate both what distinguishes these encounters from other police killings and how they fit within broader patterns nationwide.

Kentucky state troopers shot and killed at least 41 people during that period, including 33 in rural areas. To examine these deaths, reporters interviewed more than 100 people and reviewed dozens of court cases and thousands of pages of police investigative reports, in addition to conducting the data analysis.

One big difference was that most of the people killed in the rural shootings, in Kentucky and elsewhere, were white. Full story: <https://wfpl.org/kycir-rural-police-shootings-ksp/>

Cops: Toddler Fatally Shoots Mom During Zoom Call

(Newser) A young mother was fatally shot in the head by her toddler during a Zoom call on Wednesday, according to police in Florida. A person who was on the work-related conference call dialled 911 saying they heard a loud noise, then saw 21-year-old Shamaya Lynn fall backward, reports [WESH](#) and [NBC News](#). She wasn't seen again on camera, per the [AP](#). The camera reportedly captured Lynn's toddler in the background.

Authorities rushed to the scene at the Oaks of Spring Valley apartments in Altamonte Springs, just north of Orlando, but were unable to save the young mother of two, who'd been shot in the head.

There have been at least 220 unintentional shootings by children in the US so far this year, resulting in 83 deaths and 149 injuries, according to the [Everytown for Gun Safety](#) advocacy group.

Full story: <http://newser.com/s309807>

Threat made at Marshall County High School

(LEX 18) — A juvenile was taken into custody after Sheriff's Deputies say a threat was made against Marshall County High School. Thursday, August 12, the Marshall County Sheriff's Office received information from school officials saying a threat was made for the morning of August 13.

Investigators followed up and took a student into custody Thursday evening. The student has now been charged with Terroristic Threatening and was taken to the Regional Juvenile Detention Center.

Story: <https://www.lex18.com/news/covering-kentucky/threat-made-at-marshall-county-high-school>

Remembering three years ago: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marshall_County_High_School_shooting

Madison County EM "Prepare for Action" Sent Out by Accident

(WLEX) Madison County Emergency Management sent an emergency alert to residents in error Saturday. The following message was pushed around noon. Minutes later the correct message concerning a Golden Alert was sent out. Full story: <https://www.lex18.com/community/madison-co-emergency-alert-sent-in-error-correct-message-for-golden-alert>

[Madison County is home to the Blue Grass Army Depot, which houses chemical weapons. The erroneous "alert" could have been a warning to residents of a potential incident on the base. Read more:

<https://www.bereadylexington.com/csepp/>]

Earth just experienced its hottest month on record

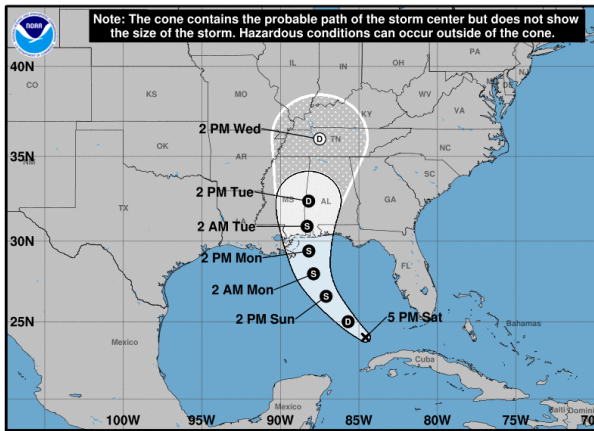
(UPI) If this July has felt hotter than usual, it wasn't just your imagination. NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information issued a press release on Friday detailing how [July 2021 "earned the unenviable distinction as the world's hottest month ever recorded."](#)

Previously, July 2016 held the record for the hottest month on record, when [global temperatures were 1.65 degrees Fahrenheit above normal](#). This benchmark was reached again in 2019 and 2020.

Overall, the land and ocean surface temperatures last month were 1.67 degrees Fahrenheit above normal, according to data in the NCEI press release, topping 2016 by 0.02 F. Records of the hottest months on record date back to 1880.

Story link: https://www.upi.com/Science_News/2021/08/13/july-earth-hottest-month-ever/4881628880476/

Fred now a tropical wave, expected to re-develop on Sunday over Gulf of Mexico



(WESH) Fred was re-classified as a tropical wave on Saturday morning, and is expected to re-develop on Sunday over the Gulf of Mexico, according to forecasters with the National Hurricane Center.

A turn toward the northwest is expected by Saturday night, followed by a northward motion by Sunday night. On the forecast track, Fred or its remnants are expected to pass west of the lower Florida Keys Saturday afternoon, move across the eastern Gulf of Mexico Saturday night through Monday, and move inland over the northern Gulf coast Monday night.

Fred is expected to re-develop into a tropical depression on Sunday, with gradual strengthening to a tropical storm expected after the system re-develops, the NHC says.

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.