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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Gov. Beshear Provides Update on COVID-19

FRANKFORT, Ky. (March 17, 2021) – On Wednesday, Gov. Andy Beshear announced the state's positivity rate has declined to 3.73%.

"While our new cases have decreased dramatically since their peak in the commonwealth, these numbers are still too high," said Gov. Beshear. "We are close to the finish line but we can't let up yet. Keep masking up, keep social distancing and get vaccinated when it's your turn. Let's see this through to the end of the fight."

Case Information

As of 4 p.m. Wednesday, March 17, Gov. Beshear reported the following COVID-19 numbers:

New cases today: 963

New deaths today: 27

Positivity rate: 3.73%

Total deaths: 5,056

Currently hospitalized: 441

Currently in ICU: 109

Currently on ventilator: 60

Top counties with the most positive cases today are: Jefferson, Fayette, Lyon and Hardin. Each county reported at least 35 new cases.

To see a list of those reported lost to the virus today, click [here](#).

Kentucky's COVID-19 Vaccine Website, vaccine.ky.gov, shows Kentuckians which phase they are in specifically. Individuals can sign up for notifications so state officials can communicate with them when doses become available at new and existing sites. [Kentucky's vaccine map](#) lists regional vaccination partners statewide, so individuals can search their county or region and see how to schedule an appointment. Below the vaccine map, Kentuckians can find additional vaccination sites at [Kroger](#), [Walmart](#) and [Walgreens](#) stores, as well as [independent pharmacies](#).

Kentucky's COVID-19 Vaccine Hotline, [855-598-2246](tel:855-598-2246) or TTY [855-326-4654](tel:855-326-4654) (for deaf or hard-of-hearing Kentuckians), has the same features as the website. Kentuckians can get assistance completing the vaccine eligibility questionnaire and scheduling an appointment when doses are available. The hotline is available 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. EST Monday through Friday.

Free or reduced-cost transportation to and from vaccine appointments is offered by public transit agencies across the commonwealth. These services are already operating in over 90 counties, covering 75% of all counties across Kentucky. Kentuckians can find transportation services near them by heading to kycovid19.ky.gov for a full list of participating public transit agencies and their phone numbers, or by calling the Kentucky COVID-19 Vaccine Hotline.

More Information

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.

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