

Commonwealth of Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services

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Gov. Beshear Provides Update on COVID-19

FRANKFORT, Ky. (July 7, 2020) – Gov. Andy Beshear on Tuesday updated Kentuckians on the state's continued efforts to fight the novel coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19).

"This remains a very serious global health challenge. Dr. Anthony Fauci, the nation's foremost infectious disease expert, said only yesterday that we are 'still knee-deep in the first wave' of coronavirus infections here in the U.S.," the Governor said. "The number of positive cases has been rising across the nation. Although eventually there will be a vaccine, we need to be mindful that it will not be perfected or ready to distribute anytime soon. We therefore must remain vigilant to protect the most vulnerable among us."

The Governor reminded everyone that his next press briefing will be held Thursday, July 9, at 4 p.m. EDT.

Case Information

As of 4 p.m. July 7, Gov. Beshear said there were at least 17,519 coronavirus cases in Kentucky, 371 of which were newly reported Tuesday.

"Today is a tough day in our fight against the coronavirus. While we've long noted that case numbers fluctuate due to differences in reporting – and that weekends often see lower tallies that sometimes catch up during the week – today's numbers are cause for serious concern," the Governor said. "We have worked too long and hard, and sacrificed too much, to squander the gains we have made in this fight. However, the only way to secure our safety is to recommit ourselves to doing what we all know is required of us: washing our hands frequently, staying at least six feet from others, avoiding crowds, getting tested frequently and cooperating with contact tracers if they call with information."

Unfortunately, Gov. Beshear reported nine new deaths Tuesday, raising the total to 602 Kentuckians lost to the virus.

The deaths reported Tuesday include a 78-year-old man from Jefferson County; a 52-year-old man from Kenton County; two women, ages 86 and 96, and two men, ages 85 and 95, from Knox County; a 70-year-old woman from Logan County; a 64-year-old woman from Mason County; and a 62-year-old man from Monroe County.

"There's nothing more important to me than protecting the lives of Kentuckians and there's nothing more difficult in this job than knowing that despite every effort we still have lost more than 600 of our fellow citizens to this deadly virus," the Governor said. "Let's light up our homes and businesses green to show our compassion for these folks, their families and their communities."

As of Tuesday, there have been at least 445,196 coronavirus tests performed in Kentucky. At least 4,841 Kentuckians have recovered from the virus.

For additional information, including up-to-date lists of positive cases and deaths, as well as breakdowns of coronavirus infections by county, race and ethnicity, <u>click here</u>.

Anti-Price Gouging Order

Vowing to protect Kentuckians from unfairly being overcharged for goods or services during the

pandemic, Gov. Beshear again has extended his executive order prohibiting price gouging. Anyone with information about unfair sales or billing practices is encouraged to contact the Attorney General's Consumer Protection hotline at 888-432-9257 or fill out the complaint form online.

More Information

Read about other key updates, actions and information from Gov. Beshear and his administration at governor.ky.gov, kycovid19.ky.gov and the Governor's official social media accounts Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

Kentuckians can also access translated COVID-19 information and daily summaries of the Governor's news conference at tinyurl.com/kygovespanol (Spanish) and tinyurl.com/kygovtranslations (more than 20 additional languages).

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For official news and updates from the Beshear/Coleman administration, visit governor.ky.gov/news.