# CRISIS MANAGEMENT FOR COVID 19 Phase 42: What's Going On with COVID?

Presented by: Hanna Resource Group and Morris & Morris, PSC

# INTRODUCTIONS





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# WHAT WE'LL COVER

Update from Mark Dougherty, MD 2

Legal and Regulatory Updates

## Notes

## What are we doing to protect our employees and businesses?

- Governor Beshear not ruling out more Covid-19 mandates
  - Most new cases are presenting in unvaccinated individuals
- Federal workers required to sign form attesting they've been vaccinated or comply with new rules on mandatory masking, weekly testing, distancing and more.
- Beginning July, Louisville's Ford plant is:
  - Requiring visitors and employees to wear face masks.
  - Recommending for all Ford team members who are medically able to be vaccinated
  - Requiring vaccinations for any employee traveling internationally
- No Vax, No Service at some restaurants
  - Shake Shack and others
  - San Francisco 300 bar owners require proof of vaccine or a negative Covid test to enter



# Update on COVID 19



Mark Dougherty, MD Lexington Infectious Disease Consultants, PSC Epidemiologist, Central Baptist Hospital Member of Kentucky Medical Association



# Legal Update and Guidance



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# 2 Mass Changes to Mask Guidelines

## **CDC** Guidelines Force Reconsideration Nationwide!

- July 27, 2021: CDC reverses course and issues updated mask guidance for the fully vaccinated
  - Fully vaccinated should wear masks in public indoor settings in "substantial" or "high" risk areas of transmission
  - Immunocompromised should wear masks indoors, regardless of transmission risk level
  - Fully vaccinated who have a known or suspected exposure should be tested within 3-5 days after exposure and wear a mask in public for 14 days or until receipt of a negative test
  - Recommends universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to schools, regardless of vaccination status
- In response to CDC, multiple states and municipalities have made wholesale changes
- All but 23 of Kentucky's 120 counties fall under new CDC guidance

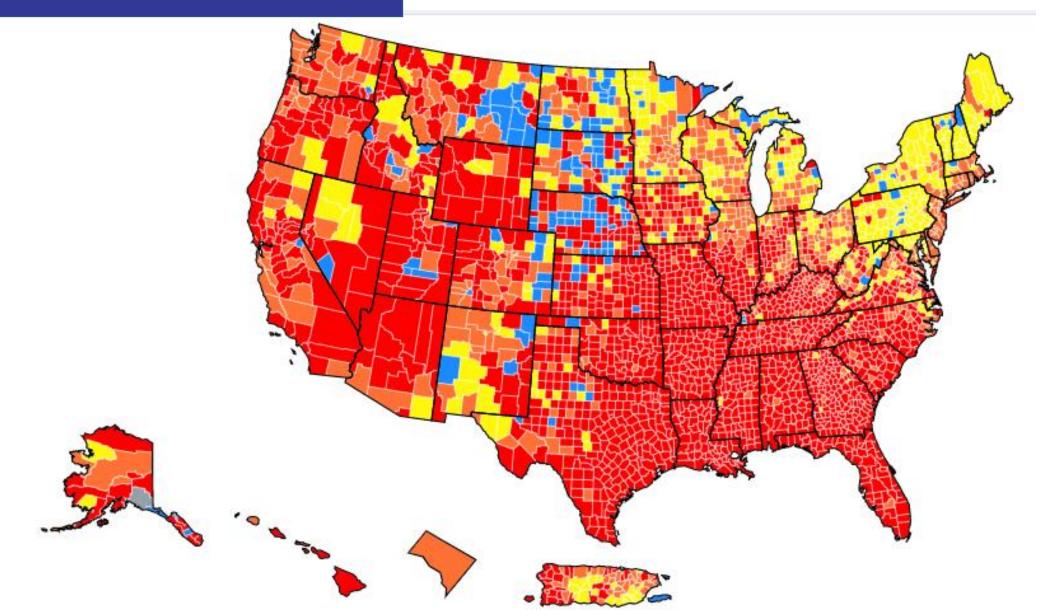
# Mass Changes to Mask Guidelines

#### **CDC** Mapping and Illustrations

Indicator - If the two indicators suggest different transmission levels, the higher level is selected	Low Transmission Blue	Moderate Transmission Yellow	Substantial Transmission Orange	High Transmission Red
Total new cases per 100,000 persons in the past 7 days	0-9.99	10-49.99	50-99.99	≥100
Percentage of NAATs <sup>1</sup> that are positive during the past 7 days	0-4.99%	5-7.99%	8-9.99%	≥10.0%

# Mass Changes to Mask Guidelines

#### **CDC** Mapping and Illustrations



#### Mask Requirements Across the Country (All require unvaccinated, transit, high-risk areas)

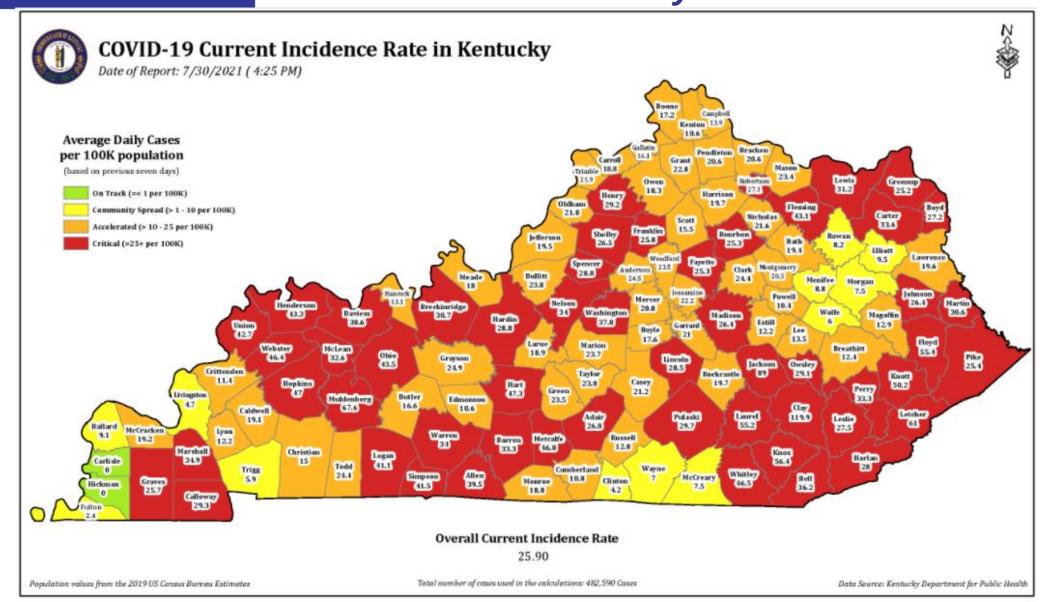
#### As the new CDC Guidance emerges, states are rushing to adopt new/differing standards:

- California, Colorado, Kansas, Massachusetts, New Mexico, Oregon, Puerto Rico, Vermont:
  Required for all unvaccinated, transport, medical facility, detention, high-risk areas
- Connecticut, New York: Required for fully vaccinated in school, and any CDC recommended public space
- o D.C. and Delaware: Required for all government, healthcare, homeless shelters, and detention
- Hawaii: Required for all indoor spaces however masks are no longer required outdoors
- o Illinois: Required compliance with CDC Recommendations

Renewed Mandates

- Maine: Required in York and Piscataquis Counties (CDC elevated counties)
- Maryland: Montgomery County mask mandate for all students and teachers in public schools
- Nevada: Required masks indoors in any counties identified as "High Risk" (over a dozen)
- North Carolina, Ohio, Washington: Schools, child-care setting, camps, and other youth settings
- \*\*\* The mandates are coming out so quickly that it is impossible to keep up with the status. Companies should check specific state requirements for explicit instructions

#### 2 Kentucky's Changed Status Two months ago, Kentucky was almost entirely yellow and green ... recent COVID-19 spikes have reversed that trend entirely!



# 2 Kentucky's Changed Status

New Recommendations for Red Zone Counties to attempt to reduce the current trend:

# RED ZONE REDUCTION RECOMMENDATIONS

- Increase vaccination efforts to reach unvaccinated persons
- Encourage masking as an effective way to reduce spread
- Encourage physical distancing and maximize usage of outdoor spaces for gatherings
- Encourage medically vulnerable persons to avoid social activities with unvaccinated persons
- Consider postponing large public events
- Engage community partners and stakeholders to implement a strong communication plan



KYCOVID19.KY.GOV

# Renewed Mandates

### Mask Requirements In Kentucky

- June 11, 2021: Governor lifts mask mandates state-wide (with the exception of healthcare/detention/homeless facilities, public transportation (Fed) and high-risk
- July 19, 2021: Governor issued a new "mask guidance" advising that all unvaccinated and/or high-risk should wear masks indoors if somewhere other than their homes. Vaccinated working in fields with significant risk of exposure should wear masks
- July 27, 2021: Governor issues Mask Mandate for all "Government Buildings"
  - Required in all Executive Branch buildings
  - Required in healthcare facilities, and tested positive or exhibits symptoms
  - Kentucky will "follow the CDC Guidelines" -- becoming increasingly confusing!
- July 29, 2021: Governor and his team issued new school "guidance," and requested that schools adopt indoor mask mandates and other procedures
- Various state agencies have either rejected or are not required to implement the Governor's "Government Wide" Mask Mandate
- Only applies to Executive Branch, not Judicial or Legislative
- In certain municipal buildings, you may have to wear a mask only in certain rooms!
- Louisville Metro is now requiring masks in all indoor facilities and metro-owned vehicles
- Fayette County has not yet announced new updated guidance since the CDC directives

# 2 Kentucky's Changes Enacting Mandates

### Mask Requirements Becoming Confusing

- July 29, 2021: Beshear recommends everyone be required to wear masks in public schools
  - Governor's recommendations are NOT currently a mandate
  - Governor followed up, stating that those districts who choose not to follow CDC guidelines may face liability, quarantine, and forfeited athletic events
- July 29, 2021: In response to Governor's Recommendation, Kentucky Health and Family Services issued new guidance to Kentucky Public Schools recommending: Vaccination for those 12 or older; Masks for all persons while indoors; Physical distancing of at least 3 feet; Screening testing for unvaccinated individuals; Ventilation; Handwashing and facility disinfection; and Isolation, quarantine and contact tracing
- July 29, 2021: Kentucky Department of Education Publishes KHFS Recommendation on KDE Website, but has not issued mandates or directives – yet
- July 17, 2021: KHSAA issued new policies regarding returning to sporting activities (which is probably completely outdated, given July 29, 2021 updates!)
  - Fayette County schools has not yet announced its decision on mask mandates.
  - Ballard county and Murray Independent have announced that they will not follow the current mask mandate "recommendation" – stay tuned!

# **DOJ Affirms Legality of Mandatory Vaccination**

- The Department of Justice declared this week that Federal law does allows public agencies and private businesses to require COVID-19 vaccination as a condition of employment.
  - Specifically, the DOJ stated that the emergency use authorization "does not prohibit public or private entities from imposing vaccine requirements, even when the only vaccines available are those authorized under EUA's."
  - Government entities, including the Department of Veterans Affairs, the state of California, and New York City, have stated that they will require some or all of their employees to get vaccinated or be tested weekly.
- Vaccine mandates are on the rise, with groups such as the American Medical Association, American Nurses Association, American Academy of Pediatrics, Association of American Medical Colleges, and the National Association for Home Care and Hospice, all supporting mandatory vaccines for healthcare workers
- Varying recommendations for targeted population, and other confusing guidance!
- The next several days are going to be extremely difficult....

DOJ <u>Update</u>

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