



**STIC Daily Summary**  
**Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Open Source Daily**  
**Ending at 0600 on May 18, 2020**

**Illinois COVID-19 Open Source Reporting**

**Woman Claiming To Have COVID-19 Spits In Nurse's Face In Aurora: Police**

A 33-year-old woman claiming to be infected with COVID-19 allegedly spit in a nurse's face early Monday in an Aurora hospital. Cynthia Meyers, of Oswego, faces a felony count of aggravated battery to a nurse, Aurora police said in a statement. She checked herself into Mercy Hospital in Aurora for trouble breathing and, after some time, tried leaving the hospital, police said. A nurse told her to sign discharge paperwork before leaving, but Meyers allegedly refused and lunged toward the nurse, spitting in her face, police said. Officers were called shortly after midnight to assist security at the hospital in the 1300 block of North Highland Avenue, police said. Meyers was arrested and later released on her own recognizance, court records state. She is due back in court June 17. Police did not say if Meyers was tested for the coronavirus.

**Source:** <https://wbbm780.radio.com/articles/suntimes/woman-claiming-to-have-covid-19-spits-in-nurses-face>

**Lightfoot Warns Rogue Churches Of Consequences**

Mayor Lori Lightfoot is standing firm in the face of threats by some religious leaders to openly defy orders banning large group gatherings this weekend. The city will do what it has to, the mayor said. Lightfoot said Friday she has sent letters to houses of worship that have planned services in violation of the rules on social distancing and crowd size. She has also asked other religious leaders to contact the rogue churches. She said she hopes the conversation and education will keep churches from breaking rules. "We are hopeful that we will not need to take any enforcement action, but if we have to, we will," Lightfoot said.

**Source:** <https://wbbm780.radio.com/articles/lightfoot-warns-rogue-churches-of-consequences>

**COVID-19 update: All four regions remain on track for phase 3 of Restore Illinois plan**

Illinois announced 51 more deaths from COVID-19 and an additional 1,734 confirmed cases throughout the state on Sunday, according to the Illinois Department of Public Health. The state has a seven-day rolling positivity rate of 15%. Illinois has now seen 94,191 confirmed cases of the virus and 4,177 people have died since the pandemic began. A total of 542,172 people have been tested. As of late Saturday night, Illinois had 4,190 COVID-19 patients in the hospital. It marked the fourth consecutive day of decreased hospitalizations. Of those, 1,144 were in the ICU and 735 were on ventilators. For the fourth straight day, all four of the state's health care regions remain on track to advance to phase three of Gov. JB Pritzker's Restore Illinois plan.

**Source:** <https://www.kcchronicle.com/2020/05/17/covid-19-update-all-four-regions-regions-remain-on-track-for-phase-3-of-restore-illinois-plan/auv0n20/>

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## National COVID-19 Open Source Reporting

### **'QUARANTINE FATIGUE' People in New York and New Jersey ignore coronavirus lockdown rules to hit bars and beaches on sweltering Saturday**

People flocked to beaches and bars around New York on Saturday, ignoring coronavirus lockdown rules as city officials warned of a rebound-spike in cases due to "quarantine fatigue." Beachgoers in New York City and New Jersey sought out sand and sun in Long Beach and Belmar to enjoy the 76-degree weather. Others soaked up the sun in Central Park, while revelers headed to bars the East Village for take-out booze. Many traveled further afield to the beaches outside the city. Manhattan Councilman Mark Levine, who is also chairman of the city's health committee, chalked up the crowds to "quarantine fatigue". He warned of a rebound-spike in coronavirus cases if New Yorkers aren't careful. "It's only going to get worse as we head into a hot New York City summer," he told the New York Post on Saturday. Levine urged Mayor Bill de Blasio to plan ahead for the safe outdoor use of streets, beaches, playgrounds and parks. New York Governor Cuomo announced Friday that beaches reopen in time for Memorial Day weekend in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, and Delaware.

**Source:** <https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/11641885/new-york-new-jersey-ignores-coronavirus-lockdown-rules-beaches/>

### **So far, no spike in coronavirus in places reopening, U.S. health secretary says**

U.S. authorities are not yet seeing spikes in coronavirus cases in places that are reopening but it was still too early to determine such trends, health secretary Alex Azar said on Sunday. "We are seeing that in places that are opening, we're not seeing this spike in cases," Azar said on CNN's "State of the Union" program. "We still see spikes in some areas that are, in fact, closed." However, Azar said identifying and reporting new cases takes time. A critical part of reopening will be surveillance of flu-like symptoms in the population and other hospital admissions data, as well as testing of asymptomatic individuals, he said. "It's still early days," Azar cautioned in an interview with CBS' "Face the Nation." He said data will take some time to come in from states that reopened early such as Georgia and Florida.

**Source:** <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-usa/no-spike-in-coronavirus-in-places-reopening-us-health-secretary-says-idUSKBN22T0HN>

### **Federal judge halts Kentucky governor's ban on in-person church services after lawsuit**

Kentucky churches were able to hold in-person Sunday services during the coronavirus outbreak after a federal judge ruled in their favor and against Gov. Andy Beshear's orders. U.S. District Court Judge Gregory F. Van Tatenhove granted a temporary restraining order Friday against the Democratic governor on behalf of Tabernacle Baptist Church in Nicholasville after the state's Attorney General Daniel Cameron, a Republican, joined the case last week. The judge's decision allows in-person religious services that follow social distancing and hygiene guidelines, two weeks ahead of Beshear's reopen date of May 20. "If social distancing is good enough for Home Depot and Kroger, it is good enough for in-person religious services which, unlike the foregoing, benefit from constitutional protection," the judge wrote in the court's order.

**Source:** <https://www.foxnews.com/us/coronavirus-kentucky-church-service-gov-judge>

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### **Missouri State Parks begin reopening process with new camping and fishing guidelines**

On Monday, the remaining 21 St. Louis County parks will reopen after weeks of being closed. Missouri State Parks will also begin a phased reopening of their campground and facilities. A Missouri Department of Conservation employee, Terry Bertholomey, said it will be a very gradual process with many indoor facilities and stations remaining closed for the time being at certain locations. The majority of playgrounds, pavilions, restrooms, and museums will remain closed for a period of time. All activities, events, and rentals are canceled at many parks through at least May 31. The MDC temporarily waived fishing permits in March, but beginning Saturday, tags and permits will be required for trout fishing in trout parks, including the three state parks that residents can trout fish in. Each park will be handling the reopening process differently, including the number of people allowed in a park at one time.

**Source:** <https://www.ksdk.com/article/news/health/coronavirus/missouri-state-parks-begin-reopening-process-with-new-camping-and-fishing-guidelines/63-00f8c3ec-5813-4068-ac9e-99128d235887>

### **Coronavirus vaccine for 30 million Britons by September if trial succeeds**

Plans are in place to roll out a COVID-19 vaccine to 30 million people by September if trials are successful, business Secretary Alok Sharma has said. It comes as the UK announced a further 170 deaths of people with coronavirus – the lowest since the day after lockdown began. Speaking at Sunday's Downing Street press conference, which was delayed due to technical difficulties, the cabinet minister said work by the University of Oxford to find an effective drug was "progressing well." But while pointing out the government had now committed more than a quarter of a billion pounds towards developing a COVID-19 vaccine in the UK, Mr. Sharma warned there was no certainty one would ever be found.

**Source** <https://news.sky.com/story/coronavirus-covid-19-vaccine-for-30-million-by-september-if-trial-succeeds-says-sharma-11990039>

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