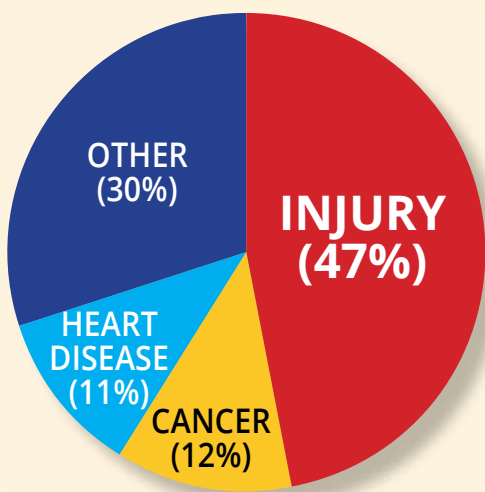




**THE KENTUCKY TRAUMA SYSTEM** is a collaborative effort between the Commonwealth's trauma hospitals to provide Kentuckians with the medical resources needed to save lives of those suffering from traumatic injuries.

# FACTS:

**LEADING KILLER OF THOSE UNDER AGE 45 IN KENTUCKY**



**KENTUCKY INJURY DEATH RATE FROM TRAUMA RELATED INJURIES IS SECOND HIGHEST IN THE NATION**  
**1/3 higher than US average**

**MOST COSTLY DISEASE**  
**More than cancer or cardiovascular disease**

**Traumatic Injury is a MAJOR health issue in Kentucky.**

Sadly, trauma is more deadly in rural areas of Kentucky because of a lack of trauma facilities.

**Quick access to trained trauma providers is the key to saving lives.**

The Kentucky Trauma System seeks to work more closely with rural hospitals to address this challenge to the health of our people and economies of our communities.

## THE CURRENT TRAUMA SYSTEM

- **Kentucky law already establishes a trauma system but does not fund it.** Most states fund their trauma systems through general fund appropriations, fees, fines, or some combination.
- **Commissioner of Public Health oversees the system.**
- Trauma Advisory Committee is made up of volunteers.
- Current system is dependent on goodwill and grants.
- UofL, UK and Norton Children's hospitals are Level I providers, the highest level, and Pikeville Medical Center is a Level II provider. **Some KY rural hospitals provide Level III/IV trauma care but we need many more to cover counties with no trauma care.**
- Level III and Level IV providers are **crucial to stabilizing trauma patients** and, if necessary, referring the patient to a higher level provider.

**The good news is an affordable solution is well WITHIN REACH. The unifying support system needed can be established for **\$1.5M biennially**.**

Simply put, the Trauma System needs a consistent source of revenue in the form of **biennial appropriations**.

*These funds would:*

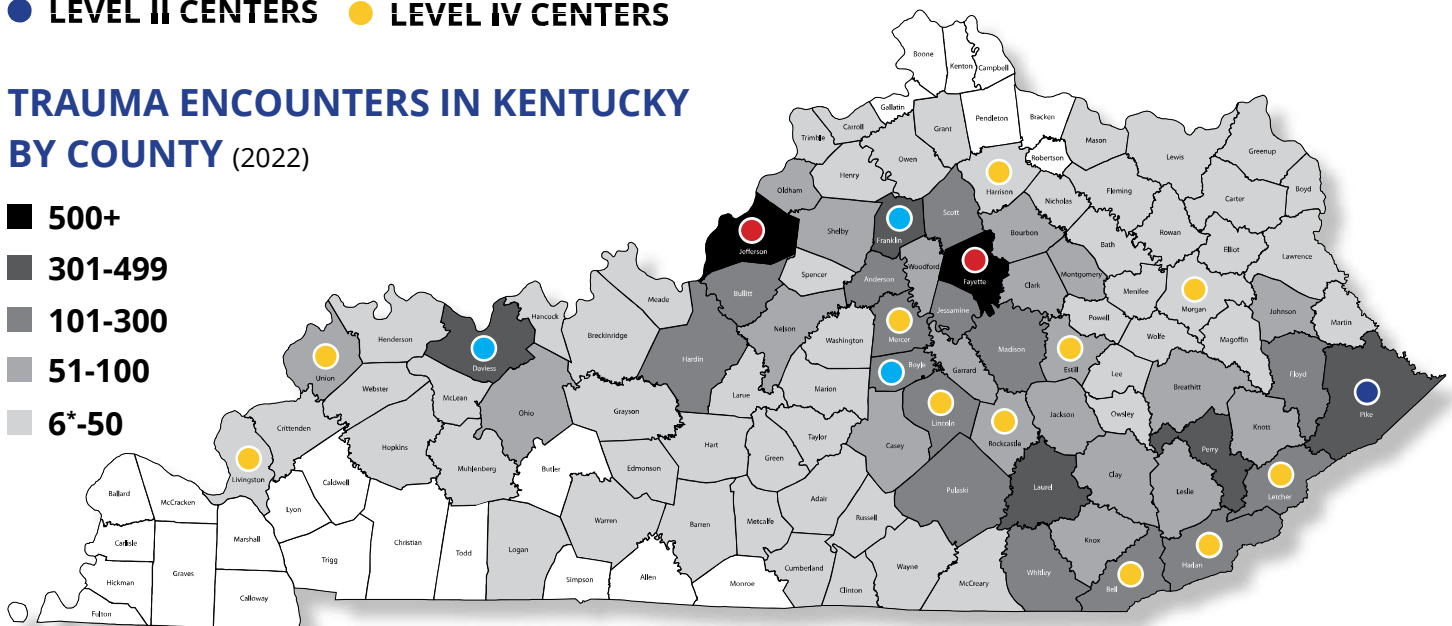
-  **Support rural health care** by eliminating trauma care deserts
-  **Streamline trauma data collection** across the Commonwealth to improve trauma care
-  **Fund trauma care education and training** for rural providers
-  Support rural hospitals seeking **trauma designation** and provide for a **State Trauma Director**

## HOSPITALS IN THE KENTUCKY TRAUMA SYSTEM (March, 2022)

- LEVEL I CENTERS    ● LEVEL III CENTERS
- LEVEL II CENTERS    ● LEVEL IV CENTERS

## TRAUMA ENCOUNTERS IN KENTUCKY BY COUNTY (2022)

- 500+
- 301-499
- 101-300
- 51-100
- 6\*-50



## THE RETURN ON INVESTMENT

- Increased survival rates and lower cost of treatment
- Mitigation of rural trauma health disparities
- Improved **disaster preparedness**
- Improved triage and destination determination for higher levels of care – less waste
- Improved EMS education/protocols/supervision

### For more information contact:

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**LEVEL I:** *Comprehensive, highest level of care*

**LEVEL II-III:** *Mild to moderate injuries – may transfer complex cases to Level I center*

**LEVEL IV:** *Stabilize and transfer to Level I, II or III center*

\*Data from counties reporting fewer than 6 cases is not reported in compliance with Ky Dept for Public Health policy.