

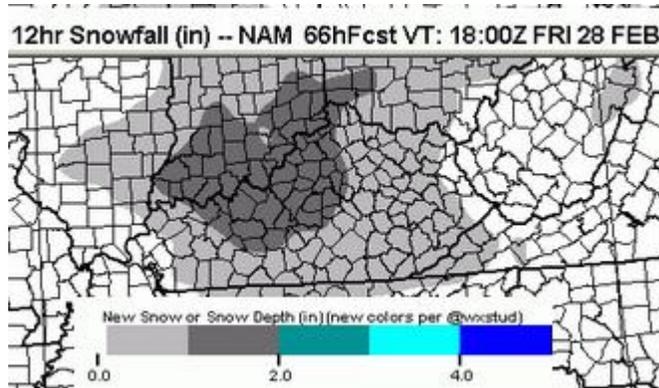


# Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for February 26, 2020

## Some snow chances in forecast

(NWS Louisville) The National Weather Service sent out a heads up on some snow chances over the next few days. We could see a mix of rain and snow showers this afternoon in southern Indiana, and then area wide this evening. Road temperatures should be warm enough to keep these snows from causing impacts. Another system moving into the region Thursday night into Friday morning will have colder grounds to work with, so they are forecasting some light accumulations of snow. The best chance for around an inch of snow looks to be over the Bluegrass region of central Kentucky. Thus there could see some impacts with the Friday morning commute, especially on any untreated roadways.

See the Weather Story graphics for their probability forecast. <https://www.weather.gov/lmk/weatherstory>



[The graphic on the left is the North American Model showing accumulated snow potential for the 12-hour period ending about 2 PM ET on Friday.]

(NWS Jackson) There is a hazardous weather outlook for portions of eastern Kentucky. A disturbance will move through eastern Kentucky today and tonight, bringing light precipitation. The precipitation will begin as rain, before colder air moves in this afternoon and evening, changing it over to snow. The changeover will occur first at the highest elevations along Black Mountain, with the lowest elevations likely not seeing snow until early this evening.

Snow showers will continue tonight, gradually becoming more confined to far southeastern Kentucky with time. Most valley locations will see less than a half inch of snow accumulation, mainly occurring on grassy and elevated surfaces. For elevations above 1500 feet, up to a half inch of snowfall is expected, with 1 to 2 inches possible for elevations above 2500 feet.

As temperatures fall well below freezing late tonight, some slick spots could develop, especially on secondary roads, bridges, and overpasses. A period of light snow is possible from Friday through Friday night.

(NWS Paducah) Light snow accumulation is possible this morning along and north of a line from Perryville, MO, to Carbondale, IL, to Fairfield, IL (little if any impact on Western Kentucky). Flooding continues on portions of the Green, Ohio, and Mississippi Rivers. There is the potential for heavy rainfall early next week, starting as early as Monday. Some flooding impacts cannot be ruled out.

Bookmark for KY Watches, Warnings and Advisories: <https://alerts.weather.gov/cap/ky.php?x=1>

## CBS Coronavirus live updates: Outbreak spreads in South Korea and Italy as CDC warning rattles markets

(CBS) With the global death toll from the flu-like virus now over 2,700 and South Korea, Italy and Iran reporting significant daily jumps in cases, mounting fear that the disease could gain a foothold in other countries has sent stock prices plunging. The CDC's warning on Tuesday shaved about 3% off stock prices on all the major U.S. exchanges, and Asian and European markets were down again Wednesday.

See and read the CBS News Round-up: <https://www.cbsnews.com/live-updates/coronavirus-outbreak-death-toll-infections-latest-news-updates-2020-02-26/>

## Studies profile lung changes in asymptomatic COVID-19, viral loads in patient samples

(CIDRAP) In new research developments, a team from Wuhan, China, reports that even asymptomatic patients with COVID-19 pneumonia have abnormal lung findings on computed tomography (CT), and a group from Beijing noted that viral loads from infected patients appear to peak 5 to 6 days after symptom onset. Both reports appeared yesterday in The Lancet Infectious Diseases.

Read more: <http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2020/02/studies-profile-lung-changes-asymptomatic-covid-19-viral-loads-patient>

## Epidemic vs pandemic? Glossary of terms for virus outbreak

Learn more: <https://apnews.com/cc4fdd824f7721827bb48ed51e08901e>

## America Has 30 Million Masks, Needs 300 Million for Health Care Workers Fighting Coronavirus, HHS Secretary Says

Read full story: <https://www.newsweek.com/alex-azar-coronavirus-masks-30-million-have-need-30-million-fight-america-senate-committee-1489058>

### **Related: Mask manufacturer can't keep up with demand**

Story link: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/coronavirus-americas-largest-face-mask-manufacturer-cant-keep-up-with-demand/>

### **MedPage Today featured storied this morning:**

- The first vials of Moderna Therapeutic's COVID-19 vaccine were shipped to the NIH's National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, which will prepare it for human testing as early as April. (Time: <https://time.com/5790545/first-covid-19-vaccine/>)
- Amid coronavirus fears, Amazon warns [vendors selling protective masks](#) about price gouging. (*Wired*)
- Several [European countries announced their first coronavirus](#) cases and the first positive case was recorded in Latin America; all appeared to be linked to the outbreak in Italy. (*BBC News*)
- If you're exposed to a communicable disease -- cholera, diphtheria, infectious tuberculosis, to name a few -- and forced into isolation, here's how to [quarantine at home](#). (*New York Times*)
- A coalition of [39 states will investigate Juul Labs](#), looking at whether the e-cigarette company targeted children and young teens and made misleading claims about the nicotine content of its vaping products. (*The Hill*)
- Opioid drugmaker Mallinckrodt said it [agreed in principle to settle a raft of lawsuits](#) for \$1.6 billion, "facilitated through a Chapter 11" bankruptcy filing.

### **Medical waste causing problems at Recycle Centers**

(Lexington (WLEX) - The city of Lexington is warning residents that medical waste is causing some serious problems at Lexington's Recycle Center.

Its presence causes serious safety issues for employees working the line. It also results in material being sent to the landfill, much of which could have been recycled. Workers are dealing with the dangers of needles, dialysis bags and tubes, IV bags and tubes and vials. Some employees have even been stabbed by needles and had to receive medical treatment.

Though the problem is serious, the solution is simple. Dispose of medical waste properly. It is not recyclable. Put it with biohazard or landfill-bound waste only.

Full story: <https://www.lex18.com/news/covering-kentucky/medical-waste-causing-problems-at-recycle-center>

### **KY bill to help rural hospitals clears house panel**

Story link: <https://www.lex18.com/media/v/content/4b2d1f717c60d27d8000051aa349447e>

### **Rural South Georgia hospital stays open without an expensive ED**

<https://apnews.com/1bd6a13ecbb8ae93a09dcd9b674356f2>

### **To get his nurse's attention he set fire to his hospital bed**

*(See what can happen when you don't answer the call light?)*

<https://www.newser.com/story/287411/florida-patient-allegedly-sets-fire-so-nurse-will-answer-him.html>

### **Lack of measles shot sets stage for lethal complications**

(Reuters Health) - Measles can infect the appendix, the liver and the membranes protecting the brain in people who are not fully immunized against the virus, a new report confirms.

The study described three adults treated at in a hospital for measles complications - including hepatitis, appendicitis and meningitis - in the journal *BMJ Case Reports*. The patients were part of the global 2019 spike in measles cases, with major outbreaks in the U.S., Europe, Africa and Asia. The U.S. had 1,282 cases of measles last year, the largest number reported since 1992, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Most people who got sick had not received the measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine, which the CDC recommends that children receive in two doses spaced a few years apart.

Each of the patients described in their report recovered and none suffered lasting effects, but measles complications can kill. Claims linking the MMR shot to autism, which have been debunked, are a major factor behind the drop in immunization rates that has led to measles outbreaks.

Full story: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-measles-complications/lack-of-measles-shot-sets-stage-for-lethal-complications-idUSKBN20J2NR>

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**Epic, the software company that's changed the sharing of medical records  
(including, probably, yours)**

Learn more about Epic and record sharing: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/epic-the-software-company-thats-changed-the-sharing-of-medical-records-including-probably-yours/>

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**FEMA NIMS Alert: 04-20 PrepTalk Released:**

**Dr. Howard Kunreuther's "Human Biases: Why People Underprepare for Disasters"**

WASHINGTON — FEMA and its emergency management partners released Dr. Howard Kunreuther's "[Human Biases: Why People Underprepare for Disasters](#)". In his PrepTalk, Dr. Kunreuther discusses the processes and biases in decision-making under uncertainty. He also proposes a behavioral risk audit that couple's protective decision-making with economic incentives, enabling individual and collective actions to achieve greater resilience.

Dr. Kunreuther is Professor Emeritus of Decision Sciences and Public Policy in the Operations, Information and Decisions Department, and Co-Director of the Wharton Risk Management and Decision Processes Center at the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Kunreuther has a long-standing interest in ways that society can better manage low-probability, high-consequence events related to technological and natural hazards.

His PrepTalk video, an accompanying American Sign Language video, and additional resources are available at [www.fema.gov/preptalks](http://www.fema.gov/preptalks). Kunreuther is the sixth presentation to be released on video from the 5<sup>th</sup> PrepTalks Symposium, held September 19<sup>th</sup> in Washington, DC.

PrepTalks are a partnership between FEMA, the International Association of Emergency Managers, the National Emergency Management Association, the National Homeland Security Consortium, and the Naval Postgraduate School Center for Homeland Defense and Security.

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**TSA bars employee use of TikTok  
Security concerns cited**

Read more: <https://www.newser.com/story/287344/tsa-halts-employee-use-of-tiktok-for-social-media-posts.html>

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**Hardest working cities**

(Newser) There's no lazing around in Texas, apparently. [WalletHub](#) looked at 116 large cities across America to see which epitomized the term "work ethic," analyzing nearly a dozen key metrics in two categories: direct work factors, which includes how many hours folks put in during an average workweek, the employment rate, and how much vacation time goes untouched; and indirect work factors, such as those workers who hold down more than one job, average commute time, and how much time residents devote to leisure each day. The site's survey found that four of the top 10 US cities deemed to be the hardest working can be found in the Lone Star State. [Nashville is 16; Louisville is 58; Lexington is 64; Charleston, WC is 93; Memphis is 94; Cincinnati is 99

Full story: <https://www.newser.com/story/287357/here-are-the-10-us-cities-with-the-best-work-ethic.html>

Check out the full list: <https://wallethub.com/edu/hardest-working-cities-in-america/10424/>

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The KHREF Emergency Preparedness Update is assembled several times a week. When events make it necessary, the Update may be sent out several times a day to keep our hospital and the healthcare community advised on preparedness news and information. Most of this information is compiled from open sources, and where possible reference links will be provided. There is an archive of [Emergency Preparedness Updates available here](#). If you would like to added or deleted, or have something you would like to contribute to a future edition of the Emergency Preparedness Update, please contact [rbartlett@kyha.com](mailto:rbartlett@kyha.com) (include your current email address). The preparedness program for the Kentucky Hospital Association (KHA) and KHREF are supported by US DHHS ASPR HPP funds through a contract with Kentucky Public Health.