



## Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for December 24, 2020

### California Is 1st State to Hit 2 Million Cases, and Hospitals Are Out Of ICU Beds

(NPR) Coronavirus cases in the state have skyrocketed over the last two months, and the ICU capacity is now zero in Southern California and the San Joaquin Valley. The number of confirmed cases of the coronavirus in California has surpassed 2 million, according to [Johns Hopkins University](#), as the virus has spread with startling speed in the state.

It's the first state to pass that number. In the last day, [according](#) to Johns Hopkins, California saw 43,986 new cases and 319 deaths.

Full story: <https://www.npr.org/sections/coronavirus-live-updates/2020/12/24/950038710/california-is-first-state-to-hit-2-million-cases-and-hospitals-are-out-of-icu-be>

### Millions of U.S. vaccine doses sit on ice, putting 2020 goal in doubt

(Reuters) Millions of COVID-19 vaccines are sitting unused in U.S. hospitals and elsewhere a week into the massive inoculation campaign, putting the government's target for 20 million vaccinations this month in doubt. As of Wednesday morning, only 1 million shots of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine had been given, about one-third of the first shipment sent last week. Over 9.5 million doses of vaccines, including Moderna's, have now been sent to states, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The slow pace has barely picked up from the first week when 614,000 shots were given although nearly 2.9 million were shipped.

Full story: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-vaccines-distribut/millions-of-u-s-vaccine-doses-sit-on-ice-putting-2020-goal-in-doubt-idUSKBN28X2J6>

### KY COVID Update from Wednesday

On Wednesday, Governor Beshear reported 2,953 new cases with a positivity rate of 8.35%. There were 26 new deaths reported. (From [press release](#).)

### Pfizer to supply US with additional 100M doses of vaccine

(AP) Pfizer said Wednesday it will supply the U.S. government with an additional 100 million doses of its COVID-19 vaccine under a new agreement between the pharmaceutical giant and the Trump administration. Pfizer and its German partner BioNTech said that will bring their total current commitment to 200 million doses for the U.S. That should be enough to vaccinate 100 million people with the two-shot regimen. The government also has an option to purchase an additional 400 million doses.

Read more; <https://apnews.com/article/health-coronavirus-pandemic-coronavirus-vaccine-f35259fee53146887591c32fd8ca6fdb>

### **Related - Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine causes allergic reactions at rate higher than other vaccines, doctor says**

(Fox) Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine may result in more allergic reactions than expected among other vaccines, although it's still rare, Operation Warp Speed's chief scientific adviser Dr. Moncef Slaoui said during a recent interview. The doctor told [CNN](#) Wednesday that the allergic reaction frequency "is superior to what one would expect with other vaccines," although he was aware of only six cases as of Tuesday, out of more than a million inoculations given. Other experts say the vaccine is safe for most people, even those who have mild allergies. Read more; <https://www.foxnews.com/us/pfizer-covid-19-vaccine-allergic-reactions>

### CDC Clinicians' Call: COVID-19 Vaccines: Update on Allergic Reactions, Contraindications, and Precautions

*Wednesday, December 30, 2020*

2:00 PM – 3:00 PM ET

Zoom link below to join: <https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1612877602?pwd=dUxPVGZ5eEtxRzIWeUFnMzZzN1d4UT09>

Telephone dial-in: +1 669 254 5252 or +1 646 828 7666

Webinar ID: 161 287 7602

Passcode: 483914

## **U.S. Cyber Agency: SolarWinds Attack Hitting Local Governments**

(NPR) The malware-infused SolarWinds software update, blamed on Russian state actors, appears to have infected computers more broadly than previously acknowledged. The U.S. Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, also known as CISA, [said](#) Wednesday that the hack not only affected key federal agencies, but also computer systems used by state and local governments, critical infrastructure entities and other private sector organizations.

There is also evidence that other networking software may have been compromised, CISA said. The cybersecurity agency said it is investigating signs of abuse of Security Assertion Markup Language (SAML) tokens as well. SAML tokens are complex password handlers that allow different programs to communicate, allowing for one single log-in to access various services.

Full story: <https://www.npr.org/2020/12/24/949904890/u-s-cyber-agency-solarwinds-attack-hitting-local-governments>

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 add or delete, or have something you would like to contribute to a future edition of the Emergency Preparedness Update, please contact [Preparedness@kyha.com](mailto:Preparedness@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.