



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for January 12, 2021

Kentucky Announces 3,053 New COVID-19 Cases

(From [press release](#)) Today, Gov. Andy Beshear announced more than 3,000 cases and shared more details on the state’s unemployment one-time relief payment program.

“This is the fourth-highest Tuesday, it’s higher than the last couple weeks, so we’re trying to determine where these numbers are going,” said Gov. Beshear. “We are sure that this is a surge caused by gatherings through the holidays, but there is a chance from what we are seeing in the data that while people gathered during the holidays, maybe now they’ve changed their behavior back to be being very careful. If that’s the case, hopefully we’ll see a leveling off, but only the data over the next week is going to let us know.”

As of 4 PM today he announced 3,053 new cases, with 1,733 hospitalized. 397 are in the ICU and 205 on vents. The positivity rate is now 12.23%. There were 22 new deaths reported today, for a total of 2,944.

To view the [full daily report](#), [incidence rate map](#), information on [testing locations](#), [vaccines](#), [contact tracing](#), [school reports and guidance](#), [guidance for health care providers](#) and the White House Coronavirus Task Force reports for Kentucky and more, visit kycovid19.ky.gov.

[Note: The Governor addressed a number of other subjects during his press conference, to include the citizen’s petition being addressed by law in the General Assembly to impeach him. He identified and addressed the individuals involved, several of whom were involved in the armed protests outside the KY Capitol this past weekend, directly during the briefing.

To watch the press conference go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n0WFG8mub-s>]

Dr. Stack Updates Hospitals on the Current Vaccine Situation in KHA Meeting Today

KHA hosted Kentucky Public Health Commissioner Dr. **Steven Stack** and members of his team today to provide an update on the current situation and vaccine order process changes as well as to answer questions from the field.

Dr. Stack stressed that as has been the case, all information is subject to frequent change, including what may be needed as a result of the upcoming announcement on Thursday detailing President-elect Biden’s team’s plans. Dr. Stack is aware that some hospitals have advertised vaccine availability for Phase 1b and may proceed as vaccine supply allows. After vaccine supplies are more plentiful, Vaccine Finder will assist the public with locating sites to receive immunization.

Highlights from Dr. Stack and his team include:

1. Testing for sites already engaged with Gravity will continue to be funded until March 30, 2021.
2. The current number of doses allocated weekly will be relatively stable at 53,700.
3. Last week, the phases for Kentucky were announced and Dr. Stack briefly reviewed them.

Phase	Description
1 A	Long term care facilities, assisted living facilities, health care personnel
1 B	First responders, anyone ≥ 70, K-12 school personnel
1 C	Anyone ≥ 60, anyone ≥ 16 with CDC highest risk C19 risk conditions, all essential workers
2	Anyone ≥ 40
3	Anyone ≥ 16
4	Children under the age of 16 if the vaccine is approved for this age group (est. 18% of KY population)

4. There are about 3.7 million FDA-eligible individuals to receive the vaccine in Kentucky.
5. Dr Stack reiterated that hospitals should continue to prioritize Phase 1a individuals while also recognizing the guidance to administer at least 90% of the vaccine within 7 days of receiving it which may mean providing vaccine to Phase 1b if supply allows.

6. Staff again encouraged all to be liberal with the definition of 1a (e.g., include dental practices, eye doctors, morticians, nursing students who are doing clinical rotations in your facility, anyone who is at risk of exposure to patients and their body fluids).
7. For the next 2 weeks, vaccine allocation will be concentrated to the 33 sites set up in areas where there are large numbers of health care professionals who have not yet had access to vaccine. Send your facility name to **Deb Campbell** at KHA (dcampbell@kyha.com) if you feel your site could be added and include a cell phone number.
8. NO first doses should be ordered this week. ONLY enter your order for second doses needed to be administered next week and do this in KYIR (*see below*).
9. Regional Coordination Centers may reach out to request information regarding the community's progress vis-à-vis the phases. This is for situational awareness and will facilitate decision making.

Updated ordering guidance:

- [January 12 Guidance](#)
- [Ordering Vaccine Guide](#)
- [How to Check Vaccine Orders in KYIR](#)

REMEMBER that Monday, January 18 is a holiday (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day), any vaccine distributions that would normally be scheduled for a Monday delivery will be bumped back to Tuesday next week. Link to KDPH Vaccine Map: <https://govstatus.egov.com/kentucky-vaccine-map>

CIDRAP: [US COVID-19 vaccine strategy pivots to target those 65 and up](#)
[Operation Warp Speed: Briefing for Media on Changes](#)

US child COVID hospital rates vary widely by state, time

(CIDRAP) Rates of pediatric COVID-19 hospitalizations have varied dramatically across US states and more than tripled from May to November, raising concerns that specialized medical resources for children may not be available at the time and place they are needed, according to a [research letter](#) published yesterday in *JAMA Pediatrics*.

A team led by researchers from the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis used state-level hospitalization data and US Census information to assess COVID-19 hospitalization trends among patients 19 years and younger in 22 states. Read more: <https://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2021/01/us-child-covid-hospital-rates-vary-widely-state-time>

Japan Identifies a New Coronavirus Variant

US News) Health officials in Japan have confirmed a third [coronavirus](#) variant that is separate from the strains that were first documented in the U.K. and South Africa. The variant was detected in four people who traveled to Japan from Brazil, according to Japan's health ministry. It is not clear whether the third strain is more transmissible or causes more severe cases of COVID-19. The other two mutations first found in the U.K. and South Africa are believed to be more contagious than the original strain.

Japan last week declared a state of emergency in the greater Tokyo area, with Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga saying additional measures were needed to address the "increasingly troubling" third wave of infections.

Full story: <https://www.usnews.com/news/health-news/articles/2021-01-12/japan-identifies-a-new-coronavirus-variant>

**Related story - Brazil Reports World's First
 COVID-19 Reinfection Case with Mutated Coronavirus Variant**

A Brazilian woman has become the first person in the world to be re-infected with a variant of the novel coronavirus known as E484K, state media reported.

The case, discovered by researchers from the D'Or Institute for Research and Education in Bahia state, was detected in a 45-year-old woman who had tested positive for Covid-19 in May 2020 and was diagnosed again in October with the mutation, Xinhua news agency quoted the state media report as saying on Friday.

In both cases, the patient did not present serious symptoms. Originally identified in South Africa, the E484K mutation has been previously detected in Brazil, but this is the first case of re-infection with it.

Learn more: <https://weather.com/en-IN/india/coronavirus/news/2021-01-10-brazil-reports-worlds-first-covid-19-reinfection-case-with>

Record low flu cases show how COVID-19 is more contagious and 'less forgiving,' experts say

Read more: <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/health/2021/01/11/amid-coronavirus-flu-cases-record-low/4127197001/>

Kaiser Family Foundation Deep Dive into COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy: Trends, Reasons, and Subgroups

(KFF) A new KFF survey finds an increase in the share of the public saying they would definitely or probably get a vaccine for COVID-19 if it was determined to be safe by scientists and available for free to everyone who wanted it. This share now stands at 71%, up from 63% in a [September survey](#). About a quarter (27%) of the public remains vaccine hesitant, saying they probably or definitely would not get a COVID-19 vaccine even if it were available for free and deemed safe by scientist.

Most Recent Acceptance Rates

Do you plan on getting vaccinated against COVID-19?

- Kentucky Physicians- 91.75% “as soon as possible” or “eventually”
- Kentucky Pharmacists- 88.6% “as soon as possible” or “eventually”
- Kentucky Nursing Personnel- pending
- Public National Polls- 71% “definitely” or “probably”*

*<https://www.kff.org/coronavirus-covid-19/report/kff-covid-19-vaccine-monitor-december-2020/>

Among those who are hesitant to get a COVID-19 vaccine, the main reasons are worries about possible side effects (59% cite this as a major reason), lack of trust in the government to ensure the vaccines’ safety and effectiveness (55%), concerns that the vaccine is too new (53%), and concerns over the role of politics in the

development process (51%). About half of Black adults who say they probably or definitely won’t get vaccinated cite as major reasons that they don’t trust vaccines in general (47%) or that they are worried they may get COVID-19 from the vaccine (50%). Learn a lot more: <https://www.kff.org/coronavirus-covid-19/report/kff-covid-19-vaccine-monitor-december-2020/>

[Note: The box above was provided by KY Public Health during a January 12th COVID-19 Briefing.]

Group creates global Ebola vaccine stockpile

(CIDRAP) Public health officials have a new tool to combat Ebola, which kills about half of the people it infects: a global vaccine stockpile. In a [news release](#) today, the International Coordinating Group (ICG) on Vaccine Provision said the effort will allow countries, with the support of humanitarian organizations, to mitigate future outbreaks quickly. This is the ICG's fourth stockpile, following ones created to combat yellow fever, meningitis, and cholera outbreaks.

Already, 6,890 doses of Ebola vaccine are available, but the ICG will work to increase supply to 500,000 doses as recommended by the Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization. Depending on vaccine development, ICG says this could take between 2 and 3 years.

Learn more: <https://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2021/01/group-creates-global-ebola-vaccine-stockpile>

Johns Hopkins: Health Security Headlines Extracts from [January 12, 2021](#)

[U.S. to Release COVID-19 Doses in Push for Older Americans to Get Shots, Azar Says](#) (Reuters) The Trump administration plans to release COVID-19 vaccine doses it has been holding back for second shots and will urge states to offer them to all Americans over age 65, the United States’ top health official said on Tuesday.

[Tribal Elders Are Dying From the Pandemic, Causing a Cultural Crisis for American Indians](#) (The New York Times) The virus has killed American Indians at especially high rates, robbing tribes of precious bonds and repositories of language and tradition.

[Climate Crisis: 2020 was Joint Hottest Year Ever Recorded](#) (The Guardian) The climate crisis continued unabated in 2020, with the joint highest global temperatures on record, alarming heat and record wildfires in the Arctic, and a record 29 tropical storms in the Atlantic. Despite a 7% fall in fossil fuel burning due to coronavirus lockdowns, heat-trapping carbon dioxide continued to build up in the atmosphere, also setting a new record.



Those ‘gas masks’ at the Capitol were actually escape hoods
Remember these from your CBRN Preparedness?
Here’s what they do, and how they work.

<https://www.popsci.com/story/technology/gas-masks-capitol-attack-escape-hoods-explained/>

Related - FBI warned of violent ‘war’ at Capitol in internal report issued day before deadly riot

(CNN/Washington Post) The [FBI warned](#) of a violent “war” at the US Capitol in an internal report issued a day before last week’s deadly siege, but it wasn’t acted on urgently enough to prevent the domestic terrorist attack, [The Washington Post reported Tuesday](#).

The Post said that last Tuesday, an FBI office in Norfolk, Virginia, issued an "explicit internal warning that extremists were preparing to travel to Washington to commit violence and 'war.'" The report "painted a dire portrait of dangerous plans, including individuals sharing a map of the complex's tunnels, and possible rally points for would-be conspirators to meet up" in several states before heading to Washington.

The Post report presents a more vivid picture of some of the threatening and violent discussions that alarmed law enforcement but did not lead to increased security. Law enforcement officials have indicated to CNN that [authorities missed key signs](#) ahead of the siege, which left five dead and the Capitol ransacked.

The Post report is also likely to raise additional questions about why authorities were unprepared to respond to the riot and federal readiness to thwart future threats at a time when the [FBI is warning of armed protests](#) ahead of President-elect Joe Biden's inauguration.

Read full CNN Story: <https://www.cnn.com/2021/01/12/politics/fbi-report-warning-capitol-riot/index.html>

**FEMA Seeks Feedback on NIMS Incident Complexity Guide:
Planning, Preparedness and Training**

FEMA's National Integration Center is seeking feedback on the 2021 NIMS Incident Complexity Guide: Planning, Preparedness and Training. **This national engagement period will conclude at 5 p.m. Eastern Time on February 12, 2021.** National engagement provides an opportunity for interested parties to comment on the draft document ensuring that it is relevant for all implementing partners.

The National Incident Management System is a key component of U.S. incident management efforts and enables organizations nationwide to work together during incidents of all kinds and sizes. Implementing NIMS across the nation is a fundamental part of building our national preparedness. FEMA identified the need to construct the 2021 NIMS Incident Complexity Guide to be used for the purpose of planning, preparedness and training, and not as a decision-making tool during a response. This guide assists incident and emergency management personnel in identifying the complexity "level" for an incident or event. Knowledge of the complexity level helps in the management of a disaster, incident, or event that requires deployable mutual aid.

To provide comments on the drafts, complete the feedback form and submit the form to fema-nims@fema.dhs.gov. To review this document, visit: <https://www.fema.gov/media-collection/incident-complexity-guide/>

The National Integration Center will host a series of 60-minute webinars to discuss the NIMS Incident Complexity Guide and answer related questions. All webinars are open to the whole community. Advance registration is required due to space limitations. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. To register, click on your preferred webinar session from the list below.

- [Webinar 1: 2:00 p.m. ET on Jan. 25](#)
- [Webinar 2: 3:00 p.m. ET on Feb. 9](#)

Weekend Snow Potential



(WHAS-11) Cold air returns this weekend with snow showers likely late Friday night through Saturday. Yes, we will likely have more snow on the way this weekend, but before all of you snow lovers get too excited, this isn't going to be the big one!

A cold front will move through late Thursday, and as colder air wraps around a low-pressure storm system to our northeast, we'll have snow showers developing late Friday into Saturday. Both the European and American GFS weather models are in good agreement showing the snow potential on

Saturday - especially Saturday morning.

Read and see more: <https://www.whas11.com/article/weather/weekend-snow-potential-kentucky-indiana-wanna-build-a-snowman/417-7883c18f-a018-454d-a3d0-f13144077ab9?ref=exit-recirc>

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 (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.