



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for January 24, 2021

Heavy Rain and Hazardous Weather for Portions of KY

(NWS Paducah) A few thunderstorms are possible in portions of southeast Missouri late tonight. Heavy rainfall is the primary hazard.



Monday through Saturday, isolated to scattered thunderstorm activity is expected Monday morning and afternoon across much of the region. Locally heavy rainfall is possible across the region, which may cause minor flooding issues. An isolated strong to severe thunderstorm is possible Monday morning and afternoon across much of the region. Large hail is the primary hazard. A wintry mix of precipitation is expected across much of the region on Wednesday. Impacts from this system are expected to be minimal.

[\(NWS Wilmington, OH\)](#) WINTER WEATHER ADVISORY IN EFFECT FROM 7 AM TO 1 PM EST MONDAY. Tonight. Light freezing drizzle may

cause some slick spots this afternoon and early evening.

[\(NWS Louisville\)](#) Rainfall builds in from the southwest tonight and lasts through the day tomorrow. Widespread soaking rainfall is expected Monday into Monday evening. Precipitation totals around 2 inches could result in localized flooding. Tuesday dries out, but clouds remain across southern Indiana and north-central Kentucky. The next system arrives on Wednesday. Minor snow accumulations are possible Wednesday night, mainly across southern Indiana and north central Kentucky.

[\(NWS Jackson\)](#) Cloudy conditions are expected today, accompanied by increasing rain chances. Rain may mix with snow at the onset along the I-65 corridor, but will transition to all rain by late this morning. This rain will then begin to taper off late this evening. A strong system will then bring widespread rain to eastern Kentucky by late tonight, continuing through Monday night. A slight chance of thunderstorms is also on tap for Monday afternoon and evening.

CSX train derailment in Cincinnati

1,000 gal fuel leak contained before it could enter Ohio River

Read more: <https://www.wcpo.com/news/local-news/hamilton-county/cincinnati/csx-train-derailment-fuel-leak-at-queensgate-yards>

KY COVID Status for Sunday

There were 2,018 new cases recorded today (cumulative total 346,586), with 319 in patients 18 or under. 35 new deaths were reported, bringing the total to 3,421. The positivity rate is 10.24%. There are 1,540 currently hospitalized with COVID-19, including 371 in the ICU and 218 on vents. Regions 4, 7, 8 and 10 are reporting ICU or ventilator at 80% or higher.

For more detail see the KDPH Daily report: <https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/covid19/COVID19DailyReport.pdf>

For other COVID data: <https://govstatus.egov.com/kycovid19>

Related - U.S. surpasses 25 million cases of COVID-19

America's infections account for more than one-fourth of the world's cases of COVID-19.

Learn more: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/covid-us-25-million-cases/?ftag=CNM-00-10aac3a>

CDC reviewing new data that suggests coronavirus variant identified in UK could be more deadly

(CNN) Scientists at the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are speaking with UK health officials to learn more about British data that suggests a new coronavirus variant could be more deadly.

"The CDC has reached out to UK officials and is reviewing their new mortality data associated with variant B.1.1.7," a CDC official told CNN Saturday, using the scientific name for the variant first spotted in the UK in November.

A [UK report](#) released Friday states there is "a realistic possibility" that the new variant has a higher death rate than other variants. While the data is not conclusive, [UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson](#) said "there is some evidence that the new variant ... may be associated with a higher degree of mortality."

Learn more: <https://www.cnn.com/2021/01/23/health/uk-variant-cdc-review/index.html>

**FDA gives approval for syringes to extract an extra dose
from vials of the COVID-19 vaccine**

Full story: <https://wtky.com/article/fda-gives-approval-for-syringes-to-extract-extra-dose-from-vials-of-covid-19-vaccine/35297706>

VA Boston- Cleaning Goes Wrong, Ruining 1.9K Vaccine Doses
<http://newser.com/s301681>

**Researchers Developing Color-changing Sticker
for N95 Masks to Detect COVID**

(CBS) As [COVID-19](#) continues to spread, researchers are looking for new and creative ways to help detect and manage cases. A team at the University of California San Diego is developing something to help do just that: a color-changing sticker. The sticker is a test strip and blister pack that can be placed on N95, surgical or cloth masks and detect SARS-CoV-2 in the user's breath or saliva, according to a [news release](#) from the university.

As the person wearing the mask breathes, the test strip aims to detect protein-cleaving molecules produced from a COVID-19 infection. Once the user removes the mask and test materials, they squeeze out the contents of the blister pack onto the test strip. If the test strip turns a specific color, it means infection molecules are present.

Story link: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/researchers-developing-color-changing-stickers-for-masks-to-detect-covid-19/>

Walmart will begin vaccinating in 7 states – Including IN

(CBS) Walmart stores in Georgia, Indiana, Louisiana, Maryland, New Jersey, South Carolina and Texas will offer [COVID-19 vaccinations](#) starting next week, the retailer said Friday. The vaccines will be administered at Walmart pharmacies to groups that state health officials have deemed most in need of inoculation.

Read more: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/covid-vaccine-walmart-some-states/>

**Related - Kroger KY Regional Vaccination Sites
Will Open Feb. 1 for Phase 1A, 1B and 1C**

(WMKY) Andy Beshear, state officials and Kroger leadership have announced a new partnership to significantly increase the speed of COVID-19 vaccinations across the commonwealth. The first Kroger regional, drive-through vaccination sites will open the week of Feb. 1 for Kentuckians in Phase 1A, 1B and 1C. On Jan. 28, the Governor said more details would be announced on site locations and how to sign up.

Full story: <https://www.wmky.org/post/kroger-regional-vaccination-sites-will-open-feb-1-phase-1a-1b-and-1c>

2 in 5 Americans live where COVID-19 strains hospital ICUs

(AP) Straining to handle record numbers of COVID-19 patients, hundreds of the nation's intensive care units are running out of space and supplies and competing to hire temporary traveling nurses at soaring rates. Many of the facilities are clustered in the South and West.

An Associated Press analysis of federal hospital data shows that since November, the share of U.S. hospitals nearing the breaking point has doubled. More than 40% of Americans now live in areas running out of ICU space, with only 15% of beds still available.

Intensive care units are the final defense for the sickest of the sick, patients who are nearly suffocating or facing organ failure. Nurses who work in the most stressed ICUs, changing IV bags and monitoring patients on breathing machines, are exhausted.

Read full AP story: <https://apnews.com/article/us-news-coronavirus-pandemic-faf144ff9442077a9f2bb292614e1342>

Related - When ICUs Near Capacity, COVID Patients' Risk for Death Nearly Doubles

Learn more: <https://news360.com/article/547062792>

These States Are Safest During the Pandemic

[You will be surprised who is, and is not, on the list.]

<http://newser.com/s301585>

Pandemic Suicides Push School System to Reopen

(Newser) A Nevada school system may soon fast-track reopening for in-class learning amid a spike in suicides during pandemic closures. Per the [New York Times](#), the Clark County school district intends to bring some elementary age students back to the classroom, as well as "groups of struggling students" after a rise in suicides coinciding with Covid lockdowns.

Between March, when schools first shuttered, and December, 18 students in the sprawling district that encompasses Las Vegas had reportedly taken their own lives. The [Las Vegas Sun](#) reported in November that more students were lost to suicide in the first semester of this school year than in the entire school year previous. "We are not only in the midst of a health crisis, but we are being challenged with a mental health crisis and an academic crisis," Clark County School District Superintendent Jesus Jara said at the time.

Complicating a response to the suicides is a recent spike in coronavirus cases in Nevada, where [1,200 new cases](#) and 47 additional deaths over the preceding day were reported Thursday. Though the state may be coming off a post-holiday spike, the numbers remain high. As part of a plan proposed in November to transition to a hybrid instructional model, the Clark County school board this month voted unanimously to approve Jara's recommendation that schools invite individual or small groups of students back to campus on a voluntary basis to participate in social-emotional wellness support and intervention as well as academic screenings, interventions and small-group instruction. "I believe that the plan proposed provides the first steps in returning our students and educators to the classroom," Jara said in the [statement](#).

Story link: <https://www.newser.com/story/301696/las-vegas-schools-could-soon-reopen-amid-student-suicides.html>

Related #1 – Saturday was the Three Year Anniversary of the Marshall County HS Shooting

Story link: <https://www.lex18.com/news/covering-kentucky/three-year-anniversary-of-marshall-county-hs-shooting>

Related #2 - Here's How Much Gun Sales Rose in All 50 States in 2020 KY only state with a decrease!

Learn more: <https://news360.com/article/547082659>

Kids Highly Likely to Transmit Coronavirus to Others: Study

(MedicineNet) While children are less susceptible to illness with the new coronavirus, they are nearly 60% more likely than adults over 60 to infect other family members when they are sick, a new study shows. The findings show the need to conduct [COVID-19 vaccine](#) safety and efficacy studies in children, according to co-senior study author Yang Yang, an associate professor of biostatistics and member of the Emerging Pathogens Institute at the University of Florida.

Learn more: <https://www.medicinenet.com/script/main/art.asp?articlekey=251096>

Lifesaving Covid-19 antibody treatments are plentiful, but still sitting on the shelf

<https://www.cnn.com/2021/01/21/health/covid-19-monoclonal-antibody-treatment-neglected/index.html>

Former OSHA Head Talks Biden's Executive Order On Workplace Safety

Hear NPR podcast: <https://www.npr.org/2021/01/23/959985609/former-osh-head-talks-bidens-executive-order-on-workplace-safety>

German hospital under quarantine over more infections coronavirus variant

(Reuters) German health authorities put a Berlin hospital under quarantine after 20 patients and staff members tested positive for a more infectious variant of the coronavirus discovered in Britain and spreading fast around the world, officials said on Saturday. The number of people at the Humboldt hospital infected with the more infectious B117 variant was likely to rise further in the coming days, a spokeswoman of public hospital operator Vivantes told Reuters. The quarantine decision means that the Humboldt hospital in the German capital will not admit any new patients. New patients and emergencies will be redirected to other hospitals.

Full story: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-germany-variant-idUSKBN29S0KQ>

This Year's Flu Numbers Are Kind of Stunning Almost nobody is getting it amid the pandemic

Learn more: <http://newser.com/s301598>

Antibiotic Resistance May Spread Even More Easily Than Expected

Pathogenic bacteria in humans are developing resistance to antibiotics much faster than expected. The transfer of antibiotic resistance genes to pathogenic bacteria in humans may be much more boundless and widespread

than previously expected. The resistance genes may be transferred from numerous bacterial species in habitats such as aquatic environments, animals, industries and soil. According to the World Health Organization, antibiotic resistance is one of the greatest threats to global health, food safety and development. It already causes over 33,000 deaths a year in Europe alone.

Learn more: <https://www.eurasiareview.com/24012021-antibiotic-resistance-may-spread-even-more-easily-than-expected/>

'There's No End In Sight': Mail Delivery Delays Continue Across The Country

(NPR) You've got mail. Somewhere. Probably. The U.S. Postal Service is still digging out from under an avalanche of mail sent over the holidays. Plus, the system has been strained by the impact of COVID-19 on its workflow and workforce. In addition, operational changes ostensibly designed to stop the system from hemorrhaging money helped create a backlog of mail. And the head of the Postal Service pledges that more changes in the name of cost savings are coming soon.

Full story: <https://www.npr.org/2021/01/22/959273022/theres-no-end-in-sight-mail-delivery-delays-continue-across-the-country>

January is Human Trafficking Awareness Month

33 missing children found in anti-human trafficking operation in Southern California

(CNN) Thirty-three missing children were recovered this month in an anti-human trafficking operation led by FBI's Los Angeles field office, the bureau said in a [statement](#) Friday. Of the 33 children recovered during "Operation Lost Angels," eight were being sexually exploited at the time of their recovery, the FBI said. The operation began on January 11.

Two children were recovered multiple times during the operation, the FBI said, noting it's not uncommon for rescued victims to return to commercial sex trafficking "either voluntarily or by force, fraud, or coercion." Some of the other victims located during the operation were sexually exploited in the past and were considered vulnerable missing children, the statement said.

"The FBI considers human trafficking modern day slavery and the minors engaged in commercial sex trafficking are considered victims," said Kristi Johnson, assistant director in charge of the Los Angeles field office. "While this operation surged resources over a limited period of time with great success, the FBI and our partners investigate child sex trafficking every day of the year and around the clock."

Read more: <https://www.cnn.com/2021/01/23/us/missing-children-found-los-angeles/index.html>

Increasing Numbers of U.S. Residents Live in High-Risk Wildfire and Flood Zones

Learn more: <https://news360.com/article/547100755>

OK Firefighter Disciplined for Transporting Burn Patient on Apparatus

What would you have done in this situation?

[FYI – I would have done the same thing this guy did!]

Read more: <https://www.firehouse.com/careers-education/video/21207049/ok-firefighter-disciplined-for-transporting-burn-patient-on-apparatus>

Houston Man Stole Ambulance, Then went to a fast-food drive-thru – with the emergency lights ON!

Read story: <http://newser.com/s301671>

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.