



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

KY COVID Update

([Press Release](#)) On Wednesday, Gov. Andy Beshear announced the state's positivity rate has declined to 5.9%, the lowest since Oct. 27. As of 4 PM today there were 1,306 new cases, with 883 hospitalized and 228 in the ICU with 112 on vents. 51 new deaths were recorded.

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.

KY Unemployment System Target of Hack Attempt

LEXINGTON, Ky. (AP) — **Kentucky's unemployment** claim website was temporarily inaccessible Wednesday after suffering an attempted **cyberattack**, according to state officials. Unidentified suspects attempted to gain entry to a site that is used to file new claims, check on the status of existing claims, view payment history and update profile information, The Courier-Journal [reported](#). The **system** was overwhelmed with random login usernames, according to a statement from the **Kentucky** Career Center. None of the login attempts were successful and no information was compromised, officials added.

Learn more: http://www.ccenterdispatch.com/news/state/article_56487ee4-48d1-5c8a-bd5f-4ae82697ccc1.html

Johnson & Johnson Covid-19 vaccine is safe and effective, FDA analysis finds

(CNN) In an analysis released Wednesday, the US Food and Drug Administration said the Johnson & Johnson Covid-19 vaccine has met the requirements for emergency use authorization -- another step toward the authorization of a third shot for the United States.

The efficacy of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine against moderate to severe/critical Covid-19 across all geographic areas was 66.9% at least 14 days after the single-dose vaccination and 66.1% at least 28 days after vaccination, according to the analysis, which is meant to brief the FDA's Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee.

The committee is an independent group that determines if the vaccine works and if it's safe. After the group meets Friday, it will make its authorization recommendation to the FDA, which typically follows the recommendation. Read more: <https://www.cnn.com/2021/02/24/health/johnson-vaccine-fda-analysis/index.html>

New Data on Oxford AstraZeneca Vaccine Backs 12 Week Dosing Interval

The Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine is more effective if the doses are given 12 weeks apart, according to findings reported in *Lancet* last week. In the Interpretation section of the article, the researchers reported:

The results of this primary analysis of two doses of ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 were consistent with those seen in the interim analysis of the trials and confirm that the vaccine is efficacious, with results varying by dose interval in exploratory analyses. A 3-month dose interval might have advantages over a programme with a short dose interval for roll-out of a pandemic vaccine to protect the largest number of individuals in the population as early as possible when supplies are scarce, while also improving protection after receiving a second dose. [Full Lancet Report](#)

CDC Coronavirus [What's New? Extracts](#)

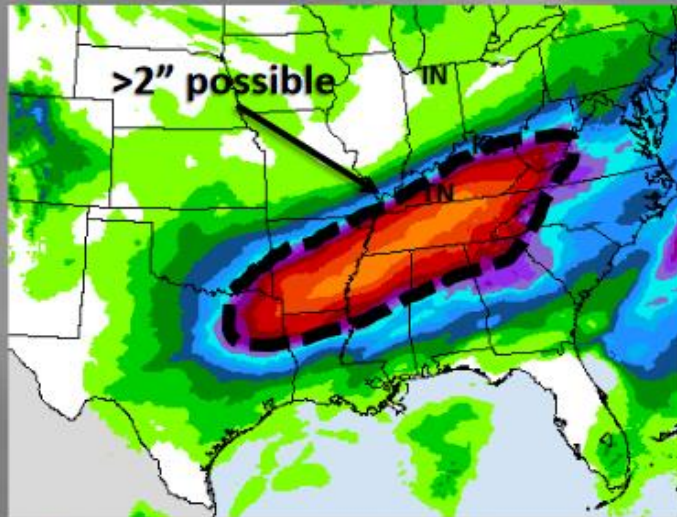
- [Communication Resources for COVID-19 Vaccines](#) Wednesday, February 24, 2021
- [Coronavirus Self-Checker](#) Wednesday, February 24, 2021
- [COVID-19 Forecasts: Cases](#) Wednesday, February 24, 2021
- [COVID-19 Forecasts: Hospitalizations](#) Wednesday, February 24, 2021
- [COVID-19 Forecasts: Deaths](#) Wednesday, February 24, 2021
- [Percent of Delivered First Vaccine Doses Administered by U.S. States and Territories](#) Tuesday, February 23, 2021
- [Testing Data in the U.S.](#) Wednesday, February 24, 2021
- [Types of Masks](#) Tuesday, February 23, 2021
- [Improve the Fit and Filtration of Your Mask to Reduce the Spread of COVID-19](#) Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Wet weekend, possible minor flooding early next week

(NWS Louisville) Several waves of rain are expected to move through the Ohio and Tennessee Valleys Friday through Sunday. Heavy rain will be possible, especially Saturday night through Sunday. Exact timing and location aren't determined yet, but there will be a possibility of minor flooding early next week.

Heavy Rain Possible This Weekend

Waves of rain are expected Thursday night into Friday, Friday night into Saturday, and Saturday night through Sunday. The last wave should be the wettest. Minor flooding may develop by early next week in central KY and southern IN.



CONFIDENCE



Heavy Rain Occurring



Location



Amount of Rain



National Weather Service
Louisville, KY

2/24/2021 3:11 PM

Johns Hopkins: Health Security Headlines, [February 24, 2021](#)

[As Trials Ramp Up, Doctors Stress Need to Vaccinate Kids Against COVID-19](#) (*Science*) As older adults, health care workers, firefighters, and others roll up their sleeves for a COVID-19 vaccine, there's a flurry of research to get shots to children, for whom no vaccine has yet been authorized. Even though young people are less likely to fall seriously ill, doctors and scientists agree that vaccinating them is crucial for their own protection and that of the broader population. And because companies already have solid data from adult trials, they are running smaller studies in children that focus on safety and immune responses to COVID-19 vaccines.

[Adults with Down Syndrome 3 Times More Likely to Die of COVID, Study Finds](#) (*CIDRAP*) Adults older than 40 with Down syndrome are about three times more likely to die of COVID-19 than the rest of the population, pointing to the need to prioritize coronavirus vaccination to this group, a study published yesterday in the *Lancet's EClinicalMedicine* has found.

[Ebola Vaccination Starts in Guinea to Curb New Outbreak](#) (*WHO*) Ebola vaccination of people at high risk kicked off today in Guinea as the emergency response was escalated to counter the spread of the virus that re-emerged in the country a little more than a week ago for the first time since 2016. The vaccination was launched in Gouecke, a rural community in N'Zerekore prefecture where the first cases were detected on 14 February. The Minister of Health and Public Hygiene of Guinea, General Remy Lamah, the United Nations Resident Coordinator, Vincent Martin, the World Health Organization (WHO) Representative in Guinea, Dr Georges Ki-Zerbo and the UNICEF Representative in Guinea, Pierre Ngom, were among the officials at the event.

[Pfizer Gets an FDA Fast-pass for An Old Vaccine with Potential Military Applications](#) (*Endpoints News*) Pfizer spent the last year in a heated race to develop the world's first coronavirus vaccine and the last few years jockeying with Merck and others to develop a sequel to their blockbuster pneumococcal vaccine, Prevnar. Now the FDA is giving the New York drug maker an expedited review for an inoculation few were watching — one, in fact, that has already been in use for decades.

[FDA Briefing Document: Janssen Ad26.COVID.S Vaccine for the Prevention of COVID-19](#) (FDA) In support of their EUA request, Janssen has submitted safety and efficacy data from an ongoing multi-national Phase 3 randomized, double-blind and placebo-controlled trial of a single dose (5x10¹⁰ vp) of Ad26.COVID.S in approximately 40,000 participants. The EUA request followed a successful protocol-specified primary analysis that evaluated co-primary efficacy endpoints of molecularly confirmed, moderate to severe/ critical COVID-19 with onset at least 14 and 28 days, respectively, after vaccination in participants without evidence of SARS-CoV-2 infection prior to vaccination. The co-primary efficacy analysis (data cutoff of January 22, 2021) included 39,321 randomized (1:1) participants with a median follow-up time of 2 months post vaccination. These participants were included in the per-protocol efficacy analysis population.

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.