



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for April 1, 2021

April Is National Child Abuse Prevention Month

National Child Abuse Prevention Month recognizes the importance of families and communities working together to strengthen families to prevent child abuse and neglect. Through this collaboration, prevention services and supports help protect children and produce thriving families.

Find out more: <https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/preventionmonth/>

President Approves Gov. Beshear’s Request for Major Disaster Declaration *Declaration will assist Kentucky communities damaged by massive winter storm*

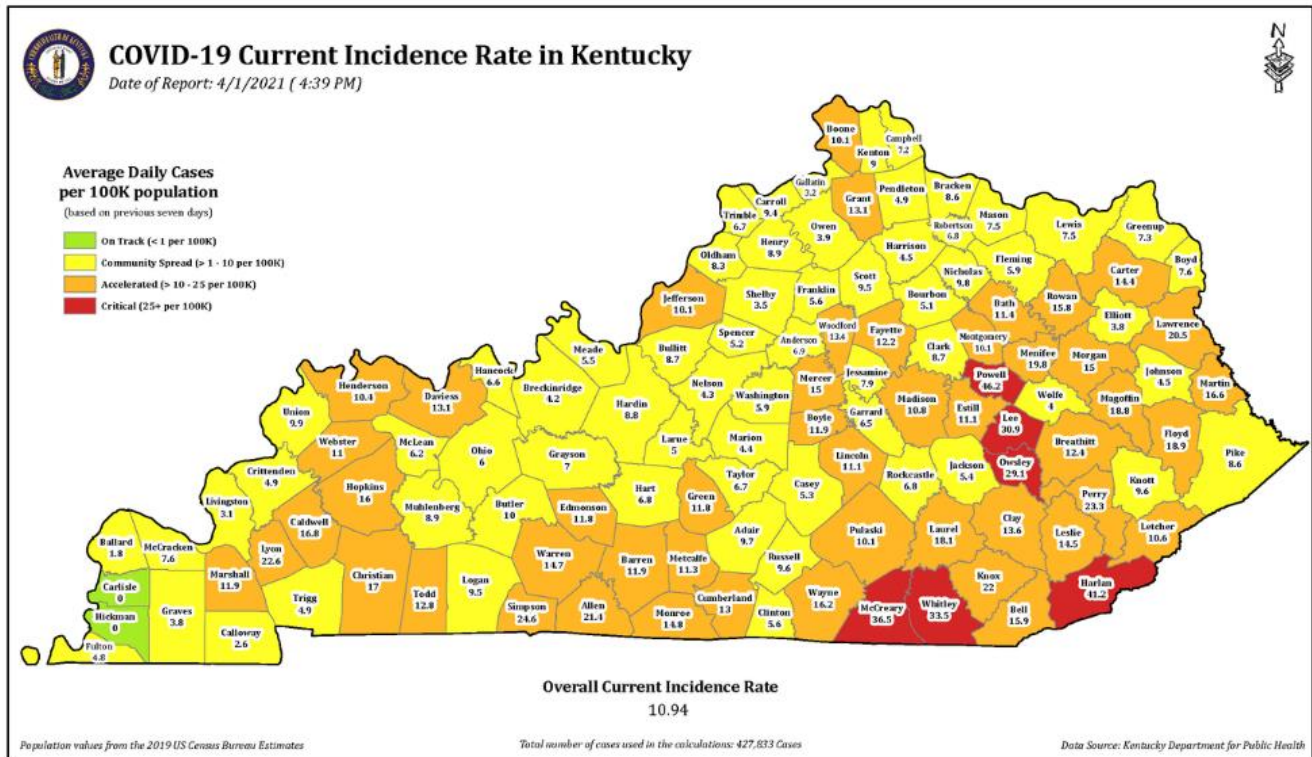
(From [Press Release](#)) Less than two weeks after Gov. Andy Beshear requested a major disaster declaration from the federal government, President Joe Biden approved the request late Wednesday and ordered federal assistance to support Kentucky communities with recovery from devastating winter storms.

“This declaration will make sure Kentuckians and our communities have the necessary resources to rebuild after the devastating ice storm that hit in February,” Gov. Beshear said. “Thank you to President Biden and FEMA for their assistance, and thank you to the many state and local agencies and organizations who are leading the recovery and rebuilding efforts in our hard-hit communities.”

President Biden issued a [Major Disaster Declaration](#) in response to Gov. Beshear’s March 19 request for assistance for the severe winter storms that impacted Kentucky from February 8 through February 19, 2021. The Governor issued a State of Emergency Order on February 11, 2021. Fifty-nine counties and 38 cities likewise issued local state of emergency orders.

KY COVID-19 Update

(From [KY Public Health Daily Summary](#)) Today there were 972 new cases recorded, with 175 in persons 18 and under. The positivity rate was 2.99%. There are 411 hospitalized, with 92 in the ICU and 45 on a vent. There were 13 new deaths, with 5 new audit deaths, for a total of 6,108.



April and May bring rain and flowers and the prime season for tornadoes; some helpful tips

(KY Forward News) It is that time of the year again where we must be on the lookout for severe storms and tornados. Tornados can occur throughout the entire year, but April & May is prime time season for tornados. Today tornado type weather can be forecasted out days in advance and you can usually tell just how bad a ban of severe weather is going to become by learning that the Weather Channel has sent in a reporter.

A tornado is a violently rotating column of air that is in contact with both the surface of the Earth and a cumulonimbus cloud, or, in rare cases, the base of a cumulus cloud. The windstorm is also referred to as a twister, whirlwind, or cyclone.

Not all tornadoes are easy to see. In fact, they can be invisible until they pick up dust and debris, or a cloud forms within the spinning funnel. Peak tornado season in the southern states is March through May; in the northern states, it is late spring through early summer.

Tornadoes are most likely to occur between 3-9 p.m. but can occur at any time. Often times they come with warning signs such as dark or greenish sky, produce large hail, that comes with large and ark low-lying clouds that appear to be rotating and can be heard from a distance that sounds like a loud roar similar to a freight train.

In an average year, about 1,000 tornadoes are reported nationwide, according to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Last year in 2020 there were 1,075 tornadoes compared with 1,517 in 2019, according to preliminary estimates from the NOAA. In 2020 about 76 people perished in tornadoes compared with 42 in 2019. On April 12 -13, 30 people perished in tornadoes in Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, and Tennessee. Then on March 2-3, 25 people were killed in tornadoes in central Tennessee, including the city of Nashville. Tornado deaths in 2020 were the highest since 2011 when 553 people were killed in 1,691 tornadoes.

Learn more in full story: <https://www.kyforward.com/keven-moore-april-and-may-bring-rain-and-flowers-and-the-prime-season-for-tornados-some-helpful-tips/>

Next Emory COVID ECHO training - April 8 at 11 AM ET **COVID-19 Vaccine Considerations for Immunocompromised Populations**

Clinic Objectives:

- To address providers' concerns around recommending the COVID-19 vaccine to immunocompromised patients;
- To utilize cases to exemplify how practitioners approach and manage the COVID-19 vaccines with their patients;
- To empower practitioners to answer their patients' questions about the COVID-19 vaccine.

Link to their website & registration: <https://med.emory.edu/departments/medicine/divisions/infectious-diseases/serious-communicable-diseases-program/covid-19-resources/echo-upcoming-session.html>

Questions can be directed to scdp.echo@emory.edu

Experts predicted the UK variant would become dominant in the US by March. So, is it?

<https://www.cnn.com/2021/03/31/health/uk-variant-dominant-us/index.html>

Covid-19 was third leading cause of death last year, CDC confirms in early data

<https://www.cnn.com/2021/03/31/health/covid-19-deaths-2020-cdc-report-wellness/index.html>

Johns Hopkins: Health Security Headlines - Extracts from [April 1, 2021](#)

[Post-covid Syndrome in Individuals Admitted to Hospital With Covid-19: Retrospective Cohort Study](#)

(*BMJ*) Over a mean follow-up of 140 days, nearly a third of individuals who were discharged from hospital after acute covid-19 were readmitted (14 060 of 47 780) and more than 1 in 10 (5875) died after discharge, with these events occurring at rates four and eight times greater, respectively, than in the matched control group. Rates of respiratory disease (P<0.001), diabetes (P<0.001), and cardiovascular disease (P<0.001) were also significantly raised in patients with covid-19, with 770 (95% confidence interval 758 to 783), 127 (122 to 132), and 126 (121 to 131) diagnoses per 1000 person years, respectively.

[Johnson & Johnson's Vaccine is Delayed by a U.S. Factory Mixup](#). (*New York Times*) Workers at a plant in Baltimore manufacturing two coronavirus vaccines accidentally conflated the ingredients several weeks ago, contaminating up to 15 million doses of Johnson & Johnson's vaccine and forcing regulators to delay authorization of the plant's production lines. The plant is run by Emergent BioSolutions, a manufacturing partner to both Johnson & Johnson and AstraZeneca, the British-Swedish company whose vaccine has yet to be authorized for use in the United States.

The KHEREF 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 KHEREF are supported by US DHHS ASPR HPP funds through a contract with Kentucky Public Health.