



# Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for April 15, 2021

## Kentucky COVID-19 Update

(From [Press Release](#)) On Thursday Governor Beshear began with a discussion of where Kentucky is on administration of the vaccines. He noted that as of today 1,622,924 have received at least their first shot. That represents about 46% of the eligible population, and 877,076 from the 2.5-million target goal set to remove restrictions. As of today there are 499,735 doses of the Pfizer and Moderna vaccine ready to administer across the state. (Find where to get vaccinated at [vaccine.ky.gov](http://vaccine.ky.gov))

As of 4 PM the Governor said there were 834 new cases of COVID to report, with a positivity rate of 3.45%. Of the new cases, 116 are in young people 18 or under, and of that 47 are in the 16-18 year old range eligible for vaccinations. There were also 17 new deaths recorded today, and 0 new audit deaths. The Governor also noted that today there were 0 new deaths within congregate care settings, which is a first.

### **Poll: 29% of Ky. adults said they probably or definitely wouldn't get a coronavirus shot, but half of them said they might reconsider**

(Ky Health News) About 30 percent of Kentucky adults said in late winter that they probably or definitely wouldn't take the coronavirus vaccine, but half of those people said they would be open to changing their mind if given more time and information, [according](#) to a poll taken for the **Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky**.

The poll, among Kentucky adults Feb. 11 to March 12, was taken to learn more about Kentuckians' opinions on coronavirus vaccines and about their intentions to take one or not. At the time, Kentucky was only vaccinating people over 60 and some others such as health-care workers and first responders.

Now, anyone 16 and older can get a shot, and more than 1.6 million Kentuckians have received at least one dose of a vaccine. That's about 50% of Kentucky adults, Foundation CEO Ben Chandler said.

The poll found that 19% said they would definitely not get a vaccination and 10% said they would probably not. Those groups were asked, "Once more people in the U.S. start receiving vaccines for the coronavirus and there is more information about it, would you say it is possible you would decide to get a vaccine, or you are pretty certain that you would decide not to get a vaccine?"

**Download Foundation's report:** <https://www.healthy-ky.org/res/images/resources/Vaccines-in-Kentucky-Briefing.pdf>

### **Johns Hopkins: Health Security Headlines Extracts from [April 15, 2021](#)**

**[SARS-CoV-2 Antibody Response in Persons with Past Natural Infection](#)** (*NEJM*): In an observational cohort study, we enrolled 100 health care workers, including 38 with a documented history of SARS-CoV-2 infection. Our study also included 62 participants who had not been previously infected. Both groups of participants received the Pfizer vaccine. No significant difference in circulating anti-spike IgG antibody titers was observed between the samples from previously infected participants and those from previously uninfected participants.

**[With Johnson & Johnson's Vaccine on Pause, the Consequences Could Ripple Worldwide](#)** (*New York Times*) After a day that many hoped would add clarity to the rollout of Johnson & Johnson's troubled Covid-19 vaccine, the picture on Thursday is as muddy as ever in the United States. The "pause" that U.S. health officials put in place on the use of the vaccine might now stay in place for seven to 10 days. It's a decision with potentially painful consequences that could ripple worldwide.

**[Merck to Continue Tests of Covid Pill, But Stop Trial in Hospitalized Patients](#)** (*STAT*) Merck said Thursday that it has seen "encouraging" results in a clinical trial of an antiviral pill to treat Covid-19 early in the disease's course. At the same time, the company said it will stop efforts to develop both that drug and a second medicine for patients who have already been hospitalized with the disease. The drug giant licensed the anti-Covid pill, molnupiravir, from Ridgeback Biotherapeutics last July.

**[The Biggest Security Threats to the US Are the Hardest to Define](#)** (*Wired*) In a public hearing before the Senate intelligence committee, and a corresponding report released on Tuesday, directors of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, National Security Agency, Defense Intelligence Agency, CIA, and FBI laid out their agencies' assessments. They highlighted cybersecurity and offensive hacking as a major topic in light of the SolarWinds attacks, which they firmly attributed to Russia. They also pointed to technological innovation, particularly advances from China, that threaten to undermine the security of US infrastructure.

**Related - [President Biden sanctions Russia over SolarWinds hack](#)**

## ASPR TRACIE Express ([April Update](#))

This issue of *The Express* highlights the following new/updated resources:

- [COVID-19 and the Changing Healthcare Delivery Landscape](#) (Speaker Series)
- [Healthcare Delivery Impacts Tip Sheet](#) and [Summary Document](#)
- [Acute Care Delivery at Home Tip Sheet](#)
- [Issue 12: COVID-19 and Healthcare Professional Stress and Resilience](#)
- [Mind Over Matter: Strategies to Help Beat the Coronavirus Blues](#)
- [UCSD Health Medical Cyber Disaster Preparedness Study](#)

Please continue to access our [Novel Coronavirus Resources Page](#), the National Institutes of Health [Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Treatment Guidelines](#), and CDC's [Coronavirus webpage](#), and [reach out](#) if you need technical assistance (TA).

### **Webinar: Community-Centric Public Health Practice: COVID-19 and Beyond**

April 20, 2:00 PM ET

Registration: [https://jh.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_wYcfb1JBTQyqyawYgdn5VQ](https://jh.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_wYcfb1JBTQyqyawYgdn5VQ)

Hosted by CommuniVax, a Coalition to Strengthen the Community's Involvement in an Equitable Vaccination Rollout, and the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security

### **Female nurses twice as likely to die by suicide compared to other women**

(UPI) -- Female nurses were about twice as likely to die by suicide as women in the U.S. general population, even before the COVID-19 pandemic, according to a study published Wednesday by [JAMA Psychiatry](#).

Compared to people in the general population, nurses were 18% more likely to die by suicide, regardless of gender, during the 12-year period between 2007 and 2018, the data showed.

Suicide rates for physicians of both genders were similar to those of the general population over the study period, the researchers said. Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the United States, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Read full story: [https://www.upi.com/Health\\_News/2021/04/14/nurses-physicians-suicide-study/5591618405826/](https://www.upi.com/Health_News/2021/04/14/nurses-physicians-suicide-study/5591618405826/)

### **CDC: Drug overdose deaths, ED visits for mental health concerns climb**

(From [AHA Today](#)) Drug overdose deaths in the United States rose by an estimated 29% between September 2019 and September 2020 to 90,237, according to [preliminary data](#) released yesterday by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The estimate accounts for delayed reporting.

In other news, CDC today [reported](#) more emergency department visits for mental and behavioral health concerns in December 2020 and January 2021 than before the pandemic. While total ED visits were 25% lower than in December 2019 and January 2020, a greater share of ED patients sought care for mental and behavioral health concerns, especially pediatric patients.

### **States with high mask-wearing saw lower COVID-19 infection rates in 2020**

(UPI) -- States that required residents to wear masks in public spaces during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic last year saw lower infection rates than those without mandates, a study published Wednesday by [PLOS ONE](#) found.

None of the eight states that reported rates of compliance with mask mandates of 75% or higher during summer and early fall 2020 experienced high numbers of infections through the end of October, the data showed. Conversely, 14 of 15 states that did not require people to wear masks in public during the same period had high infection rates then, the researchers said.

The findings provide new evidence in support of mask-wearing as a major factor that contributes to reduced COVID-19 infection rates, according to the researchers.

Full report: [https://www.upi.com/Health\\_News/2021/04/14/coronavirus-masks-cases-study/6401618423942/](https://www.upi.com/Health_News/2021/04/14/coronavirus-masks-cases-study/6401618423942/)

### **Emory SCDP ECHO Session**

**Long Haul COVID**

**April 22 at 11am ET**

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>

Listen & subscribe to the podcast of past sessions: <https://scdp-echo-podcasts.simplecast.com>

Questions can be directed to [scdp.echo@emory.edu](mailto:scdp.echo@emory.edu)

**Center for Homeland Defense and Security  
Executive Education Program Lecture and Webinar Series**

What Comes Next?

Virus Variants, Vaccine Next Steps, and Preventing Future Pandemics

**Thursday, April 29, 2021 - 2:00 PM EDT / 11:00 AM PDT**

- [REGISTER HERE](#) -

Please join the Center for Homeland Defense and Security (CHDS), the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO), CHDS Alumni Association, the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM), the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA), and the Naval Postgraduate School Alumni Association for a webinar examining what is next in the US response to COVID-19, from the "last mile" of vaccine distribution to what the pandemic could mean for community resilience and global health in the years to come.

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**A Typically Warm April Day in Texas Stressed Power Grid**

*Texan were urged to conserve electricity, though weather was not unusual for spring*

(Newser) The power grid in Texas, which was disastrously ill-equipped to handle a winter storm and cold snap in February, ended up struggling again on Tuesday when the day turned out to be warmer than expected in parts of the state, although conditions were not unusual for the time of year. The Electric Reliability Council of Texas, which oversees the state's standalone grid, urged customers to conserve electricity and warned that it may have to "enter emergency conditions," [CBS Austin](#) reports. ERCOT said supply was "tight" because a cold front had stalled, leading to more air conditioning use than expected amid temps that reached into the 80s in places. The other major factor: around 25% of the state's generating capacity was offline for regular maintenance ahead of the high-demand summer months.

Full story: <https://www.newser.com/story/304921/a-typically-warm-april-day-in-texas-stressed-power-grid.html>

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<p>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 <a href="#">Emergency Preparedness Updates available here</a>. 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 <a href="mailto:Preparedness@kyha.com">Preparedness@kyha.com</a> (include your current email address). The preparedness program for the Kentucky Hospital Association (KHA) and KHREF are s</p>
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# PEOPLE MATTER, WORDS MATTER

## ARE YOU USING **COMPASSIONATE SUD** LANGUAGE?

Language matters in compassionate care, and that is not limited to what you say in front of a patient. What you say behind closed doors with coworkers can be the seed for stigma and blaming the patient for their illness.

For individuals with substance use disorders, this means seeing them as a person battling a severe illness and providing hope. Our words reflect our thinking and make a profound difference in the outcome of care. Let's choose to inspire and support our patients.

### TRY SAYING THIS...

- ▶ I understand what you are saying.
- ▶ Their life is worth saving.
- ▶ We have treated this patient before.
  
- ▶ A person can be a good mom/dad/parent and be in recovery.
- ▶ They have a substance use disorder.
- ▶ Their recovery should be celebrated, and we should continue supporting them.
- ▶ We should focus on both their acute conditions and their substance use disorder.

[ THESE WORDS SHOW COMPASSION AND EVERY PERSON'S LIFE IS WORTH SAVING. ]

### INSTEAD OF THIS

- It's all in your head.
- They're a lost cause.
- They're a frequent flyer in the emergency department.
- They can't be a good parent while in recovery.
- They're a junkie/addict/alcoholic.
- They're just going to relapse.
  
- They have a substance use disorder, but we should only focus on their high blood pressure.

[ THESE WORDS PROPAGATE STIGMA AND DON'T RECOGNIZE THE PERSON'S VALUE. ]

Thank you, Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine and Carilion Clinic, for being a source of this information.



April 2021