



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for April 27, 2021

KY COVID Updates

([Press Release](#)) Gov. Andy Beshear announced 1,732,791 Kentuckians have received at least their first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine. Kentuckians should visit vaccinemap.ky.gov to find a COVID-19 vaccination site near them.

As of 4 PM today there were 716 new cases reported, with 397 currently hospitalized, 103 in an ICU, and 41 on vents. The positivity rate was 3.17%. There were 10 new deaths, with 7 new audit deaths.

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.

Related story – KY Mask Mandate Changing for Smaller, Outdoor Events Due to Increased Vaccinations

([Press Release](#)) The Governor said beginning Tuesday, based on recent studies and Kentucky's increasing number of vaccinations, the statewide mask mandate will no longer be in effect when Kentuckians are **outside** at events or venues **with 1,000 people or fewer**.

"What this means is at events like the Kentucky Derby, you still have to wear a mask, but if you're at a backyard barbeque, your community pool or an outdoor wedding, you're not required to wear a mask," said Gov. Beshear. "We hope this is a relief for people, and remember, the state will be able to lift even more restrictions once the 2.5 million vaccine *Team Kentucky Vaccination Challenge* is reached."

Masks are still recommended at outdoor events with 1,000 people or fewer, and the mask mandate is still in effect when Kentuckians are indoors or at any outdoor event with more than 1,000 people.

CDC unveils new mask guidance for fully vaccinated Americans

Choosing Safer Activities

	Unvaccinated People	Your Activity	Fully Vaccinated People
		Outdoor	
Safest		Walk, run, or bike outdoors with members of your household	
		Attend a small, outdoor gathering with fully vaccinated family and friends	
		Attend a small, outdoor gathering with fully vaccinated and unvaccinated people	
Less Safe		Dine at an outdoor restaurant with friends from multiple households	
Least Safe		Attend a crowded, outdoor event, like a live performance, parade, or sports event	
		Indoor	
Less Safe		Visit a barber or hair salon	
		Go to an uncrowded, indoor shopping center or museum	
		Ride public transport with limited occupancy	
Least Safe		Attend a small, indoor gathering of fully vaccinated and unvaccinated people from multiple households	
		Go to an indoor movie theater	
		Attend a full-capacity worship service	
		Sing in an indoor chorus	
		Eat at an indoor restaurant or bar	
		Participate in an indoor, high intensity exercise class	

(CBS) The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) unveiled updated guidelines on Tuesday detailing activities that [vaccinated people can safely resume](#), including attending small outdoor gatherings without the need to wear a mask.

The new "[interim public health recommendations](#)" detail a variety of situations in which individuals who have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 can forgo wearing a mask, but urged the continued use of face coverings in most indoor settings and in crowded outdoor areas.

The new recommendations say fully vaccinated individuals can engage in the following activities without wearing masks:

- ✓ Walking, running, hiking or biking outdoors alone or with members of their household
- ✓ Attending small outdoor gatherings with fully vaccinated family and friends
- ✓ Attending small outdoor gatherings with a mixture of fully vaccinated and unvaccinated people
- ✓ Dining at outdoor restaurants with friends from multiple households.

Fully vaccinated people can also attend "a crowded, outdoor event, like a live performance, parade, or sports event," as long as they remain masked, according to a CDC infographic of the new guidelines.

Get a COVID-19 vaccine

Prevention measures not needed

Take prevention measures
Fully vaccinated people: wear a mask
Unvaccinated people: wear a mask, stay 6 feet apart, and wash your hands.

- Safety levels assume the recommended prevention measures are followed, both by the individual and the venue (if applicable).
- CDC cannot provide the specific risk level for every activity in every community. It is important to consider your own personal situation and the risk to you, your family, and your community before venturing out.

Link to PDF of graphic: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/pdfs/324153_choosingSaferActivities11.pdf

Link to CDC Guidance: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html>

CBS video & full story: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/cdc-guidance-face-mask-outdoors-vaccinated-americans/>

**Some states are turning down vaccine doses;
Feds have 'full confidence' J&J vaccine benefits outweigh risks.**

(USA Today) With over 40% of the U.S. population at least partially vaccinated, many of those most at-risk or most eager to get vaccinated have already done so. Now the U.S. faces a tough road ahead to protect hard-to-reach populations. Some states have already turned down or scaled back vaccine shipments as supply outpaces demand.

In an attempt to better reach those hesitant to take the vaccine, the White House announced a "We Can Do This: Live" campaign to connect people on social media to trusted information by pairing health professionals with influencers, including actress Eva Longoria, TV personality Ryan Seacrest, Barbara Corcoran of Shark Tank and players of the NBA and the WNBA.

Meanwhile, the [Johnson & Johnson vaccine is available again](#) after an 11-day pause due to reports of rare blood clots. States are counting on the easier-to-store, one-dose option to help protect hard-to-reach populations, including people who are experiencing homelessness, the homebound and incarcerated individuals.

Full story: <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/health/2021/04/24/covid-news-johnson-johnson-covid-vaccine-michigan-surge/7359547002/>

Psychosocial Support for Healthcare and Behavior Health for Healthcare Providers

Well@Work Podcast- Episode 19:

Managing Media in Chaotic Times- - <https://youtu.be/-ktZyiys4wo>

Resource Announcement: Audio only versions of the all Well@Work episodes are now available! You can find these at our Well@Work Podcast Webpage <https://www.uky.edu/ctac/wellatworkpodcast> or your favorite podcast app! Additionally, the **new website** includes links to individual episodes which contain the original video version, new audio podcast, and a transcript of the episode!

From CIDRAP:

- > [COVID-19 variants spread faster but grew milder over time in Ohio](#)
- > [India's daily COVID-19 cases break yet another record](#)

**NPR's "This American Life" Podcast called "The Herd" related to the COVID Pandemic
"What happens when your own community suddenly turns on you?"**

There are two sections to the broadcast coming out of the COVID pandemic. The first discusses both threats to Public Health Officials, causing a large turnover – especially among women health directors after harassment and threats during the pandemic. The second addresses the challenge of getting those reluctant to get vaccinated, to change their mind – especially stubborn Republicans! *Chris Christie was a key to changing their minds.* You can [listen to the podcast](#), or [read the transcript](#).

**Johns Hopkins: Health Security Headlines
Extracts from [April 27, 2021](#)**

[Higher Stroke Risk Linked to Asymptomatic COVID-19 in Younger Men](#) (CIDRAP) Men under 50 recovering from asymptomatic COVID have double the likelihood of acute ischemic strokes (AIS) compared with men of the same age without COVID infection, according to a study last week in JAMA Network Open. Eighteen South Asian men were treated in Singapore for AIS a median of 54.5 days after their initial COVID-19 diagnosis. Twelve (67.7%) had no known pre-existing risk factors. While AIS is a known neurologic complication from symptomatic COVID-19, none of these men experienced respiratory symptoms during their infection.

[Millions Are Skipping Their Second Doses of Covid Vaccines](#) (New York Times) Millions of Americans are not getting the second doses of their Covid-19 vaccines, and their ranks are growing. More than five million people, or nearly 8 percent of those who got a first shot of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, have missed their second doses, according to the most recent data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. That is more than double the rate among people who got inoculated in the first several weeks of the nationwide vaccine campaign. Even as the country wrestles with the problem of millions of people who are wary about getting vaccinated at all, local health authorities are confronting an emerging challenge of ensuring that those who do get inoculated are doing so fully.

California man hospitalized with clot after J&J vaccination

(KCRA – San Francisco) A San Francisco Bay Area man in his 30s is recuperating after developing a rare blood clot in his leg within two weeks of receiving the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, University of California, San Francisco officials said.

As of Friday, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention had reported the condition in 15 people, all women, after 8 million doses were administered nationally. It involves unusual clots that occur together with low levels of blood-clotting platelets.

"To the best of our knowledge, this is the first male patient with VITT syndrome in the U.S. following the U.S. emergency authorization of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine on Feb. 27, 2021," UCSF said in a statement.

Full report: <https://www.kcra.com/article/bay-area-man-hospitalized-with-clot-after-jandj-vaccination-johnson-and-johnson/36256562#>

'Garage Lab' Vape Products May Be Driving Lung Injury in Rural Appalachia

Learn more: <https://news360.com/article/554246511>

At least 82 killed, 110 injured, in massive Baghdad hospital fire Fire is believed to have started after oxygen tanks exploded

Read more: <https://www.cnn.com/2021/04/24/middleeast/baghdad-hospital-fire-oxygen-tanks-explosion-intl/index.html>

Emergency Nurses Association Debuts Firearms Injury Prevention Education Program

(ENA) New resources released by the [Emergency Nurses Association](#) provide tools and information emergency nurses can use to help patients who might be at risk for firearm injuries or death. The Firearms Injury Prevention Education program features a webinar, online learning modules and a podcast series focused on identifying patients who might be in danger and the steps ED nurses can take to assess, educate and provide follow-up care to those individuals to reduce the possibility of them facing harm based on firearm accessibility.

To help launch the program, the [ENA Podcast's latest episode](#) provides an overview focused on promoting firearm safety among ED patients. The webinar and learning modules give nurses the tools to identify age-specific risk factors; triage and assessment guidelines; discharge education; and tips on how to approach the topic of firearm accessibility within the context of injury prevention and safety.

Learn more about the Firearms Injury Prevention program by visiting ena.org/education.

- ✓ [Firearm Injury Prevention and Patient Safety: Online Course](#)
- ✓ [Firearm Injury Prevention and Patient Safety: Overview Webinar](#)
- ✓ [Firearm Injury Prevention and Patient Safety: Podcast Series](#)

National Hurricane Center Highlights Deadliest Problem Ahead Of What Forecasters Believe Will Be Active Season

New advancements in the hurricane warning system have moved the emphasis from wind to water as the primary threat to life during tropical systems.

"Mortality from hurricanes, over the last several decades, water is the No. 1 killer," NHC Storm Surge team lead Jamie Rhome said. "About 50% of the lives lost, historically, storm surge." Freshwater flooding from rain, streams and rivers then compounds the issue, accounting for one-quarter of all tropical storm and hurricane fatalities. Story link: <https://news360.com/article/554225115>

Related story - May Weather Can Bring Tornadoes, Tropical Storms, Warmer Temperatures and Even Snow

(The Weather Channel) May ushers in several notable changes in the nation's weather compared to earlier in spring. Severe thunderstorms are often one of the first weather concerns that come to mind in May, but the tropics also have to be watched as hurricane season approaches. For many warmer temperatures are one of the month's highlights, as the first signs of summer creep into your forecast. [<Read more >](#)

Who Responds Best to Mental Health Emergencies?

People with untreated mental illness are more likely to be killed in police encounters

(MedPage Today) Police officers have become de facto social workers, mental health counselors, and medical experts, as they are often called on to respond to individuals in the throes of a mental health crisis, but most police have neither the training nor the skills to address these problems. As a result, situations can escalate quickly, noting that people with untreated mental illness are 16 times more likely to be killed during a police encounter compared with the general public.

Learn more: <https://www.medpagetoday.com/psychiatry/generalpsychiatry/92264>

US Attorney General Signals More Investigations Into Local Police Departments Will Be Forthcoming

(From IACP [The Lead](#)) The [Wall Street Journal](#) (4/23, Gurman, Subscription Publication) reports Attorney General Garland on Friday informed leaders of the country's biggest law-enforcement organizations that a probe into the Minneapolis Police Department won't be the final extensive civil-rights investigation concerning a local department that the Justice Department means to commence. Garland's meeting with the organizations marked the first of what he indicated is going to be numerous interactions between leading Justice Department officials and law enforcement as the Justice Department embarks upon a bold civil-rights agenda.

The [Washington Times](#) (4/23, Mordock) reports that Attorney General Garland "on Friday afternoon promised to give leaders of some of the nation's largest police groups advance notice of future investigations into local departments, sources involved in the meeting told The Washington Times," but Garland "cautioned that the tip-off would only come in cases where he could give a heads-up. He warned attendees that because of the sensitive nature of the investigations, he may not always be able to notify the groups ahead of a public announcement, sources told The Times." Garland "also told attendees he expects the Justice Department will launch additional probes into local police departments but did not offer specifics."

Poll: Majority Of Americans Support Increased Scrutiny Of Law Enforcement. The [Washington Post](#) (4/23, Clement, Guskin) reports, "Six in 10 Americans say the country should do more to hold police accountable for mistreatment of Black people, far outpacing concerns about those measures interfering with how law enforcement does its job, according to a Washington Post-ABC News poll." The nationwide poll additionally discovers that worries regarding "treatment of Black Americans and other minorities by the criminal justice system – which spiked last summer amid national protests after George Floyd's killing – have eased slightly since then." However, those worries continue to be "at the highest point in previous surveys dating back to 1988."

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US Attorney General announces Justice Department investigation into the Louisville Police Department

(CNN) Attorney General Merrick Garland on Monday announced a Justice Department investigation into the practices of the Louisville Police Department.

The impending probe will come a little over a year after [officers with the department shot and killed Breonna Taylor](#), a 26-year-old aspiring nurse, in her own home during a botched raid. The department came under intense scrutiny following the incident and her killing, along with that of several other Black Americans, led to widespread protests in the US over [policing and racial injustice](#).

Garland, speaking at the Justice Department's headquarters, referred to Taylor during his announcement of the investigation, which he said "will assess whether (Louisville Metro Police Department) engages in a pattern or practice of using unreasonable force, including with respect to people involved in peaceful expressive activities."

Full CNN story: <https://www.cnn.com/2021/04/26/politics/justice-department-investigation-louisville-police-department/index.html>

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.