



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for May 4, 2021

KY COVID Update

([Press Release](#)) Governor Andy Beshear announced that 1,835,176 people have now received at least their first does of a COVID-19 vaccine. “We’re getting closer to reaching our 2.5 million–vaccine *Team Kentucky Vaccination Challenge* every day, but we need to pick up the pace, especially among younger Kentuckians,” said Gov. Beshear.

Top five counties by vaccination rate: Woodford (55%), Franklin (54%), Fayette (52%), Scott (45%) and Jefferson (44%). Bottom five counties by vaccination rate: Christian (17%), Spencer (17%), Ballard (19%), McCreary (20%) and Lewis (20%).

As of 4 PM Tuesday there were 776 new cases, with a positivity rate of 3.4%. There were 7 new deaths recorded, with a total of 6,532 to date. See the daily summary for more detail:

<https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/covid19/COVID19DailyReport.pdf>

UK closing Kroger Field vaccination site due to low demand

(WKYT) A mass vaccination site in Kentucky will be closing in the coming weeks. University of Kentucky officials say low demand is the reason the Kroger Field location will disband and transition to clinic operations. Read more: <https://www.wkyt.com/2021/05/04/uk-closing-kroger-field-vaccination-site-due-to-low-demand/>

Your COVID vaccine booster might be a patch or a pill. Or it might come with your flu shot.

Learn more: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/covid-19-vaccine-booster-patch-pill/>

How the COVID-19 pandemic created a "perfect storm" for opioid addiction

Read more: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/covid-19-pandemic-opioid-addiction/>

Do Not Dispose of Any Expired BinaxNOW™ COVID-19 Ag Cards

The Kentucky Department for Public Health (KDPH) is reminding providers to not dispose of any expired BinaxNOW™ COVID-19 Ag Cards. KDPH is expecting a letter from Abbott with new/extended expiration dates for multiple lot numbers. Per discussion with a Senior Specialist at Abbott, this information should arrive in the very near future.

Upon receipt, KDPH will immediately send the letter “far and wide” throughout the state, especially to all BinaxNOW™ requestors.

If you have any questions about this issue, please contact **Jim House**, SHOC Testing Operations Section Chief, at KDPH (jamesr.house@ky.gov or 502-330-5950).

NIOSH revokes approval for N95 respirator model

(AHA Today) The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health today [revoked](#) its public health certificate of approval for Plastikon Industries’ PLASMA N95-01 filtering facepiece respirator for failure to meet filter efficiency requirements in a product audit. Effective April 8, the respirator is no longer NIOSH-approved and may no longer be manufactured, assembled, sold or distributed, the agency said.

NIOSH Link: <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/resources/pressrel/letters/respprotect/CA-2021-1035.html>

Johns Hopkins: Health security Headlines

Extracts from [May 4, 2021](#)

[The F.D.A. Is Set To Authorize the Pfizer-BioNTech Vaccine For Those 12-15 Years Old By Early Next Week](#)

(*New York Times*) The Food and Drug Administration is preparing to authorize use of the Pfizer-BioNTech coronavirus vaccine in adolescents 12 to 15 years old by early next week, according to federal officials familiar with the agency’s plans, opening up the U.S. vaccination campaign to millions more people.

[Why Lagging COVID Vaccine Rate At Rural Hospitals 'Needs To Be Fixed Now'](#) (*NPR*) President Biden on Tuesday is set to announce new steps to reach rural Americans in the push to get as many people as possible vaccinated for the coronavirus, a White House official tells NPR. This emphasis comes as rural hospitals are raising alarms about the pace of vaccination — even among their own employees. The Biden administration is moving into a new phase of its vaccination campaign, one where it knows doctors and health care professionals are often more persuasive than the government.

USGS Works on Forecasting Wildfires to Help Firefighters Better Prepare for Disasters

(NBC Bay Area, May 3, 2021) It's clear the next wildfire season has arrived and as fire departments get ready to respond, weather scientists at the United States Geological Survey are working on forecasting fires. The deadly CZU Lightning Complex Fire roared through Santa Cruz and San Mateo counties last summer, destroying more than 85,000 acres and more than 900 homes. <[Read more](#)>

Your city just got hotter NOAA announced new climate normals

(CNN) The new climate normals released by National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration on Tuesday reveal that weather across the US is warming.

The current normals data set, which represent the average temperature, precipitation and rainfall for 1991 through 2020, highlight that most of the country has warmed compared to normals for 1981 through 2010, except for the north-central US. The West is becoming drier and the East is turning wetter.

NOAA releases the [climate normals](#) every 10 years and they reflect data from the past 30 years.

Full story link: <https://www.cnn.com/2021/05/04/weather/climate-change-noaa-normals/index.html>

Louisville customs warns of packages posing significant threat to farm communities

(WLKY) U.S. Customs and Border Protection Agriculture Specialists in Louisville have been busy this spring experiencing a large increase in items that cause a threat to farming communities. One of the most common items seized by these specialists is live plants and seeds for planting. Most of the shipments come from China and are prohibited under the Plant Protection Act because they lack the required permits and certificates. Live plants and seeds are at high risk for plant pests, including insects, diseases, and weeds.

Learn more: <https://wlky.com/article/louisville-customs-warns-of-packages-posing-significant-threat-to-farm-communities/36321227>

InfraGard Webinars

May 5 @ 9:00 am - 10:00 am EST

IMA Webinar Broadcast: Exposing & Mitigating Cyber Vulnerabilities
Presented by InfraGard New York Metro | Contact: Webinar@nym-infragard.us
[Click to register.](#)

May 6 @ 9:00 am - 1:00 pm PST

IMA Webinar Broadcast: Advanced Improvised Explosive Device (IED) Recognition Course
Presented by InfraGard Los Angeles | Contact: IGLATraining@infragardlosangeles.org
[Click to register.](#)

May 11 @ 10:00 am – 11:30 am PST

IMA Webinar Broadcast: Counterterrorism in America
Presented by InfraGard San Diego & The Homeland Security Experts Group | Contact: sandy.moul@infragardsd.org
[Click to register.](#)

May 11 @ 11:30 am – 1:00 pm CST

IMA Webinar Broadcast: The Elements of Zero Trust Networks
Presented by InfraGard Houston | Contact: peter.chaves@infragardhouston.org
[Click to register.](#)

May 12 @ 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm EST

IMA Webinar Broadcast: Active Shooter Awareness Training
Presented by InfraGard South Florida | Contact: thomasemarkert@gmail.com
[Click to register.](#)

May 19 @ 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm CST

IMA Webinar Broadcast: Emerging Trends and Threats Against the U.S. Defense Industrial Base
Presented by InfraGard Chicago | Contact: linardakis@sbcglobal.net
[Click to register.](#)

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.