



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for May 5, 2021

[National Nurses Week](#), May 6-12,
and [National Hospital Week](#), May 9-15.

Kentucky COVID Update

([WKYT](#)) Governor Beshear reported 710 new COVID-19 cases on Wednesday, bringing the state total to 446,929 cases. The governor says the state is seeing a 3.57 percent positivity rate. Of Wednesday's new cases, 176 are in kids 18 or younger. There were 10 reported COVID-19 related deaths on Wednesday. That brings the state total to 6,542.

As of Wednesday, 420 people are hospitalized for COVID-19 related reasons, 111 are in the ICU, and 46 are on ventilators. The governor says 1,837,229 people have received at least their first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine in Kentucky. ([Press release](#))

Kentucky health departments work to close gap in lesser-vaccinated counties

([WDRB](#)) A new [dashboard](#) on Kentucky's COVID-19 website shows the percentage of people vaccinated in each of the state's 120 counties. Woodford County has the highest percentage of its county population vaccinated, with nearly 55%. Jefferson County is in the state's top five, with 44% of the county population vaccinated. Spencer County is included in the state's five counties with the lowest percentage vaccinated, with 17%.

Poll: Kentuckians trust their personal health care provider for vaccine info

(Lane report) Kentuckians overwhelmingly trust their physician or health care provider when it comes to vaccine information. That's the finding in the Vaccines in Kentucky poll commissioned by the Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky.

The poll shows, overall, 95% of Kentuckians trust their physician or health care provider either a great deal or fair amount. Of those intending not to take the COVID-19 vaccine, that number drops to 87%, while 98% those intending to take the COVID-19 vaccine trust their own doctor.

Story link: <https://www.lanereport.com/141145/2021/05/poll-kentuckians-trust-their-personal-health-care-provider-for-vaccine-info/>

Johns Hopkins: Health Security Headlines from [May 5, 2021](#)

[Canada Authorized Coronavirus Vaccine for Children Ages 12 to 15](#) (*Washington Post*) Canada on Wednesday morning authorized use of Pfizer-BionTech's coronavirus vaccine for children ages 12 to 15, marking the first time the country has greenlit a coronavirus vaccine for adolescents. Pfizer has sought authorization for adolescents in the age group in the United States, which is expected by early next week.

[Nuclear Reactions Reawaken in Chernobyl Reactor](#) (*Science*) Thirty-five years after the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant in Ukraine exploded in the world's worst nuclear accident, fission reactions are smoldering again in uranium fuel masses buried deep inside a mangled reactor hall. "It's like the embers in a barbecue pit," says Neil Hyatt, a nuclear materials chemist at the University of Sheffield. Now, Ukrainian scientists are scrambling to determine whether the reactions will wink out on their own—or require extraordinary interventions to avert another accident.

1 in 3 neighborhoods in major U.S. cities is a 'pharmacy desert'

(UPI) One-third of neighborhoods in the 30 largest U.S. cities are "pharmacy deserts," and this is much more common in Black and Hispanic communities, a new study finds. What's a pharmacy desert? In general, in a neighborhood where most residents have cars, the study labeled it a pharmacy desert if the average distance to the nearest pharmacy was 1 mile or more. That distance was reduced to half a mile or more in low-income neighborhoods. Learn more: https://www.upi.com/Health_News/2021/05/04/pharmacy-desert-racial-disparity-healthcare/5131620139518/

Israel study finds Pfizer vaccine 95% effective, even against 'British' variant

Read more: https://www.upi.com/Health_News/2021/05/05/coronavirus-pfizer-vaccine-variant-study/8331620240516/

Related story - Moderna booster increases antibodies against COVID-19 variants, early data shows

Learn more: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-moderna/moderna-booster-increases-antibodies-against-covid-19-variants-early-data-shows-idUSKBN2CM28K>

Study shows one-quarter of U.S. adolescents, teens have had a concussion

UPI) Up to one in four adolescents and teens in the United States has suffered a concussion at some point during their life, an analysis published Tuesday by [JAMA](#) found. Nearly 7% have experienced two such brain injuries, the data showed. The numbers, which represent reported concussions among 8th-, 10th- and 12th-graders in 2020, mark an increase over 2016, when just under 20% indicated they had suffered at least one, the researchers said. Full story: https://www.upi.com/Health_News/2021/05/04/concussions-teens-study/4531620143299/

Seconds Before Quake Hits, Entire West Coast Will Know

*“ShakeAlert” Earthquake early warning system
now covers the entire West Coast*

See video and read more: <http://newser.com/s305779>

New, interactive Wildfire Ready app demonstrates impact of wildfire-resistance actions in virtual reality

(Cision, May 4, 2021) -The Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety (IBHS) today launched a new augmented reality mobile device application experience called Wildfire Ready Virtual to bring homeowners inside the risk of wildfire and demonstrate the value of wildfire mitigation actions. The free app for Apple and Android devices, launched as part of May's Wildfire Awareness Month, brings to life the critical actions needed to create a wildfire-resistant home recently called for in the Institute's Suburban Wildfire Adaptation Roadmaps and consumer-facing Wildfire Ready guide. <[Read more](#)>

DHS Announces Extension of REAL ID Full Enforcement Deadline

(DHS – April 27) [*Re-running this since there are is some confusion about the change.*] Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro N. Mayorkas announced the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is extending the REAL ID full enforcement date by 19 months, from October 1, 2021 to **May 3, 2023**, due to circumstances resulting from the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

DHS Press Release: <https://www.dhs.gov/real-id/news/2021/04/27/dhs-announces-extension-real-id-full-enforcement-deadline>

Aug. 11 Is the Next National EAS Test

(Radio World, May 4, 2021) Officials at the Federal Emergency Management Agency officially informed the Federal Communications Commission on Tuesday that it plans its **sixth national EAS test** on that day. They also plan to **conduct a nationwide Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) test concurrently**.

<[Read more](#)>

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.