

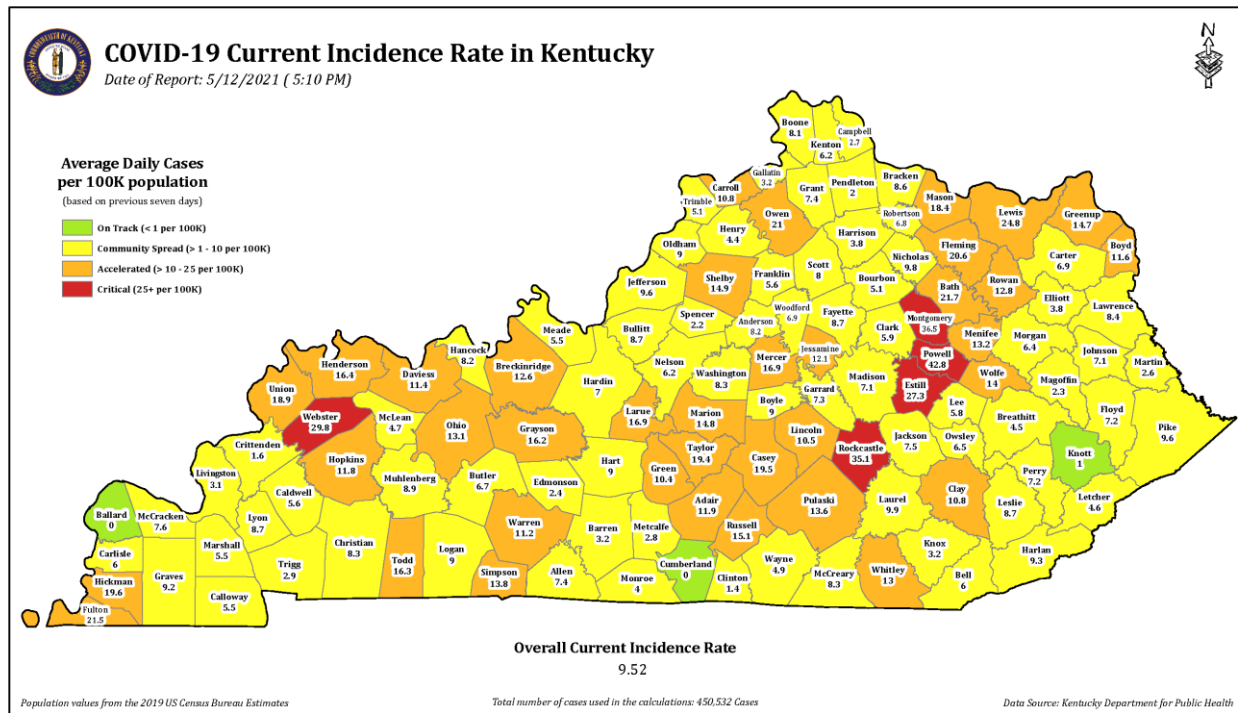


Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for May 12, 2021

Vaccination Sites Can Administer Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccines to Kentuckians Ages 12-15 Starting Tomorrow

([Full Press Release](#)) Gov. Andy Beshear announced state vaccination sites can administer Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccines to Kentuckians age 12 to 15 starting tomorrow, May 13.

The Governor's announcement was made on the heels of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) [emergency use authorization](#), which supports use of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine among those 12 years of age and older, and subsequent approval for the usage among younger Americans from the U.S. CDC. According to a [report](#) from the Kaiser Family Foundation, approximately 231,000 Kentuckians are in the 12-15 age group, which makes up roughly 5% of the state's total population.



Daily COVID Summary

([Daily Report](#)) There were 680 new cases reported today, with 132 18 and under. There were 9 new deaths, and 1 new audit death, for a total of 6,630. The positivity rate is 3.08%

CDC advisers green-light COVID vaccine in young teens

(CIDRAP) Today during a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) a group of independent experts voted 14-0 to recommend using Pfizer's two-dose mRNA COVID-19 vaccine in children ages 12 to 15 years old.

This was the last green-light needed for the vaccine, which can now be administered to all people 12 and up, as soon as ACIP's formal recommendation is sent to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) later today. The move makes another 17 million Americans eligible for vaccination.

Full story: <https://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2021/05/cdc-advisers-green-light-covid-vaccine-young-teens>

[CDC Clinician Call](#)

**What Clinicians Need to Know About Pfizer-BioNTech
COVID-19 Vaccination of Adolescents**

Friday, May 14, 2-3 PM ET

Zoom link below to join:

<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1613161163?pwd=eHpsTDNXa3A2TXNVckJTSmRTaWV6QT09>

**Gov. Beshear: [Federal Communications Commission Offering
Eligible Kentuckians an Internet Discount](#)**

Program also provides discount on one-time purchase of a computer, laptop or tablet

MedPage Today [Update](#)

As of Wednesday at 8:00 a.m. EDT, the [unofficial U.S. COVID-19 toll](#) reached 32,779,414 cases and 582,848 deaths, increases of 34,943 and 686, respectively, since this time yesterday.

CDC records show 58.5% of U.S. adults have received at least their first dose of COVID-19 vaccine and [44.7% are fully vaccinated](#). For people over 65, those figures are 83.8% and 71.6%.

**Louisville health leaders yet to see spike in COVID-19 cases
10 days after Kentucky Derby**

(WDRB) As vaccinations continue and pandemic restrictions ease, large events across the United States are beginning to return with crowds. This year's Kentucky Derby brought more than 50,000 guests to Churchill Downs on the first Saturday in May. The local health department is working to track cases coronavirus, but health leaders said the city has yet to see a spike from it.

Dr. Sarah Moyer, with Louisville Metro Public Health and Wellness, said there's been a "handful" of cases from people who were in the "infectious period" while they attended Derby.

Learn more: https://www.wdrb.com/news/louisville-health-leaders-yet-to-see-spike-in-covid-19-cases-10-days-after-kentucky/article_25e8913c-b2a2-11eb-b3ca-0f3a79160051.html

4th Wave of COVID-19 Hospitalizations Hits Washington State

(NPR) As the coronavirus outbreak recedes in many parts of the U.S., the Pacific Northwest has emerged as an outlier — gripped by a late spring surge that has filled hospitals in the metro areas around Seattle and Portland. In recent weeks, the governors of both states have hit the brakes on reopening plans in hopes of countering the rapid spread of the more contagious B.1.1.7. variant of the coronavirus, first identified in the U.K. In Washington state, new hospital admissions for COVID-19 have been higher during this current surge than at any other time, except for this past winter.

Read more: <https://www.npr.org/2021/05/11/995795457/4th-wave-of-covid-19-hospitalizations-hits-washington-state>

USA Today: [Flu cases were at an all-time low during the 2020-2021 season.
What experts say to expect in next season's vaccine](#)

Distracted Italian nurse gives six COVID doses in one shot

Learn more: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/covid-vaccine-six-doses-distracted-nurse/>

The 10 States with the Biggest Drug Problems

WV is #2; Indiana is #9; Kentucky is #10 on the list!

Story: <http://newser.com/s306030>

WalletHub Report: <https://wallethub.com/edu/drug-use-by-state/35150>

***BREAKING NEWS* - Colonial announces pipeline restart,
says normal service will take 'several days'**

(NBC) The company said it restarted the pipeline at 5 p.m. ET on Wednesday following a ransomware attack that crippled its operations and led to gas shortages. <READ MORE>

CISA issues security advisory on ransomware, in response to Colonial Pipeline attack

(World Pipelines) The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) are aware of a ransomware attack affecting a critical infrastructure (CI) entity – a pipeline

company – in the United States. Malicious cyber actors deployed DarkSide ransomware against the pipeline company's information technology (IT) network.

At this time, there is no indication that the entity's operational technology (OT) networks have been directly affected by the ransomware.

CISA and FBI urge CI asset owners and operators to adopt a heightened state of awareness and implement the recommendations listed in the Mitigations section of this Joint Cybersecurity Advisory, including implementing robust network segmentation between IT and OT networks; regularly testing manual controls; and ensuring that backups are implemented, regularly tested, and isolated from network connections. These mitigations will help CI owners and operators improve their entity's functional resilience by reducing their vulnerability to ransomware and the risk of severe business degradation if impacted by ransomware.

[Click here](#) for a PDF version of this report, which includes references, resources and contact details.

Story source: <https://www.worldpipelines.com/business-news/12052021/cisa-issues-security-advisory-on-ransomware-in-response-to-colonial-pipeline-attack/>

Related story #1 - Researchers track down five affiliates of DarkSide ransomware service

<https://www.zdnet.com/article/researchers-track-down-five-affiliates-of-darkside-ransomware-service/#ftag=CAD-03-10abf5f>

Related story #2 - Analysis: Cyberattack exposes lack of required defenses on U.S. pipelines

<https://news360.com/article/555571368>

Related story #3 - Security at risk as PC users continue to use end-of-life Windows 7

<https://news360.com/article/555451991>

FBI investigating hacking threats at Pennsylvania water systems

<https://news360.com/article/555454280>

Hackers target SonicWall customers through email weak spot

(Reuters) Hackers have targeted customers of California-based network services firm SonicWall via a previously undisclosed vulnerability in its email security product, the company and cybersecurity firm FireEye ([FEYE.O](#)) said Tuesday.

In [a statement](#), SonicWall Inc said that the vulnerability had been "exploited in the wild", meaning hackers had already used the flaw to break into target systems. SonicWall said it had published a fix for the issue and urged customers to "immediately upgrade" their software.

The intrusions are the latest in a string of hacks using third-party provided software and hardware in the United States. The most notable - the compromise of SolarWinds Corp ([SWI.N](#)) by alleged Russian hackers last year - has raised concerns about the ability of end users to vet the security of their devices and their programs. [read more](#) Full Reuter's story: <https://www.reuters.com/technology/hackers-use-previously-unknown-vulnerability-target-sonicwall-customers-2021-04-21/>

Tech Experts Warn about Apple's AirTag Stalking Risk

(CBS) Apple's AirTag technology, the company's new device for helping people find lost items, could also let stalkers keep tabs on their victims, experts warn. The small, round tag is impressively precise and relatively easy to use — and potentially misuse. Experts say the gadget could facilitate stalking and enable domestic abusers. Washington Post tech columnist Geoffrey Fowler [tested](#) the tags, which can be attached to a keychain, iPhone or other device, or simply placed in an individual's purse or wallet. The trackers connect to the AirTag owner's iPhone to share their location.

CBS story link: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/apple-airtag-stalking-risk-tech-experts-warn/>

'We owe this to our people'

Lawmakers want answers on directed-energy attacks

(Politico) Lawmakers want the Biden administration to figure out who is behind the directed-energy attacks and properly care for victims. They were sworn to secrecy for five years about the threat of mysterious health incidents impacting U.S. personnel at home and abroad. Now, those lawmakers have hit their limit and are castigating the intelligence community.

As officials sound the alarm in closed-door briefings on Capitol Hill, members of Congress in both parties are panning what they see as a years long failure to sufficiently address the growing spate of so-called directed-energy attacks on Americans.

Read more: <https://www.politico.com/news/2021/05/11/directed-energy-attacks-biden-victims-487208>

Tornado Alley isn't living up to its name with near-record quiet activity this April

Read CNN story: <https://www.cnn.com/2021/05/11/weather/tornado-alley-spring-drought/index.html>

**There's a New Definition of 'Normal' for Weather
The US is getting "redder"**

See NY Times story: <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2021/05/12/climate/climate-change-weather-noaa.html?referringSource=articleShare>

**FEMA's Covid funeral assistance program is up and running after a rocky start.
Here's how to apply**

(CNN, May 12, 2021) The Federal Emergency Management Agency approved more than 2,585 applications for newly available Covid-19 funeral assistance in the first month after the program launched -- but there are many more people waiting for help. The agency received nearly 176,000 applications from those who have lost loved ones to the coronavirus as of May 11, FEMA said, and distributed more than \$17.8 million so far, with the average claim coming in at \$6,887. [<Read more >](#)

EIS Council and Global Resilience Commission
**World's cyber leaders will meet to discuss how to secure
the supply chain of Cyber products & systems.**

May 26, 11:30 EDT

[REGISTER HERE](#)

**FEMA Seeks Public Feedback for Two Structural Collapse
SAR Resource Typing Documents**

The FEMA National Integration Center is seeking public feedback on [six resource typing documents](#). **This 30-day national engagement period will conclude at 5 p.m. ET on June 10.** This national engagement period provides an opportunity for interested parties to comment on the draft documents to ensure they are relevant for all implementing partners. These resource typing documents will facilitate the sharing of deployable resource types at all jurisdictional levels. To provide comments on the drafts, complete the feedback form provided at the link below and submit the form to fema-nims@fema.dhs.gov no later than 5 p.m. ET on June 10.

InfraGard Webinar:

May 25 @ 11:30 AM ET (8:30 am – 1:00 pm PT)

Supervisory Control & Data Acquisition (SCADA) & Industrial Control Systems (ICS) Vulnerabilities

Presented by InfraGard Los Angeles

Questions - Contact: IGLATraining@infragardlosangeles.org.

>> [Click to see more & 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 added or deleted, 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.