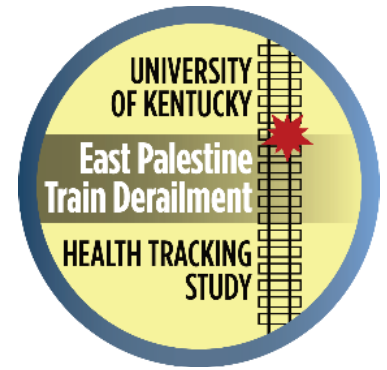


University of Kentucky East Palestine Train Derailment Health Tracking Study: Survey #4 (Spring 2025)

August 4, 2025



In April 2023, the University of Kentucky launched the East Palestine Train Derailment Health Tracking Study. The goals of the research are to 1) Establish a cohort of residents to evaluate potential long-term health impacts related to the derailment and 2) Answer residents' questions about their exposures and health. A few representative preliminary findings from the most recent survey are provided below.

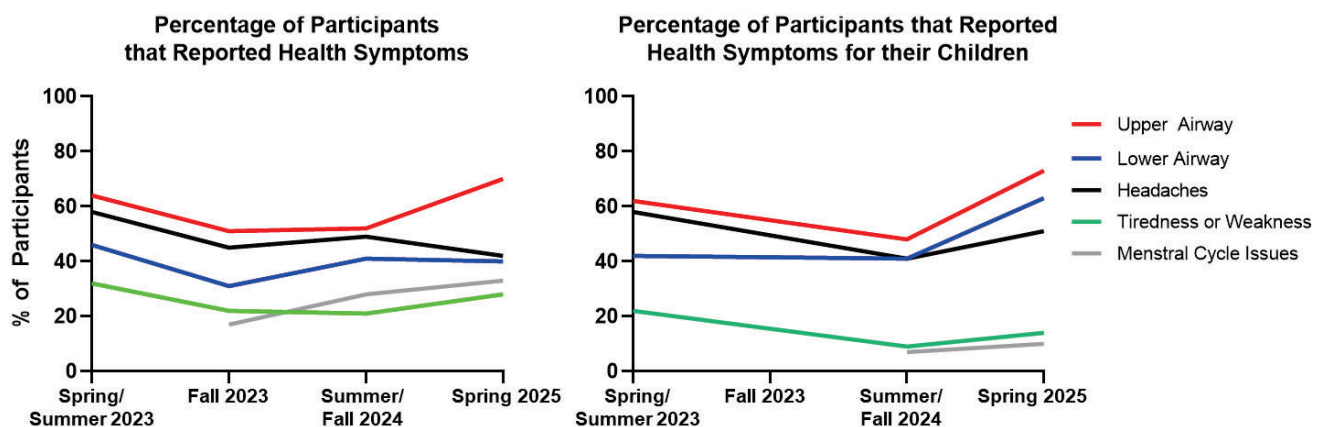
Health Tracking Survey

Approximately 400 residents of East Palestine and the surrounding area completed the initial survey to share their experiences, concerns, and health symptoms. Nearly 130 of these reported having at least one school-aged child living in their home. Follow up surveys were completed in Fall 2023, Summer 2024, and Spring 2025. Below is a summary of findings from the Spring 2025 survey and trends over time.

In Spring 2025...

- 70% of participants reported upper airway symptoms including nose irritation, sinus drainage, sinusitis, eye irritation/pain, and sore throat.
- 40% reported lower airway symptoms such as coughing and wheezing.
- 42% reported headaches, including non-sinus headaches.
- 25% experienced tiredness or weakness.
- 49 reported having school-age children and of these, 73% reported upper airway symptoms, 63% lower airway symptoms, and 51% headaches experienced by their children.
- 33% of women aged 18-45 reported experiencing issues with their menstrual cycle
- 29% of participants screened positive for PTSD. The percentage is similar for both males and females.

Below are graphs that show the health symptoms reported for each survey.



Note: The number of participants differed for each survey

Next Steps

Our team applied for the funding opportunity issued by the National Institute of environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) to continue our research and collaboration with the community. Information received from our ongoing surveys, our Community Advisory Board, and feedback from participants and other community members have enabled us to assemble a proposal to propose research to assess respiratory function, mental health, immune function, reproductive health, and kidney and liver function. Our proposal expanded our study to include children 8 years of age and older.

Funding for this research

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