

Gaming

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"Gambling disorder."

The ICD-11 describes "Gaming disorder" as recurrent video game playing that leads to "impaired control over gaming" and an "increasing priority given to gaming to the extent that gaming takes precedence over other life interests and daily activities," despite "the occurrence of negative consequences."

Health authorities and video game industry representatives from across the globe decried the move. There still is not enough research to warrant the classification of a gaming disorder, wrote an international team of more than three dozen mental health researchers in a paper published in the *Journal of Behavioral Addictions* last year, three months before the health organization announced its plans to include "Gaming disorder" in the guide.

"Risk of abuse of a formalized new disorder that solely involves the behavior of playing video games – a stigmatized entertainment activity – can only expand the false-positive issues in psychiatry," the researchers wrote. "This expansion will likely have a psychological and societal cost, potentially harming the well-being of our children."

The American Psychiatric Association said there is not "sufficient evidence" to consider gaming addiction as a "unique mental disorder."

Video game groups – including the Entertainment Software Association and UK Interactive Association – asked WHO leaders to "rethink their decision." WHO "is an esteemed organization and its guidance needs to be based on regular, inclusive, and transparent reviews backed by independent experts," their statement said. "'Gaming disorder' is not based on sufficiently robust evidence to justify its inclusion in one of the WHO's most important norm-setting tools."

Research has documented cases of people playing video games for up to 20 hours a day to the detriment of other activities, including work, sleep and eating, Shekhar Saxena, expert on mental health and substance abuse for the health organization, told Reuters.



A tornado leveled a building on the Floyd County Fairgrounds in Iowa. More than 60,000 homes and businesses in the state lost power. BRYON HOULGRAVE/AP

Storms pummel Ohio, Indiana

Tornadoes roar through 'almost like a train'

John Bacon, Sheila Vilvens and Doyle Rice
USA TODAY

CELINA, Ohio – A two-week wave of severe weather continued its unrelenting assault on the nation's midsection as a string of tornadoes unleashed their fury across Ohio and Indiana, ripping apart communities and reducing property to debris.

Celina firefighter Brian Davis confirmed Tuesday that an 81-year-old man died and seven people were injured when an EF3 tornado roared through just before midnight Monday. As many as 90 homes were damaged.

Kylie Post, whose home was spared, huddled with her son under a mattress in a bathtub. "We heard the tornado sirens, and then it got really quiet," Post said. "Next, it sounded almost like a train was near us that lasted for only a few minutes."

Severe weather threatened more than 100 million Americans from Texas to New Jersey, the National Weather Service said.

Late Monday, an area around Dayton, in Ohio's Montgomery County, saw some of the worst damage.

Dayton Fire Chief Jeffrey Payne said no fatalities and a few minor injuries were reported. Considering the amount of property damage, that was "pretty miraculous," he said.

Urban Search and Rescue teams from Columbus and Cincinnati helped first responders pick through rubble in search of survivors, Payne said.

In Indiana, scores of homes were damaged or destroyed by storms. The weather service confirmed that a tornado ripped through Pendleton, 35 miles northeast of Indianapolis, damaging more than 70 homes.

Bacon and Rice reported from McLean, Va. Contributing: Ian Richardson, *Des Moines Register*; Jennie Key and Cheryl Vari, *The Cincinnati Enquirer*; Kellie Hwang, *The Indianapolis Star*; *The Associated Press*

Measles outbreak could trigger rare travel ban

Jorge L. Ortiz
USA TODAY

As measles cases in the USA continue to rise beyond their highest level in a quarter-century, officials pondered a drastic step – forbidding those believed to be infected from flying.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported 60 new individual instances of measles in Monday's update, bringing this year's tally to 940. It's the largest total since 1994, falling just short of the 963 cases reported that year.

Efforts to fight off a disease that has spread to 26 states led state and local officials to consider requesting the imposition of a rarely used travel ban on infectious passengers, *The Washington Post* reported.

Eight people from five states were warned the federal government could put them on a Do Not Board list managed by the CDC, and they canceled their travel plans, the newspaper said.

Such tactics may strike some as heavy-handed, but they have been validated through decades of case law, said Mark Ustin, head of the health care compliance and lobbying practices at the New York law firm Farrell Fritz.

Ustin said the courts have long sided with the government's authority to protect its citizens' health, as is the case in mandating vaccines or taking other measures to prevent the spread of communicable diseases.

"There are lots of areas where you could argue about the state's police power versus a person's right to bodily integrity or a person's right to religious freedom, but when it comes to mandatory vaccinations, that's one of the areas where the courts have been very clear that this is perfectly acceptable," Ustin said.

Ustin said the threat of a health travel ban would probably dissuade passengers from attempting to get on a plane.