



OEMC T-CPR Report

Chicago Leads the
Nation in BCPR Equity



OEMC



Illinois Heart Rescue (ILHR) is a non-profit whose primary mission is to increase neurologically intact survival for out-of-hospital cardiac arrest (OHCA) victims within the State of Illinois.

The summary highlights Chicago's Office of Emergency Management and Communication (OEMC) survival rates, telecommunicator-assisted CPR (T-CPR) rates, bystander CPR rates, and trending data received from EMS 911 calls.

This summation informs partners of their current strengths while also pinpointing areas for collaboration and improvement to enhance outcomes for OHCA patients.



Overview



In 2023, the national average bystander cardiopulmonary resuscitation (BCPR) rate in the United States was 40.2% for victims of non-traumatic OHCA, with women and minorities receiving BCPR at lower rates than their counterparts. To address this disparity and improve outcomes, Illinois Heart Rescue (ILHR) began focusing efforts in 2020 on the first link in the chain of survival by partnering with Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) across Illinois. In collaboration with the Chicago's OEMC, ILHR launched a quality assurance and improvement program aimed at enhancing the recognition of cardiac arrest and increasing the delivery of TCPR instructions. By working closely with OEMC leadership and fire telecommunicators to identify and overcome barriers to providing timely CPR guidance, the initiative has led to a rise in bystander CPR rates and improved survival outcomes for cardiac arrest patients across all demographics in Chicago.

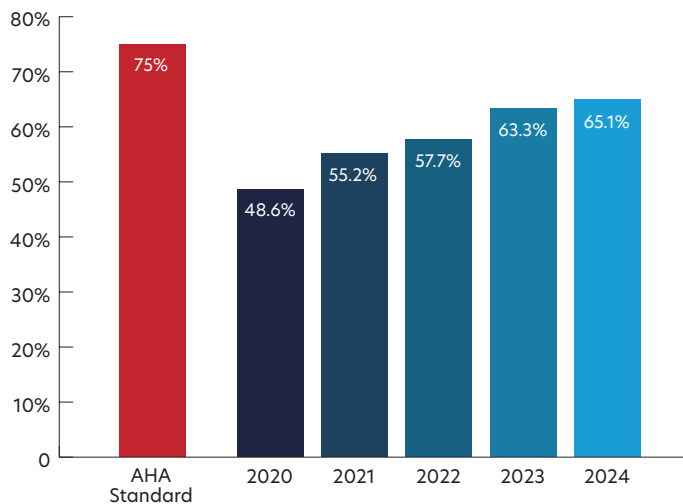


Findings

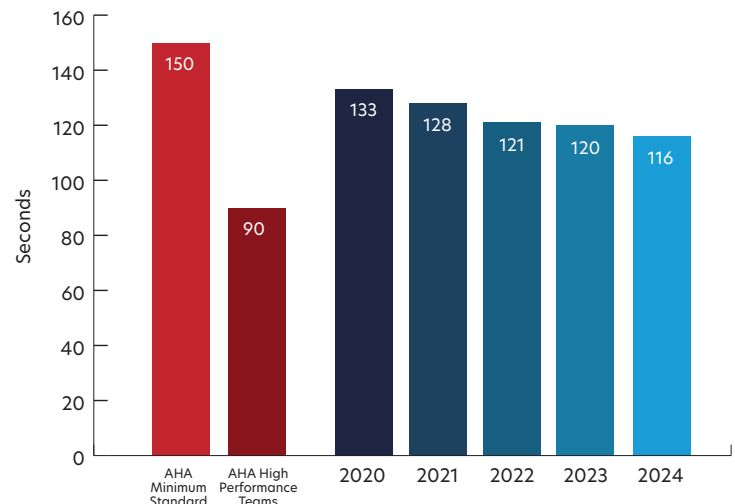


Barriers to onboarding T-CPR were identified (N=387): the caller refused (22.7%), the caller was not with the patient (20.2%), and, most significantly, the caller could not move the victim (24.5%). A combination of T-CPR training and new protocols resulted in a 14.2% increase in recognition, time intervals that exceeded the AHA performance measures, a 19.3% increase in overall survival, and a 12.2% increase in BCPR for all genders and races in Chicago from 2021 to 2023.

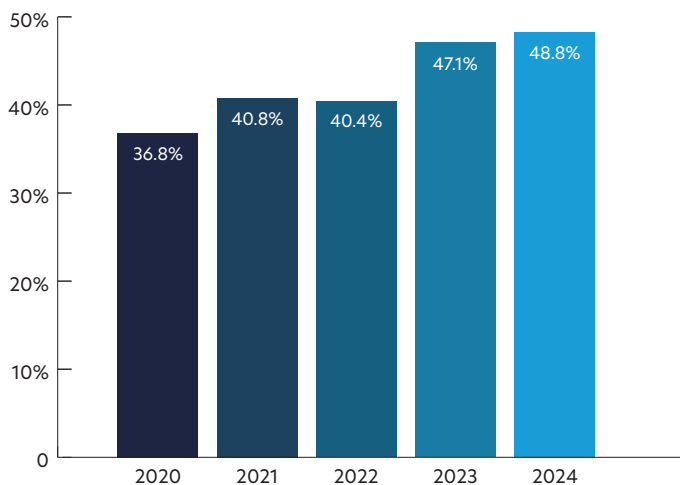
Recognized Need for CPR



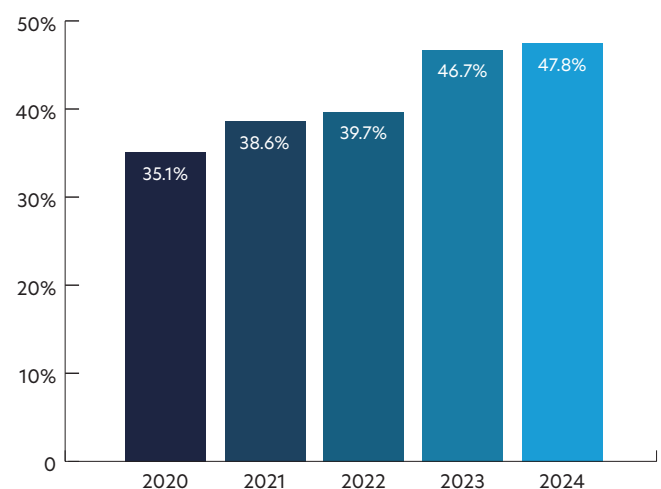
Call Receipt to First Compression



CPR Instructions Started



Compressions Started

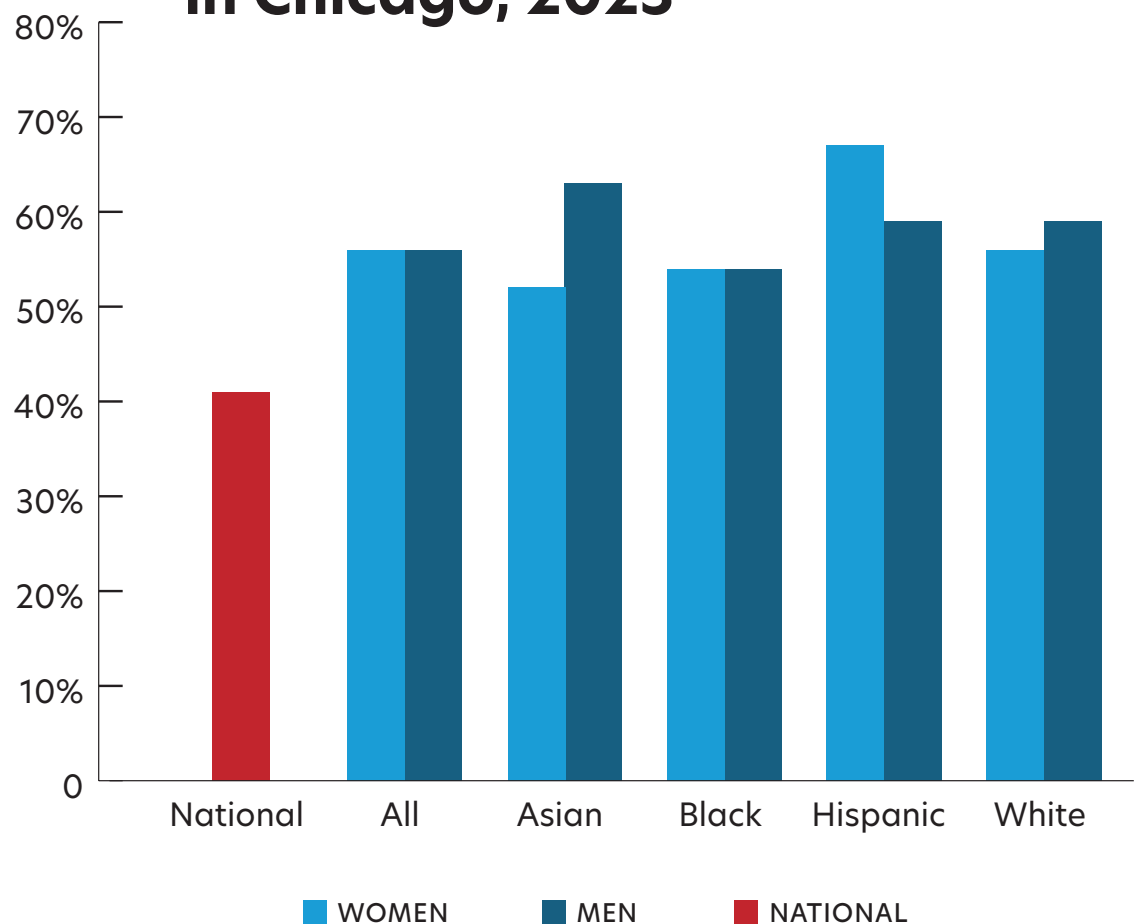


Conclusion



Focusing resources and efforts on OEMC has significantly increased BCPR rates for victims suffering an OHCA and resulted in both gender and racial parity in Chicago.

Bystander CPR Rates in Chicago, 2023*



*Updated data not available until summer 2025.