



Ask Dr. Arwady

12/2/2021



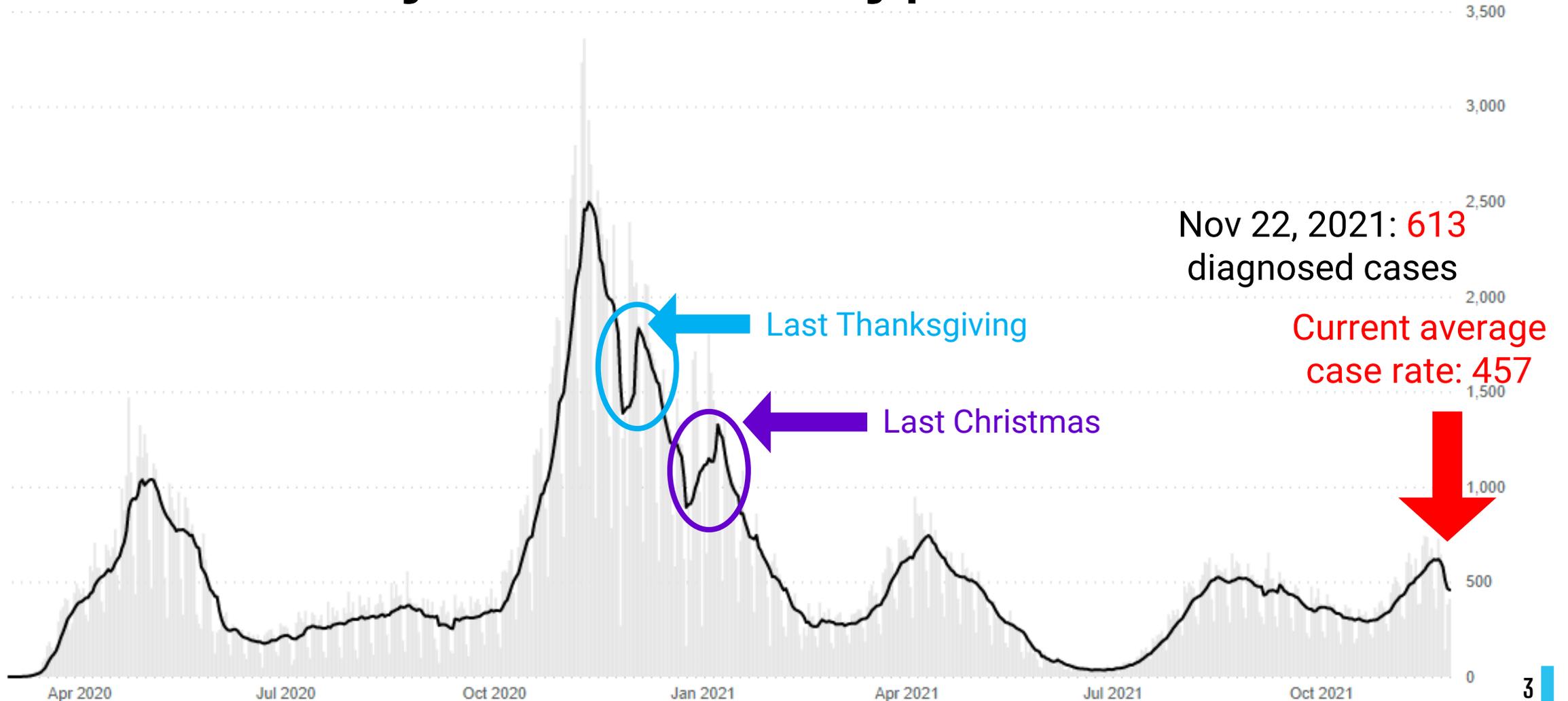
Chicago COVID-19 Community Transmission and Risk Matrix

	VERY HIGH TRANSMISSION	HIGH TRANSMISSION	SUBSTANTIAL TRANSMISSION	LOWER TRANSMISSION	LOW TRANSMISSION
COVID-19 CASES DIAGNOSED PER DAY Chicago residents - 7-day rolling daily average	800+	400 - 799 Current: 457 Decreased due to holiday testing	200 - 399	20 - 199	<20
COVID-19 TEST POSITIVITY Chicago residents - 7-day rolling daily average	10%+	6.6 - 9.9%	5.0 - 6.5%	2 - 4.9% Current: 3.6% Increasing	<2%
HOSPITAL BEDS (NON-ICU) OCCUPIED BY COVID PATIENTS Chicago hospitals - 7-day rolling daily average	1250+	750 - 1249	250 - 749 Current: 324 Increasing	100 - 249	<100
ICU BEDS OCCUPIED BY COVID PATIENTS Chicago hospitals - 7-day rolling daily average	400+	300 - 399	100 - 299	20 - 99 Current: 94 Increasing	<20

Source: Chicago Department of Public Health, data current as of December 2, 2021. These metrics represent general community COVID transmission and should not be applied to individual settings that have mitigation practices in place.



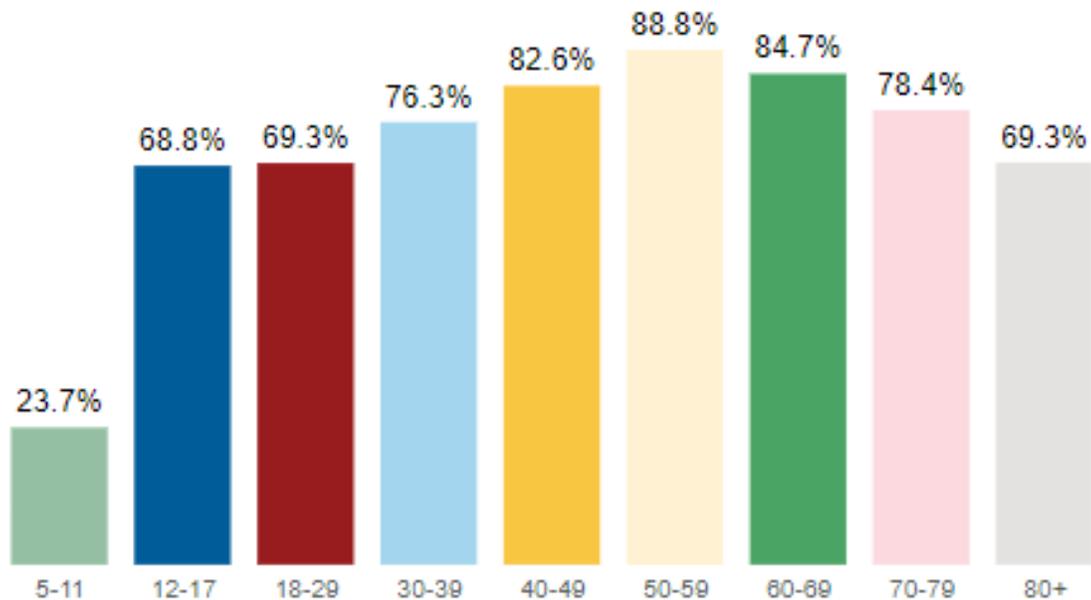
Chicago: New COVID cases appear to be decreasing, however trends will likely mirror 2020 holiday patterns



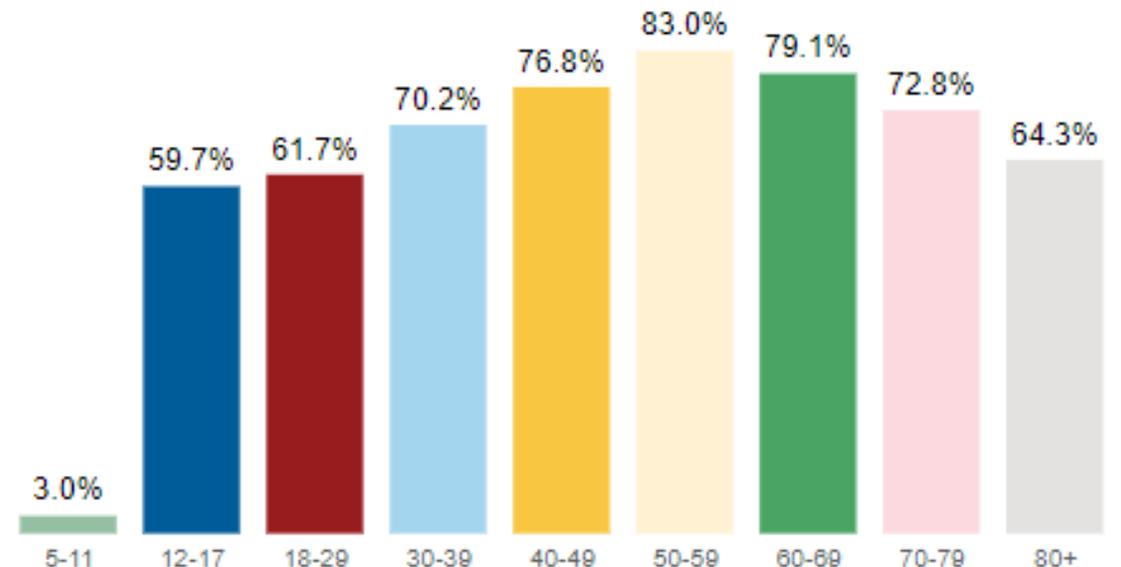


Continued increase of 5-11 yo getting vaccinated. This weekend will be 3 weeks from “Protect Your Health on the 12th”

At least one dose (% vaccinated as of 11/30/2021)



Completed vaccine series (% vaccinated as of 11/30/2021)



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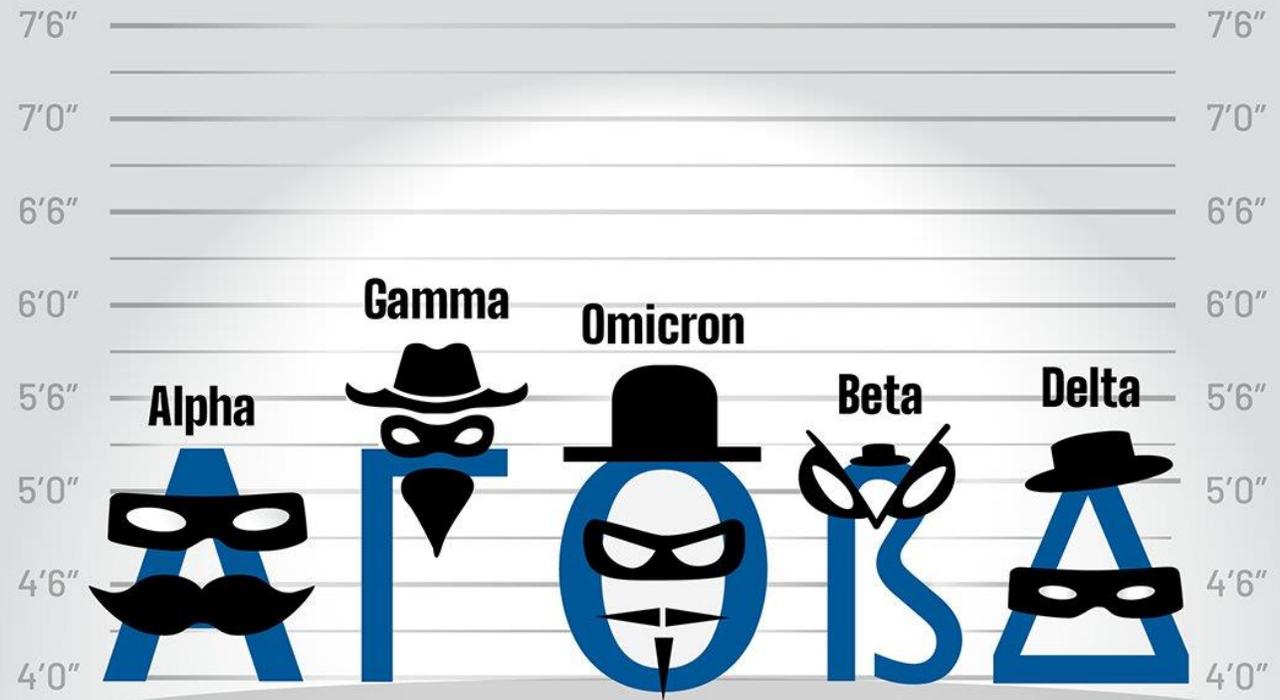


First confirmed case of Omicron Variant detected in the United States yesterday; second in Minnesota today

- The California and San Francisco Departments of Public Health as well as the Minnesota Department of Health have confirmed that a recent case of COVID-19 among an individual was caused by the Omicron variant (B.1.1.529)
- The CA case was in a traveler who returned from South Africa; the MN case was in someone who had recently been in New York City but not traveled internationally
- The recent emergence of this new variant further emphasizes the importance of vaccination, boosters and general prevention strategies to protect against COVID-19



the Variant Villains





Variants are normal in every virus...
As COVID-19 spreads, it mutates, but
some mutations are more scary than others

(e.g. by allowing the virus spread more easily, or cause more severe disease)



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We are still learning what makes Omicron different from the rest.

The WHO has defined it as a "Variant of Concern" like Delta. Scientists world over, including right here in Chicago, are studying this new variant.



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SARS-COV-2 VARIANTS DEFINITIONS

VARIANT BEING MONITORED: A variant that might cause more severe illness or spread more easily, but is no longer spreading widely in the US, so it doesn't pose an immediate threat.

VARIANT OF INTEREST: A variant that has genetic markers that are likely to cause more severe illness or allow the virus to spread more easily and is increasing or causing outbreaks in the US.

VARIANT OF CONCERN: A variant that causes more severe illness or allows the virus to spread more easily or has other concerning features, and is actively spreading in the US.

VARIANT OF HIGH CONSEQUENCE: A variant that has clear evidence that one or more public health measures - such as vaccinations, diagnostic tests, or clinical treatments - are significantly less effective than previously. There are currently NO variants of high consequence in the US.



FIND YOUR VACCINE AT
[CHI.GOV/COVIDVAX](https://chi.gov/covidvax)



How can you help stop Variant Villains?

Getting vaccinated (and boosted) is the best way to protect yourself from infection, hospitalization, and death.

Plus, it gives the variants fewer opportunities to change and grow more powerful!



★ Where to get your child a vaccine

- Approximately 200 locations across Chicago
- Your pediatrician, family doctor, hospital, or pharmacy
- Community-based events
- Richard J Daley College – Saturday, 12/4 9am-2pm
- Wilbur Wright College – Sunday, 12/5 9am-2pm
- Protect Chicago At Home
 - Next week, expanding to 7-day operations (appointments available on weekends starting 12/11)



Need a vaccine or a booster? Have questions?

visit **CHI.GOV/COVIDVAX**

or call **312-746-4835**

