Ask Dr. Arwady

June 20, 2023
"Black history, African American history is everywhere."

Infection Prevention Specialist Jovante Thomas highlights the importance of #Juneteenth and encourages his fellow Chicagoans to learn more about the contributions of the Black community.

#BlackLivesMatter #BlackHistory

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How do you celebrate #Juneteenth? Public Health Administrator III Monica Mitchell shares the sense of community that brought her hometown together each year for the observance since 1975.

#BlackLivesMatter #BlackCommunity #Juneteenth2023 #HealthEquity
FEELING THE HEAT IN CHICAGO?
TAKE ACTION BY PARTICIPATING IN OUR COMMUNITY HEAT-MAPPING STUDY!

Be a community scientist and help discover which areas of your community are hotter and cooler during an extreme heat event.

- You'll learn about how and why different neighborhoods vary in terms of heat and why mapping heat in Chicago is essential.
- On a designated “Campaign Day”, you'll collect thousands of temperature and humidity measurements over 3 one-hour periods.
- Your contributions will reveal the distribution of heat across Chicago, helping our city to plan for the future and provide much needed relief.

YOU CAN BE IN A HEAT WATCH CAMPAIGN AS A:

- DRIVER
- NAVIGATOR

TO FIND OUT MORE VISIT: CHICAGO.GOV/COOLCHI
The City of Chicago in partnership with several community-based organizations kicked off the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) 2023 Heat Watch Campaign.

Along with 17 other communities across the country, the City is building a team of community scientists to measure heat across communities this summer.

Heat Watch 2023 is a community heat-mapping project that brings together local volunteers, public and private organizations, universities, and non-profit organizations to co-produce high-resolution heat maps and generate creative and collaborative solutions for extreme heat in Chicago.
City looking for volunteers for Heat Watch 2023

• CDPH will train and mobilize volunteer resident scientists on one of the hottest and clearest days of the year to drive with specially designed heat sensors on their cars in the morning, midday, and evening on routes informed by the community.

• Each sensor records temperature, humidity, time, and location. This information will be analyzed and used to give Chicago residents and government decision-makers more accurate data to improve Chicago’s heat safety strategies.

• To learn more or to sign-up to volunteer, visit Heat Watch 2023.

The City remains committed to addressing the impacts of extreme heat through policies like the 2022 Cooling Ordinance, which protects residents by requiring indoor cooling in certain buildings.

The Our Roots Chicago program also addresses heat safety through nature-based solutions and community collaboration. Over 100 community partners are advising the City, which planted more than 18,000 trees in city parkways last year.
Calling all Chicago families! CDPH is looking for parents and kids for a fun summer photoshoot on Saturday, June 24.

Sessions will take about 2 hours at a home in the Douglas neighborhood, near Dunbar Park. (Exact details provided via email.)

We’ll take photos of your family inside and outdoors using a variety of summer props (scooters, kiddie pools, backyard BBQ, etc.). Bring swimsuits if you’re comfortable!

As a thank-you, you’ll receive a $250 gift card and 2 digital photos of your family.

Space is extremely limited! Email us at hello@bigmouthcreative.com to sign up for your spot.
Announcing the Chicago Arts & Health Pilot for Creative Workers

Chicago artists: The Chicago Arts & Health Pilot for Creative Workers is offering 10 apprenticeship awards totaling $66,000 in salary and benefits for artists concerned with health, healing, and wellness. Learn more and apply by June 22: Chicagoculturalgrants.org, #DCASEgrants

Apply by June 22
The Chicago Arts & Health Pilot for Creative Workers is a program of the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DCASE) in partnership with the Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) and City Colleges of Chicago.

This pilot aims to strengthen trauma-informed and culturally responsive health services in communities disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

- The program explores career pathways for artists centered in creative therapy and trauma-informed care by establishing one-year artist apprenticeships.

Selected artists will be trained as community health workers to offer creative wellness strategies to clients served at the City’s five mental health clinics.

- Sites for placement include North River Clinic (North Park/Albany Park), Lawndale Clinic, Greater Grand Clinic (Bronzeville), Greater Lawn Clinic, and Englewood Clinic, all targeted communities in CDPH’s trauma informed care network.

- Priority will go to artists from and/or with existing community connections to the neighborhoods that the City’s mental health clinics serve.

- Artists from community areas that have been hardest hit by the pandemic will also be given high priority for consideration.

Apply by June 22 Chicagoculturalgrants.org
The Chicago Arts & Health Pilot for Creative Workers supports **continued recovery from the social, economic, and health impacts of the pandemic** by creating job opportunities for creative workers, **integrating the arts into the healthcare delivery system**, and promoting overall community health and wellness using arts focused strategies.

- This program aims to address pandemic-related job losses and a deficit in mental health resources.

As we navigate recovery, workers and employers are rethinking the future of jobs for the creative sector.

- Behavioral health is one avenue where creative skills can be transferred.
- The healthcare sector is also beginning to recognize the need for new strategies to combat social isolation and foster wellbeing that address the variety of ways people experience trauma.
- This program builds partnerships between city agencies, community health centers, local artists, and communities hit hardest by the pandemic.
Apprenticeship Components
Training & Certification

• As part of the apprenticeship, selected artists will also participate in the Malcolm X College Community Health Worker (CHW) Program, which educates students to enter the field as knowledgeable and culturally competent CHWs.
  • The program seeks to equip graduates with the skills to provide compassionate and holistic care to facilitate improved health outcomes for community residents.

• In partnership with HRSA’s Opioid-Impacted Scholarship Program, students will receive scholarships for tuition, books, and stipends throughout their time in the CHW program.
  • This program supports their apprenticeship experience and also includes Mental Health First Aid certification training, overdose prevention training, and monthly check-ins with fellow OIFSP scholars to discuss behavioral health career pathways.

Apprenticeship

• Curriculum will prepare certificate seekers to serve as a liaison between the healthcare system and the community with a focus on community and arts centered techniques.
• The apprenticeship model provides an investment in student success and the development of real-world skills through on-the-job training.
  • In addition to a livable wage and access to a high demand career, benefits include mentoring, coaching support, and quality instruction.
As members of the LGBTQ+ community continue facing discrimination, marginalization, and mistreatment, CDPH Public Health Administrator III Antonio King shares why #Pride is still important.

#Pride2023 #LGBTQ #PrideMonth
HIV AND THE JOURNEY TOWARD ZERO
JOIN US JUNE 26TH

Screening, cast panel & Part 2 trailer premiere!

https://journeytowardzero.com
DON'T LET ANYTHING STAND IN THE WAY OF YOUR PRIDE

Get the facts on monkeypox, STIs, and HIV right now.

> CHICAGO.GOV/MONKEYPOX

> CHICAGO.GOV/HIV-STI

PRIDE > MIEDO

NO DEJES QUE NADA SE INTERPONGA EN EL CAMINO DE TU PRIDE.
Mpox Update

June 20, 2023
What is mpox?

- **Mpxox (monkeypox)** is a viral infection, with symptoms that can include a painful and uncomfortable rash or sores, often accompanied with flu-like illness.

- **Mpxox is spread through close contact** with body fluids, sores, shared bedding or clothing, or respiratory droplets (kissing, coughing, sneezing).

- **Anyone can get mpox** through close, personal contact with someone who has symptoms of mpox.

- However, the virus has primarily spread through close-knit social networks of gay, bisexual, and other same gender-loving men.

- **Common symptoms:** Rash or unusual sores that look like pimples or blisters on the face, body, and genitals, fever, chills, head or muscle aches.
Mpox Vaccine 101

• The JYNNEOS™ vaccine can help protect people against mpox (monkeypox) when given before exposure to the virus. CDPH strongly encourages those eligible to get the vaccine to protect themselves and others.

• The vaccine is a two-dose vaccine given under the skin 28 days apart. Optimal protection is not achieved until two weeks following the second dose.

Eligibility

Have had close contact with someone diagnosed with MPV regardless of sex, gender or sexual orientation

OR

Are a gay, bisexual, or other man who has sex with men and/or transgender person who is sexually active.

• Find your vaccine: CDPH Mpox Vaccine Finder
### Chicago Mpox (Monkeypox) Case Summary

Data last updated 6/19/2023. Counts include cases with specimen collections through 6/14/2023 to account for reporting lags. Data are updated on Mondays and Thursdays at 5:00p.m., except for City holidays. All data are provisional and subject to change.

**Cases of Mpox Diagnosed in Chicagoans Between 6/4/2022 - 6/14/2023**

2 cases were diagnosed last week. This is 66.7% lower than the number of cases diagnosed during the prior week.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cases</th>
<th>Hospitalizations</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,163</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At least **39 cases** reported locally since mid-April, 2023

*Data represented in the last reported week are not yet complete.*
Continued increase each week
Take the following steps to prevent getting mpox:

• **Get vaccinated!** Ask your health provider about mpox vaccine.
• Avoid close skin-to-skin contact with people who have a rash that looks like mpox.
• Avoid contact with objects and materials that a person with mpox has used.
• **Wash your hands** often with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
• **Evaluate the level of risk** when making plans or deciding whether to attend certain events.

If you have a new or unexplained rash/sore OR you think you may have been exposed:

• **Call your healthcare provider or a health center** if you show symptoms or need to be evaluated or tested.
• There is no at-home test for mpox.
• The test can only be given to those exhibiting rash symptoms.
• If you don’t have a doctor or insurance, contact HIV/STI Resource Hub at **844.482.4040 / hivhub.org** or visit **FindAHealthCenter.hrsa.gov** for free or low-cost care.
Where can I go to learn more about mpox?

• Mpox (Monkeppox) Website and Data Dashboard: [www.chicago.gov/mpox](http://www.chicago.gov/mpox)

• HIV/STI Resource Hub (LGBTQ+ call center): **844-482-4040**

• CDPH Call Center: **312-746-4835**
Weekly COVID-19 cases per 100,000 population

767 Million Cases
6.9 Million Deaths

13.3 Billion Vaccine Doses Administered
5.5 Billion Vaccinated
Weekly COVID-19 hospitalizations per 100,000 population

National currently:
2.00 diagnosed weekly admissions per 100,000 people

Illinois currently:
1.40 diagnosed weekly admissions per 100,000 people

Chicago currently:
1.40 diagnosed weekly admissions per 100,000 people

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Past Week</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hospital Admissions</td>
<td>6,649 (-8%)</td>
<td>6,183,075</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deaths</td>
<td>290 (-43%)</td>
<td>1,134,883</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Hospital Admissions Level for Cook County is a reliable indicator for tracking COVID-19 activity in Chicago

Look for our new Hospital Admissions Levels page at chi.gov/coviddash later this week

CDC Hospital Admissions Levels: CDC COVID Data Tracker
Variant Surveillance, Midwest Region
Weighted and Nowcast Estimates for Weeks of 3/4/23 – 6/10/23

It’s ALL Still OMICRON

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Viral lineage</th>
<th>Collection week, date ending</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>XBB.1.5</td>
<td>3/4/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XBB.1.16</td>
<td>3/18/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XBB.1.5</td>
<td>4/1/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XBB.1.5</td>
<td>4/15/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XBB.1.5</td>
<td>4/29/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XBB.1.5</td>
<td>5/13/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XBB.1.5</td>
<td>5/27/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XBB.1.5</td>
<td>6/10/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XBB.1.5.1</td>
<td>3/4/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XBB.1.5.10</td>
<td>3/18/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH.1.1</td>
<td>4/1/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FD.2</td>
<td>4/15/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BQ.1.1</td>
<td>4/29/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BQ.1.1</td>
<td>5/13/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BQ.1.1</td>
<td>5/27/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BQ.1.1</td>
<td>6/10/23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% Viral lineage among infections

Source: CDC (updates every other week)
CDC Hospital Admission Level for Cook County is at **LOW** for last week (-14% since last week)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Last Week’s Hospital Admission Level</th>
<th>Admission Level for 2 Weeks Ago (5/27-6/3)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.5 New COVID-19 Admissions per 100,000</td>
<td>2.7 New COVID-19 Admissions per 100,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Low (<10.0)**
- **Medium (10.0 to 19.9)**
- **High (≥20.0)**
- Insufficient data

**Other Metrics for Cook County (6/4-6/10)**

- **518** Reported New COVID-19 Cases \(-48\%\)
- **9.82** Reported New Cases per 100,000
- **3** New COVID-19 Deaths \(-33\%\)
- **0.06** New Deaths per 100,000


*Other metrics are estimates based on cases reported into the Illinois Electronic Disease Surveillance System (I-NEDSS)*
Lab-confirmed COVID cases are VERY low in every community area – with most also still decreasing

Average weekly case rate for the past 2 weeks
5/27/2023 – 6/10/2023

Weekly Case Rate (per 100,000)
- <10
- 10-50
- 50-100
- 100-150
- 150-200
- >200

Percent Change from 2 Weeks Prior
- < -20%
- -20% to -5%
- -5% to 5%
- 5% to 20%
- > 20%

Source:
Includes cases among Chicago residents reported into the Illinois Electronic Disease Surveillance System (I-NEDSS) with date of specimen collection up to 6/10/2023.
COVID hospitalization rates are largely both low and stable

Average weekly hospitalization rate for the past 2 weeks
5/27/2023 – 6/10/2023

New hospital admissions (per 100,000)

Source:
Includes cases among Chicago residents reported into the Illinois Electronic Disease Surveillance System (I-NEDSS) with date of specimen collection or admission date up to 6/10/2023.
Chicago Lab-Based Early Alert Signals for week of 6/7 remain unchanged from the previous week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Thresholds</th>
<th>Chicago Current Values Week of 5/31</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SARS-CoV-2 variant assessment, Chicago (combines log growth rate and VOC designation)</td>
<td>Stable lineage proportions, no VOC/VOHC</td>
<td>Medium (Last week: Medium)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average wastewater score among sampled sites, Chicago (combines viral concentration and trend)</td>
<td>&lt; 2</td>
<td>Low (Last week: Low)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Variants/subvariants currently increasing in prevalence locally (As of 6/7/2023)**

- **XBB.1.5**
  - Sublineage of XBB with additional mutations that conferred increased transmissibility. Emerged quickly starting in the US Northeast and overtook other circulating lineages.
  - RIPHL Logistic growth rate 6/7/2023: 0.039 per day; Doubling time 18 days (low)

- **XBB.1.5.1**
  - Sublineage of XBB.1.5 containing 1 additional amino acid mutation in spike.
  - RIPHL Logistic growth rate 6/7/2023: 0.027 per day; Doubling time 26 days (low)

- **XBB.1.9.1**
  - Sublineage of XBB with similar mutation profile to XBB.1.5.
  - RIPHL Logistic growth rate 6/7/2023: 0.028 per day; Doubling time 24 days (low)

- **XBB.1.16**
  - Sublineage of XBB containing 3 additional mutations in spike. Emerged and rapidly rose in frequency in India.
  - RIPHL Logistic growth rate 6/7/2023: 0.062 per day; Doubling time 11 days (med)

- **XBB.2.3**
  - Sublineage of XBB with 5 additional mutations, including 3 in spike. Most prevalent in Singapore and India.
  - RIPHL Logistic growth rate 6/7/2023: 0.045 per day; Doubling time 16 days (low)

** Emerging VOC: Variant of Concern. VOHC: Variant of High Consequence.**
SARS-CoV-2 wastewater metric for week of 6/7 demonstrate a **LOW** concern level compared to higher concentration levels in the previous weeks.

Wastewater SARS-CoV-2 Metric Trend for All of Chicago
LOW SARS-CoV-2 risk levels were detected from all treatment plants and the Lakeview – Uptown, Austin – Montclare, Chicago Lawn-Ashburn, and Chatham sewer sites. MEDIUM risk levels were detected from all other sewer sites.

Wastewater treatment plant catchment areas exceed Chicago city borders (dashed boundaries) and cover also other Cook county municipalities.

The actual coverage areas are wider but trimmed in this figure.

* Data for Week of 6/7/23
No Influenza was detected at the Calumet treatment plant and the Norwood Park – Jefferson Park sewer site. **MEDIUM** risk levels were detected at the Little Village site. All other treatment plants and community sewer sites have **LOW** Influenza A&B risk. No change from previous week.

*Data for Week of 6/7*
Welcome to the City of Chicago COVID-19 Vaccination ZIP Code Dashboard. To view coverage and insights for specific vaccination statuses or age groups, please use the filters at the top of the page.

Use filters to exposure coverage rates by ZIP code among different age groups and vaccination statuses.
Once a ZIP code is selected, metrics describing the coverage rate for that ZIP code and age group will display and how it compares to the citywide rate for that group.

- 44.2% of those aged 65 years and older in ZIP Code 60659 have received their updated bivalent booster.

- This is similar to coverage for this age group citywide and is in the bottom 50% of all Chicago ZIP Codes.
NEVER HAD A COVID-19 VACCINE?
Now, One Shot Gets You The Best Protection!

The updated bivalent vaccine is now available to anyone 6 months and older, including those who were not previously vaccinated.

FIND YOUR VACCINE AT:
CHI.GOV/COVIDVAX
GET YOUR BIVALENT COVID-19 VACCINE TODAY AND BREATHE EASIER KNOWING YOU HAVE THE STRONGEST PROTECTION!

YOU MAY BENEFIT BY GETTING AN ADDITIONAL BIVALENT BOOSTER NOW!

- If you’re 65+ years old, and it’s been 4 months or more since your last COVID-19 vaccine.
- If you’re immunocompromised, and it’s been 2 months since your last COVID-19 vaccine.

FIND YOUR VACCINE AT: CHI.GOV/COVIDVAX
TAKE ACTION IF YOU TEST POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

**DAY 1-5**

Stay home:
- Everyone - regardless of vaccination status - should stay home and away from others (isolate).

**People at high risk for severe illness:**
Talk to your doctor about treatment

**DAY 6-10**

Wear a mask:
- If you take 2 antigen tests 48 hours apart and both are negative, you may remove your mask sooner
- Avoid people at high risk of getting very sick

**DAY 6 OR LATER**

End isolation:
- If you never had symptoms OR symptoms are improving and are fever-free for 24 hours.

Find testing resources and the latest guidance at [chicago.gov/covidtest](http://chicago.gov/covidtest)
If you’re at high risk for severe illness, vaccines are your best protection against COVID-19. But if you do test positive, TREATMENTS ARE AVAILABLE.

**PAXLOVID**, for example, is an oral antiviral therapy for the treatment of mild to moderate COVID-19.

Individuals ages 12 and up who are at high risk of developing severe illness, are eligible.

Ask a healthcare provider if medications to treat COVID-19 are right for you.

More info at: [Chi.gov/therapeutics](http://Chi.gov/therapeutics)
GET YOUR UPDATED
COVID BOOSTER &
FLU SHOT AT HOME

In-home vaccination is available to all Chicago households at no cost. Up to 10 people can be vaccinated, so invite your family, friends, or neighbors to get vaccinated together.

TO REGISTER FOR AN APPOINTMENT
CALL 312.746.4835 OR VISIT OR CHICAGO.GOV/ATHOME

Continues to operate Saturday and Sunday 8am-6:30pm
Need help and don’t know where to turn?

211MetroChicago.org
Need a vaccine or a booster? Have questions?

visit
CHI.GOV/COVIDVAX

or call
312-746-4835
Disease Control Bureau

Detect, Track, Contain, and Prevent Infectious Diseases
Protecting Chicagoans by testing samples, providing expertise and communicating information in coordination with clinical and public health laboratories.

Epidemiologists monitor trends of infectious diseases and collect information to guide decision-making.
Regional Innovative Public Health Laboratory (RIPHL)

- Innovative public-academic partnership between CDPH and Rush University Medical Center
- Genomic tracking and outbreak response
  - SARS-CoV-2, RSV, Influenza surveillance
  - Expand to pathogen surveillance
  - Genomic sequencing for outbreak investigations
  - Multi-drug resistance organisms
  - (Re)emerging pathogens
There are **15** wastewater sampling sites. **Everyone** in the city is covered by at least one site.

Four sampling sites from three wastewater treatment plants covering **5 million** Chicago and suburban residents.

Chicago Sewersheds **250k** residents

Pumping Stations **700k** residents

Wastewater Monitoring Dashboard

Responding to Infectious Disease Emerging Threats

**Mpx**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cumulative Cases</th>
<th>Cumulative Hospitalizations</th>
<th>Cumulative Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,125</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Traveler Monitoring – Viral Hemorrhagic Fever**

**Mpx (Monkeypox) Cases Diagnosed in Chicago Residents, by Week**

**Hospital admissions among children <18 years-old at Chicago hospitals due to acute respiratory viruses**

**Cumulative Illinois Records**

**Illinois Records Under Active Monitoring**

*Only includes records with “successfully contacted” final outreach status. Excludes records of travelers who indicated they will stay outside of Illinois during their monitoring period.*
Monkeypox diagnostic testing: Job Aid 1 for healthcare providers

Deciding on whether or not to test:
With exception to commercial labs (e.g., LabCorp and Quest), approval is required before any specimens can be tested for monkeypox. Clinicians should promptly report any suspect cases who are Chicago residents to CDPH at the following link: https://redcap.link/reportmpx. Reports will be reviewed by CDPH medical team and providers will be contacted for details about testing and submission of specimens to the Illinois Department of Public Health laboratory.

Job Aid 1 for Special Pathogen Treatment Center Laboratories

Diagnostic testing for Ebola (Sudan) Virus:
This guide is intended only for Special Pathogen Treatment Centers (SPTCs) in Chicago. As of November 2022, these are Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago, Northwestern Memorial Hospital, and Rush University Medical Center. This job aid covers specimen collection, storage, and transfer of specimens for diagnostic testing for Ebola (Sudan) virus. For diagnostic testing for other differential diagnoses in Ebola PUIs, see Job Aid 2 for SPTCs.
Meningitis
Get the Facts. Get Vaccinated.

If you’re sick or have a sore, do no more. Time to talk to a healthcare provider!

GET THE FACTS
Learn more about MPV and how to protect yourself from infection at:
chicago.gov/MPV
Prevent and Control Infectious Diseases in Settings Where People Live or Gather in Close Proximity to Each Other

Community Congregate Settings Program

Youth Settings
- K-12 Schools
- Early Childcare Centers
- Universities
- Day camps/Summer programs

Special Populations
- Facilities that serve people who live in close proximity
  - Shelter facilities
  - Correctional facilities
  - Facilities Treating Developmental Disabilities
  - Behavioral Health facilities
    - Substance use treatment, Specialized Mental Health Rehabilitation Facilities (SMHRFs), and/or people experiencing behavioral health issues
Track and Respond to Infectious Diseases

Covid test-percent positivity across Chicago shelters by two-week period, 2020

SY22-23 Youth Settings Outbreaks Investigated by Epi Week

Number of Potential Outbreaks

Positive
Negative

Total Number of outbreaks
Provide Infection Control Guidance

Teach your children to thoroughly wash their hands often.

Perform infection control consultations and site-specific support for Special Populations facilities.

Develop setting-specific guidelines to control COVID-19 and other diseases of public health importance.

Educate school and Early Childhood Education staff and parents about emerging diseases.
Support COVID-19 Response in Congregant settings

Allocated >1,000,000 rapid tests to Chicago Schools and Early Childcare Centers since Jan 2022

Established Health Alert Network for Schools, Universities, and Early Childcare facilities, to share up-to-date guidance information and resources

Implemented Test to Stay program in 29 Charter Schools and 23 Early Childcare Centers

In collaboration with partners, supported temporary shelter operations to decompress congregate settings and allow for appropriate social distancing.

Public Health staff and partners visited 77 shelters to assist with infection prevention, symptom screening and in-person education.

Organized COVID-19 testing for those living in congregate settings