CDPH Deputy Commissioner of Behavioral Health Matt Richards joins Dr. Arwady to discuss our new mental health partnership with Chicago Public Libraries, a new Loop CARE Team, and the #All77 campaign.
Our local risk based on CDC COVID-19 Community Levels is: **Low**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>New cases per 100,000 population (last 7 days) [Goal is &lt;200]</th>
<th>New admissions per 100,000 population (last 7 days) [Goal is &lt;10]</th>
<th>Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (last 7 days) [Goal is &lt;10%]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City of Chicago</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cook County (including City of Chicago)</td>
<td>73</td>
<td><strong>7.1</strong></td>
<td>2.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chicago metrics are calculated based on Chicago-level data.
Cook County metrics are calculated by the CDC and posted on the **CDC Community Levels website**.
Data current as of 3/14/2023.
Last week, 1% of U.S. Counties reported **High** COVID Community Level and 9% reported **Medium** Level.

Source: CDC
Lab-confirmed COVID cases are low in the vast majority of community areas in Chicago

Average weekly case rate for the past 2 weeks


Source:
Includes cases among Chicago residents reported into the Illinois Electronic Disease Surveillance System (I-NEDSS) with date of specimen collection up to 3/11/2023.
COVID hospitalization rates remain low overall, but higher in West, Near South, and Far South regions

Average weekly hospitalization rate for the past 2 weeks

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 3/11/2023.
Chicago Lab-Based Early Alert COVID Signals remain unchanged from the previous week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Thresholds</th>
<th>Chicago Current Values Week of 3/13</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></td>
<td>Variant or lineage increasing, no VOC/VOHC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Variant rapidly increasing, or VOC/VOHC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average wastewater score among sampled sites, Chicago (combines viral concentration and trend)</td>
<td>&lt; 2</td>
<td>Low (1.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2-3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&gt; 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Variants/subvariants currently increasing in prevalence locally

**XBB.1.5**: Doubling time 8.8 days (med)
  Recombinant of two BA.2 lineages; rapidly emerged in US Northeast, has continued to dominate samples in Midwest

Data as of 3/13/23. Emerging VOC: Variant of Concern. VOHC: Variant of High Consequence.
Variant Surveillance, Midwest Region
Weighted and Nowcast Estimates for Weeks of 12/11/22 – 3/18/23

It’s ALL Still OMICRON

Variant Surveillance, United States

Nowcast Estimates in for 3/12/2023 – 3/18/2023 by HHS Region

It’s ALL Still OMICRON

XBB.1.5

Regional proportions from specimens collected the week ending 3/18/2023 (Nowcast).

US Territories not shown are included in HHS regions:
PR, VI - Region 2
AS, FM, GU, MH, MP, PW - Region 9

Source: CDC Data Tracker
Monitoring subvariants internationally: ALL STILL OMICRON

**XBB.1.9**
- Watching especially in UK, causing slow uptick across metrics there, including hospitalizations.
- But in the U.S., only about a 35% growth advantage of this subvariant (compares to 500% with original Omicron)
- No major concern at this time.

**XBB.1.16**
- Watching especially in India, in some parts of country have seen case growth advantage of ~250% (17% increase in deaths).
- Changing testing patterns and/or celebration of Holi.
- No major concern at this time, but watch emergence in other areas.
Chicago SARS-CoV-2 combined wastewater metric demonstrates a LOW local concern level, compared to medium and high viral concentration levels last month.

A LOW concern metric indicates ongoing but decreased community transmission in Chicago.
**HIGHER** SARS-CoV-2 concern levels were detected from four sewer sites. **MEDIUM** concern levels were seen across all other sewer sites and Stickney treatment plant.

**Wastewater Treatment Plants**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Catchment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Terrence J. O’Brien</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Stickney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Calumet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

**Sewer sites**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Catchment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Norwood Park - Jefferson Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Lakeview - Uptown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Austin - Monteclare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Lincoln Park - Near North Side</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Little Village</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Chicago Lawn - Ashburn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Chatham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Roseland - West Pullman</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Legend**

- Low Concern
- Medium Concern
- High Concern
The O’Brien (north) treatment plant had non-detect for influenza last week. All other treatment plants and all community sewer sites have **LOW** Influenza A&B concern.

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.

No-color area means non-detect, which shows no detectable virus was found in the samples.
CDC reports that during this respiratory season (week 40 of 2022 to week 10 of 2023) a total of 64,180 Americans died from COVID-19 (purple in graph). This number remains much higher than flu deaths in any pre-pandemic flu season (yellow in graph).
Vax & PAX lovid

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
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
Children under 5 who had their three-dose primary series of Pfizer monovalent vaccine more than two months ago...

are now eligible for a single booster dose of Pfizer bivalent (Omicron) vaccine.
Higher bivalent vaccine booster coverage among Chicagoans than nationwide estimates—except among oldest Chicagoans.

Over **588,000 booster doses** administered to Chicagoans since authorization in fall 2022.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>People with an Updated (Bivalent) Booster Dose</th>
<th>Percent of US Population</th>
<th>Percent of Chicago Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population ≥ 5 years</td>
<td>17.4%</td>
<td>22.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population ≥ 12 years</td>
<td>18.7%</td>
<td>24.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population ≥ 18 years</td>
<td>19.8%</td>
<td>25.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population ≥ 65 years</td>
<td>41.8%</td>
<td>41.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chicago data reported to I-CARE as of 3/15/2023.
Norovirus (causes vomiting/diarrhea/stomach cramps) still on the rise and may peak nationally in March:
Wash your hands!
Need a vaccine or a booster? Have questions?

visit
CHI.GOV/COVIDVAX

or call
312-746-4835
#ALL77

From Shuttered Clinics to Mental Health Services in Every Neighborhood

2019
City of Chicago Funded Mental Health Services

2023
City of Chicago Funded Mental Health Services

* Funded by the City of Chicago to provide no-barrier mental health services regardless of a patient's income, health insurance, or immigration status. Map does not include clinical care now offered in 80 homeless shelters across the city.
CITY OF CHICAGO TRAUMA INFORMED CENTERS OF CARE NETWORK

Providers include Community Mental Health Centers (CMHCs), Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), and Community-Based Organizations (CBOs), along with CDPH’s directly operated mental health clinics and extension clinics. These organizations are funded by city/county/state/federal governments to provide no-barrier mental health services to residents regardless of health insurance status, immigration status, or ability to pay.
2019: City of Chicago-Funded Mental Health Services

3,651 people served
0 children served
11 neighborhoods
6 clinics
2023: City of Chicago-Funded Mental Health Services

73,899 people served
13,666 children served
77 community areas
177 clinical sites
Built a citywide network of 50 publicly funded mental health organizations that provide no-barrier mental health services.
COORDINATE NO-BARRIER MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEM

Create a single phone number and website where residents can connect to no barrier mental health services.

TO GET CONNECTED TO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD, GO TO MENTAL HEALTH.CHICAGO.GOV - OR - CALL 211

UN[☆]SPOKEN
Narcan at Chicago Public Libraries (CPL)

Since January 2022, CDPH & CPL have partnered to make Narcan (naloxone) available in every library in the city.

- **81 libraries** have Narcan available to the public
- **Over 300 library staff** trained on overdose prevention
- **Over 4,100 Narcan kits** distributed to the public
Narcan is Available at Chicago Public Libraries

Naloxone (Narcan) is a safe and legal medication that reverses an opioid overdose.

You can pick up free Narcan at any Chicago Public Library branch.

If you or a loved one is struggling with substance use, the Illinois Helpline for Opioids & Other Substances is here for you. Call 1-833-2-FINDHELP or text HELPLINE to 833234.
Free mental health services will initially be available at the following libraries:

- **Mt. Greenwood branch**, 11010 S. Kedzie Ave.
  - Fridays 9am-5pm
- **Beverly branch**, 1962 W. 95th St.
  - Thursdays 10am-6pm
- **Blackstone Branch (in Kenwood)**, 4904 S. Lake Park Ave.
  - Fridays 9am-5pm
- **Edgewater branch**, 6000 N. Broadway St.
  - Tuesdays noon-8pm
CARE Program: Crisis Response Teams

Crisis Assistance Response & Engagement (CARE) is Chicago's first alternate 911 response program.

Integrated, healthcare-based teams respond to 911 calls with a mental health component and offer de-escalation, on-site services, transport to alternate destination, and extensive follow-up.

Currently operate 10:30am – 4:00pm Mon-Fri.

- **Alternate Response teams**: paramedic + mental health clinician
- **Multidisciplinary Response teams**: paramedic + mental health clinician + CIT (crisis trained) officer
CARE Team Responses by Neighborhood

Summary: Alternate response team continues to see increases in call volume. In February, alternate response team (Southwest/7-8) had highest number of responses across all teams.

CARE 911 Responses Over Time by Neighborhood

Southwest Side includes Chicago Lawn, Gage Park, West Elsdon, West Englewood, West Lawn

Data updated through 3/3/23. CARE Responses include primary and self-dispatches and CPD assists.
In 2023 the CARE Program will expand into 3 new geographic areas. These areas were prioritized based on their volume of mental health-related 911 calls:

1. Loop/Near South
2. Far North
3. Far South/Southeast