Chicago's COVID-19 Travel Advisory: 38 States

As of today, California, Guam and North Carolina have been removed from the travel advisory. No new states were added to the advisory.
# Chicago COVID-19 Community Transmission and Risk Matrix

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chicago residents - 7-day rolling daily average</td>
<td>800+</td>
<td>400 – 799</td>
<td>200 – 399</td>
<td>20 – 199</td>
<td>&lt;20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current:</strong> 300</td>
<td><strong>Decreased due to holiday testing</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chicago residents - 7-day rolling daily average</td>
<td>10%+</td>
<td>6.6 – 9.9%</td>
<td>5.0 – 6.5%</td>
<td>2 – 4.9%</td>
<td>&lt;2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current:</strong> 3.5%</td>
<td><strong>Increasing</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hospital Beds (Non-ICU) Occupied by COVID Patients</th>
<th>Very High Transmission</th>
<th>High Transmission</th>
<th>Substantial Transmission</th>
<th>Lower Transmission</th>
<th>Low Transmission</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chicago hospitals - 7-day rolling daily average</td>
<td>1250+</td>
<td>750 – 1249</td>
<td>250 – 749</td>
<td>100 – 249</td>
<td>-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current:</strong> 300</td>
<td><strong>Increasing</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICU Beds Occupied by COVID Patients</th>
<th>Very High Transmission</th>
<th>High Transmission</th>
<th>Substantial Transmission</th>
<th>Lower Transmission</th>
<th>Low Transmission</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chicago hospitals - 7-day rolling daily average</td>
<td>400+</td>
<td>300 – 399</td>
<td>100 – 299</td>
<td>20 – 99</td>
<td>&lt;20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current:</strong> 86</td>
<td><strong>Increasing</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Chicago Department of Public Health, data current as of November 30, 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.

Nov 22, 2021: 613 diagnosed cases
Current average case rate: 493

Chi.gov/coviddash
Chicago: COVID test positivity continues to increase; still adequate testing overall

Current positivity: 3.5%

Chi.gov/coviddash
But there’s still more work to do!

77% of Chicagoans ages 12 and up have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.
Percent of residents 12+ years-old with at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine by community area

Citywide: 77.2%

Community Area Milestones This Week
- **Roseland** reached 60%
- **Chicago Lawn** reached 77%
- **Near West Side** reached 80%
- **West Lawn** reached 90%

Data reported to the Illinois Comprehensive Automated Immunization Registry (I-CARE) through 11/20/2021. 2% of people with a first dose had an address that was unable to be geocoded and do not appear on this map.
Percent of residents 12+ years-old with a completed COVID-19 vaccine series by community area

**Citywide:** 70.9%

Data reported to the Illinois Comprehensive Automated Immunization Registry (I-CARE) through 11/20/2021. 2% of people with a completed series had an address that was unable to be geocoded and do not appear on this map.
Uptake among 5–11 year-olds continues to rise

At least one dose (% vaccinated as of 11/28/2021)

- 5-11: 23.0%
- 12-17: 68.7%
- 18-29: 69.1%
- 30-39: 76.1%
- 40-49: 82.4%
- 50-59: 88.6%
- 60-69: 84.4%
- 70-79: 78.2%
- 80+: 69.2%

Completed vaccine series (% vaccinated as of 11/28/2021)

- 5-11: 1.3%
- 12-17: 59.5%
- 18-29: 61.6%
- 30-39: 70.1%
- 40-49: 76.6%
- 50-59: 82.8%
- 60-69: 78.9%
- 70-79: 72.6%
- 80+: 64.1%

Chi.gov/coviddash
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?  
Need a booster?  
Have a question?

Call 312-746-4835  
chi.gov/covidvax
Get vaccinated *now* in time for the holidays:
Omicron (B.1.1.529)

Key updates as of November 30, 2021
Timeline of detection to date

- November 11-14, 2021: specimens collected in Botswana and South Africa that are later identified as Omicron
- November 23, 2021: Discovery of new variant that showed different results in qPCR in South Africa
- November 24, 2021: First news reports from similar variant found in Botswana and China (from traveler from South Africa) from sequences in database
- November 26, 2021: Designated as a Variant of Concern (VOC) by WHO
- November 29, 2021: Detected so far in Africa, Asia, Australasia, Europe, North America
Current Worldwide Distribution
Viruses replicate (copy themselves), leading to mutations

• Viruses need a host (YOU!) to survive; they use human/animal cells to copy themselves.
• Once a virus enters a human, it starts copying itself millions of times. The human immune system works to fight off the virus, but not before these copies are made. The virus is looking for opportunities to reproduce and spread.
• Mutations are random “errors” in the virus’ genetic code that can be introduced when the virus copies itself.
• The more virus that is circulating in a population, the more the virus itself can change.
• If a mutation makes it more likely that a virus will survive/replicate, it may out-compete versions of the virus that don’t have that mutation.
Three Levels of Variants: A version of the virus with a certain pattern of mutations

**Variant of Interest (VOI):** Repeated transmission

**Variant of Concern (VOC):** Repeated transmission that is concerning from a public health standpoint (*e.g.* Delta)
- A VOC may
  - be more transmissible (contagious)
  - be more able to evade our immune system’s lessons from prior infection and/or vaccine
  - make us sicker
  - make our treatments less likely to work

**Variant of High Consequence:** Repeated transmission that is highly concerning from a public health standpoint
- *Not had one of these yet (could it be Omicron?)*
Omicron variant

• Variant: A version of the virus with a certain pattern of mutations

• Omicron has 50 different mutations, many in the “spike region”
Why the concern? Epidemiologic evidence

A new variant is spreading rapidly in South Africa, and appears to be out-competing other variants much faster than previous variants of concern did.

Share of all sequenced cases* in South Africa accounted for by each variant, by number of days since it passed 1%

B.1.1.529

Delta

Beta

*Growth of B.1.1.529 is modelled from SGT3 data rather than full genomic sequences
Source: FT analysis of data from Gisaid and the South African National Health Laboratory Service
© FT

https://www.ft.com/content/42c5ff3d-e676-4076-9b9f-7243a00cba5e
Why the concern? Totality of evidence

- **More transmissible? (More contagious)**
  - Likely, based on pattern seen in South Africa
- **More immune escape? (Humans less likely to be fully protected as a result of vaccination or prior infection)**
  - Likely, being investigated
  - Most divergent variant (most mutations) so far\(^1\)
  - Known mutations are concerning (though some protection against severe disease still likely, T-cell response unclear)
- **Less effective treatments?**
  - Somewhat likely
  - Monoclonal antibodies may need to be retargeted. Some good news—upcoming antiviral medications likely less affected.
- **More severe disease?**
  - Unclear
  - Early cases in South Africa among the young, relatively mild. Increasing hospitalizations in SA may be related simply to increasing cases (not the variant)
- **Less sensitive diagnostics? (Tests don’t work as well)**
  - Unlikely
  - Some PCR assays may be less sensitive, impact likely minimal given most are multi-target
  - Some theoretical risk to antigen tests given deletion in N gene, but studies ongoing and initial results not concerning

---

1. [https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-021-04005-0](https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-021-04005-0). 20 spike mutations in a synthetic variant meant “near complete” resistance to neutralizing antibodies
National actions on travel

- As of November 29, 2021, the US announced travel restrictions from eight countries: Malawi, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, South Africa, and Namibia

- May see increased testing and quarantine requirements for all international travelers.

Local CDPH/laboratory responses

- Regional Innovative Public Health Laboratory (RIPHL) tests for variants across Chicago
  - Federal funding, collaboration with Rush University Medical Center
  - Partner with multiple hospitals/health systems, coordinate with state
  - Sample is representative of city population

- Increase Chicago-wide collection for sampling for genetic sequencing for variants

- In the laboratory, add a pre-screening PCR step to identify possible Omicron variant rather than batching testing

- Continue to increase local wastewater sampling for COVID, including adding capacity at ORD international terminal
  - Argonne National Laboratory (subcontractors of UIC) should have primers for Omicron this week
Next steps

• We are well placed to detect Omicron and likely will soon.
• The question is our response.
  • Vaccinations!!!
  • Boosters!
    • All Chicagoans 18+ should get a booster 6 months after Pfizer/Moderna, 2 months after J/J.
• Masks indoors!
• Staying home if you’re sick, handwashing, distancing, etc.
Total Reported Case Counts in SY21-22
Aug. 29 - Nov. 27

Overall Total Cases:

- **Students**: 3,045
- **Staff**: 887
Weekly Average of Individuals Quarantined/Isolated
Sept. 26 - Nov. 27

Currently Quarantined/Isolated

**Students:** 4,877

**Staff:** 185

### Graph:
- **Axes:**
  - Y-axis: # of Individuals Quarantined/Isolated
  - X-axis: Dates (09/26, 10/03, 10/10, 10/17, 10/24, 10/31, 11/07, 11/14, 11/21)

### Data Points:
- 09/26: 6430
- 10/03: 6515
- 10/10: 5383
- 10/17: 3962
- 10/24: 4127
- 10/31: 4431
- 11/07: 4950
- 11/14: 6208
- 11/21: 6053
Registered Individual
Sept. 26 - Nov. 27

Registered for Testing

Students
35,433
Number of Tests Administered
Sept. 26 - Nov. 27

Total Tests Administered
207,882
Weekly Number of COVID Tests Completed vs. Positive Tests
Aug. 29 - Nov. 27

Test Positivity Rate
0.51%
CPS Staff & Student Vaccination Status

- 90.3% of CPS staff are fully vaccinated
- 49.6% of CPS students ages 12 and up have been fully vaccinated
- 12.6% of CPS students ages 5 - 11 have received at least one dose of the vaccine
A big reason why I decided to get vaccinated was to protect my friends and family — especially my great-grandma.

I'm getting vaccinated because I live with both of my grandparents and I want to keep them safe.

I have little cousins, little siblings, and all of them are the big reason I got vaccinated.

MAKE A PLAN
GET VACCINATED

Find out where you can get vaccinated at vaccines.gov

MAKE A PLAN
GET VACCINATED

Find out where you can get vaccinated at vaccines.gov

MAKE A PLAN
GET VACCINATED

Find out where you can get vaccinated at vaccines.gov

HAZ UN PLAN
VACÚNATE

Una gran razón por la que decidí vacunarme fue para proteger a mis amigos y familiares, especialmente a mi bisabuela.

MAKE A PLAN
GET VACCINATED

Find out where you can get vaccinated at vaccines.gov

MAKE A PLAN
GET VACCINATED

Find out where you can get vaccinated at vaccines.gov

MAKE A PLAN
GET VACCINATED

Find out where you can get vaccinated at vaccines.gov

I wanted to get back to playing football this year so I got the vaccine.

This is my last year of high school. I want to make sure that we all remember this together.

MAKE A PLAN
GET VACCINATED

Find out where you can get vaccinated at vaccines.gov

MAKE A PLAN
GET VACCINATED

Find out where you can get vaccinated at vaccines.gov

MAKE A PLAN
GET VACCINATED

Find out where you can get vaccinated at vaccines.gov