COVID-19 Response Bureau
Testing and Laboratory-Based Surveillance

February 26, 2021
Every week, we track the volume of tests performed across the City, as well as what type of laboratory is performing those tests. While testing capacity remains high, demand has decreased in recent weeks. Testing demand across the City closely mirrors disease incidence, such that when fewer cases of COVID-19 are detected, fewer people seek COVID-19 testing. Testing demand also fluctuates with changes in the weather, and recent extreme weather events may have reduced the volume of testing performed.

This presentation includes data up to February 20, 2021.
Testing volume by reporting laboratories

% positivity

City of Chicago CBT  Clinical  Commercial  Public Health  % positivity

MMWR 1-4 = January  MMWR 32-36 = August
MMWR 49-53 = December  MMWR 27-31 = July
MMWR 45-48 = November  MMWR 23-27 = June
MMWR 41-44 = October  MMWR 18-23 = May
MMWR 36-40 = September  MMWR 14-18 = April

CDPH CBT = Laboratory serving City of Chicago Community-Based Testing Sites
City of Chicago Community-Based Testing Sites (CBTS) represent just some of over 5,000 providers performing COVID-19 testing in Chicago. CBTS aim to serve the people who need it most, especially those underrepresented in testing from other clinical providers and those from demographic groups and geographic areas hardest hit by COVID-19.

We closely monitor the demographics (e.g., age, race, ethnicity) of individuals using our community-based testing sites, and adjust our targeting as needed to reach the communities that need it most.
Volume of test by race and ethnicity of individuals using CDPH Community Based Testing Sites last week (February 14, 2020 – February 20, 2021)

- Asian, Non-Latinx: 58
- Black, Non-Latinx: 358
- Latinx: 947
- Other, Non-Latinx: 150
- Unknown: 40
- White, Non-Latinx: 274