



# COVID-19: *Updates*

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December 15, 2021

# Disclosures

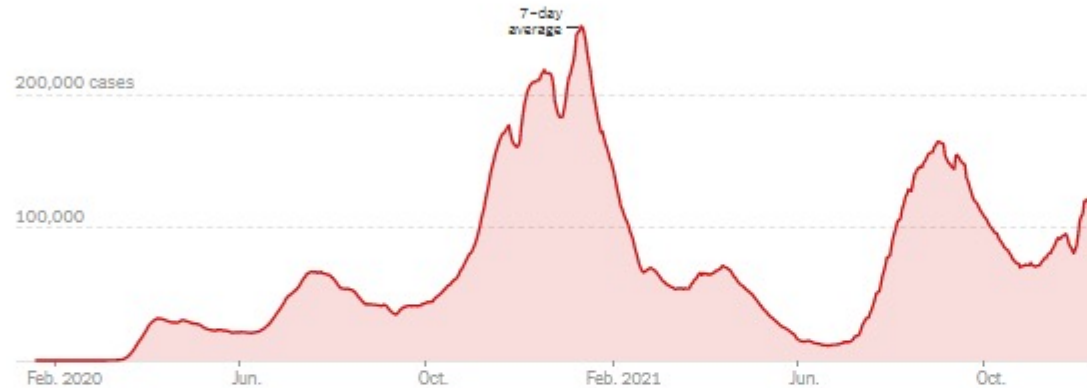
- We have no relevant financial interests to disclose.



# Coronavirus in the U.S.: Latest Map and Case Count

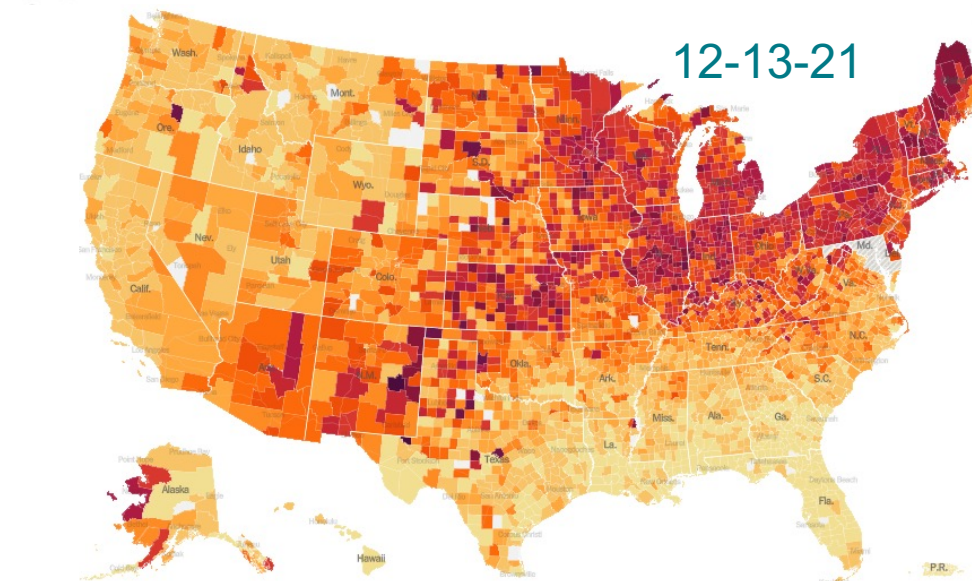
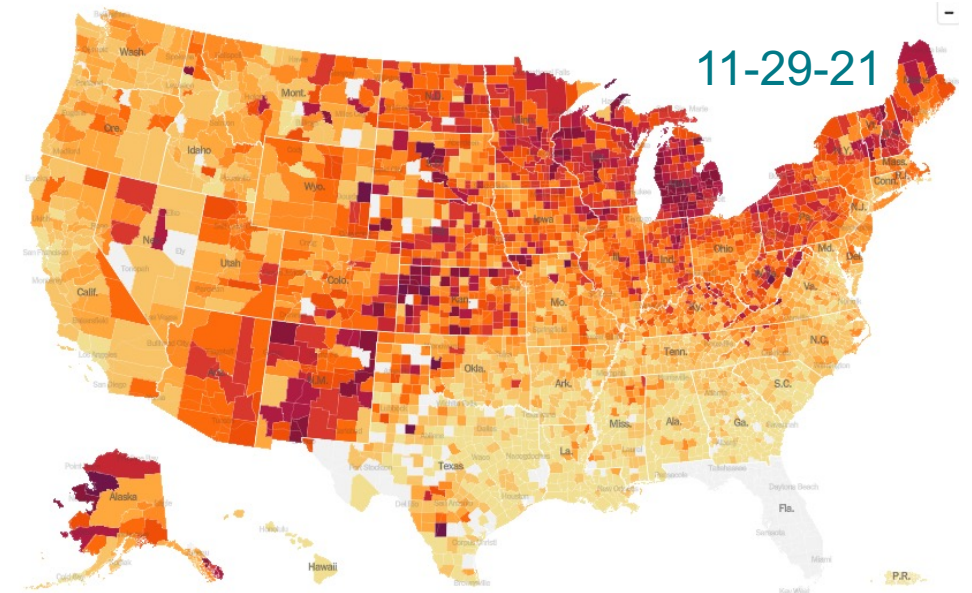
## New reported cases

All time Last 90 days



	DAILY AVG. ON DEC. 13	14-DAY CHANGE	TOTAL REPORTED
Cases	120,056	+49%	50,083,493
Tests	1,388,061	+2%	—
Hospitalized	66,395	+22%	—
Deaths	1,276	+40%	797,208

About this data



<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2021/us/coronavirus-us-cases.html>

# COVID case rate climbing across state

Every region in Illinois is seeing an increase in the average number of new daily cases, per 100,000 residents. (Chicago's rate in red. Suburban regions' rates in blue. Downstate rates in gray. Statewide rate in black.)



Chart: Joe Mahr • Source: Tribune analysis of IDPH data. • Created with [Datawrapper](#)

<https://www.chicagotribune.com/news/breaking/ct-chicago-public-schools-covid-spike-20211210-ogq5qq6amfb5ngkuvfedyulp5i-story.html>



# Rates of COVID-19-Associated Hospitalization

Preliminary weekly rates as of Dec 04, 2021

Display by

Weekly Rate

View Rate by

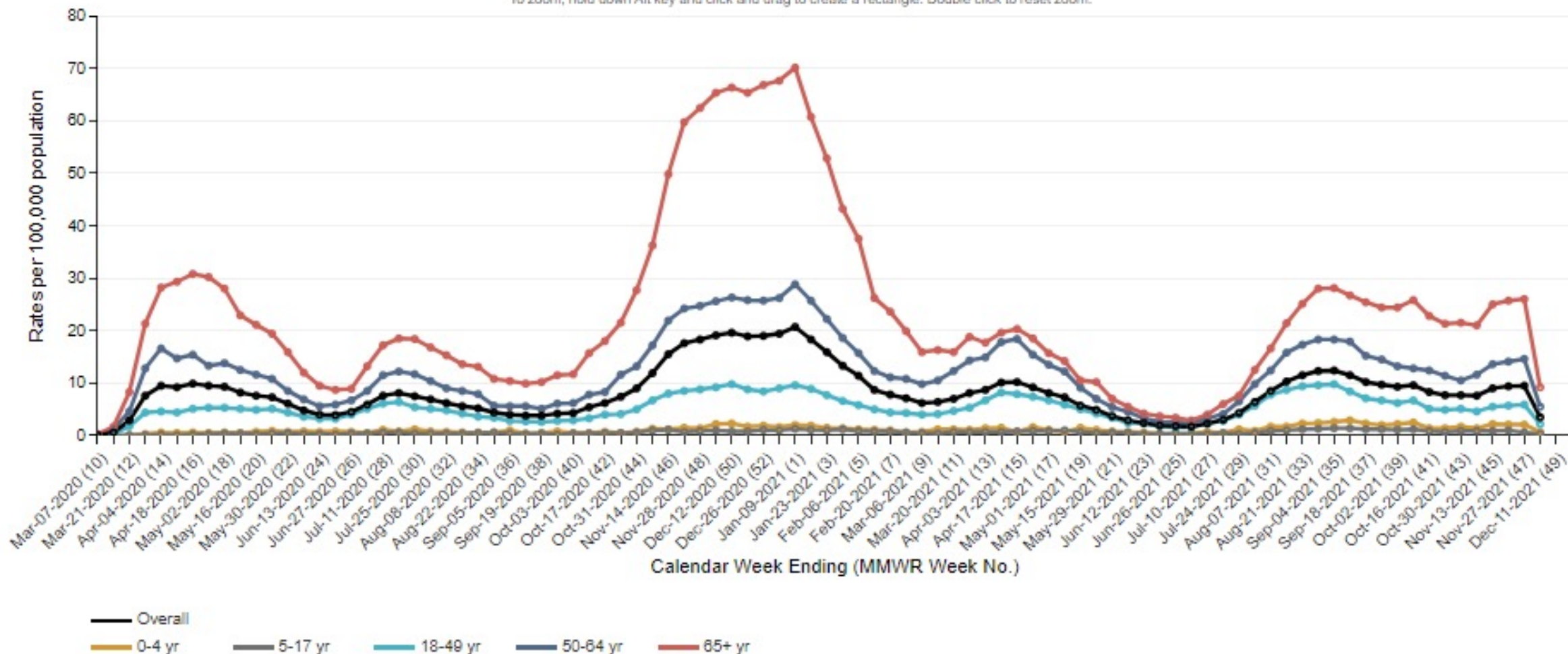
Age Group

Choose Age Group



COVID-NET :: Entire Network :: 2020-21 :: Weekly Rate

To zoom, hold down Alt key and click and drag to create a rectangle. Double click to reset zoom.



**Total Vaccine Doses**

Delivered 594,465,265

Administered 485,359,746

**Learn more about the  
[distribution of vaccines](#).****202.2M**

People fully vaccinated

**54.4M**People received a booster  
dose\*\***At Least One Dose****Fully Vaccinated****Booster Doses\*\*\*****Vaccinated People**

Count

Percent of US Population

Total

239,274,656

72.1%

Population ≥ 5 Years of Age

239,235,513

76.6%

Population ≥ 12 Years of Age

233,713,855

82.4%

Population ≥ 18 Years of Age

217,997,381

84.4%

Population ≥ 65 Years of Age

55,949,1

**At Least One Dose****Fully Vaccinated****Booster Doses\*\*\*****Fully Vaccinated\* People with a  
Booster Dose\*\***

Count

Percent of Fully Vaccinated\*

Total

54,439,667

26.9%

Population ≥ 18 Years of Age

54,366,153

29.2%

Population ≥ 50 Years of Age

39,577,647

40.7%

Population ≥ 65 Years of Age

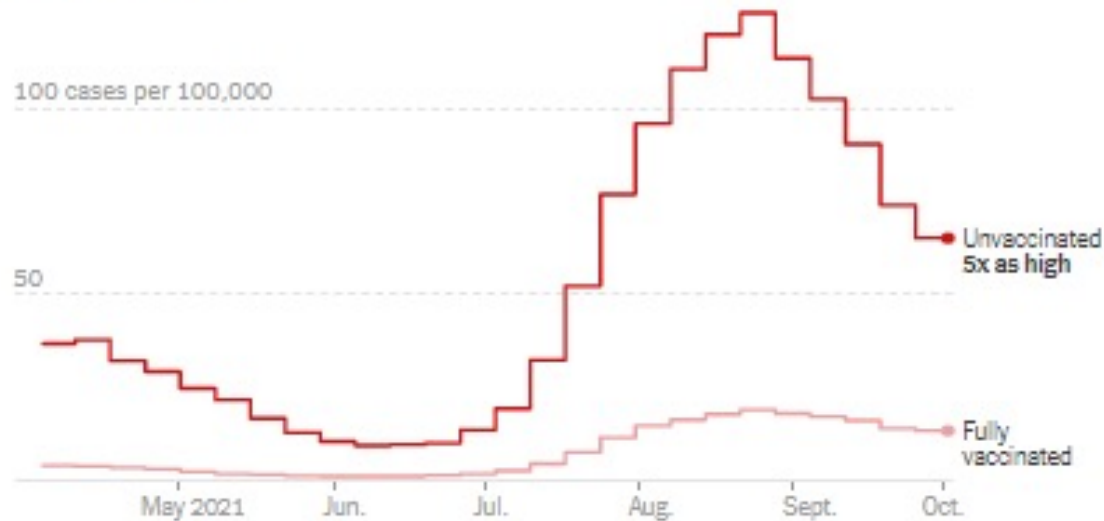
24,671,012

51.6%

## Rates for vaccinated and unvaccinated

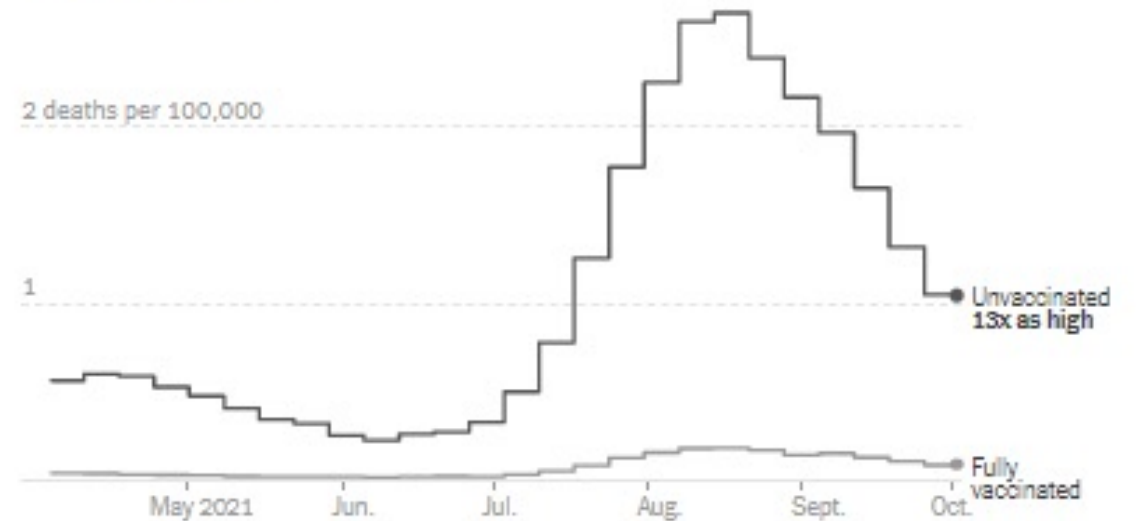
Data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention shows that people who are unvaccinated are at a much greater risk than those who are fully vaccinated to test positive or die from Covid-19. These charts compare age-adjusted average daily case and death rates for vaccinated and unvaccinated people in the 22 states and two cities that provide this data.

Average daily cases



[About this data](#)

Average daily deaths



<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2021/us/coronavirus-us-cases.html>



# CHICAGO | COVID-19 Summary

Data current as of Dec 13, 2021.

Data are updated M-F at 5:30 p.m., except for City holidays.  
All data are provisional and subject to change.

SUMMARY

CASES

CASES BY ZIP

TESTS

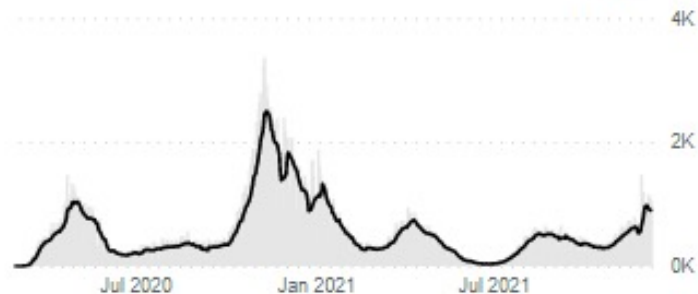
VACCINES

VACCINES BY ZIP

[Learn how to use this dashboard.](#)

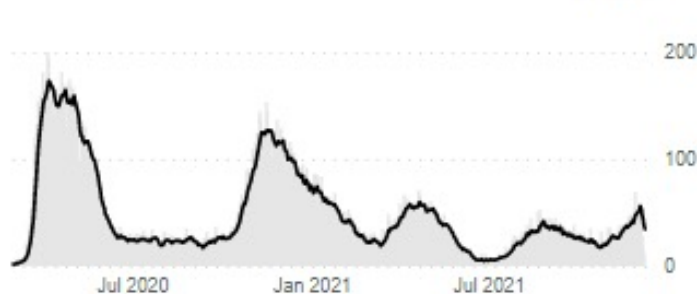
## CASES

903 ▼ 918 (-2%) 355,928 33.4  
Current daily avg Prior week Cumulative Daily rate per 100,000



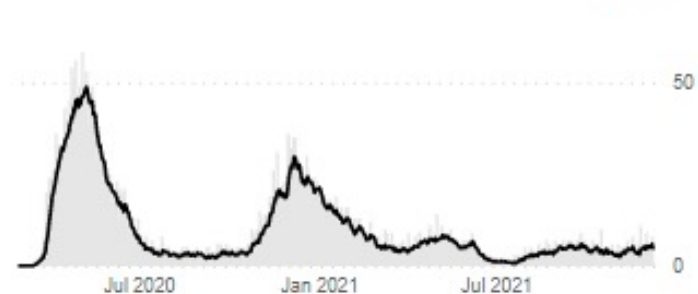
## HOSPITALIZATIONS

35 ▼ 51 (-32%) 32,188 1.3  
Current daily avg Prior week Cumulative Daily rate per 100,000



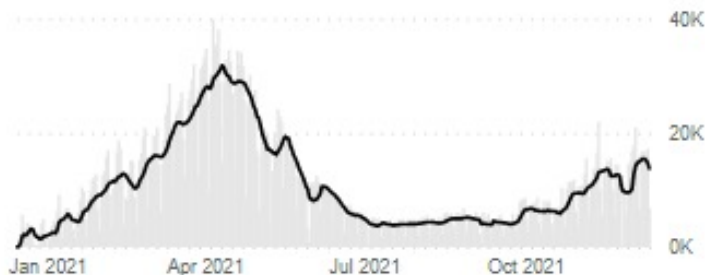
## DEATHS

4.86 ▼ 5.43 (-11%) 6,274 0.2  
Current daily avg Prior week Cumulative Daily rate per 100,000



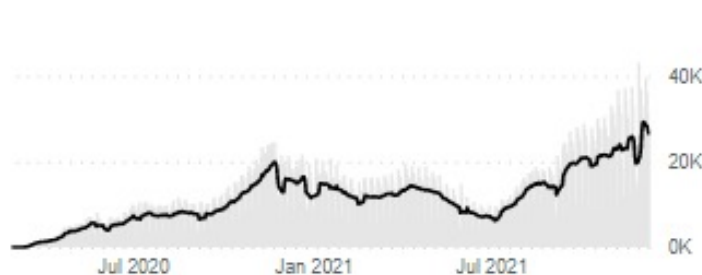
## VACCINATIONS ADMINISTERED

13,807 ▼ 3,926,900 63.0% 69.8%  
Current daily avg Cumulative Completed series At least one dose



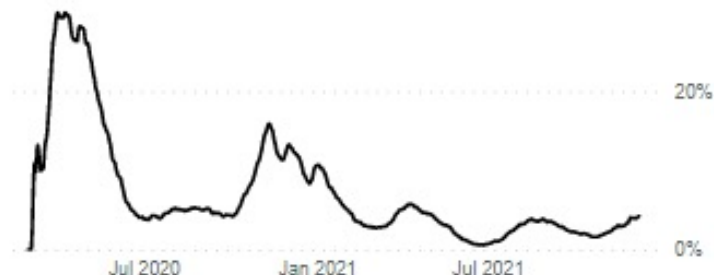
## TESTS PERFORMED

26,620 ▼ 27,209 (-2%) 7,431,293  
Current daily avg Prior week Cumulative



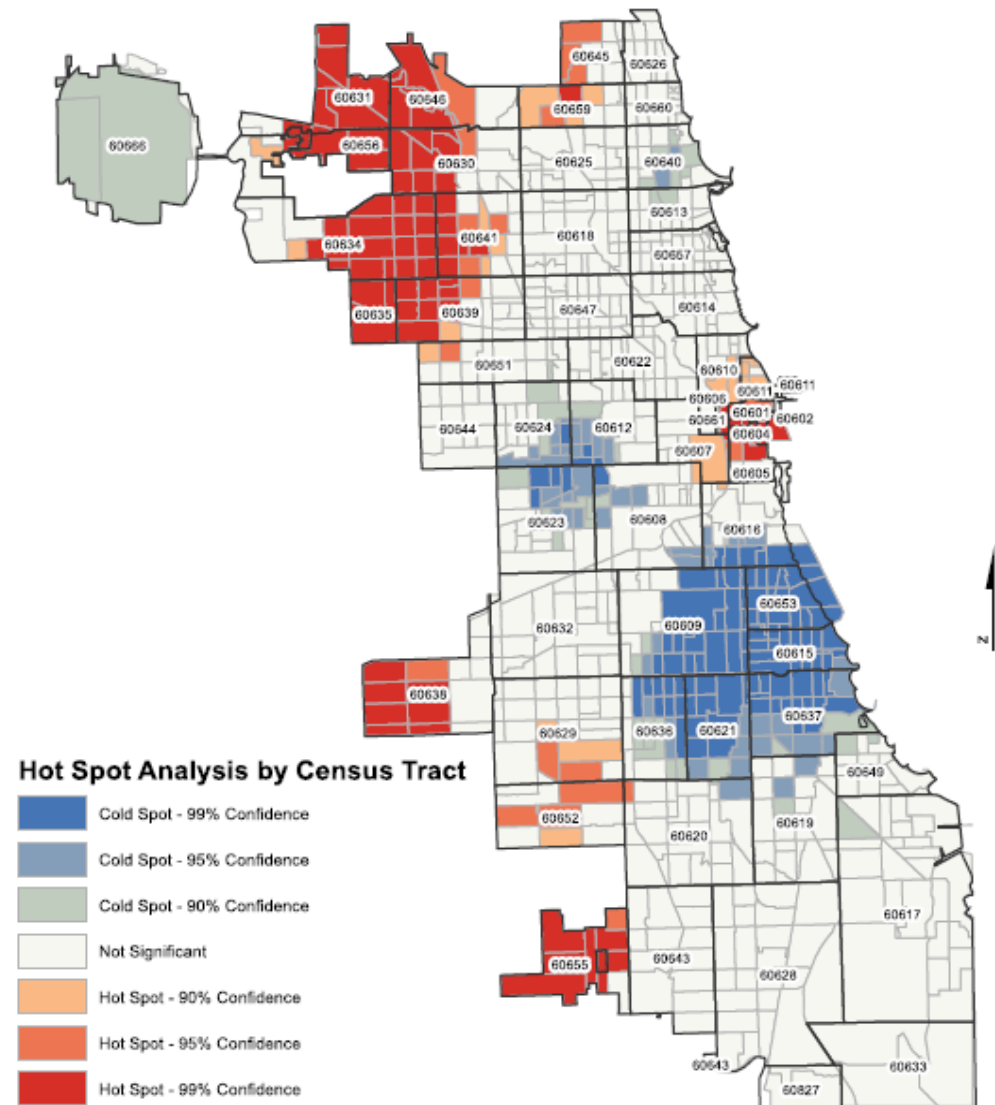
## POSITIVITY RATE

4.2% ▲ 4.0%  
Current daily avg Prior week



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Cases reported 11/21 - 12/04  
(n= 10,735) \*519 no address

Chicago COVID-19 Hot Spot Report. December 14, 2021

**DAILY TRENDS** TOTALS BY PHASE

Cumulative totals are since 12/15/2020. Daily averages are a 7-day average as of 12/11/2021 to account for reporting lags.

Citywide

Age

Gender

Race-Ethnicity

Select subgroup(s)

All

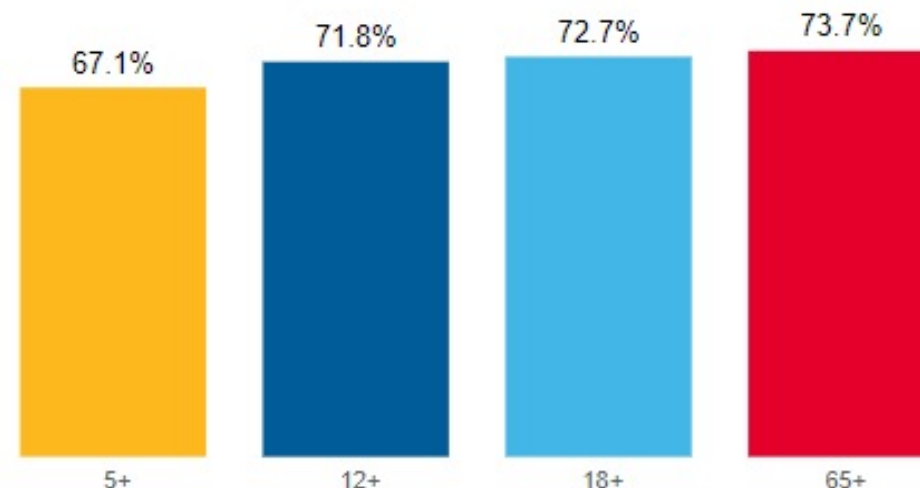
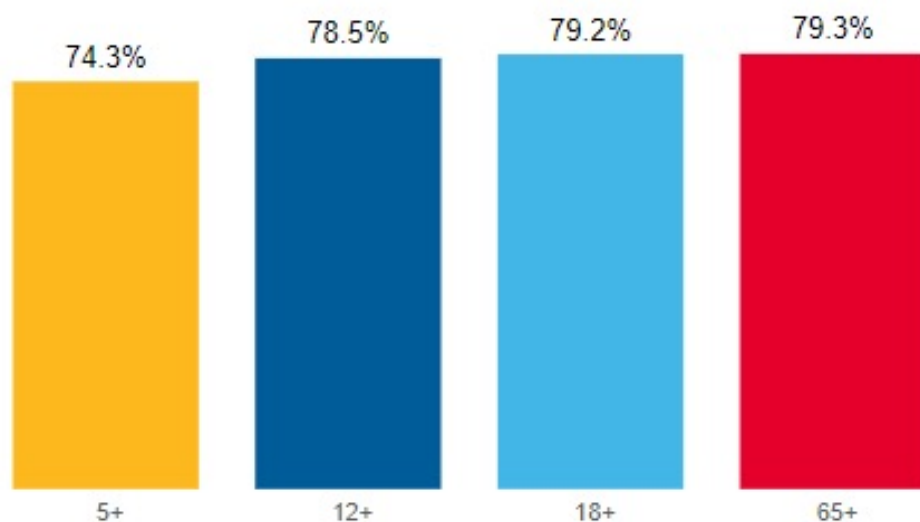
**PERCENT VACCINATED**

% VACCINATED OVER TIME

DAILY AVERAGE DOSES

**At least one dose (% vaccinated as of 12/12/2021)**

**Completed vaccine series (% vaccinated as of 12/12/2021)**



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slalom

**DAILY TRENDS** TOTALS BY PHASE

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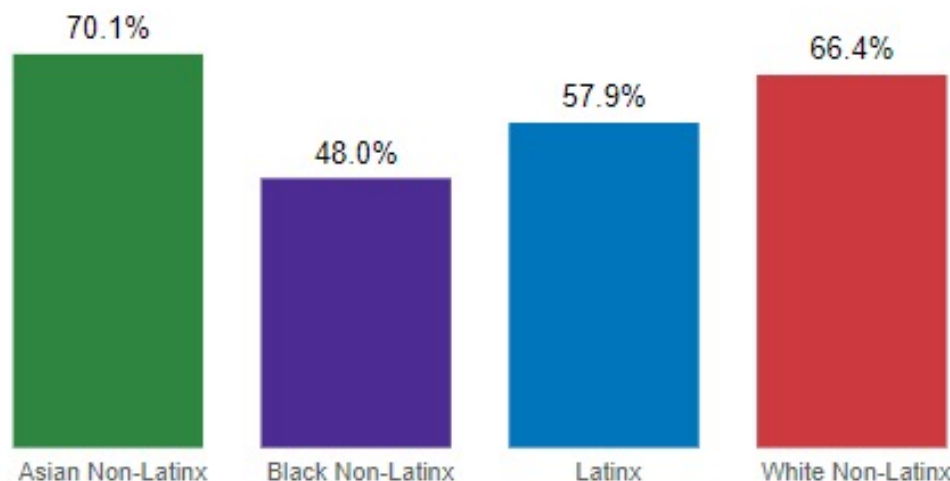
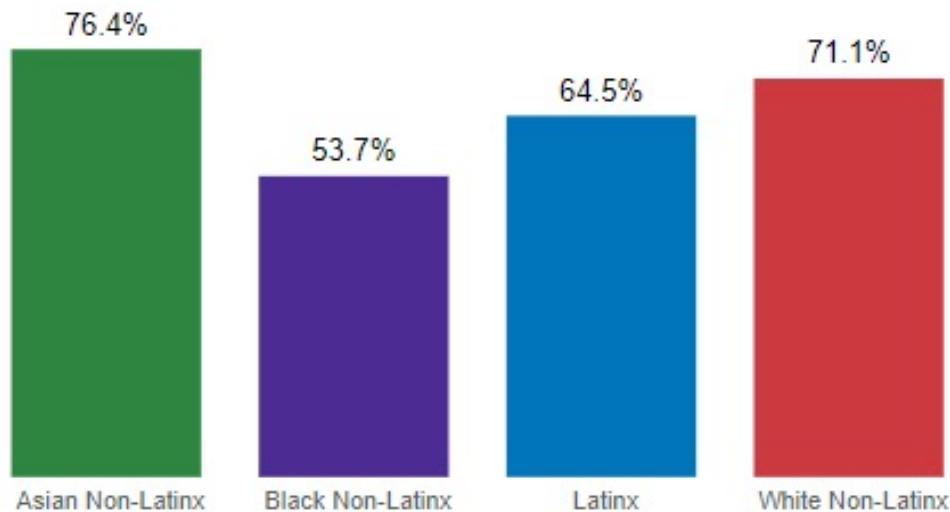
**PERCENT VACCINATED**

% VACCINATED OVER TIME

DAILY AVERAGE DOSES

**At least one dose (% vaccinated as of 12/12/2021)**

**Completed vaccine series (% vaccinated as of 12/12/2021)**



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**BOOSTER DOSES OF PFIZER'S  
COVID-19 VACCINE ARE NOW  
RECOMMENDED FOR 16 AND 17  
YEAR OLDS AT LEAST SIX MONTHS  
AFTER INITIAL VACCINE SERIES**



# Omicron

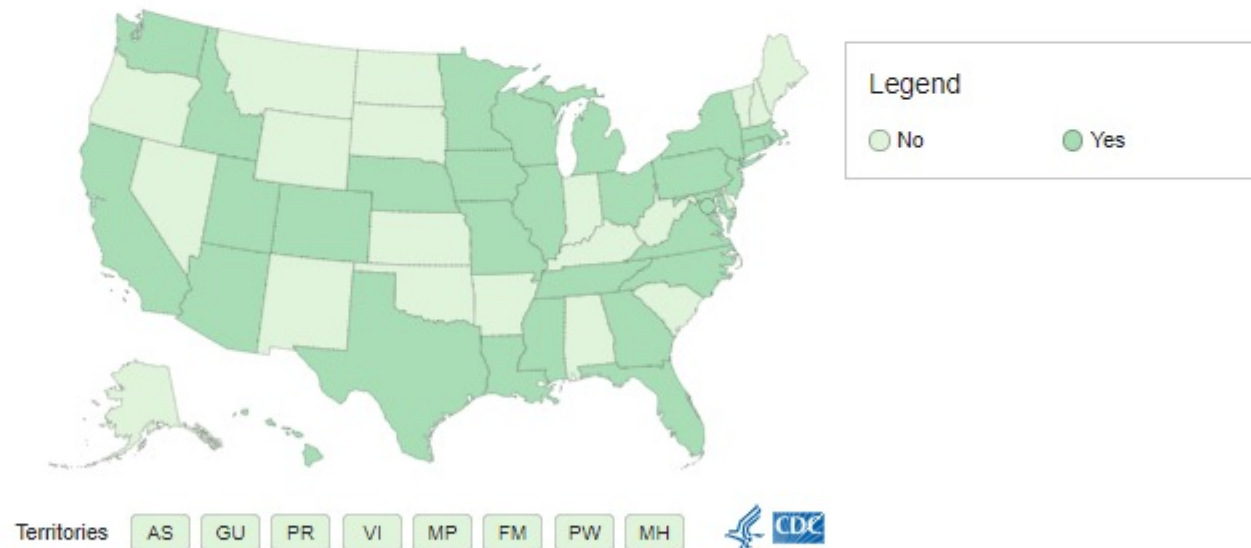


# Omicron Variant (B.1.1.529)

- On 11/26/21, WHO named the B.1.1.529 Omicron and classified it as a Variant of Concern (VOC)
- On 12/1/21, first confirmed U.S. case of Omicron was identified
- Most cases have no contact to Africa, indicating community-level transmission
- **Despite the increased attention of Omicron, Delta continues to be the main variant circulating in the United States.**

## Where has Omicron been Detected in the United States

CDC is working with state and local public health officials to monitor the spread of Omicron. This map shows the states that have detected at least one case of COVID-19 illness caused by the Omicron variant. Omicron will be included in variant surveillance data on CDC's [COVID Data Tracker](#) when it can be reliably estimated at a low frequency.





# Omicron Variant (B.1.1.529)

- Spike protein of the Omicron variant is characterized by at least 30 amino acid substitutions
- 15 of the 30 amino acid substitutions are in the receptor binding domain (RBD)
- Mutations within the RBD are most relevant for monoclonal antibody therapeutics

## The key mutations that shape Omicron

Omicron has 10 times more mutations on the spike protein than the Delta variant, raising fears about transmissibility, symptoms and whether it can evade vaccines more easily

### Side-on view of the spike protein

■ Mutation

■ Insertion/deletion

The combination of four particular mutations helps Omicron evade antibodies, say scientists

There are 15 mutations in the receptor binding domain, the part of the spike that mediates how easily the virus attaches itself to cells

Two genetic deletions mean the variant can be detected by some PCR tests without the need for full genomic sequencing

A group of four new mutations may create additional obstacles for certain antibodies

Three mutations near the furin cleavage site, where a key biochemical reaction takes place, may be associated with making the variant more transmissible

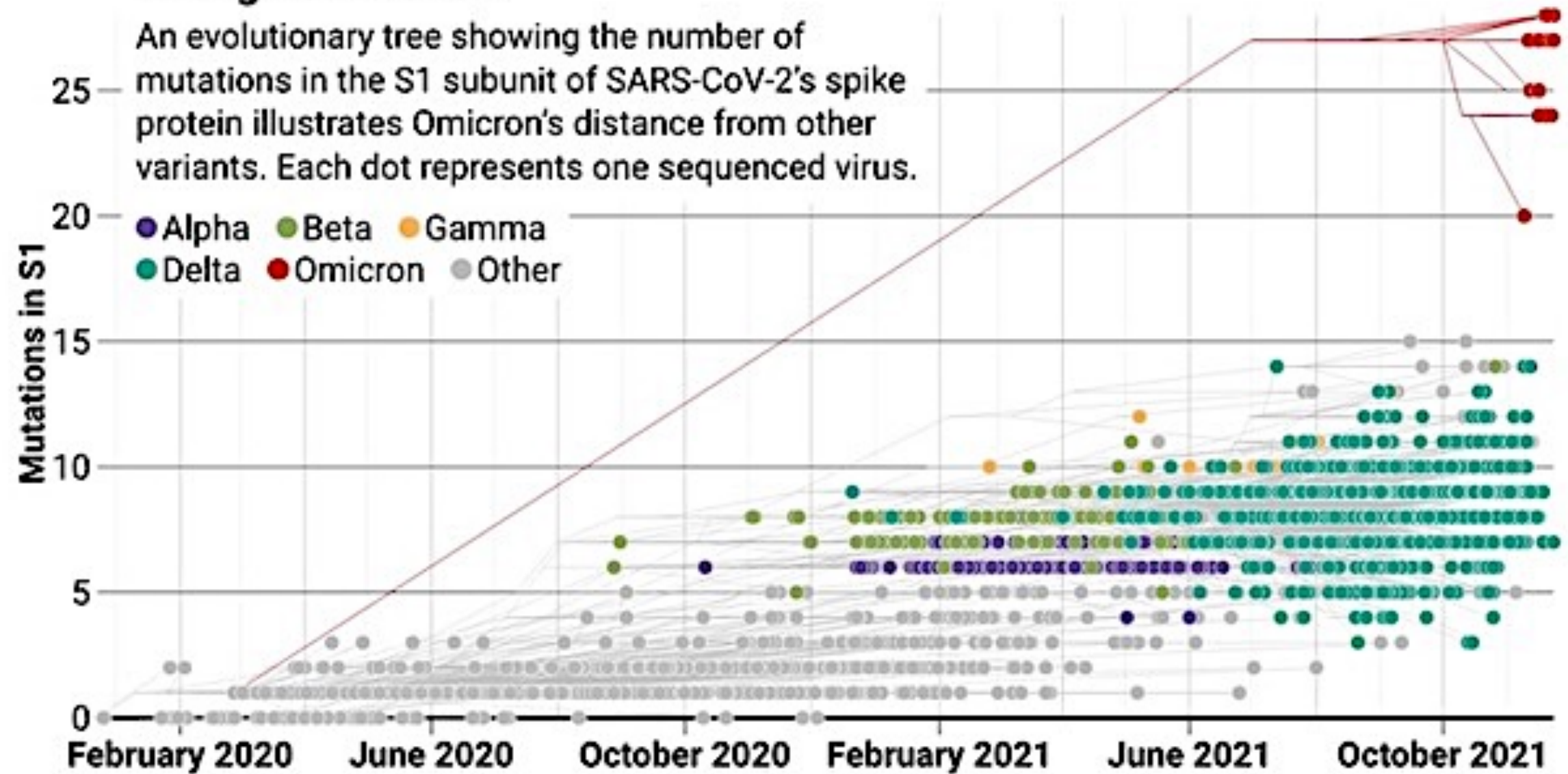
Three deletions in a protein that is not part of the spike may help to evade vaccines

FT graphic: John Burn-Murdoch and Paul McCallum  
Sources: Ulrich Elling; Björn Meyer; Kevin McCarthy; covariants.org  
© FT

<https://www.ft.com/content/42c5ff3d-e676-4076-9b9f-7243a00cba5e>

## A long new branch

An evolutionary tree showing the number of mutations in the S1 subunit of SARS-CoV-2's spike protein illustrates Omicron's distance from other variants. Each dot represents one sequenced virus.



NEXSTRAIN.ORG. ADAPTED BY N. DESAI/SCIENCE



# Omicron Variant (B.1.1.529)

Three questions left to be answered:

- Is Omicron variant is more transmissible than the current Delta variant?
- Does the Omicron variant cause more severe disease?
- Does the Omicron variant escape our immune response (via prior infection or vaccination)?



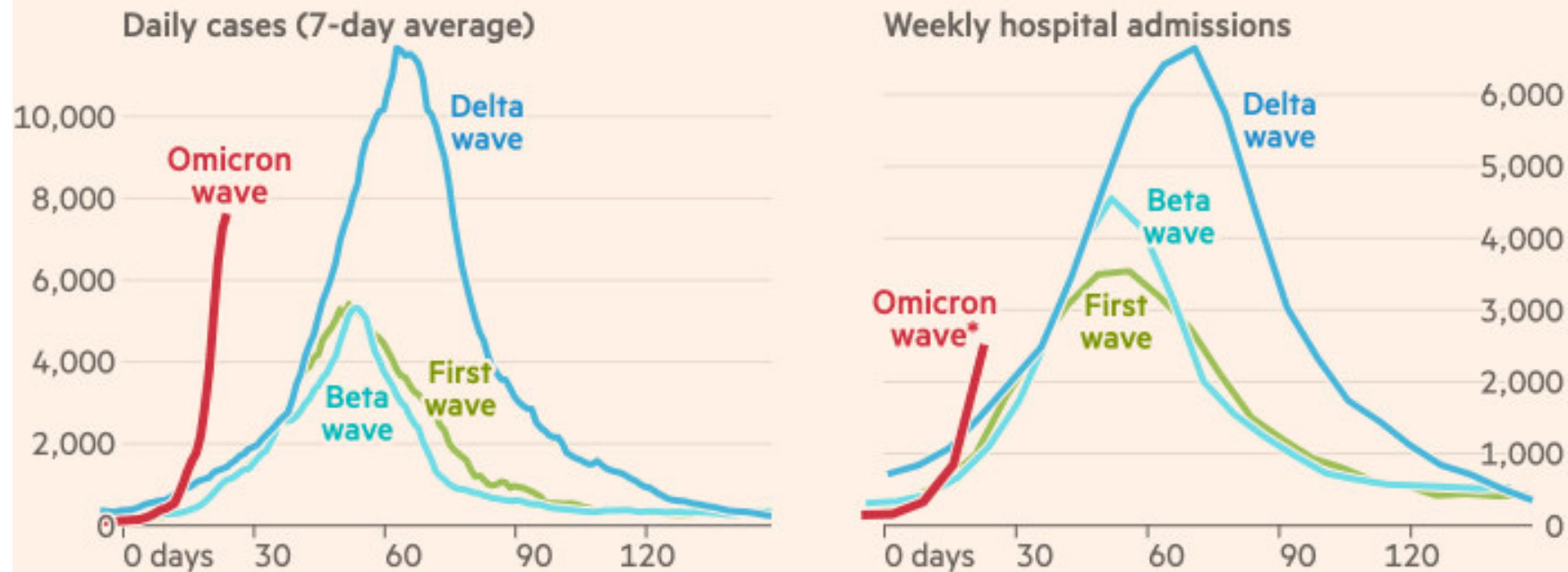
# Omicron Variant (B.1.1.529) Transmissibility

- Omicron has become the dominant variant in SA in less than 4 weeks
- Omicron may be > 50% of new cases in Europe in 1-2 months
  - **The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control** said this estimate was based on preliminary data from South Africa and the variant's characteristics still need further study before drawing any firm conclusions

# Omicron Variant (B.1.1.529) Transmissibility

Covid cases and hospital admissions are rising faster in South Africa's Gauteng province than during previous waves

Cases and hospital admissions in Gauteng province, by number of days since each wave began

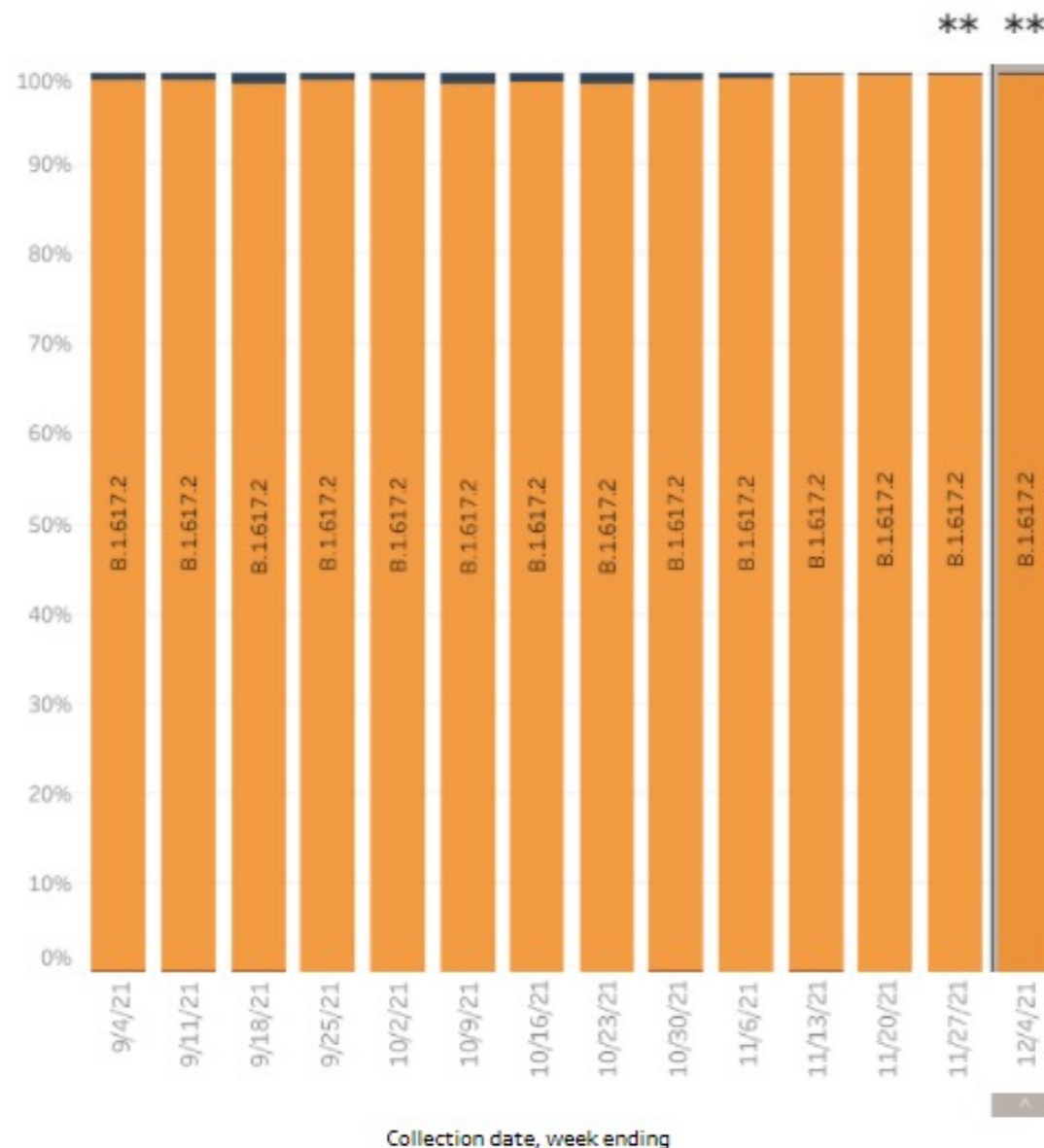


\*Hospital admissions adjusted to account for delay in data reporting

Source: FT analysis of data from South Africa's National Institute for Communicable Diseases

FT graphic by John Burn-Murdoch / @jburnmurdoch

© FT



## USA

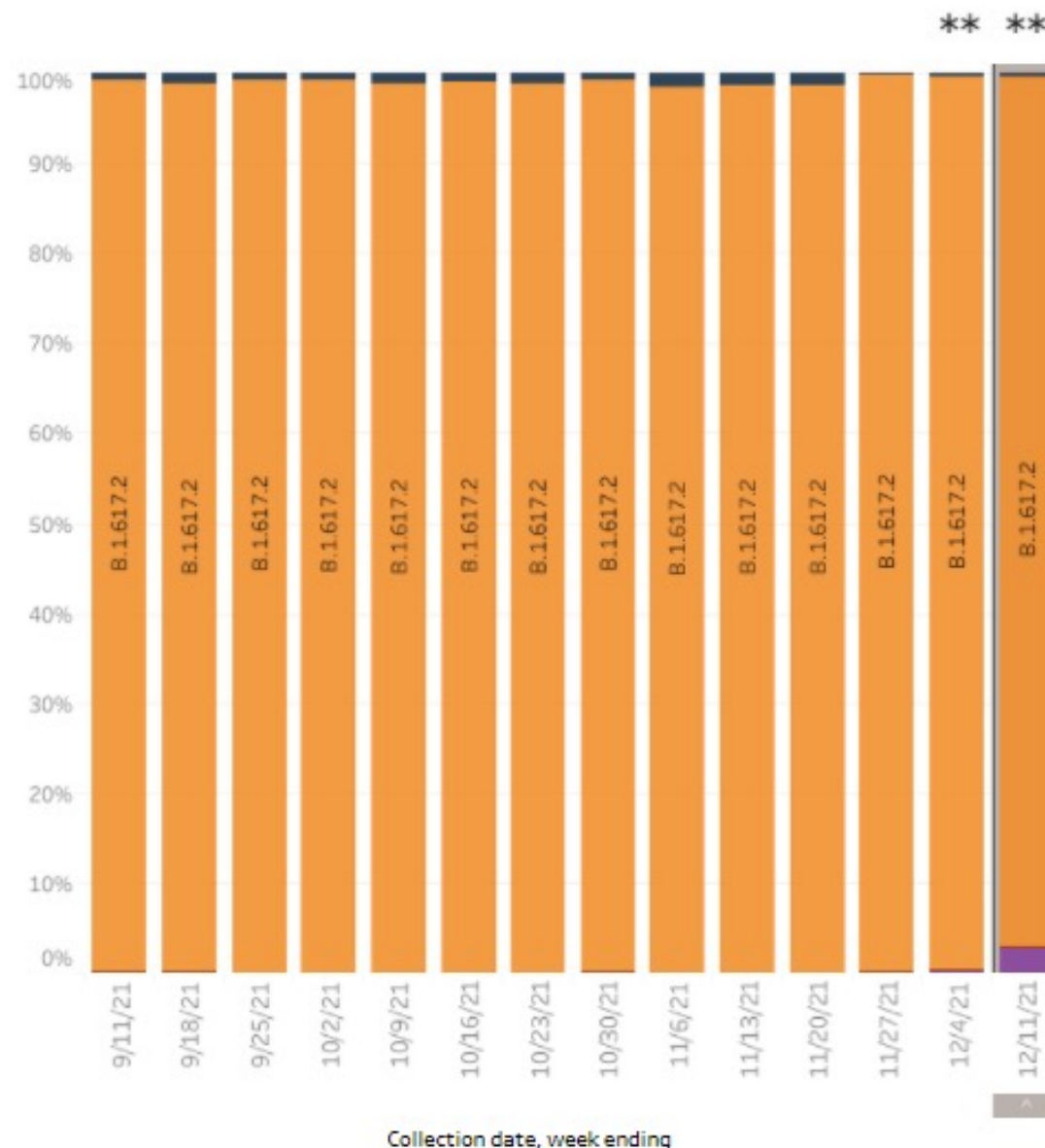
WHO label	Lineage #	US Class	%Total	95%PI
Delta	B.1.617.2	VOC	99.9%	99.8-99.9%
	AY.1	VOC	0.1%	0.0-0.1%
	AY.2	VOC	0.0%	0.0-0.0%
Omicron	B.1.1.529	VOC	0.0%	0.0-0.0%
Other	Other*		0.1%	0.0-0.1%

\* Enumerated lineages are US VOC and lineages circulating above 1% nationally in at least one week period. "Other" represents the aggregation of lineages which are circulating <1% nationally during all weeks displayed.

\*\* These data include Nowcast estimates, which are modeled projections that may differ from weighted estimates generated at later dates

# AY.3-AY.125 and their sublineages are aggregated with B.1.617.2.





## USA

WHO label	Lineage #	US Class	%Total	95%PI
Delta	B.1.617.2	VOC	96.7%	85.9-99.6%
	AY.1	VOC	0.1%	0.0-0.1%
	AY.2	VOC	0.0%	0.0-0.0%
Omicron	B.1.1.529	VOC	2.9%	0.2-14.7%
Other	Other*		0.3%	0.2-0.6%

\* Enumerated lineages are US VOC and lineages circulating above 1% nationally in at least one week period. "Other" represents the aggregation of lineages which are circulating <1% nationally during all weeks displayed.

\*\* These data include Nowcast estimates, which are modeled projections that may differ from weighted estimates generated at later dates

# AY.3-AY.125 and their sublineages are aggregated with B.1.617.2. BA.1 and BA.2 are aggregated with B.1.1.529.

# Omicron Variant (B.1.1.529) and Severity of Disease

CDC Omicron MMWR 12/10/21

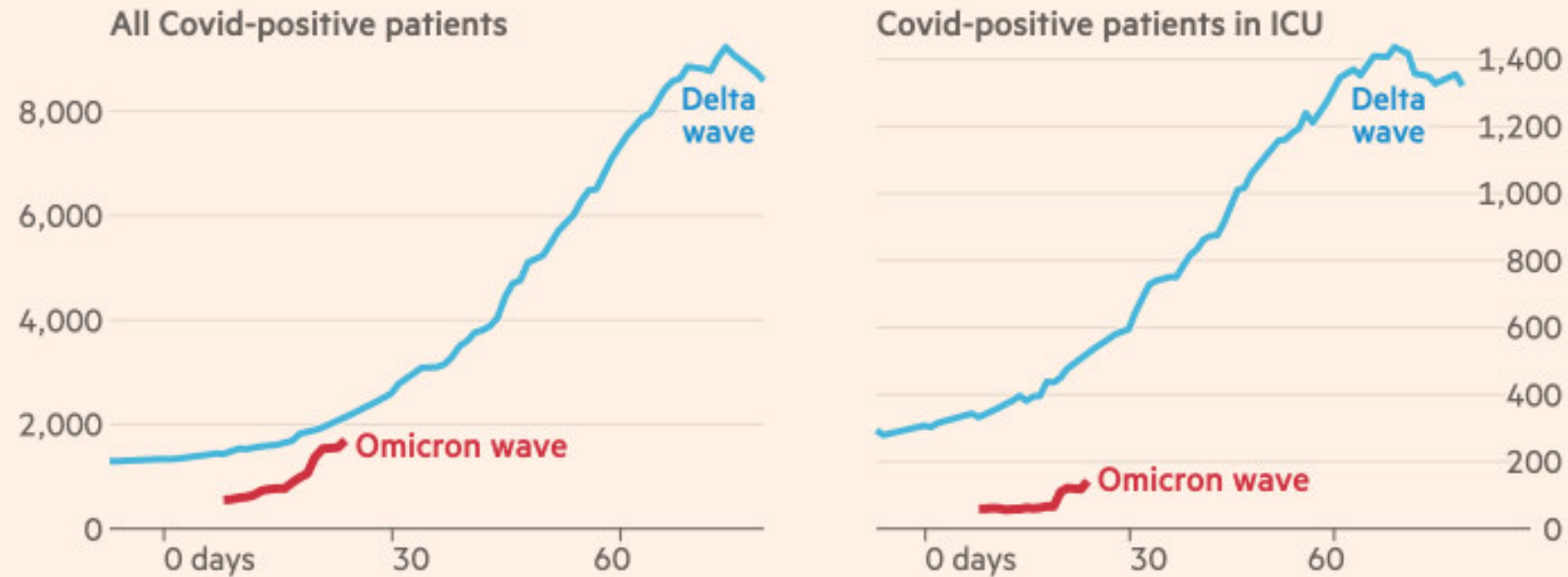
- Between 12/1/21-12/8/21, 43 cases seen in 22 states
- Most common symptoms were cough, fatigue, and congestion or runny nose
- One hospitalization, zero deaths reported
- 34 (79%) cases occurred in persons who completed the primary series of an FDA-authorized or approved COVID-19 vaccine

TABLE. Characteristics of reported confirmed B.1.1.529 (Omicron) variant SARS-CoV-2 cases (n = 43) — United States, December 1–8, 2021

Characteristic	No. (%)
<b>Age group, yrs</b>	
<18	4 (9)
18–39	25 (58)
40–64	10 (23)
≥65	4 (9)
<b>Sex</b>	
Male	17 (40)
Female	25 (58)
Unknown	1 (2)
<b>International travel*</b>	14 (33)
<b>COVID-19 vaccination status†</b>	
Unvaccinated	8 (19)
Partially vaccinated	0 (—)
Vaccinated	20 (47)
Vaccinated plus an additional dose <sup>§</sup>	14 (33)
Unknown	1 (2)
<b>Previous SARS-CoV-2 infection</b>	
Yes	6 (14)
No	21 (49)
Unknown	16 (37)
<b>Symptom profile</b>	
Symptomatic	40 (93)
Asymptomatic/Unknown	3 (7)
<b>Initial signs or symptoms¶</b>	
Cough	33 (89)
Fatigue	24 (65)
Congestion or runny nose	22 (59)
Fever	14 (38)
Nausea or vomiting	8 (22)
Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing	6 (16)
Diarrhea	4 (11)
Loss of taste or smell	3 (8)
<b>Outcomes</b>	
Hospitalization	1 (2)
Death	0 (—)

Although the number of Covid-positive patients in Gauteng is approaching the level from the Delta wave, the number in ICU is much lower

Number of Covid-positive patients requiring different levels of care, by days since each wave began



\*Start of wave defined as when 7-day average of cases rose for 7 successive days

Source: FT analysis of data from South Africa's National Institute for Communicable Diseases

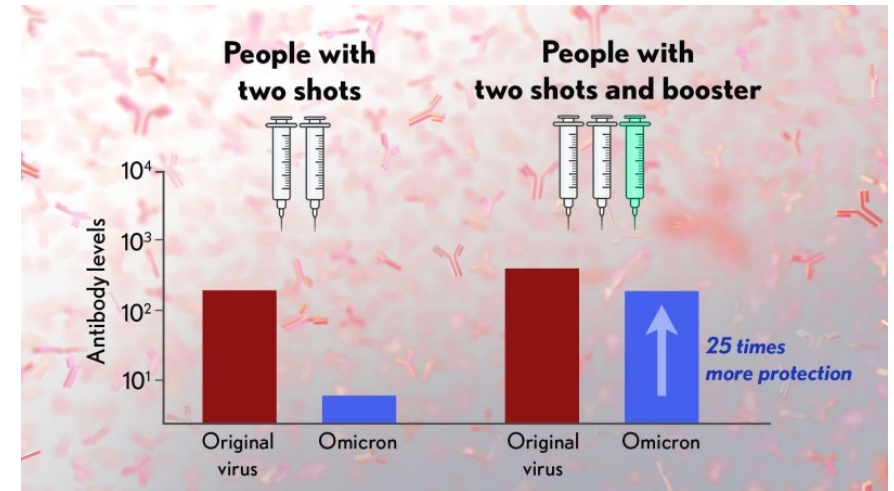
FT graphic by John Burn-Murdoch / @jburnmurdoch

© FT

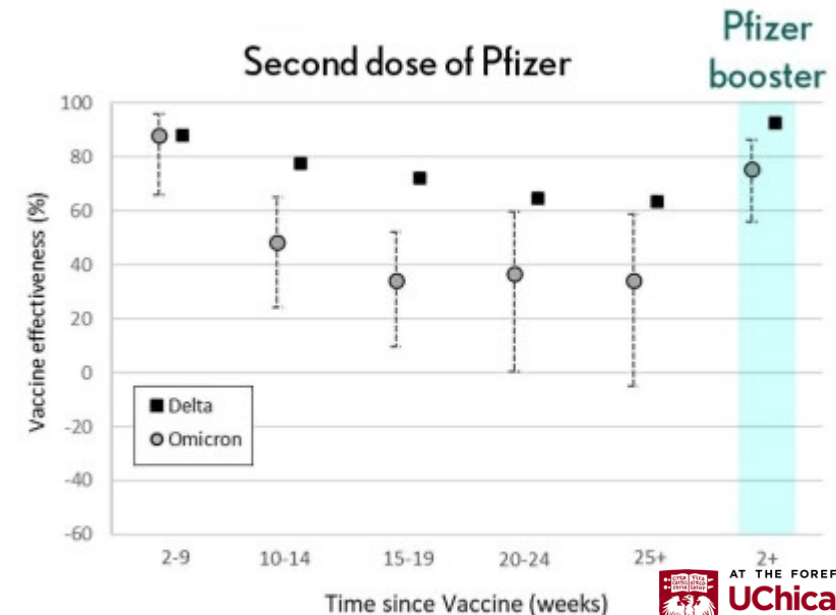


# Omicron Variant (B.1.1.529) and Immune Evasion

- >30 mutations of spike protein, some mirroring Beta (which exhibited immune escape)
- Still unclear how significantly Omicron can evade vaccine mediated immunity
- Impact on monoclonal therapeutics also unclear
- What about T-cells?
  - T-cell immunity less impacted by spike protein mutations
  - T cells can't prevent infection, but help protect against more severe illness and death.



Adapted from Pfizer, Dec. 8, 2021



Andrews N, et al., KHub.net 2021

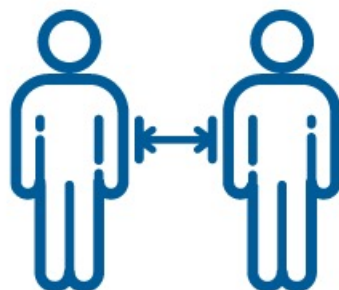
**With the first case of the Omicron variant confirmed in Chicago, it's more important than ever to slow the spread of the virus.**



**VAX UP**



**MASK UP**



**BACK UP**



**WASH UP**



**TEST UP**

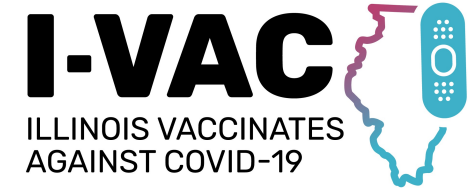




# Paxlovid (nirmatrelvir [PF-07321332] and ritonavir)

- 3CL protease inhibitor
- In high-risk patients enrolled in EPIC-HR study (n= 2,246), compared to placebo:
  - 89% reduced risk of hospitalization or death if given within three days of symptom onset
  - 88% reduced risk of hospitalization or death if given within five days of symptom onset
  - No deaths compared to placebo in non-hospitalized, high-risk adults with COVID-19
- Ongoing second study in standard-risk adults (EPIC-SR)
  - 70% reduction in hospitalization and no deaths in the treated population
  - Sustained alleviation of all symptoms for four consecutive days not yet observed
- In vitro data confirm that nirmatrelvir is a potent inhibitor of the Omicron 3CL protease, Paxlovid will retain robust antiviral activity against current VoCs as well as other coronaviruses
- Pfizer submitted its application to the FDA; awaiting approval, likely by end of the month

# Illinois Vaccinates Against COVID-19



- Adult Populations Learning Collaborative (additional focus on Pregnant women)
  - Anu Hazra, MD; Edward Linn, MD; Jennifer Burns, CPNP, APN
- Pediatric Populations Learning Collaborative
  - Daniel Johnson, MD; Jennifer Burns, CPNP, APN