

Infection Control and Public Health Weekly Meeting

Thursday, March 17, 2022; 12:30 – 1:05 pm

COVID-19 and Public Health Updates (Health Commissioners)

- Region Six ... 146 COVID-19 hospitalized (7%) / 24 ICU (19%) / 20 vents
- COVID-19 inpatients peaked at 1,033 (39%) and 200 ICU (Jan 14)
- 2.1% positive test rate (1,875 tests) – 14 county (peak 34%)
- ODH vaccination focus on booster doses with dashboard
- ODH dashboards move to weekly (Thursdays)
- Wastewater surveillance of SARS-CoV-2 RNA sparse and inconsistent
- Overdose concerns and potential for HIV transmission associated with PWID
- Home visits for vaccination (Clermont Co)

Potential for fourth Dose

- Pfizer / BioNTech submitted FDA EUA for age > 65 (3/15) and Moderna vaccine submitted for FDA EUA (3/17)
- 4th COVID Shot Offered 'Marginal' Benefit for Israeli Health Workers although researchers did find higher antibody levels and subpar vaccine efficacy with extra dose

Humanitarian and Public Health Crisis in Ukraine

- Ukraine was dealing with polio outbreak (from Afghanistan refugees) prior to Russian invasion. Running of water with potential for polio fecal / oral spread.
- Indiscriminate bombing and shelling of healthcare facilities and patients, similar to Russian campaign in Syria
- COVID-19 surges in refugee areas in surrounding countries and Europe, high rate of vaccine hesitancy as direct outcome of release of Sputnik V vaccine in Russia
- MOUD (methadone / Suboxone) and HIV treatment centers closed

Continuing the 15-minute post vaccine Observation, Even for Boosters

- Transitioning to clinical offices, throughput issues
- Still required by FDA (Moderna / Pfizer BLA and Janssen J&J EUA)
- Mix and matching boosters (could still be a first dose)

Discontinuing Universal Pre-op Testing in Favor Risk Based Testing

- Community levels are now well below the 5-10% threshold for universal pre-op COVID-19 testing and the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic is moving to a more endemic phase. We can now transition from universal COVID-19 testing to symptom and risk-based testing on a case by case basis by the surgeon, anesthesiologist, or perioperative consulting physician.
- TriHealth will discontinue universal testing on Monday (Dr Blatt) with testing for any clinical symptoms of COVID or at the discretion of the Surgeon/Anesthesia Dept: CT Surgery, Major Abd surgery. UC is doing pre op and pre AGP testing for all except in 90d period if prior confirmed infection (Dr. Forrester) and plans to discontinue in the near future.
- Case by case basis (up to individual surgeon or anesthesiologist) based on community prevalence / incidence

Availability of Outpatient COVID-19 Treatment

1. Monoclonal antibodies (within 7 day of symptom onset) ... doses of sotrovimab and bebtelovimab available at infusion centers. Available to patients outside the specific health system.
2. Oral antivirals (within 5 days of symptom onset) ... courses of Paxlovid (nirmatrelvir / ritonavir) and molnupiravir available at hospital retail pharmacies and FQHC.

Immunosuppressed Individuals in the Community

- Masking guidelines significantly relaxed putting immunosuppressed at more risk
- We should we be advertising *Evusheld* (tixagevimab 300 mg / cilgavimab 300 mg IM) for immunosuppressed more?
- Confusion about who is eligible for *Evusheld*

“Test to Treat” at Pharmacy Based Clinical Sites

- Rapid testing and clinical evaluation by clinician with “prescribing authority” at pharmacy to dispense Paxlovid (drug interactions) or molnupiravir (mutations)
- HealthSource FQHC will receive medications and dispense with prescription.
- HHS test-to-treat website still not available

Harm Reduction

- Addiction Treatment Providers medical directors meetings restarting
- Substance Use Disorders treatment subcommittee restarting (first Fridays at 12:30 pm)

Hoxworth Blood Collection Bags

- Receiving supply from Haemonetics during shortage of Fesenius kabi (adequate supply)

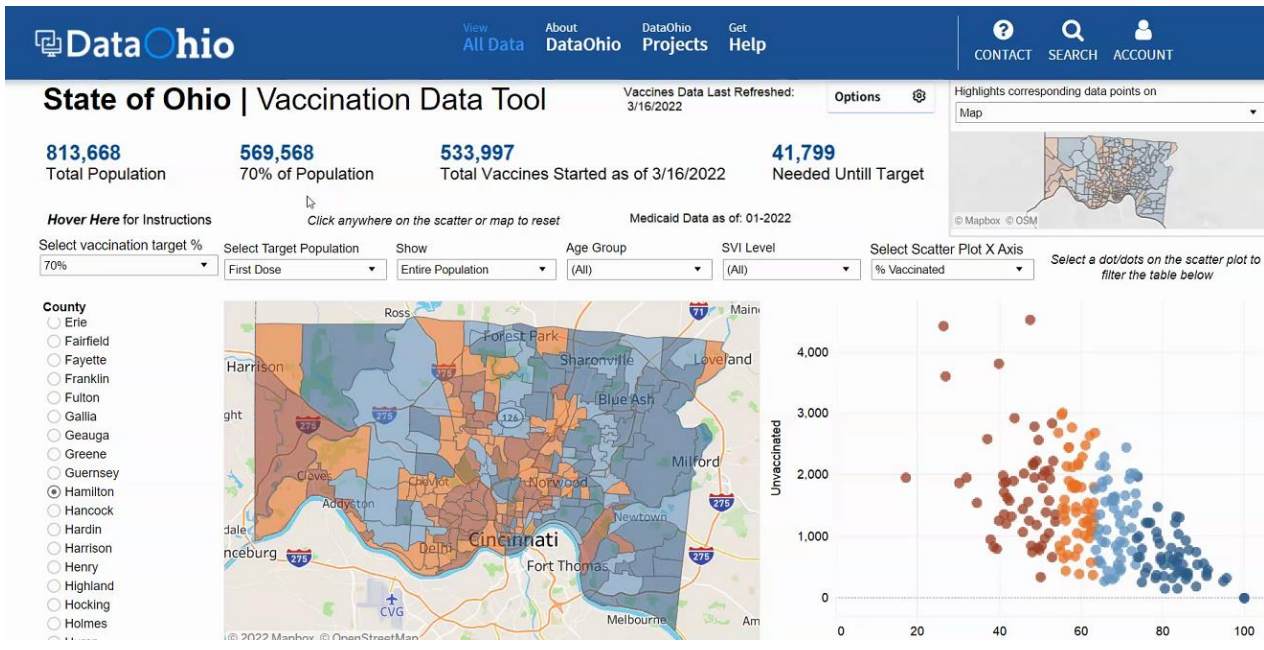
Blood Specimen Collection Tube Shortage

- Plasma separator tubes (PST) not available, using serum separator tubes (SST) for BMP/CMP and troponins, blue top citrate (PT/PTT) lower supply but available, lavender top (CBC) available,
- Use of SST (serum separator tubes) increases technician time manipulating the sample

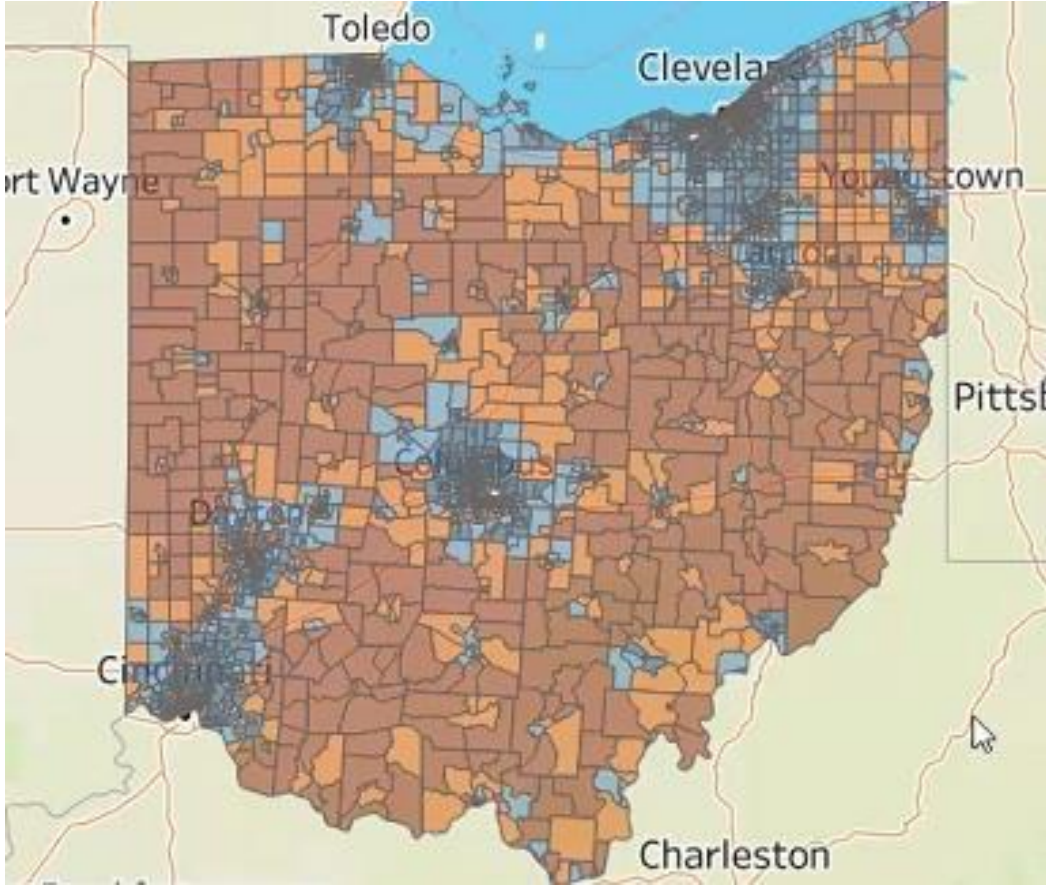
Anticipated Supply Chain Shortages (Kevin Connor)

- Ukraine invasion expected to impact raw materials such as titanium
- China shutdown will have impact in the next 2-3 months for medical products and electronics
- Continued increased freight costs
- Decrease in cost of antigen test pricing

Next Zoom Call ... **Thursday, March 24** (12:30 – 1:00 pm)

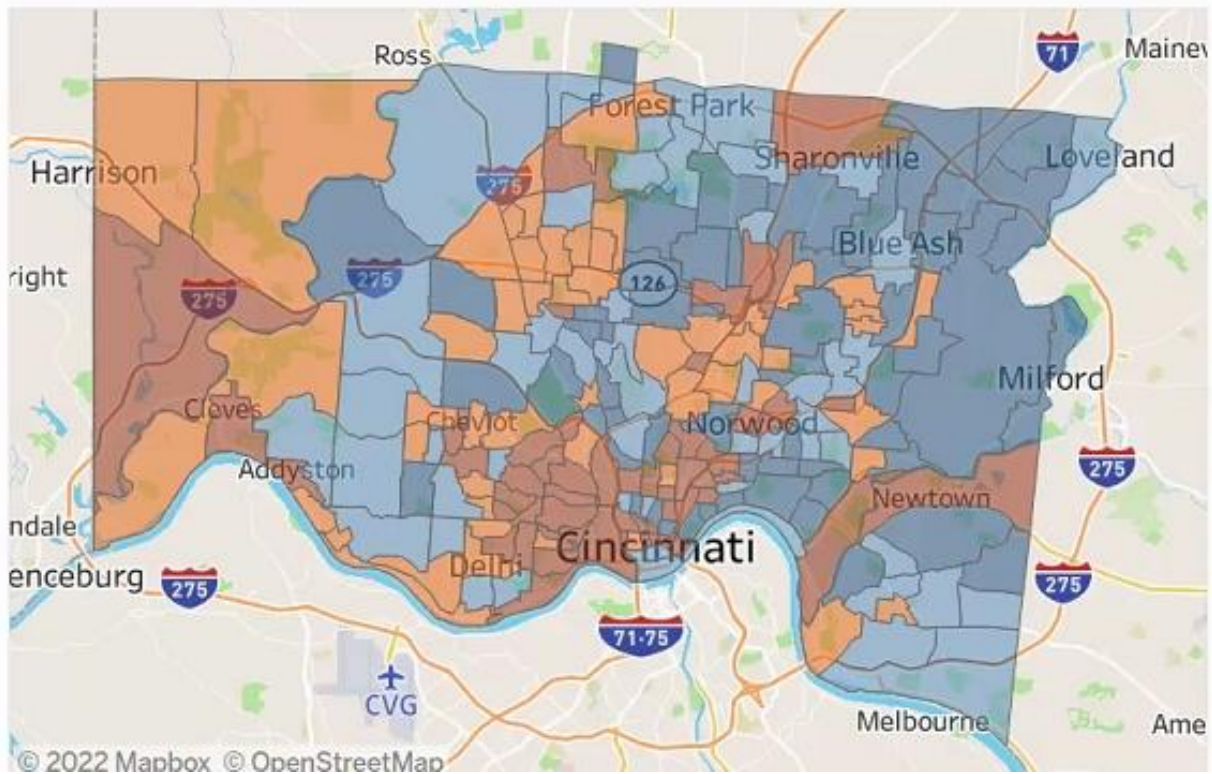


Ohio Vaccination Levels

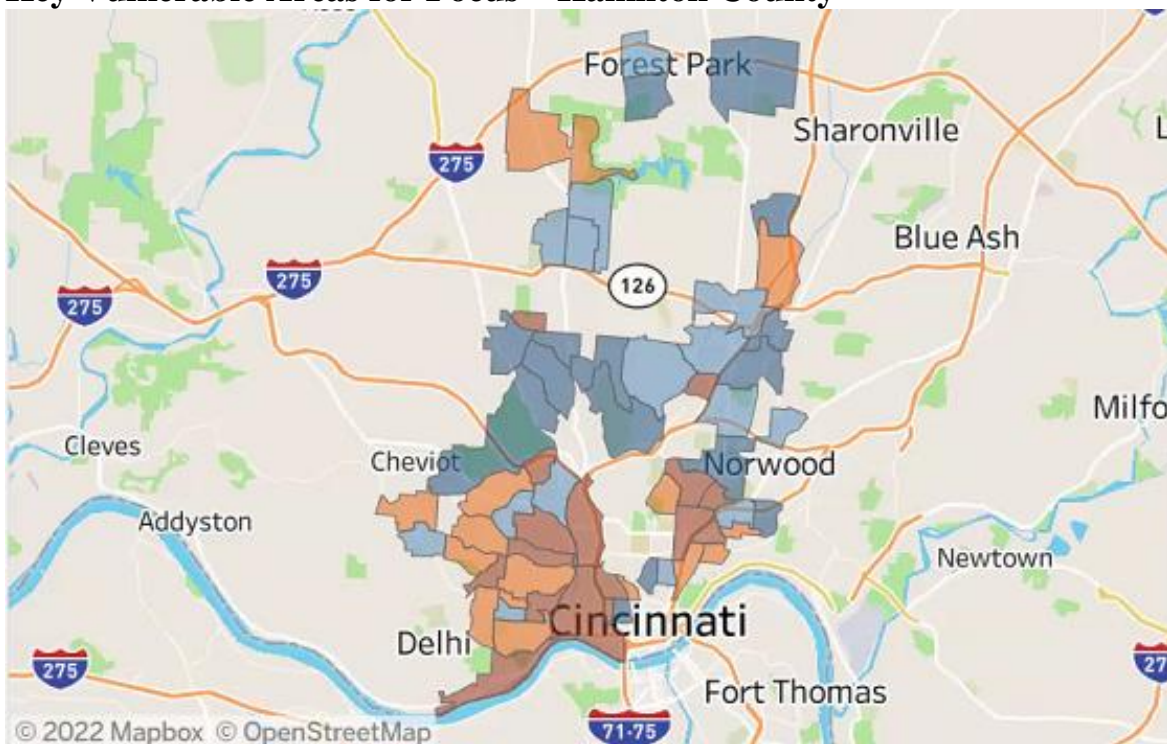


Hamilton County (Age > 65) Vaccinated but Not Boosted

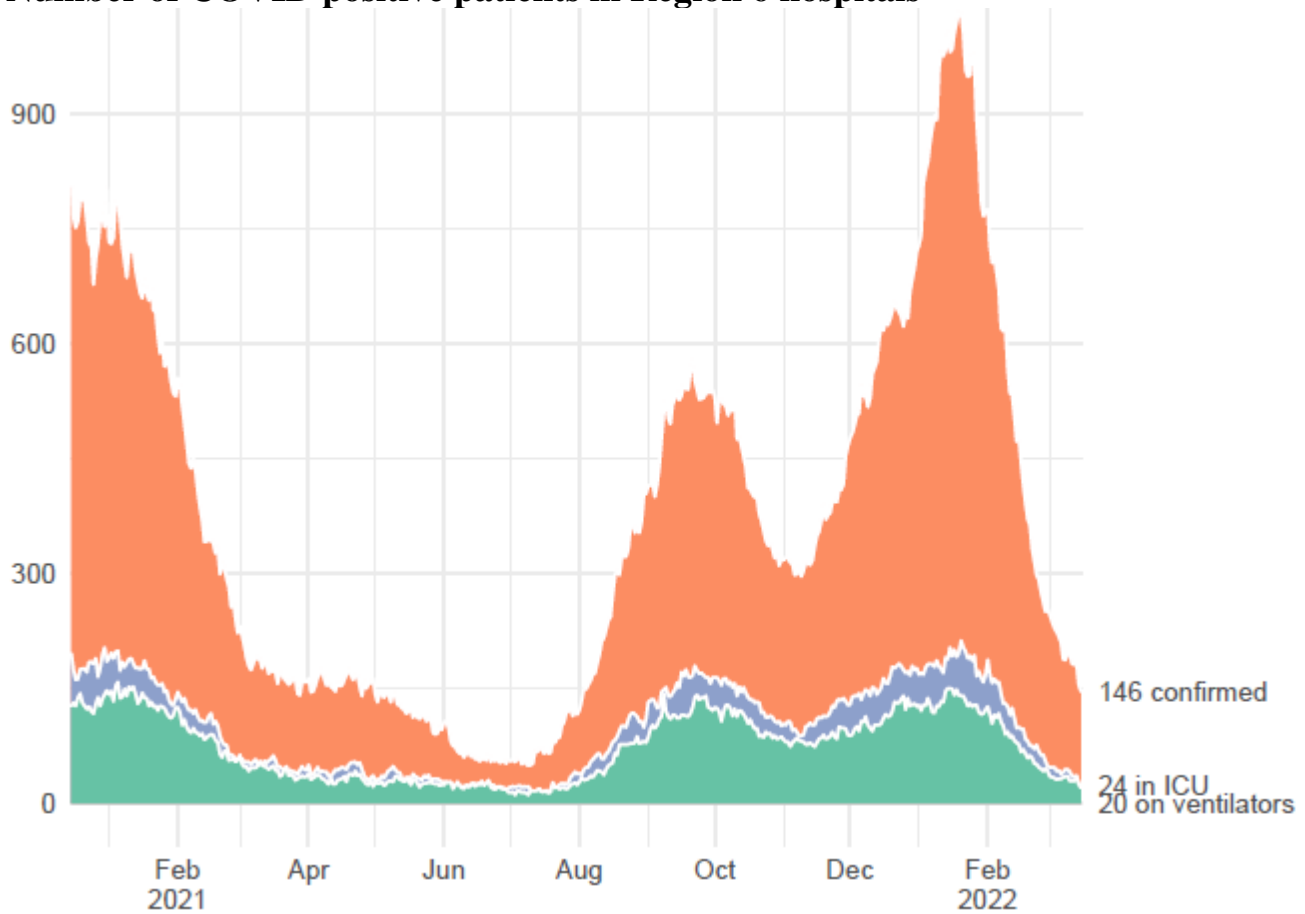
111,202 vaccinated, 85,700 total booster doses as of 3/16



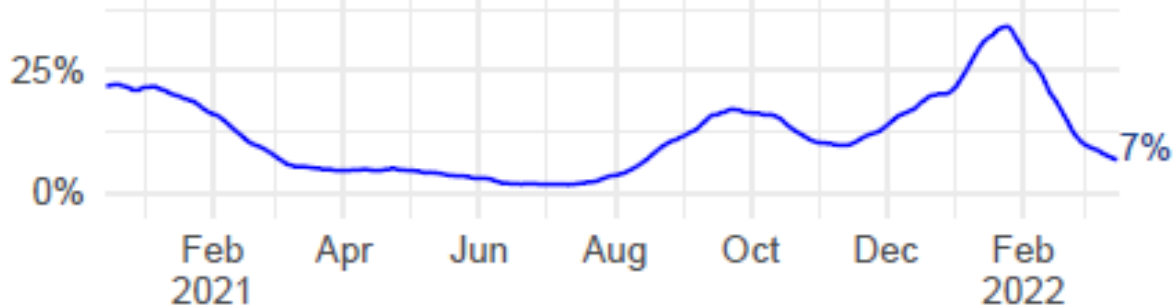
Key Vulnerable Areas for Focus – Hamilton County



Number of COVID positive patients in Region 6 hospitals

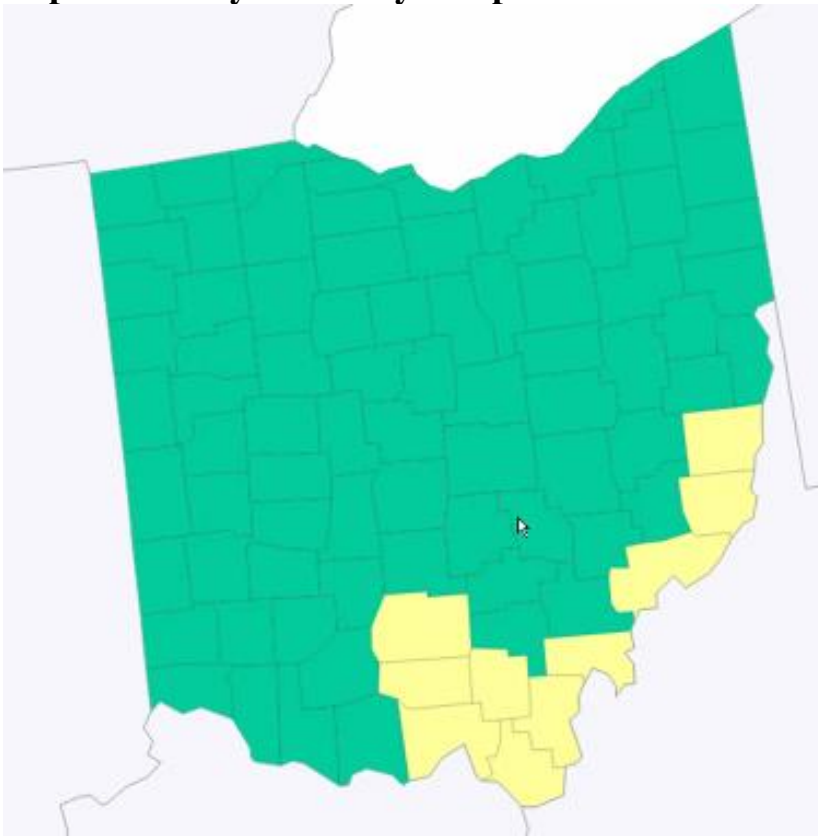


Percent of hospitalized patients who are COVID positive 7 day moving average



Region	Incidence Rate (cases/day/100K)	R	CDC Classification – Previous Scheme
1	6.5	0.77	moderate
2	3.8	0.73	moderate
3	4.0	0.61	moderate
4	4.6	0.80	moderate
5	3.7	0.71	moderate
6	8.7	0.98	substantial
7	10.4	0.72	substantial
8	7.0	0.73	moderate

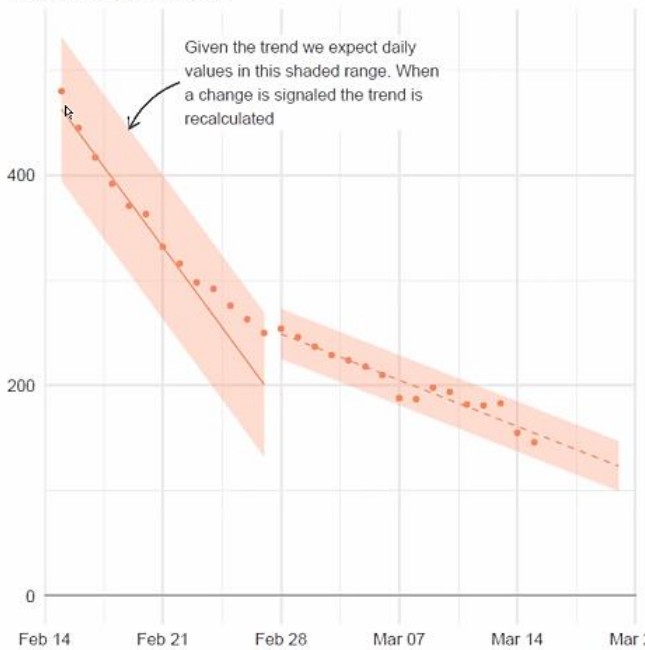
CDC COVID-19 Community Levels by County (updated 3/10/22)
Updates every Thursday at 8 pm



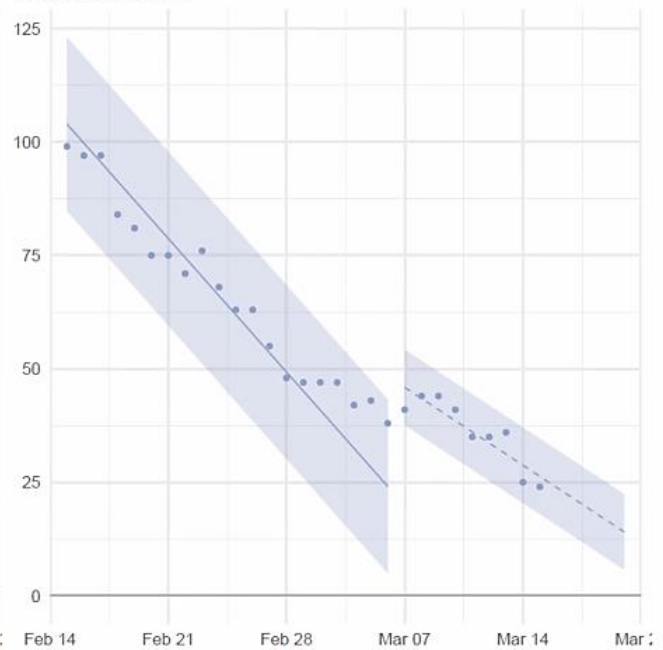
For the first time since August 2021, the statewide average case number per 100,000 residents has dropped below 100, with an average of 78.2 cases per 100,000 people as of March 9. Nearly two-thirds of Ohio’s 88 counties are currently below 100 cases per 100,000 people.

Trends in the number of patients positive for COVID-19 in Southwestern Ohio hospitals

Patients in hospitals

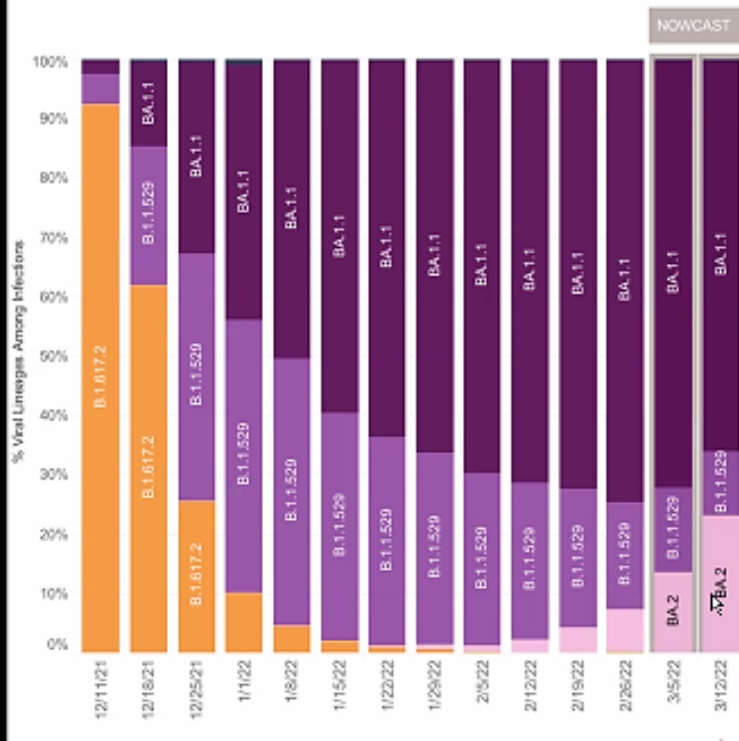


Patients in ICUs



United States: 12/5/2021 – 3/12/2022

United States: 3/6/2022 – 3/12/2022 NOWCAST



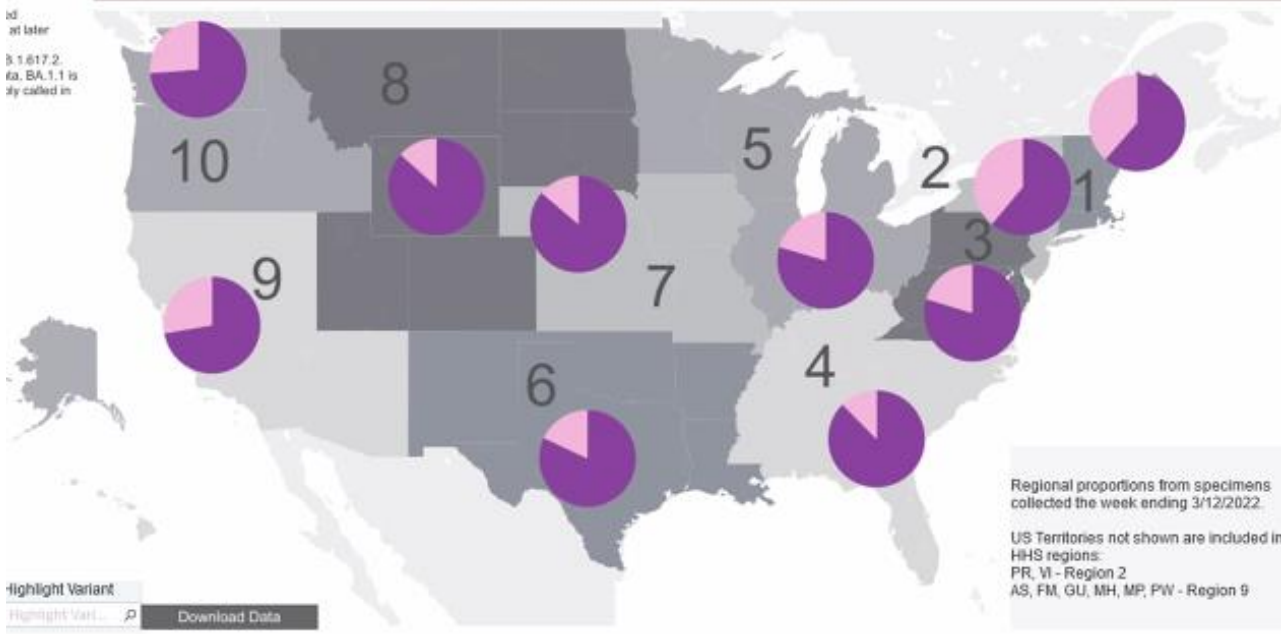
USA

WHO label	Lineage #	US Class	%Total	95%PI
Omicron	BA.1.1	VOC	66.1%	60.6-71.1%
	BA.2	VOC	23.1%	18.6-28.3%
	B.1.1.529	VOC	10.8%	9.1-12.8%
Delta	B.1.617.2	VOC	0.0%	0.0-0.0%
Other	Other*		0.0%	0.0-0.0%

* 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.1-AY.133 and their sublineages are aggregated with B.1.617.2. BA.1 and BA.3 are aggregated with B.1.1.529. For regional data, BA.1.1 is also aggregated with B.1.1.529, as it currently cannot be reliably called in each region.

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United States: 3/6/2022 – 3/12/2022 NOWCAST

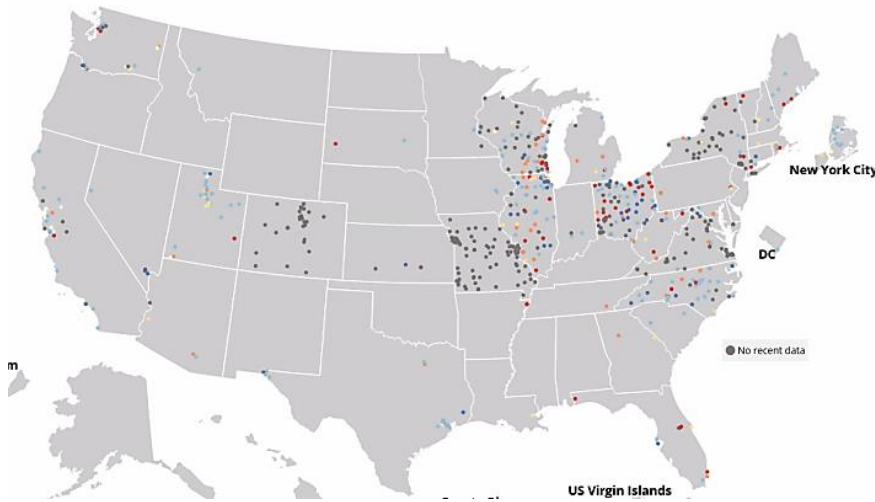


Lineages called using pangoln v1.2.127, pangolin v3.1.20, pangoleARN version 02/02/28 and Scorpio v0.3.16. Lineage BA.1.1 is aggregated with B.1.1.529 at the regional level as it currently cannot be reliably called in each region. Updated March 15, 2022

Wastewater surveillance of SARS-CoV-2 RNA

While wastewater surveillance of SARS-CoV-2 RNA is sparse across the US, in the past 15-day period 15% (62/401) of sites reporting indicated a >1000% increase in viral RNA detected

<https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#wastewater-surveillance>



SARS-CoV-2 RNA wastewater levels, United States: 15-day percent change by sewer shed

15-day % change category	Num. sites	% sites	Category change in last 7 days
-100%	41	10	173%
-99% to -10%	192	48	-39%
-9% to 0%	15	4	0%
1% to 9%	8	2	-43%
10% to 99%	35	9	-43%
100% to 999%	48	12	-9%
1000% or more	62	15	100%

Total sites with current data: 401

Total number of wastewater sampling sites: 688

[How is 15-day percent change calculated?](#)

