



# Director's Report

Debra L. Bogen, M.D.

Director, Allegheny County Health Department

## Board of Health Meeting

January 5, 2022





## Outline

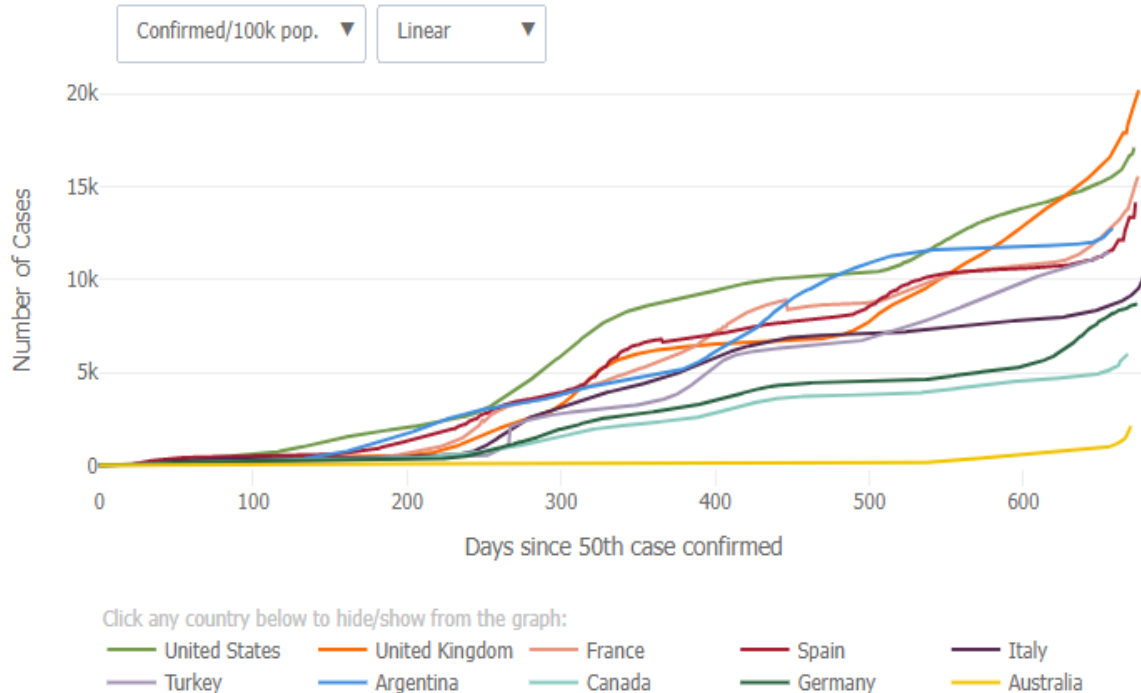
- COVID Update - Cases and Vaccines
- Regulation Updates
- Personnel Updates
- Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB)
- Recently released reports / dashboards
- Bureau/Program Highlights
  - Bureau of Community and Family Health



## Omicron Variant

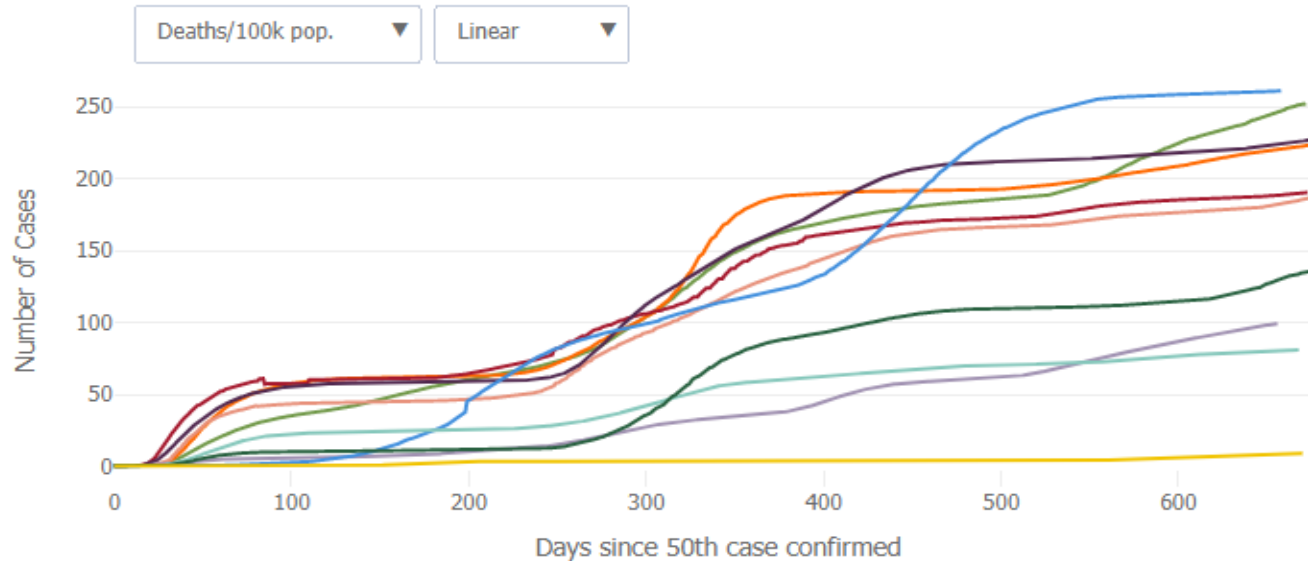
- Here and spreading quickly
- Record number of cases here and around country
- What we know
  - Very contagious
  - Does not seem to cause as severe infections
  - If many more cases but only half or a third rate of hospitalization, still can overwhelm system
  - Hospitalizations lag by couple of weeks
  - Impacting staffing in healthcare, airlines, services, etc...

## International View - Cumulative Cases by Date



<https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/data/cumulative-cases>

# International View - Cumulative Deaths by Date



Click any country below to hide/show from the graph:

- |   |  |  |   |   |
|---|--|--|---|---|
|  United States |  United Kingdom |  France |  Spain   |  Italy     |
|  Turkey        |  Argentina      |  Canada |  Germany |  Australia |

<https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/data/cumulative-cases>



## OVERALL

<b>Infections:</b>	<b>Individuals Tested:</b>	<b>Positivity (PCR):</b>	<b>Hospitalizations:</b>	<b>Deaths:</b>
186,760	829,677	8.2%	10,516	2,679



## 7-DAY MOVING AVERAGE

<b>Infections:</b>	<b>Individuals Tested:</b>	<b>Positivity (PCR):</b>	<b>Hospitalizations:</b>	<b>Deaths:</b>
1,548	7,653	26.4%	19	3

<https://www.alleghenycounty.us/Health-Department/Resources/COVID-19/COVID-19-Dashboards.aspx>



## DATA AND TRENDS

Time Period

Last 6 Months

Infection Type

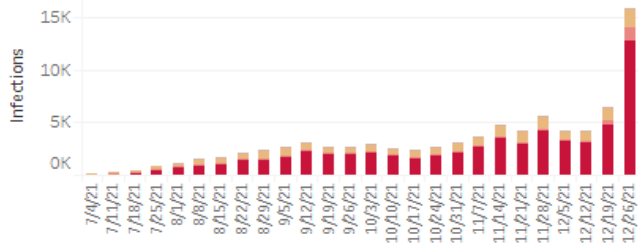
Probable Reinfection

Probable Infection

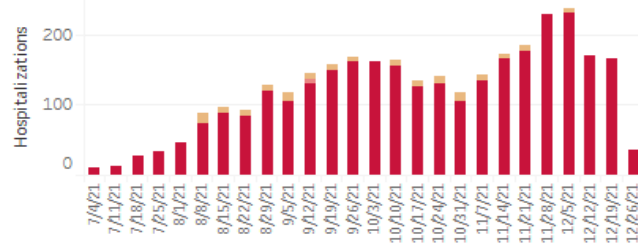
Confirmed Reinfection

Confirmed Infection

### Infections



### Hospitalizations

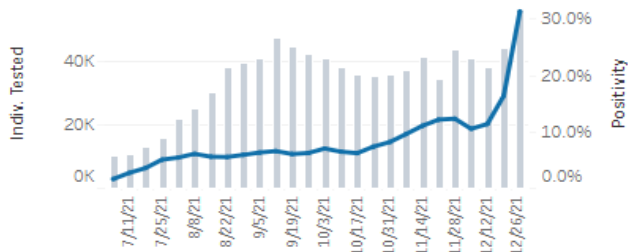


Test Data

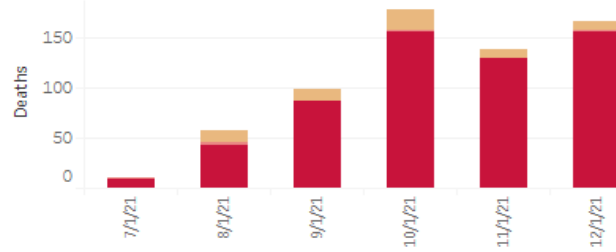
Positivity

Individuals Tested

### Individuals Tested



### Deaths

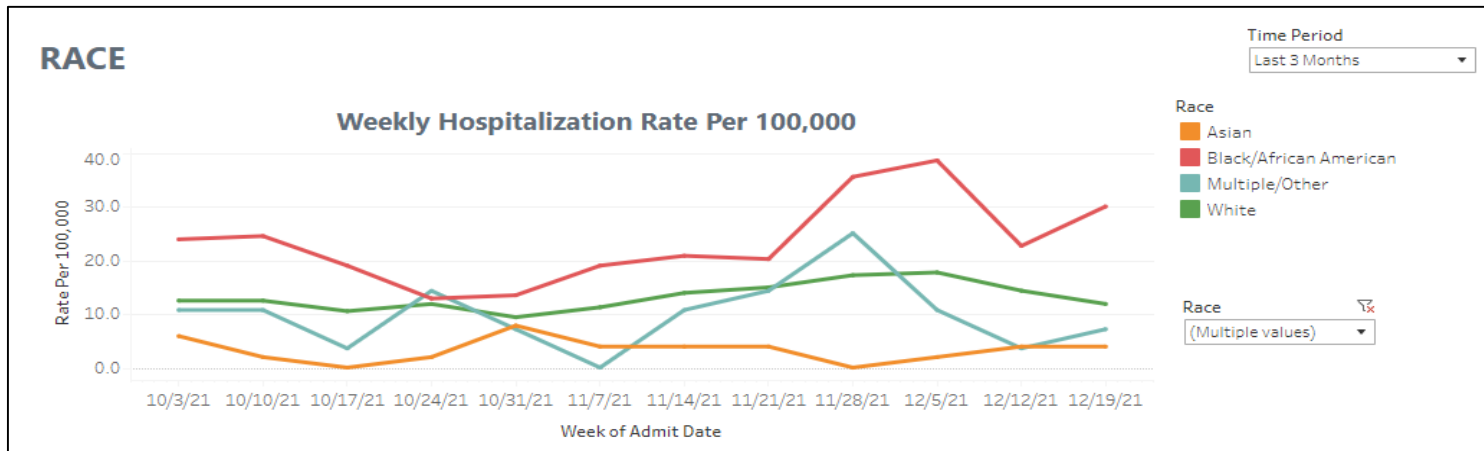
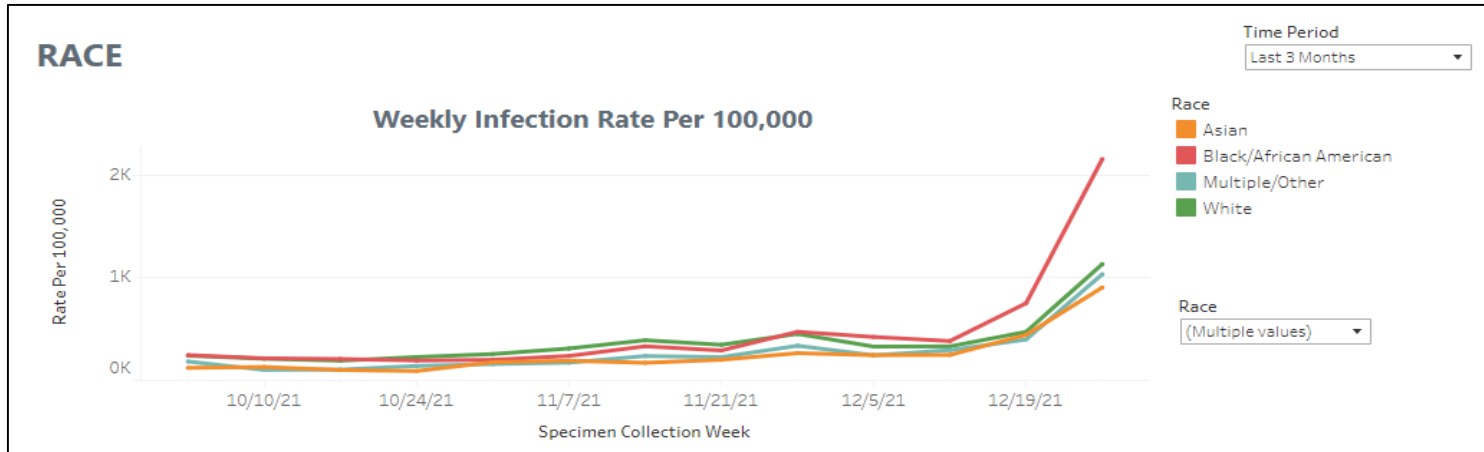


Last Updated:

1/4/2022 3:36:10 PM



# Infections and Hospitalizations by RACE

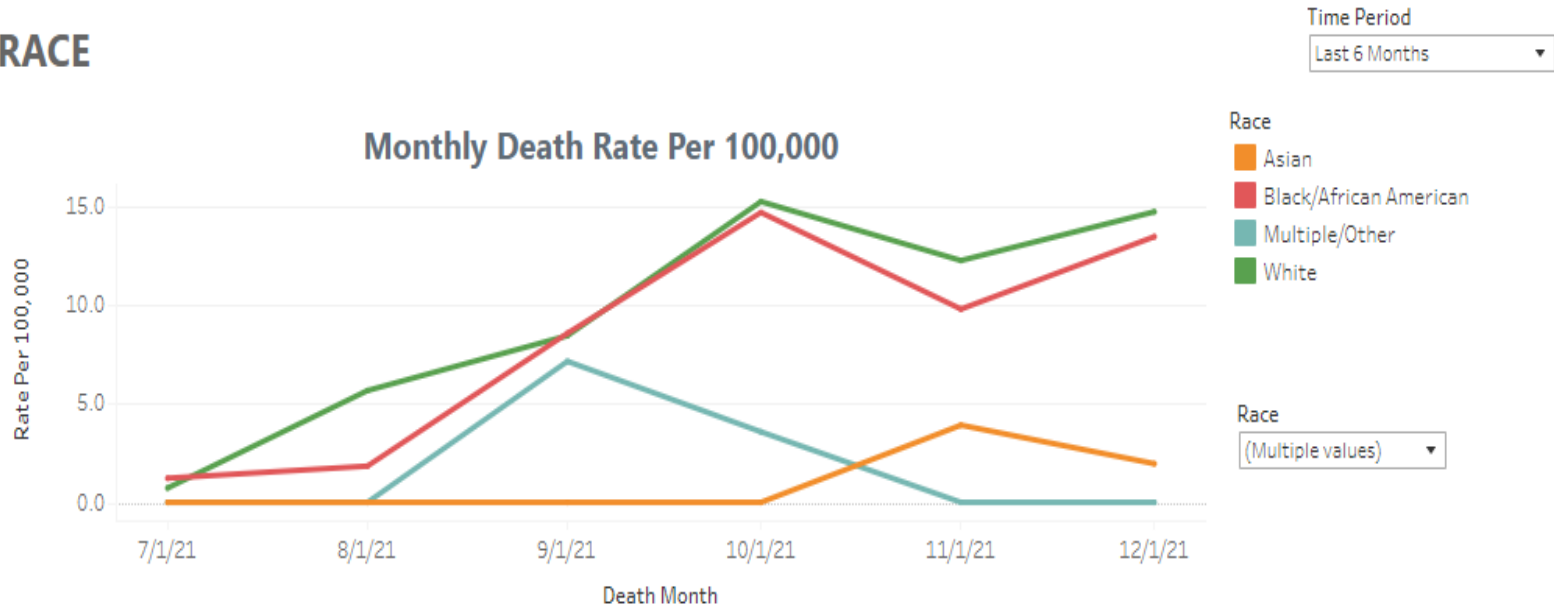






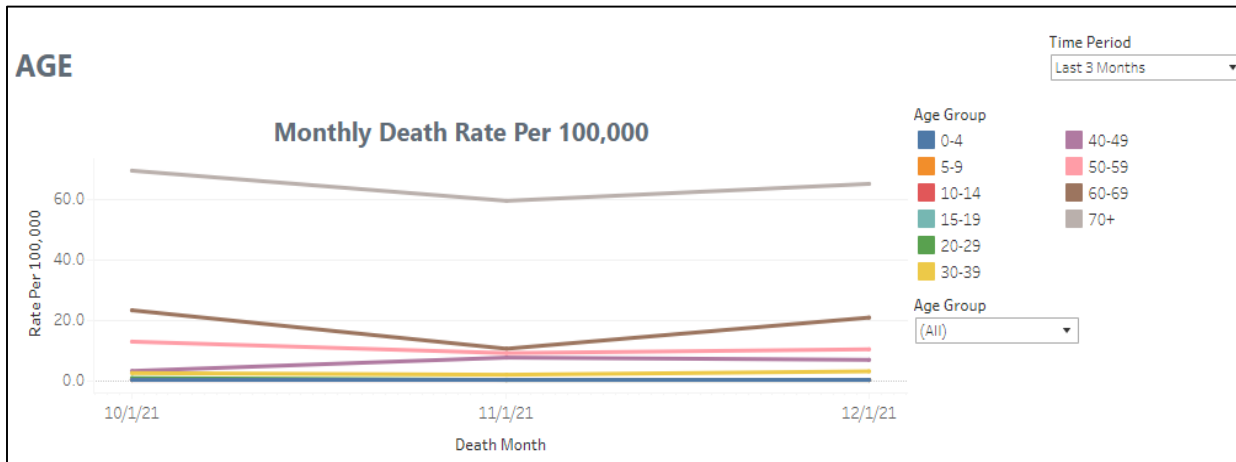
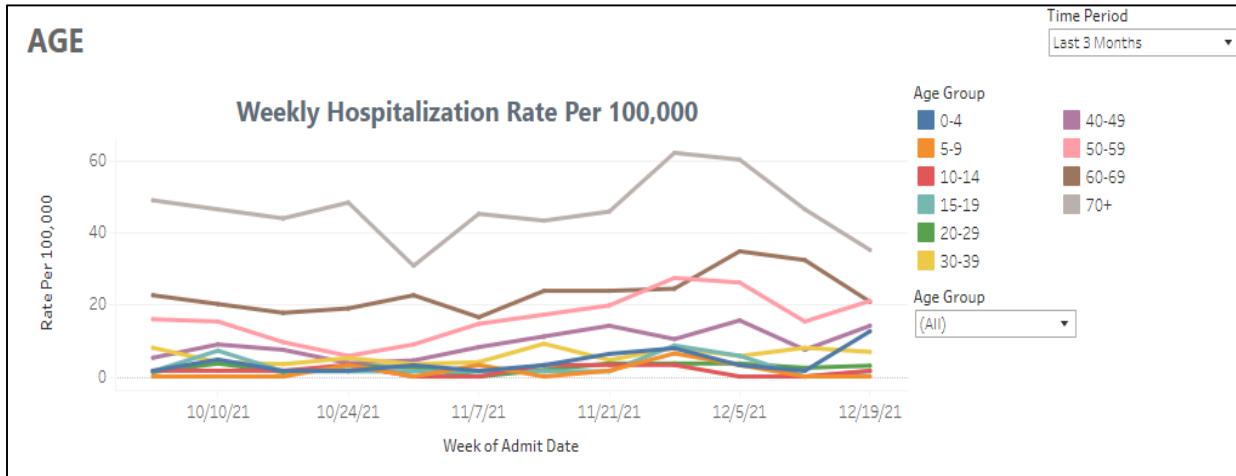
# Deaths by RACE

## RACE



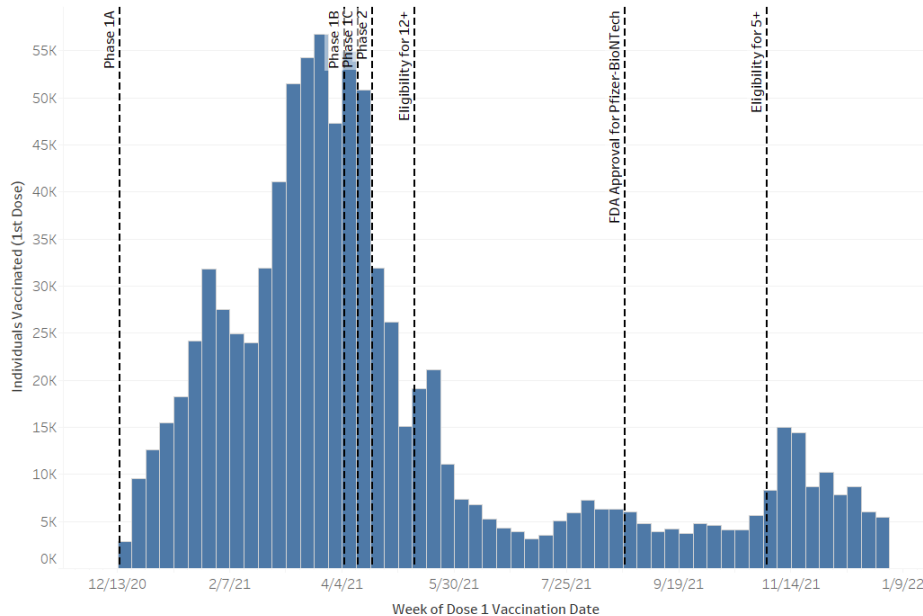


# Hospitalizations and Deaths by AGE



# Allegheny County Vaccination Rates

First Dose Vaccinations by Week



Vaccination Status*	Individuals Vaccinated	% Vaccinated
Fully	799,747	69.1%
Partially	100,143	8.7%

\*Among those Age 5 years and older



# Vaccination Status by Race and Age Group

Race	% Partial Vaccination	% Full Vaccination
Asian & Pacific Islander	12.8	58.9
Black/African American	7.6	45.1
Multiple/Other	57.2	429.3
Native American	13.9	39.6
White	7.0	62.3

Age Group	% Partial Vaccination	% Full Vaccination
5-9	8.0	27.3
10-19	7.4	51.5
20-29	11.2	64.3
30-39	8.9	69.0
40-49	7.9	72.9
50-59	7.2	74.6
60-69	8.2	84.3
70+	9.9	83.2



## Vaccinations Among 5-9-Year-Old Children by Race

	% Partial Vaccinated	% Fully Vaccinated
Asian & Pacific Islander	18.3	33.7
Black/African American	5.4	6.9
Native American	9.4	25.4
White	7.4	30.2



## Vaccines REALLY Protect Against Hospitalizations and Death

Since December 28, 2020, an Allegheny County resident who is ..... *	Hospital	Death
not fully vax vs. full vax	10X	12X
not fully vaccinated aged 60-69 years	30X	49X
not fully vaccinated aged 70+ years	14X	21X
Black person not fully vax	8X	7X
White person not fully vax	6X	8X
* All comparisons to that same group fully vaccinated		

### COVID-19 TEST SITES OPEN SUNDAY, JANUARY 2

Due to volume, registration required. Visit <https://book.curative.com/allegheny> for locations. No internet access? Call 1-888-702-9042 for support and scheduling



### Curative Fixed Test Sites

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Parkway Center Mall<br>8 AM to 4 PM<br>15 Mall Drive, Pittsburgh 15220                   | McKeesport<br>9 AM to 5 PM<br>455 Industry Road, McKeesport 15132                             |
| Carnegie Museum Rear Parking Lot<br>9 AM to 4 PM<br>4400 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh 15213 | Chartiers Valley Shopping Center<br>8:30 AM to 6 PM<br>1025 Washington Pike Bridgeville 15071 |

<p><b>MONDAY, JANUARY 3 – 9 AM to 4 PM</b></p> <p>North Park Pool Parking Lot South Ridge Dr, Allison Park 15101 <a href="https://curative.com/sites/22807">https://curative.com/sites/22807</a></p>	<p>Tarentum 1st United Presbyterian Church 913 Lock St, Tarentum 15084 <a href="https://curative.com/sites/17912">https://curative.com/sites/17912</a></p>
<p><b>MONDAY, JANUARY 3 – 1 PM to 3:30 PM</b></p> <p>Young Scholars of Western PA 600 Newport Dr, Pittsburgh 15234 <a href="https://curative.com/sites/32650">https://curative.com/sites/32650</a></p>	
<p><b>TUESDAY, JANUARY 4 – 9 AM to NOON</b></p> <p>Imani Christian Academy 2150 East Hills Dr, Pittsburgh 15221 <a href="https://curative.com/sites/24408">https://curative.com/sites/24408</a></p>	
<p><b>TUESDAY, JANUARY 4 – 9 AM to 4 PM</b></p> <p>East Liberty Family Health Care Center 6023 Harvard St, Pittsburgh 15206 <a href="https://curative.com/sites/15424">https://curative.com/sites/15424</a></p>	<p>Yeshiva School 2100 Wightman St, Pittsburgh 15217 <a href="https://curative.com/sites/26018/walkup">https://curative.com/sites/26018/walkup</a></p>
<p><b>TUESDAY, JANUARY 4 – 1 PM to 4 PM</b></p> <p>Islamic Center of Pittsburgh 4100 Bigelow Blvd, Pittsburgh 15213 <a href="https://curative.com/sites/25083">https://curative.com/sites/25083</a></p>	

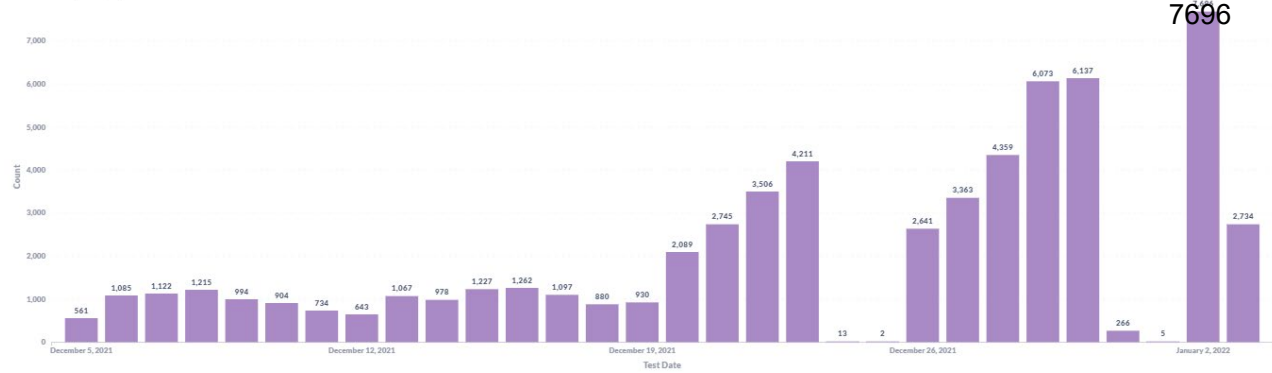
Weekly schedule on Information on County COVID Testing website:

<https://www.alleghenycounty.us/Health-Department/Resources/COVID-19/Information-on-COVID-19-Testing.aspx>



# COVID-19 PCR Testing by (Curative, Inc)

Total Tests Completed By Day



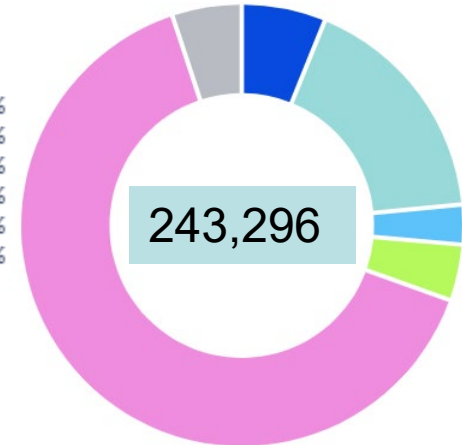
Allegheny County - 7 Day Trailing Positive Rate Over Prior Month



## Testing by Self-Identified Race\*

- {Asian} 5.96%
- {"Black or African American"} 17.35%
- {Other} 2.67%
- {"Prefer not to share"} 3.88%
- {White} 65.24%
- Other 4.90%

\* Other more than one race





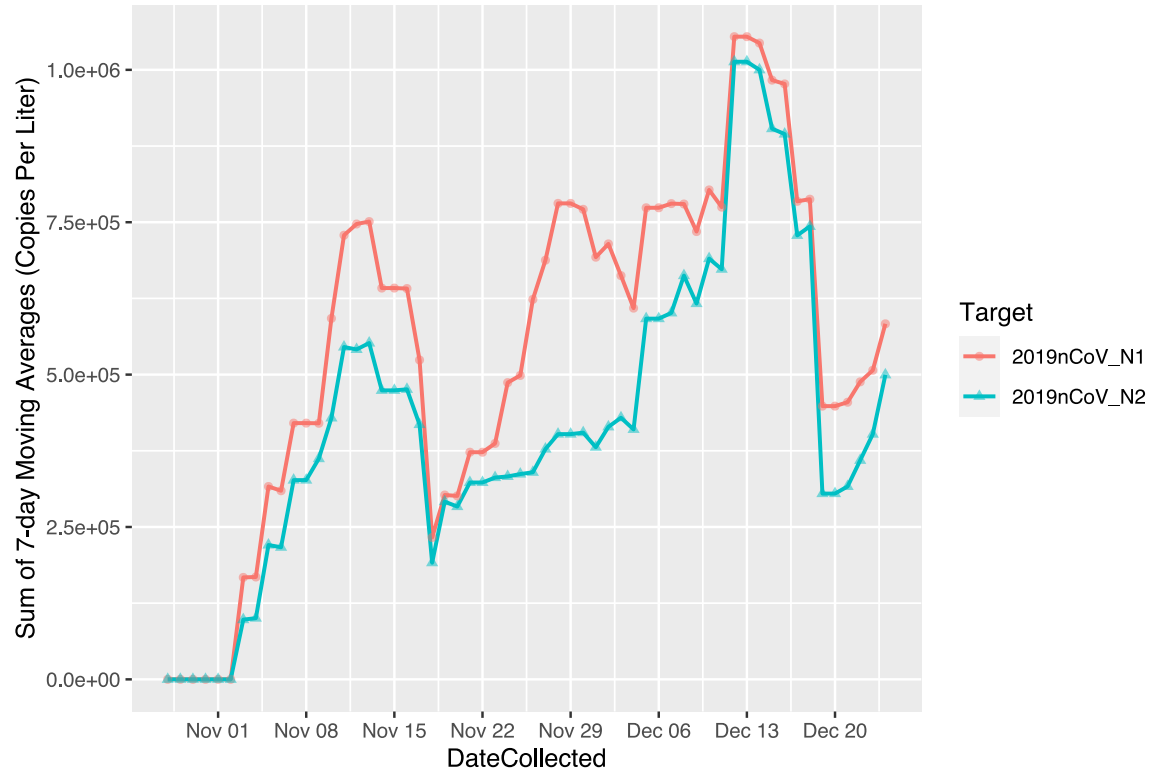


## Wastewater Surveillance Program

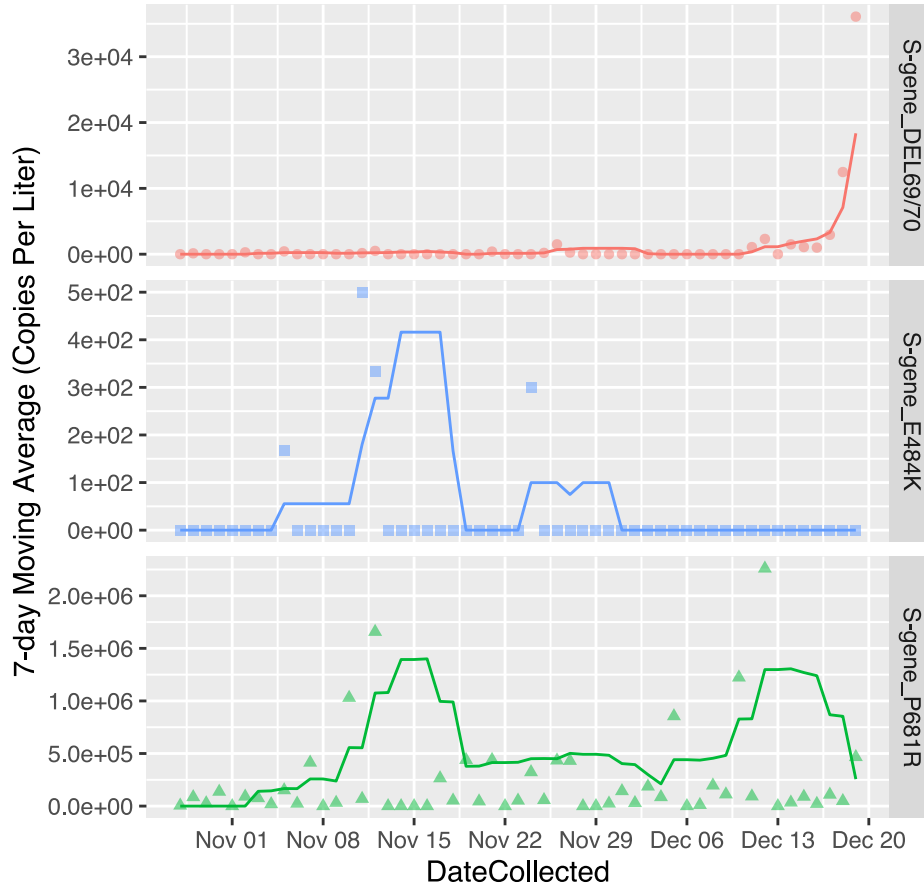
- Using wastewater surveillance as one strategy to track spread of COVID-19
- ALCOSAN, Pennsylvania American Water Company, and McCandless Township Water Authority – collect/treat sewage from > 80% county's residents
- Assisting Indiana Borough Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility program
- Organization collects 24-hour composite wastewater samples 2-3x/week
- Samples couriered to AC Public Health Laboratory, prepared for shipment to commercial laboratory for analysis
- Analyzed for copies of virus per liter and for variants
- Mid-2022, county Public Health Laboratory expects to be ready to analyze samples and provide more rapid turnaround time.

# Wastewater Surveillance Program

Cumulative Total of 2019nCoV in Allegheny County



### Cumulative Total of Variants in Allegheny County



# Increasing virus counts of Omicron since early December

#### VariantTarget

- B.1.1.7 (Alpha) and B.1.529 (Omicron)
- B.1.617.2 (Delta)
- multiple non-Delta and non-Omicron variants

CDC Nowcast 93.8%  
Omicron in Region 3  
<https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#variant-proportions>



## Ongoing Pandemic Response What have we done?

- An ultramarathon and not yet at finish line
- Daily reports from Mar 2020 to Dec 2021 (weekly as of last week)
- Daily dashboard update ongoing since May 2020
- Update FAQs, I&Q notices
- Weekly briefings Mar 2020 to Sep 2021; then every other week
- As of today, 11 updates to BOH
- Many meetings with community, education systems, businesses, and other groups to both gather and share information
- Vaccination events large and small (>136,000 COVID + >2000 flu)



## Changes to Case Investigation and Contact Tracing

- 22 months of investigations – people aware of where to get information, fewer answer calls, at home tests, ACHD capacity ~200 cases/day
- Since Dec limited to brief interview and sent link to online form for
  - Ages younger than age 5 and 50 and older
  - Outbreaks/clusters; emerging variants of concern identified by CDC and travelers from areas impacted by them
  - Schools & LTC complete outbreak forms and submit to ACHD weekly – call with questions/support
- Given huge increase in case this week
  - Temporarily limited to 65 and older & outbreaks





## Article XXI: Mon Valley Episode Rule Update

- Approved by BOH Sept 8, 2021, County Council Sept 13, signed by County Exec Sept 15, 2021 - Effective Sept 25, 2021
  - <https://www.alleghenycounty.us/Health-Department/Programs/Air-Quality/Mon-Valley-Episode-Rule.aspx>
- New Section Requires
  1. ACHD to warn public of bad air quality days
    - Initiated before amendment signed
    - Mini grants to 9 CBO to sign-up residents for Allegheny Alerts + provide education
  2. 16 regulated facilities in targeted area to submit mitigation plans for watches/warnings by 12/26
    - All complied - submitted plans effective immediately
    - Air Quality Team reviewing plans currently – some plans may require changes



## Air Pollution Operating Permits

- All facilities that produce air pollution must obtain permits to operate, in addition to permits to install new units or modify existing equipment
- Permits open for public comment and public hearing notices posted at: <https://www.alleghenycounty.us/Health-Department/Programs/Air-Quality/Public-Comment-Notices.aspx>
- Expect U.S. Steel Clairton Coke Works operating permit renewal later this month (including public hearing notice)





## Article XXIV: Paid Sick Leave

- Reg passed by BOH in July, County Council passed, and County executive signed into law in Sept 2021
- County launched website for paid sick leave in Dec 2021
- Process overseen by Department of Administrative Services
- Website: <https://alleghenycounty.us/administrative/paid-sick-leave.aspx>
- Requesting modification today – request is to go to public comment

## Article III: Food Safety

- Open to public comment through Jan 24, 2022
- Public hearing Jan 20, 5 pm
- Active solicitation of comments
  - All food permit holders emailed
  - Meeting key stakeholders
- Feb: Prepare response to public comments
- Mar: bring to BOH for vote for approval



### Request for Public Comments on Proposed Updates to Article III (Food Safety Regulations)

Allegheny County Health Department is proposing a major revision to Article III **and the Board of Health wants to hear from you!**

Article III is the regulation that allows the Health Department to permit and inspect food facilities within Allegheny County. It also sets food safety standards for local food operators to protect the public from foodborne illness and ensure a healthy environment in food facilities and in their communities.

**A summary of notable changes to the regulation can be seen here: [Updates to Article III](#)**

- [resumen de cambios en español](#) (Spanish Language summary document)

- [中文变迁总结](#) (Chinese language summary document)

- [नेपालीमा भएका परिवर्तनहरूको सारांश](#) (Nepali language summary document)

**The proposed revised regulation is available here: [Proposed \(redlined\) Article III](#)**

#### **Share Your Thoughts by Submitting a Written Comment:**

Written comments will be accepted from Friday, November 12, 2021 through 11:59 pm on Monday, January 24, 2022.

Comments may be submitted by email to [PublicHealthComment@AlleghenyCounty.us](mailto:PublicHealthComment@AlleghenyCounty.us) or by mail to ACHD Administrative Offices:

Attn: Article III Comments (Food Safety)

Allegheny County Health Department

542 Fourth Ave.

Pittsburgh, PA 15219

**The Allegheny County Board of Health will also hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 5:00 pm** to take testimony on the proposed repeal and replace of Allegheny County Health Department Article III ("Food Safety"). Visit the [Board of Health Public Meeting Schedule page](#) for details on the public hearing and how to participate.

<https://www.alleghenycounty.us/Health-Department/Programs/Food-Safety/Food-Safety-Program.aspx>

## Social Media Outreach Examples

We want to hear from you! The ACHD is proposing revisions to Article III Food Safety Regulations and the Board of Health wants to hear from you. Visit <https://bit.ly/Article-III-Outreach...> to learn more and share your thoughts by submitting a public comment





## Personnel Updates

- Barbara Nightingale, M.D.; Inaugural Deputy of Clinical Services
  - Double board certified - Family Medicine and Psychiatry
  - Trained at UMPC McKeesport and Western Psychiatric
  - Worked in McKeesport since completing training
- Search for Deputy of Environmental Health ongoing
- Many openings – please see our website
- <https://www.alleghenycounty.us/Health-Department/Resources/Careers/Careers.aspx>
- Trying new ways to reach applicant pool –
  - Ex: Use LinkedIn starting Dec 2021 – most applicants in past 2 years



## PHAB Reaccreditation Process

All required documentation underway

- Q1 2022: Finalizing first drafts
- Q2 2022: Reviewing and approving
- Q3 2022: Eligible to apply
  
- Contracting with local organization to help finalize Community Health Assessment and develop Community Health Improvement Plan (end Q2 2022)



## Recently Released Reports (find on PHIO website)

- Vaccine Report through Nov 21, 2021
- [2018 Allegheny County Mortality Report](#) (added 12/21/21)
- [2020 Air Quality Annual Report](#) (added 12/16/21)
- [Influenza page](#) offers weekly flu reports
- [2019-2020 Legionellosis Report](#) (updated 12/7/2021)
- [2019 Annual STD Report](#) (added 12/7/21) and [2020 STD Fast Facts Infographic](#) (added 11/23/2021)
- Updated [Recycling Resources Directory](#) (added 11/4/21)



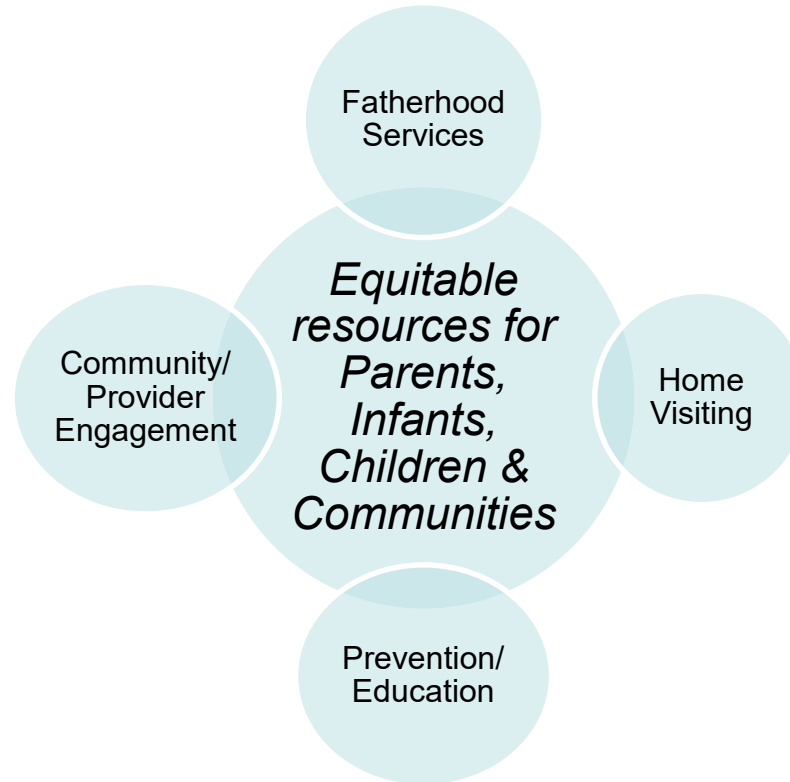
Next: Dannai Wilson  
Program Director Office of  
Family and Child Health







## Office of Family Child Health Overview





## What our office provides...

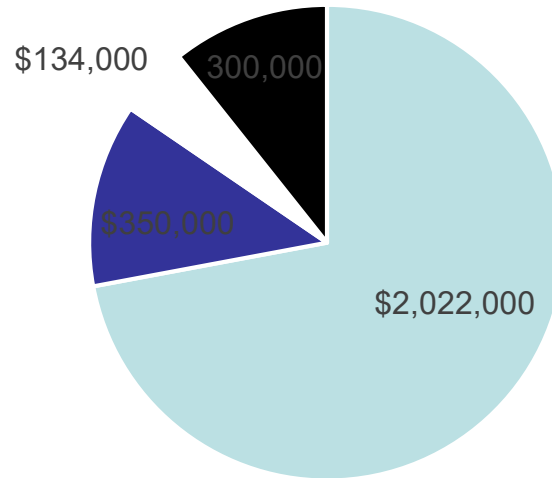
Home Visiting	Community/Provider Engagement	Prevention/Education	Fatherhood Services
Nurse Family Partnership Allegheny	Home Visiting Network	Breastfeeding Helpline	24/7 Dad Group or individual
Healthy Families Allegheny	Allegheny County Breastfeeding Coalition	Smoking Cessation Groups/Individuals	Fathering in 15
Title V Healthy Moms & Healthy Babies	BEST Allegheny	Postpartum Care Kit	
	Child Death Review		
	Fetal Infant Mortality Review		
	CDC Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring Study		

*1000 referrals a year and 300 community/provider partners*



## How we fund the work...

### Programs and Services



- Home Visiting
- Community Engagement
- Prevention/Education
- Other

What we are most proud of...

# BEST Allegheny

## Building Equity Strategies Together Allegheny

Three- Year Initiative to Reduce Racial Disparities in Preterm Birth in Allegheny County

### DATA



**PPOR**  
Perinatal Periods of Risk Study  
Priority Area: 0 - 1 year

**PRAMS**  
Pregnancy Risk Assessment  
Monitoring Study  
Priority Area: Pregnancy

**CDR**  
Child Death Review  
Priority Area: 1 year -20 years

**FIMR**  
Fetal Infant Mortality Review  
Priority Area: 0 - 1 year



### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



**CityMatCH Action  
Team Members**  
community members, community-based  
organizations, researchers, healthcare providers,  
and policymakers

**Equity Team**

**Alignment for  
Action Collaborative**

**Healthy Baby Team  
(Wilkesburg)**



### ACTION



**Results**  
**Healthy Development**

- Walking Path
- Breast/Chestfeeding Friendly Community Designation

**Educational Development**

- Educate community on MCH policies

**Economic Development**

- Support local postpartum doulas
- Support local mental health practitioners

**Community Development**

- Train community residents as MCH Champions

**Equity**

- Implicit Bias training
- Prioritize efforts in communities experiencing inequities



## A year of firsts..

Establish a **Fetal Infant Mortality Review**

Hired a Full-Time Coordinator to manage our Child Death Review and FIMR projects

Awarded a \$300,000 **Perinatal Periods of Risk** grant from the PA Department of Health, Bureau of Family Health

Awarded a \$350,000 grant from the Heinz Endowments.

Established an agreement to conduct a survey of Allegheny residents using the **CDC Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring Study**

Awarded \$134,000 in American Recovery Plan funds for Maternal, Infant, Early Childhood Home Visiting –Nurse Family Partnership

March of Dimes Breaking Through Bias in Maternity Care training for healthcare providers-120 participants

New Revenue Stream-Managed Care Organization Contracts

New electronic case management system

New Name and Approach to Equity





# Allegheny County Health Department Vector Control Program Environmental Health Fund Request

Lori Horowitz, MS

Program Manager, Housing and Community  
Environment Program

Allegheny County Board of Health Meeting

January 2022





- **MISSION:** Protect, promote, and preserve the health and well-being of all Allegheny County residents, particularly the most vulnerable, through the identification, prevention, and control of mosquito-borne disease and nuisance mosquito populations.
- **FUNDING:** Yearly grant from DEP (approx. \$200,000)
- **2022 EH FUND REQUEST FOR MOSQUITO LARVICIDE: \$16,500**
- **MAJOR CONTROL EFFORTS USING LARVICIDE:**
  1. *Aedes* Spring floodwater mosquito species in residential areas (nuisance)
  2. *Culex* mosquitoes in City of Pittsburgh catch basins (West Nile virus)
- Both efforts are cost effective, direct service to Allegheny County residents aimed at reducing disease spread and mosquito nuisance.



- Need 75 boxes of FourStar briquets
  - 75 boxes x \$700 = \$52,500
- Requesting \$16,500 from EH Funds to supplement DEP grant funds
- Goal to treat 10,000+ catch basins and thoroughly treat expanding mosquito habitats
- Increasing personnel and larvicide costs; explore other funding options





Lori Horowitz  
Program Manager, HCE Program

3190 Sassafra Way, Pittsburgh, PA 15201  
lori.horowitz@alleghenycounty.us







# **Allegheny County Rules and Regulations Article III Update**

**Vote to Initiate Public Comment Period**

**Otis Pitts**

**Deputy Director – ACHD Bureau of Food  
Safety, Housing & Policy**







# **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH FUND**

Request for Mosquito Control Products

Lori Horowitz  
Program Manager  
Housing and Community Environment



# ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH FUND

Request for PA Resource Council “Hard  
to Recycle Event” for 2022

Joy Smallwood  
Environmental Health Administrator II  
Water Pollution Control and Waste Management  
Program



# REVISIONS TO ARTICLE I

## Merit System (Personnel Administration) Regarding Appeals

Kim Joyce  
Deputy Director, Administration





# REVISIONS TO ARTICLE XXI

## Air Pollution Control Regarding Public Notice and Risk Management

Jayme Graham  
Program Manager, Air Quality



# Request Permission To Go To Public Comment



# Public Comments

- Commenters will be allowed 3 minutes each to address the Board