Cook County DEPT. of Public Health
Promoting health. Preventing disease. *Protecting you.*

Information Brief
COVID-19 Data
What COVID-19 data is available on the Shiny App?

- **The Cook County Department of Public Health Shiny App** provides data on COVID-19 for almost all suburban Cook County municipalities – data is not included for those municipalities not within CCDPH's jurisdiction (Evanston, Oak Park, Skokie and Stickney Township). https://ccdphcd.shinyapps.io/covid19/
- **It is called the "Shiny App"** because the open source package that helps us to display the data is called *R Shiny*.

What you can find:
- Case counts – the number of reported positive cases.
- Case rates – the rate of positive cases in the population per 100,000.
- Maps and a table displaying counts and rates by municipality.
- An epidemic curve, or "epi curve", showing the number of cases reported per day. We want to see this curve flatten, then go down, before social distancing measures are lifted.
- Charts with information on cases by race/ethnicity, age, and gender.
- A visual representation of the severity of cases in suburban Cook County.
- The number of deaths in our jurisdiction and links to the Medical Examiner's web app for additional death data.
- Cases in unincorporated areas are included in municipal data.
- For towns that cross county lines, only data for the portion in Cook County is displayed.

Figure 1- municipality count & rate table

Figure 2- Epi curve
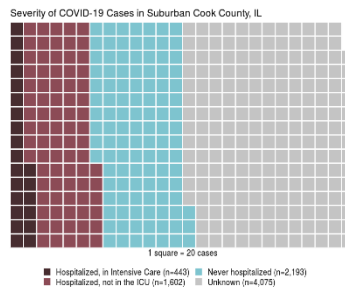
Figure 3 - map provides counts by municipality

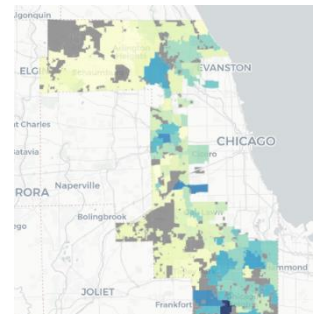*Figure 4 - severity*

How to interpret the data:
- When comparing populations or groups – such as one municipality to another, or one racial/ethnic group to another – it's better to look at rates, as opposed to counts. Rates are created by dividing the count of positive cases by the population of that group or municipality, then multiplying by 100,000. This allows us to compare groups or municipalities on a standard scale. Examples, using data from 4/21/20:
  - Melrose Park and Olympia Fields had very different numbers of positive COVID-19 cases reported, **but almost the same rate of infection**:
    - Melrose Park: 163 cases; rate: 641 per 100,000 people – or 0.64%
    - Olympia Fields: 32 cases; rate: 642 per 100,000 people – or 0.64%
  - Case numbers in Black and White residents are similar, but infection rates in Blacks are **more than 3.5 times that of Whites:**
    - Whites: 2,085 cases; rate: 162 per 100,000 people – or 0.16%
    - Blacks: 1,952 cases; rate: 536 per 100,000 people – or 0.53%
  - Race doesn't cause inequities, but systemic racism does. The differences in rates result from inequitable policies like redlining, economic disinvestment, and lack of healthcare access.

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