# Milwaukee County COVID-19 Response

Judiciary, Law Enforcement and General Services Committee

July 15, 2022

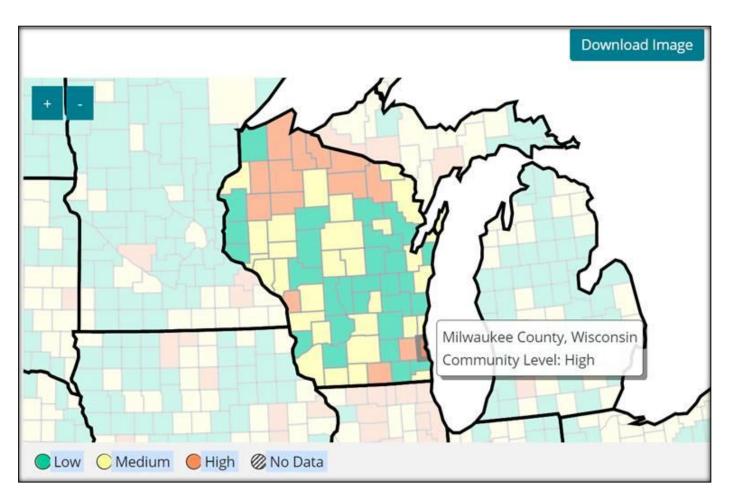


### **Today's Presentation**

- Current COVID-19 conditions in our community
- In-process COVID-19 mitigation steps
- Other actions that are in process
- Ongoing next steps



#### **CDC - COVID-19 Community Levels**



- Milwaukee County is classified as "High" risk
  - New Admissions Rate = 12.8
  - Hospital Capacity = 4.2%
  - Case Rate = 227.87
- 35.46% of U.S. Counties are now classified as "high". This is a 14.74% increase



## Additional COVID-19 Data — Positivity Rate



COUNTY

### **Upcoming Changes**

Milwaukee County's CDC community risk level changed to "high" on July 14 prompting the following changes:

- Updated masking guidelines to "high"
  - Most non-public and public areas in County facilities returned to "mask required"
- Updated capacity guidelines to "high"
  - Encouraging testing if symptomatic
  - Telework highly encouraged if possible
  - Reconsider in-person indoor gatherings

No changes to mitigation guidelines for High-Risk facilities



#### **Building Employee Awareness**

Reminded employees about the availability of free test kits through health insurance program

Information on current CDC risk levels in weekly newsletter

Article on the benefits of getting your children vaccinated

Reminders about staying diligent as we move into the fall



#### Other Updates – BA.5 Variant

- BA.5 variant now accounts for approximately 54% of cases in the United States
- Most transmissible variant to date Dr. Weston has indicated that its R value is likely to be > 18
- Better at evading infection induced immunity and vaccine immunity
- Longer term impact is still unclear hospitalizations are increasing

Vaccines/boosters still protect against severe disease



## Other Updates – Novavax Vaccine

- FDA approved Novavax for emergency use authorization on July 13
- Approved for individuals 18 and older
- Two shot regimen administered 21 days apart
- Awaiting policy recommendation for use from CDC
- Novavax will be added to the Vaccine Mandate documentation



#### **Next Steps**

- Continue to closely monitor Milwaukee County COVID-19 levels
- Take the appropriate action, in consultation with and under the advisement of Dr. Weston, Chief Health Policy Advisor
- Provide ongoing reporting and updates to the Board of Supervisors



## Thank you!

