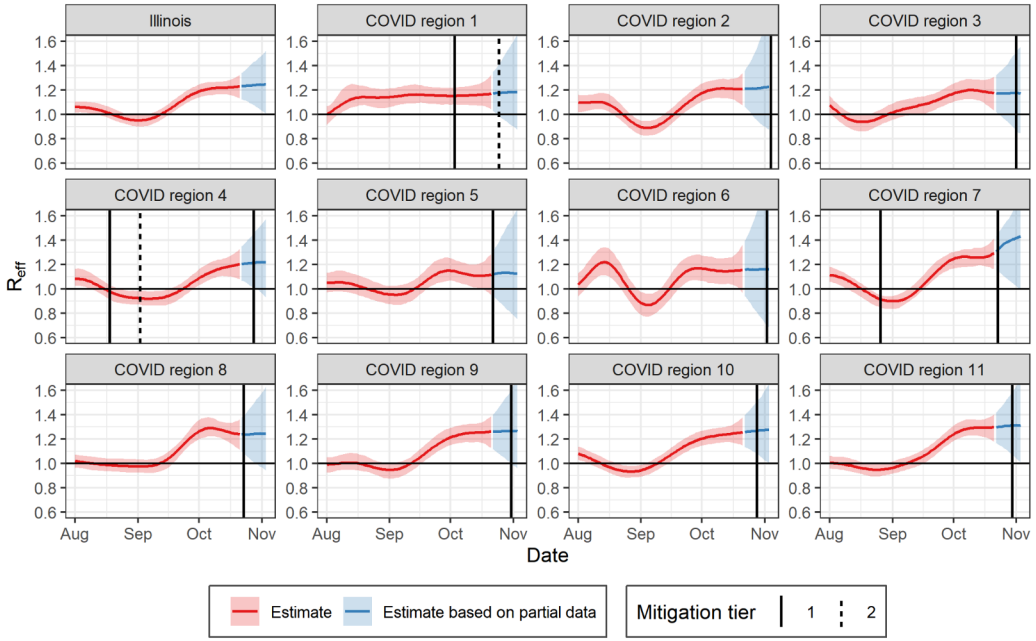
THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

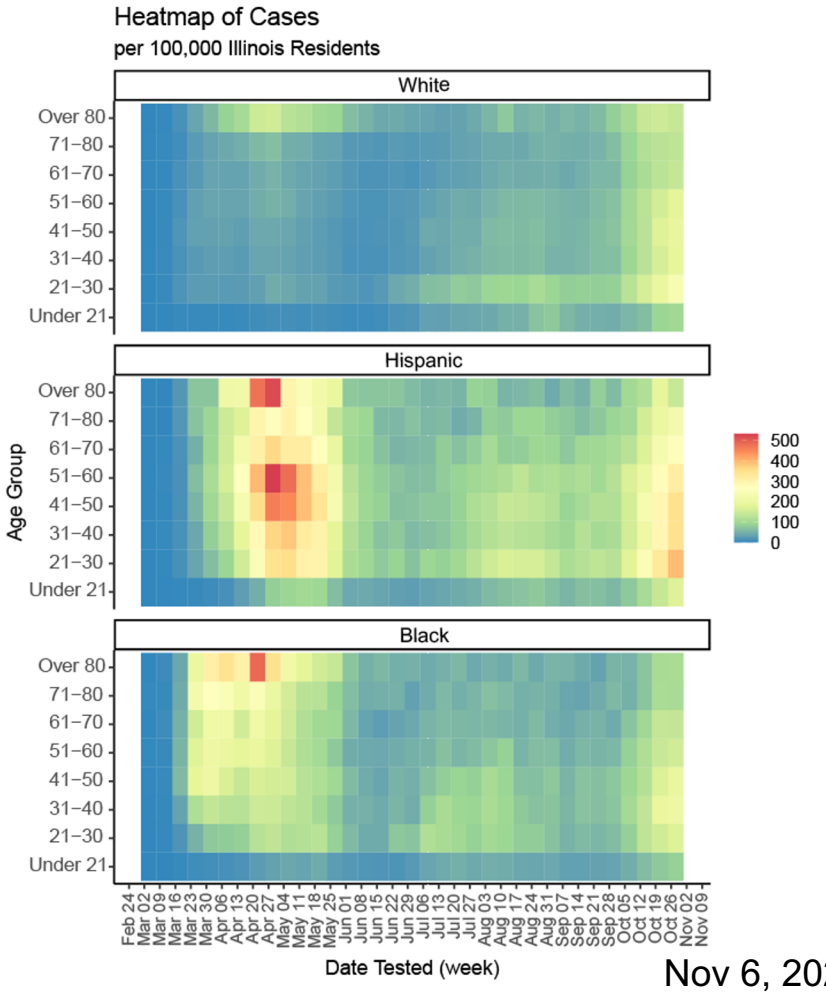
- R_{eff} remains consistently above 1 and the epidemic continues to grow exponentially throughout Illinois.
- Contact rates must drop by at least 20% and potentially as much as a third for the epidemic to decline.
- There is no evidence that new mitigation measures are lowering R_{eff}, but the data are still coming in.
- Effective long-term management of the pandemic, including prioritization of vaccination, hinges on representative serosurveys and sentinel surveillance.



Nov 6, 2020

Northwestern University

- We estimate that **R_t > 1 in all Covid Regions**.
- All regions show **continued increase** in cases, hospitalizations, and deaths, and it remains to be seen what effect recent mitigation efforts will have.
- **Cases are increasing in all age groups**, with highest numbers among people aged 20 to 60 years.
- The **Hispanic population** now has the **most cases per capita** during the second wave AND the lowest testing rates.
- Mitigation measures need to **target the whole population**.
- We expect **hospital census to continue rising** for at least another week in most regions as we wait to see how much impact the new mitigation measures will have.
- **Sentinel surveillance** would allow us to assess impact with less lag and take next steps sooner.



Nov 6, 2020

Rising hospital admissions + ICU projections

1. To capture the rapidly changing situation, we made our model more sensitive to recent hospital utilization trends

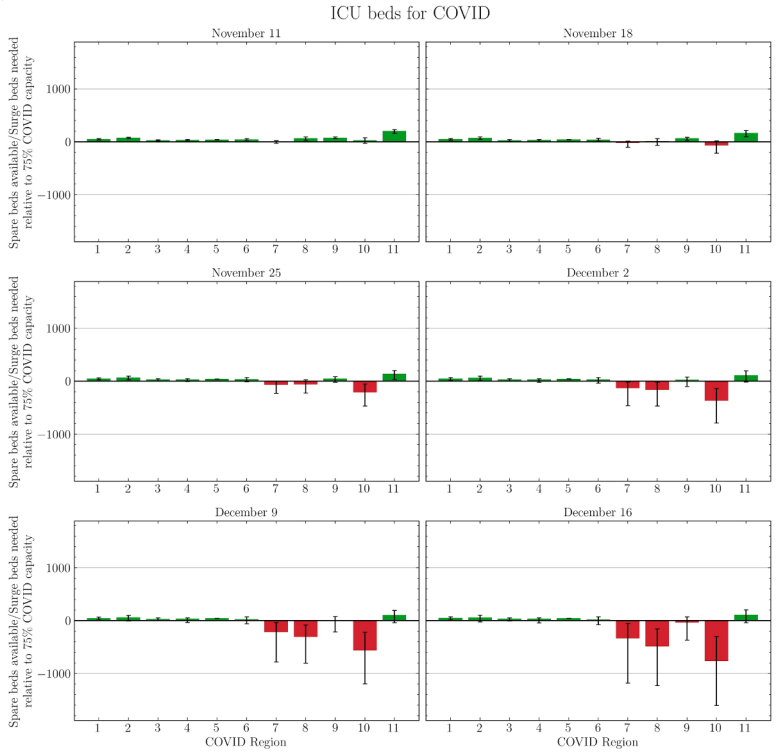
1. Hospital admissions in regions 1,7,8,9,10,11 continue to rise with no sign of saturation

2. Earliest regions to go into mitigation were 5,7,8 (Oct 22/23), 1 (Oct 25), but no effect visible yet (except 5)

3. Regions 3,4,5,6 show possible signs of saturation in hospital admissions

4. 75% of the COVID-19 ICU bed availability in regions 7, 8, 10 is predicted to be exceeded by late November/December.

5. Region 3, highlighted last week, seems out of danger.



Predicted median ICU shortfalls for all regions over the next 6 weeks

Nov 6, 2020