Sentinel Wastewater Epidemiology Evaluation Project (SWEEP)

Project Overview

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services currently tests wastewater for the SARS-CoV-2 virus at over 400 Michigan sites. The **Sentinel Wastewater Epidemiology Evaluation Project (SWEEP)** was created to give a regional and statewide overview of these efforts by providing a weekly analysis and interpretation of wastewater data from a subset of these monitoring sites.

What will we learn from this project?
The purpose of SWEEP, and of all COVID-19 wastewater monitoring, is to identify and track SARS-CoV-2 in our communities. The results can provide an early detection of the virus before people become sick or get tested and before cases are reported. Local health departments and their partners use this data to track COVID-19 in their communities and inform their public health responses.

SWEEP data will identify patterns in SARS-CoV-2 levels in wastewater and its geographic distribution. Over time, data from these wastewater treatment plants can be compared to other sampling sites and COVID-19 case data within the same region.

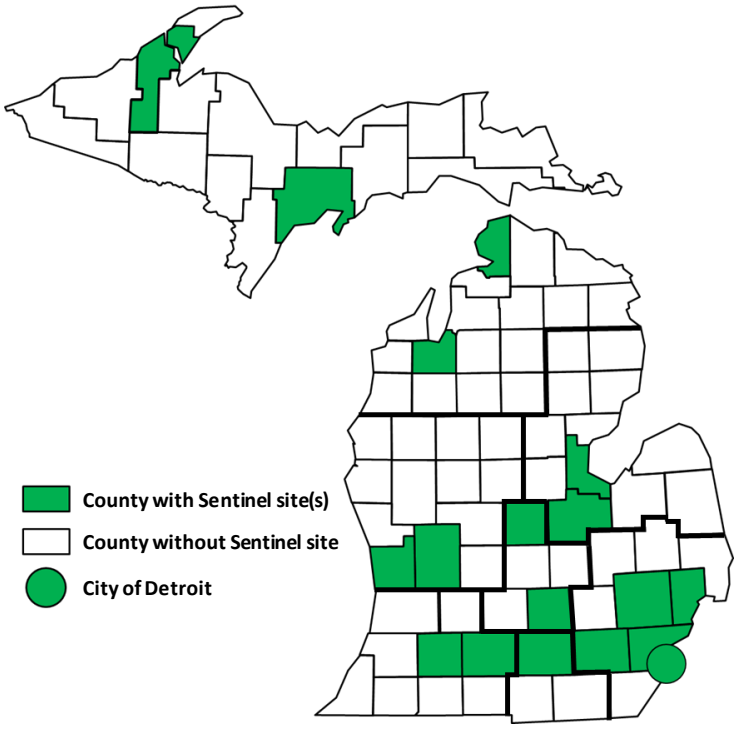
What sites are involved?
19 wastewater treatment plants in 17 counties and the City of Detroit were selected for the project. These sites, referred to as sentinels, are distributed across the 8 Michigan Economic Recovery Council (MERC) regions.

What data will be displayed?
Site-specific wastewater data and trends:

- Consecutive weeks of positive tests
- Trend over the past 15 days and size of the change
- Level of SARS-CoV-2 in the most recent sample compared to prior samples
- Sewershed boundaries and population
- Corresponding COVID-19 case data

Where can I see the data?
The data is updated weekly and is available on the MDHHS COVID-19 Wastewater website.

MICHIGAN COUNTIES WITH COVID-19 SWEEP SITES



SWEEP SITE CRITERIA

- 2 sentinel sites per MERC region
  - Exception: more in Detroit metro area
  - Jackson Region will have 1 site added
- No more than one site per county
  - Exceptions: Ottawa County, Detroit metro area
- Wastewater treatment plants
- Population served ≥5000
- Composite samples (collected over a time period instead of at a single time point)
- 2 or more samples per week

MDHHS Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

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