Search for a mis/disinformation threat

Worldwide public health mis/disinformation threats

Top Threats | Top Threat Topics | Top Emerging Threats

VACCINES | MPOX
The Mpox vaccine is new and unresearched.
RISK
Reduced vaccinations; increased deaths among populations with low immunity.

DRUGS | FENTANYL
Fentanyl can be absorbed through your skin.
RISK
Increase in life-threatening overdoses, because bystanders refuse to help.

DRUGS | XYLAZINE
Xylazine is the cause of drug overdoses, not Fentanyl.
RISK
Increased Fentanyl abuse, overdoses and deaths.

TREATMENTS | COVID-19
Drinking bleach cures COVID.
RISK
Poisoning and deaths from bleach intake.

TREATMENTS | WEIGHT LOSS
The tapeworm diet is a safe and effective way to lose weight.
RISK
Tapeworm infection, extreme fatigue, and sometimes death.

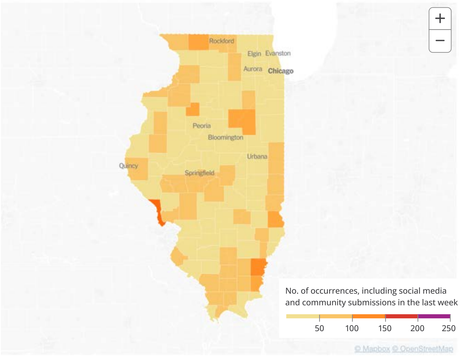
1 2 3 4

View hot spots for any threat

TOP THREAT IN YOUR DISTRICT

The Mpox vaccine is new and unresearched

View all threats



Report a threat!

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RECENTLY VIEWED THREATS

VACCINES
The Mpox vaccine is new and unresearched.

TREATMENTS
Drinking bleach protects against COVID-19.

TREATMENTS | DRUGS
Fentanyl and Xylazine are resistant to the overdose drug Naloxone.

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Search for a mis/disinformation threat

Worldwide public health mis/disinformation threats

Top Threats | **Top Threat Topics** | Top Emerging Threats

DISEASES
Mpox (formerly Monkeypox)

DISEASES | TREATMENTS
Obesity & Weight Loss

DISEASES
COVID-19

DRUGS
Xylazine (or 'Tranq')

DISEASES
Tech-caused illnesses

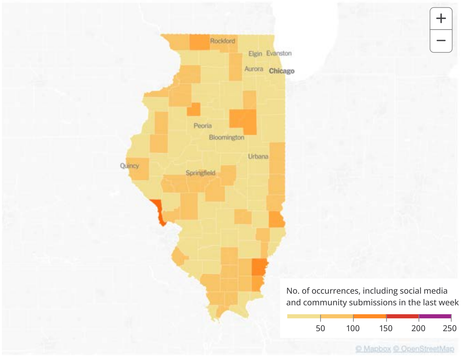
1 2 3 4

View hot spots for any threat

TOP THREAT IN YOUR DISTRICT

The Mpox vaccine is new and unresearched

View all threats



Thank you, Ambassador Yun!

You're now a UPitt Health Misinformation Ambassador.
Become a Platinum Ambassador by submitting 5 threat reports.

Contribute again

RECENTLY VIEWED THREATS

VACCINES
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TREATMENTS
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TREATMENTS | DRUGS
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Search & browse for mis/disinformation threats

Search for a mis/disinformation threat by keyword(s)

Showing 58 threats, 4 topics

FILTER

VIEW 10 SORT Severity: most to least

Topic −

Select a topic

- [x] Vaccines
- [x] Treatments
- [x] Diseases

Disease name +

Location −

Select a location

- [x] My district

Intent +

Severity +

Source +

VACCINES | MPOX
The Mpox vaccine is new and unresearched.
RISK
Reduced vaccinations; increased deaths among populations with low immunity.

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Increase in life-threatening overdoses, because bystanders refuse to help.

DISEASES | MPOX
Only gay men can get Mpox.
RISK
Decreased vaccinations, increased infections and deaths.

VACCINES | COVID-19
The COVID vaccine causes autism.
RISK
Increased Fentanyl abuse, overdoses and deaths.

TREATMENTS | COVID-19
Drinking bleach cures COVID.
RISK
Poisoning and deaths from bleach intake.

TREATMENTS | WEIGHT LOSS
The tapeworm diet is a safe and effective way to lose weight.
RISK
Tapeworm infection, extreme fatigue, and sometimes death.

DISEASES | CANCER
The FDA won't release the cure to cancer because of pressure from Big Pharma.
RISK
Loss of trust in government and public health officials.

DISEASES | PARASITES
90 percent of Americans are hosts to parasites that are making them seriously ill.
RISK
Increase in dangerous home remedies for a nonexistant disease, deaths.

DISEASES | COVID
The COVID pandemic is a hoax by Big Pharma to profit from fake vaccines.
RISK
Increased COVID infections and deaths; decreased vaccinations; regression on herd immunity.

TREATMENTS | PARASITES
Drinking turpentine cleanses the body of parasites.
RISK
Severe illness and death, especially in children.

1 2 3 4 5 6

DISEASES
Mpox (formerly Monkeypox)

DISEASES | TREATMENTS
Obesity & Weight Loss

DISEASES
COVID-19

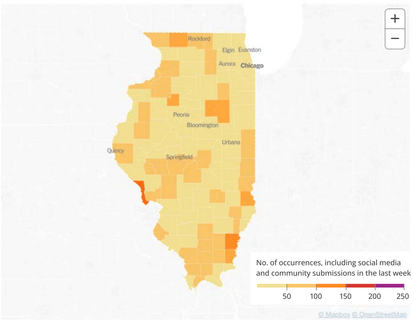
DISEASES
Tech-caused illnesses

View hot spots for any threat

TOP THREAT IN YOUR DISTRICT

The Mpox vaccine is new and unresearched

View all threats



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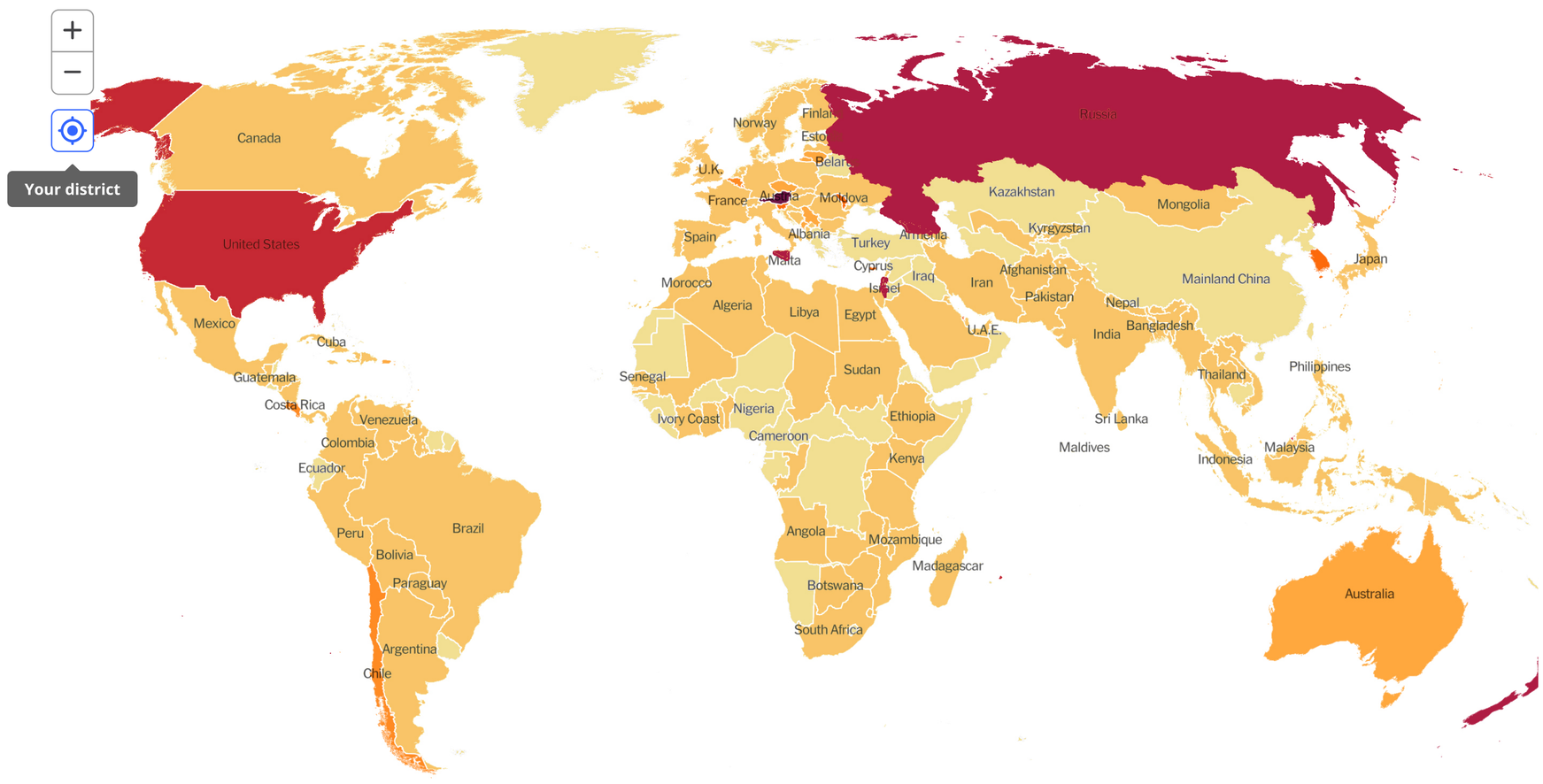
Search for a mis/disinformation threat to view on this map

Health community reported mis/disinformation hot spots

Top Threats | Top Threat Topics | Top Emerging Threats



152 results

Filter to your district

VACCINES
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VACCINES
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VACCINES
Xylazine is the cause of drug overdoses, not Fentanyl. Details

VACCINES
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VACCINES
The tapeworm diet is a safe and effective way to lose weight. Details

How we get this data

5k 10k 15k 20k 25k Number of occurrences from community submissions in the last week.

Report a threat!

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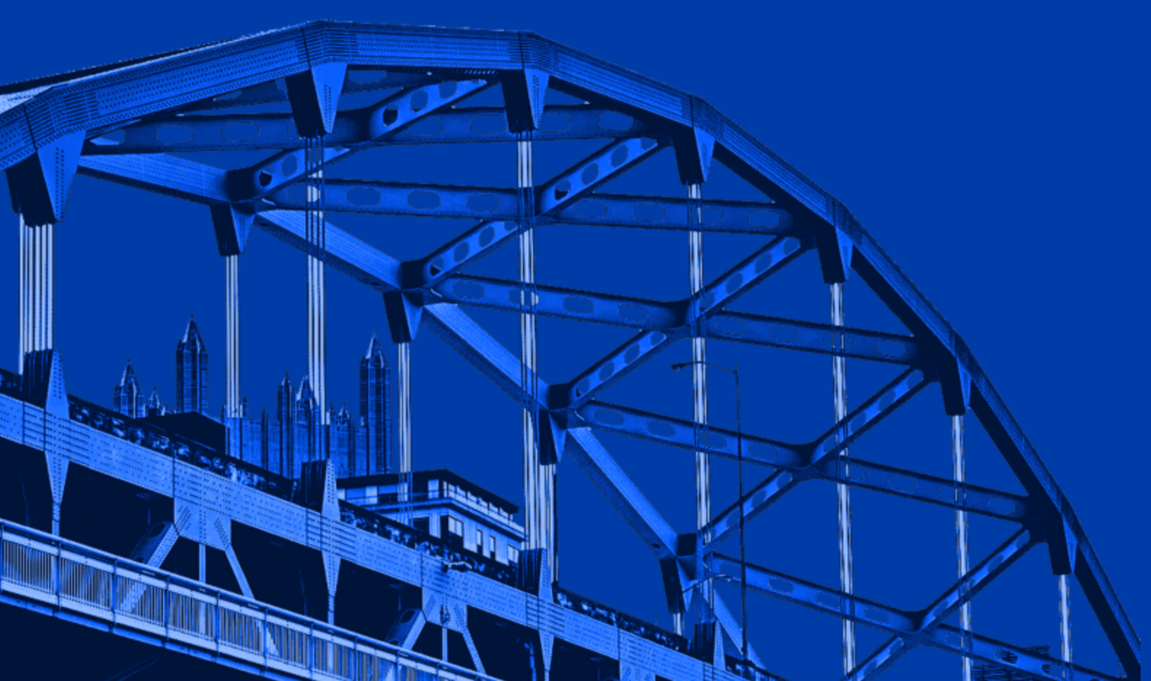

Search for a mis/disinformation threat to view on this map

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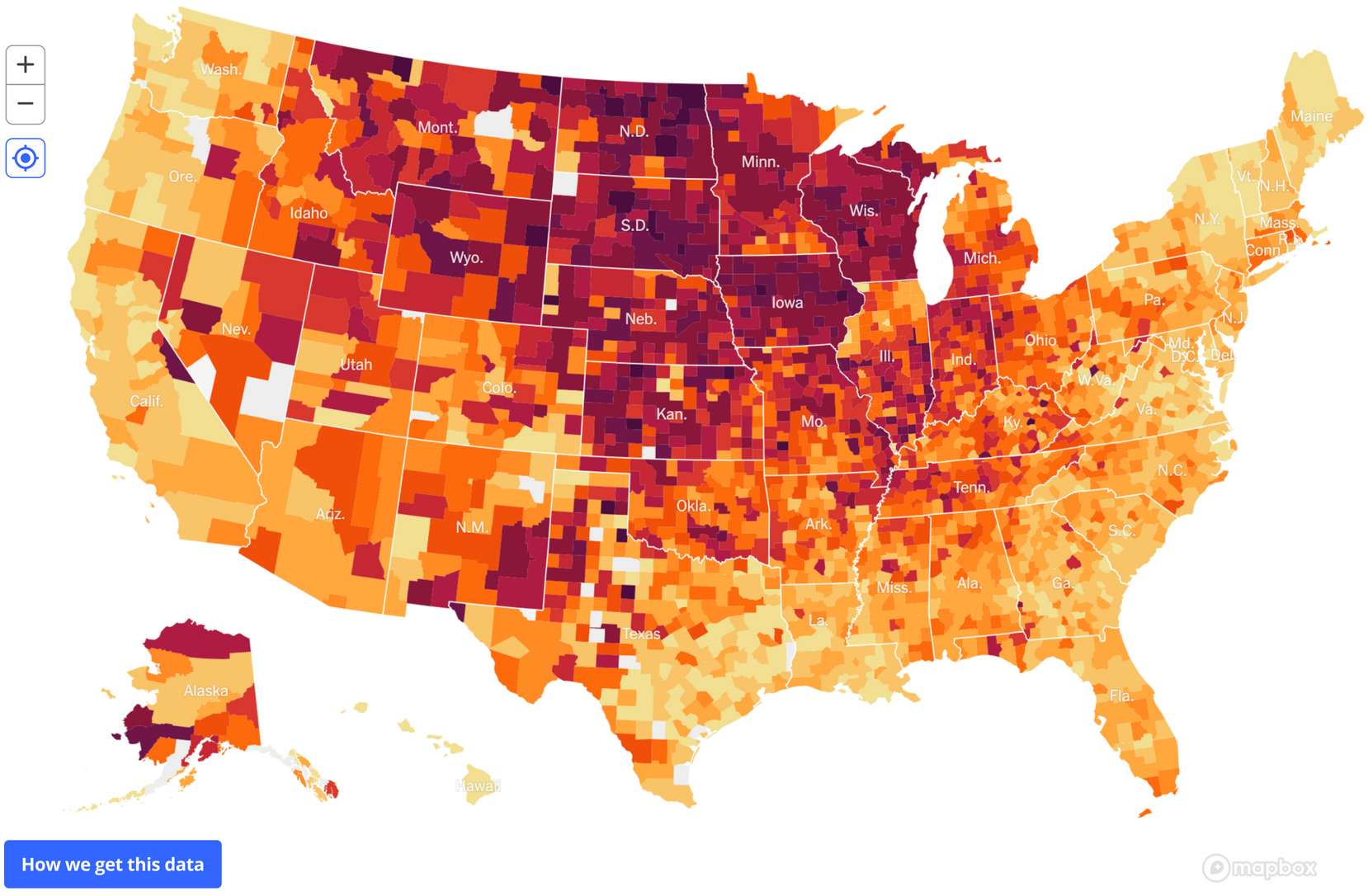

152 results

Filter to your district

DISEASES
You can only get Mpox through sex. Details

VACCINES
COVID-19 vaccines were used to implant microchips in people. Details

VACCINES
Only gay men can get Mpox. Details

VACCINES
Condensation trails left by planes are actually 'chemtrails' sprayed for nefarious purposes. Details

VACCINES
Vaping is harmless. Details

How we get this data

2k 4k 6k 8k 10k Number of occurrences from community submissions in the last week.

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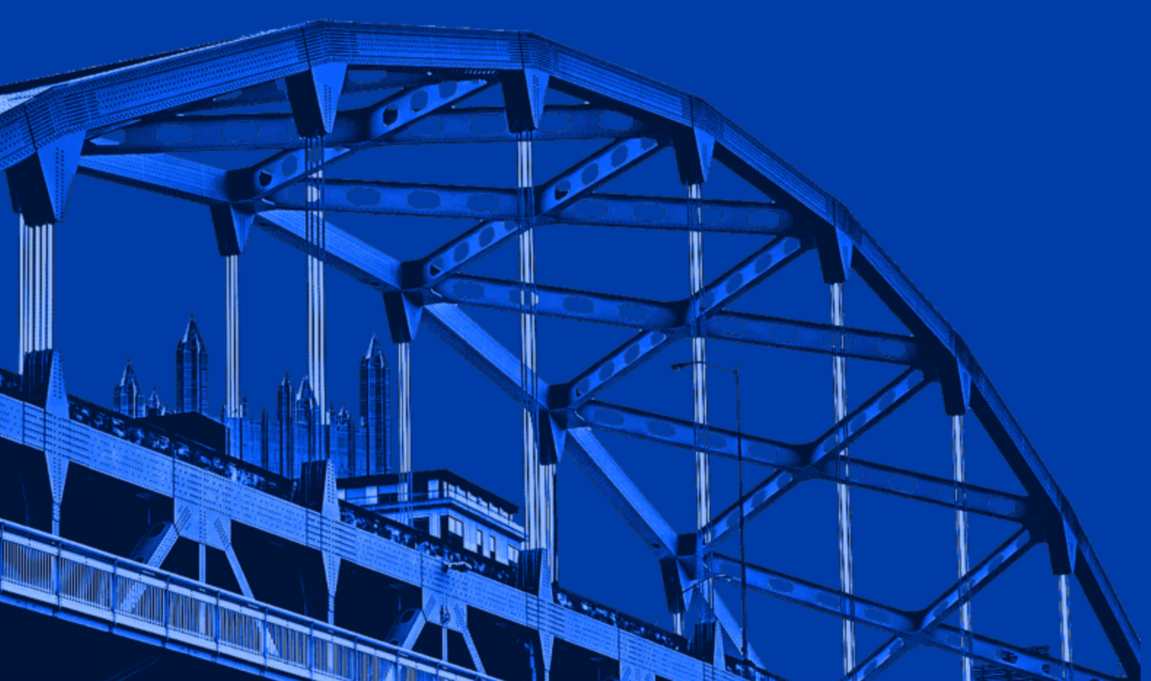

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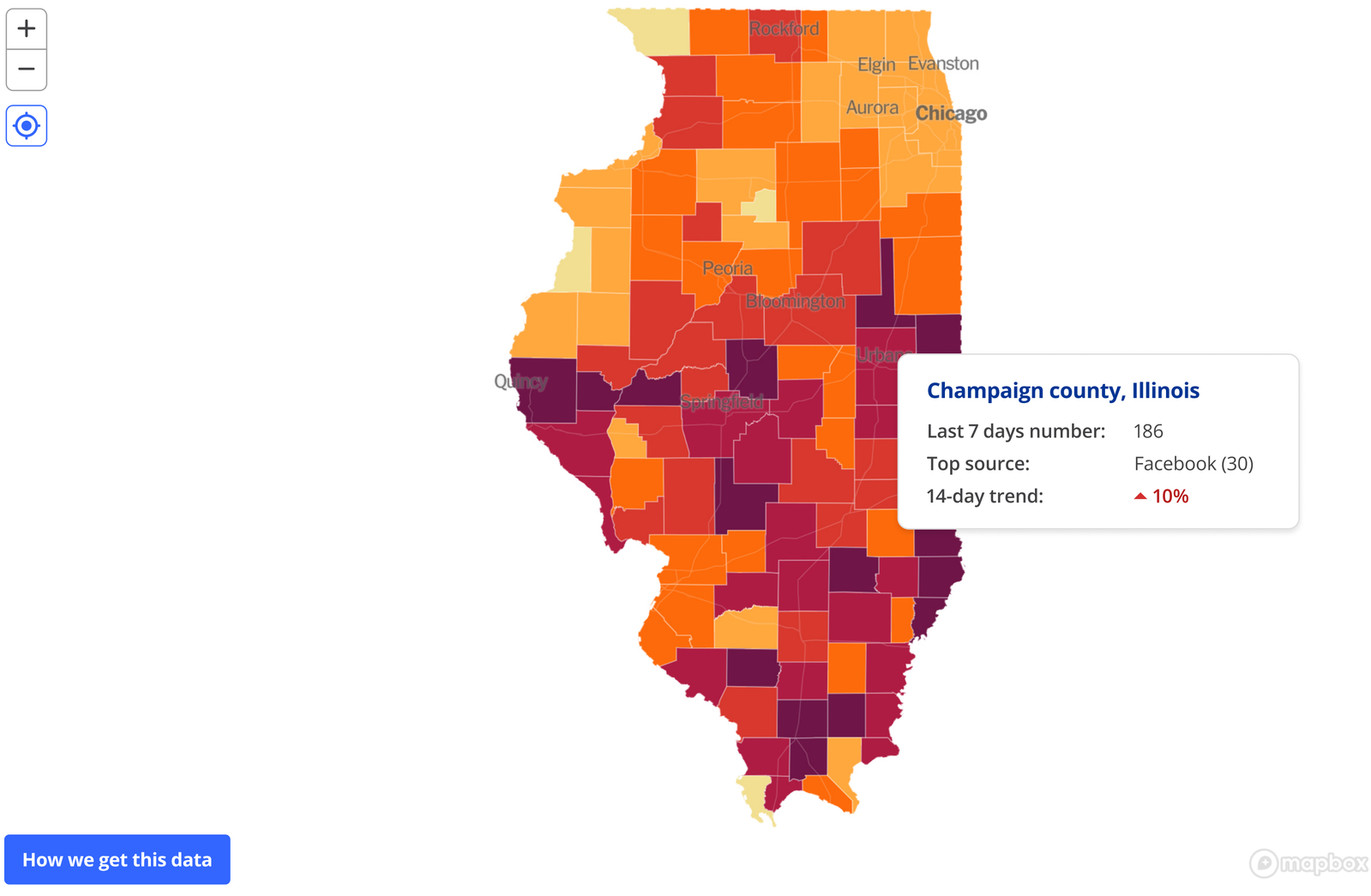

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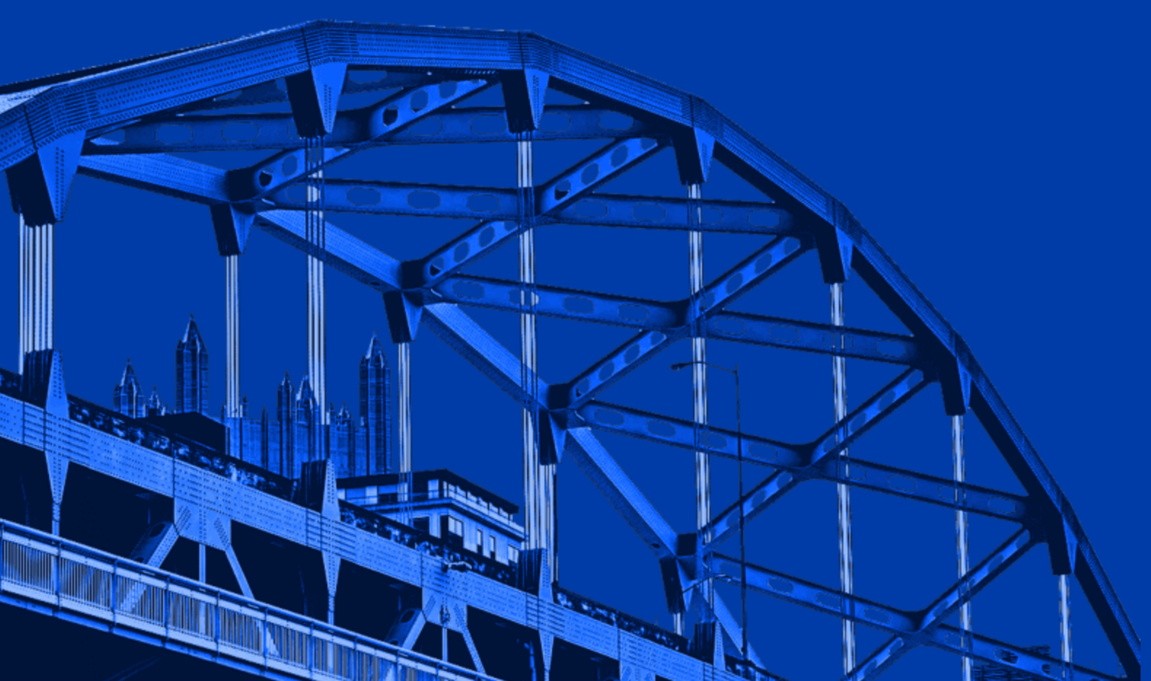


TOP THREAT TOPICS

Mpox

Patterns & insights

- Mpox mis/disinformation has spread even more quickly than COVID mis/disinformation.
- The most common sub-topic of Mpox mis/disinformation is sex, claiming it is transmitted only through sexual contact or only through gay male sex.
- Hate-groups are using Mpox for hate speech disinformation against the LGBTQ+ community.
- Mpox mis/disinformation threats have shown patterns of similarity to those spread during the HIV/AIDS and COVID health crises.
- Social media platforms are the biggest propagators of Mpox mis/disinformation, with Facebook leading the pack.

Threat topic rating

Critical
This topic is ranked #1 in the country and #3 in your district

Potential harm

Speed of spread

Urgency

Risks to public health

- Reluctance of affected individuals to seek medical treatment or vaccination because of stigma, endangering public health at large.
- Complacency in populations that don't feel directly targeted, resulting in a lack of precautionary measures and increasing the risk of further virus spread.
- Increased discrimination and violence toward the LGBTQ+ community from hate speech misinformation.
- An unjust focus of the outbreak on lower-income communities of color and immigrants.

Response tips

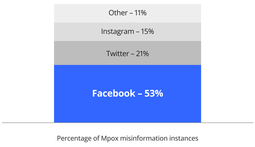
- Respond on the top platforms of Mpox misinformation: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram.
- Pre-bunk Mpox misinformation by using similar debunking messaging to COVID and HIV.
- Highlight that the Mpox virus is not exclusively associated with any particular group.
- Continue to speak directly to LGBTQ+ communities about Mpox (despite stigma), as the virus currently affects them the most.
- Emphasize that public health information may change as more is learned about the virus, to reassure people that evolving information is a normal part of the scientific process.

Get draft messaging

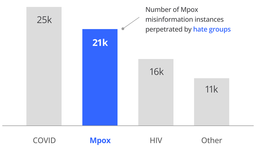
Key data insights

Project HEAL generates the insights below from the aggregate threats related to Mpox identified on the internet and social media.

The top source of Mpox mis/disinformation is Facebook.



Mpox is the 2nd most popular health disinformation topic of hate groups in 2023.



What we know today

- **What is Mpox?** Mpox is a disease caused by the Mpox virus, a less deadly and less transmissible relative of one of humanity's biggest killers, variola, which causes smallpox.
- **Is it new?** Unlike Covid, Mpox is a well-known entity that has caused sporadic outbreaks in parts of Africa for decades, though these were largely ignored by the rest of the world.
- **What are its symptoms?** Mpox can cause flu like symptoms like fever, headache, fatigue, chills and enlarged lymph nodes and most people will develop a distinctive rash, though the extent of this can vary and clinicians have reported symptoms that are milder or more localized to genital and anorectal areas than previously expected and some people have not had symptoms at all.
- **How serious is it?** Most people recover from the disease on their own within a few weeks, though the disease can be fatal and some patients have required hospital treatment to manage symptoms, particularly the extreme pain caused by Mpox lesions.

View all

What we don't know yet

Whether Mpox *can be* transmitted sexually. Before this outbreak, experts did not believe Mpox could be transmitted sexually and while it has been spreading primarily among sexual networks this could be through the close physical contact accompanying sex. Growing data is underscoring the role of sex in transmission, however, and experts are also exploring reports the virus was detected in the semen of some patients.

Top Mpox threats in your district

3K IN LAST WEEK
You can only get Mpox through sex.

2.3K IN LAST WEEK
Congolese can't get Mpox.

2.1K IN LAST WEEK
Only gay men can get Mpox.

What Illinois public health officials are reporting

11 REPORTS
The Canadian wildfire smoke is carrying the Mpox virus with it.

9 REPORTS
You can get Mpox from the swimming pool.

4 REPORTS
You can get Mpox from the COVID-19 vaccine.

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DISEASES / MPOX

False Only gay men can get Mpox

Save this threat

222

First posted: 5.06.23 | Last updated: 2 days ago

The false claim

Mpox is a sexually transmitted disease and therefore can only be spread through intercourse. Because of the higher exchange of bodily fluids during anal sex, only gay men can contract the infection.

What people are saying in your district

Since Fake News won't say it, MPOX is a sexually transmitted disease among GAY MEN!

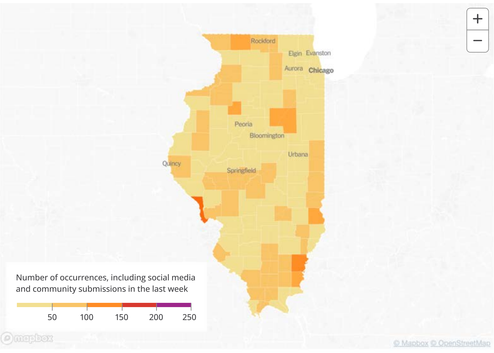
Instagram, June 23

How to respond

It's important to destigmatize the disease to prevent discrimination against LGBTQ communities while also communicating directly to those communities that they are at greater risk at this point in the outbreak, especially during Pride month. For LGBTQ populations, encourage getting vaccinated. To the general public, encourage preventative actions, such as frequent hand-washing and avoiding contact with people who have a pox-like rash.

Get draft messaging

Hot spots in your state



What we know today

While the vast majority of cases in the current Mpox outbreak have occurred among gay men, the Mpox virus can be spread through any close, skin-to-skin contact, not just sex or anal sex. Similar to other viral disease outbreaks in the past, scientists predict Mpox will most likely spread to other populations within 1-2 years.

View all

How we know it

REFERENCES

CONFIDENCE LEVEL: 99%

Threat rating & impact

Severe

Ranked #3 in your district

Potential harm

Speed of spread

Urgency

This mis/disinformation could increase the spread of Mpox and result in deaths among those with immune deficiencies or HIV. Given that people are congregating more during the summer and June is Pride month, this threat is especially urgent in your district right now.

Quick info

Type of mis/disinformation

False science | Pseudo-science | Myth/hoax

Why it's being spread

Hate-motivated | Treatment prevention

Where we've seen it

Social Media | Truth Social | Reddit

How it's being spread

Troll farms | Firehosing | Clickbait

How long it's been around

New

TOP THREATS IN YOUR DISTRICT

VACCINES

The Mpox vaccine is new and unresearched.

TREATMENTS

Drinking bleach protects against COVID-19.

TREATMENTS | DRUGS

Fentanyl and Xylazine are resistant to the overdose drug Naloxone.

EMERGING THREAT TOPICS IN THE US

Mpox

Xylazine

Tech-caused Illness

Water Fluoridation

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Generate anti-misinformation messages

Message should counter all of the following:

Only gay men can get Mpox

To:

General public

On:

Public Health website

Generated messages

Download all

General public + Public health website

There's a myth circulating that Mpox affects only gay men. This is absolutely false. Mpox is a viral disease that can affect anyone, regardless of sexual orientation. It is transmitted primarily through close contact with the blood, body fluids, or cutaneous or mucosal lesions of infected animals. Human-to-human transmission can also occur.

Preventive measures include avoiding contact with animals that could harbor the virus and maintaining good personal hygiene. Education about the virus and its transmission is critical to dispelling harmful myths and promoting safety for everyone.

Customize

Suggested prompts

Ex: Use a friendly tone at a 7th grade reading level, with a 200-400 word count.

Go

Refine selections

Add threats +

Add audiences

Add communication platforms

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Customize

Suggested prompts

Go

Last prompt: "Sound like the World Health Organization, but at a 5th grade reading level."

There's a myth circulating that Mpox affects only gay men. This is absolutely false. Mpox is a viral disease that can affect anyone, regardless of sexual orientation. It is transmitted primarily through close contact with the blood, body fluids, or cutaneous or mucosal lesions of infected animals. Human-to-human transmission can also occur.

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Customize

Suggested prompts

Go

Last prompt: "Use a 5th grade reading level."

"An upbeat tone that mentions safety in the context of upcoming Pride Month parades."

"Leave out any mention of infected animals."

"Replace all instances of 'Monkeypox' with 'Mpox.' "

"Get rid of all weasel words, in the manner of Amazon writing principles."

Refine selections

Add threats +

Add audiences

Add communication platforms

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Generate anti-misinformation messages

Message should counter all

Only gay men can get Mpox

Generated messa

General public

There's a myth ci
can affect anyone
blood, body fluid
also occur.

Preventive measu
personal hygiene
promoting safety

Customize

Last prompt: "Sou

Select threats to add

Search for threats by keywords

Show only saved threats

SUGGESTIONS BY TOPIC: MPOX

VACCINES
The Mpox vaccine is new and unresearched.

DISEASES
The Mpox virus is now airborne.

DISEASES
Mpox is a form of herpes.

SUGGESTIONS BY HATE-TARGETED GROUP: LGBTQ COMMUNITY

COVID
The LGBTQ community is more susceptible to Long COVID.

HIV
HIV is a gay disease.

DISEASES
LGBTQ people don't need HPV screening.

Done

on platforms

There's a myth circulating that Mpox affects only gay men. This is absolutely false. Mpox is a viral disease that can affect anyone, regardless of sexual orientation. It is transmitted primarily through close contact with the blood, body fluids, or cutaneous or mucosal lesions of infected animals. Human-to-human transmission can also occur.

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Message should counter all

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Generated messa

General public

There's a myth ci
can affect anyone
blood, body fluid
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Preventive measu
personal hygiene
promoting safety

Customize

Last prompt: "Sou

Select threats to add

Mpox, vaccines

Show only saved threats

18 RESULTS FOR "MPOX, VACCINES"

- [x] The Mpox vaccine is new and unresearched.
- [x] The Mpox vaccine causes cancer.
- [ ] Big Pharma purposely sabotaged the Mpox vaccine, so it's unsafe and doesn't work.
- [ ] The Mpox vaccine causes autism in fetuses and breast-feeding babies.
- [ ] You can get Mpox from the COVID-19 vaccine.
- [ ] The Mpox vaccine is the same as the Smallpox vaccine.
- [x] There are multiple FDA-approved Mpox vaccines.

1 2 3

Done

on platforms

There's a myth circulating that Mpox affects only gay men. This is absolutely false. Mpox is a viral disease that can affect anyone, regardless of sexual orientation. It is transmitted primarily through close contact with the blood, body fluids, or cutaneous or mucosal lesions of infected animals. Human-to-human transmission can also occur.

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Message should counter all of the following:

- Only gay men can get Mpox
- The Mpox vaccine is new and unresearched
- Mpox is now airborne

To:

- General public
- LGBTQ community

On:

- Public Health website
- Twitter

Generated messages

Download all

General public + Public health website

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Customize — Suggested prompts

Ex: Use a friendly tone at a 7th grade reading level, with a 200-400 word count. — Go

General public + Twitter

Busting the #MpoxMyth: Mpox does NOT discriminate based on sexual orientation. Anyone can contract the disease. Protect yourself, stay informed, practice good hygiene. #MpoxFacts #HealthForAll 🌎

Customize — Suggested prompts

Ex: Include the top 3 hashtags related to Mpox — Go

LGBTQ community + Public health website

Recently, a misleading myth has been spreading that Mpox is a disease that solely affects gay men. This is categorically false. Mpox can affect ANYONE, no matter their sexual orientation or gender identity. It primarily spreads through contact with infected animals and can also pass from human to human.

Remember, your safety matters. Practice good hygiene and avoid contact with potentially infected animals or humans. Be vigilant during large events where large numbers of people are in close proximity. Help us dispel this harmful myth by educating your community and promoting a safer environment for all. 🏳️‍🌈

Customize — Suggested prompts

Go

Last prompt: "Sound like the World Health Organization, but at a 5th grade reading level."

LGBTQ community + Twitter

Listen up #LGBTQ community! There's a myth that only gay men can get #Mpox. False! It's a disease that ANYONE can get, regardless of who you love or how you identify. Stay informed, practice good hygiene. Let's debunk this together! #MpoxFacts #PrideHealth 🏳️‍🌈

Customize — Suggested prompts

Ex: Include the top 3 hashtags related to Mpox — Go

Refine selections

Add threats +

Add audiences

Add communication platforms

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