Supporting Cutting-Edge COVID-19 Research

Since the early weeks of the pandemic, the East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) team has supported COVID-19 wastewater-based epidemiology in collaboration with world-class research institutions such as the University of California at Berkeley, the University of South Carolina, and Stanford University. EBMUD has taken hundreds and hundreds of wastewater samples to help develop and prove laboratory methods for COVID-19 detection in wastewater. Additionally, EBMUD has actively promoted the importance of this work through various media channels (ranging from local news outlets to the nationally televised Dr. Oz show) and advocated for funding including assisting with grant applications to National Institutes of Health and the Water Research Foundation. Through these efforts and those of many, many other contributors, tracking COVID-19 through wastewater is now used to monitor the pandemic across the country and around the world.

COVID-19 Monitoring in Wastewater within EBMUD's Service Area (6/21-12/21)

This graph shows a subset of the results from the sampling that was conducted between March 2020 and present. These results are for the combined influent, which represents wastewater from 740,000 residents.