

Preferred Provider Network Post Acute Broadcast

- December 15th, 2021



HONORHEALTH®

COLLABORATING FOR CARE

Innovation Care Partners & HonorHealth – Confidential Information

As of 12/15/2021

Agenda

COVID-19 Overview

COVID-19 in Arizona

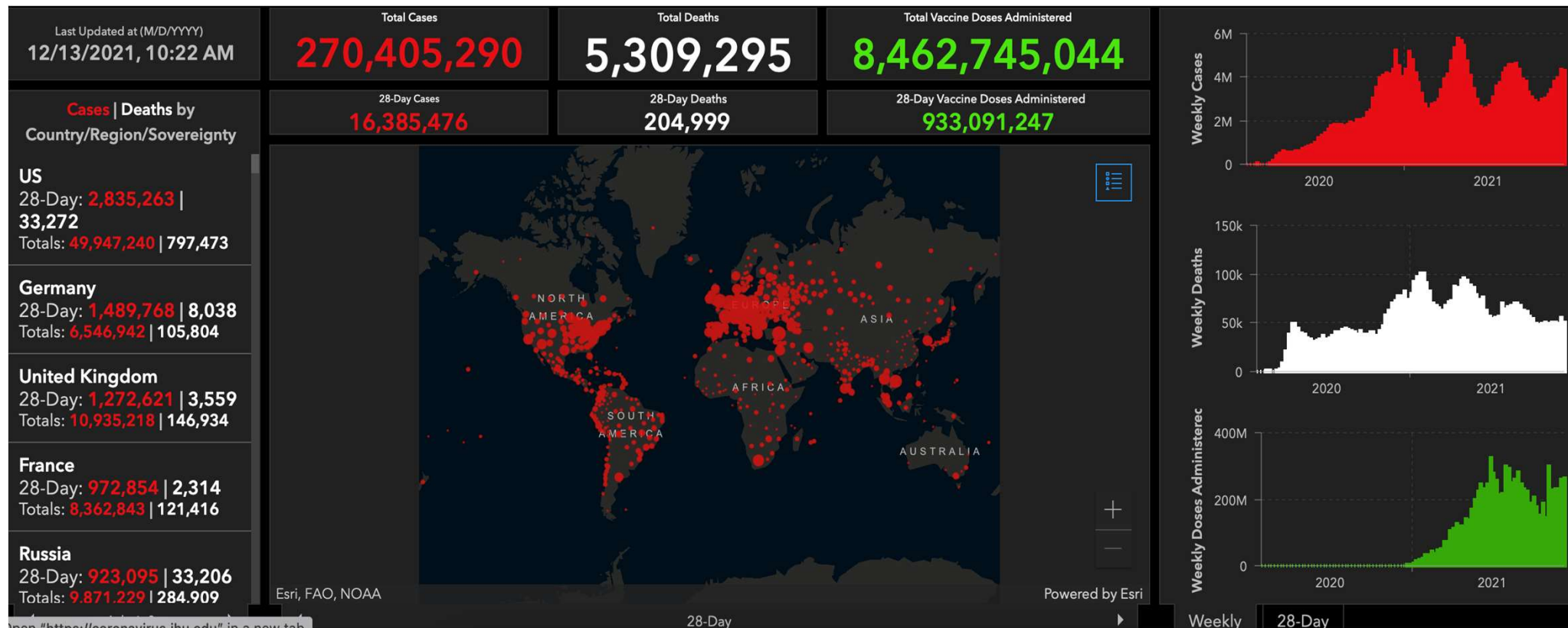
New updates

HonorHealth Updates

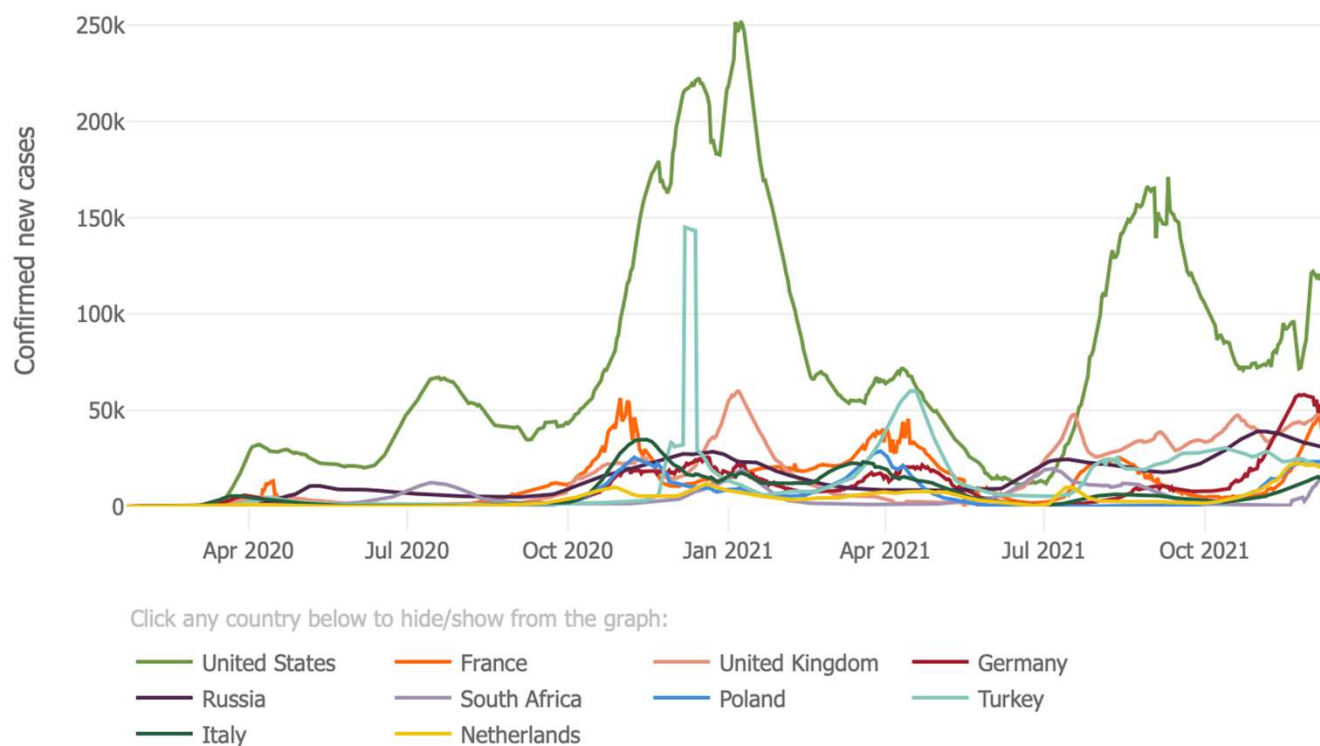
Guest speaker

Future Broadcast

Johns Hopkins Tracker

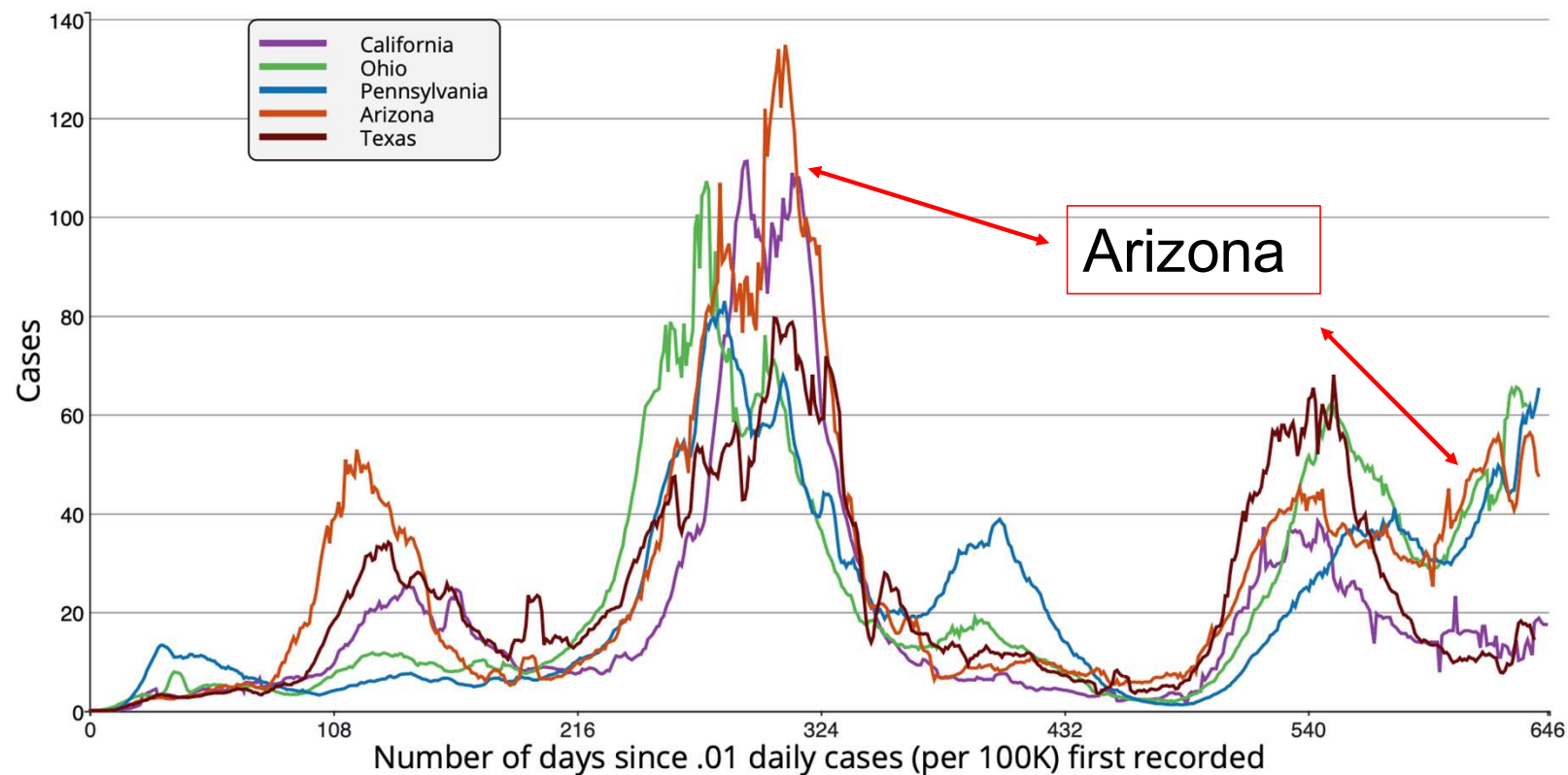


DAILY CONFIRMED NEW CASES WORLDWIDE



Globally, COVID-19 cases had a spike and appear to be increasing

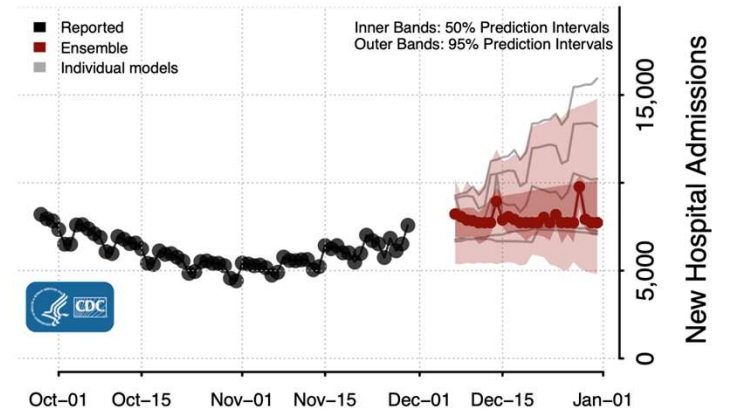
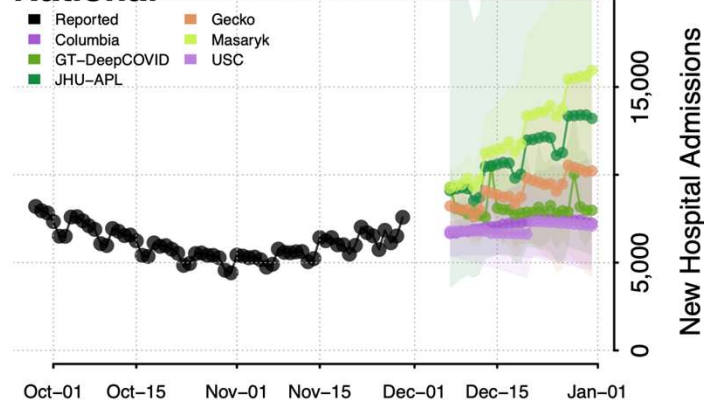
US New COVID-19 Cases Trends (per 100K)



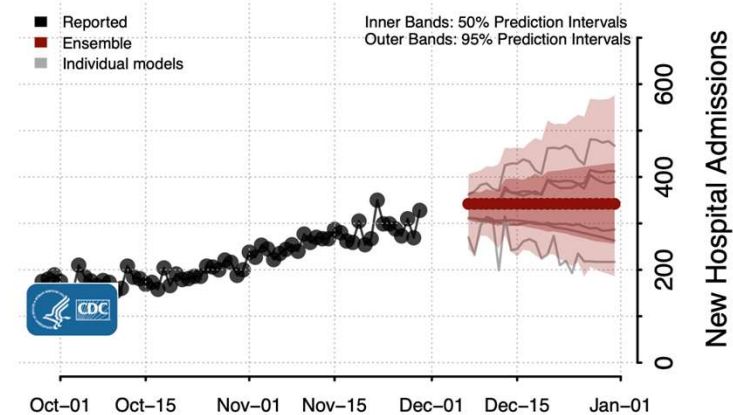
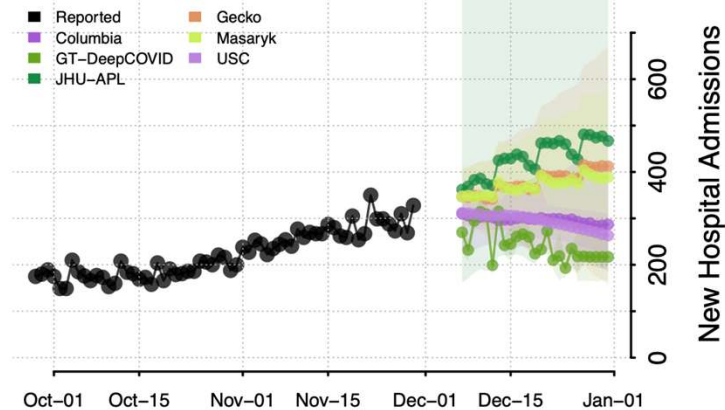
**AZ Case count
are again
starting to
climb**

COVID-19 Hospitalization Forecasts, US and AZ

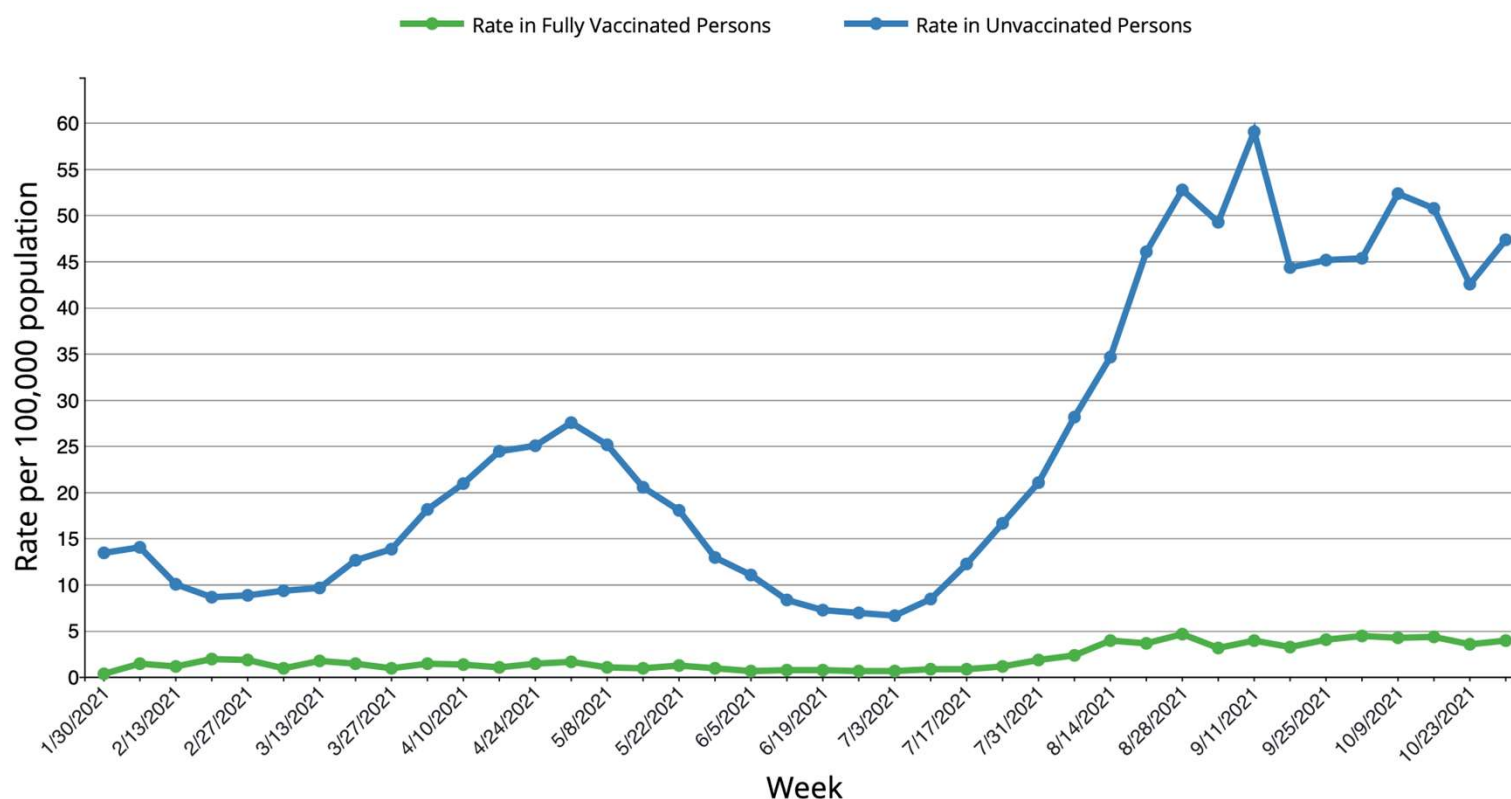
National**



Arizona



Rates of COVID-19-Associated Hospitalizations by Vaccine Status in Adults Aged 18–49 Years, January–October 2021 – US

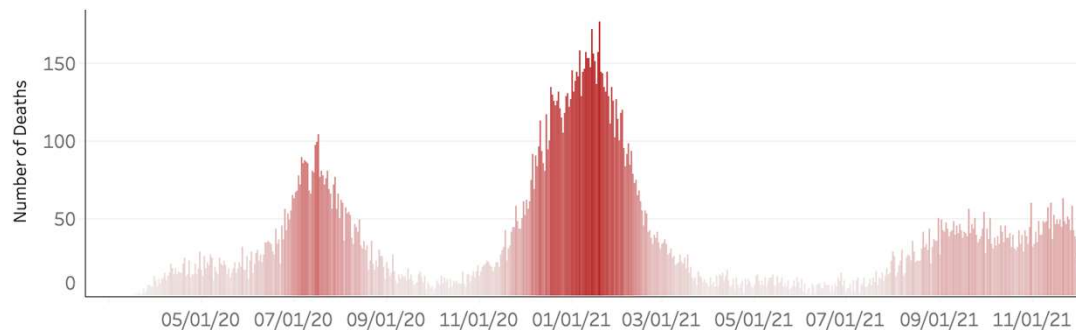


Majority of hospitalizations is among unvaccinated patients

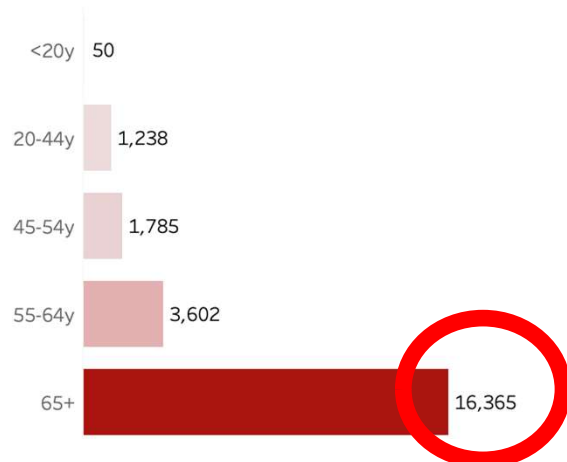
Arizona Case Counts

Number of Cases	Number of Deaths	Number of Vaccine Doses Administered †
1,318,580	23,040	9,375,175
Number of New Cases reported today*	Number of New Deaths reported today*	Number of New Vaccine Doses reported today* †
2,391	0	10,815

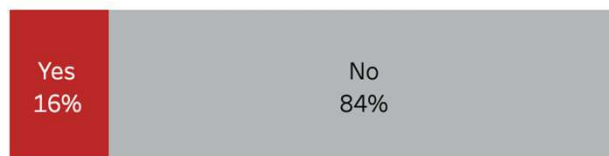
COVID Deaths over time



COVID-19 Deaths by Age Group

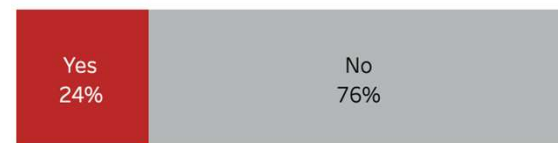


Chronic Medical Condition



High-risk

(65+ years OR 1+ chronic medical condition)



As of 12/13

Arizona Diagnostic Tests

As of 12/13/2021

Diagnostic tests completed for COVID-19	Diagnostic tests reported today in Arizona	Total % Positive COVID-19 Diagnostic Tests
15,055,255	25,519	9.9%

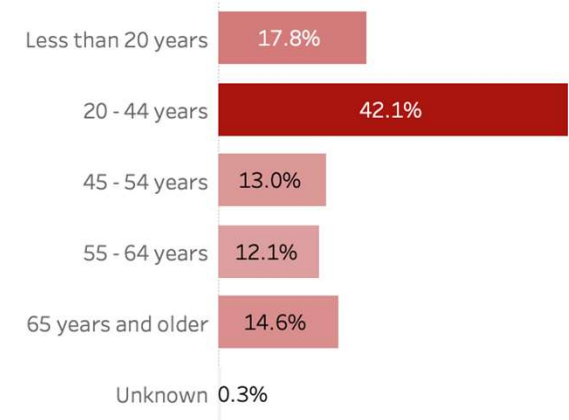
Total % Positive COVID-19 Diagnostic Tests: **9.9%**

■ COVID-19 tests completed and ■ Percent positive by week

Percent positive is the number of positive tests in Electronic Laboratory Reporting (ELR), out of all COVID-19 tests reported via ELR. Diagnostic tests include PCR and antigen testing.

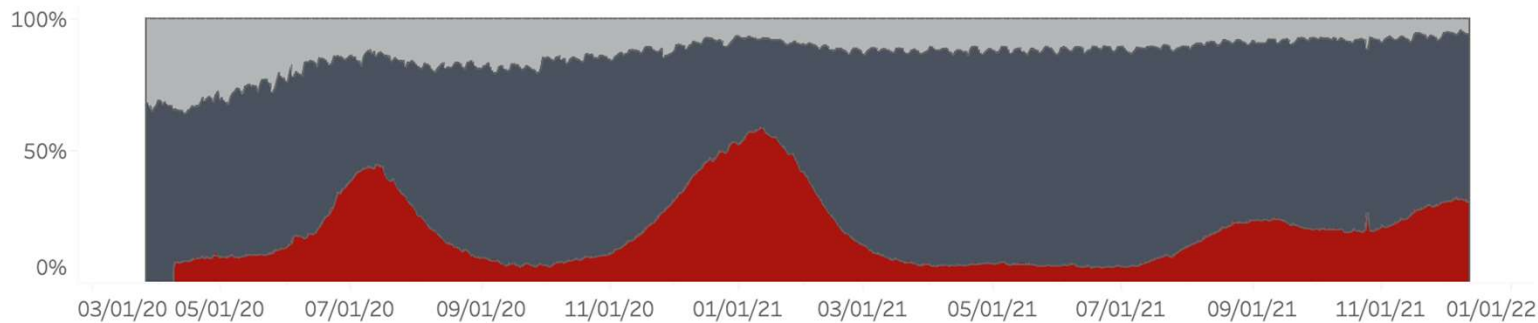


Diagnostic Testing by Age Group



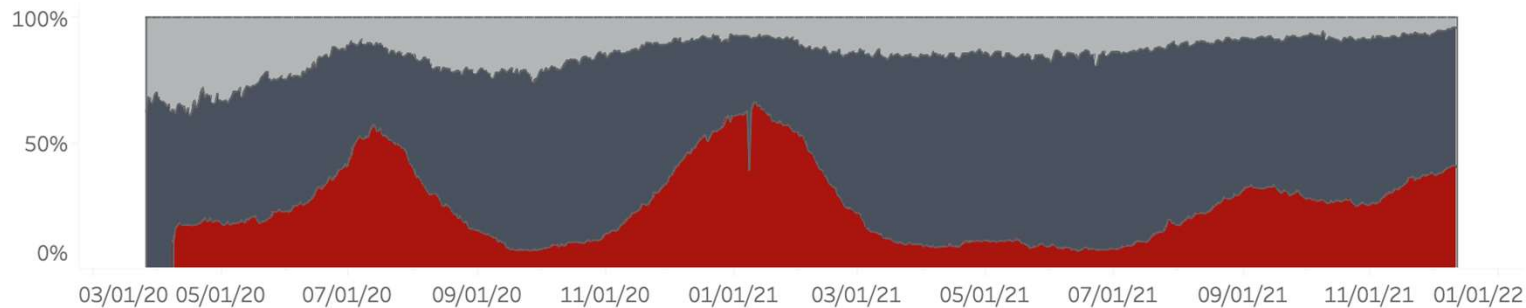
AZ Hospital Bed Usage & Availability

Number of **Inpatient** Beds ■ Available, ■ In Use by non-COVID Patients, and ■ In Use by COVID Patients (starting 4/10/20) at Arizona Hospitals



For 12/12, there is 6% of IN-pt bed availability (31% by COVID)

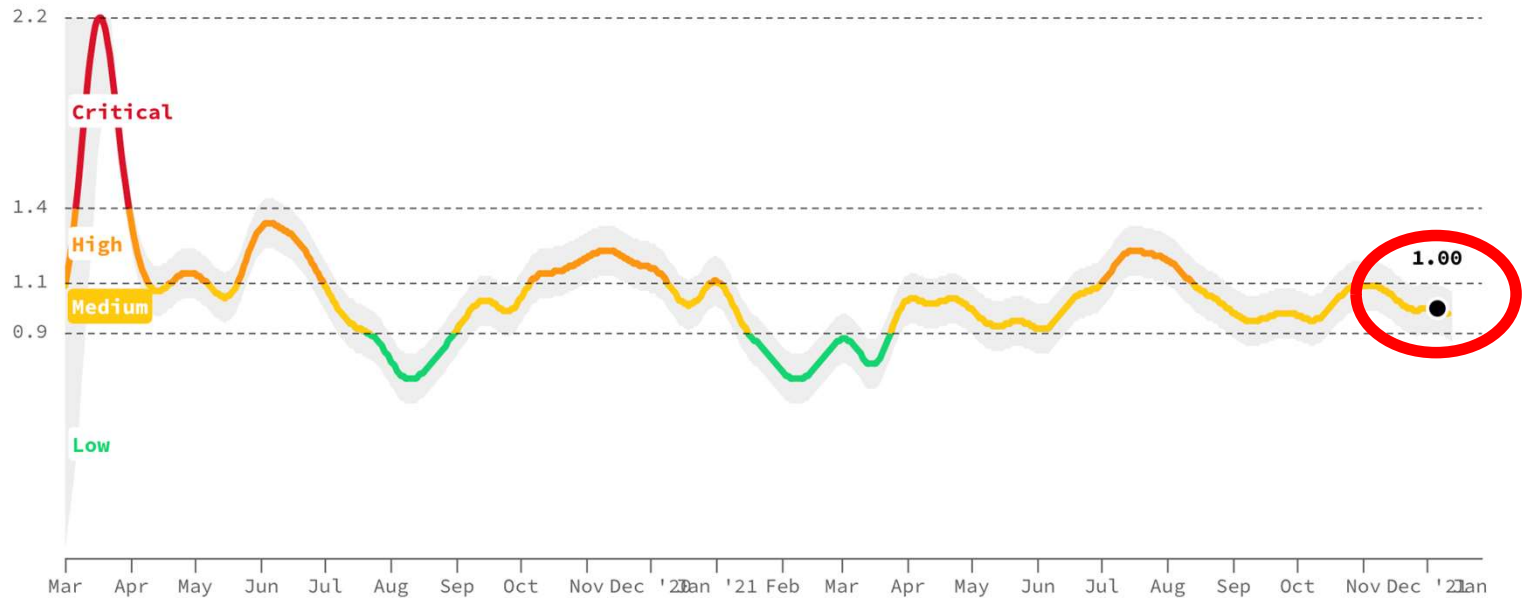
Number of **Intensive Care Unit (ICU)** Beds ■ Available, ■ In Use by non-COVID Patients, and ■ In Use by COVID Patients (starting 4/10/20) at Arizona Hospitals



For 12/12, there is 4% of ICU bed availability (40% by COVID)

AZ COVID Infection Rate

- On average, each person in AZ with COVID is infecting 1.00 other people
- As this number is around 1.0, it means that COVID continues to spread at about a constant rate



COVID-19 in the 1,225 Long-Term Care Facilities – AZ

*Long-term care facilities include nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and hospices. As of 7/17/20 this no longer includes other congregate settings.

Of 10,239 COVID-19 cases among residents, **2,887 (28%)** have been hospitalized and **2,627 (26%)** have died.



Of 6,903 COVID-19 cases among staff, 298 (4%) have been hospitalized and 21 (0%) have died.

As of 12/13/2021

Arizona Vaccine Demographics

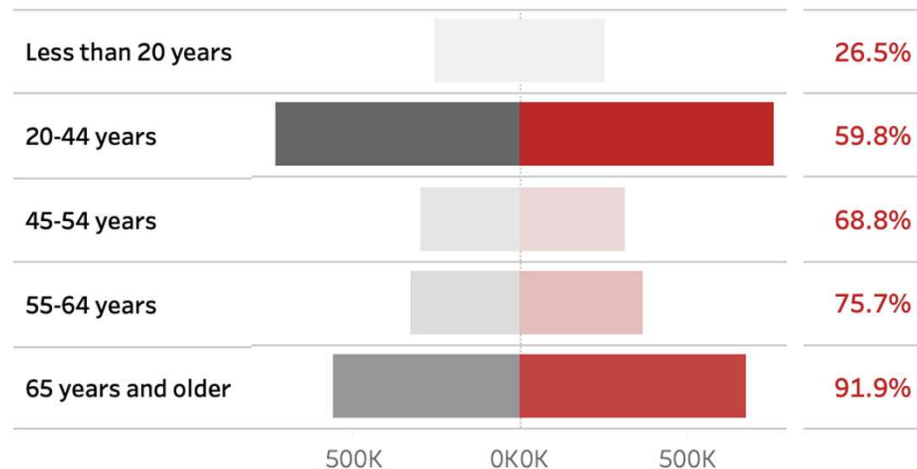
As of 12/13/2021

Doses in Arizona

Total number of COVID-19 vaccine doses administered: **9,375,175**

Total number of doses reported yesterday: **10,815**

People who have received at least one dose by age and gender (■ male ■ female) and vaccination rates by age group



People in Arizona

Total number of people who have received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine: **4,576,872**

Percent of people vaccinated: **63.7%**

Percent of *eligible* people vaccinated: **67.8%**

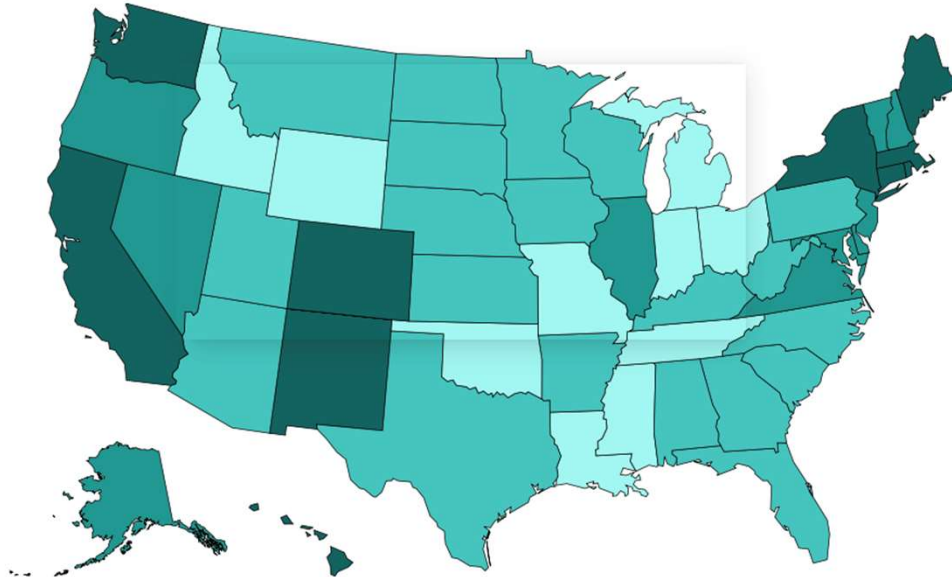
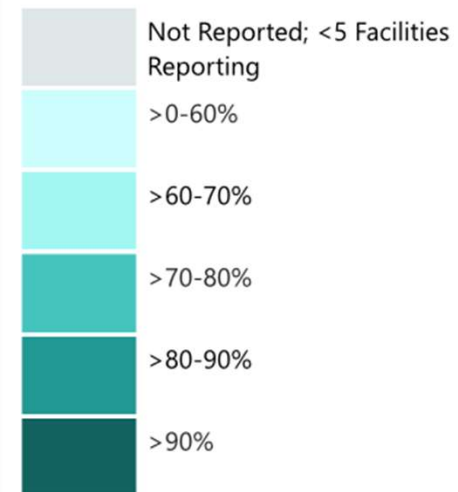
Number of people who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19: **3,911,128**

COVID-19 Staff in Nursing - AZ

As of 12/13/21

State	AZ
Category	>70-80%
% Vaccinated	73.6%
Facilities Reporting	100
Percent of Facilities Reporting	64%

% of Staff Receiving Vaccination



CMS COVID-19 Data Reporting for LTCF - US

By the numbers

86.8%

National Percent of Vaccinated Residents per Facility

75.9%

National Percent of Vaccinated Staff per Facility

734,953

Total Resident COVID-19 Confirmed Cases

140,794

Total Resident COVID-19 Deaths

686,520

Total Staff COVID-19 Confirmed Cases

2,162

Total Staff COVID-19 Deaths

IN THE NEWS

As of 12/15/2021

Biden-Harris Administration Vaccination Mandate

- “Ensuring patient safety and protection from COVID-19 has been the focus of our efforts in combatting the pandemic and the constantly evolving challenges we’re seeing,”
- “Today’s action addresses the risk of unvaccinated health care staff to patient safety and provides stability and uniformity across the nation’s health care system to strengthen the health of people and the providers who care for them.”

<https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/biden-harris-administration-issues-emergency-regulation-requiring-covid-19-vaccination-health-care>



Biden-Harris Administration Vaccination Mandate



- Focus of the Mandate:
 - prevalence of COVID-19 (particular the Delta variant)
 - increases the risk of unvaccinated staff contracting the virus
 - strain on the health care system
 - limits patient access to safe and essential care
 - requirements will apply to approximately 76,000 providers and cover over 17 million health care workers across the country
- Nursing home staff vaccination rates have increased by approximately nine percentage points
 - From 62 to 71 %

Biden-Harris Administration Vaccination Mandate

- Policy for all eligible staff to received the first dose of a two-dose COVID-19 vaccine or a one-dose COVID-19 vaccine prior to providing any care, treatment, or other services by December 6, 2021
- All eligible staff must be fully vaccinated (two doses of Pfizer or Moderna or one dose of Johnson & Johnson) by January 4, 2022.
- Exemptions based on medical conditions or religious beliefs, observances, or practices
 - Facilities must develop a similar process or plan for permitting exemptions in alignment with federal law



Biden-Harris Administration Vaccination Mandate

- At this time this applies to more than 2,500 hospitals, or 40 percent of all U.S. hospitals
- Vaccination requirements have not led to widespread resignations in the health care workforce and that the requirements are an essential tool to protect patients and health care personnel.
- Agency will not hesitate to use its full enforcement authority to protect the health and safety of patients.



Biden-Harris Administration Vaccination Mandate

- **Q: Does this requirement apply to staff who work offsite?** Yes
- **Q: Does this requirement apply to full time teleworkers?** No
- **Q: What about Assisted Living Facilities, Group Homes, or other similar settings?** No
- **Q: When does this take effect?** November 5, 2021
- **Q: Will my feedback be considered?** Stakeholders have 60 days, till January 4, 2022
- **Q. Will there be different requirements for existing staff versus new staff?** No
- **Q: Does the regulation include exemptions for staff that show they have COVID-19 antibodies?** No.

Biden-Harris Administration Vaccination Mandate

- **Q: Are staff who work in Assisted Living Facilities required to be vaccinated if they also work in a nursing home? Yes**
- **Q: Are emergency medical services (EMS) workers subject to the COVID-19 vaccination requirements? No**
- **Q: Does this requirement apply to pharmacies that go onsite to covered facilities? Yes**
- **Q: Does this requirement apply to visitors? No**
- **Q. Which vaccines count toward the requirement? Pfizer-BioNTech (Comirnaty vaccine), Moderna, and the Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) COVID-19 Vaccine**

Biden-Harris Administration Vaccination Mandate

- **Q: Does “fully vaccinated” include additional doses or booster shots?** For purposes of this regulation, CMS currently considers staff fully vaccinated if it has been two weeks or more since they completed a primary vaccination series for COVID-19
- **Q: Are exemptions allowed?** CMS requires facilities to allow for exemptions to staff with (as a reasonable accommodation for a disability or a sincerely held religious belief, observance, or practice and for medical reasons

Biden-Harris Administration Vaccination Mandate

- **Q: How do the penalties work/are providers immediately denied payment?** For nursing homes, home health agencies, and hospice -> civil monetary penalties, denial of payment, and even termination from the Medicare and Medicaid program
- **Q: What happens if State law prohibits vaccine mandates? How can CMS expect a facility to follow its requirements if its State prevents them from implementing this rule?** Under the Supremacy Clause of the U.S. Constitution, this regulation pre-empts any state law to the contrary (U.S. Const. art. VI § 2)

<https://www.cms.gov/files/document/cms-omnibus-covid-19-health-care-staff-vaccination-requirements-2021.pdf>

OSHA Emergency Temporary Vaccine Standards



- On June 21, 2021, the OSHA issued an emergency temporary standard to protect health care and health care support service workers from occupational exposure to COVID-19
- Employers must develop and implement a plan to identify and control COVID-19 hazards and reduce transmission of COVID-19 in their workplaces:
 - patient screening and management, standard and transmission-based precautions, PPE, aerosol-generating procedures, physical distancing, physical barriers, cleaning and disinfection, ventilation, health screening and medical management, training, anti-retaliation, recordkeeping, and reporting

OSHA Emergency Temporary Vaccine Standards

- In early November, second emergency temporary standard:
 - Requiring worker vaccinations for any employers with 100 or more employees or weekly testing for those who remain unvaccinated without an eligible exemption



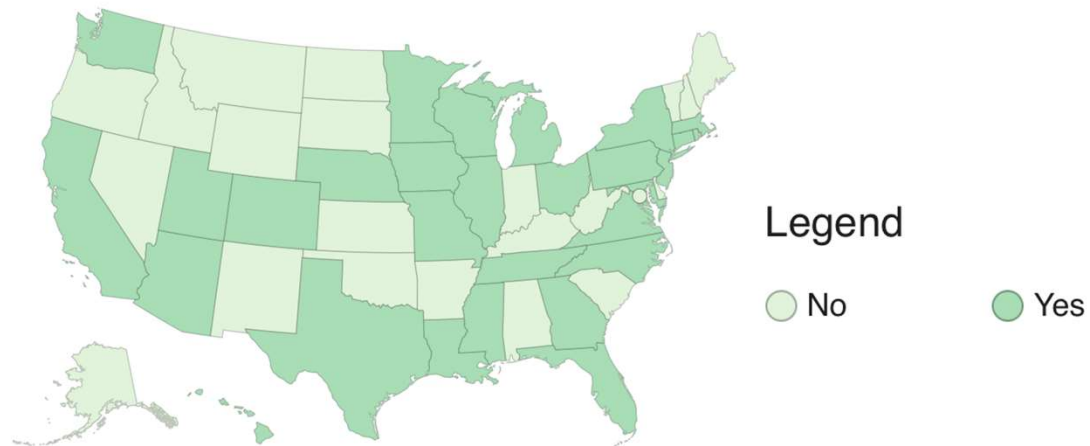
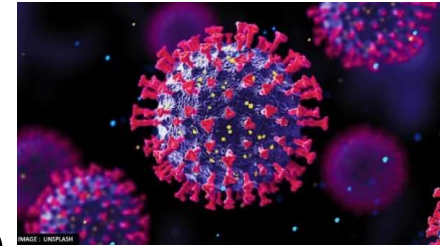
AMA Stands in Support of OSHA's Vax Mandate

- The American Medical Association (AMA) issued a letter backing the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) Covid-19 Vaccination and Testing Emergency Temporary Standard requiring mandatory Covid-19 vaccination for workers.
 - "we must take every action possible to reduce the impacts of this deadly virus and reduce the ongoing strains on our health care system. The fastest and most direct path out of this pandemic is through vaccination.

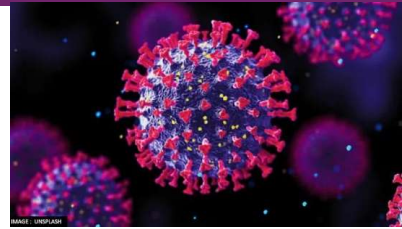
<https://www.ama-assn.org/press-center/press-releases/ama-urges-support-administration-s-vaccination-and-testing-ets>

Omicron Variant, CDC Updates

- On November 26, 2021, WHO named the B.1.1.529 Omicron and classified it as a Variant of Concern (VOC)
- December 1, 2021 the first confirmed U.S. case of Omicron was identified
- **Delta continues to be the main variant circulating in the United States.**
- Locations in US:



Omicron Variant, CDC Updates



- **How easily does Omicron spread?**

- Likely will spread more easily than the original SARS-CoV-2 virus
- Anyone with infection can spread the virus to others, even if they are vaccinated or don't have symptoms.

- **Will Omicron cause more severe illness?**

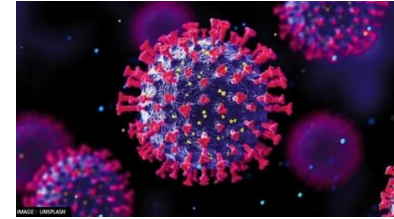
- More data is needed

- **Will vaccines work against Omicron?**

- Yes, against severe illness, hospitalizations, and deaths
- Effective at preventing severe illness, hospitalizations, and death.
 - o further emphasizes the importance of vaccination and boosters.
- Breakthrough infections fully vaccinated are likely to occur.

- ,

Omicron Variant, CDC Updates



- Mutation Characteristics of Spike Protein:
 - Characterized by at least 30 amino acid substitutions, three small deletions, and one small insertion
 - 15 of the 30 amino acid substitutions are in the receptor binding domain (RBD)
- Mutation Characteristics of Spike Protein:
 - Omicron variant may be more transmissible
 - N501Y increases binding to the ACE2 receptor
 - N679K is proximal to and adds to the polybasic nature of the furin cleavage site
 - P681H has been shown to enhance spike cleavage

Omicron Variant, CDC Updates



- **Will treatments work against Omicron?**

- More data is needed, based on the changed genetic make-up, some treatments are likely to remain effective while others may be less effective.

- **We have the Tools to Fight Omicron?**

- Vaccines remain the best public health measure to protect people
- Masks offer protection against all variants
- Tests can tell you if you are currently infected with COVID-19
 - **Isolate if you test positive**

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/science-briefs/scientific-brief-omicron-variant.html>

Vaccine Boosters Save Lives

Study: BNT162b2 Vaccine Booster and Mortality Due to Covid-19, NEJM, Dec 8th, 2021



- **METHODS**

- Data for all members of Clalit Health Services
- 50 years of age or older, received two doses of BNT162b2 at least 5 months earlier.
- Total of 843,208 participants met the eligibility criteria

- **RESULTS / CONSULTATION**

- Death due to Covid-19 occurred in 65 participants in the booster group and in 137 participants in the nonbooster group ($P < 0.001$)
- Patients with a booster had 90% lower mortality due to Covid-19

Vaccine Boosters Save Lives

Study: Protection against Covid-19 by BNT162b2 booster across age groups, Dec 8th, 2021



- **METHODS:**

- Data for the period from July 30 to October 10, 2021
- Israel Ministry of Health with 4,696,865 persons (16 yrs or older)
- Received two doses of BNT162b2 at least 5 months earlier

- **Primary Outcome:**

- Confirmed COVID-19, severe illness, and death among those who had received a booster dose at least 12 days earlier (booster group)

- **Secondary analysis:**

- Rates in group who had received a booster 3 to 7 days earlier (early postbooster group)

Vaccine Boosters Save Lives



- **RESULTS / CONCLUSION:**

- Infection rate was lower by factor of 10 in the booster
- Infection rate was lower by factor of 4.9 to 10.8 in early postbooster group
- Severe illness rates in the primary and secondary analyses were lower in the booster group by a factor of 17.9 and 6.5,
 - among 60 years of age or older and by a factor of 21.7
 - among those 40 to 59 years of age factor of 3.7
- Among those 60 years of age or older, mortality was lower by a factor of 14.7 in the primary analysis and 4.9 in the secondary analysis.
 - Adjusted rate difference in the primary and secondary analyses was 2.1 and 0.8 deaths per 100,000 person-days.

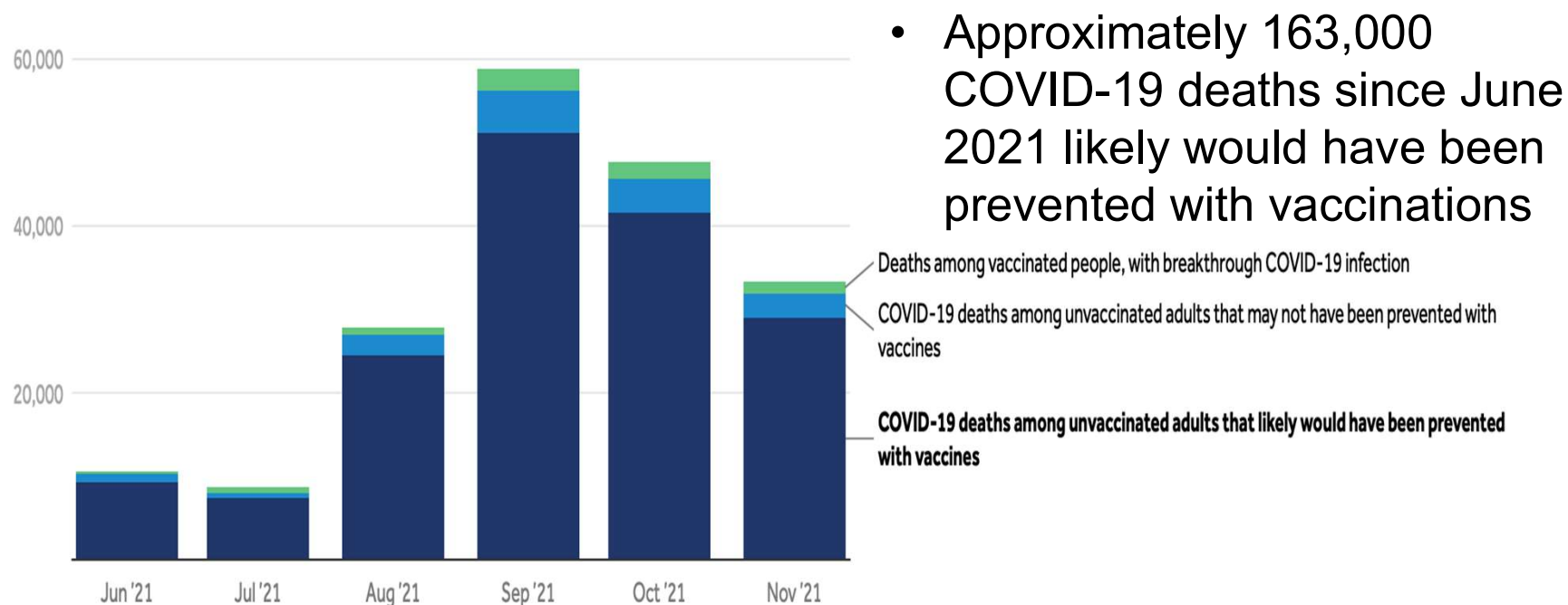
COVID-19 Mortality in November 2021

	Disease	Daily Death Average ▼
1	Heart disease	2,088
2	Cancer	1,640
3	COVID-19	1,110
4	Accidents	553
5	Stroke	445
6	Chronic lower respiratory disease	378
7	Alzheimer disease	328
8	Diabetes	282
9	Other diseases of the respiratory system	183
10	Renal failure	145
11	Suicide	126
12	Influenza and pneumonia	110

COVID-19 was the 3rd leading cause of death in the U.S. in November 2021

<https://www.healthsystemtracker.org/brief/covid19-and-other-leading-causes-of-death-in-the-us/>

COVID-19 Deaths Among Unvaccinated Adults



Note: Deaths among vaccinated people, with breakthrough COVID-19 infection, are confirmed COVID-19 related deaths based on CDC data from June-September and estimated for October-November.

COVID-19 Denied Jobless Benefits

- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Luther Manor has required its employees to wear personal protective equipment at work since March 2020
- Stephanie Lindsey, a full-time cook, who quit rather than wear proper PPE
- The judge ruled that Lindsey wasn't entitled to receive any unemployment benefits since she quit over not wanting to wear PPE.

Whitehouse Take on Omicron

- Biden outlined the main components of the plan:
 - Boosters for all adults.
 - Vaccinations to protect our kids and keep our schools open.
 - Expanding free at-home testing for Americans.
 - Stronger public health protocols for safe international travel.
 - Protections in workplaces to keep our economy open.
 - Rapid response teams to help battle rising cases.
 - Supplying treatment pills to help prevent hospitalizations and death.
 - Continued commitment to global vaccination efforts.
 - Steps to ensure we are prepared for all scenarios.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/12/02/fact-sheet-president-biden-announces-new-actions-to-protect-americans-against-the-delta-and-omicron-variants-as-we-battle-covid-19-this-winter/>

Pfizer's Antiviral Pill

- Phase II/III study of Pfizer's antiviral treatment for Covid-19
 - **Paxlovid**, a combination treatment consisting of the novel drug nirmatrelvir and ritonavir (established HIV/AIDS drug)
- Reducing Covid-related deaths and hospitalizations
 - Possibly even among patients infected with the Omicron variant
- STUDY/ RESULTS:
 - 2,246-patient EPIC-HR trial:
 - "significantly reduced the risk of hospitalization or death for any cause by 89% compared to placebo in non-hospitalized, high-risk adult patients with Covid-19 treated within three days of symptom onset"

Pfizer's Antiviral Pill

- STUDY/ RESULTS:


- "In a secondary endpoint, paxlovid reduced the risk of hospitalization or death for any cause by 88% compared to placebo in patients treated within five days of symptom onset, an increase from the 85% observed in the interim analysis."
- Adverse events were similar between the two study arms:
 - 23% for Paxlovid and 24% for placebo (most events were mild)
 - Paxlovid arm were also less likely to experience a serious adverse event (1.6% versus 6.6%) or discontinue treatment due to adverse events (2.1% versus 4.2%).

<https://www.pfizer.com/news/press-release/press-release-detail/pfizer-announces-additional-phase-23-study-results>

COVID Vaccinations Religious Exemption

- Leading authorities do not feel “Long-term care providers shouldn’t read too much into updated COVID-19 vaccination guidance”
 - “federal workers have been allowed them”
- Still awaiting final CMS rule regarding mandatory vaccination that will influence all healthcare providers and Medicare contracted acute / post-acute care facilities
 - “CMS anticipates issuing this combined regulation in mid- to late-October”





PLEASE
GET
VACCINATED

HONORHEALTH UPDATES

As of 12/15/2021

HonorHealth Updates

- No updates at this time.
- Wishing you all a Happy Holiday Season!



GUEST SPEAKERS

As of 12/15/2021

Assisted Home Health & Hospice

Victoria Furst

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- Assisted Home Health
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Questions – Type in Q & A Section

Post-Acute Website: <https://innovationcarepartners.com/postacutecommunications>



- If you have further questions or issues you would like to discuss
- Please contact:
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