



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

COVID-19 Press Briefing

March 3, 2021



Daily Change in COVID-19 Cases, US

January 22, 2020 – March 1, 2021

TOTAL Cases Reported Since 1/22/20

28,456,860

NEW Cases Reported to CDC on 3/1/21

50,935

Change in 7-Day Case Average

+3.5%

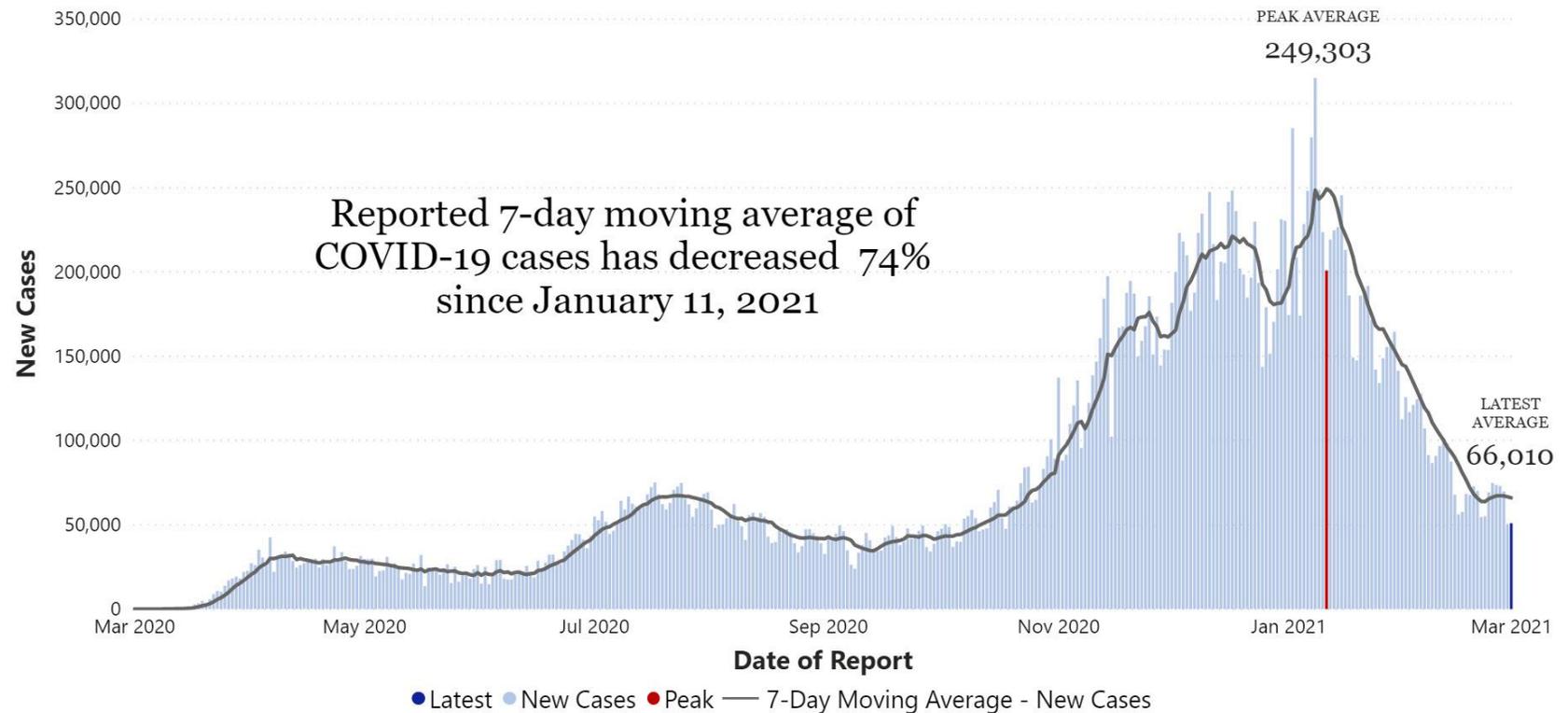
Current 7-Day Case Average (2/23/21 - 3/1/21)

66,010

Prior 7-Day Case Average (2/16/21 - 2/22/21)

63,760

Peaks in New Cases and Highest 7-Day Moving Average		
	Highest Daily Number of New Cases	Highest 7-Day Moving Average
Current	315,179 (1/8/21)	249,303 (1/11/21)
2nd Peak	75,119 (7/17/20)	67,316 (7/23/20)
1st Peak	42,550 (4/6/20)	31,936 (4/12/20)



New Admissions of Patients with Confirmed COVID-19

August 1, 2020 – February 28, 2021

Patients Currently Hospitalized with COVID on 2/28/21

41,413

New Admissions on 2/28/21

4,606

Peak in New Admissions (1/5/21)

18,008

Change in 7-Day Average of New Admissions

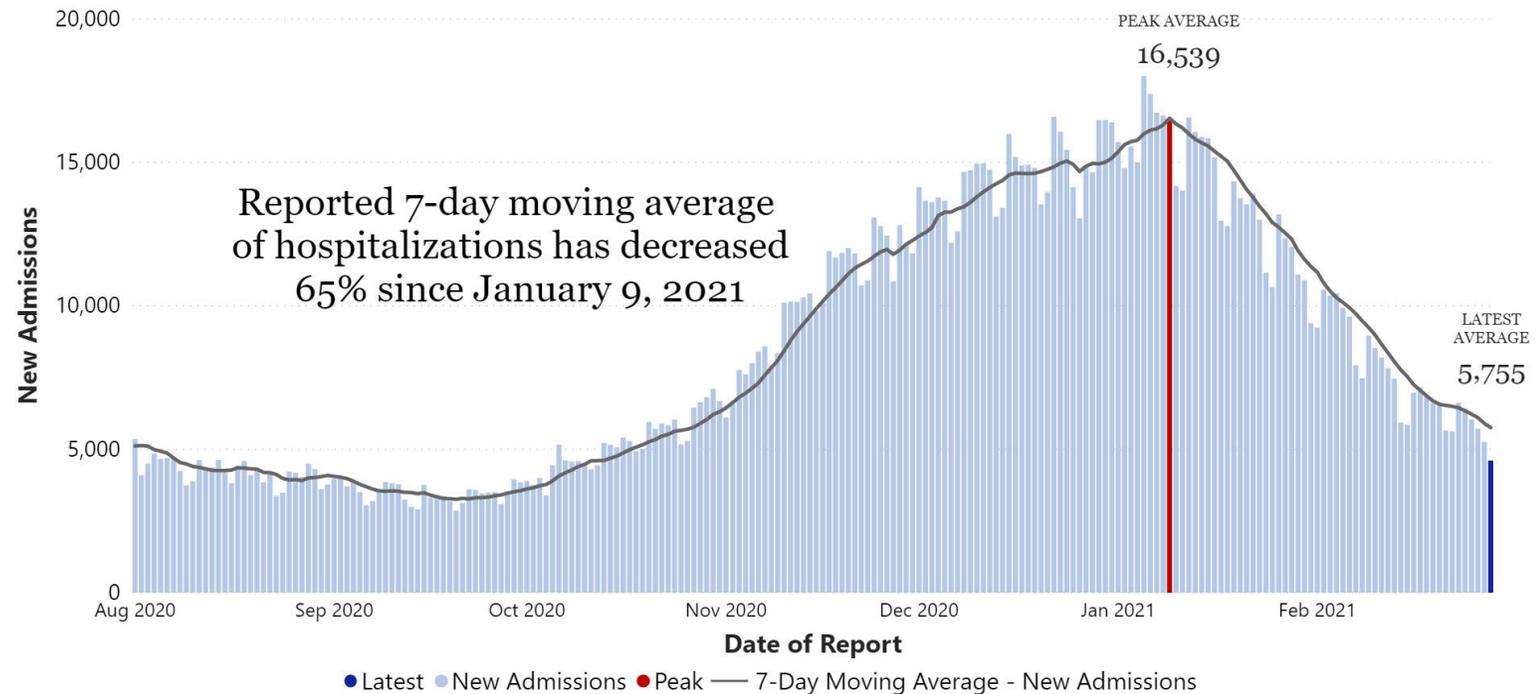
-11.9%

Current 7-Day Average of New Admissions (2/22/21 - 2/28/21)

5,755

Prior 7-Day Average of New Admissions (2/15/21 - 2/21/21)

6,529



Daily Change in COVID-19 Deaths, United States

January 22, 2020 – March 1, 2021

TOTAL Deaths Reported Since 1/22/2020

513,122

NEW Deaths Reported to CDC on 3/1/21

1,283

Change in 7-Day Death Average

+2.2%

Current 7-Day Death Average (2/23/21 - 3/1/21)

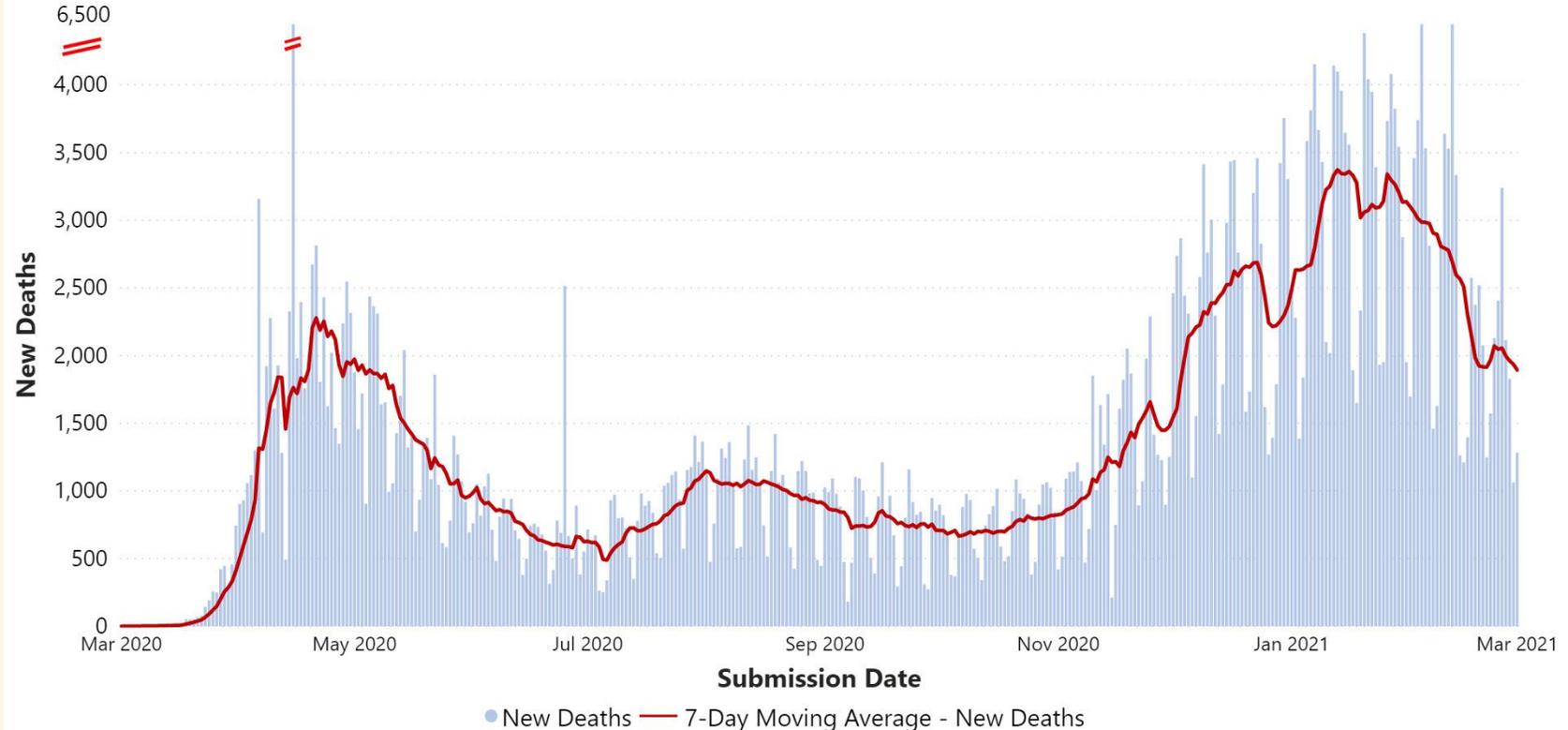
2,009

Prior 7-Day Death Average (2/16/21 - 2/22/21)

1,967

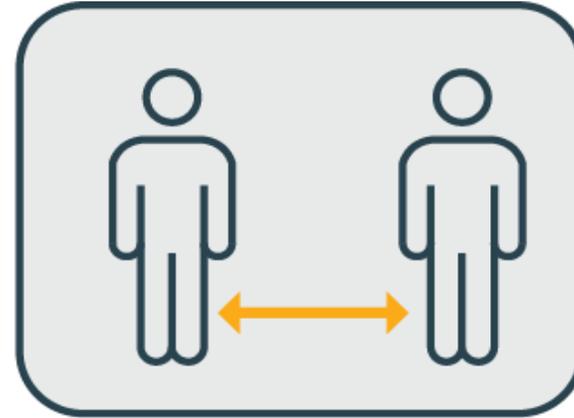
Forecasted Total Deaths by 3/20/21

526,000-548,000

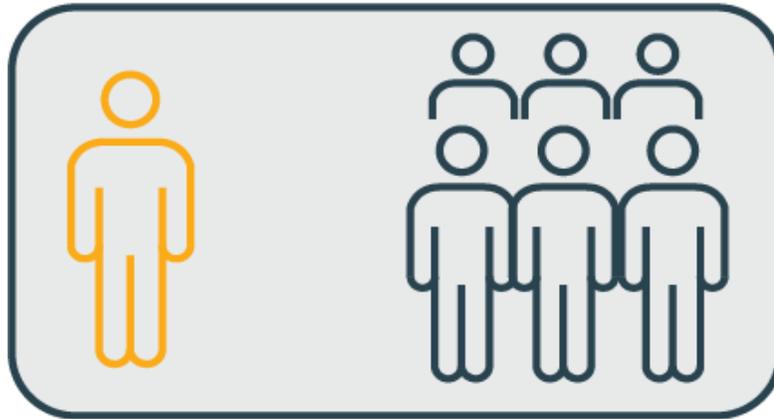




WEAR A MASK



STAY 6 FEET APART



AVOID CROWDS



AVOID TRAVEL

Selected SARS-CoV-2 Variants

Lineage

Characteristics

B.1.1.7 (originally **United Kingdom**)

- Increased transmissibility
 - Possibly increased disease severity
 - Covered well by currently authorized vaccines
-

B.1.351 (originally **South Africa**)

- Possibly increased transmissibility
 - **Moderately to severely** reduced vaccine efficacy for some vaccines
 - *In vitro* studies suggest neutralization by certain monoclonal antibodies may be **severely** reduced
-

P.1 (originally **Brazil**)

- Preliminary reports of increased transmissibility
 - Antibodies elicited by previous infection or vaccine may be less effective
-

B.1.427/B.1.429 (originally **California**)

- Preliminary reports of increased transmissibility and disease severity
-

B.1.526 (originally **New York**)

- Variable loss of neutralizing activity by some monoclonal and vaccine-induced antibodies
-

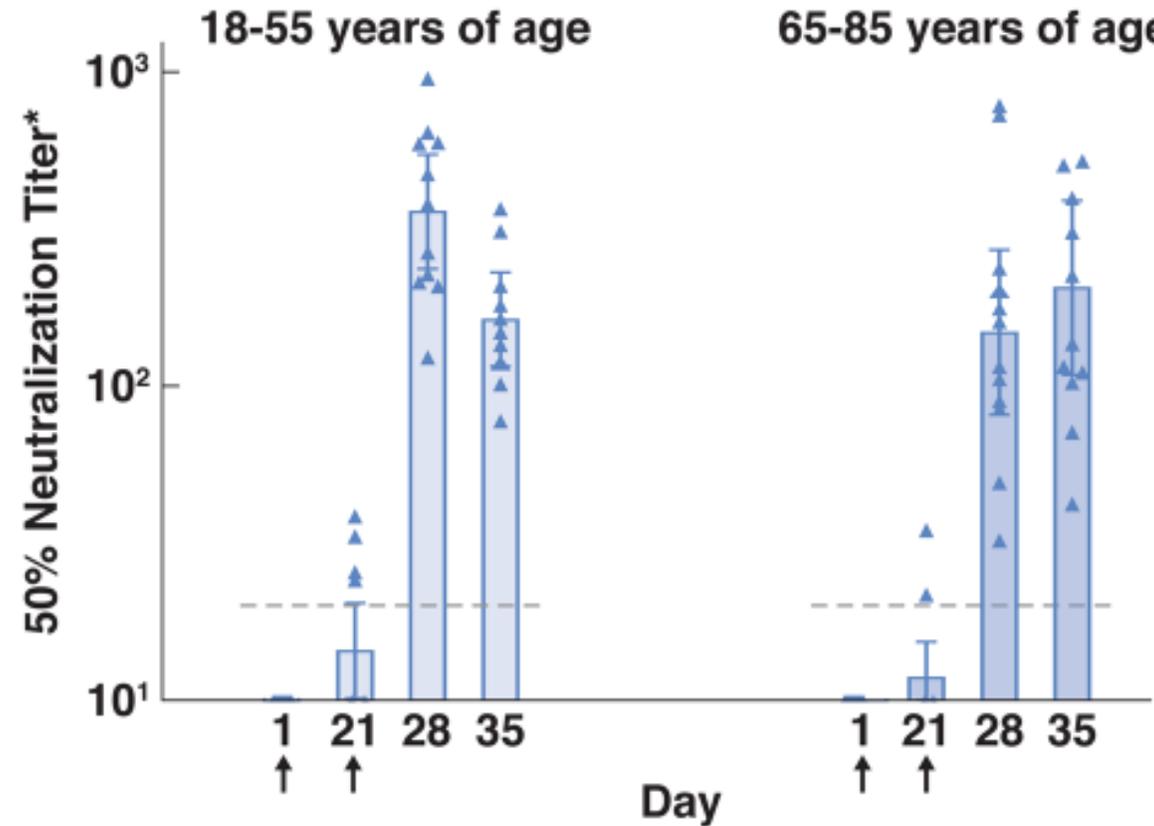


Selected Vaccination Strategies to Address SARS-CoV-2 Variants

- **Ramp up vaccination with 1st and 2nd doses of current EUA vaccines**
- **Booster doses**
- **Variant-specific vaccines**
- **Pan-CoV “universal” vaccines**



Pfizer/Biontech COVID-19 Vaccine: Neutralizing Antibody Titters After First and Second Dose



*50% SARS-CoV-2-neutralizing geometric mean titers at 30 μ g dose

Source: EW Walsh et al. *NEJM* 383:2439, 2020.





bioRxiv

THE PREPRINT SERVER FOR BIOLOGY

January 26, 2021

Increased Resistance of SARS-CoV-2 Variants B.1.351 and B.1.1.7 to Antibody Neutralization

P Wang, DD Ho et al.



Pfizer-Biontech Booster Study

- **3rd dose (30 μ g) of Pfizer-Biontech COVID-19 vaccine, BNT162b2, will be given to participants in phase 1 trial to evaluate safety, tolerability and immunogenicity**
- **Study will evaluate up to 144 participants in two age cohorts, 18-55 and 65-85 years of age**



**Moderna To Begin Clinical
Trials of COVID Booster Shots
for Variant From South Africa,
Sends to NIH for Study**

Variant Vaccine Strategy – Upcoming NIAID Clinical Trial in Collaboration with Moderna

- Moderna has developed a variant-specific vaccine candidate **mRNA-1273.351** against the variant known as **B.1.351** first identified in the Republic of South Africa
- NIAID and Moderna will conduct a phase 1 study of the safety and immunogenicity of **mRNA-1273.351** in naïve and previously vaccinated adults
- Planned study launch: mid-March 2021



The “Holy Grail” – A Universal Coronavirus Vaccine



Universal Coronavirus Vaccines: The Time To Start Is Now

LT Giurgea, A Han and MJ Memoli



A Universal Coronavirus Vaccine

WC Koff and SF Berkley



Variant-Proof Vaccines – Invest Now for the Next Pandemic

DR Burton and EJ Topol



Question for [@WHCOVIDResponse](#):

What is considered “fully vaccinated” after receiving the Johnson & Johnson vaccine?

We know with the other two it’s considered “second dose plus two weeks.”

When does protection kick in with J & J?

11:29 AM · Mar 1, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone





THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

WH.GOV