



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

# COVID-19 Press Briefing

December 10, 2021



# Daily Change in COVID-19 Cases, US

January 22, 2020 – December 08, 2021

TOTAL Cases Reported Since 1/22/20

49,458,520

NEW Cases Reported to CDC on 12/8/21

125,961

Change in 7-Day Case Average

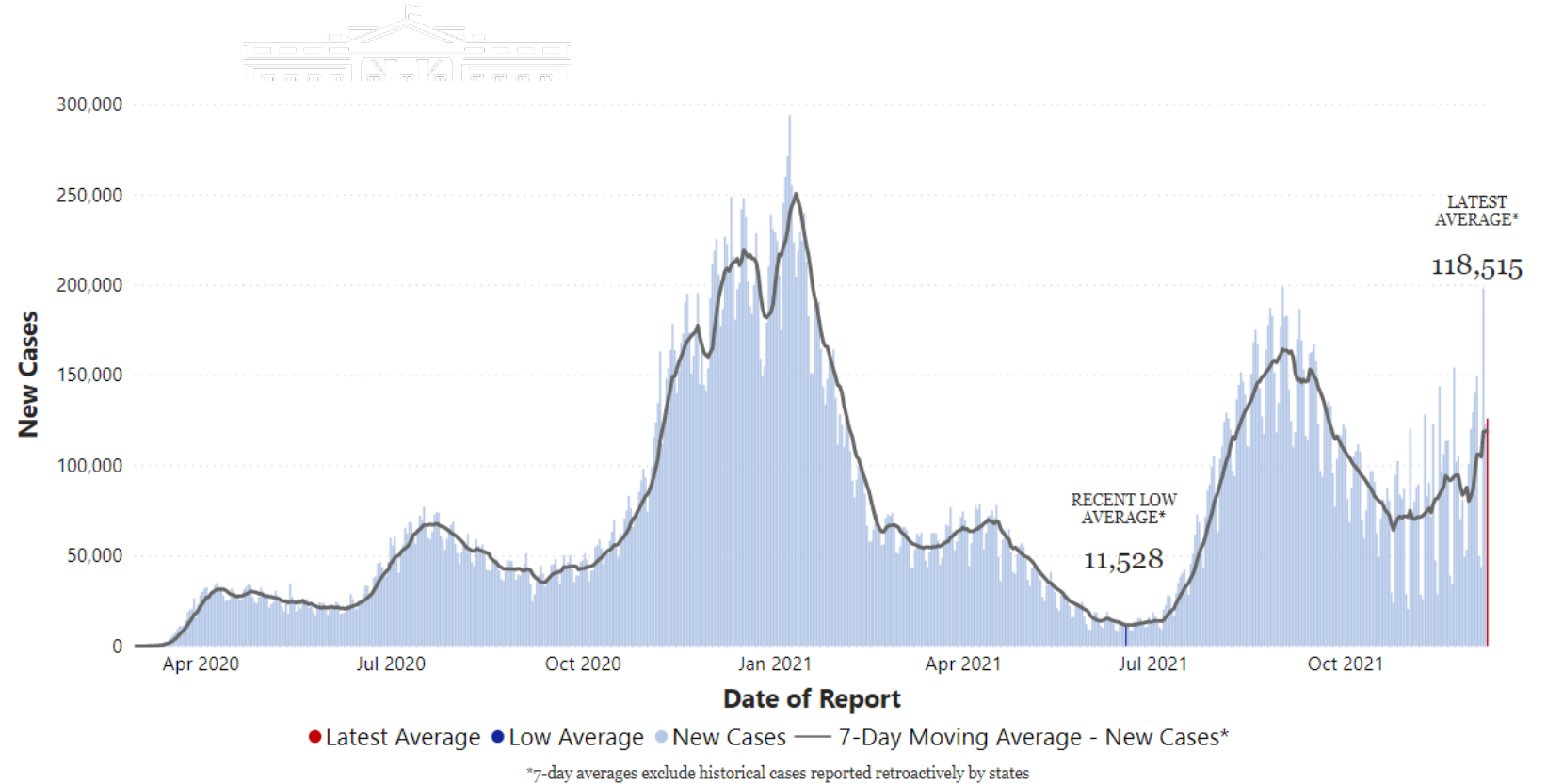
+37.3%

Current 7-Day Case Average (12/2/21 - 12/8/21)

118,515

Prior 7-Day Case Average (11/25/21 - 12/1/21)

86,315



# New Admissions of Patients with Confirmed COVID-19, US

August 1, 2020 – December 07, 2021

Patients Currently Hospitalized with COVID on 12/7/21

56,598

New Admissions on 12/7/21

8,425

Peak in New Admissions (1/5/21)

17,949

Change in 7-Day Average of New Admissions

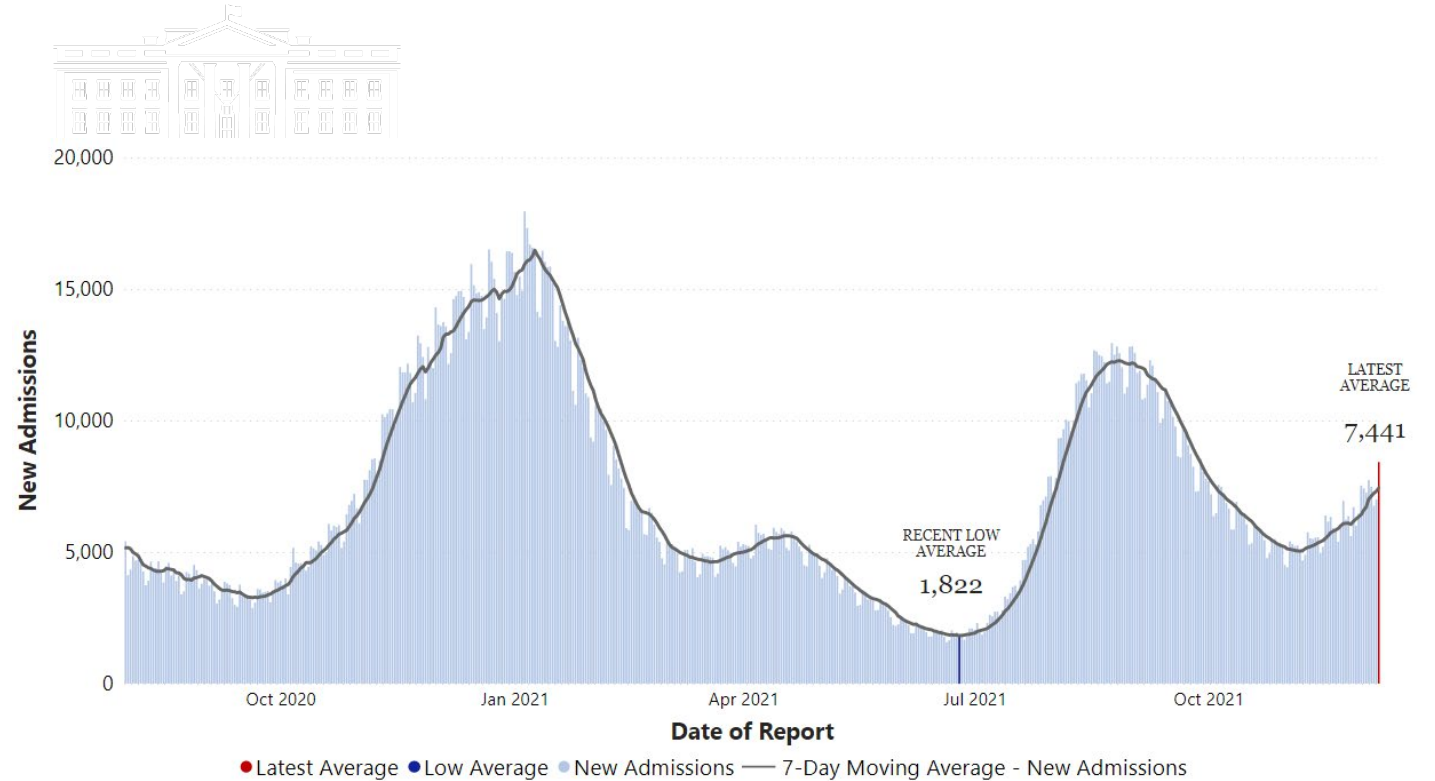
+15.9%

Current 7-Day Average of New Admissions (12/1/21 - 12/7/21)

7,441

Prior 7-Day Average of New Admissions (11/24/21 - 11/30/21)

6,419



# Daily Change in COVID-19 Deaths, US

January 22, 2020 – December 08, 2021

TOTAL Deaths Reported Since 1/22/2020

790,766

NEW Deaths Reported to CDC on 12/8/21

1,335

Change in 7-Day Death Average

+27.8%

Current 7-Day Death Average (12/2/21 - 12/8/21)

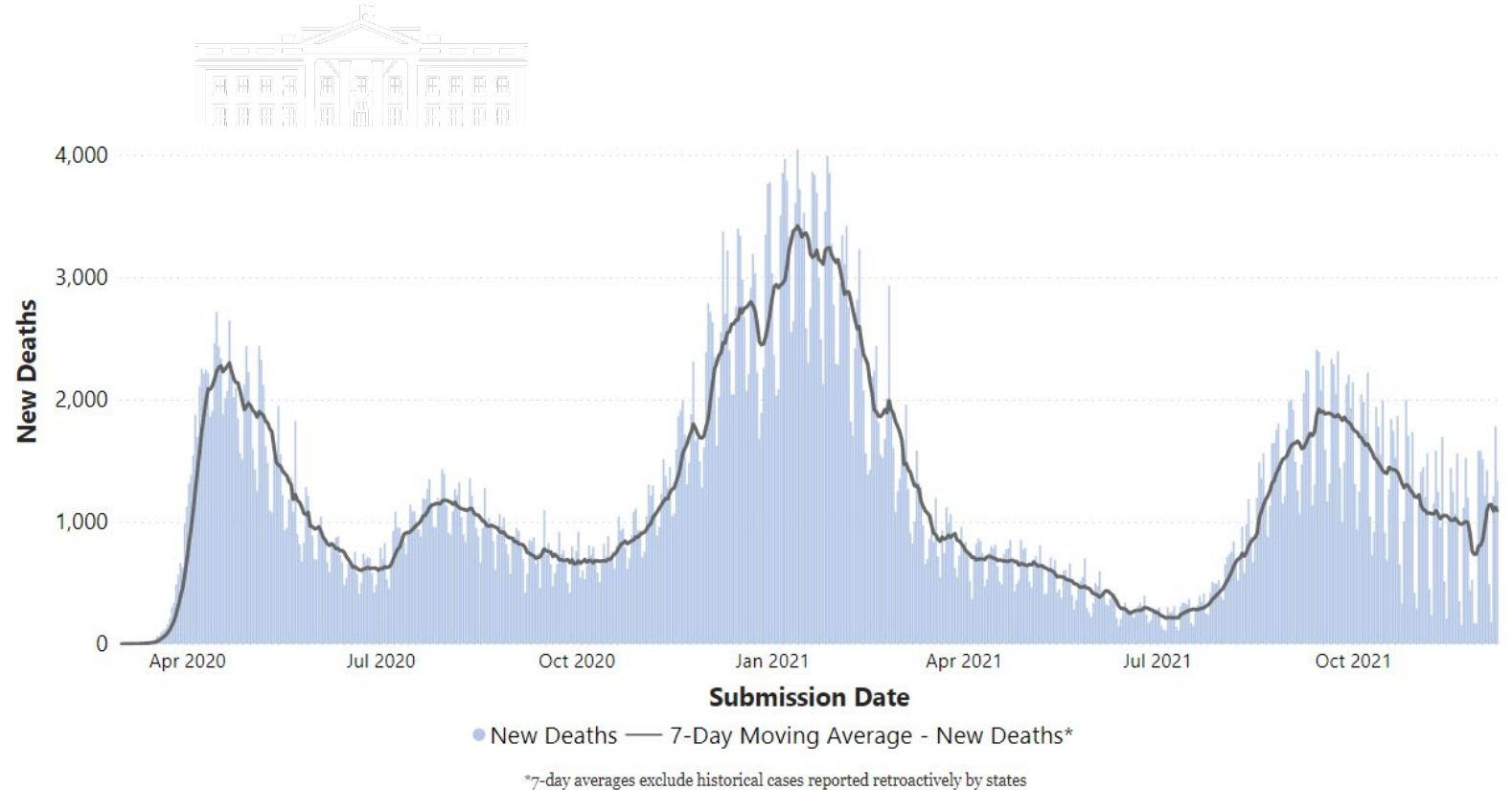
1,092

Prior 7-Day Death Average (11/25/21 - 12/1/21)

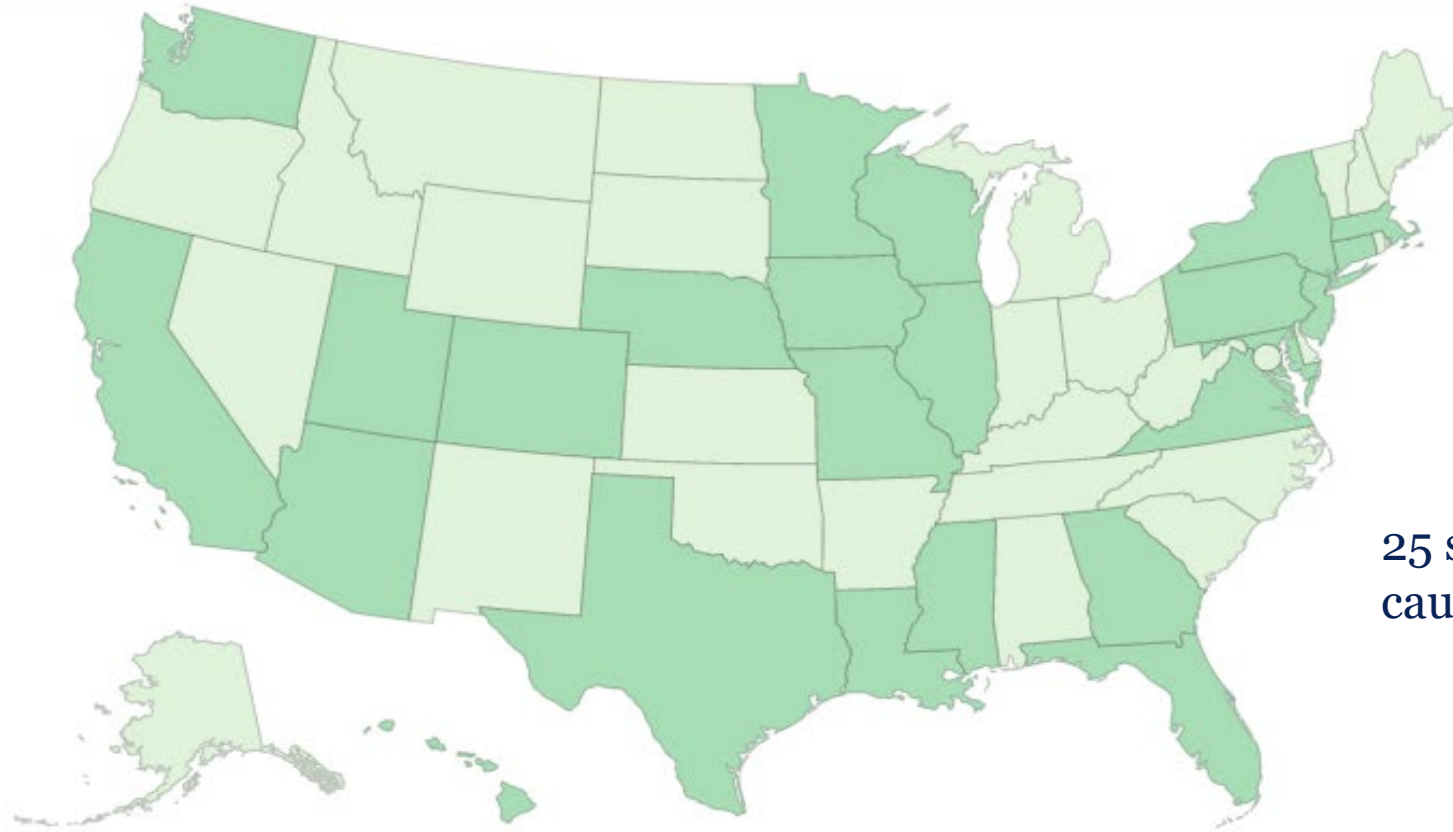
854

Forecasted Total Deaths by 01/01/22

821,000 to 837,000



# US COVID-19 Cases Caused by the Omicron Variant



**Legend**

- Light Green: No
- Green: Yes

25 states have reported cases caused by the Omicron variant.

Territories

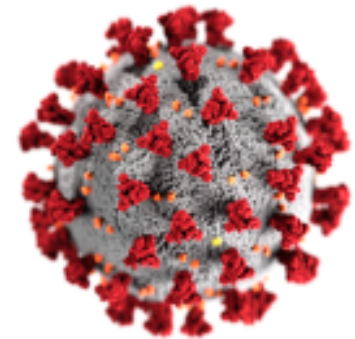
- AS
- GU
- PR
- VI
- MP
- FM
- PW
- MH



\*States with reported confirmed cases as of 1:00pm December 10, 2021



- **Early data are emerging from different groups on the ability of vaccine-induced antibodies to neutralize the Omicron variant**



# Laboratory Data on Omicron Neutralization are Rapidly Emerging

*medRxiv*

December 9, 2021

**SARS-CoV-2 Omicron Has Extensive but Incomplete Escape of Pfizer BNT162b2 Elicited Neutralization and Requires ACE2 for Infection**

S Cele, A Sigal et al.

*Research Square/Nature Portfolio*

December 8, 2021

**B.1.1.529 Escapes the Majority of SARS-CoV-2 Neutralizing Antibodies of Diverse Epitopes**

X Xie, J Ronghua et al.

*Business Wire*

December 8, 2021

**Pfizer and BioNTech Provide Update on Omicron Variant**

*medRxiv*

December 8, 2021

**Reduced Neutralization of SARS-CoV-2 Omicron Variant by Vaccine Sera and Monoclonal Antibodies**

A Wilhelm, S Ciesek et al.

*Preprint*

December 7, 2021

**Quantification of the Neutralization Resistance of the Omicron Variant of Concern**

DJ Sheward, B Murrell et al.



# **Pfizer/BioNTech Preliminary Data Released Dec. 8, 2021**

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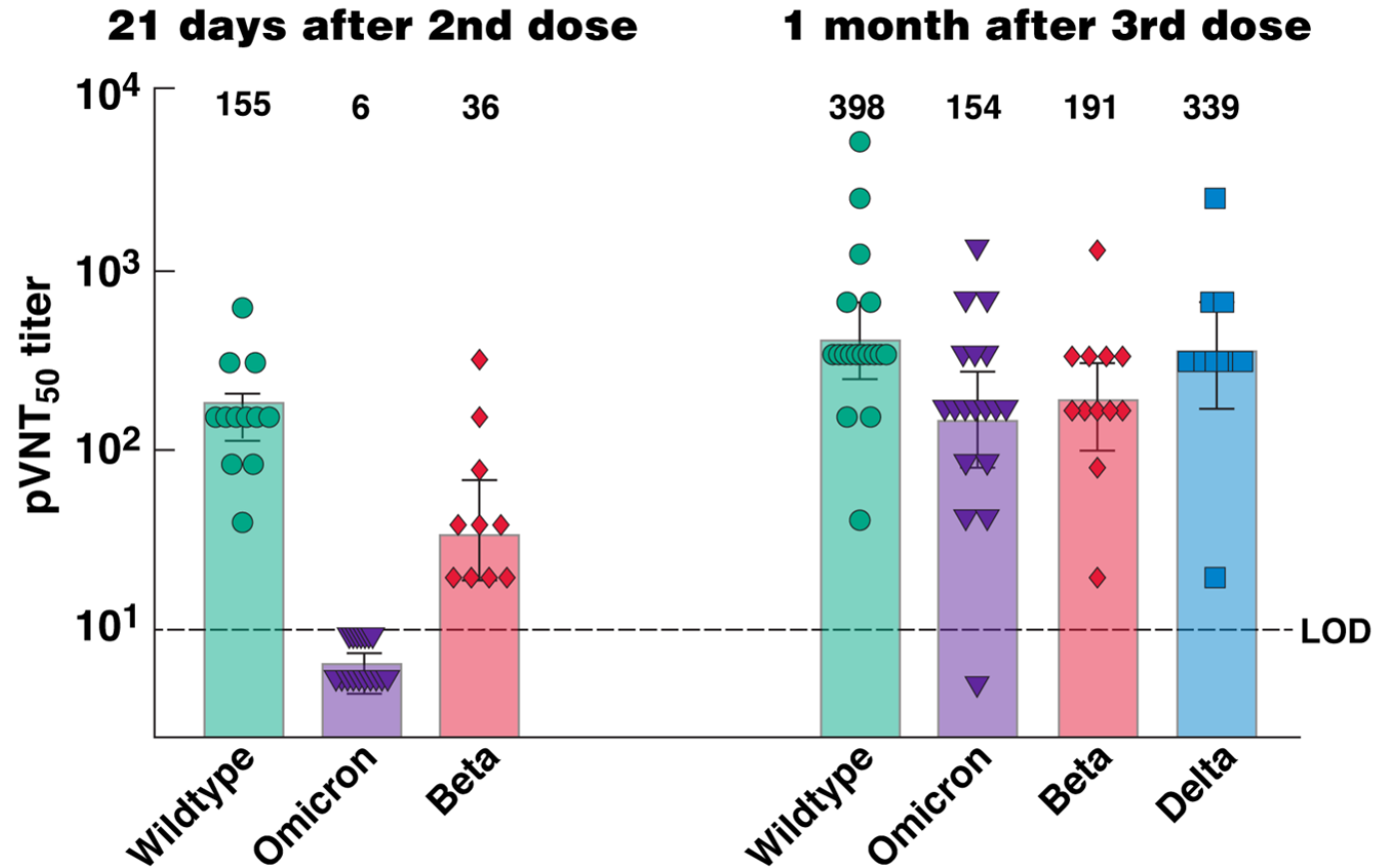
- Preliminary laboratory study demonstrates that sera from individuals who received two doses of Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine exhibited >25-fold reduction in neutralization titers against the Omicron variant compared to wild-type

- **Booster dose increased the neutralizing antibody titers by 25-fold compared to two doses against the Omicron variant**





# Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine Neutralization Data



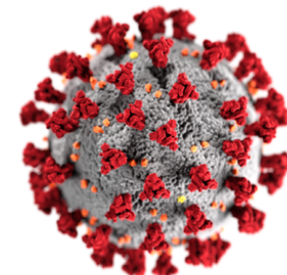
Source: Pfizer press conference, 12/8/21



# Key Points

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- **Early data are emerging from different groups, using different methods**
- **Additional studies will add to these preliminary findings:**
  - Laboratory studies from groups using NIH standardized assays
  - Studies in animal models
  - Epidemiological and clinical studies
- **Laboratory data cannot reliably predict clinical outcomes**
- **Antibodies are only part of the immune response to SARS-CoV-2. Other components (e.g. T cells, memory B cells) likely play key roles in protecting against severe disease**



- **Early *in vitro* studies indicate that boosters increase antibody titers against the Omicron variant**

- **Get vaccinated!**

- **When eligible, get boosted!**

