



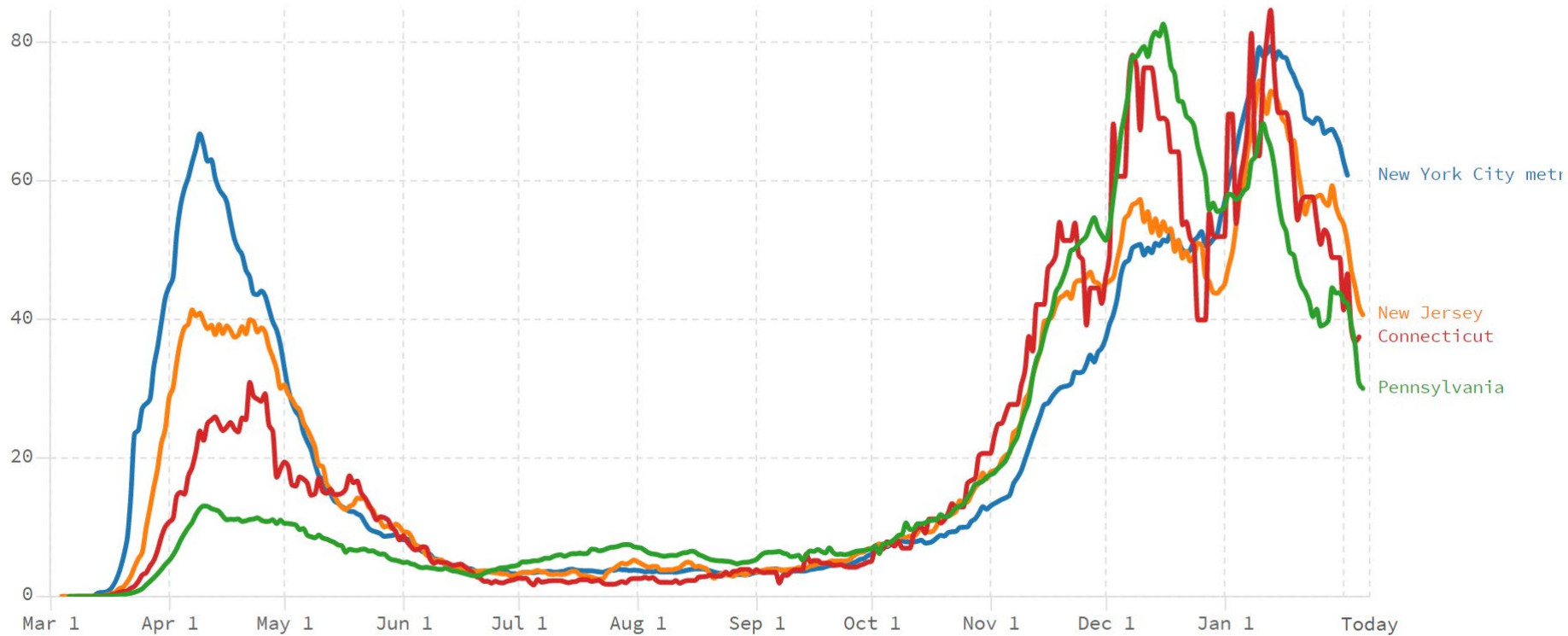
# COVID-19 Update

Dr Mark Cunningham-Hill  
Medical Director NEBGH

Monday February 8<sup>th</sup> , 2021

# Where we are today.....

CASES PER 100K POPULATION IN NEW YORK CITY METRO AREA, NEW JERSEY, PENNSYLVANIA AND CONNECTICUT

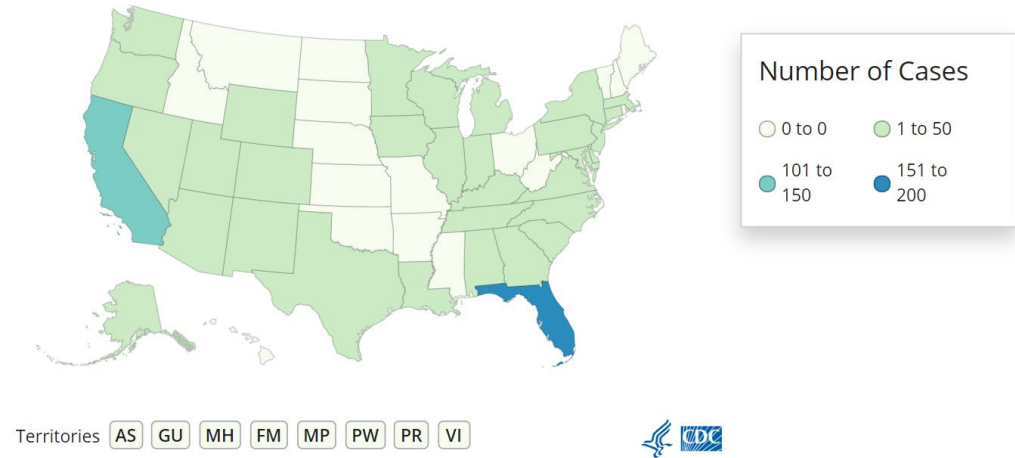


# Variants

- B.1.1.3
  - ↑ infectiousness
  - ↑ fatality
  - High viral loads = ↑ shedding of virus
- B.1.351
  - Contains a mutation (E484K, nicknamed “Eeek”)
  - Reduces vaccine effectiveness
  - Vaccine manufacturers working on vaccines against variant

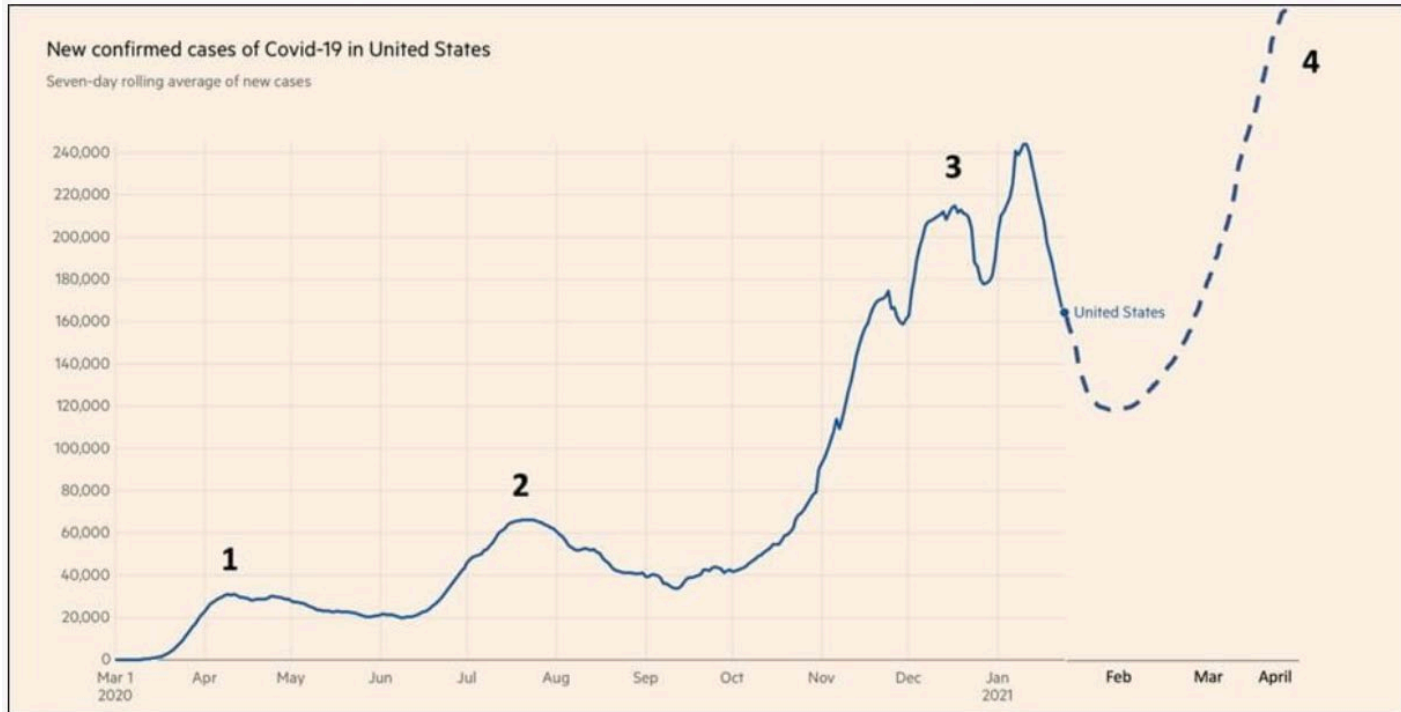
Variant	Reported Cases in US	Number of States Reporting
B.1.1.7	611	33
B.1.351	5	2
P.1	2	1

Emerging Variant Cases in the United States\*†



## 2. Is the US ready for 4th (B.1.1.7) COVID-19 wave?

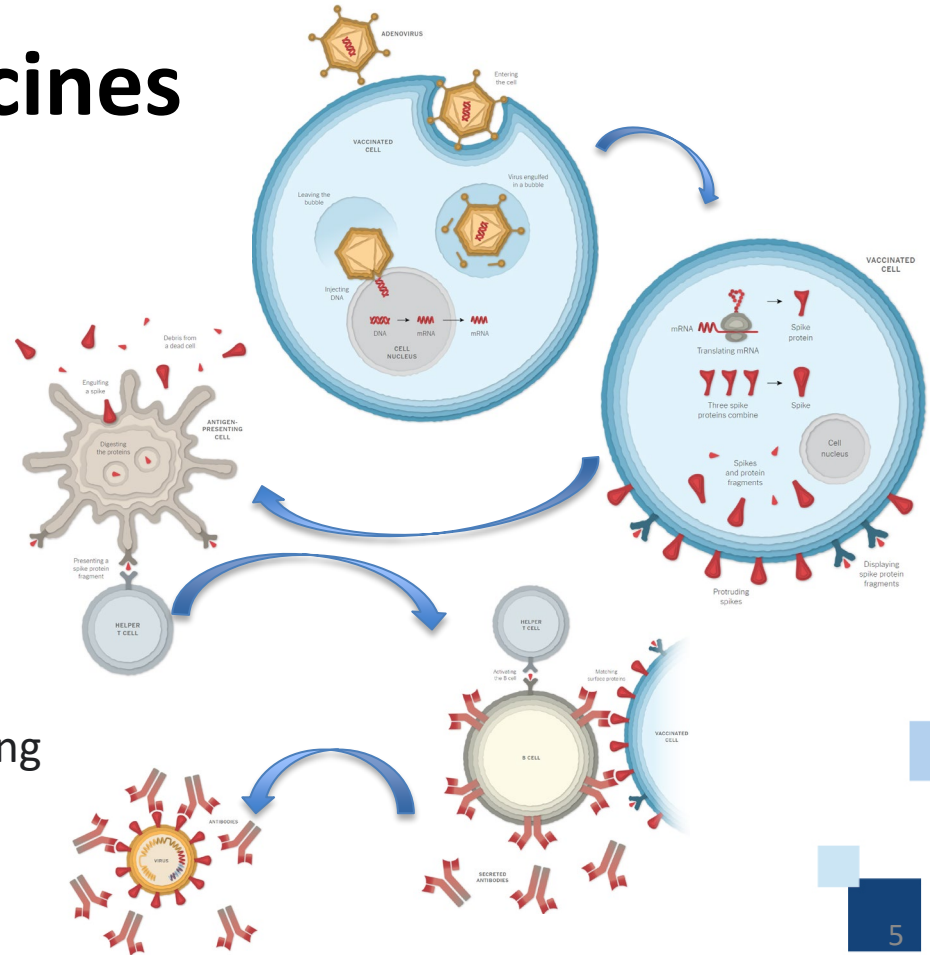
Eric Topol\*\* has drawn this graph of the expected increase in new cases in the US as the B.1.1.7 becomes the dominant strain during March 2021. He asked the question, "Are we going to be ready for the 4th wave?"



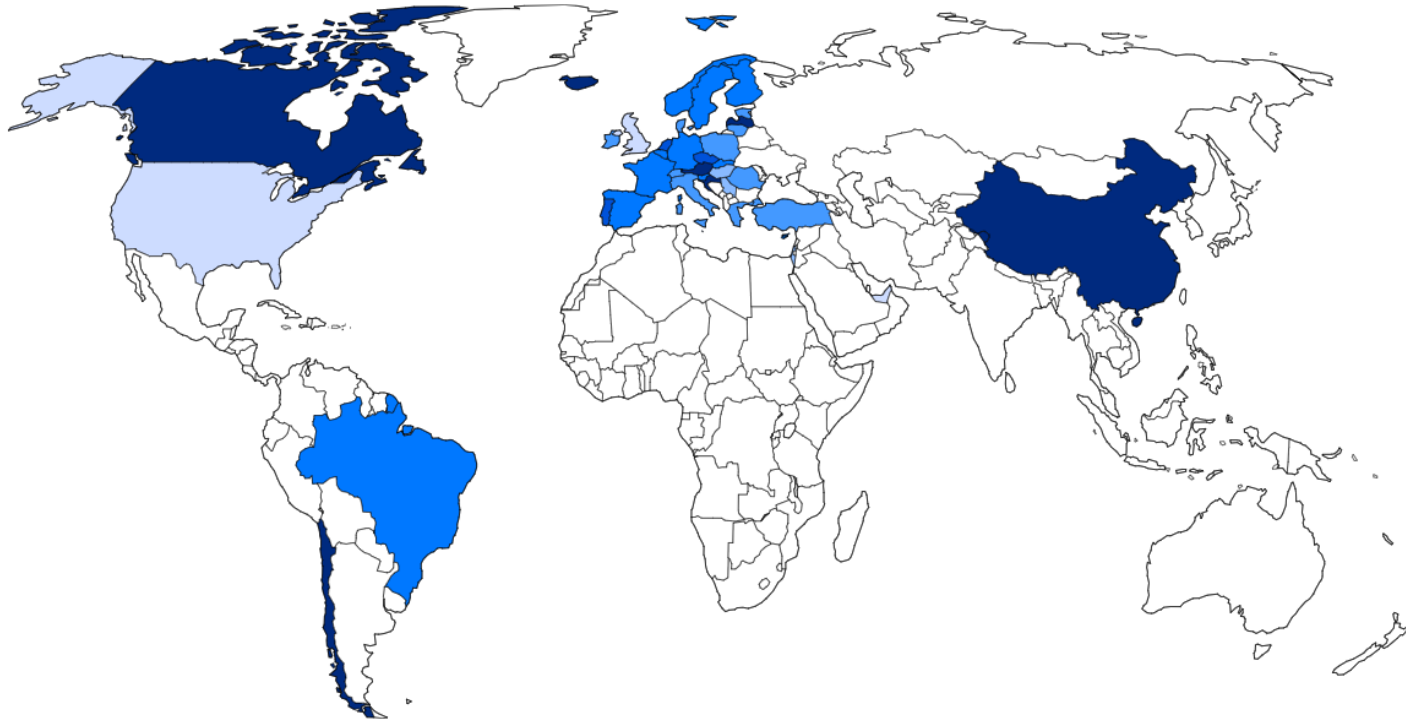
\*\* Eric Topol is a Professor of Molecular Medicine at The Scripps Research Institute, and a senior consultant at the Division of Cardiovascular Diseases at Scripps Clinic in La Jolla, California. He is Editor-in-Chief of Medscape and theheart.org.

# Vaccines

- J&J applied for EUA for their COVID-19 vaccine (JNJ-78436735)
- FDA committee reviewing data analysis on Feb 26<sup>th</sup> and then make a recommendation
- JNJ-78436735 uses an adenovirus to carry DNA with coding for the spike protein
- Single dose
- 72% effective (100% effective at stopping serious COVID-19/death)



# Years to inoculate 75% of the population with a two-dose vaccine at the current pace of shots given



Source: Bloomberg's Covid-19 Vaccine Tracker

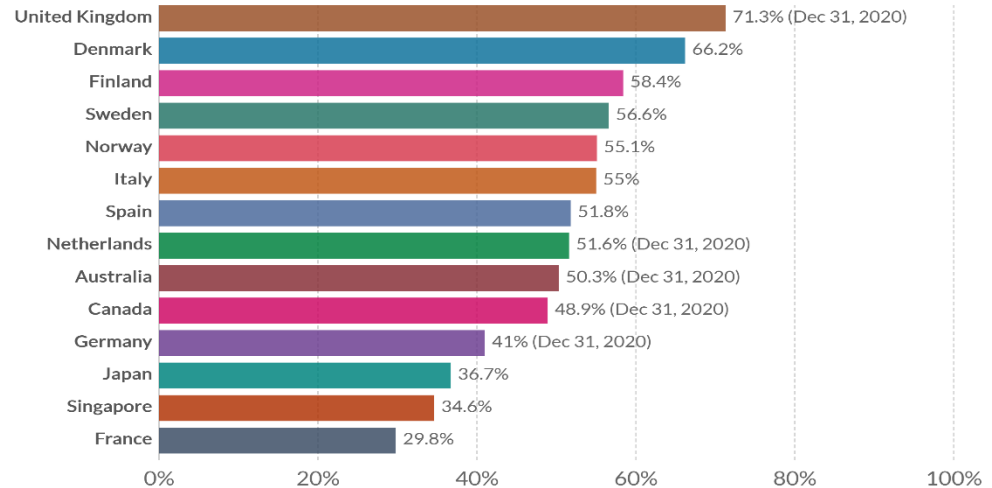
# Willingness to get vaccinated

- US – Census data
  - 51% of adults would definitely get a vaccine
  - Additional 26% said they probably would
  - 95% of those vaccinated got or intend to get all required doses

Share who would get a COVID-19 vaccine if it was available to them this week, Jan 14, 2021

Share of survey respondents who agree with the statement: "If a COVID-19 vaccine were made available to me this week, I would definitely get it."

Our World  
in Data

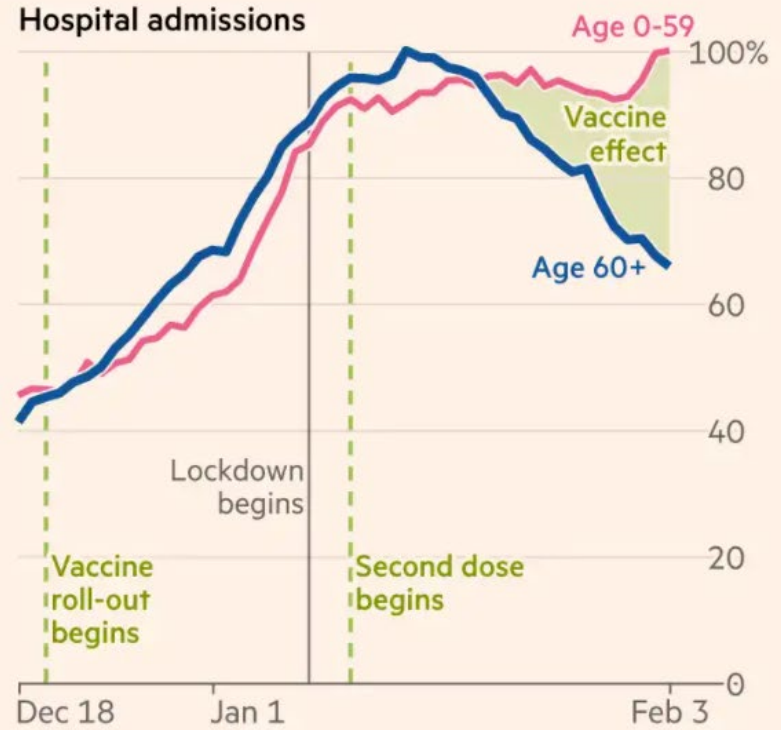
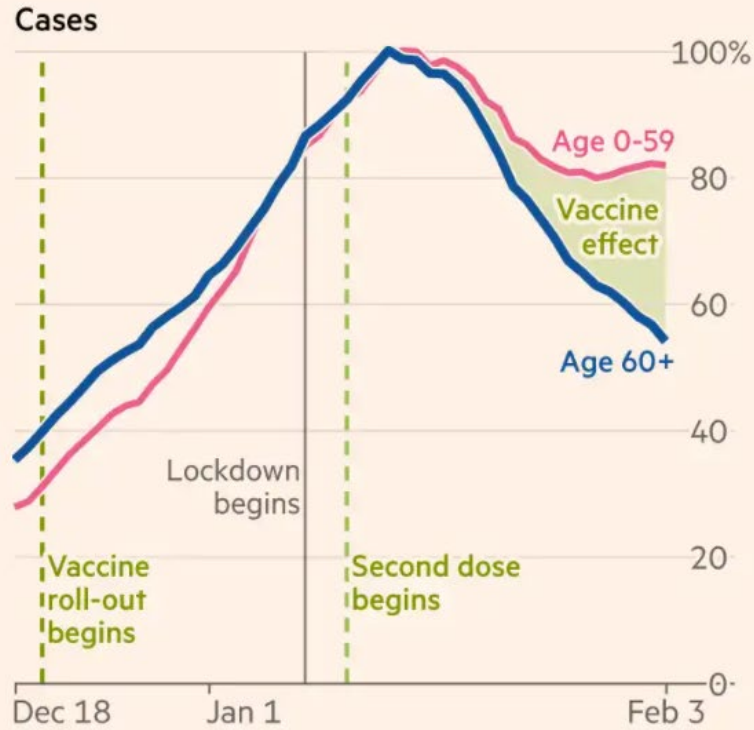


Source: Imperial College London YouGov Covid 19 Behaviour Tracker Data Hub – Last updated 18 January 2021, 09:52 (London time)  
Note: Months containing fewer than 500 survey respondents are excluded. Respondents were presented with a 1 to 5 scale, ranging from "Strongly agree" (1) to "Strongly disagree" (5). We consider responses of 1 or 2 to be in agreement with the statement.  
OurWorldInData.org/covid-vaccinations • CC BY

<https://www.census.gov/library/stories/2021/01/around-half-of-unvaccinated-americans-indicate-they-will-definitely-get-covid-19-vaccine.html>




# Vaccinations - Israel



Sources: Segal et al., Weizmann Institute, Tel-Aviv University  
© FT





*Out of more than 30,000 people who received either the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, only one person became ill enough to be hospitalized*

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2021/02/04/covid-vaccine-trial-results-hospitalization/>





# COVID and Work

- Compared to pre- pandemic levels:
  - +12.9% increase in the number of meetings per person
  - +13.5% the number of attendees per meeting
  - -20.1% decreases in the average length of meetings
  - -11.5% net effect is that people spent less time in meetings per day
  - +8.2% increase in the average workday percent (+48.5 minutes)

<https://www.nber.org/papers/w27612>



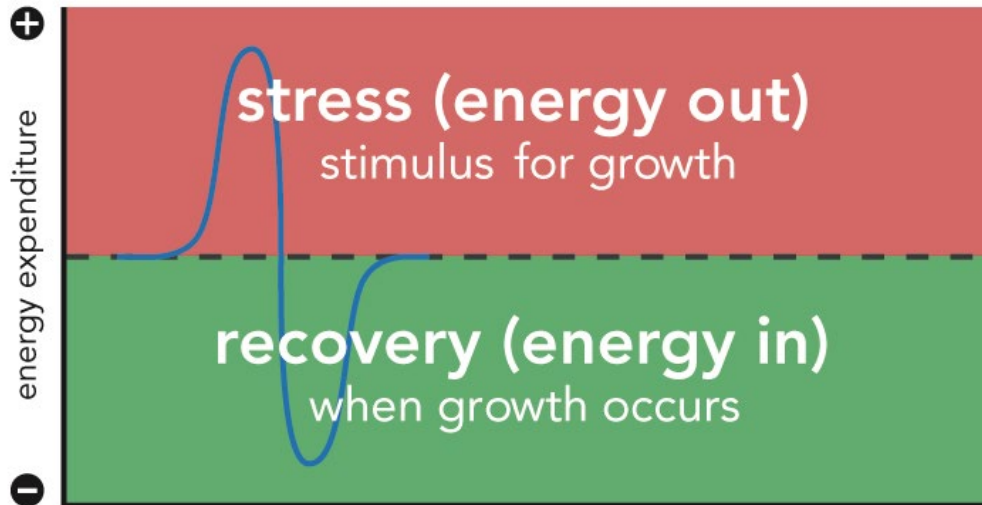
# Vacations

- In 2018 Americans failed to take 768 million days, up 9% from 2017<sup>1</sup>
- Those earning more than \$150,000 annually, took more vacation days<sup>2</sup>
- 66% report working on vacation<sup>3</sup>
- 50+% of employers making changes to their vacation/PTO policies<sup>4</sup>

1. <https://www.ustravel.org/press/study-record-768-million-us-vacation-days-went-unused-18-opportunity-cost-billions>
2. [https://www.ustravel.org/sites/default/files/media\\_root/document/Paid%20Time%20Off%20Trends%20Fact%20Sheet.pdf](https://www.ustravel.org/sites/default/files/media_root/document/Paid%20Time%20Off%20Trends%20Fact%20Sheet.pdf)
3. <https://www.glassdoor.com/blog/vacation-realities-2017/>
4. <https://www.willistowerswatson.com/en-US/Insights/2020/06/seize-the-day-assessing-leave-programs-in-a-covid-19-world>

# What will be the impact of not disengaging in 2020?

fully engaged



fully disengaged





NEWS

HOT  
OFF  
THE  
PRESS

# COVID Breathe Test

- Rapid – 1 minute to get the result
- Total test 3 minutes
- Negative = do not have COVID
- Positive requires confirmatory PCR



# Travel Passports

- Travel requires proof of a negative test and maybe vaccination in the future
- Multiple scams and arrests for selling fake negative results
- CommonPass:
  - The Commons Project, WEF and a coalition of PPP are collaborating to launch CommonPass, a trusted, platform for people to document their COVID-19 status / PCR tests / vaccinations







# Questions

## Upcoming NEBGH virtual events:

- **Feb. 11:** “Safe Space” Employer Roundtable: Racial Health Disparities
- **Feb. 22:** Weekly Monday COVID-19 Update w/ Dr. Lindsay Jubelt
- **Feb. 23:** Bicoastal Benefits Leaders’ Coffee Talk featuring Marco Diaz