

COVID-19 Update

Dr Mark Cunningham-Hill
Medical Director NEBGH

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COVID-19 RESPONSE



U.S. Department of
Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention



**BREAKING
NEWS**

**CDC: FULLY VACCINATED DON'T NEED TO
MASK, PHYSICALLY DISTANCE IN MOST CASES**



Options For Employers

Scenario

Follow CDC Guidance

Maintain Mask Requirements

Only Vaccinated in workplace

Test Unvaccinated (+/- all Employees)

Risks

- Some unvaccinated don't wear masks
- ↑ risk in customer facing roles
- Concerns of at-risk employees

- Vaccinated employees push back
- Masks gradually stop being worn

- Potential workforce impacts
- Pushback from unvaccinated employees
- Managing visitors/customers

- Tracking vaccination status
- Vaccinated may question need for testing
- Cost and logistics of testing

Mitigations

- Track vaccination status
- Maintain mask mandate for customer facing roles (OSHA)
- Testing of all employees

- Communication
- Reassess after some time

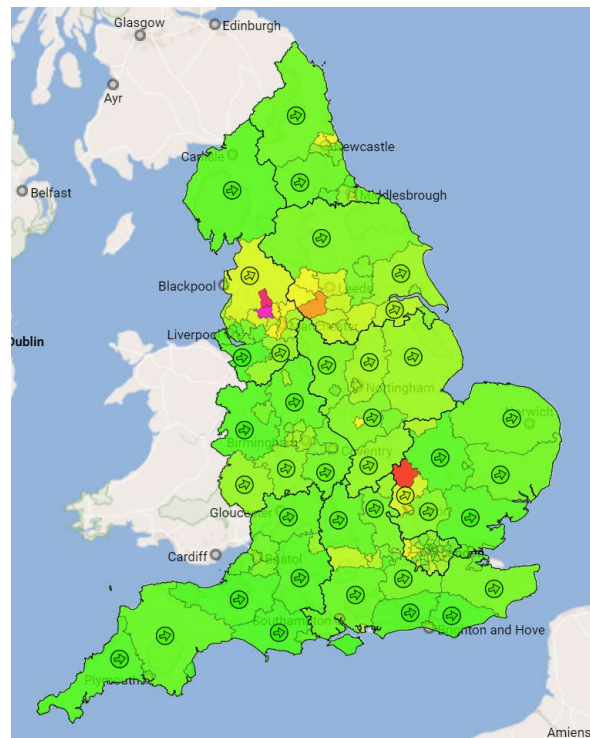
- Adopt at select worksites
- Reduced COVID controls and potentially meets employee expectations

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UK and B1.617.2

- 3,424 cases identified of infection with B1.617.2 up 2,111 cases in a week
- B1.617.2 was (wrongly) labelled the “Double Mutant” because concerns of ↑infectivity and ↓protection from vaccines
 - Does appear to be more infectious
 - Vaccines –
 - fully vaccinated with Pfizer or AZ vaccines protects against serious infections
 - 1 dose only 33% effective
- Germany suspended travel from the UK
- Estimated 0.5% of US cases



Bolton infection rate in primary school age children



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Bolton infection rate in 10-14 year olds



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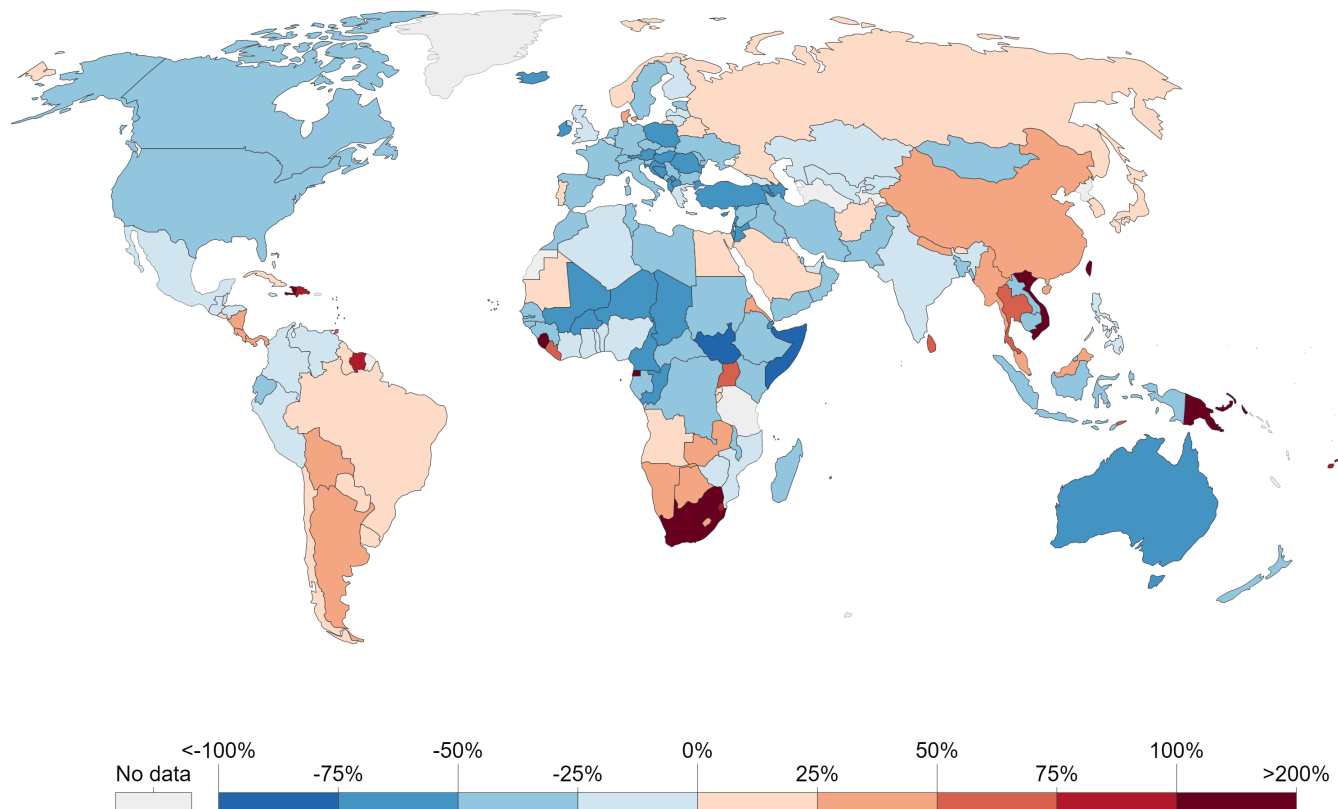
Daily new confirmed COVID-19 cases per million people

Shown is the rolling 7-day average. The number of confirmed cases is lower than the number of actual cases; the main reason for that is limited testing.



Biweekly change in confirmed COVID-19 cases, May 22, 2021

The biweekly growth rate on any given date measures the percentage change in the number of new confirmed cases over the last 14 days relative to the number in the previous 14 days.



COVID Treatment Update

Mild to Moderate COVID-19 Not Hospitalized

For patients who are not high risk for disease progression provide supportive care and symptomatic management

For patients who are high risk of disease progression use one of the following combinations:

- Bamlanivimab plus etesevimab
- Casirivimab plus imdevimab

Hospitalized but does not require oxygen

Insufficient evidence for routine use of remdesivir however, remdesivir may be appropriate for high-risk patients

Hospitalized and requires supplemental oxygen

Use of one of the following options:

- Remdesivir – cases with minimal oxygen requirements
- Dexamethasone plus remdesivir for patients requiring increasing oxygen

Hospitalized and requires oxygen delivery through a high-flow device

Use of one of the following options:

- Dexamethasone
- Dexamethasone plus remdesivir for patients requiring increasing oxygen

Hospitalized and requires ventilation

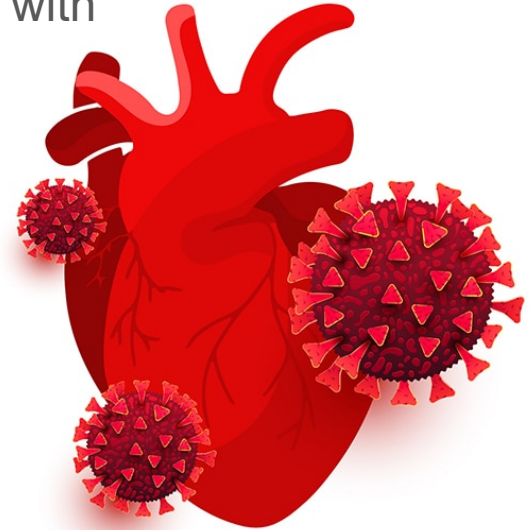
- Dexamethasone
- Dexamethasone plus tocilizumab for patients who are within 24 hours of admission to ICU



COVID-19 News

Myocarditis

- COVID-19 Vaccine Safety Technical (VaST) Work Group reported cases of myocarditis associated with mRNA vaccines¹
 - Predominantly in adolescents and young adults,
 - More often in males than females,
 - More often following dose 2 than dose 1, and
 - Typically, within 4 days after vaccination.
 - Most cases appear to be mild
- Experts ‘watching’ – “an abundance of caution”
 - Relatively few cases
 - Myocarditis rates post vaccination are no higher than background



1. https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/work-groups-vast/technical-report-2021-05-17.html?utm_source=STAT+Newsletters&utm_campaign=e769679e51-MR_COPY_02&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_8cab1d7961-e769679e51-153098890

Polycystic Ovary Syndrome and COVID

- Women with PCOS had a 51% higher chance of confirmed or suspected Covid-19 infection than women without
- Adjusting for comorbidities such as T2DM, obesity increase was still 28%
- Potential reasons:
 - PCOS is a pro-inflammatory state
 - Link between COVID-19 infection and androgens
 - Transmembrane serine protease 2 (TMPRSS2)
 - Androgens and immune response

<https://eje.bioscientifica.com/view/journals/eje/184/5/EJE-20-1163.xml>

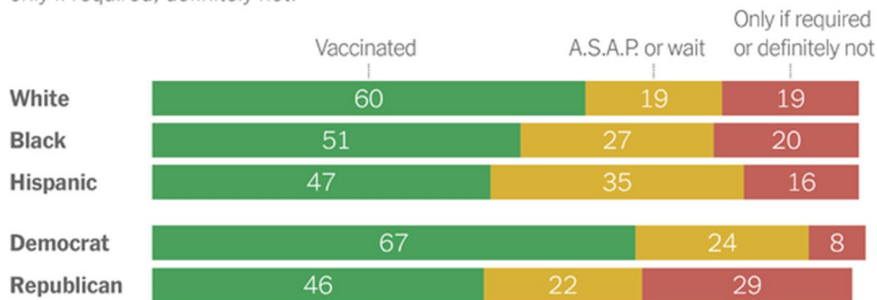
PCOS AFFECTS 1-IN-10 WOMEN



Vaccine Attitudes

Vaccine Attitudes

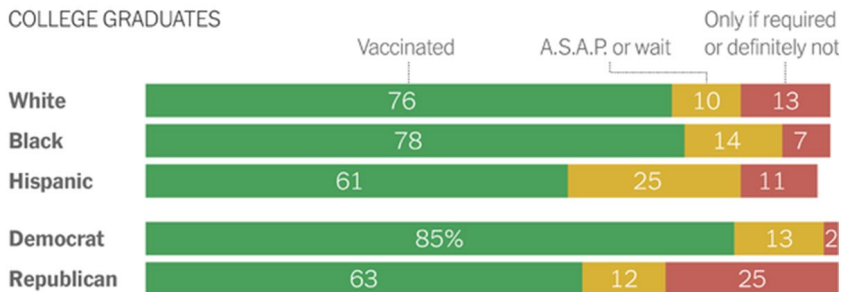
People chose one of five categories: vaccinated; want to be A.S.A.P.; wait and see; only if required; definitely not.



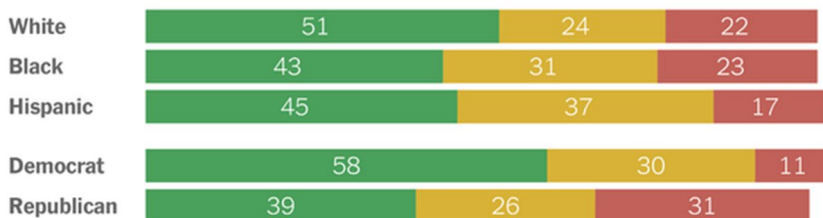
By The New York Times | Source: Kaiser Family Foundation

Vaccine Attitudes by Class

COLLEGE GRADUATES



NON-GRADUATES



Random survey of 2,097 adults conducted from April 15 to April 29, 2021.
Not all figures total to 100 percent; some people did not give an answer.

By The New York Times | Source: Kaiser Family Foundation

- -36% in daily CO₂ emissions in early 2020 compared to year-2019
- Up to 40% reduction in observed nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) concentrations in China
- Statistically significant decreases in NO₂ and PM_{2.5} in the United States

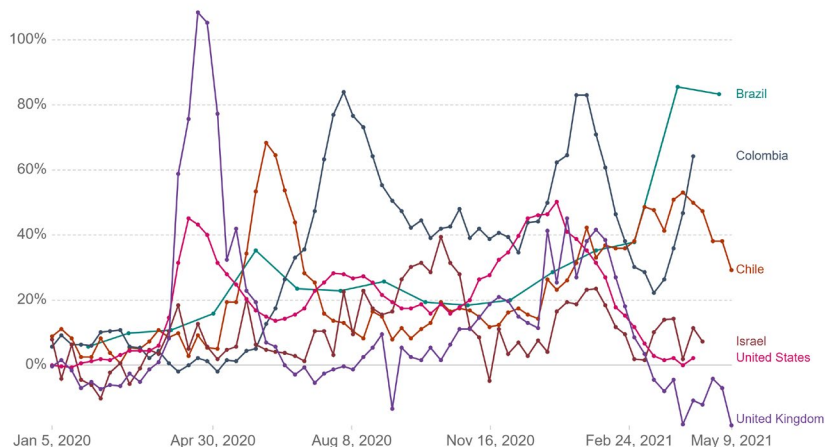
Lockdowns to combat the spread of Covid-19 may have saved up to 32,000 lives due to lowered emissions from vehicles and coal-powered electricity plants

Deaths from COVID

Excess mortality during COVID-19: Deaths from all causes compared to previous years, all ages

Shown is how the number of weekly or monthly deaths in 2020–2021 differs as a percentage from the average number of deaths in the same period over the years 2015–2019. This metric is called the P-score. The reported number of deaths might not count all deaths that occurred due to incomplete coverage and delays in death reporting.

Our World
in Data



Source: Human Mortality Database (2021), World Mortality Dataset (2021)

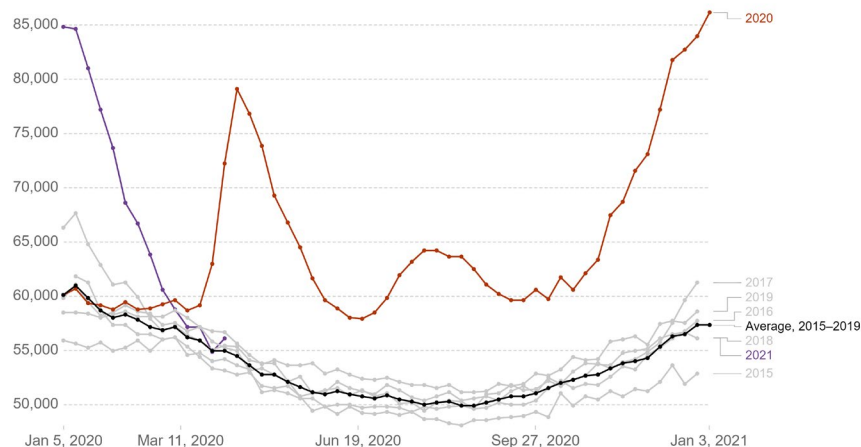
Note: Comparisons across countries are affected by differences in the completeness of death reporting. Details can be found at our Excess Mortality page.

OurWorldInData.org/coronavirus • CC BY

Excess mortality during COVID-19: Number of deaths from all causes compared to previous years, United States

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Reported COVID Deaths 3.64 million

Estimated COVID Deaths 6.9 million



Questions

Upcoming NEBGH virtual events:

- **May 31:** Memorial Day – No Dr. Mark!
- **Jun. 2:** Hate Crimes and Mental Health: Strategies and Resources for Employers
- **Jun. 10/17:** Where Do We Go From Here? Employee Health & Wellbeing for a New Era