

# COVID-19 Update

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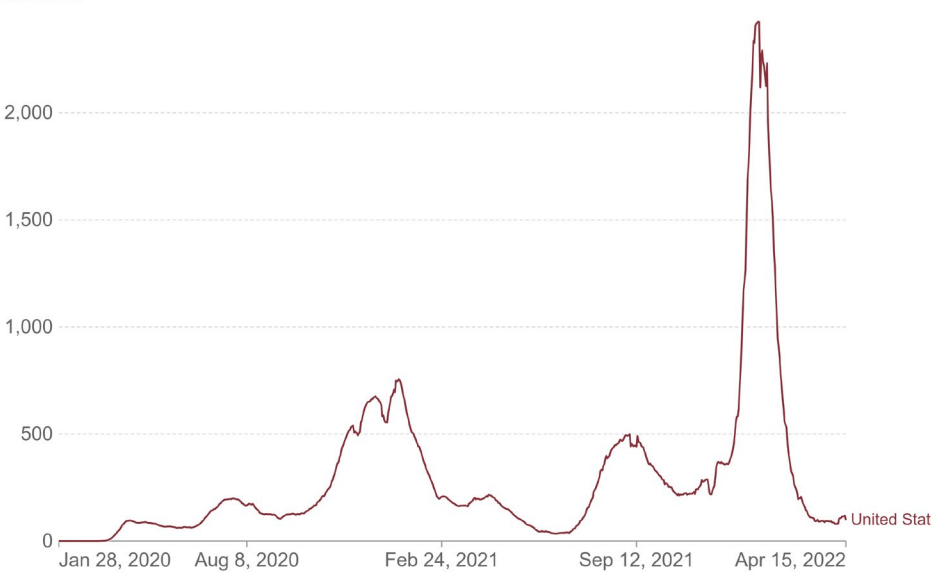
Monday April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022

# Today's Topics

- US and regional data
- Variants
- China
- New therapeutic
- Breath Test
- Q&A

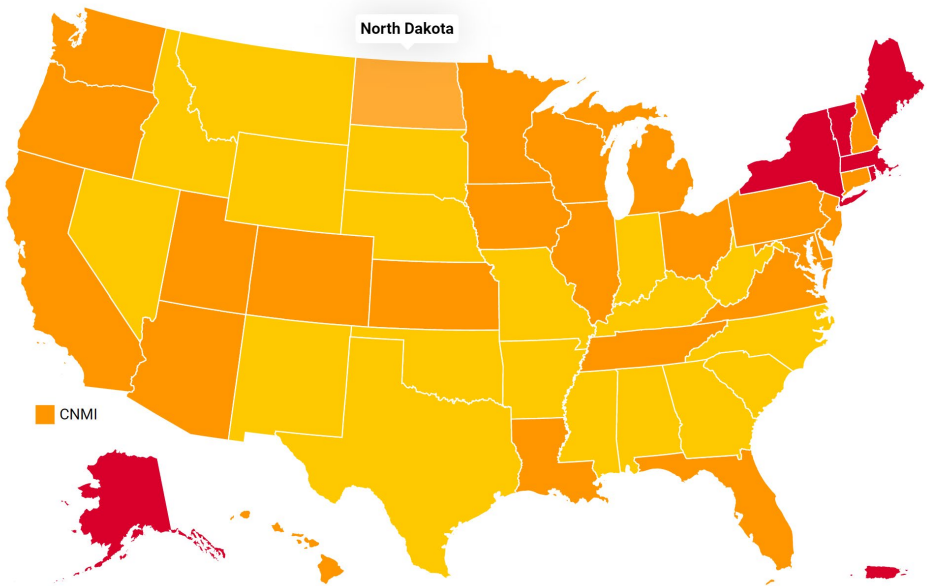
# Daily new confirmed COVID-19 cases per million people

7-day rolling average. Due to limited testing, the number of confirmed cases is lower than the true number of infections.



Source: Johns Hopkins University CSSE COVID-19 Data

Our World  
in Data



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METRIC

Hospitalizations per 100K



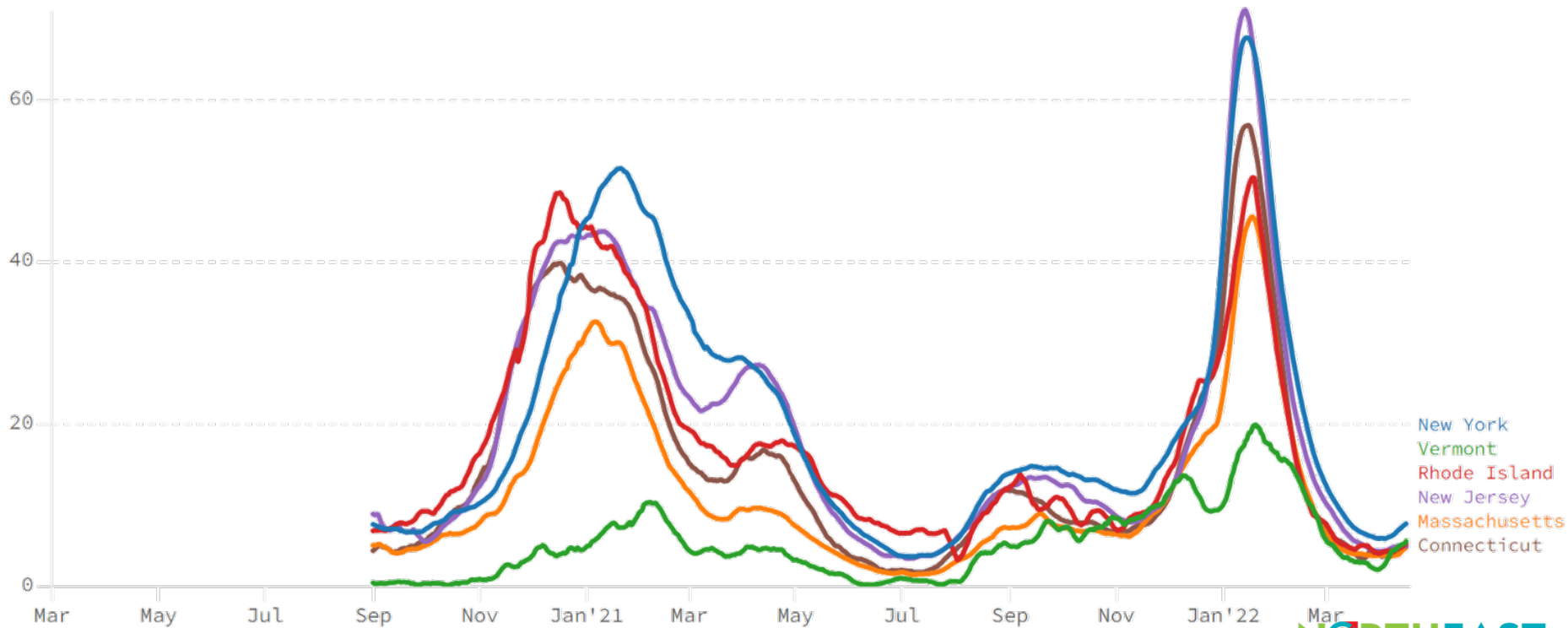
PAST # OF DAYS

All time



LOCATIONS

New York; Massachusetts; Vermont; Rhode Isla...



METRIC

Cases per 100K



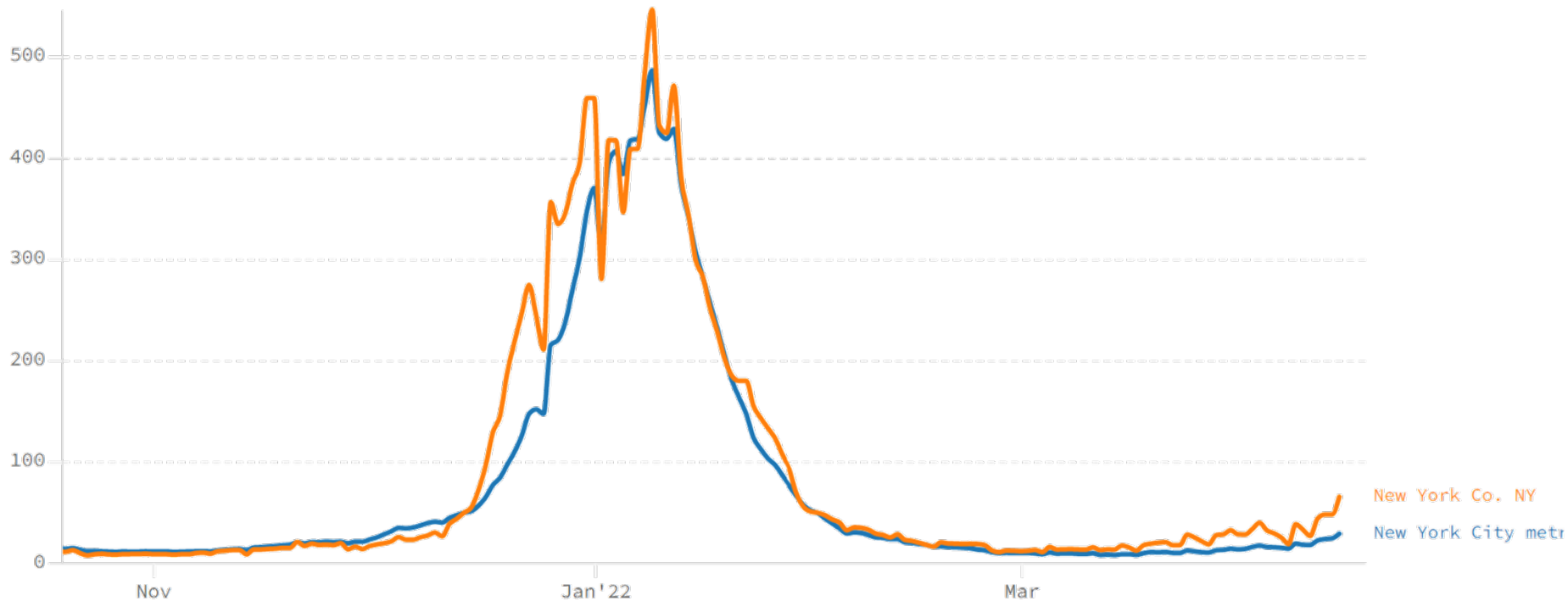
PAST # OF DAYS

180



LOCATIONS

New York City metro, NY-NJ-PA; New York Cou...



# Subvariants of Omicron

- BA.2.12 and BA.2.12.1.
  - 90% of cases in central New York
  - 23% – 27% growth advantage above the original BA.2 variant
- BA.4 and BA.5
  - BA.4 genomes were found in South Africa with 41 genome cases, Denmark with three genomes, Botswana with two and England and Scotland with one each
  - BA.5 identified in South Africa
- XE subvariant identified in the UK
  - XE is a recombinant variant and is the result of the BA.1 and BA.2 in the same host swapping and recombining their genetic material

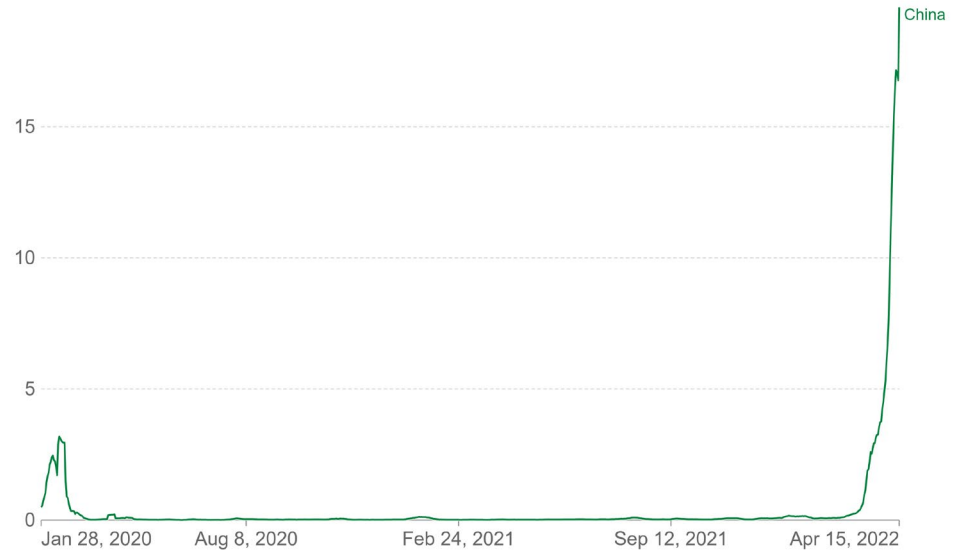
# China

- Number of daily new cases after a slight decline is continuing to increase
- Zero-COVID policy is still remained.
- Lockdown in Shanghai has been partially lifted in some areas since early this week.
- Regular PCR or antigen testing still being applied in “lockdown areas and under control areas”.
- Xi'an City is reported officially locked down since 4/15.
- Some key industries are reported will be allowed partially resuming production from next week.
- Shanghai supply chain is of food and medicines is limited

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# New Treatment Option

- Sabizabulin – antiviral and anti-inflammatory properties
- Double blind study stopped as those on sabizabulin had a death rate half that of the patients on placebo – 20% vs 45%
- It is a drug for seriously ill patients in hospital on oxygen
- Fast tracked phase III studies and EUA being sort by Veru Pharmaceuticals



# COVID Breathalyzer

- 3 minutes to get a result
- Correctly identified positive samples 91.2% of the time
- Analyzer – size of a carryon can process 160 tests a day
- Company aims to produce 100 analyzers a month
- Potential to add 64K tests a month ..... so limited impact



The background of the image is a dark blue gradient. It is populated with numerous stylized representations of coronavirus particles. These particles are depicted as blue wireframe structures with a spherical core and several protruding, spike-like appendages. The particles vary in size and are scattered across the frame, creating a sense of depth and movement. The central text is superimposed on this background.

# **CORONAVIRUS** **Q&A**

# Questions

## Upcoming NEBGH virtual events:

- **April 25** – Monday COVID-19 Update
- **April 27** – Mental Health Parity Refresh
- **June 16** – Benefits Leadership for a Changing World: Accept the Challenge!