



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

# COVID-19 Press Briefing

November 1, 2021





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# COVID-19 Response Team Update

Jeff Zients



# State of the Pandemic

Dr. Rochelle P. Walensky

# Daily Change in COVID-19 Cases, US

January 22, 2020 – October 29, 2021

TOTAL Cases Reported Since 1/22/20

45,846,153

NEW Cases Reported to CDC on 10/29/21

86,786

Change in 7-Day Case Average

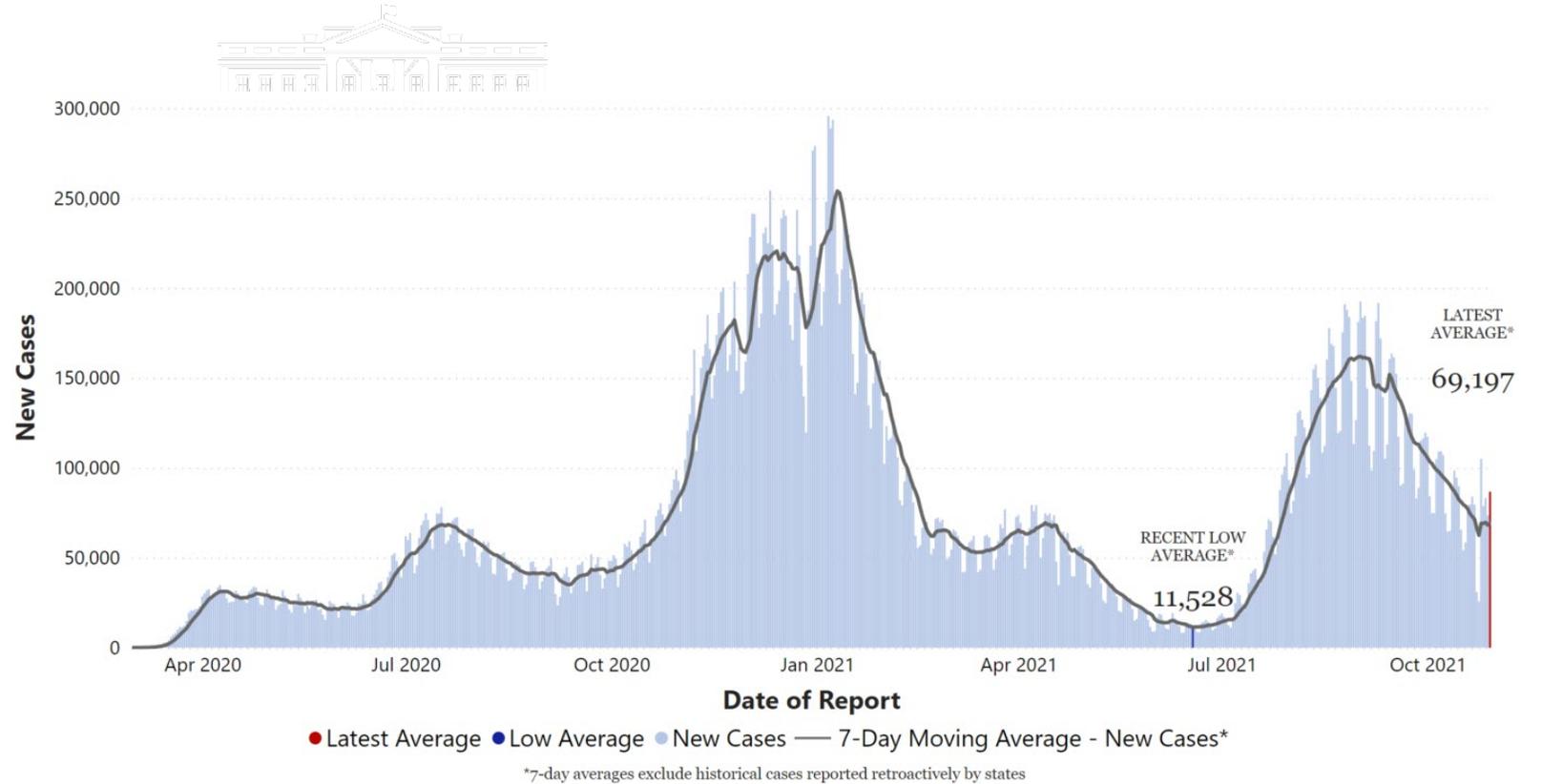
-3.3%

Current 7-Day Case Average (10/23/21 - 10/29/21)

69,197

Prior 7-Day Case Average (10/16/21 - 10/22/21)

71,566



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

August 1, 2020 – October 29, 2021

Patients Currently Hospitalized with COVID on 10/29/21

35,879

New Admissions on 10/29/21

4,677

Peak in New Admissions (1/5/21)

17,958

Change in 7-Day Average of New Admissions

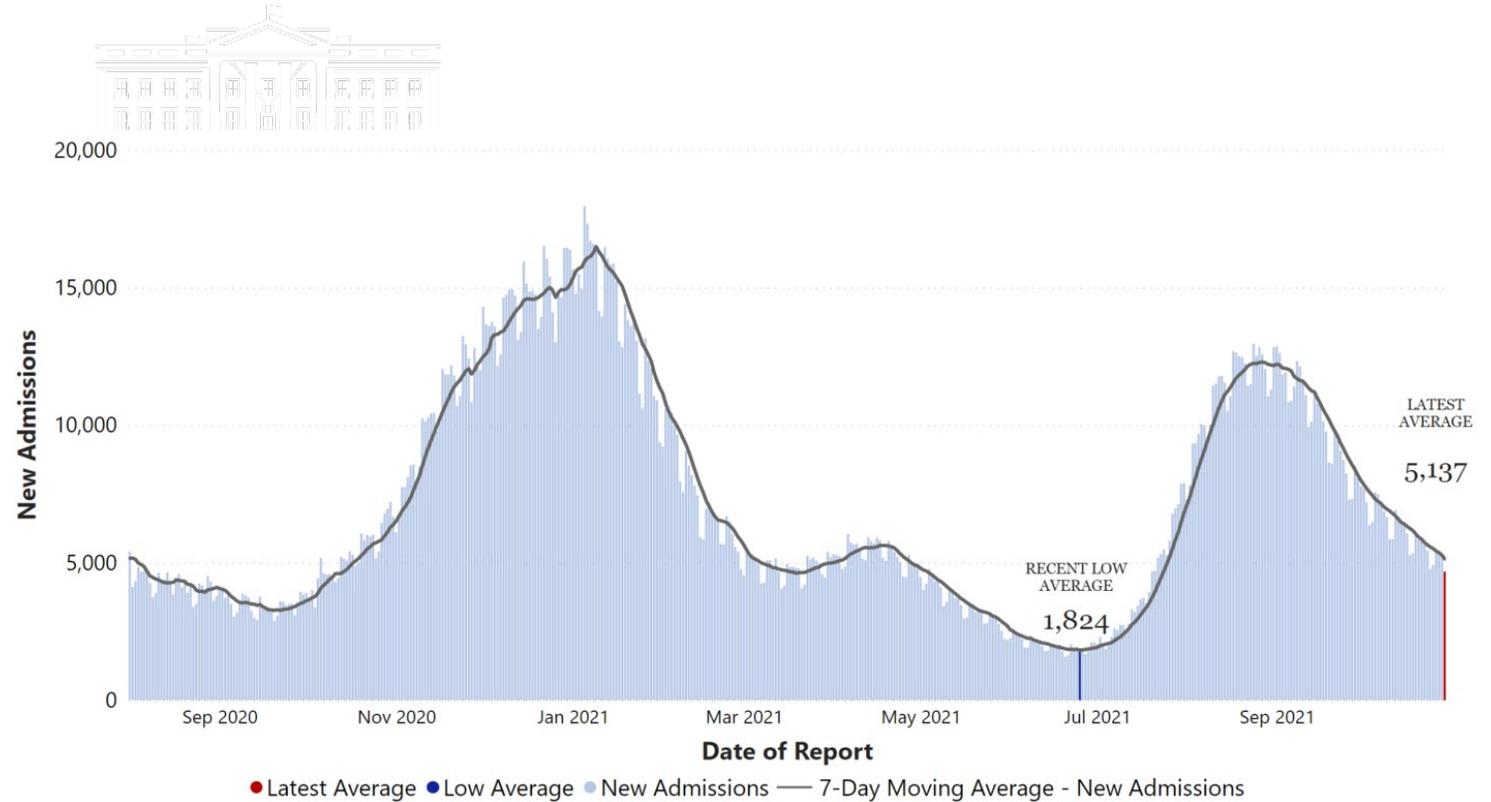
-10.4%

Current 7-Day Average of New Admissions (10/23/21 - 10/29/21)

5,137

Prior 7-Day Average of New Admissions (10/16/21 - 10/22/21)

5,733



# Daily Change in COVID-19 Deaths, US

January 22, 2020 – October 29, 2021

TOTAL Deaths Reported Since 1/22/2020

743,410

NEW Deaths Reported to CDC on 10/29/21

1,773

Change in 7-Day Death Average

-9.8%

Current 7-Day Death Average (10/23/21 - 10/29/21)

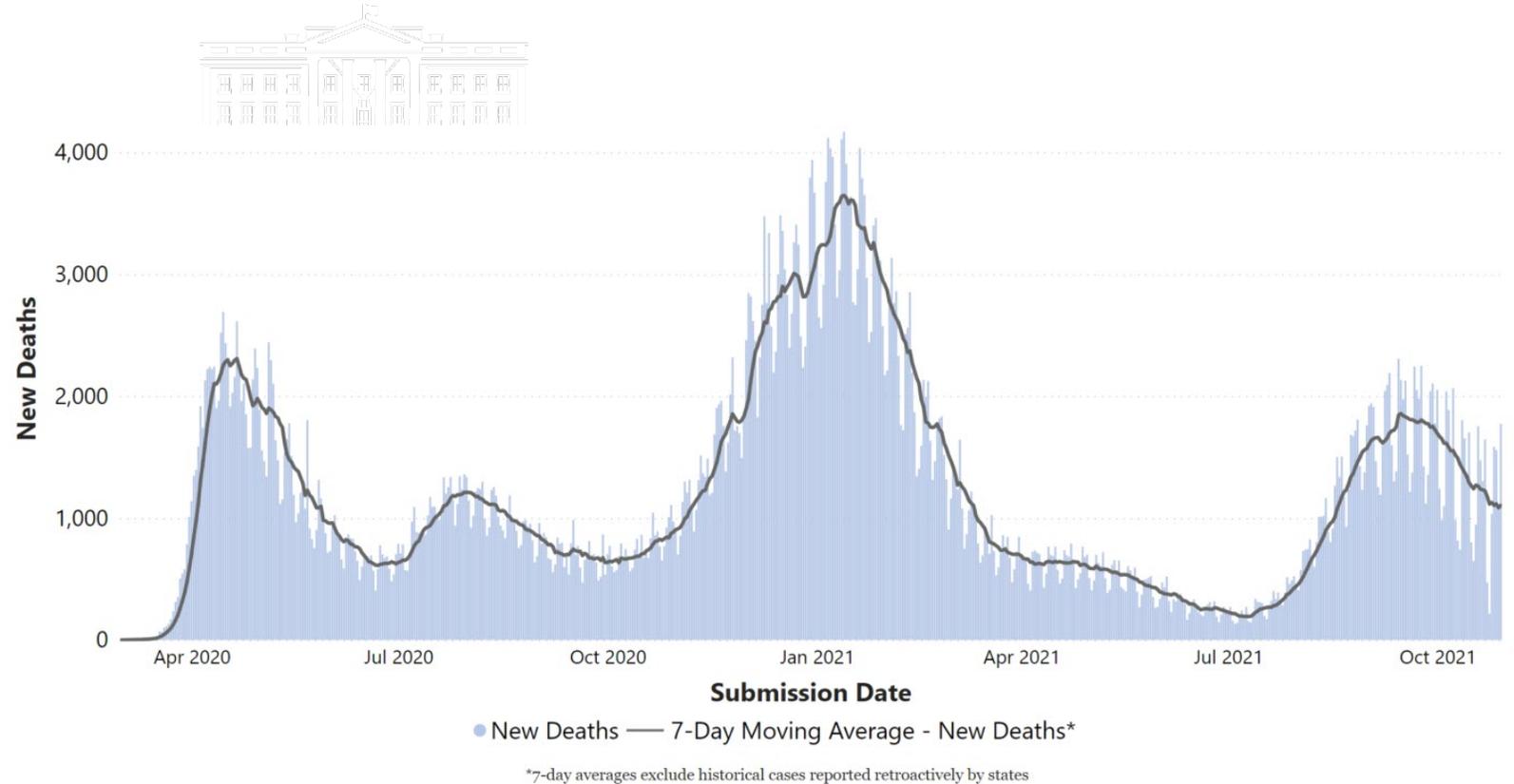
1,104

Prior 7-Day Death Average (10/16/21 - 10/22/21)

1,224

Forecasted Total Deaths by 11/20/21

758,000 to 783,000





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# Science Update

Dr. Anthony Fauci

# **“Booster” Shots for SARS-CoV-2 Vaccines**

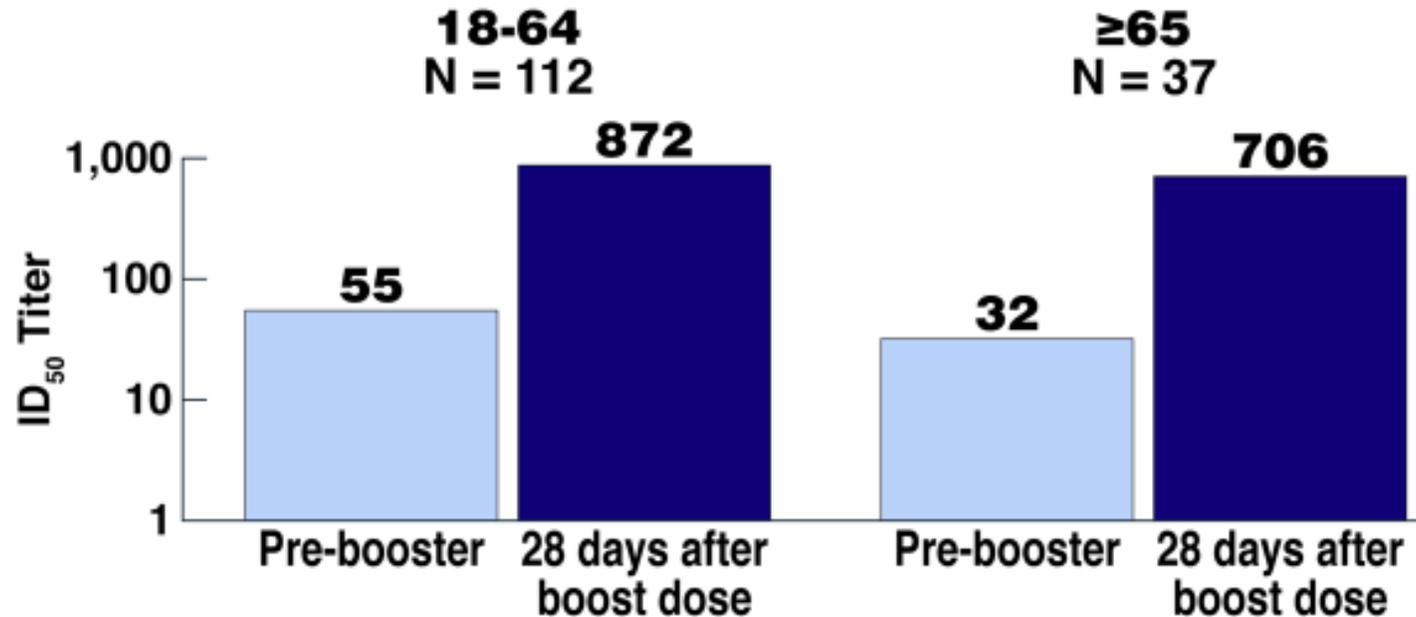


# **Effect of Booster Shots on Levels of Neutralizing Antibodies**



# mRNA-1273 Booster Increases Antibody Titters Against Delta Variant

50 µg Booster after 100 µg Primary Series

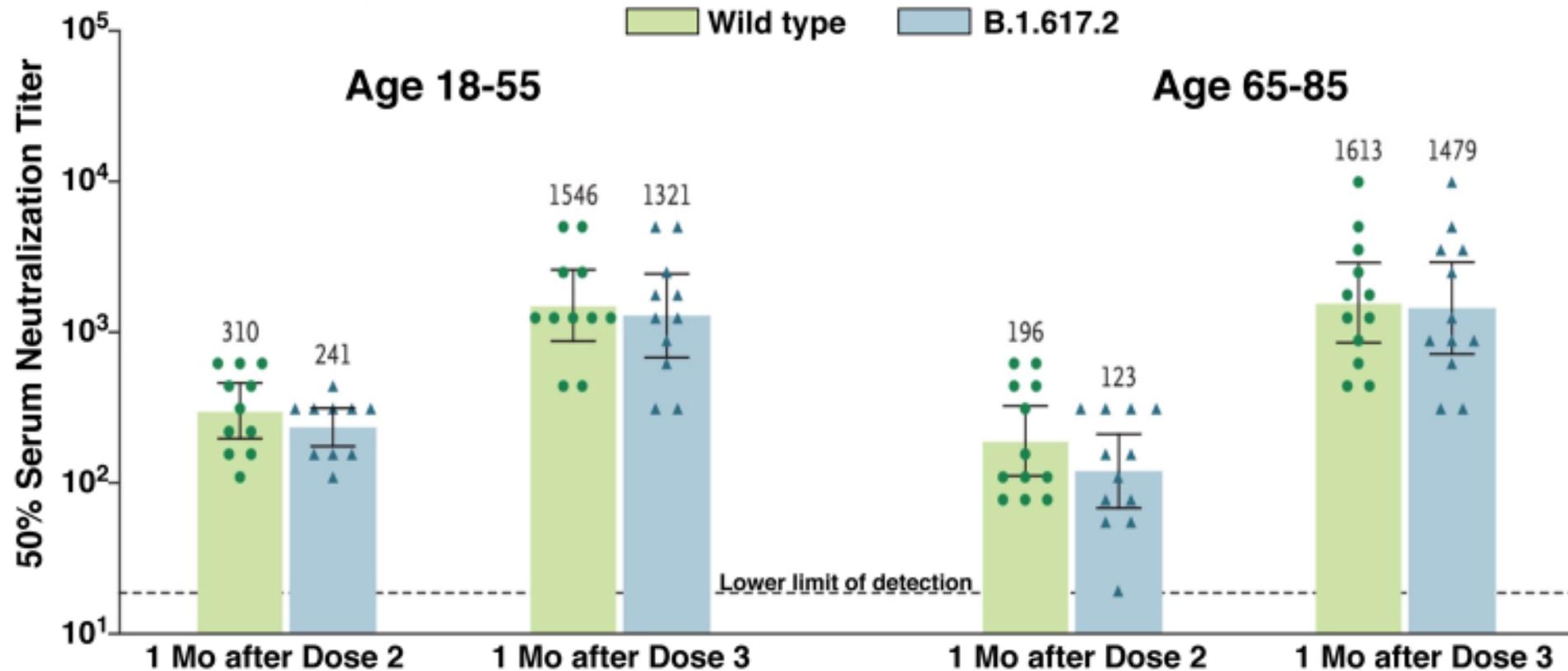


■ Substantial increase in post-boost titers against Delta was achieved in both age groups

Source: VRBPAC Presentation, Moderna, 10/14/2021



# BNT162b2 Booster Increases Antibody Titters Against Delta Variant



Source: Falsey et al. *NEJM* 9/15/2021



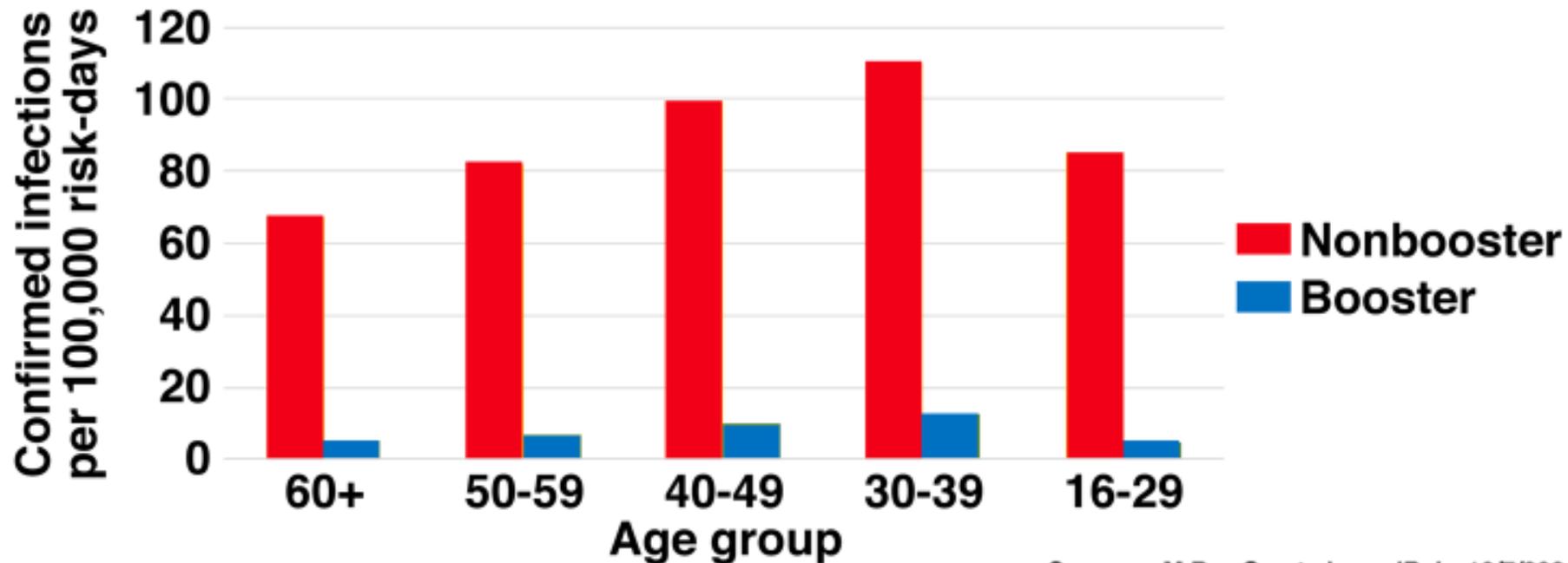
# **Clinical Effects of Booster Shots**



# Absolute Rates of Confirmed Infections per 100,000 Risk-Days in Israel

12+ days following booster versus 2nd dose only

Based on data from booster eligibility in age group until 10/4



Sources: M Bar-On et al. *medRxiv*, 10/7/2021;  
S Alroy-Preis & R Milo, FDA VRBAPC meeting, 10/14/2021.



# Israel: Protection Across Age Groups of BNT162b2 Vaccine Booster Against Severe COVID-19 Disease

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- N= 4.6M people in Israel, July 30 to Oct. 6, 2021
- Severe illness rates 12 more days after booster dose were **18.7-fold lower for ages 60+** and **22.0-fold lower for ages 40-60**, compared to non-booster group

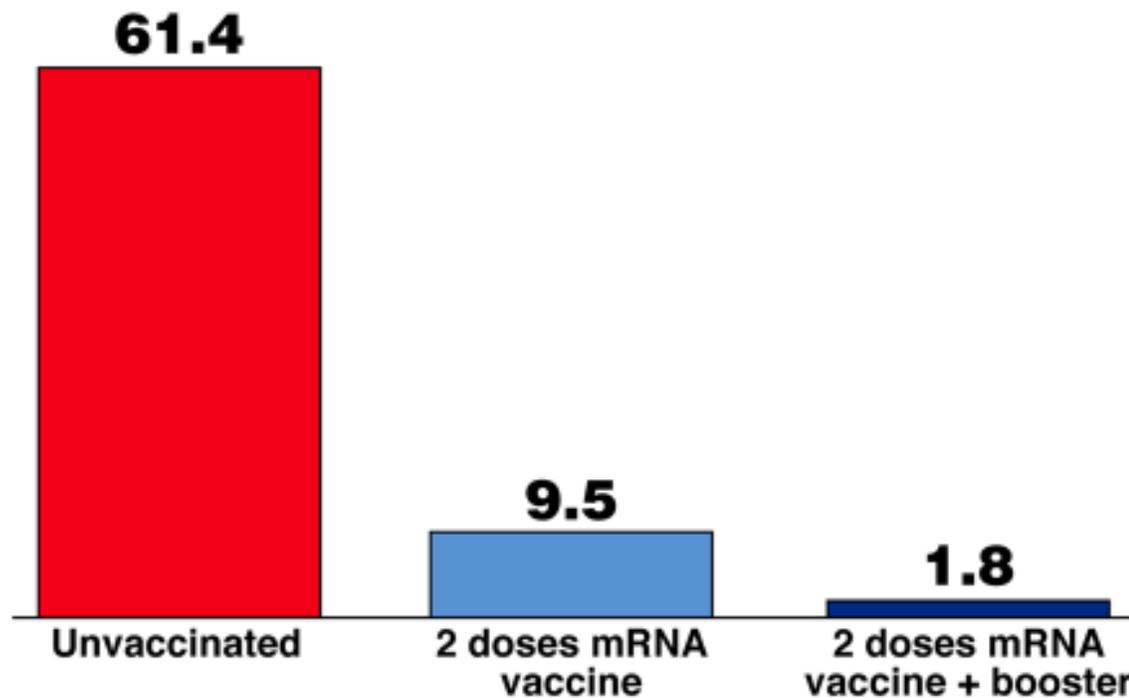


Source: M. Bar-On et al. *MedRxiv*, 10/7/2021.



# Active Severe COVID-19 Cases by Vaccination Status, Age 60+ Years, Israel (per 100K Population) – Oct. 31, 2021

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Source: Israel MOH, <https://datadashboard.health.gov.il>



# **New Real-World Data on Effectiveness of Third Doses of COVID-19 Vaccine**



# THE LANCET

Published online October 29, 2021

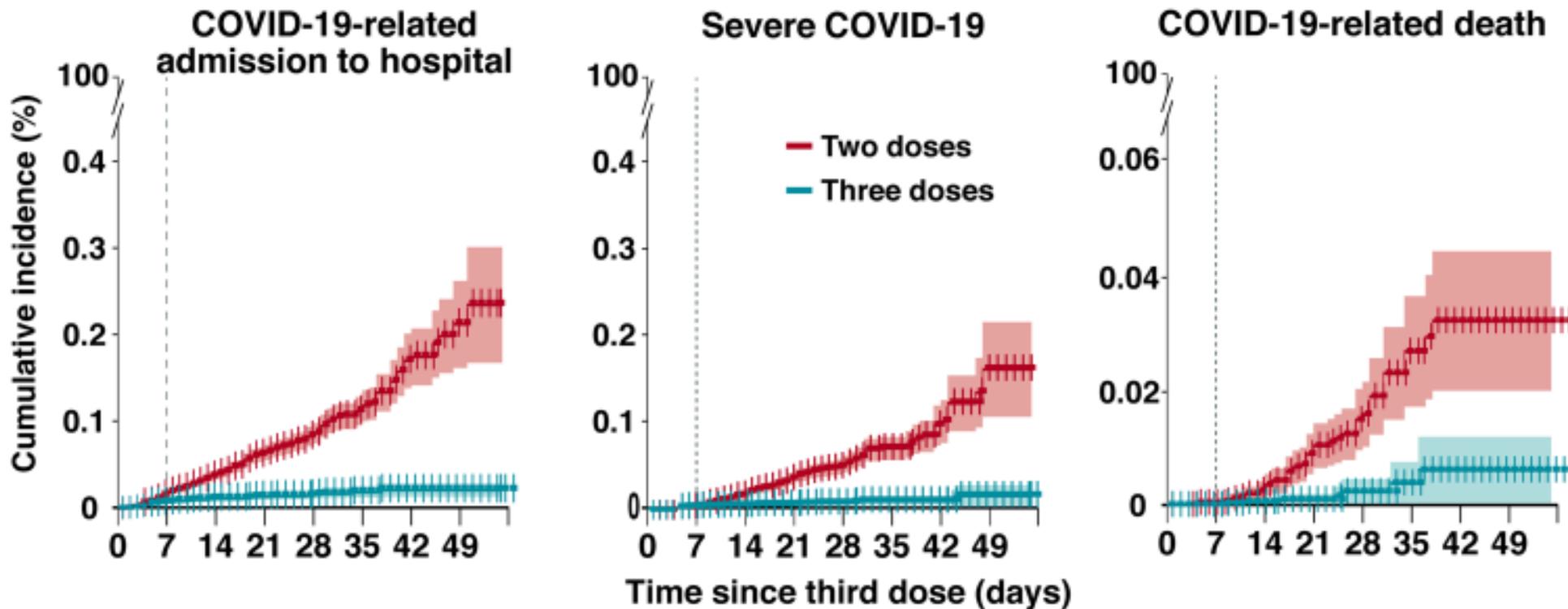
## **Effectiveness of a Third Dose of the BNT162b2 mRNA COVID-19 Vaccine for Preventing Severe Outcomes in Israel: An Observational Study**

N Barda, RD Balicer et al.

- 728,321 individuals aged 12 years or older who had received 3rd dose of BNT162b2 vaccine matched 1:1 with individuals who had received 2 shots of the BNT162b2 vaccine at least five months prior
- Compared to 2-dose recipients, individuals who received 3 doses had 93% lower risk of COVID-19-related hospitalization, 92% lower risk of severe COVID-19 disease, and 81% lower risk of COVID-19-related death, 7 days or more after the third dose
- Vaccine effectiveness similar for different sexes, age groups (ages 40-69 and 70+) and number of comorbidities



# Cumulative Incidence Curves Comparing COVID-19-Related Hospital Admissions, Severe Disease and Death in People Who Received 2 Versus 3 Doses of BNT162b2 Vaccine



Source: N Barda et al. *Lancet*, 10/29/2021.



# **“Booster” Shots for SARS-CoV-2 Vaccines**



**Is the booster shot a boost for a vaccine regimen with waning efficacy?**

**OR**

**Is the booster shot actually part of the original vaccine regimen?**





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Q&A



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