



# OHSU COVID Forecast

Edition: 12/17/2021

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# Omicron Update

# Key Parameters

- Less protection (immune escape)
  - Vaccine and previous infection do not prevent infection at same rate as previous strains
  - Boosters do prevent infection
- Faster transmitting ( $R_0$ )
  - Even without immunity escape, this means the virus just spreads faster
- Less severe (hospitalization rate)
  - Compared to Delta how much less likely is a person to be hospitalized
- Other factors
  - Length of stay, days until hospitalization, first case date, booster rate, behavior response

# Omicron in Denmark

Both fully vaccinated and booster vaccinated individuals are testing positive for Omicron in Denmark.

Vaccine in Denmark is almost entirely Pfizer (83%) and Moderna (15%).

The percent breakthrough is 77% for Delta ("Other variants") and 91% for Omicron. Both are high compared to its vaccination rate of 80%.

There have been 63 hospitalized cases, which is approximately 42% of the rate for Delta (50% more likely to be incidental).

Current hospital census is 25

**Table 4. Vaccination status for individuals ≥12 years infected with Omicron compared to other variants, data included in the table are from 22 November to 14 December 2021**

| Vaccination status (12+ year olds) | Other variants (No. of cases) | Other variants (%) | Omicron (No. of cases) | Omicron (%) |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-------------|
| Booster vaccinated                 | 6,679                         | 7.3                | 1,074                  | 10.3        |
| Fully vaccinated                   | 60,174                        | 66.0               | 8,235                  | 78.7        |
| Not vaccinated                     | 21,364                        | 23.5               | 947                    | 9.0         |
| Received first dose                | 2,887                         | 3.2                | 214                    | 2.0         |
| Total                              | 91,104                        | 100.0              | 10,470                 | 100.0       |

| Denmark                                     |     |
|---|-----|
| • Vaxzevria (previously called AstraZeneca) | 2%  |
| • Spikevax (previously called Moderna)      | 15% |
| • Comirnaty/BioNTech                        | 83% |

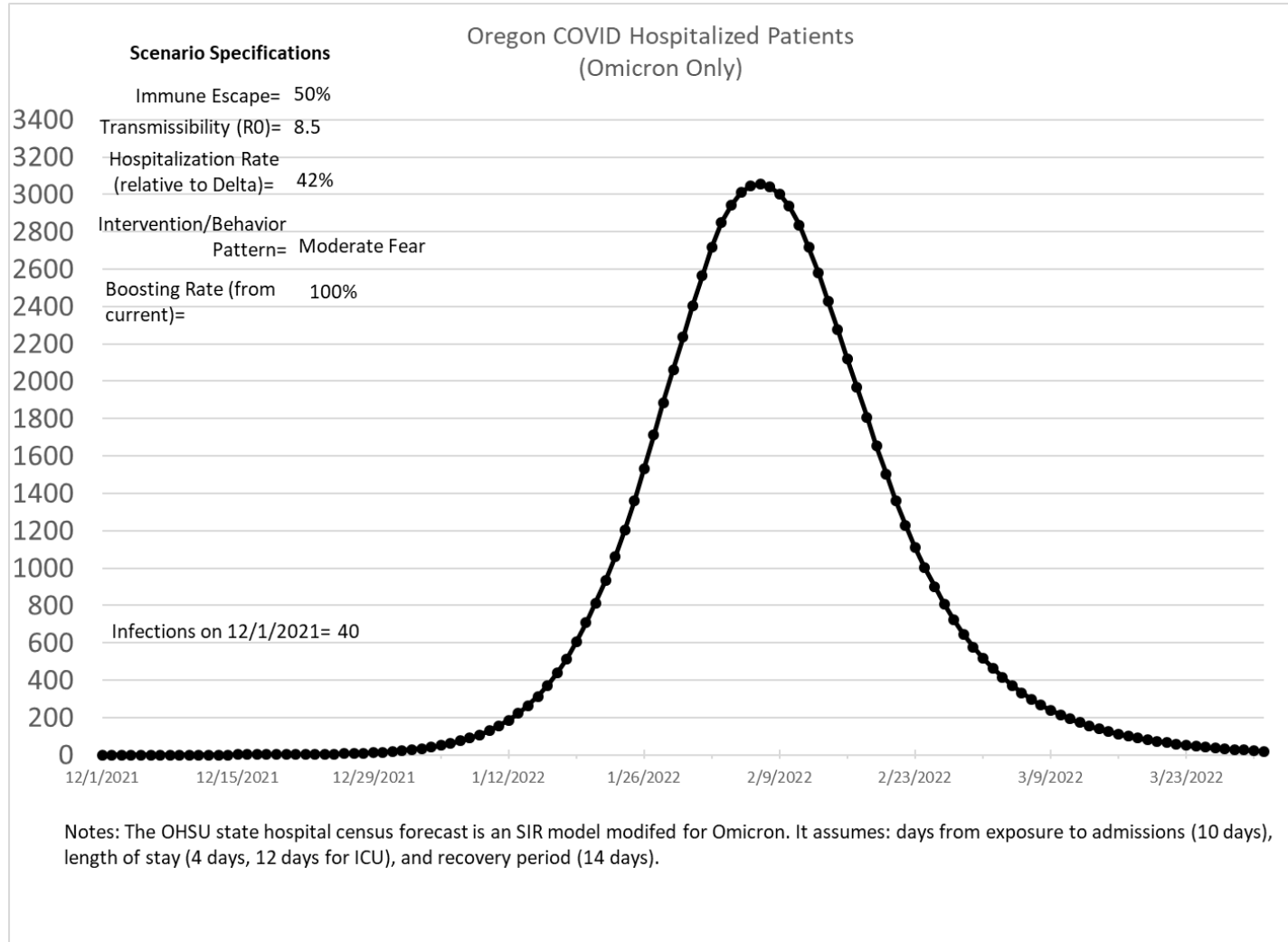
**Table 6. Number and proportion of Omicron-related hospital admissions compared to other variants, data included in the table are from 22 November to 14 December 2021**

| Hospital admissions in total                           | Other variants (No. of cases) | Other variants (%) | Omicron (No. of cases) | Omicron (%) |
|--|-------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-------------|
| Have not been hospitalized                             | 121,689                       | 98.5               | 11,205                 | 99.3        |
| Tested positive 48 hrs or more after admission         | 229                           | 0.2                | 14                     | 0.1         |
| Tested positive prior or within 48 hrs after admission | 1,642                         | 1.3                | 63                     | 0.6         |
| Total  | 123,560                       | 100.0              | 11,282                 | 100.0       |

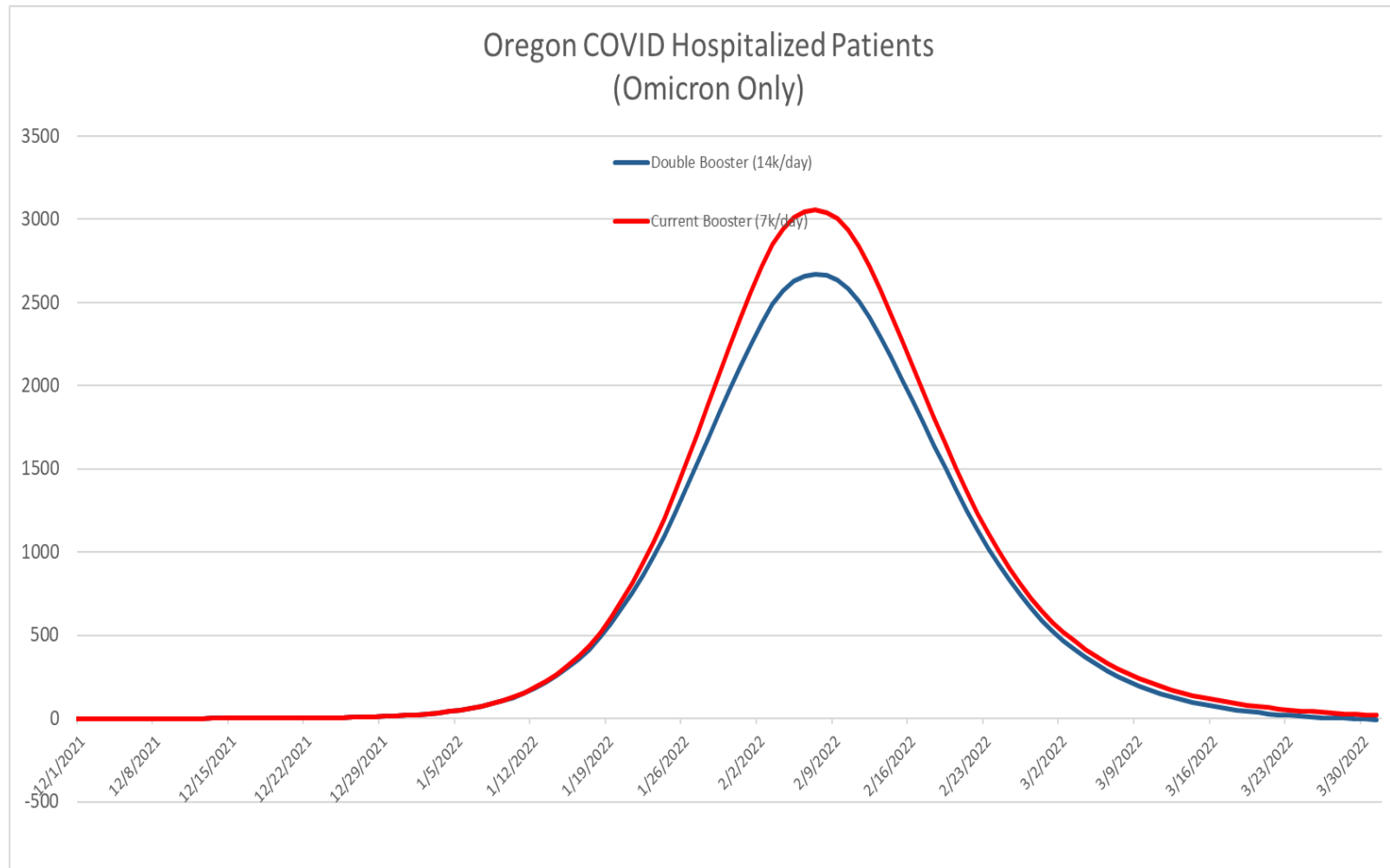
**Table 5. Number of Omicron related hospitalizations at the time of data extraction**

| Omicron related hospitalizations | No. of cases |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Hospitalized                     | 25           |
| Hospitalized in ICU              | <5           |

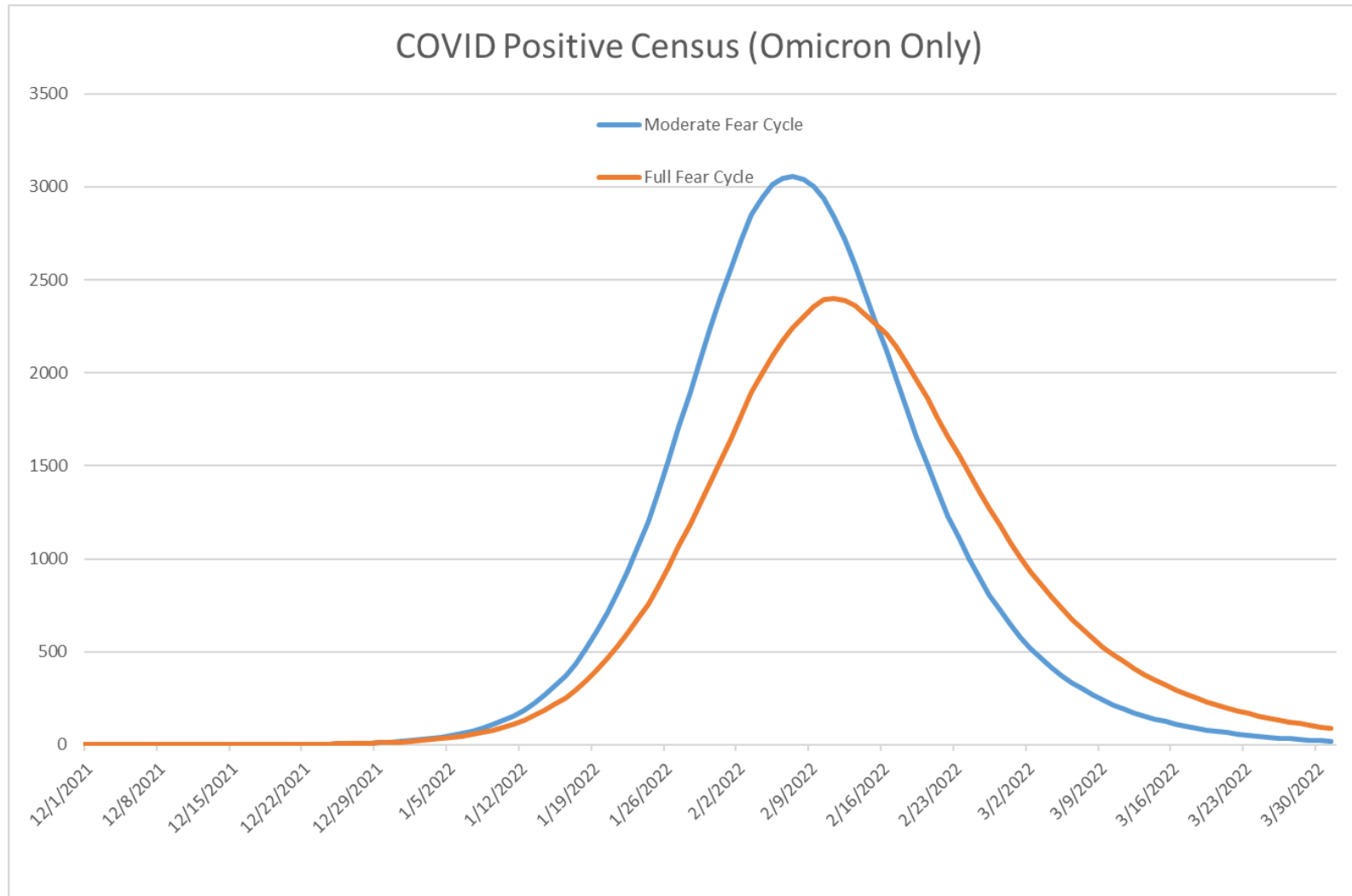
# Omicron Forecast



# Boosting Effect

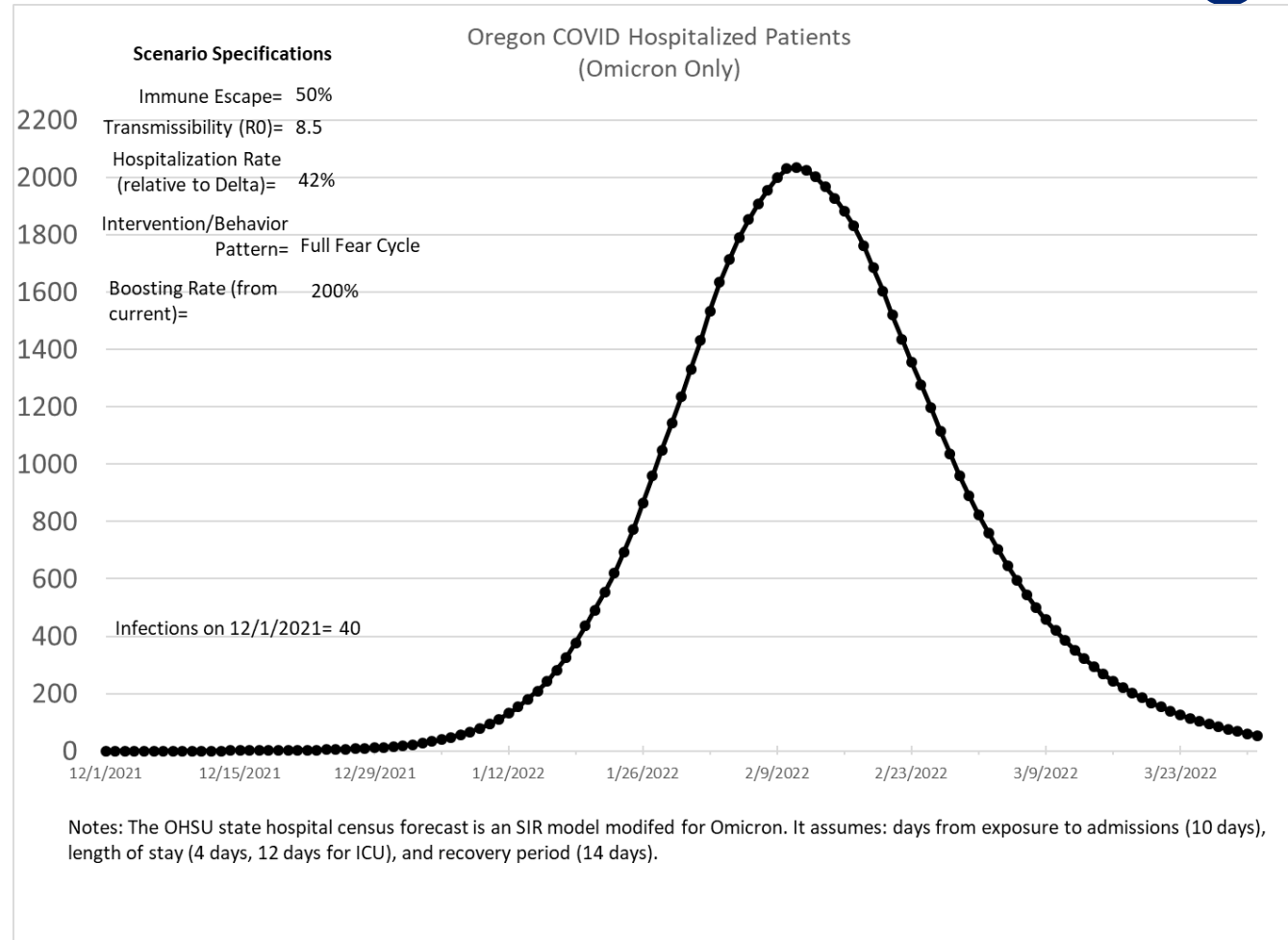


# Behavior Effect





# Forecast with Behavior Response and Increased Boosting





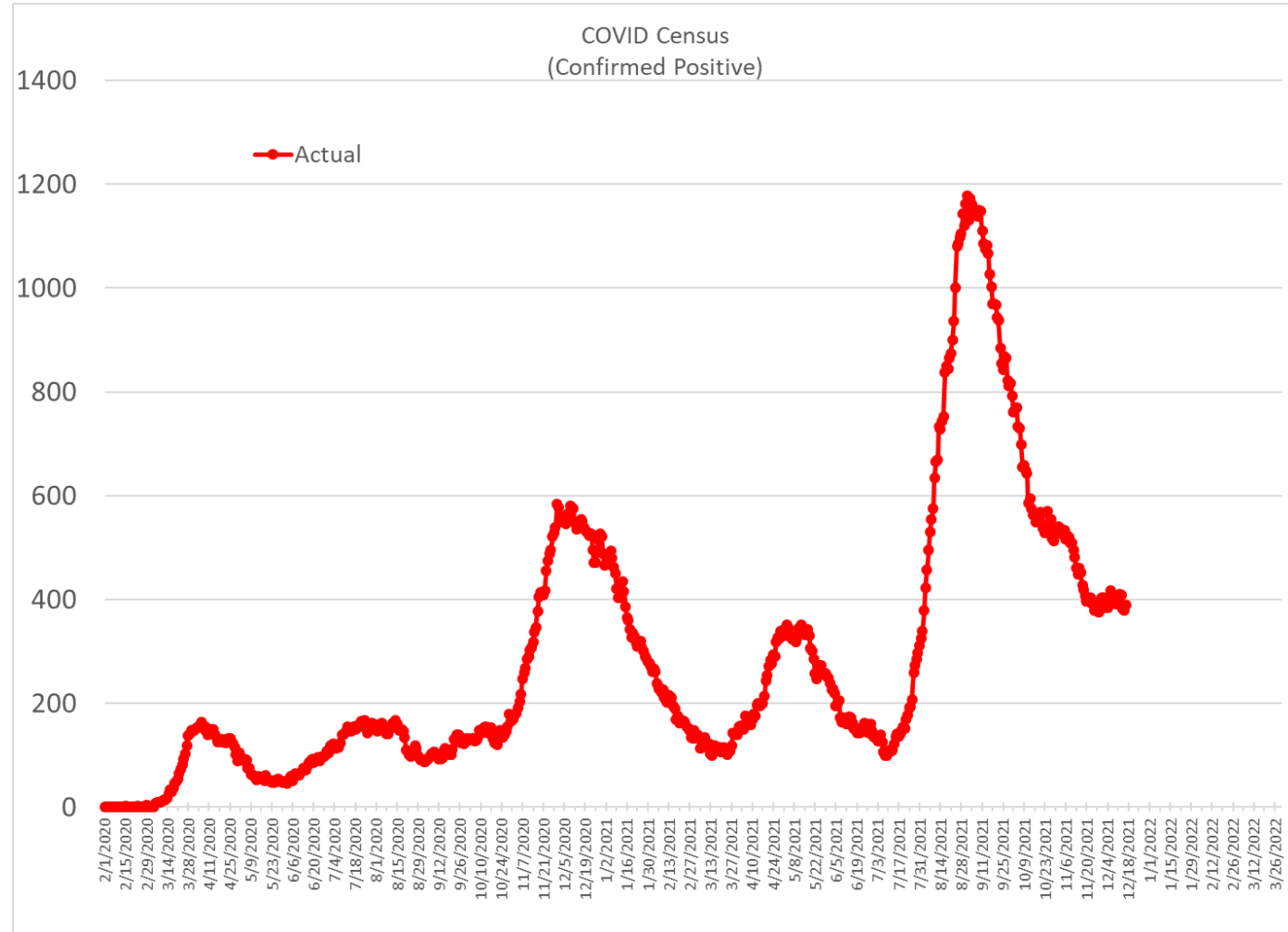
# Additional Factors Not Included

- Targeting high risk of hospitalization with boosters or intervention
- Alternative settings for hospitalized patients that are less severe
- Capacity constraints from hospital staff illness
- Impact of antivirals

# Key Outcomes

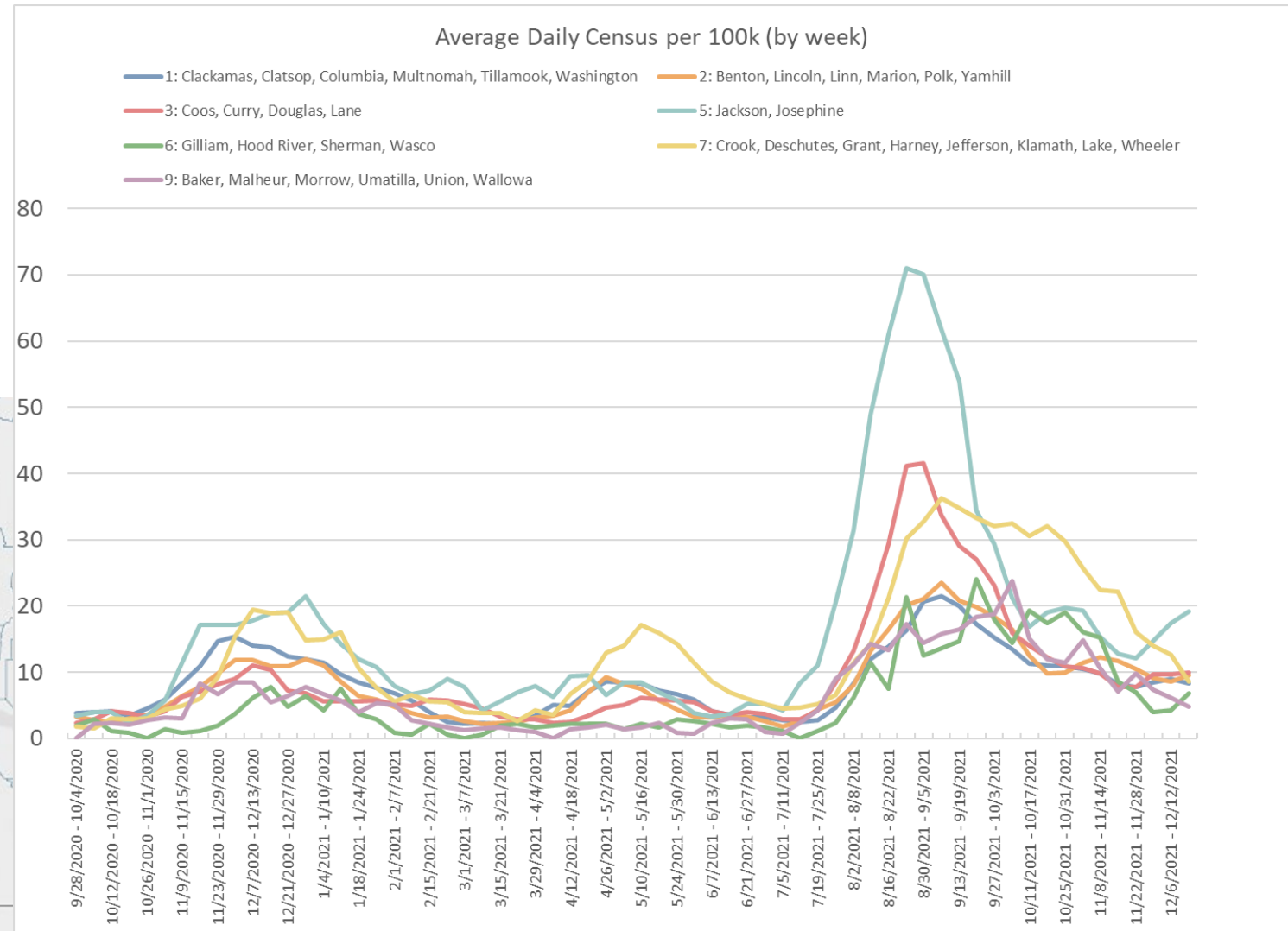
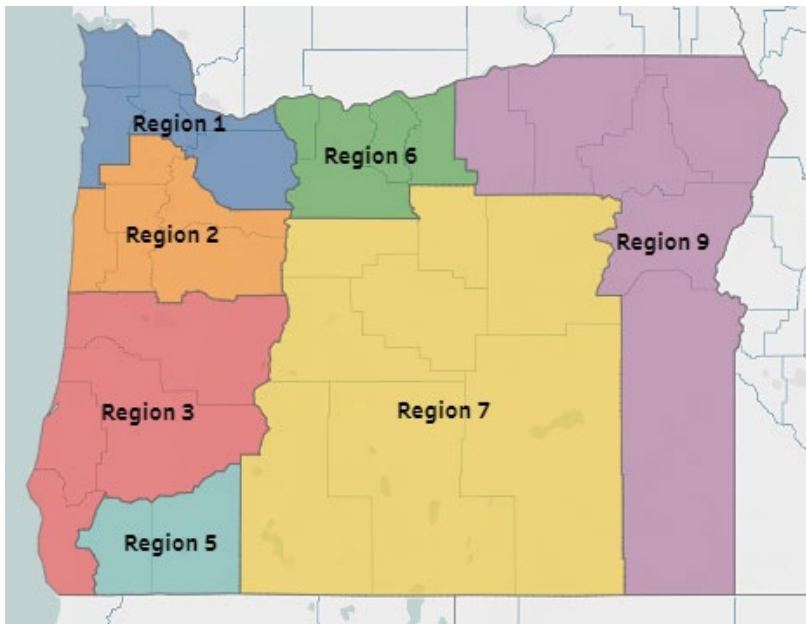
# Hospitalized Patients

As of 12/16/2021, the statewide census was 389.



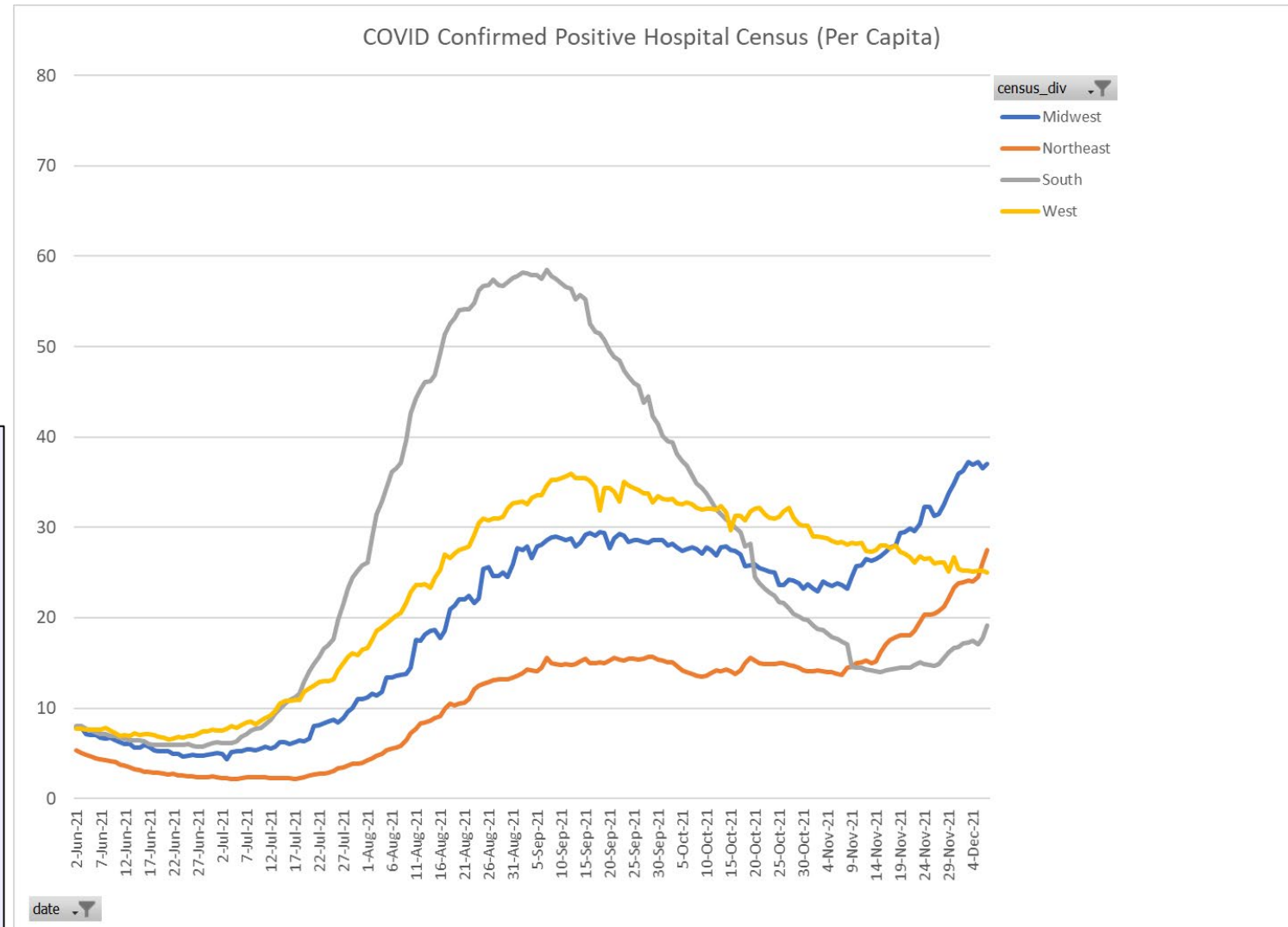
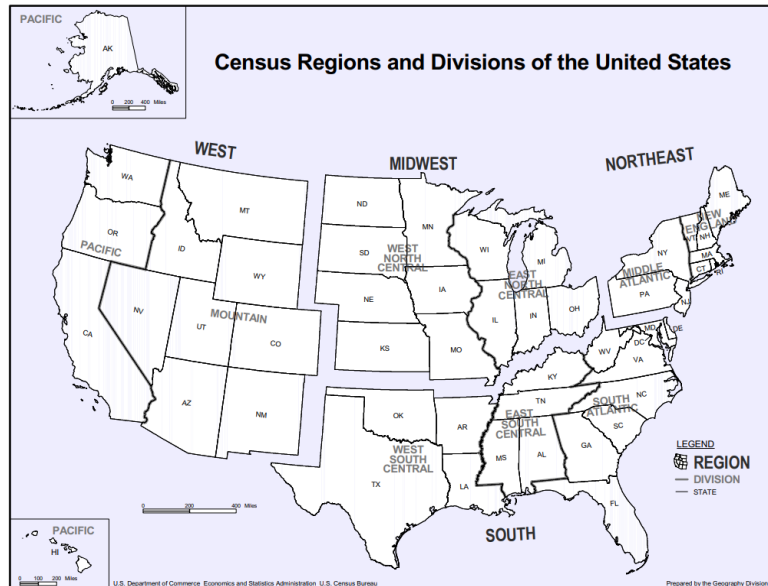
# Regional Hospital Census

Region 5 is showing continued increase. Other regions are flat or declining.



# Hospital Census by US Region

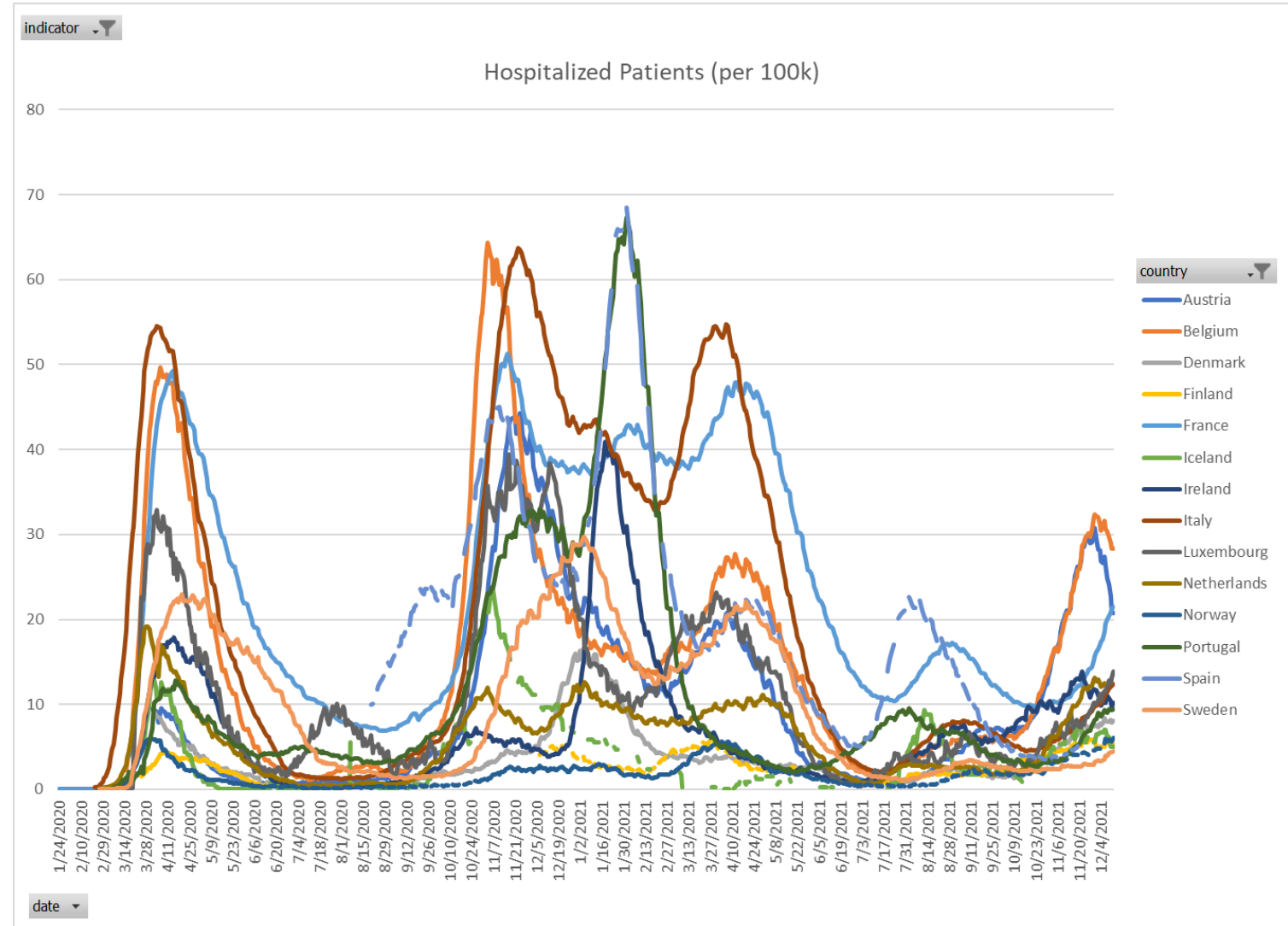
The Midwest and Northeast are experiencing modest increases. The West and South are decreasing or flat.



# Hospitalizations in Europe

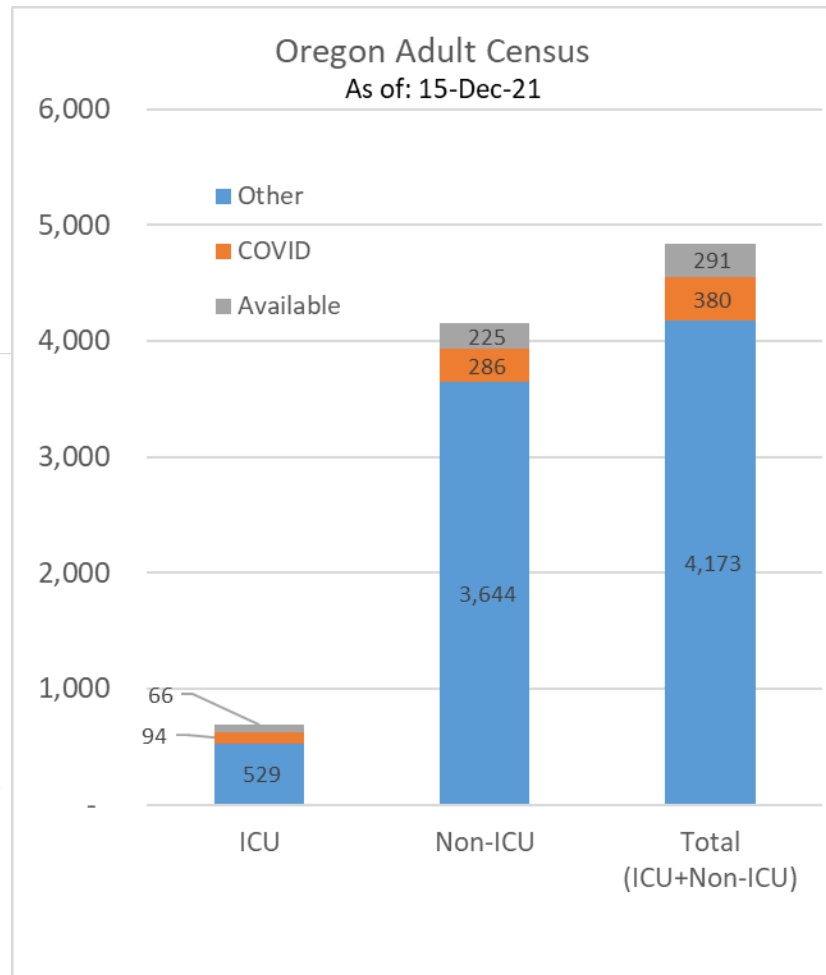
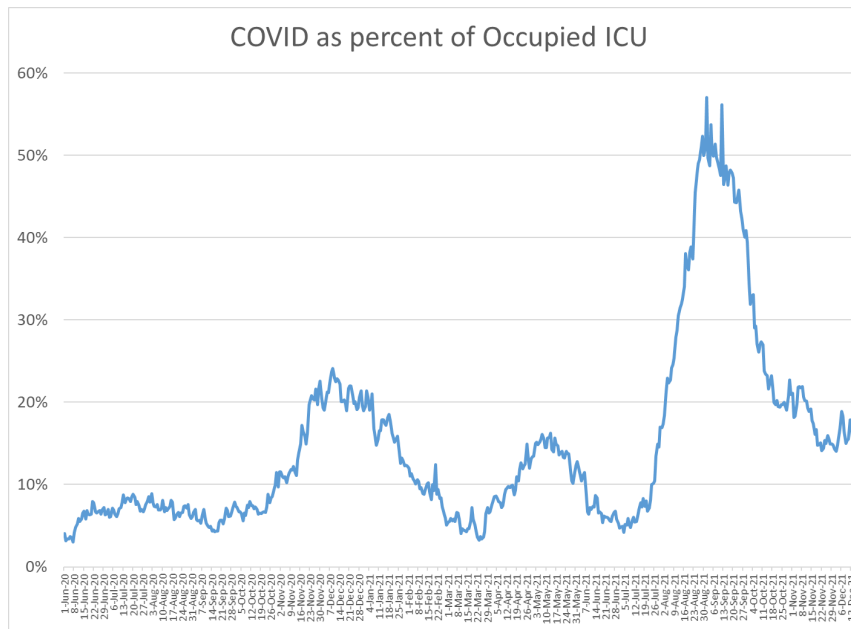
The hospitalization rate across Western European countries is shown. The list of countries includes: France, Spain, Italy, Belgium, Portugal, Austria, Netherlands, Sweden, Ireland, Finland, Denmark, Norway, Luxembourg, Iceland.

Belgium and Austria peaked and are declining. France is accelerating. Most others are stable.

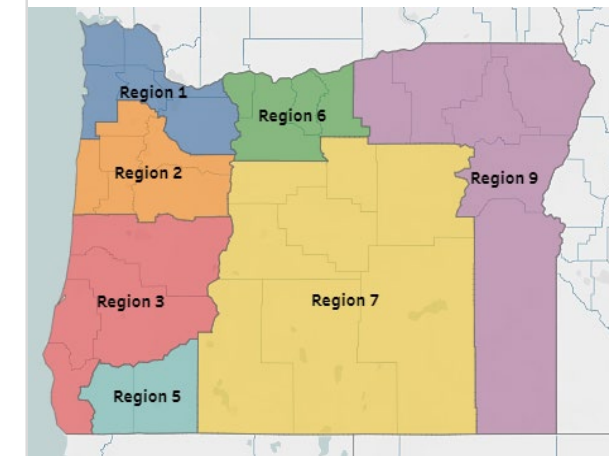


# Oregon Hospital Capacity

As of 12/9, 15% of occupied ICU beds are filled with COVID patients.



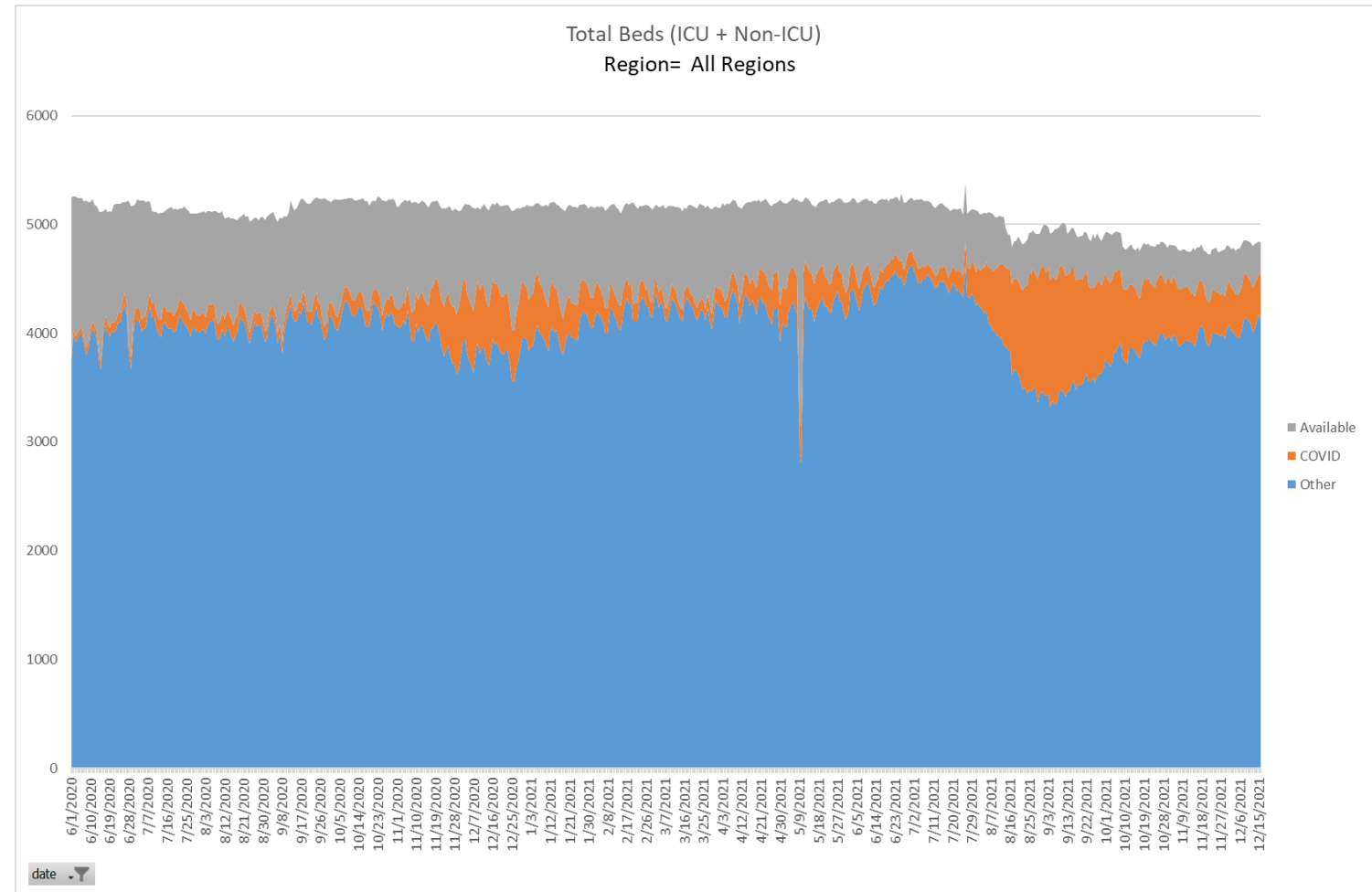
| Region | Share of Occupied w/COVID |         |       |
|--------|---------------------------|---------|-------|
|        | ICU                       | Non-ICU | Total |
| 1      | 11%                       | 6%      | 7%    |
| 2      | 17%                       | 12%     | 13%   |
| 3      | 13%                       | 9%      | 9%    |
| 5      | 40%                       | 8%      | 12%   |
| 6      | 13%                       | 9%      | 10%   |
| 7      | 14%                       | 5%      | 6%    |
| 9      | 20%                       | 5%      | 7%    |
| Total  | 15%                       | 7%      | 8%    |





# Oregon Hospital Capacity

These data are based on HOSCAP reports of individuals infected with COVID.



# New Cases per Capita

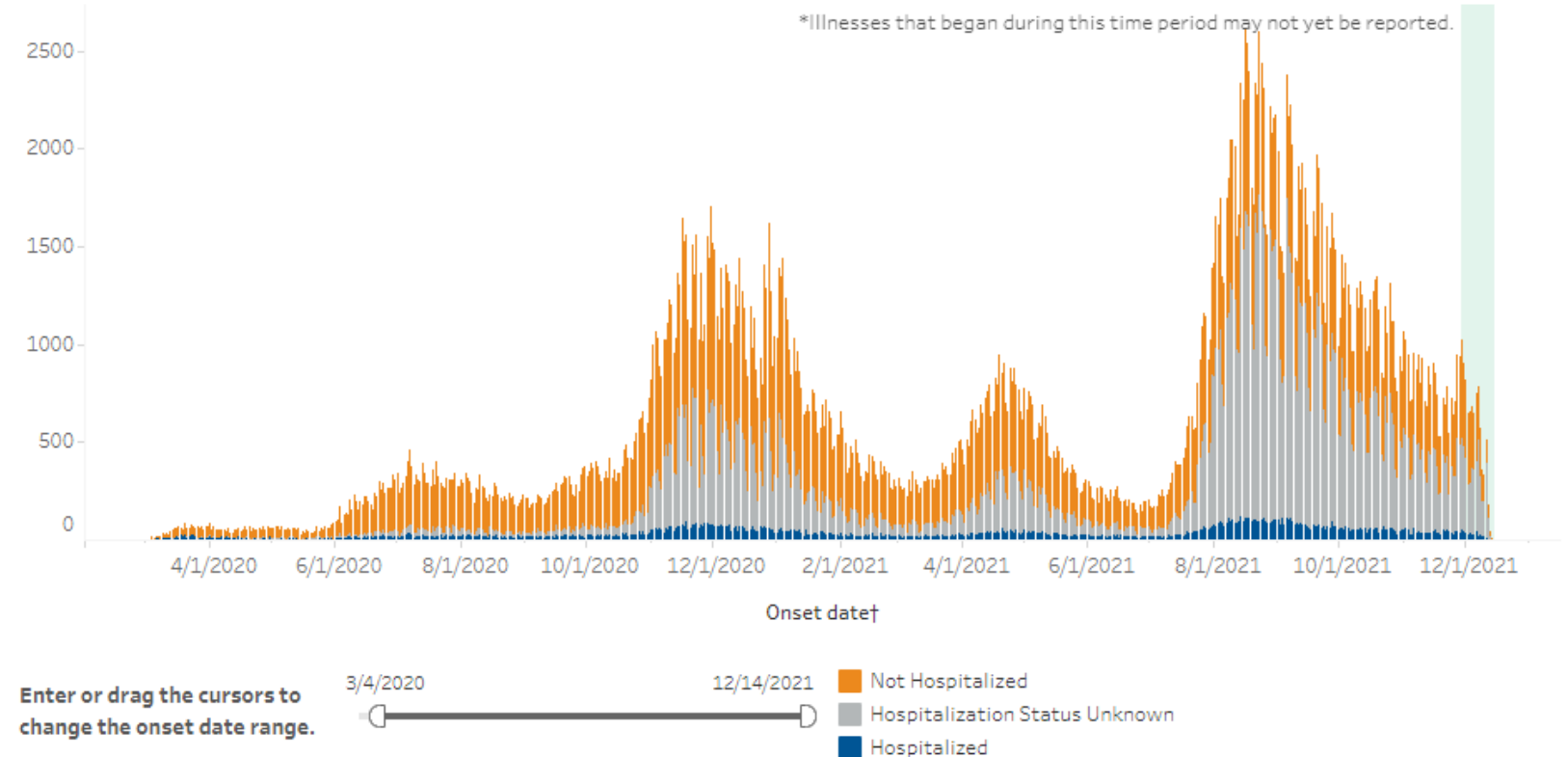
Case rates continue to decline. Some increase in cases was expected following Thanksgiving.

Oregon is the 9<sup>th</sup> lowest in the US in the number of new cases per day.

## Oregon's Epi Curve: COVID-19 cases

This chart shows the number of Oregonians who have been identified as COVID-19 cases and whether they were ever hospitalized for their illness.†

| Total Cases | Hospitalized | Not Hospitalized | Hospitalization Status Unknown |
|-------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------------------|
| 403,329     | 21,652       | 221,886          | 159,791                        |



# Cases by Vaccination Status

As of 12/16, general declines in case rates in both populations are evident.

Observed vaccine effectiveness remains steady.

Note: The vaccine effectiveness chart reflects revisions to data in the breakthrough report.

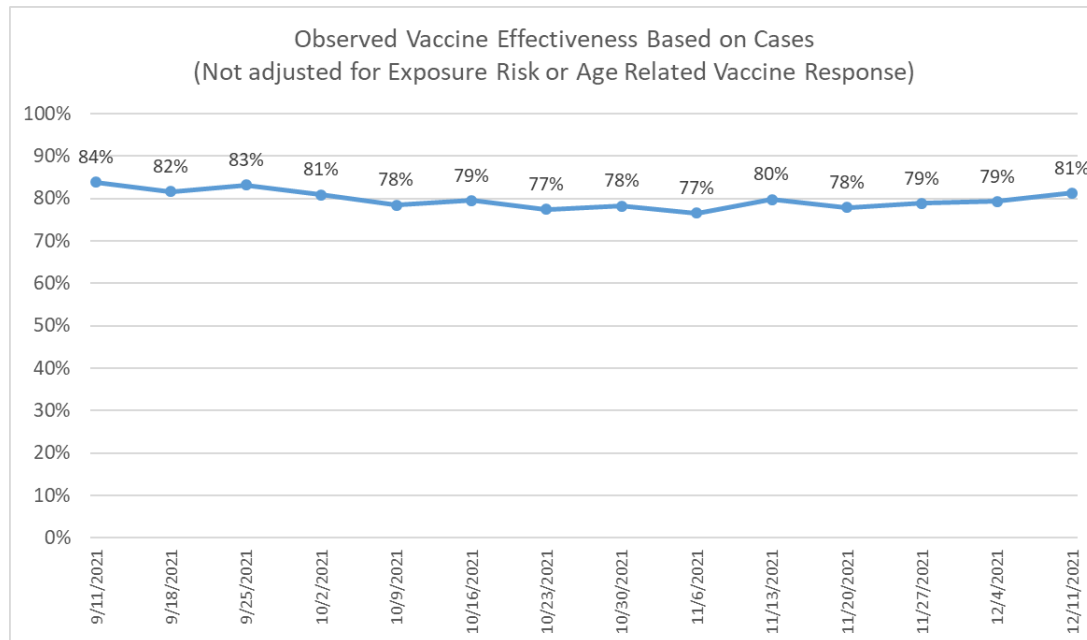
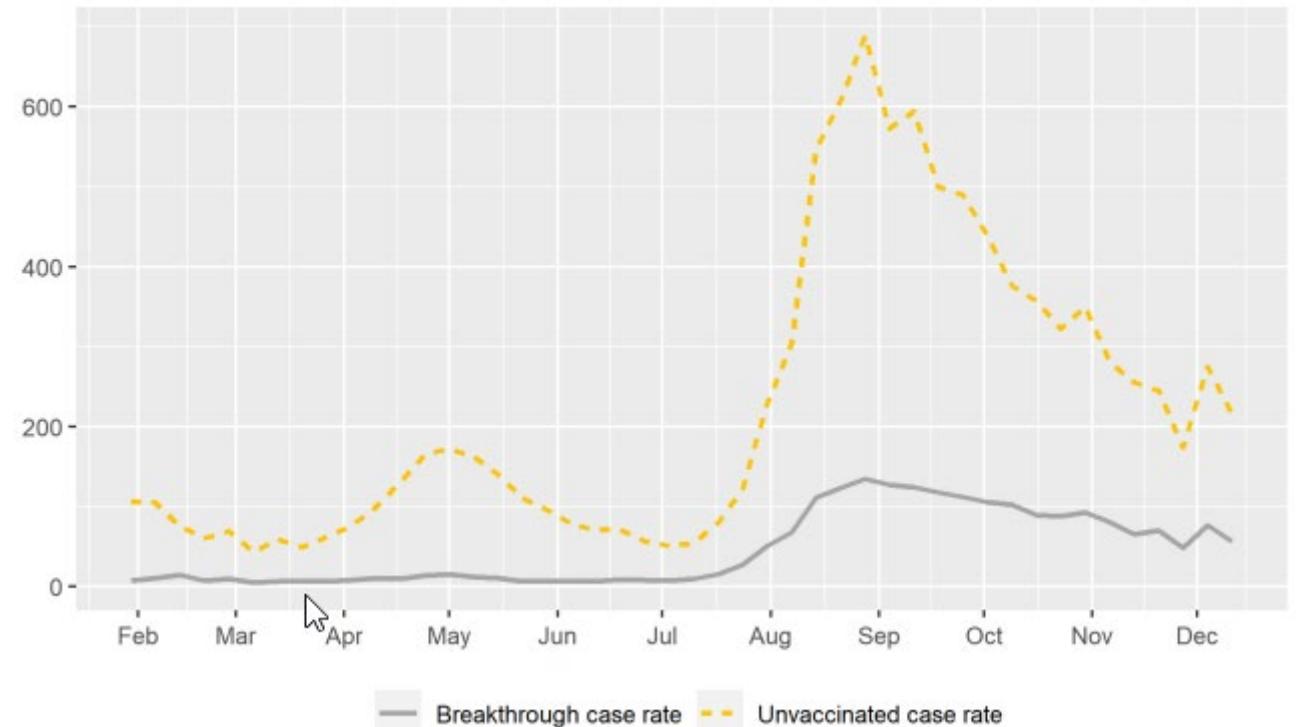


Figure 1. COVID-19 cases per 100,000 per week, by vaccination status

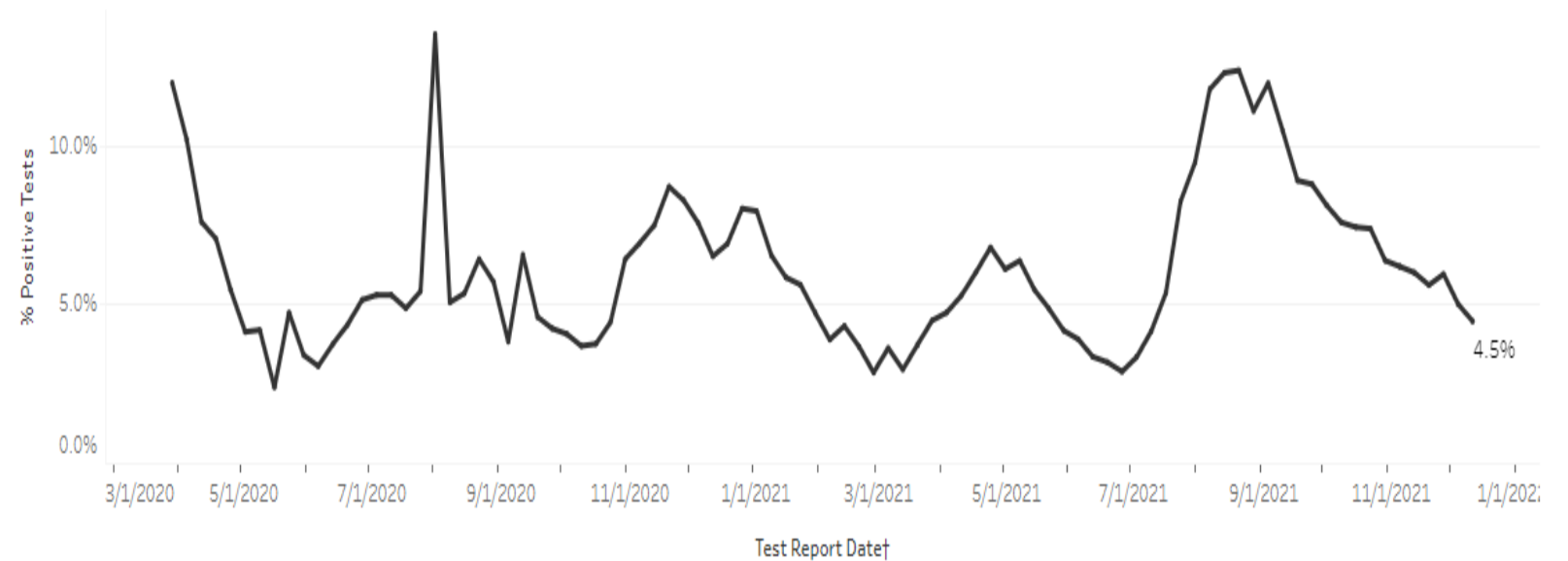


Note: Observed Vaccine efficacy is calculated as  $1 - (\text{CasesVac} / \text{CaseUnvac}) * (\text{PctUnvac} / \text{PctVac})$

# Test Positivity

The most recent complete week (12/5-12/11) had a test positivity of 5.0%.

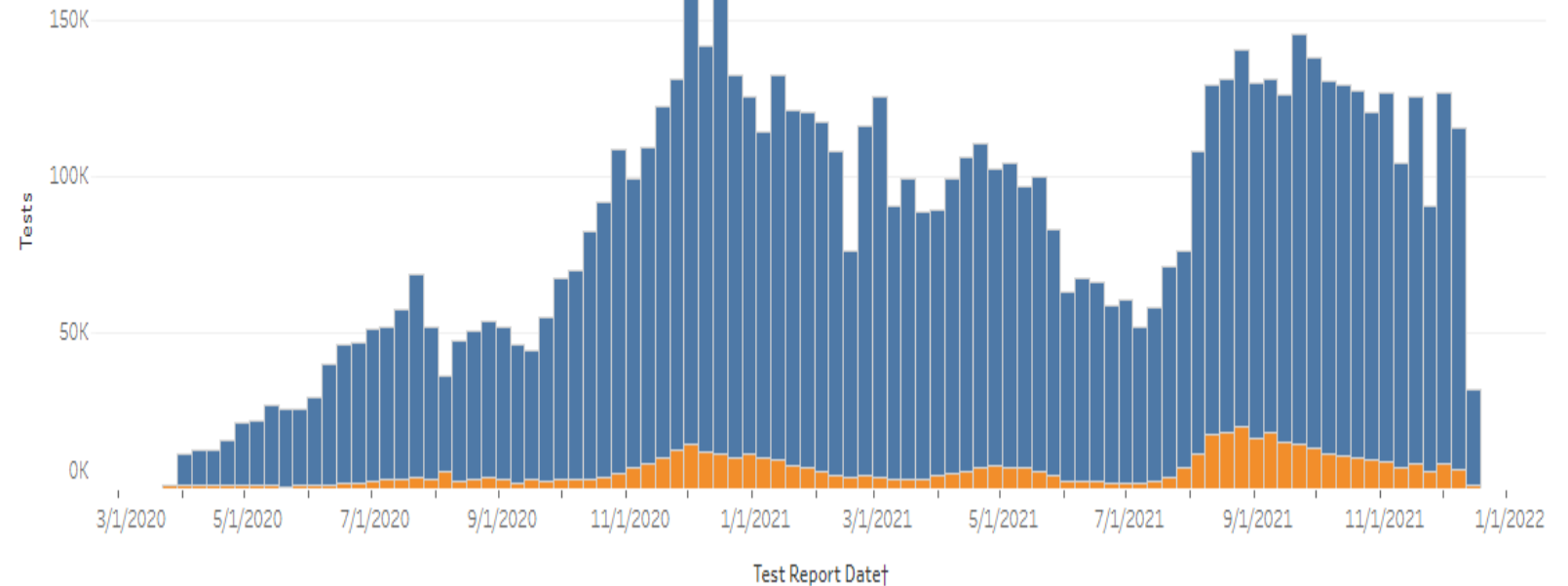
Test positivity over time - All



# Total Tests

Testing levels remain at similar levels seen throughout Delta surge.

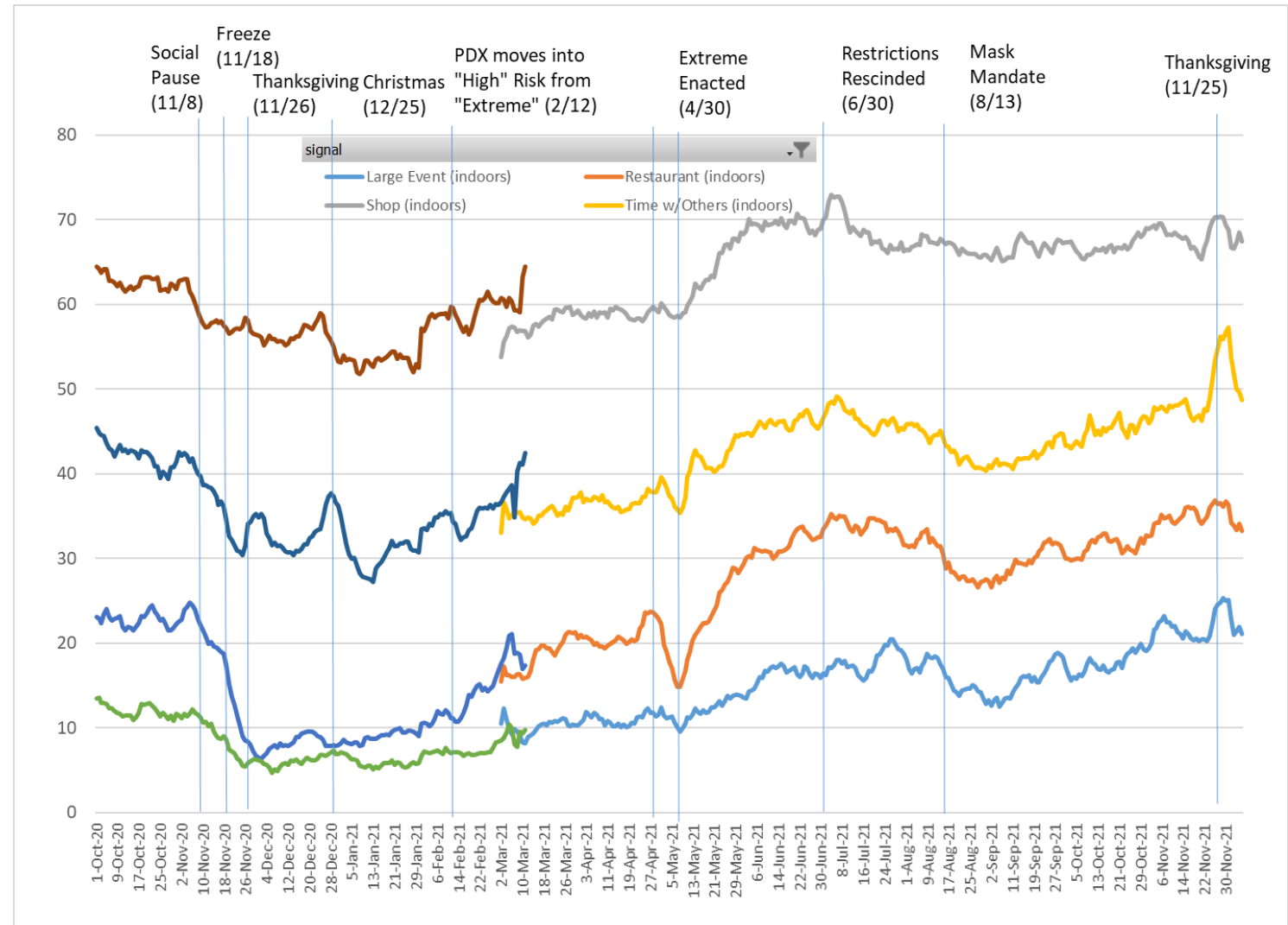
Positive and Negative COVID-19 test counts over time - All



# Review of Leading Indicators

# Higher Risk Behaviors

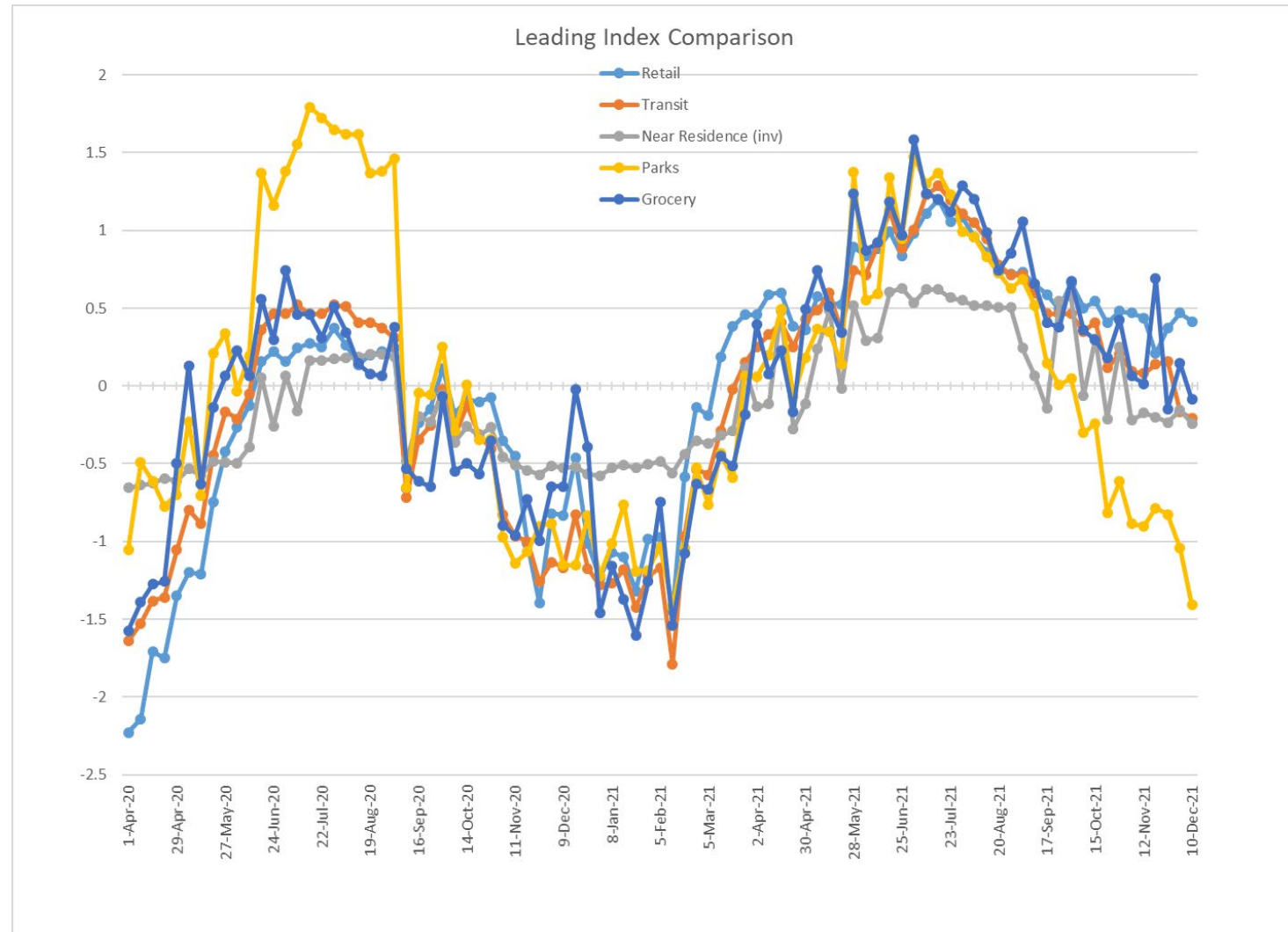
Time with others returned to Pre-Thanksgiving levels. Other metrics remained flat.





# Google Mobility Metrics

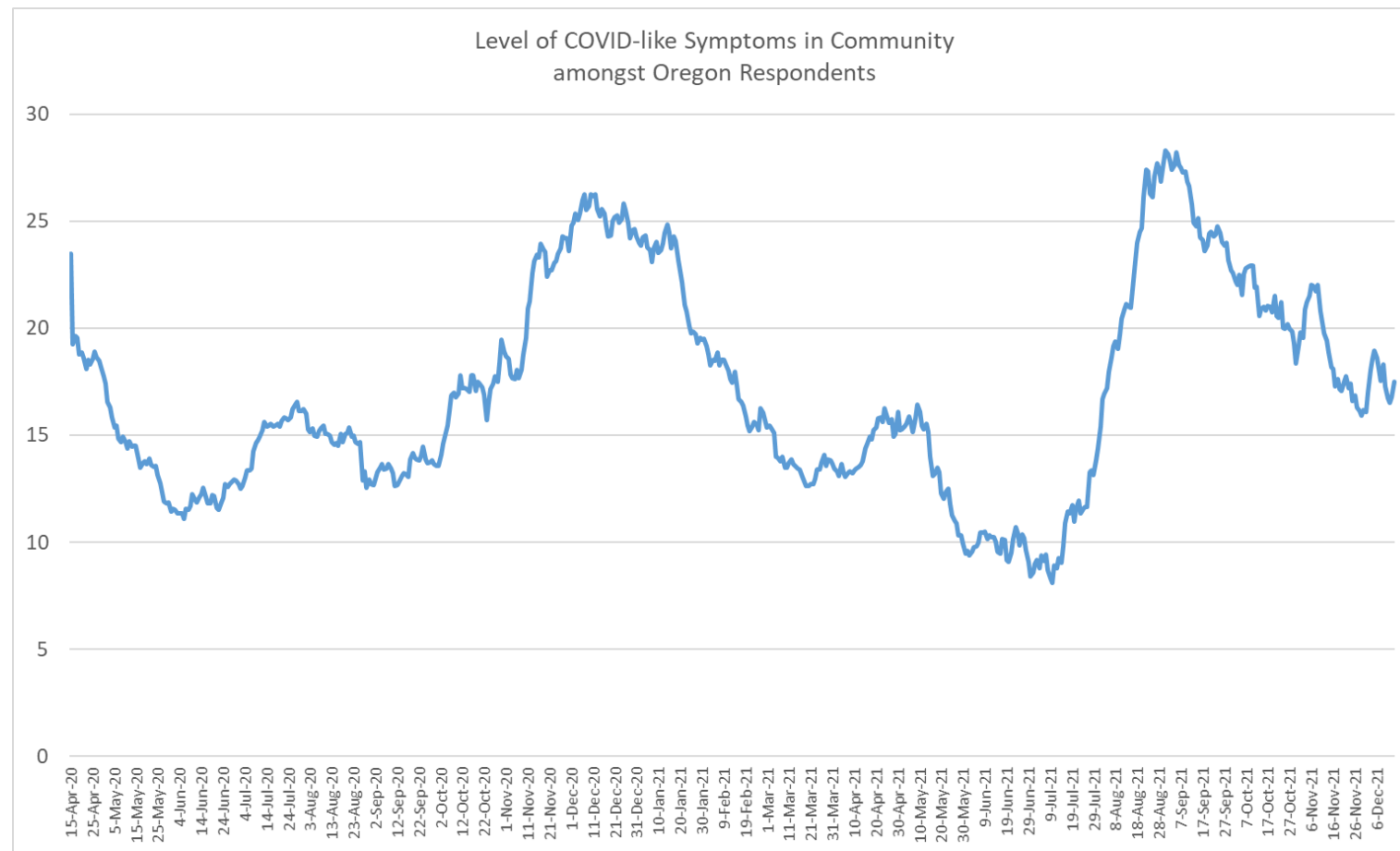
Grocery trips increased during Thanksgiving week. Other metrics continue a seasonal decline.



# Symptoms

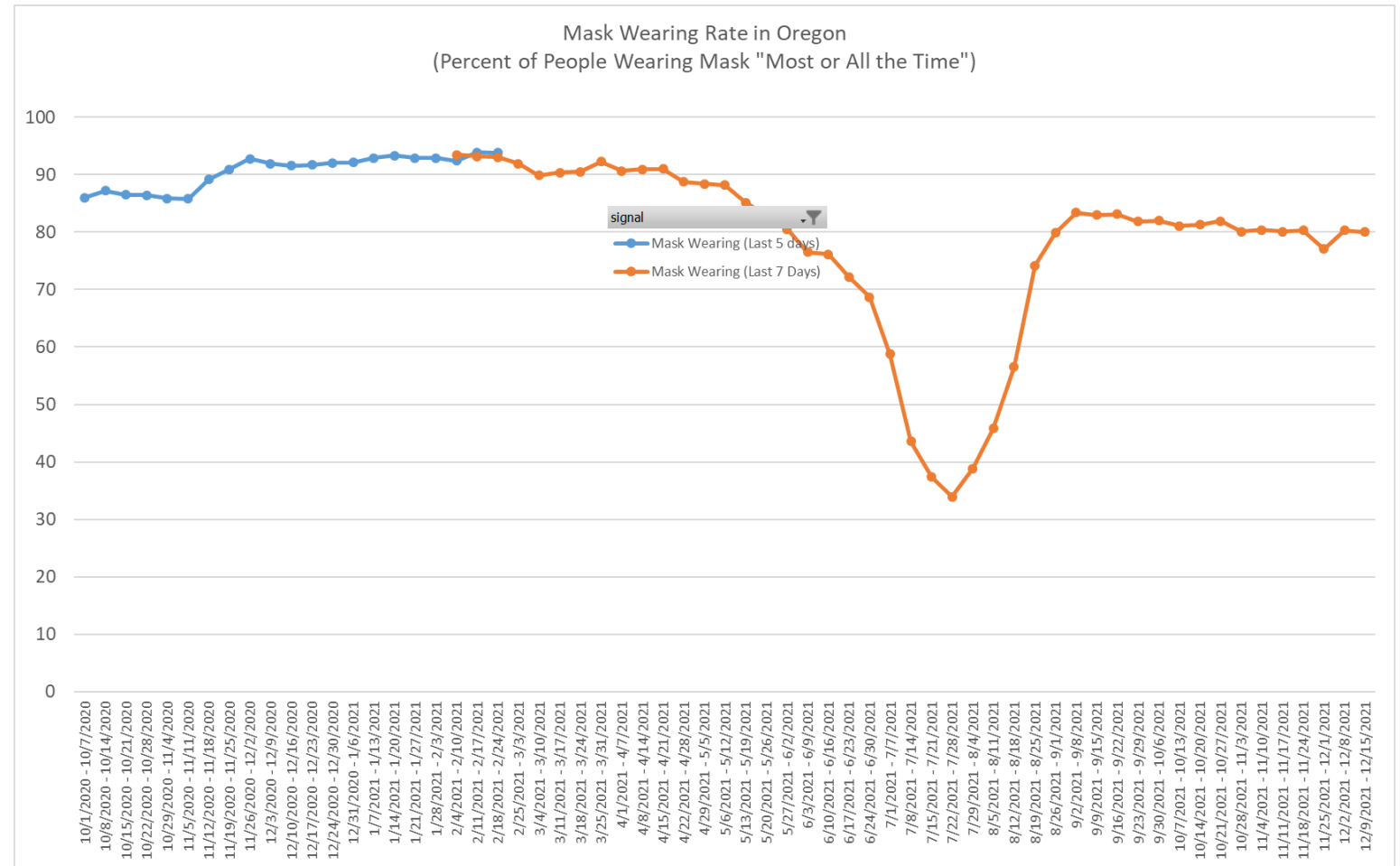
Symptoms bounced up in last week though may not be a trend unless they continue for another week.

Note: “Symptoms” refer to community reports of COVID-like symptoms through Facebook surveys.



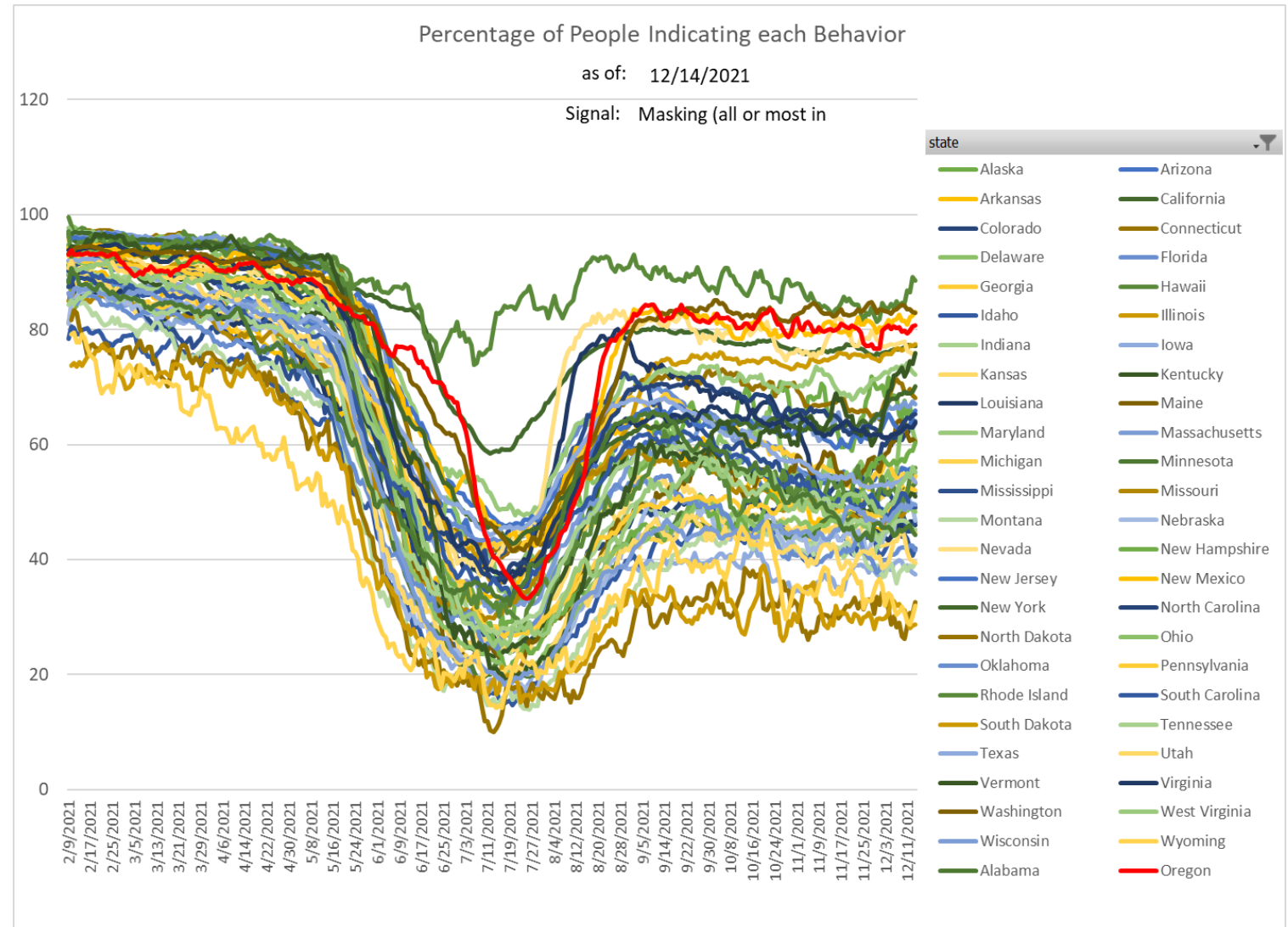
# Mask Wearing

Mask wearing remains high.



# Masking Wearing by State

Oregon has the 4<sup>th</sup> highest masking rate in the country.

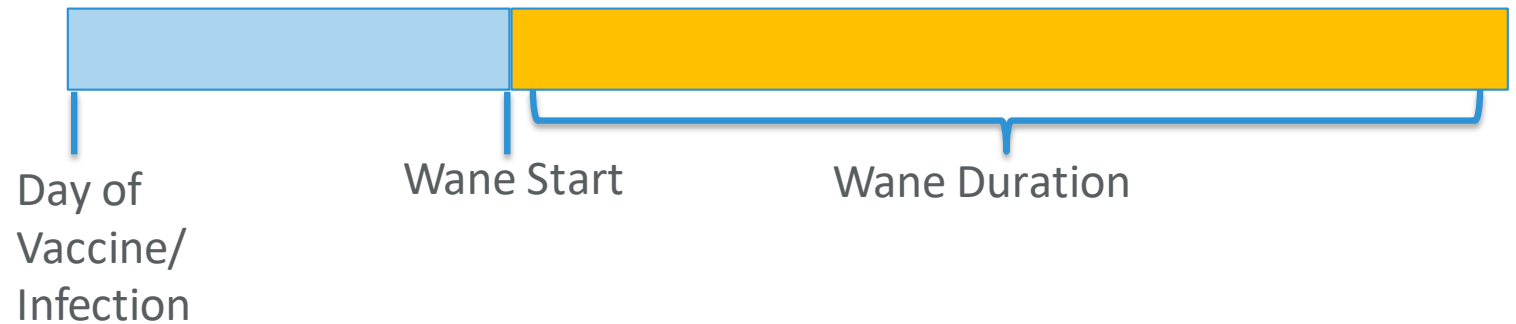


# Statewide Forecast

# Model Assumption-Waning Immunity

In order for the model to account for waning immunity of previous infection or vaccine, certain assumptions are needed. This model uses a basic structure which indicates:

- 1) Wane Starts: How many months after infection/vaccine waning begins.
- 2) Wane Duration: How long until waning is complete.
- 3) Wane Share: Percent of people who will not get boosters to prevent waning.

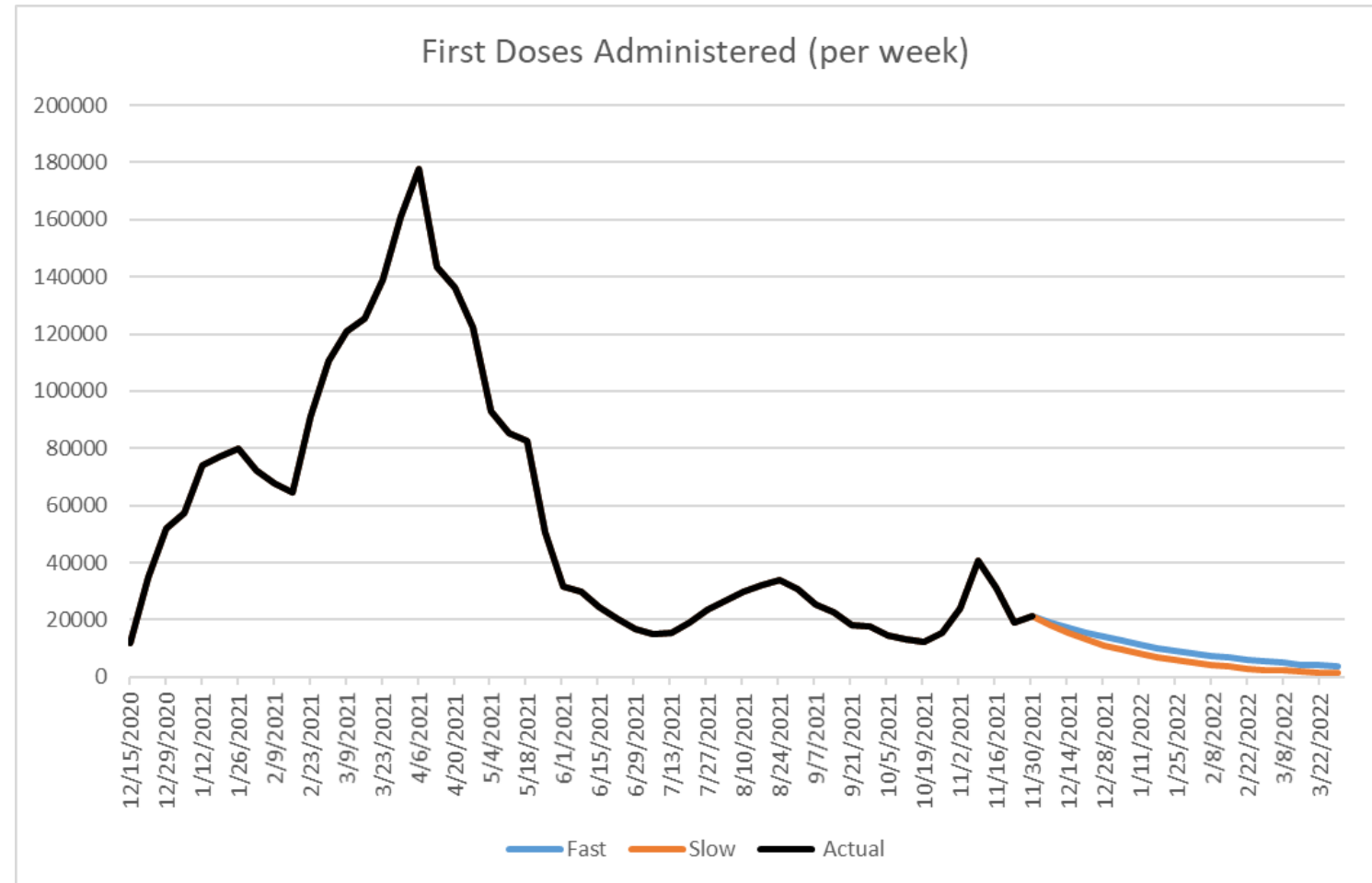


| Scenario               | Standard |           | Short   |           |
|------------------------|----------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| Parameter              | Vaccine  | Infection | Vaccine | Infection |
| Wane Start (months)    | 12       | 12        | 9       | 9         |
| Wane Duration (months) | 24       | 24        | 12      | 12        |
| Wane Share             | 35%      | 50%       | 35%     | 50%       |

# Model Assumption-Vaccine Volume

First dose vaccinations decreased after peaking at 40k per week.

First dose vaccination are expected to decline as the newly eligible age group (ages 5-11) reaches the 55% expected level of vaccination.



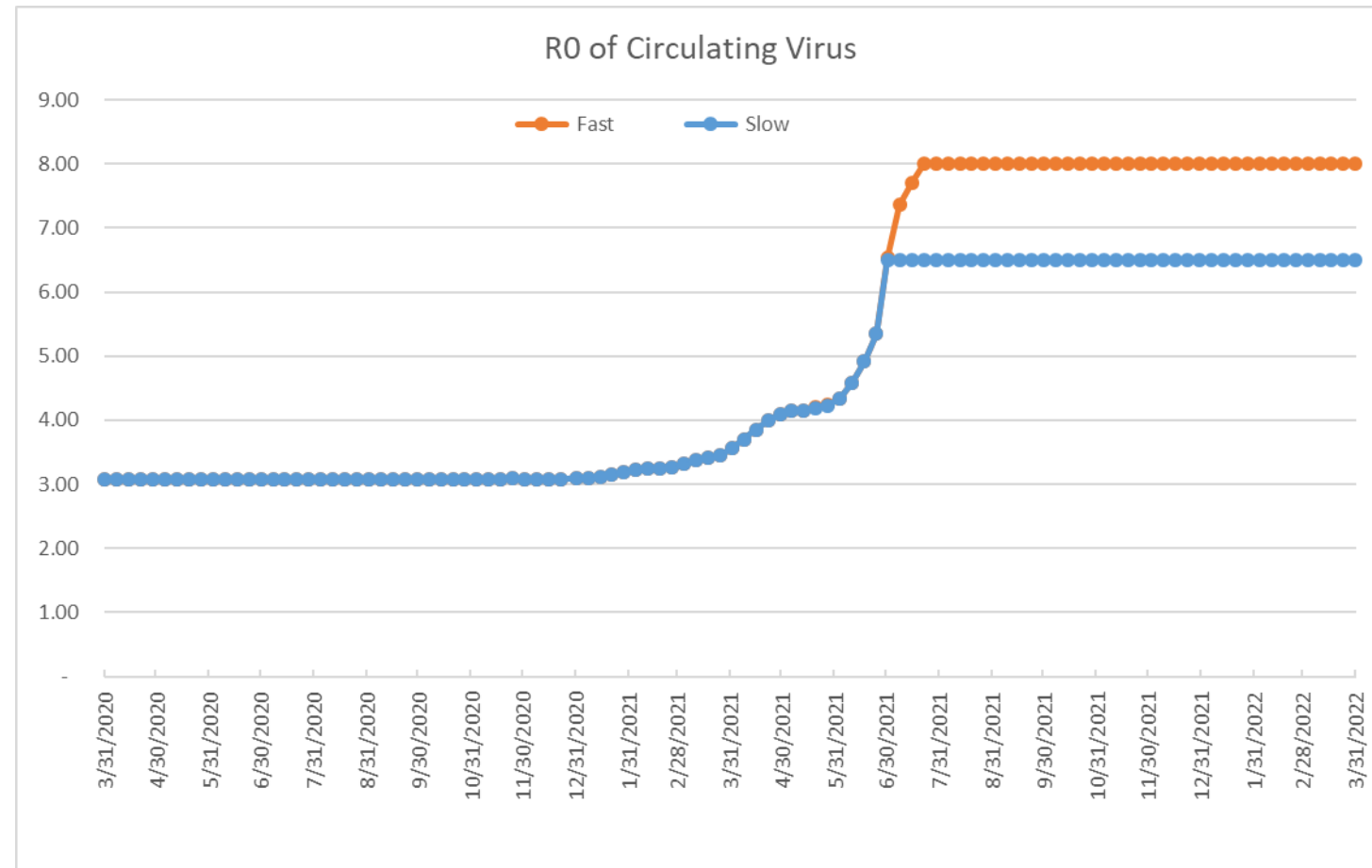


# Model Assumption-Virus Spread Rate

With no new variants measured in Oregon, the transmission rate is driven by the estimated transmission rate of the Delta variant.

The “Fast” scenario assumes delta variant has an R0 of 8.0.

The “Slow” scenario assume R0=6.5

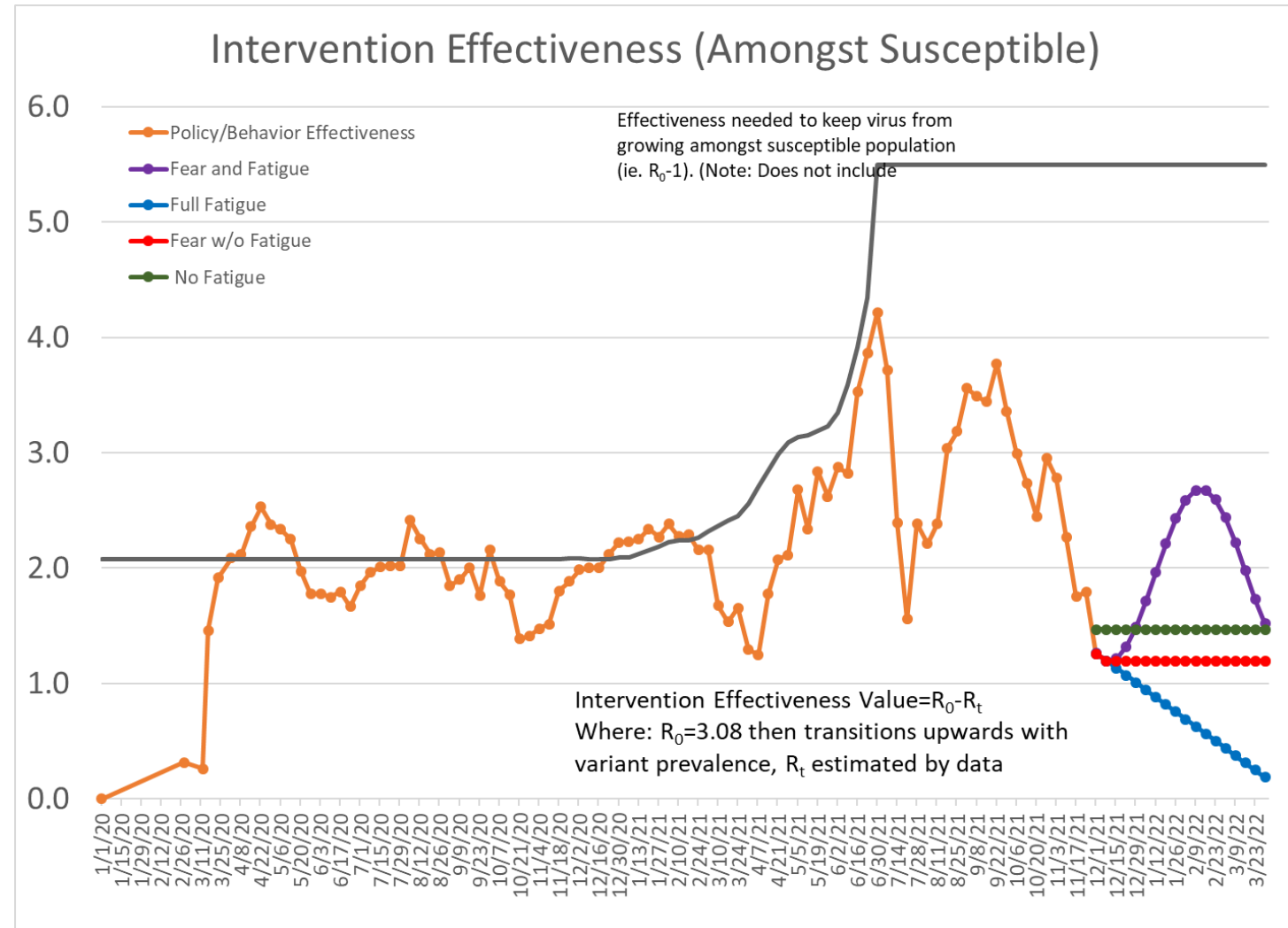


# Model Assumption- Policy/Behavior

The most recent week shows continued fatigue pattern of declining effectiveness.

Four scenarios are constructed to show possible paths.

- 1) Fear and Fatigue: this is a full cycling through forecast period.
- 2) Fatigue without Fear: this shows what happens if no new fear cycle begins
- 3) Full Fatigue: This shows what happens if fatigue continues
- 4) No Fatigue: maintains effect level

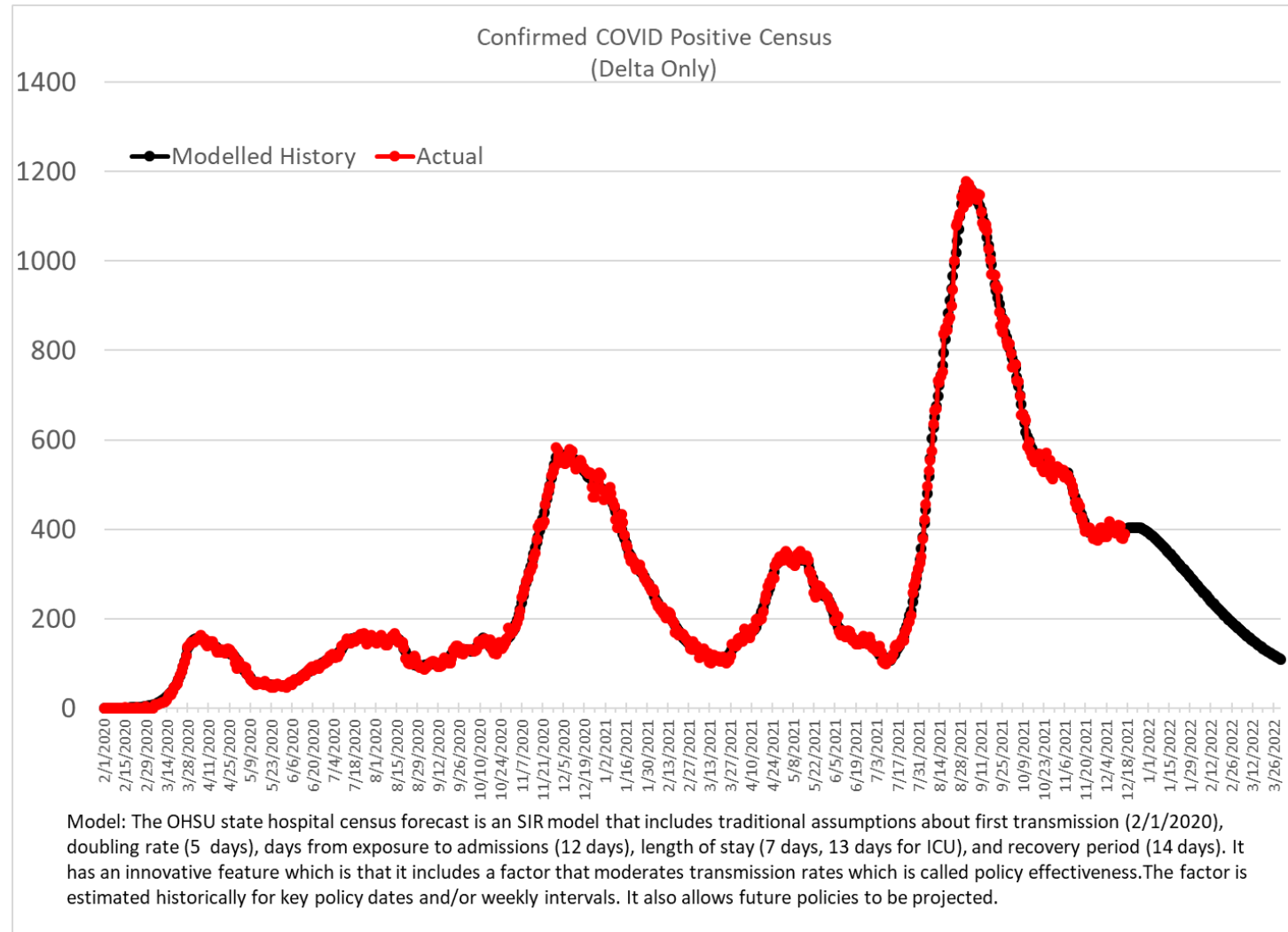


# Census Forecast-Primary Scenario

The forecast shows a flatter period before further declines in census.

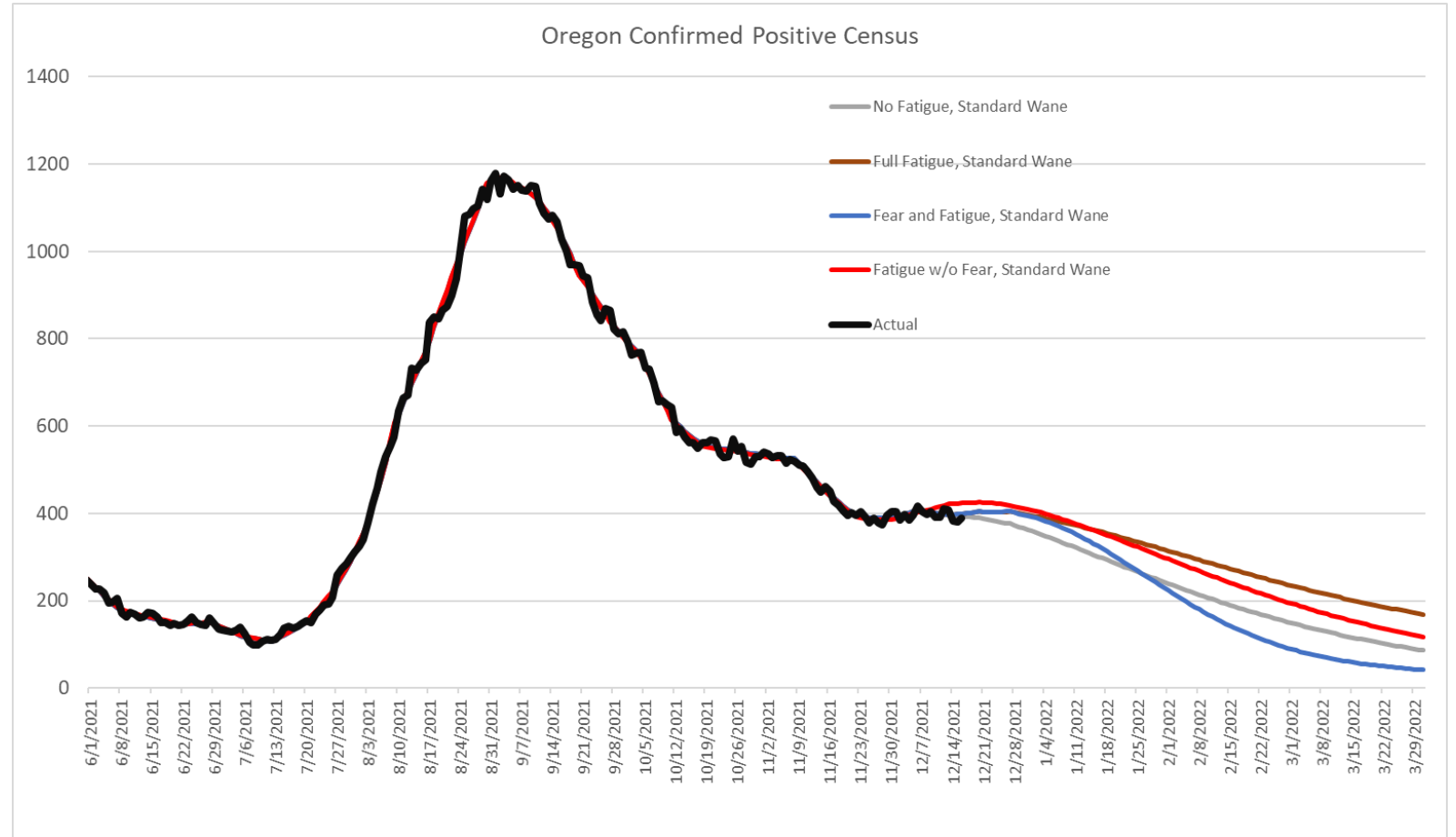
The primary scenario is

- “Fatigue w/o Fear” intervention effect
- Slow Variant (Delta  $R_0=6.5$ )
- High hospitalization rate for Delta (2X original)
- Vaccine efficacy=87%
- Standard waning immunity assumptions



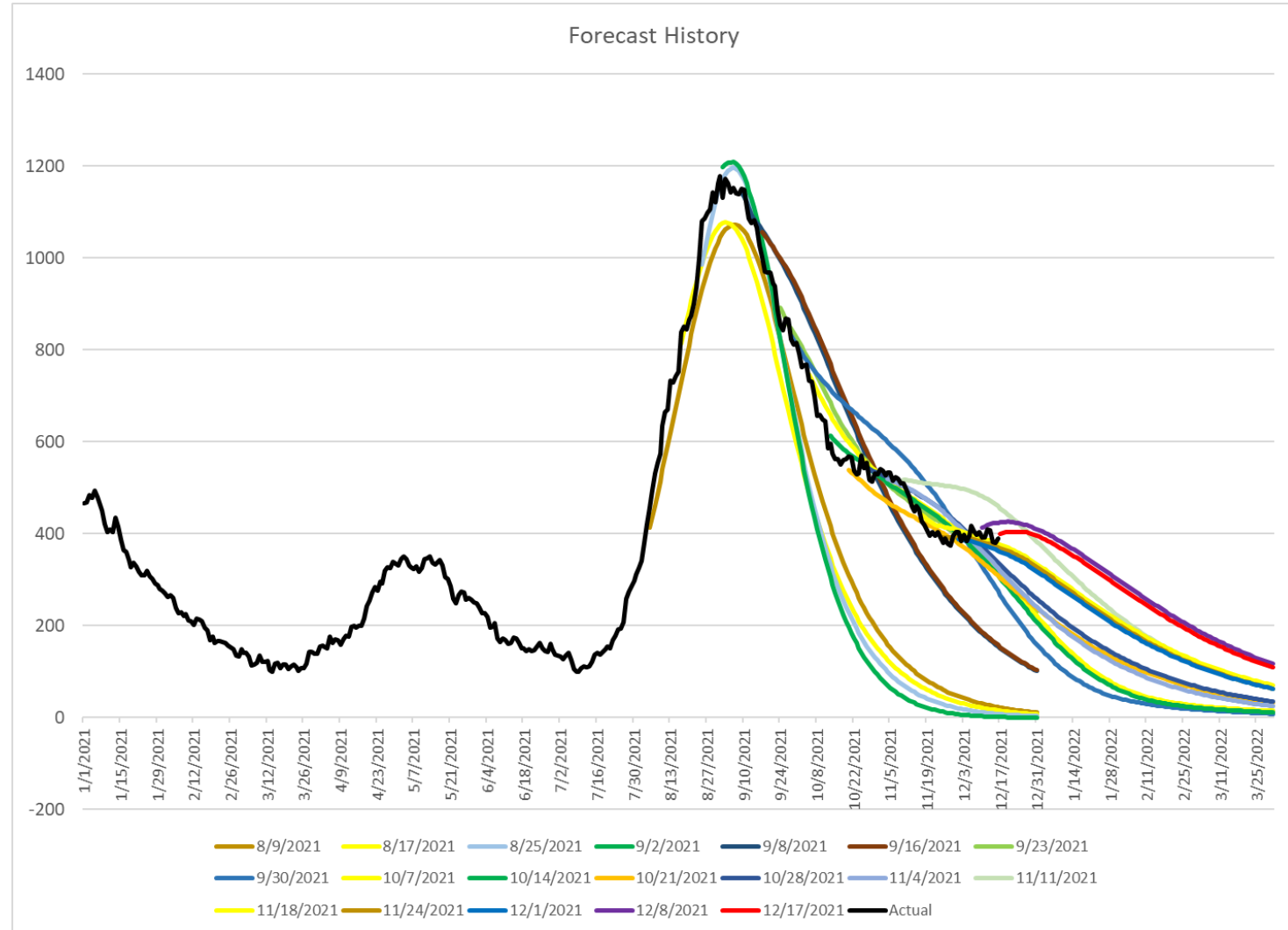
# Census Forecast-Alternative Scenarios

Short wane scenarios not available this week.



# Previous Forecasts

The last 19 weeks of forecasts are shown.



# Model-Herd Chart (Delta Only)

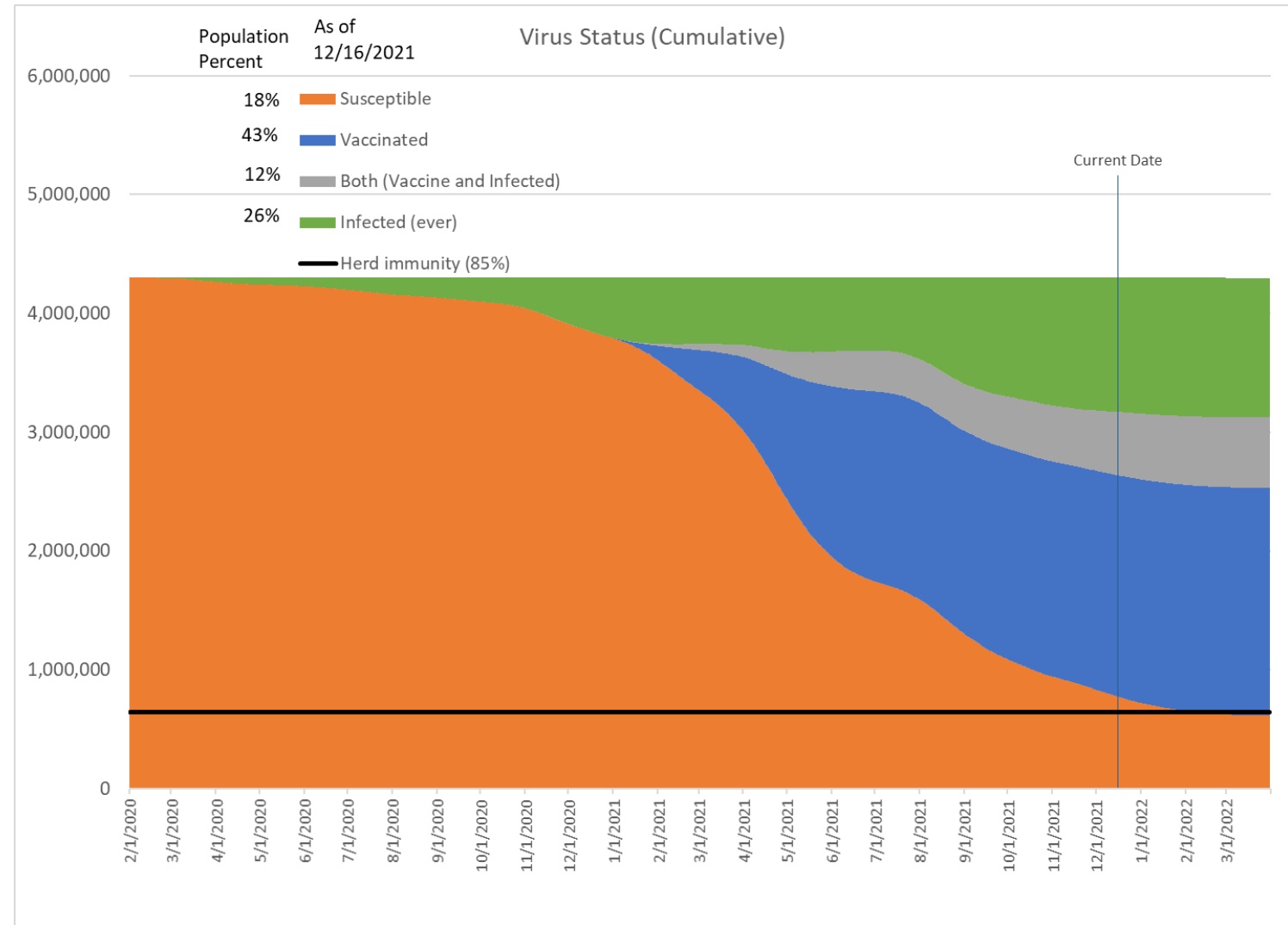
As of 12/16, the estimated population proportions are:

Susceptible: 18%

Vaccinated: 43%

Vaccinated & Infected: 12%

Infected: 26%



# Policy Issues



# Vaccination Rates

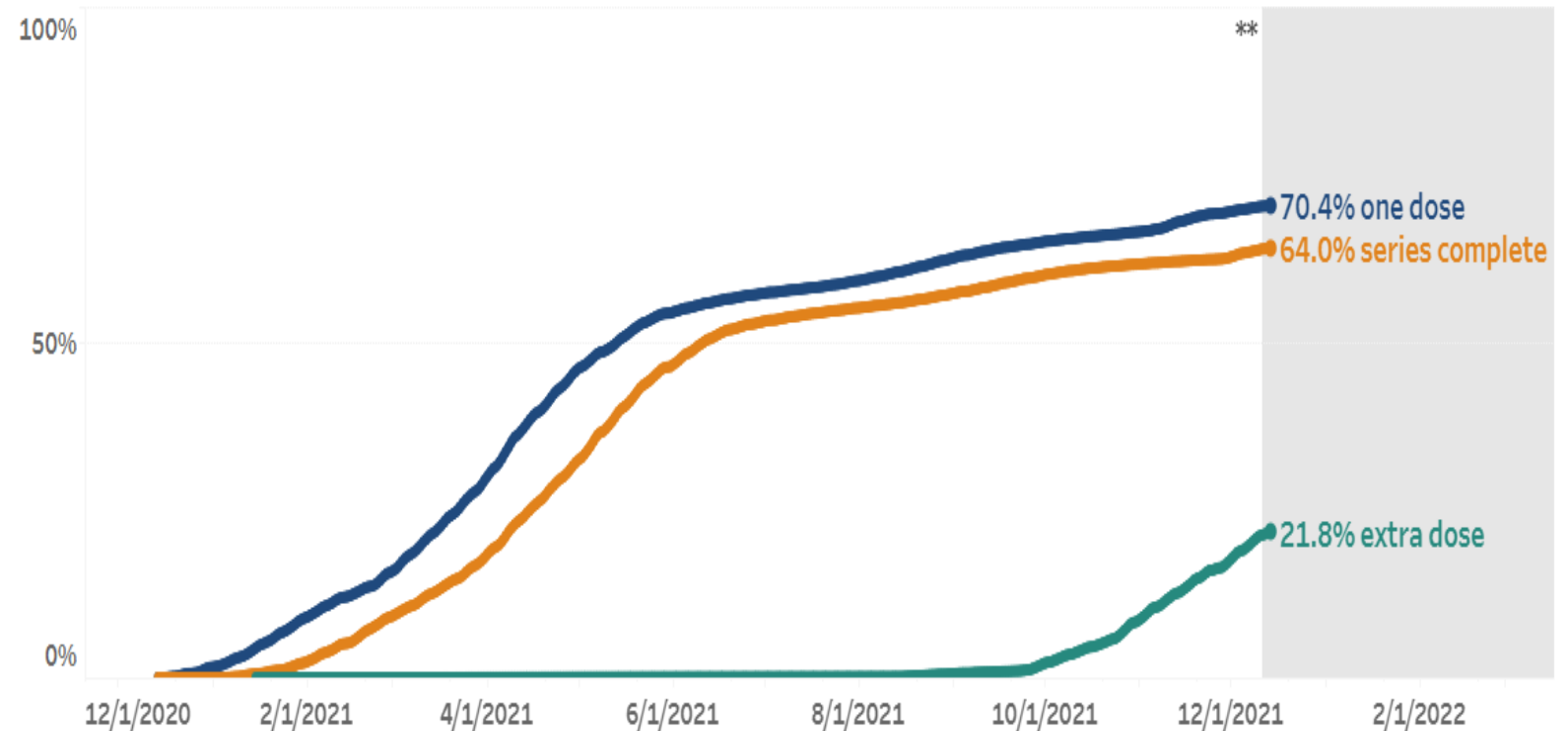
19.2% of the total population has received an extra dose (sometimes called a “booster”)

## People of all ages living in Oregon

70.4% have initiated COVID-19 vaccination and have received at least one dose of any COVID-19 vaccine.\*

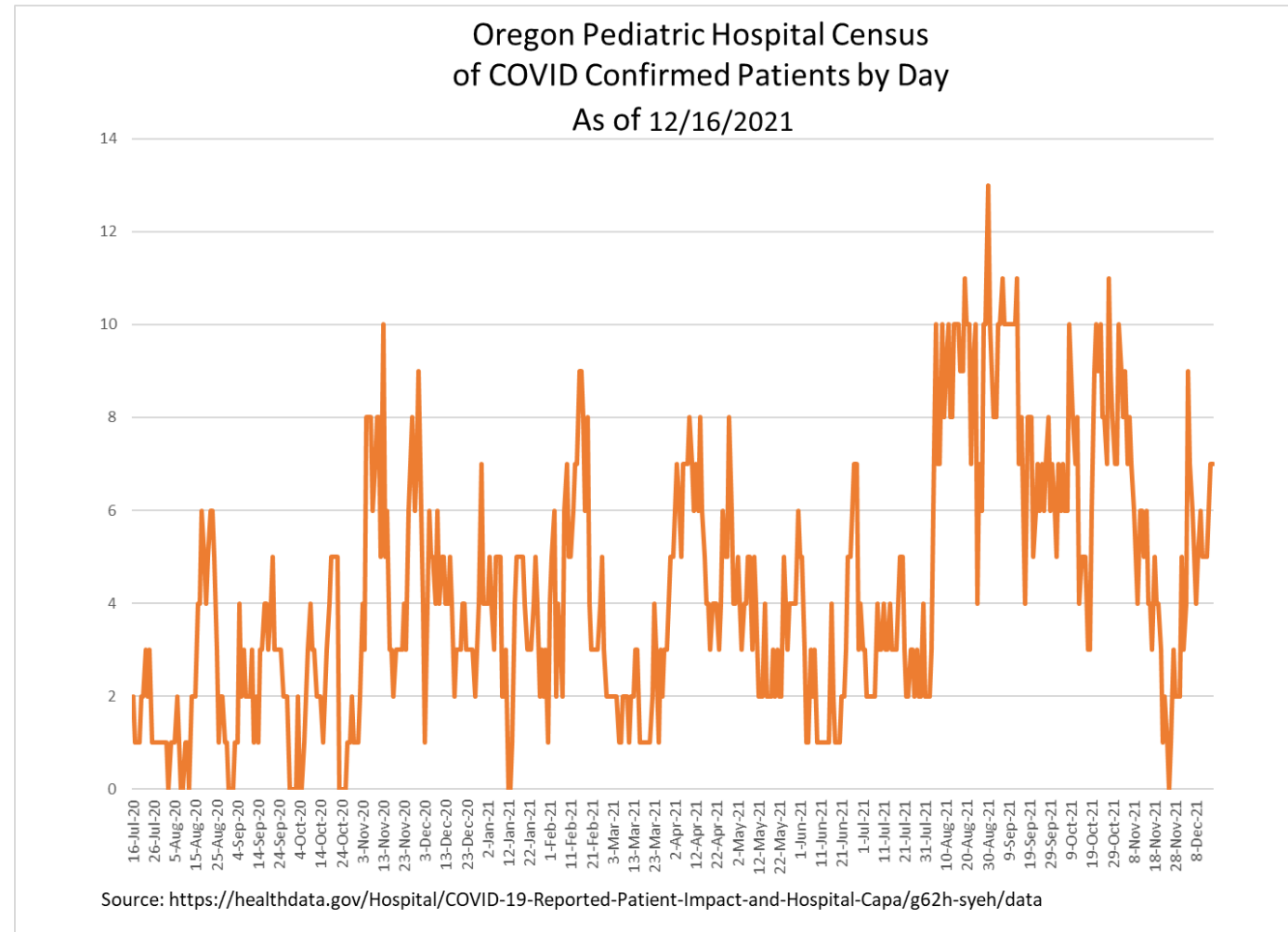
64.0% have completed their primary series, or have received 1 dose of Johnson & Johnson, 2 doses of Moderna, or 2 doses of Pfizer vaccines.

21.8% have received an extra dose of any COVID-19 vaccine in addition to completing their primary series.



# Pediatric Census in Oregon

The pediatric census level in Oregon for confirmed positive patients under age 18 is 7 as of 12/16.

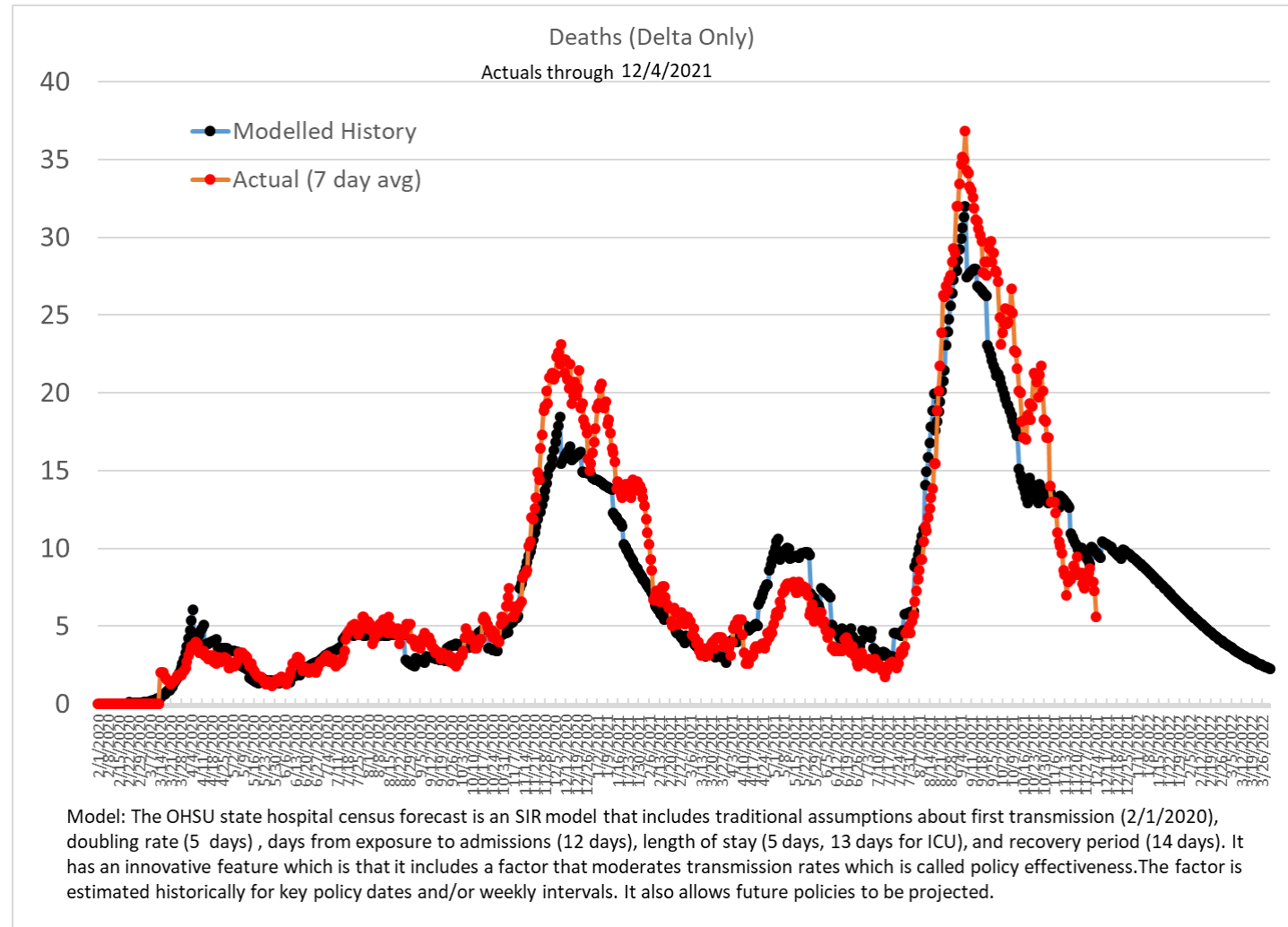


# Death Forecast

Data reported by date of death

Assumptions to project deaths from infections/hospitalizations:

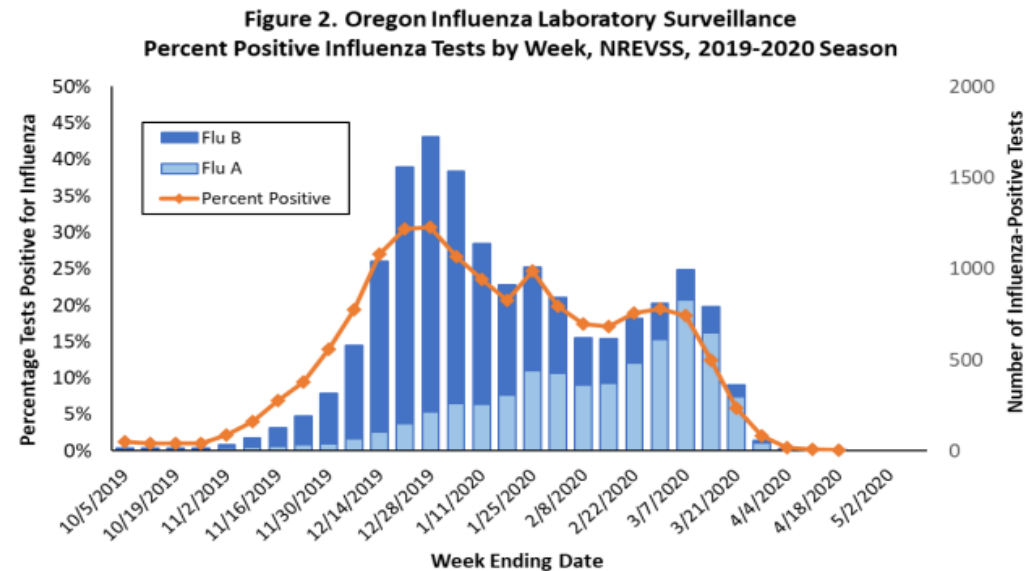
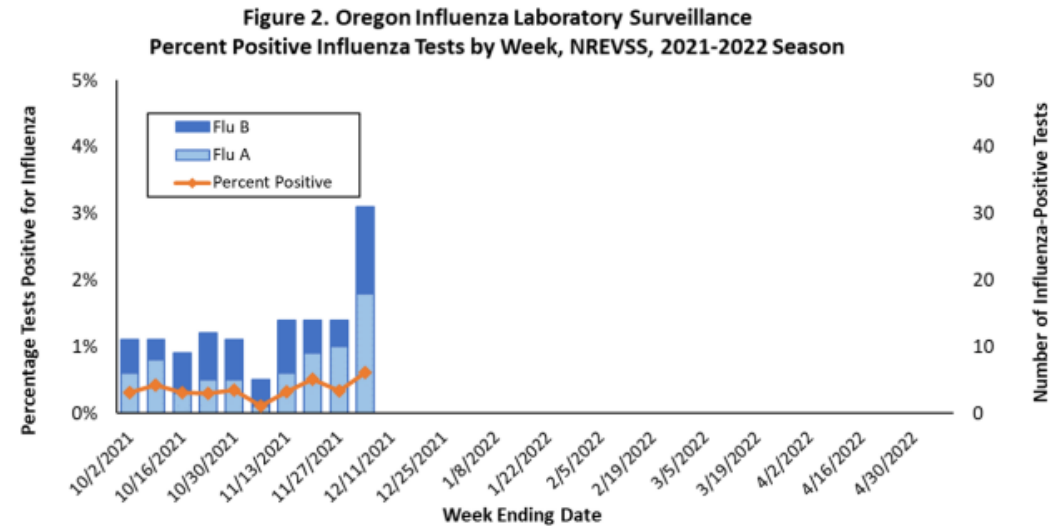
- 1) Deaths lag infections by an average of 21 days.
- 2) There are 4.0 COVID hospitalizations per death from COVID.



# Influenza in Oregon

The most recent week had 31 positive tests for influenza.

During the 2019-2020 season the same flu season week number had 304 positive cases.



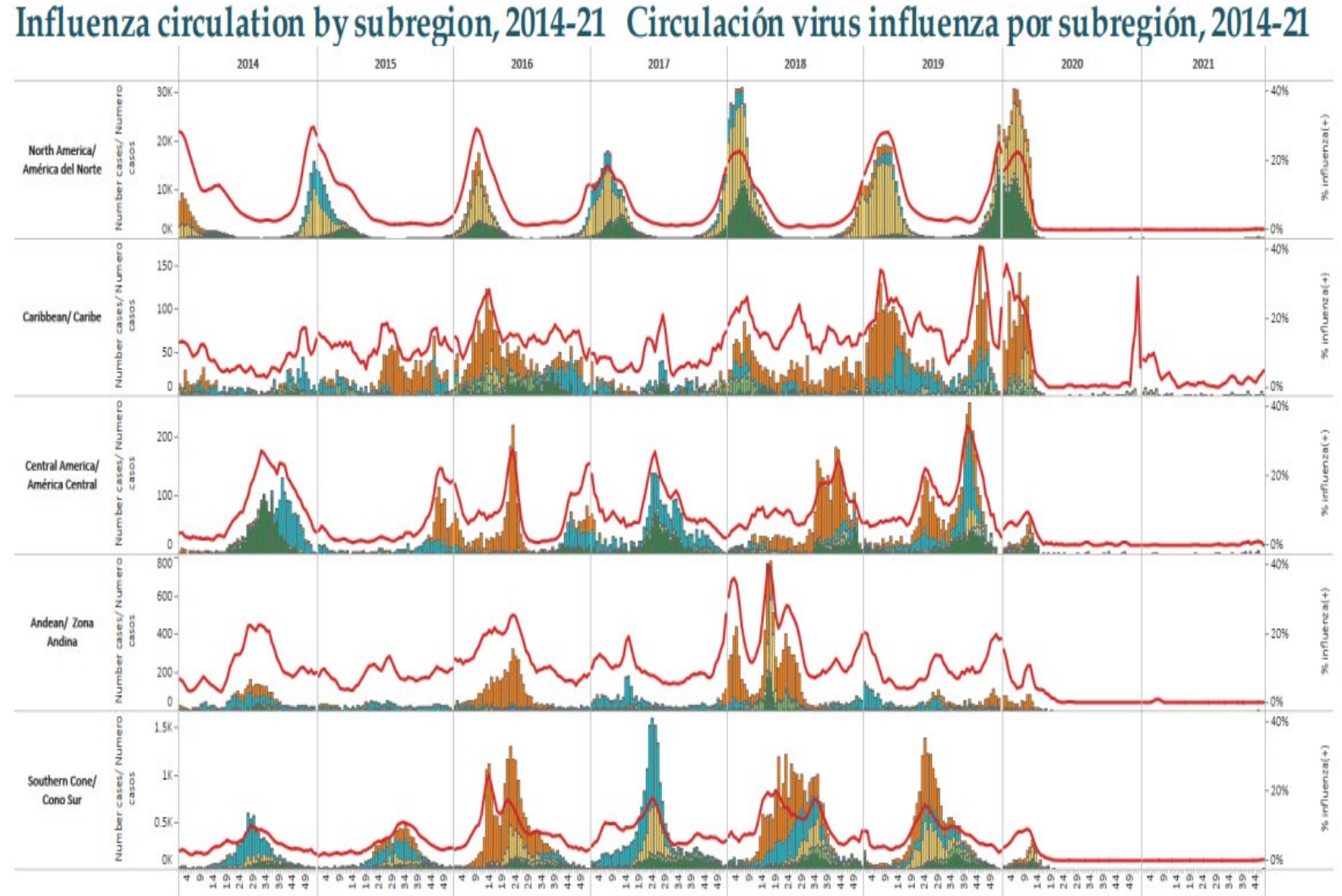
# Influenza Trends

Across the globe the amount of influenza has been low when measured against previous seasons where as many as 30k infections per week were detected.

Figure from EW46, Nov 30.

Influenza viruses/  
Virus influenza

- Influenza A(H1N1)pdm09
- Influenza A(H3N2)
- Influenza A not subtyped
- Flu A non-subtypable
- Influenza B/Victoria
- B Victoria del 162/163
- B Victoria del 162/164
- Influenza B/Yamagata
- Influenza B/Lineage non-determined
- Influenza % positivity

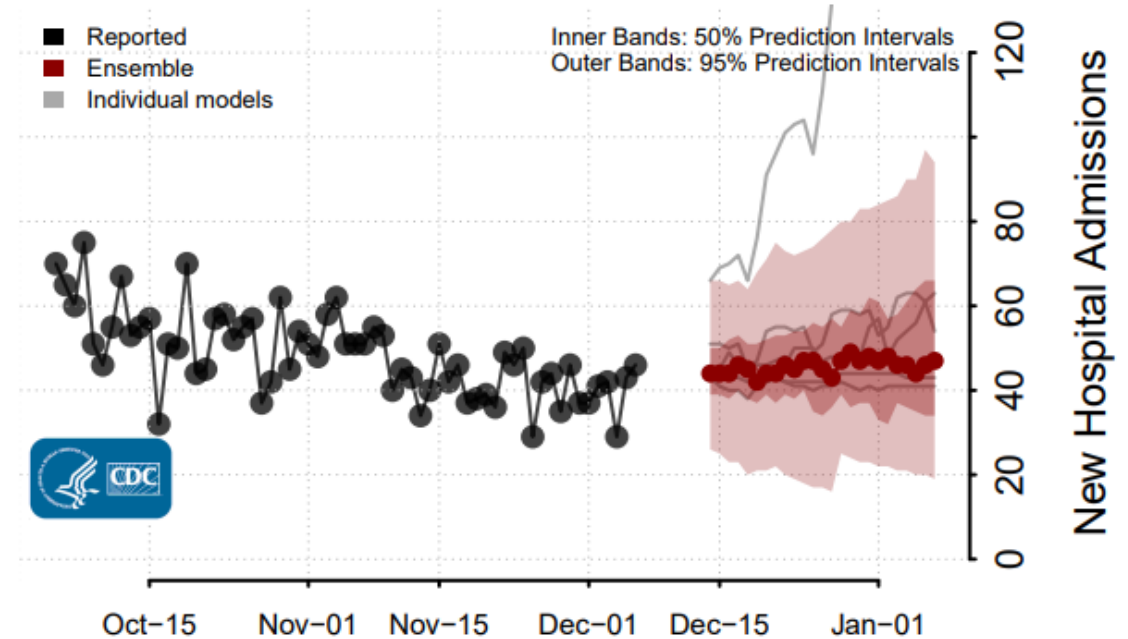
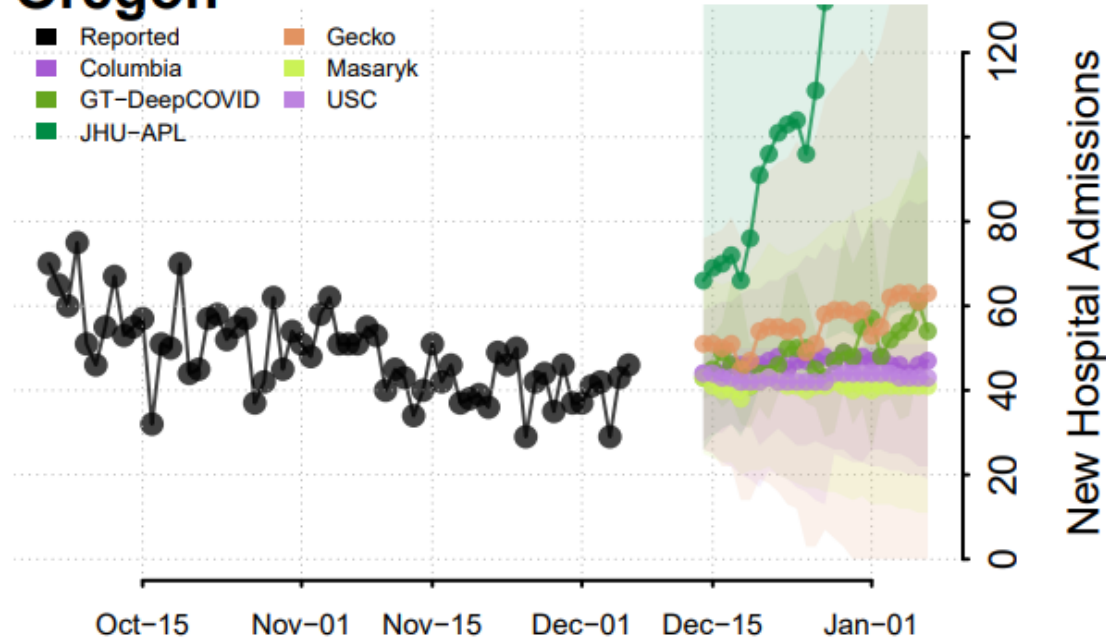


# Appendix

# CDC Forecast-Ensemble

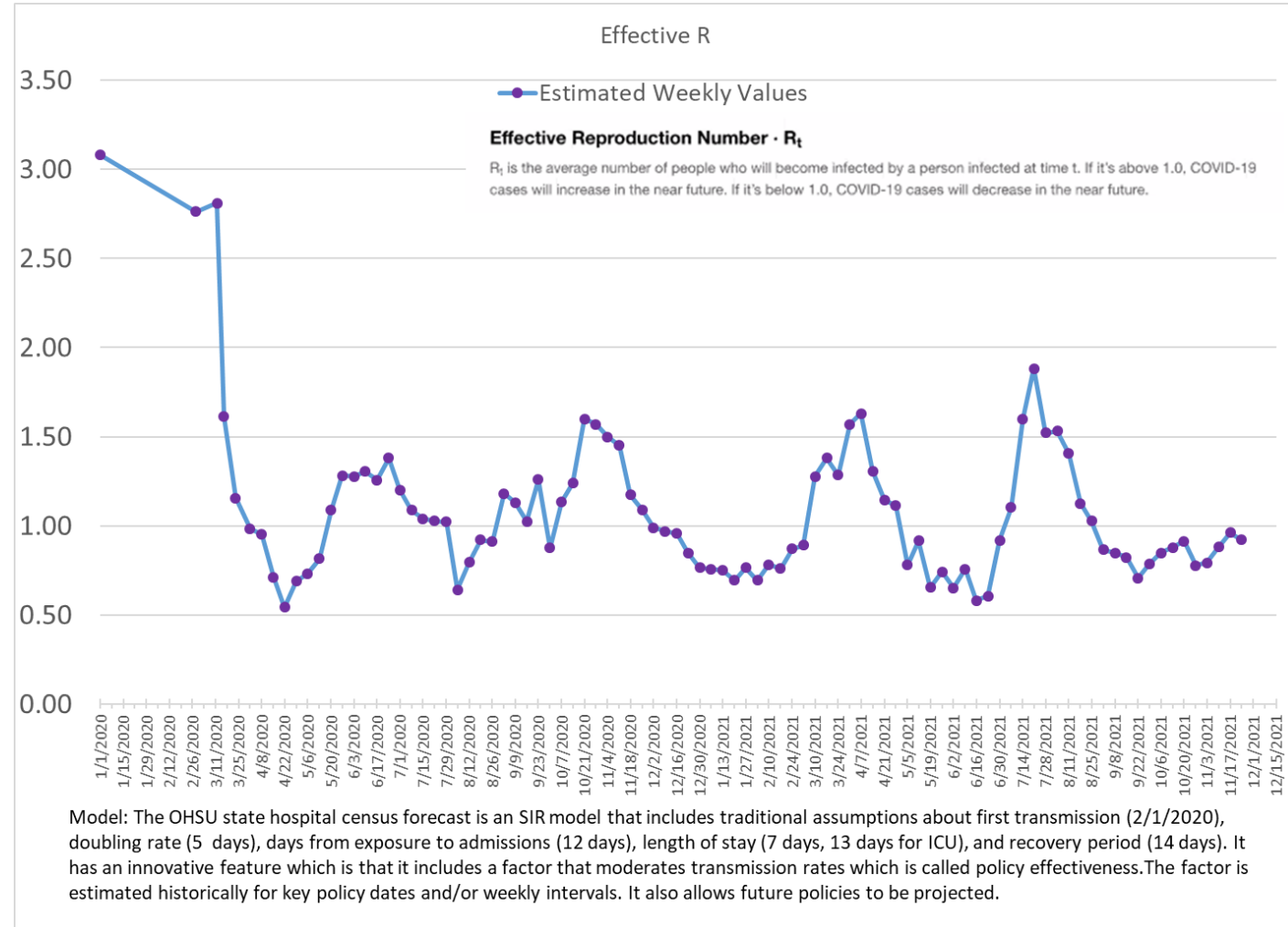
CDC forecasts flat number of admissions over the next 3 weeks. But there are two forecasts showing distinct increases.

## Oregon





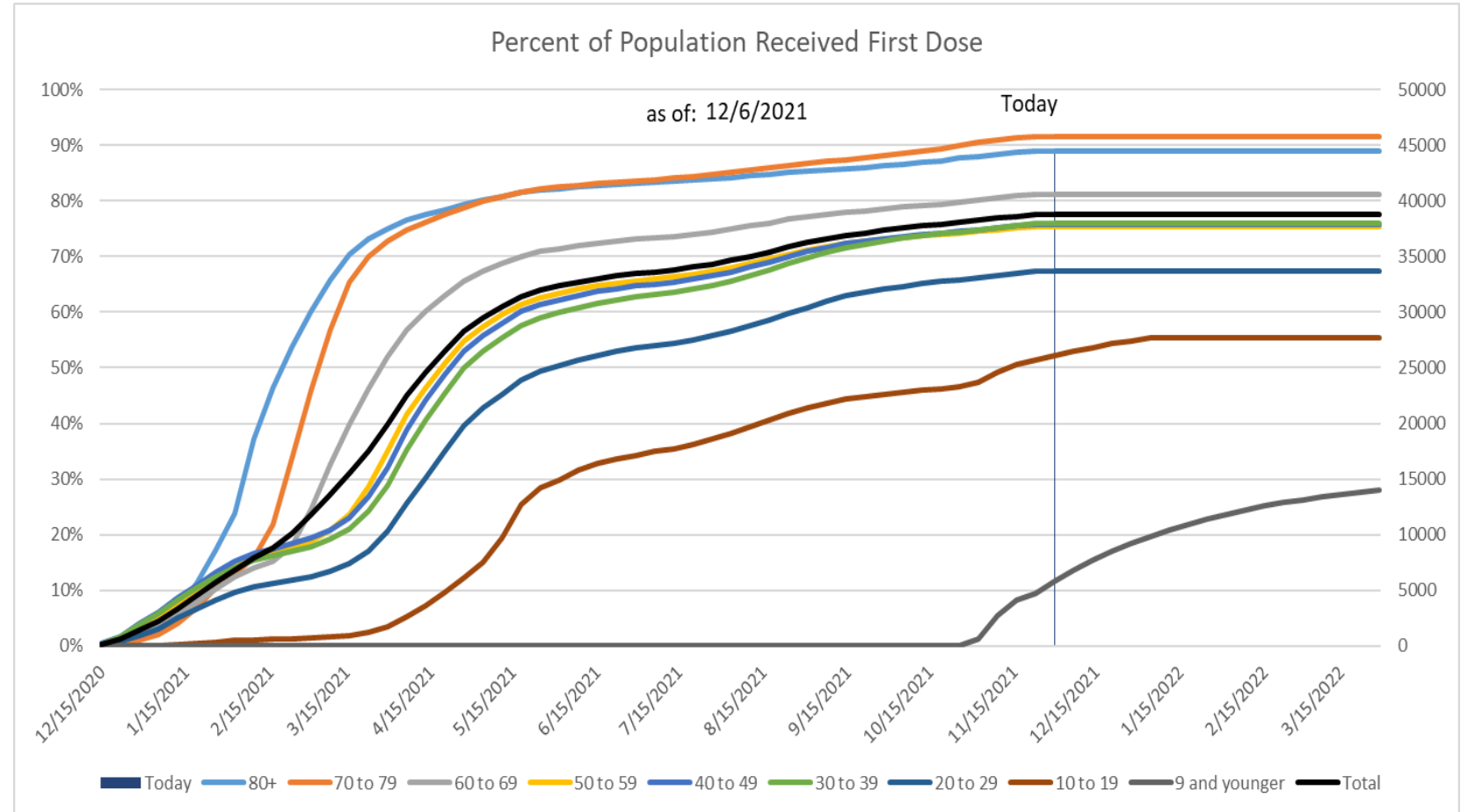
# Effective R Estimate





# Vaccine Projections

Younger age groups are expected to increase but reaching levels lower than adults. (50% for <9 and 55% for 10-19).



# Acknowledgments

Each week this model requires updates, input and expertise from many people.

I would like to thank Dr. William Messer for his assistance in understanding waning dynamics, Brian O’Roak and Xuan Qin, at OHSU, for their expertise to understand genetic sequencing information, and the hospital forecasting workgroup for their feedback on weekly forecasts, including collaboration with Julie Maher and Erik Everson at Multnomah County PDES.

I would also like to give a special thank you to Michael Johnson from St. Charles Health who helped develop an early version of the model that has proven to be a good structure to handle the many twists and turns the problem has required.

Thank you!