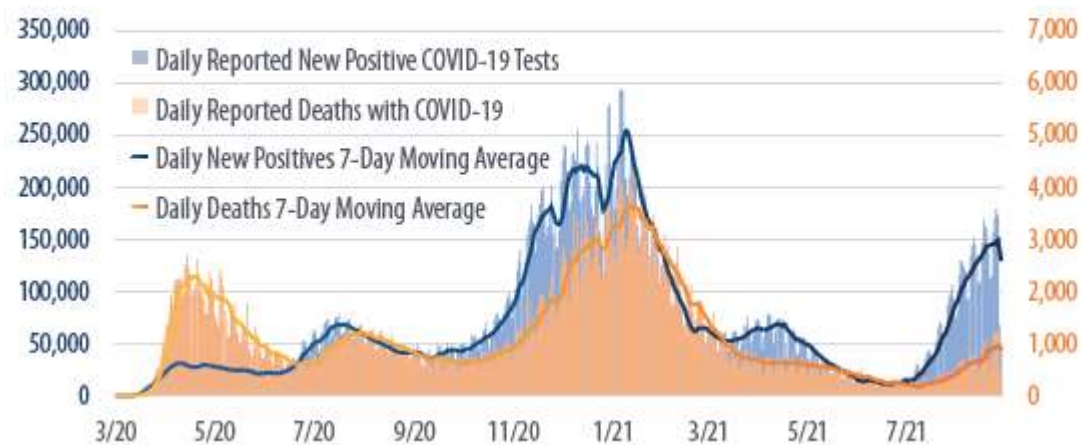


COVID-19 Tracker Update

This update will as much as humanly possible focus on available facts and will avoid making conclusions as to cause, or lack thereof, and presenting opinions. I wish you safety and sanity as we continue to deal with the virus.

Daily Reported New Positive COVID-19 Tests vs. Daily Reported Deaths from COVID-19 in the U.S.

March 1, 2020 - August 29, 2021

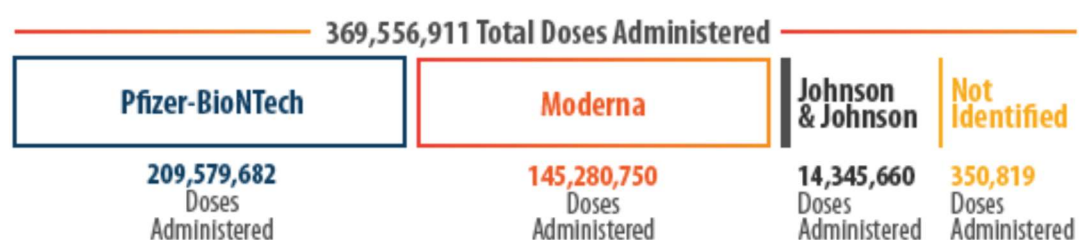


Sources: CDC.gov, First Trust Advisors

The data clearly shows the upward trend in cases since the low in May/June 2021.

U.S. COVID-19 Vaccine Doses Administered by Vaccine Type

As of August 30, 2021

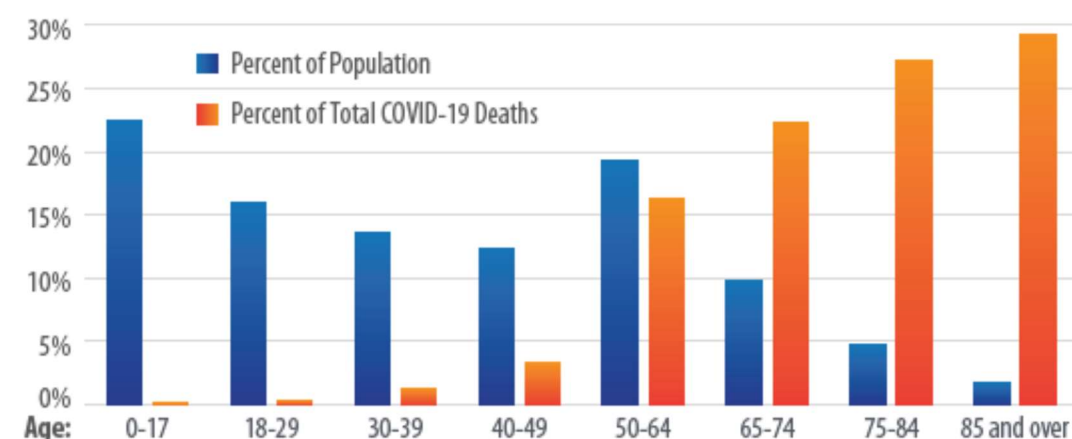


Sources: CDC.gov, First Trust Advisors

Vaccine administrations continue to rise with the Pfizer-BioNTech being the most popular.

COVID-19 Deaths by Age vs. Share of Population in the U.S.

As of August 25, 2021



Sources: CDC.gov, Census.gov (population estimates 4/1/20), First Trust Advisors

The vast majority of COVID deaths have occurred in older Americans.

Never-infected people who were vaccinated in January and February were, in June, July, and the first half of August, 6-13 times more likely to get infected with the Delta variant than unvaccinated people who were previously infected with the coronavirus during January and February of 2021. The risk of developing symptomatic COVID-19 was 27 times higher among the vaccinated, and the risk of hospitalization 7 times higher than in previously infected individuals. This study indicates that natural immunity confers longer lasting and stronger protection against the Delta variant of Covid-19 than two doses of the Pfizer vaccine in Israel.¹

¹Source: medrxiv.org (August 25, 2021)

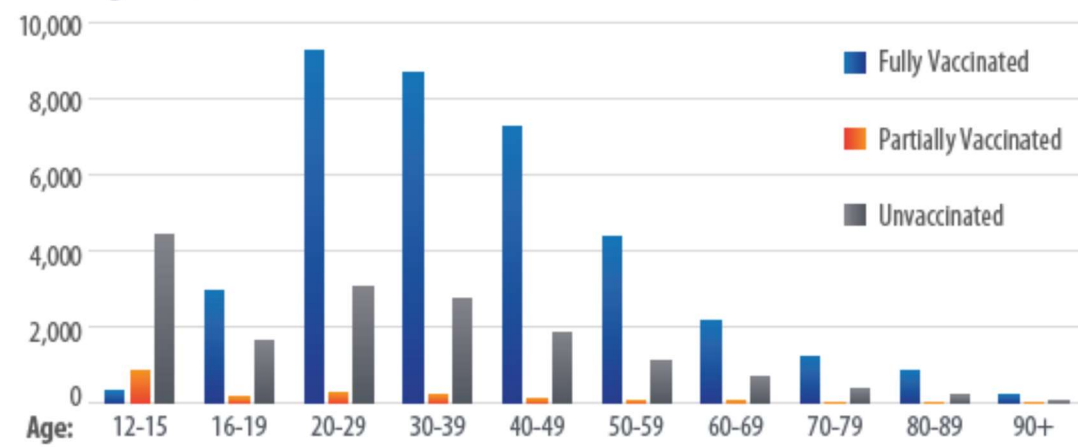
This is much more controversial topic. Note that this is from Israel, where

Many in healthcare would find the results of this study troubling and hard to reconcile with the anecdotal evidence we are seeing here in the US. According to timesofisrael.com, Israel will now require a 3rd booster shot for all people 12 years and older 6 months after their 2nd vaccine does in order to renew their “Green Pass,” a document that allows entry into certain gatherings and public places for

those who are vaccinated or have recovered from the coronavirus beginning 10/2/2021. The charts below seem to provide evidence that fully vaccinated people are still being infected and still being hospitalized. An important metric NOT provide is the percentage of people who are and are not vaccinated. Without that, it's impossible to assess the worth of this information

Israel Current Active COVID-19 Patients by Age and Vaccination Status*

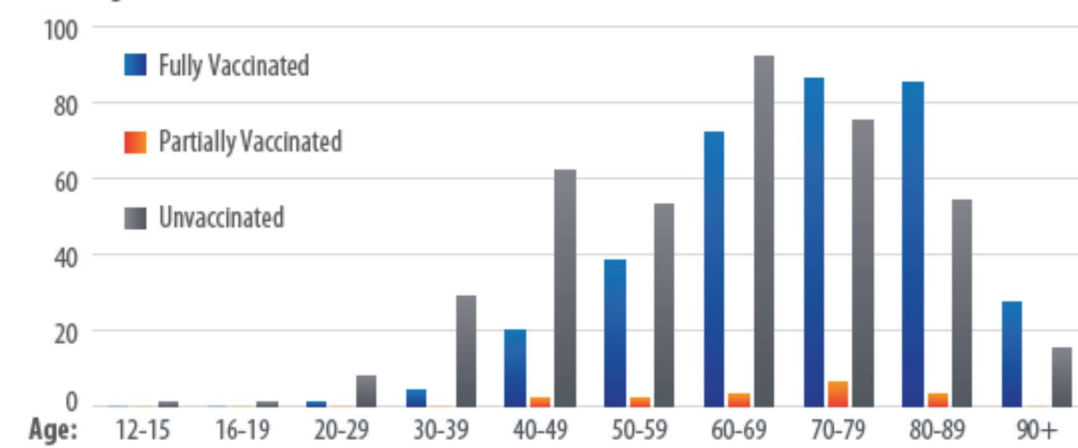
As of August 31, 2021



Sources: Israel Ministry of Health, First Trust Advisors

Israel Current Hospitalized/Seriously Ill COVID-19 Patients by Age and Vaccination Status*

As of August 31, 2021



Sources: Israel Ministry of Health, First Trust Advisors

I have been told that locally a large percentage of the COVID related hospitalizations are unvaccinated patients. That squares with the following information for Washington State COVID-19 cases:

Washington state COVID-19 cases in persons not fully vaccinated by age group, February - July 2021

Age group	Percent of cases in fully vaccinated persons	Percent of cases in not fully vaccinated persons	Percent of Washington state population who are fully vaccinated	Percent of Washington state population who are not fully vaccinated
12-17	98 (0.7%)	13062 (99.3%)	39%	61%
18-34	2199 (4%)	52846 (96%)	53.5%	46.5%
35-49	2344 (6.3%)	34814 (93.7%)	63.2%	36.8%
50-64	1960 (7.9%)	22848 (92.1%)	67.4%	32.6%
65+	2043 (17.7%)	9499 (82.3%)	77.5%	22.5%

Trying to consume data and recognize conflicts in the data, to be open to the fact that we may be wrong in our assumptions, and to actively reduce or eliminate personal bias has always been a near impossible mission for the human race. We know that at times there are those with conflicting interest at work. This reminds me one of Mark Twain's famous quotes, "There are three kinds of lies: lies, damned lies, and statistics." I would encourage you to find the best sources of information and use that to make the best decision for you and the community.