

ENVIRONMENTAL  
HEALTH SCIENCES

# Transmission Dynamics of SARS-CoV-2: Inference and Projection



Jeffrey Shaman  
February 10, 2021

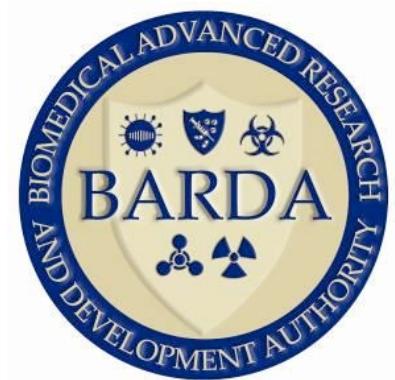
# Funders

NIH (NIGMS)/NSF (DMS) joint initiative to support research at the interface of the biological and mathematical sciences



Models of Infectious  
Disease Agent Study

*Funded by the National  
Institutes of Health*



# Collaborators

## Columbia/Mailman

Wan Yang  
Sasikiran Kandula  
Teresa Yamana  
Sen Pei  
Marta Galanti  
Ruiyin Li (Imperial)

## Other

Bin Chen (UC Davis)  
Yimeng Song (U Hong Kong)  
Tao Zhang (Tsinghua)

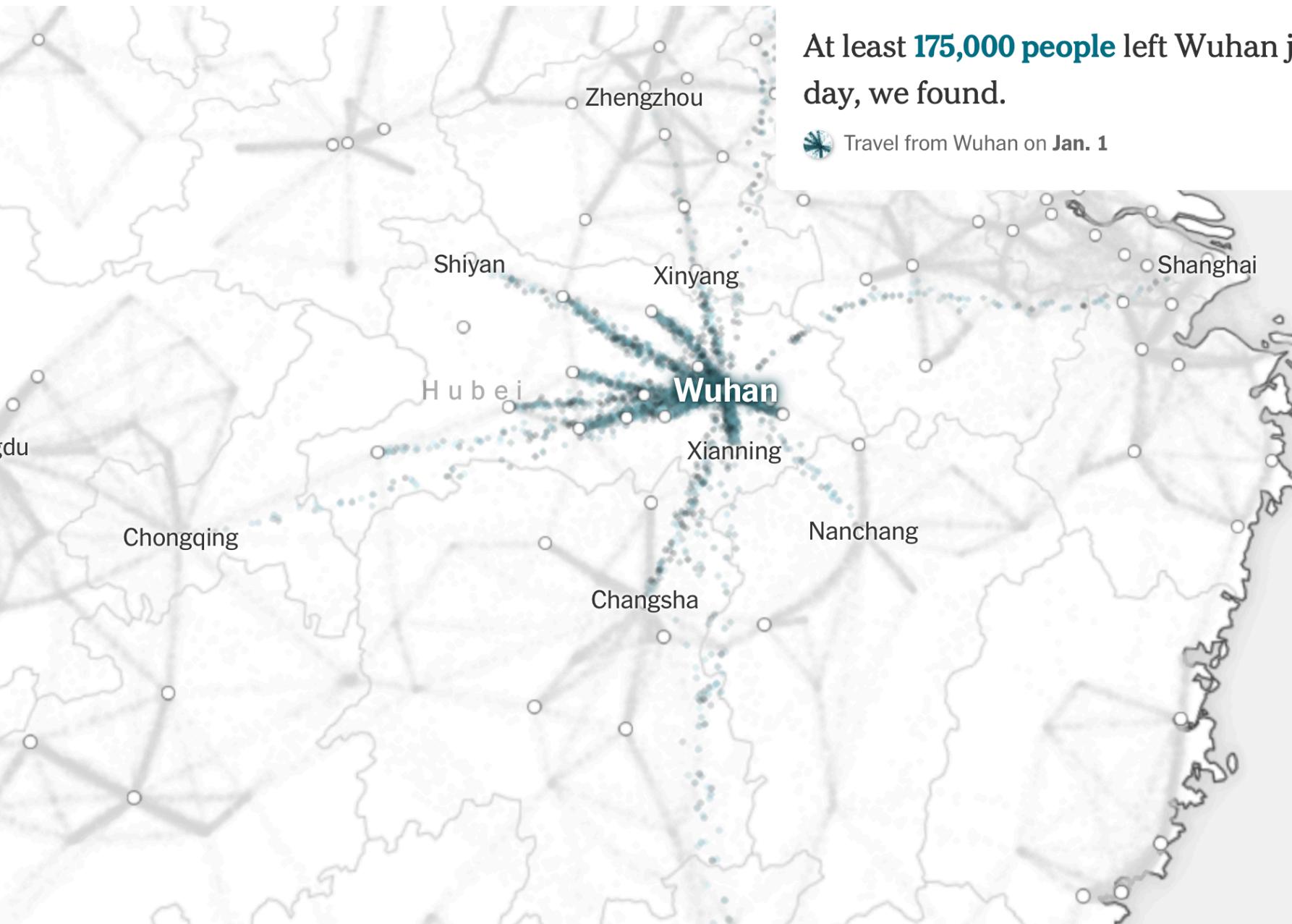
- **Cohort** — 214 individuals from October 2016 to April 2018.  
(two daycares, CUMC, pediatric and adult ED, high school). Weekly swabs + daily symptoms .

## Virome of Manhattan Most Infections Undocumented

VIRUS	EPISODES*	MA	$P(MA v_i)$	HOME	$P(HOME v_i)$	MEDS	$P(MEDS v_i)$
Influenza	32	7	0.22	14	0.44	18	0.56
RSV	30	2	0.07	6	0.20	12	0.40
PIV	30	3	0.10	4	0.15	9	0.30
HMPV	20	4	0.20	7	0.35	10	0.50
HRV	275	24	0.09	31	0.11	70	0.25
Adenovirus	63	9	0.14	10	0.16	14	0.22
Coronavirus	137	6	0.04	13	0.09	36	0.25

\*group of consecutive weekly specimens from a given individual that were positive for the same virus (allowing for a one-week gap to account for false negatives and temporary low shedding).

# COVID-19 Rapid Spread



At least **175,000 people** left Wuhan just on that day, we found.

✳ Travel from Wuhan on Jan. 1

# Inference of Undocumented COVID-19 Infections

## Are contagious, undocumented infections supporting the rapid spread of disease?

$$\frac{dS_i}{dt} = -\frac{\beta S_i I_i^r}{N_i} - \frac{\mu \beta S_i I_i^u}{N_i} + \theta \sum_j \frac{M_{ij} S_j}{N_j - I_j^r} - \theta \sum_j \frac{M_{ji} S_i}{N_i - I_i^r}$$

$$\frac{dE_i}{dt} = \frac{\beta S_i I_i^r}{N_i} + \frac{\mu \beta S_i I_i^u}{N_i} - \frac{E_i}{Z} + \theta \sum_j \frac{M_{ij} E_j}{N_j - I_j^r} - \theta \sum_j \frac{M_{ji} E_i}{N_i - I_i^r}$$

$$\frac{dI_i^r}{dt} = \alpha \frac{E_i}{Z} - \frac{I_i^r}{D}$$

$$\frac{dI_i^u}{dt} = (1 - \alpha) \frac{E_i}{Z} - \frac{I_i^u}{D} + \theta \sum_j \frac{M_{ij} I_j^u}{N_j - I_j^r} - \theta \sum_j \frac{M_{ji} I_i^u}{N_i - I_i^u}$$

$$N_i = N_i + \theta \sum_j M_{ij} - \theta \sum_j M_{ji}$$

- Metapopulation network model representing 375 cities in China
- Use Tencent travel records during the Chunyun spring festival
- Coupled with data assimilation methods
- Use daily observations from all 375 cities
- Simulate January 10-23

# Inference of Undocumented COVID-19 Infections

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$$\frac{dI_i^r}{dt} = \alpha \frac{E_i}{Z} - \frac{I_i^r}{D}$$

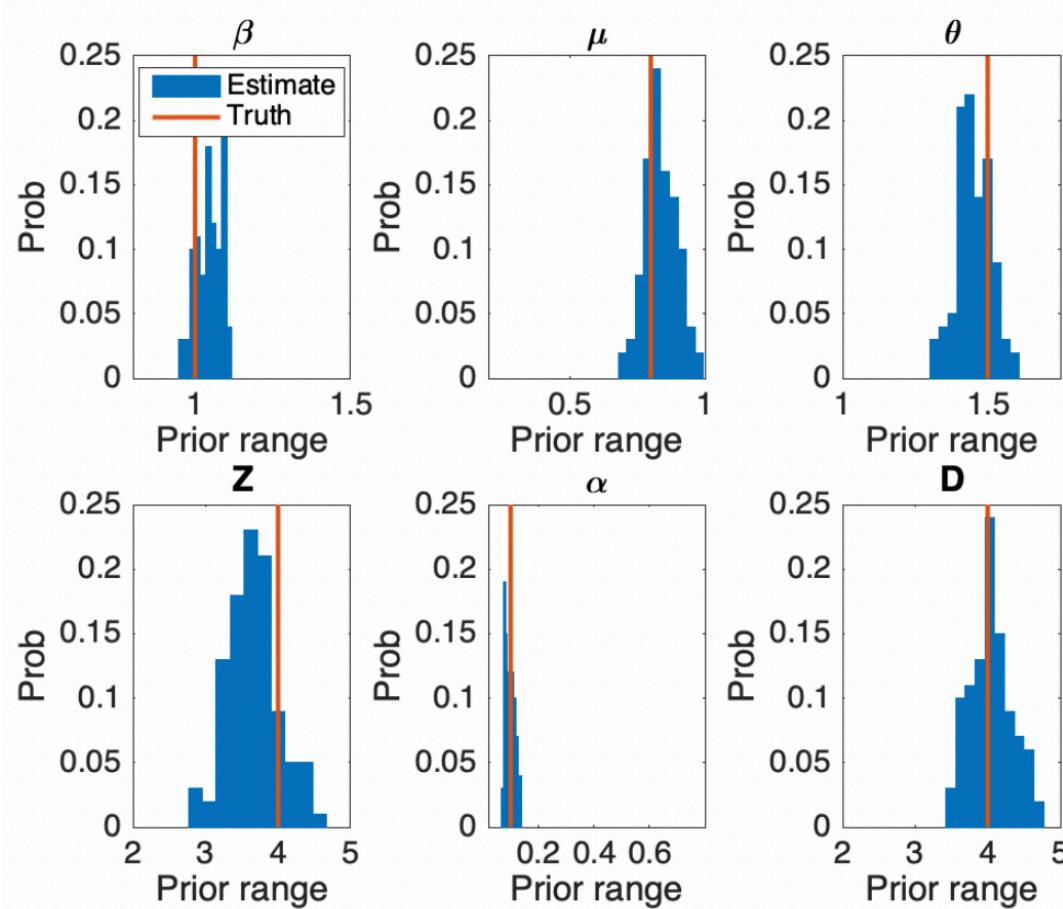
$$\frac{dI_i^u}{dt} = (1 - \alpha) \frac{E_i}{Z} - \frac{I_i^u}{D} + \theta \sum_j \frac{M_{ij} I_j^u}{N_j - I_j^r} - \theta \sum_j \frac{M_{ji} I_i^u}{N_i - I_i^u}$$

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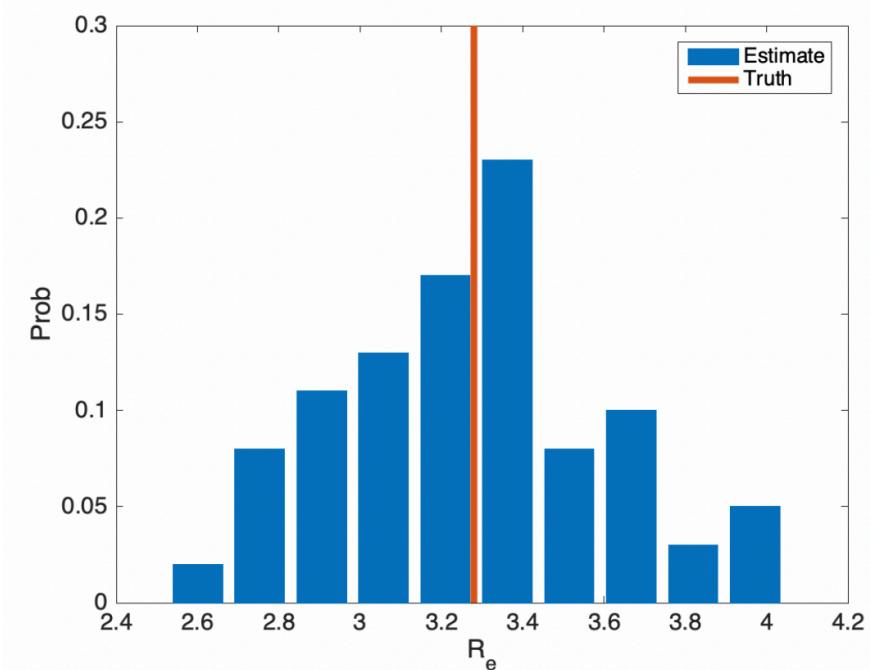
- Simulate January 10-23
- Prior to travel restrictions
- The model separately represents documented and undocumented infections
- The model has a separate contagiousness for documented/undocumented infections

# Inference of Undocumented COVID-19 Infections

## Are contagious, undocumented infections supporting the rapid spread of disease?



- Synthetic test of model-inference parameter estimation using model-generated observations



# Inference of Undocumented COVID-19 Infections

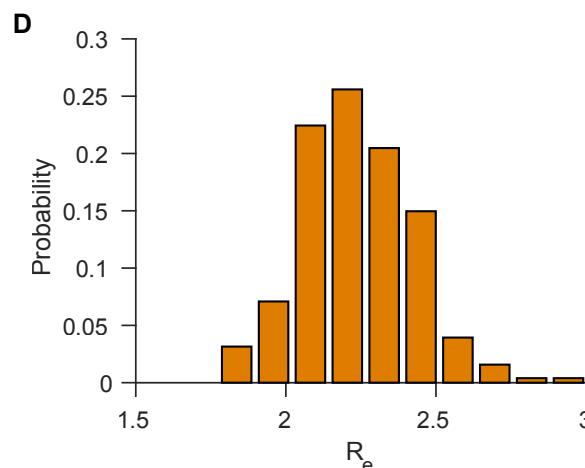
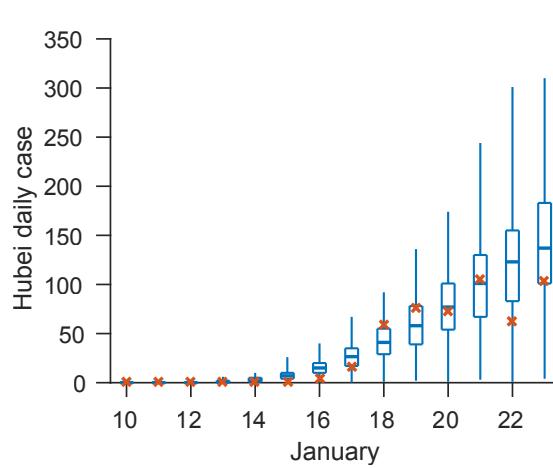
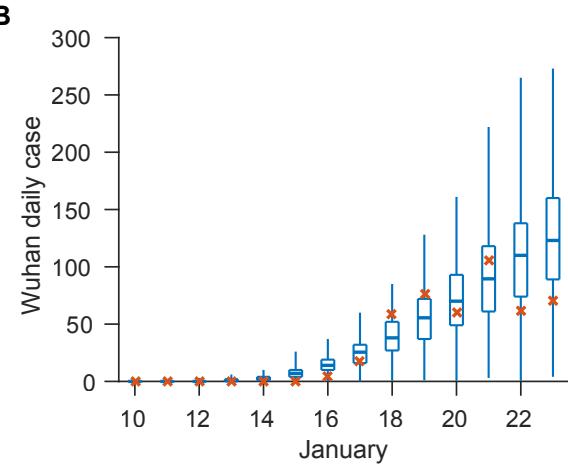
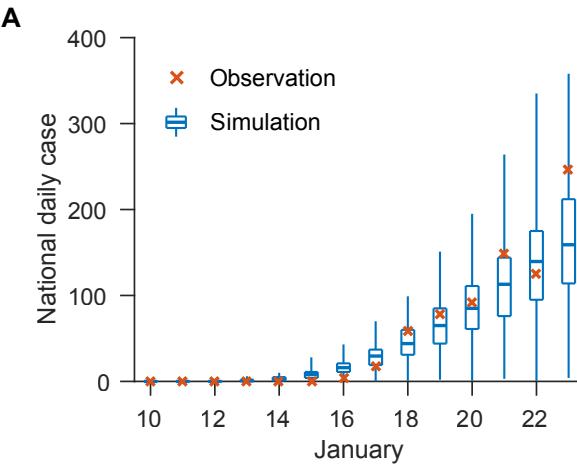
## Are contagious, undocumented infections supporting the rapid spread of disease?

Parameter	Median (95% CIs)
Transmission rate ( $\beta$ , days $^{-1}$ )	1.12 (1.04, 1.18)
Relative transmission rate ( $\mu$ )	0.55 (0.46, 0.62)
Latency period ( $Z$ , days)	3.69 (3.28, 4.03)
Infectious period ( $D$ , days)	3.48 (3.18, 3.74)
Reporting rate ( $\alpha$ )	0.14 (0.10, 0.18)
Basic reproductive number ( $R_e$ )	2.38 (2.04, 2.77)
Mobility factor ( $\theta$ )	1.36 (1.28, 1.43)

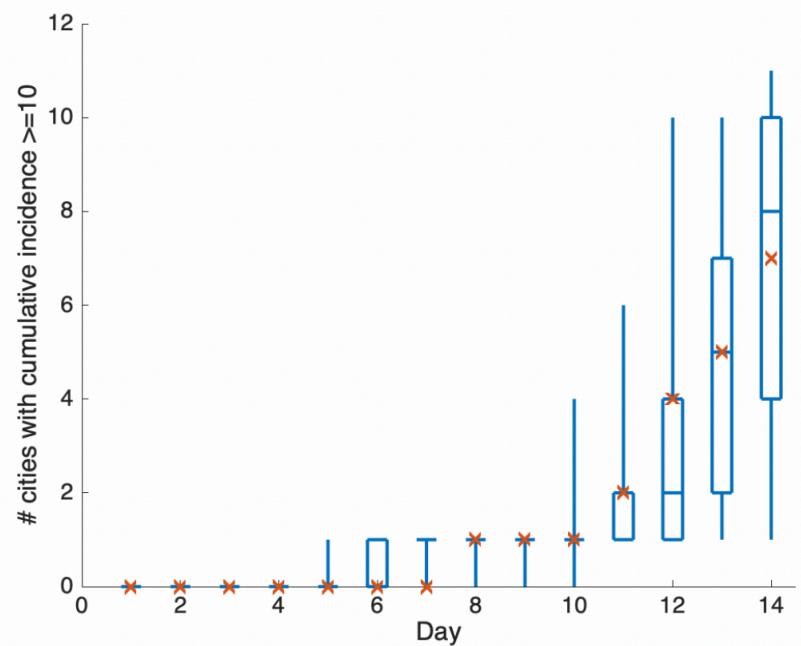
- Estimate that 14% of infections are documented
- 86% are undocumented
- Per person, undocumented infections are on average half as contagious (55%) as documented infections
- 2.38 reproductive number

# Inference of Undocumented COVID-19 Infections

## Are contagious, undocumented infections supporting the rapid spread of disease?



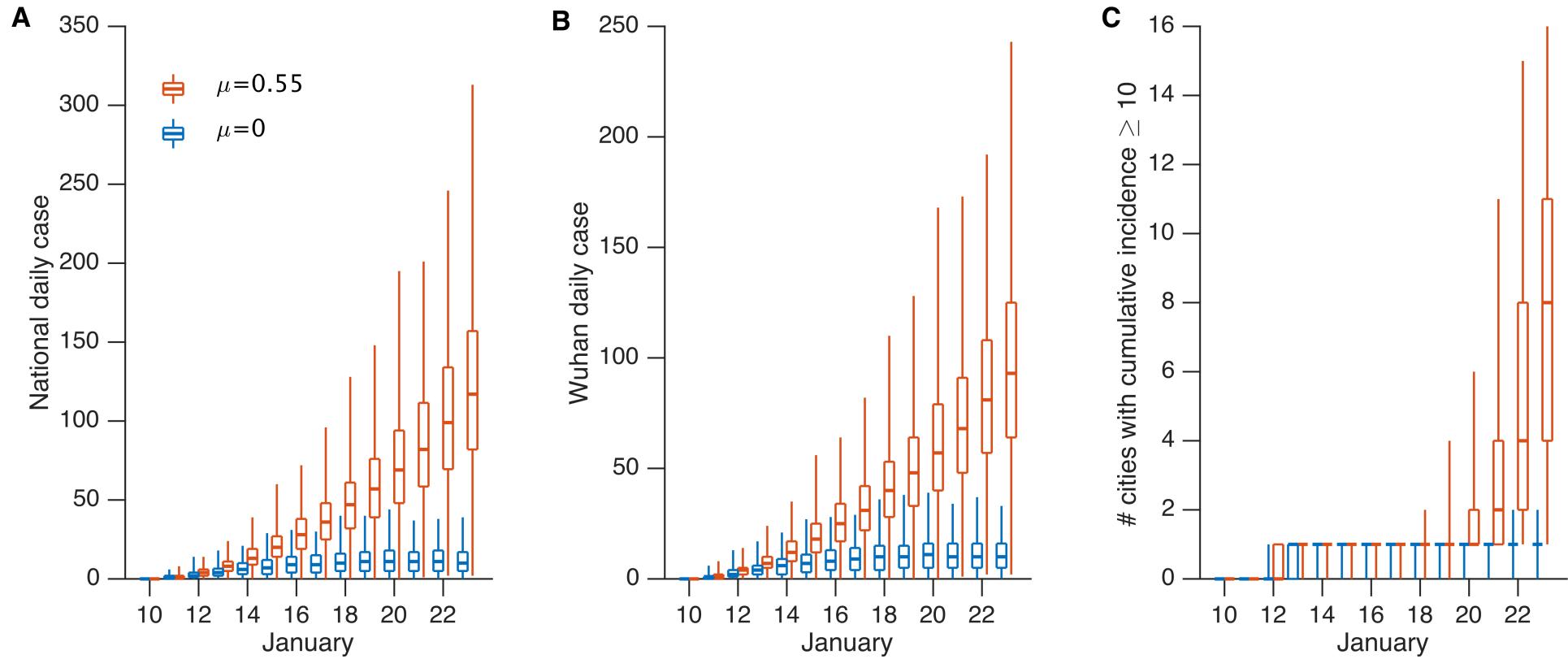
- Simulations with the parameter estimates match the observed outbreak



Li et al., 2020

# Inference of Undocumented COVID-19 Infections

## Are contagious, undocumented infections supporting the rapid spread of disease?

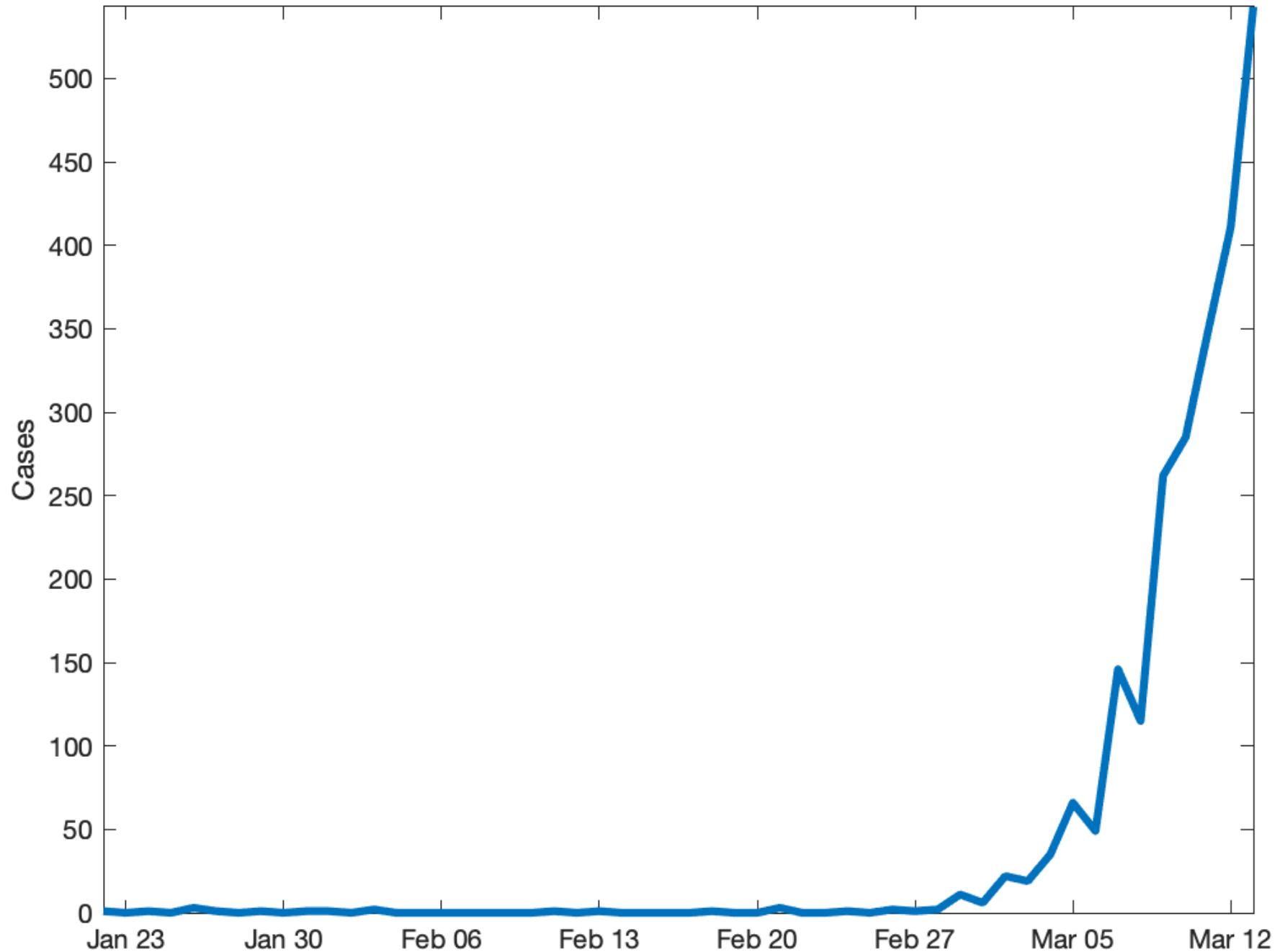


- Simulations show without transmission from undocumented cases, confirmed cases decrease 79%

# Documentation History of CoV

- SARS: sub-clinical infection rates believed to be low (WHO, 2003)
- MERS: 21% of laboratory identified cases were mild or asymptomatic (WHO, 2018)
- Seasonal Coronaviruses (229E, OC43, NL63, HKU1)
  - 135 infection events
  - >60% mild or asymptomatic
  - 4% sought medical care (all had either OC43 or HKU1—the two seasonal betacoronaviruses) (Shaman and Galanti, 2020)
- Our model-inference approach identifies a 14% documentation rate prior to travel restrictions (Li et al. 2020) and indicates that undocumented infections contribute substantially to COVID-19 transmission.

## US Confirmed Cases



# Inference of Undocumented COVID-19 Infections and Key Epidemiological Parameters

$$S_{ij}(t + dt_1) = S_{ij}(t) - \frac{\beta S_{ij}(t) \sum_k I_{ki}^r(t)}{N_i^D(t)} dt_1 - \frac{\mu \beta S_{ij}(t) \sum_k I_{ik}^u(t)}{N_i^D(t)} dt_1 \\ + \theta dt_1 \frac{N_{ij} - I_{ij}^r(t)}{N_i^D(t)} \sum_{k \neq i} \frac{\bar{N}_{ik} \sum_l S_{kl}(t)}{N_k^D(t) - \sum_l I_{lk}^r(t)} - \theta dt_1 \frac{S_{ij}(t)}{N_i^D(t) - \sum_l I_{li}^r(t)} \sum_{k \neq i} \bar{N}_{ki} \quad (1)$$

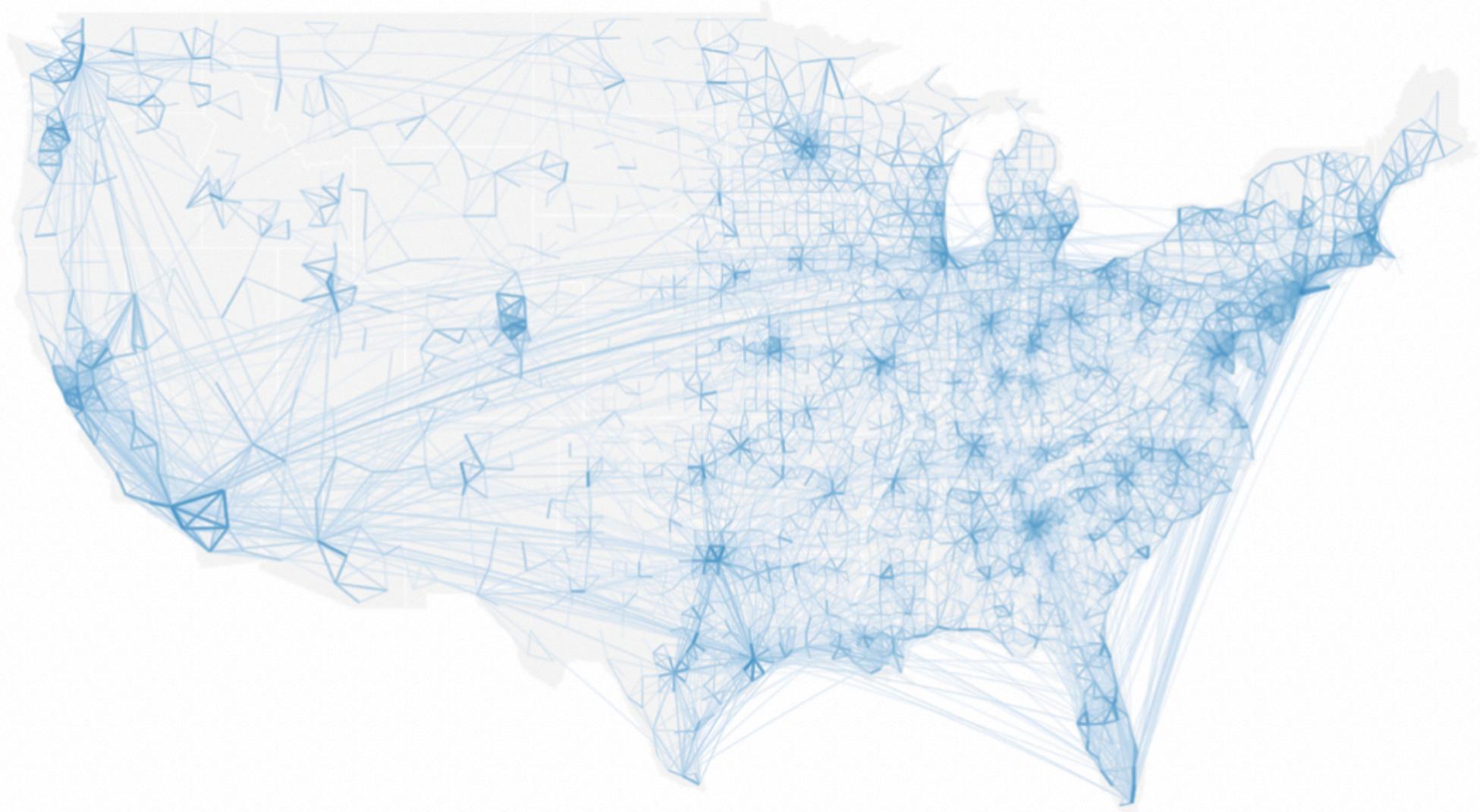
$$E_{ij}(t + dt_1) = E_{ij}(t) + \frac{\beta S_{ij}(t) \sum_k I_{ki}^r(t)}{N_i^D(t)} + \frac{\mu \beta S_{ij}(t) \sum_k I_{ik}^u(t)}{N_i^D(t)} dt_1 - \frac{E_{ij}(t)}{Z} dt_1 \\ + \theta dt_1 \frac{N_{ij} - I_{ij}^r(t)}{N_i^D(t)} \sum_{k \neq i} \frac{\bar{N}_{ik} \sum_l E_{kl}(t)}{N_k^D(t) - \sum_l I_{lk}^r(t)} - \theta dt_1 \frac{E_{ij}(t)}{N_i^D(t) - \sum_l I_{li}^r(t)} \sum_{k \neq i} \bar{N}_{ki} \quad (2)$$

$$I_{ij}^r(t + dt_1) = I_{ij}^r(t) + \alpha \frac{E_{ij}(t)}{Z} dt_1 - \frac{I_{ij}^r(t)}{D} dt_1 \quad (3)$$

$$I_{ij}^u(t + dt_1) = I_{ij}^u(t) + (1 - \alpha) \frac{E_{ij}(t)}{Z} dt_1 - \frac{I_{ij}^u(t)}{D} dt_1 \\ + \theta dt_1 \frac{N_{ij} - I_{ij}^r(t)}{N_i^D(t)} \sum_{k \neq i} \frac{\bar{N}_{ik} \sum_l I_{kl}^u(t)}{N_k^D(t) - \sum_l I_{lk}^r(t)} - \theta dt_1 \frac{I_{ij}^u(t)}{N_i^D(t) - \sum_l I_{li}^r(t)} \sum_{k \neq i} \bar{N}_{ki} \quad (4)$$

$$N_i^D(t) = N_{ii} + \sum_{k \neq i} I_{ki}^r(t) + \sum_{k \neq i} (N_{ik} - I_{ik}^r(t)) \quad (5)$$

# Inter-county commuting data from US census survey



# Initial Estimates for the US (through March 13, 2020)

Parameter	Median (95% CIs)
Transmission rate ( $\beta$ , days $^{-1}$ )	0.95 (0.84, 1.06)
Relative transmission rate ( $\mu$ )	0.64 (0.56, 0.70)
Latency period ( $Z$ , days)	3.59 (3.28, 3.99)
Infectious period ( $D$ , days)	3.56 (3.21, 3.83)
Reporting rate ( $\alpha$ )	0.080 (0.069, 0.093)
Basic reproductive number ( $R_e$ )	2.27 (1.87, 2.55)
Mobility factor ( $\theta$ )	0.15 (0.12, 0.17)

# Additional Features

$$S_{ij}(t + dt_1) = S_{ij}(t) - \frac{\beta S_{ij}(t) \sum_k I_{ki}^r(t)}{N_i^D(t)} dt_1 - \frac{\mu \beta S_{ij}(t) \sum_k I_{ik}^u(t)}{N_i^D(t)} dt_1 \\ + \theta dt_1 \frac{N_{ij} - I_{ij}^r(t)}{N_i^D(t)} \sum_{k \neq i} \frac{\bar{N}_{ik} \sum_l S_{kl}(t)}{N_k^D(t) - \sum_l I_{lk}^r(t)} - \theta dt_1 \frac{S_{ij}(t)}{N_i^D(t) - \sum_l I_{li}^r(t)} \sum_{k \neq i} \bar{N}_{ki} \quad (1)$$

$$E_{ij}(t + dt_1) = E_{ij}(t) + \frac{\beta S_{ij}(t) \sum_k I_{ki}^r(t)}{N_i^D(t)} + \frac{\mu \beta S_{ij}(t) \sum_k I_{ik}^u(t)}{N_i^D(t)} dt_1 - \frac{E_{ij}(t)}{Z} dt_1 \\ + \theta dt_1 \frac{N_{ij} - I_{ij}^r(t)}{N_i^D(t)} \sum_{k \neq i} \frac{\bar{N}_{ik} \sum_l E_{kl}(t)}{N_k^D(t) - \sum_l I_{lk}^r(t)} - \theta dt_1 \frac{E_{ij}(t)}{N_i^D(t) - \sum_l I_{li}^r(t)} \sum_{k \neq i} \bar{N}_{ki} \quad (2)$$

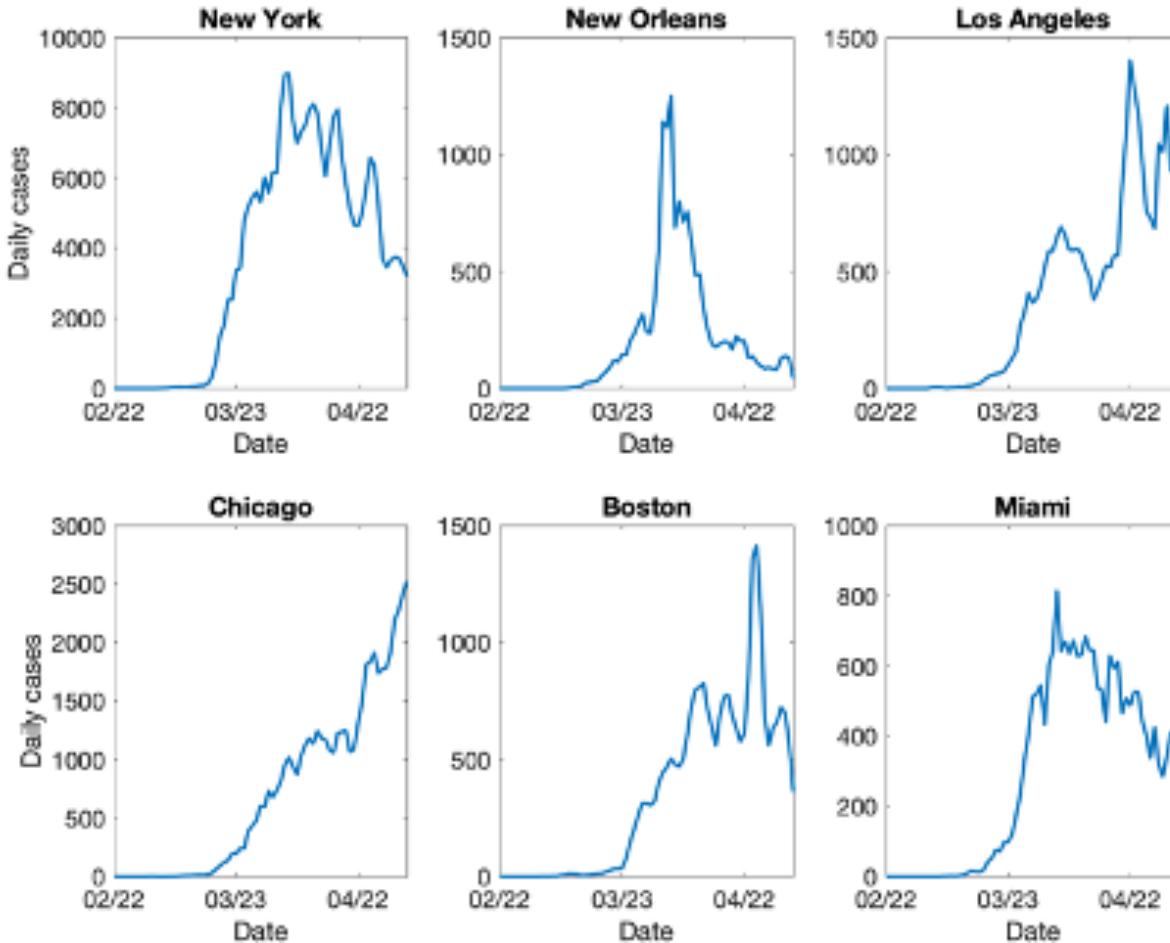
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- Assimilate Cases and Deaths
- Allow certain parameters to vary through time
- Allow certain parameters to vary by county

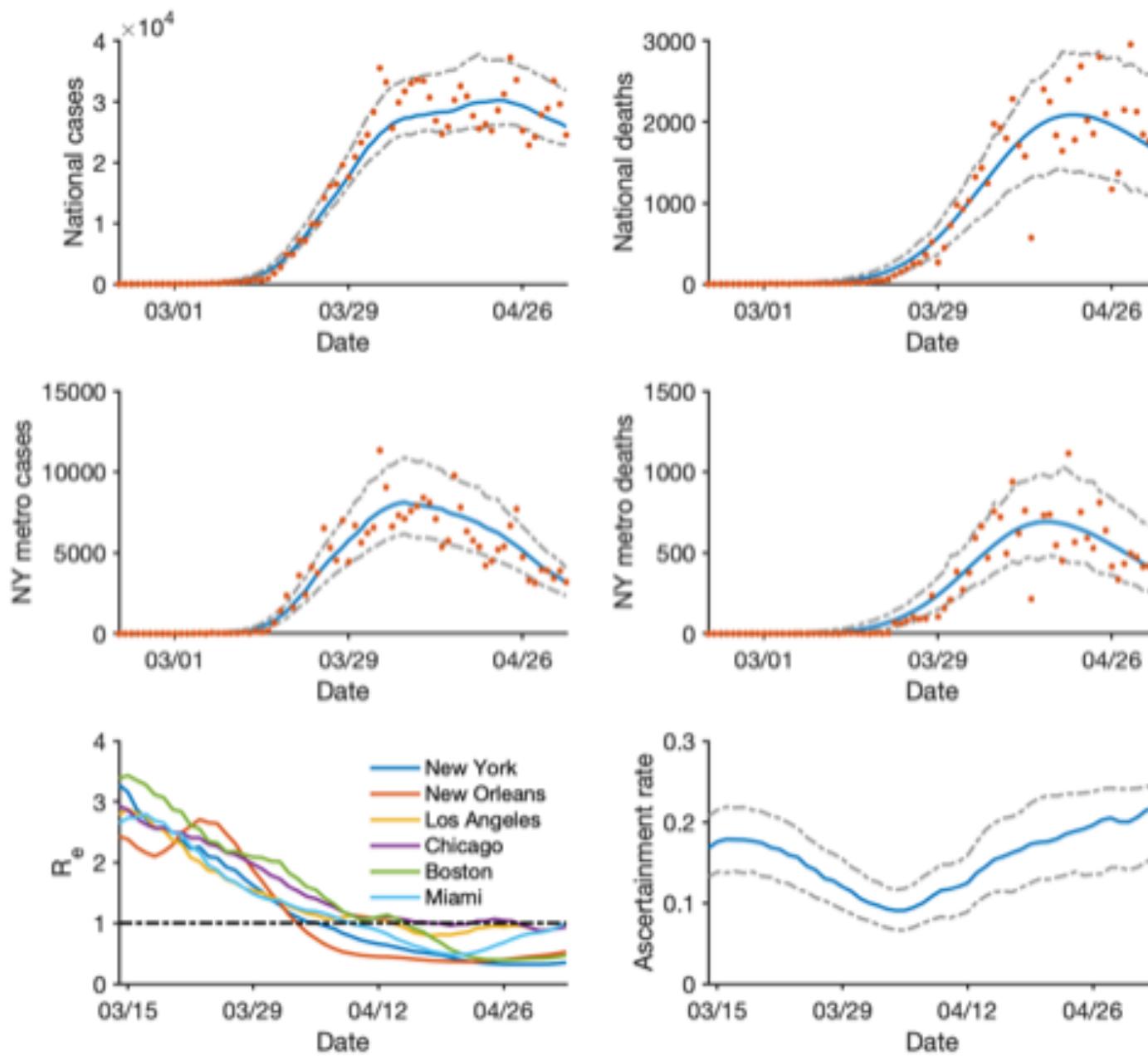
# Inference, Fitting and Projection



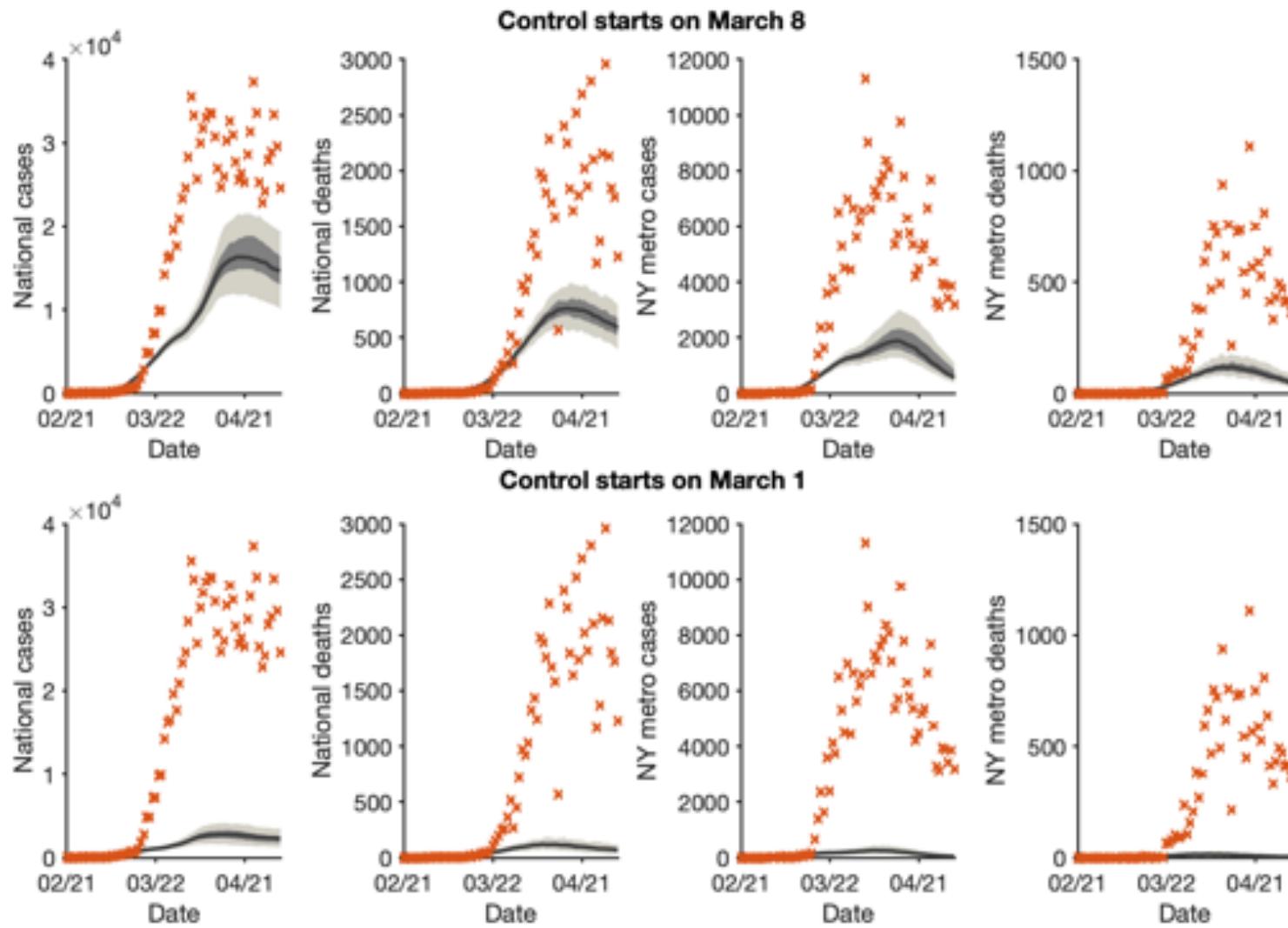
- Estimate  $\beta$  in all counties with more than 400 cumulative cases as of May 3, 2020
- Vary movement between counties using Safe Graph location-based mobility data
- Spotlight activity in six metropolitan areas. These counties are:

1. New York: Kings County NY, Queens County NY, New York County NY, Bronx County NY, Richmond County NY, Westchester County NY, Bergen County NJ, Hudson County NJ, Passaic County NJ, Putnam County NY, Rockland County NY
2. New Orleans: Jefferson Parish LA, Orleans Parish LA, St. John the Baptist Parish LA, St. Tammany Parish LA
3. Los Angeles: Los Angeles County CA, Orange County CA
4. Chicago: Cook County IL, DuPage County IL, Kane County IL, McHenry County IL, Will County IL
5. Boston: Norfolk County MA, Plymouth County MA, Suffolk County MA
6. Miami: Miami-Dade County FL, Broward County FL, Palm Beach County FL

# Fitting and Inference

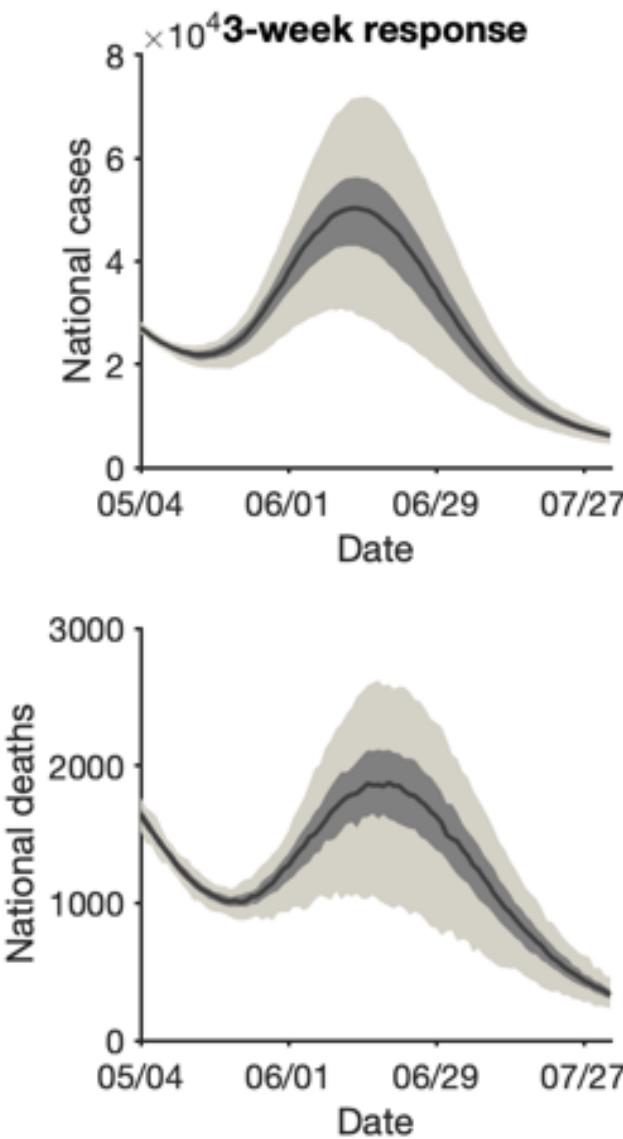
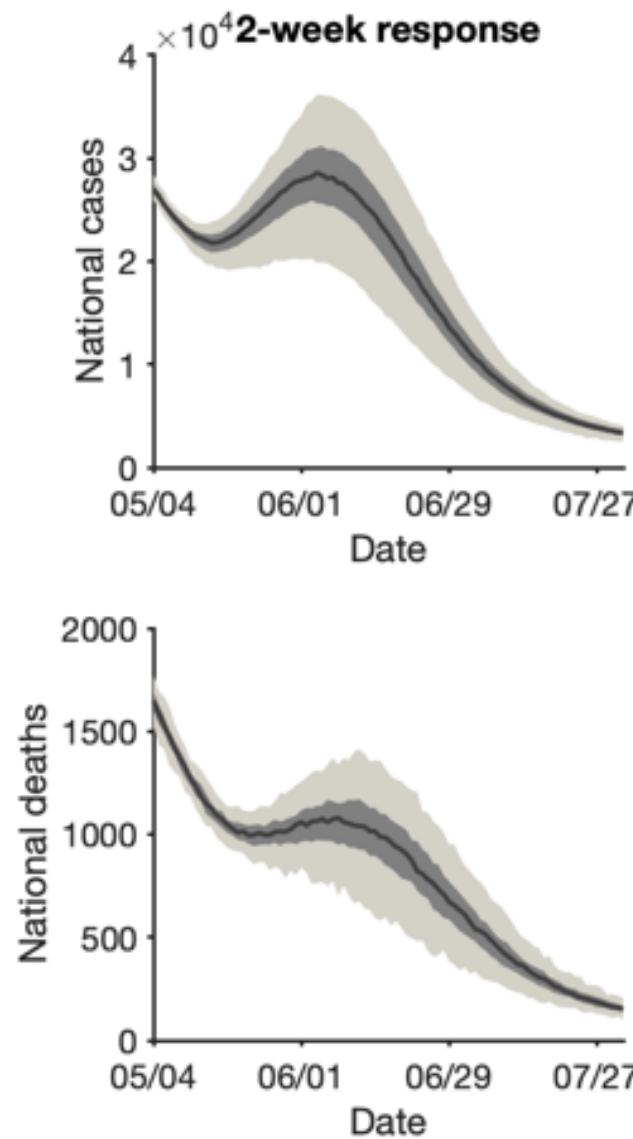


# Counterfactuals



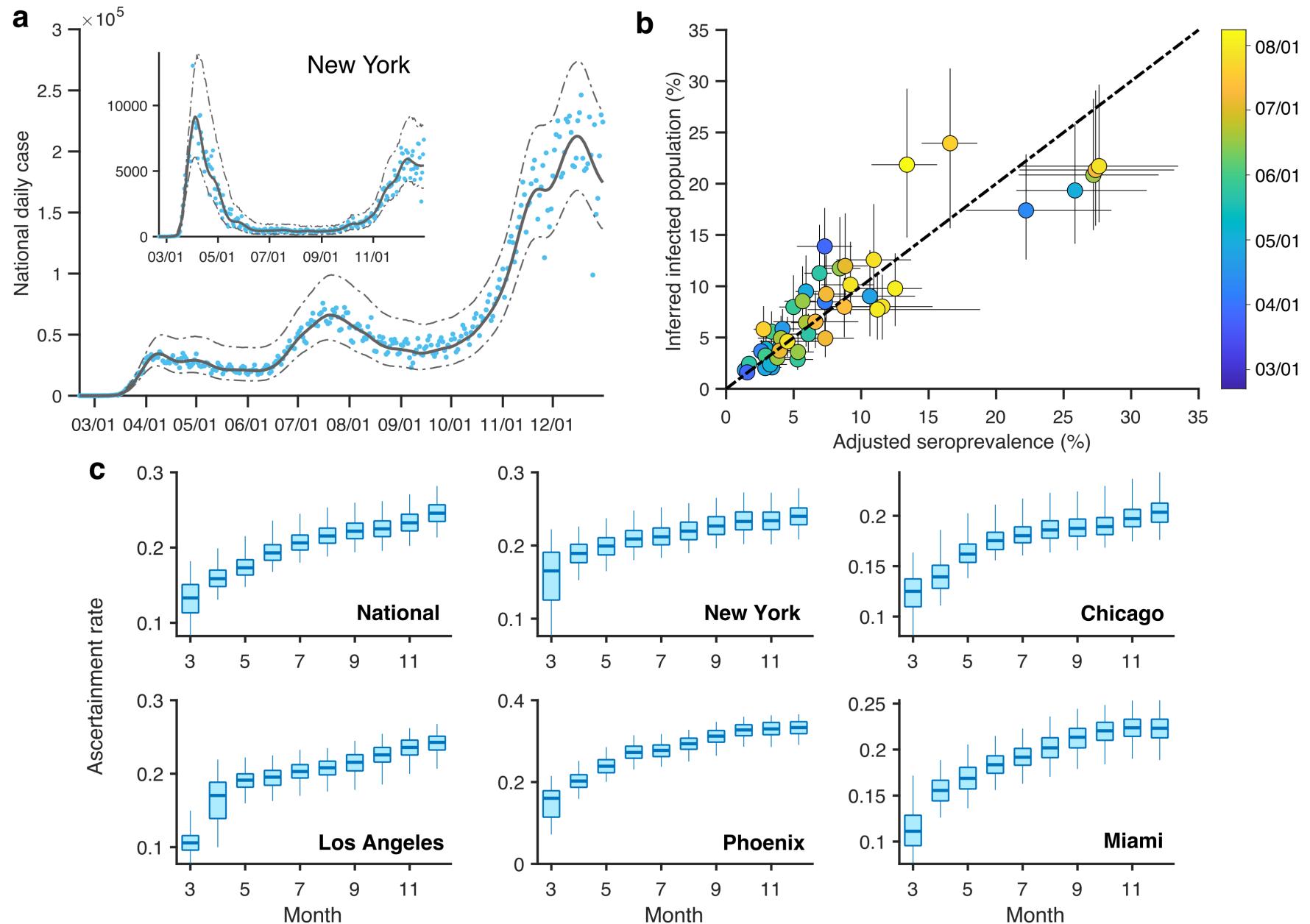
• Pei et al., 2020

# Going Forward



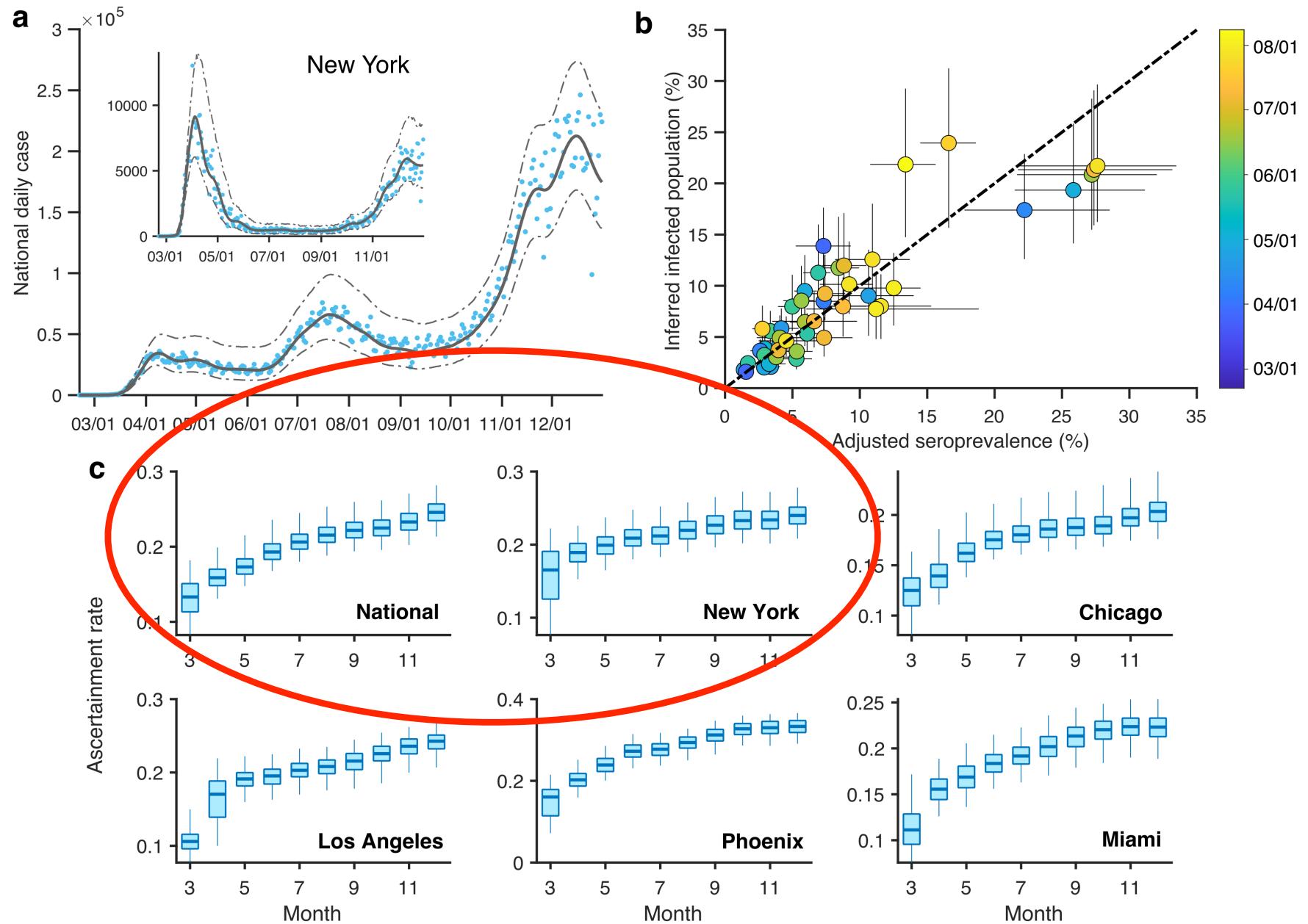
- Rebound outbreaks confront a similar problem
- A one-week further delay to the resumption of control measures results in tens of thousands of extra deaths

# 2020 - Epidemiological Characteristics



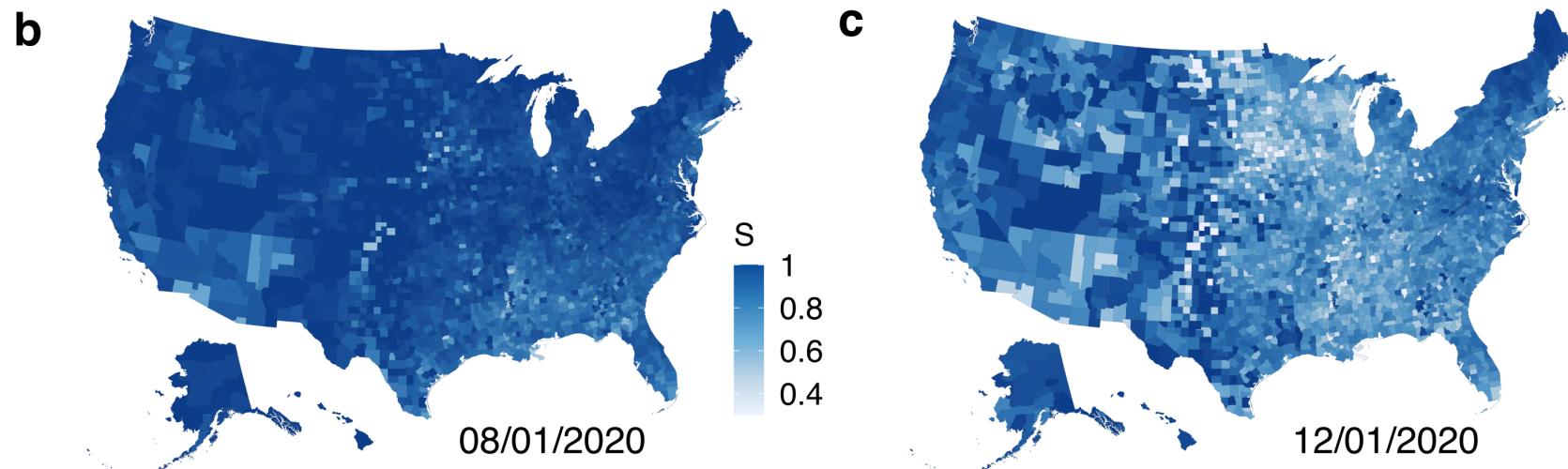
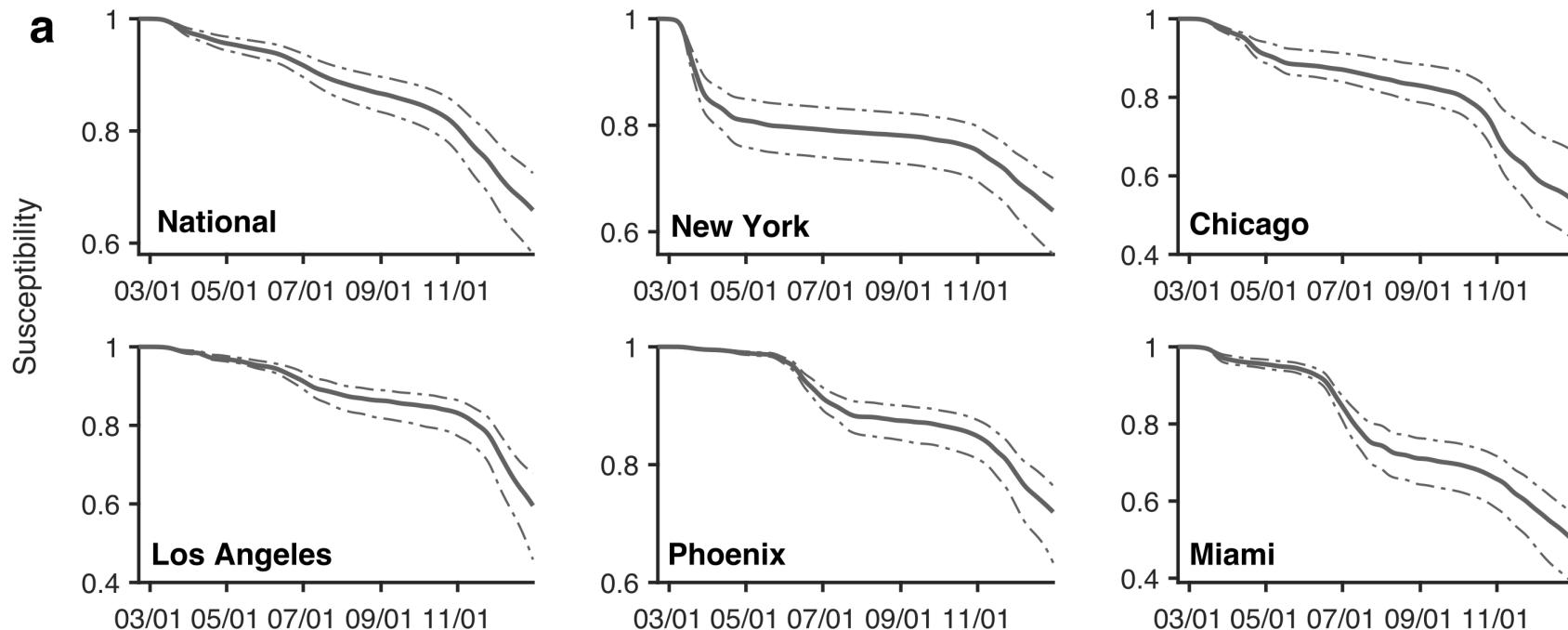
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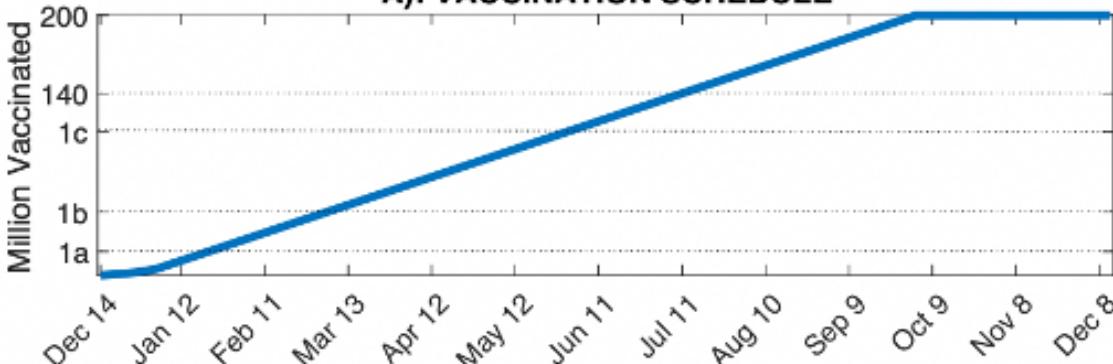
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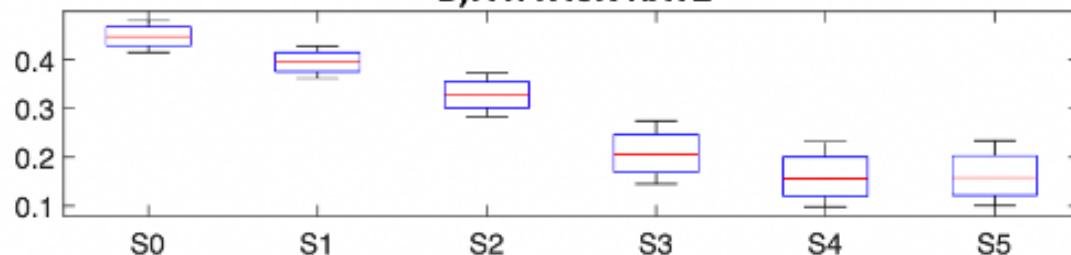
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# Vaccination

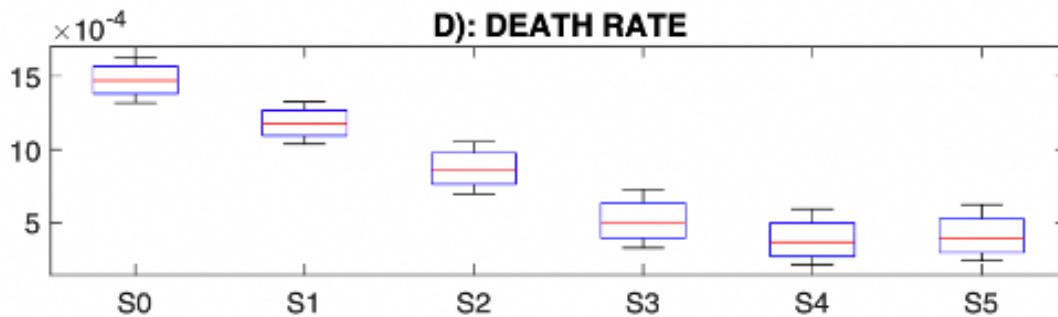
**A): VACCINATION SCHEDULE**



**B): ATTACK RATE**



**D): DEATH RATE**



SCENARIO	VACCINE	NPIs
S0	NO	NPIs relaxed immediately
S1	YES	NPIs relaxed immediately
S2	YES	NPIs as current, then immediately relaxed after 1a
S3	YES	NPIs as current, then gradually relaxed at (1a,1b,1c)
S4	YES	NPIs strengthened then gradually relaxed at (1a,1b,1c)
S5	YES	NPIs as current, then gradually relaxed after 140 million vaccinated

**C): CASES AVERTED**

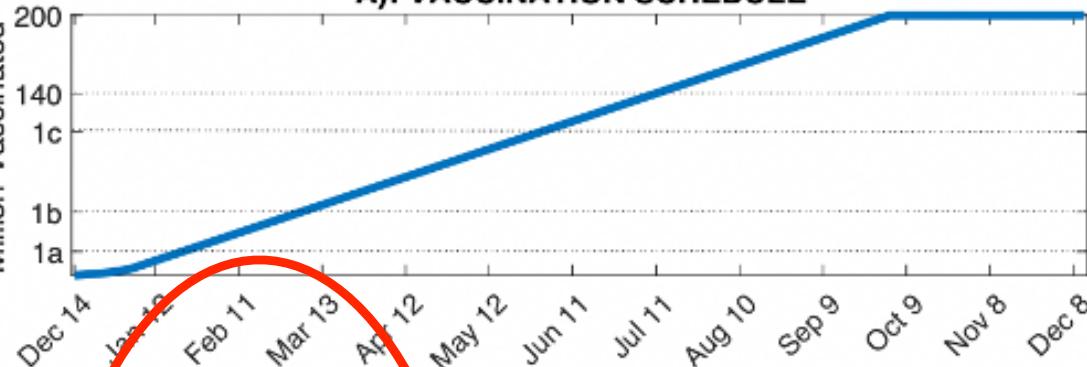


**E): DEATHS AVERTED**

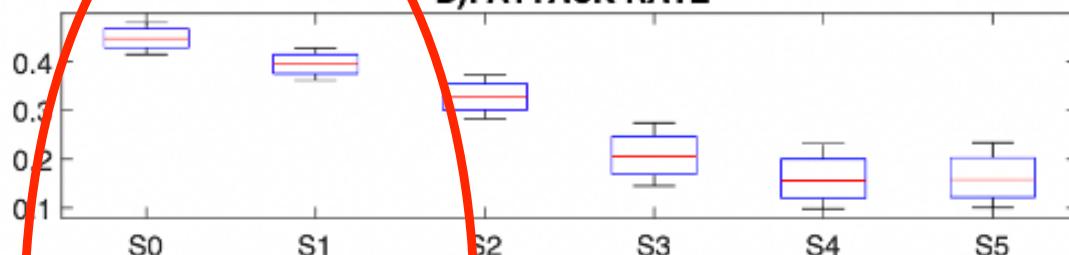


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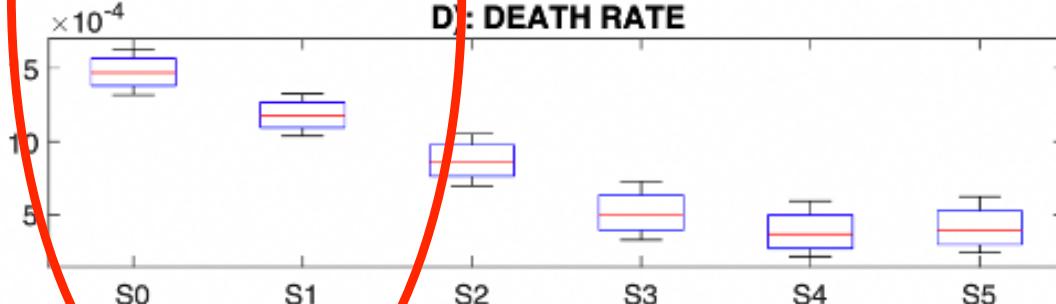
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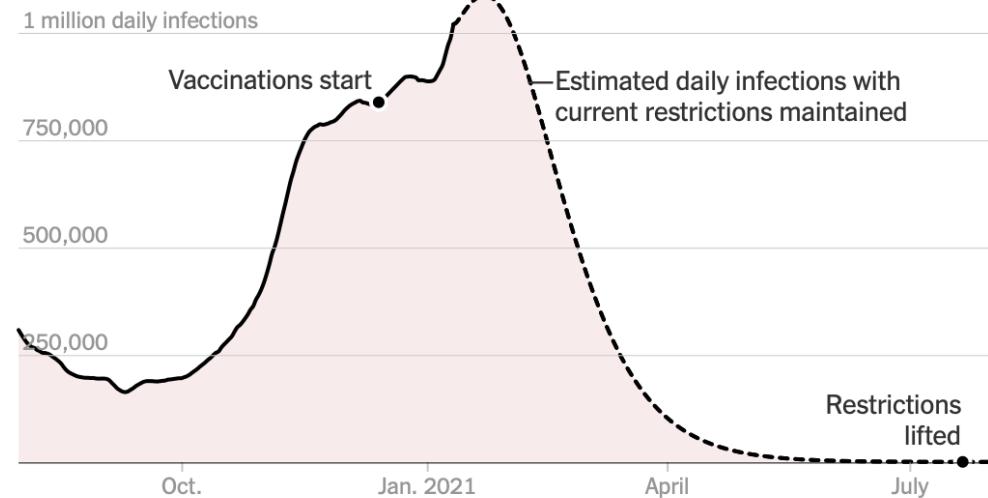


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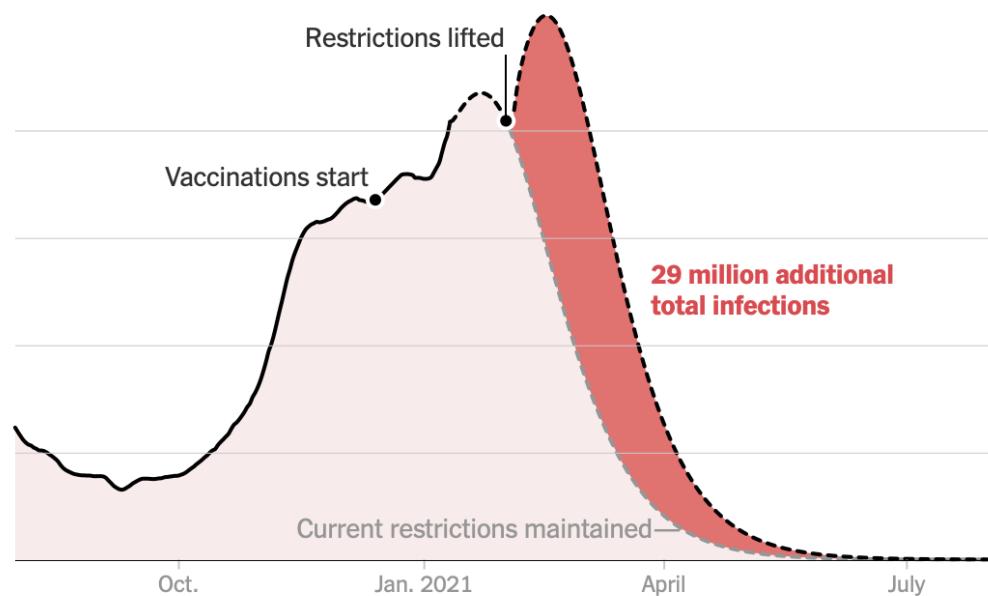


# Vaccination

If current restrictions remain in place until late July



If restrictions are lifted in February



- Galanti et al., 2021/  
Image source NY Times

# Vaccination

**Estimated total infections in the U.S. if current restrictions are ...**

**... in place until late July**

**158 million est. total infections**

**... strengthened until late July**

**19 million  
fewer infections**

**... strengthened until February**

**9 million  
fewer infections**

**... lifted in mid-March**

**6 million  
additional infections**

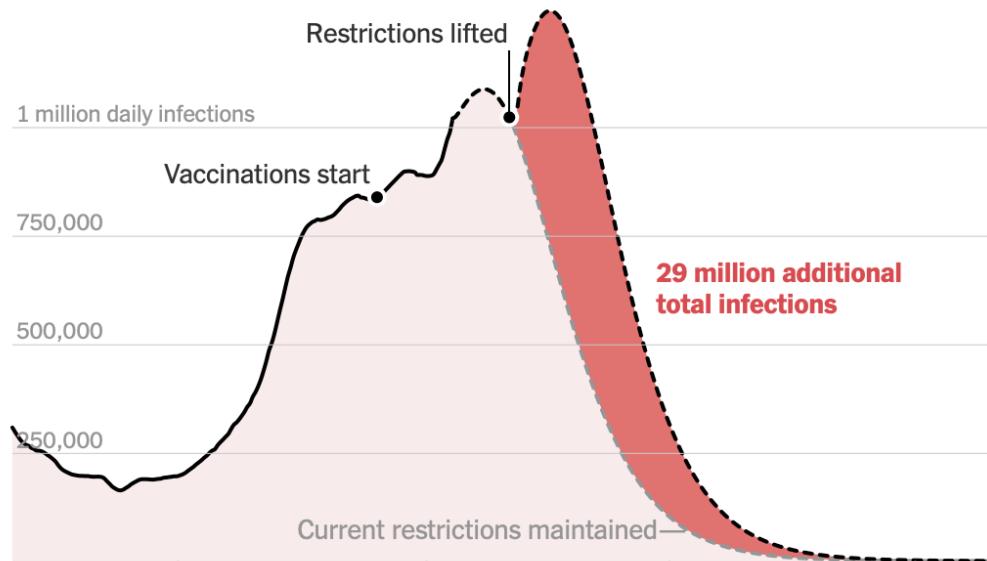
**... lifted in February**

**29 million  
additional infections**

- Galanti et al., 2021/  
Image source NY Times

# Vaccination

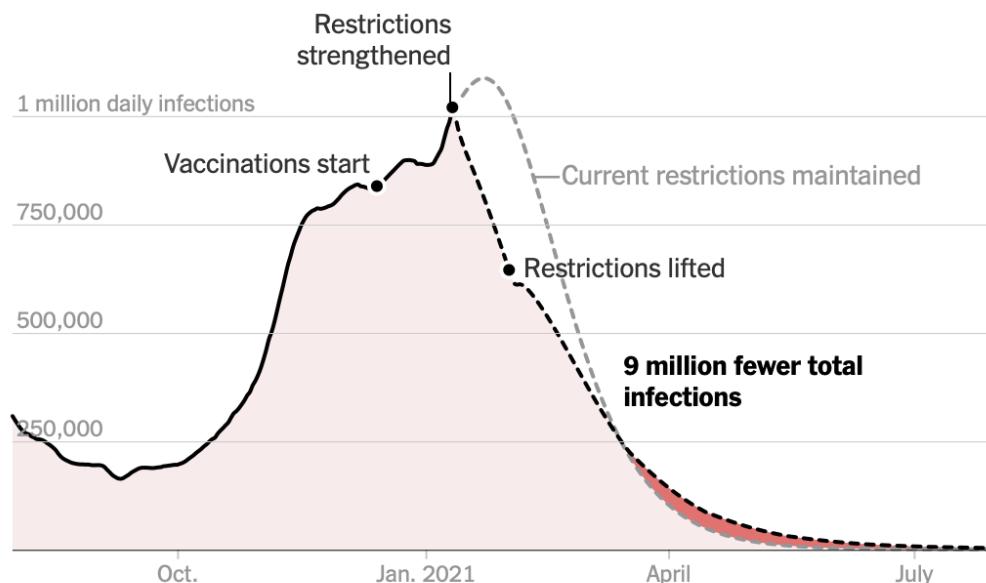
If restrictions are lifted in February



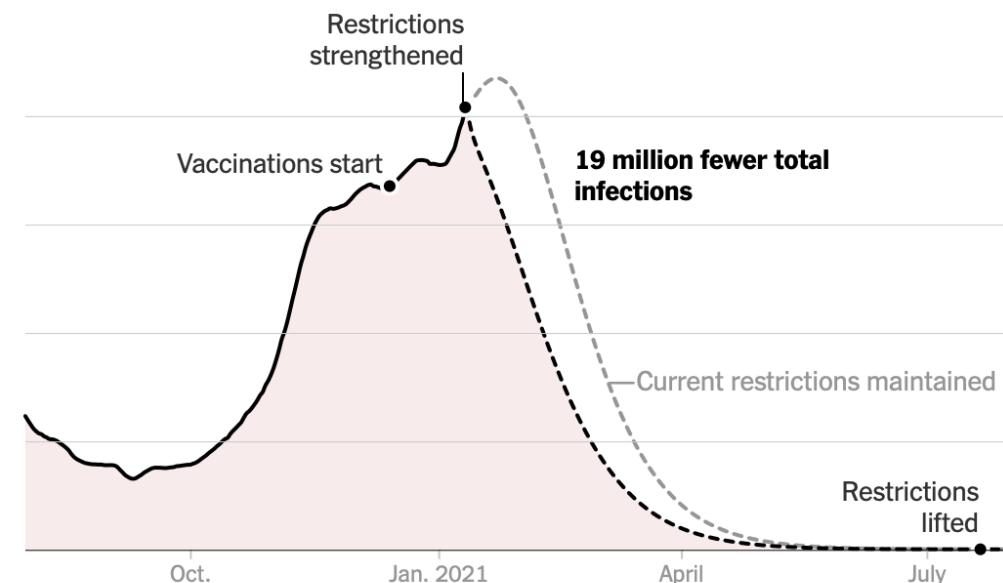
If restrictions are lifted in mid-March



If restrictions are strengthened until February



If restrictions are strengthened until late July



- Galanti et al., 2021/Image source NY Times