

Surging VARIANTS

In November, the first case of the Omicron variant was reported and discovered in South Africa. The variant spread rapidly around the world, with cases continuing to rise during and after the holidays as students returned to campus and classes began.



FIRST REPORTED AND
DISCOVERED IN SOUTH
AFRICA NOV. 24TH



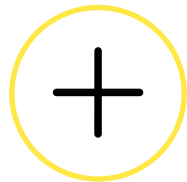
AT LEAST 32 MUTATIONS
AND A HIGHER
RE-INFECTION RISK



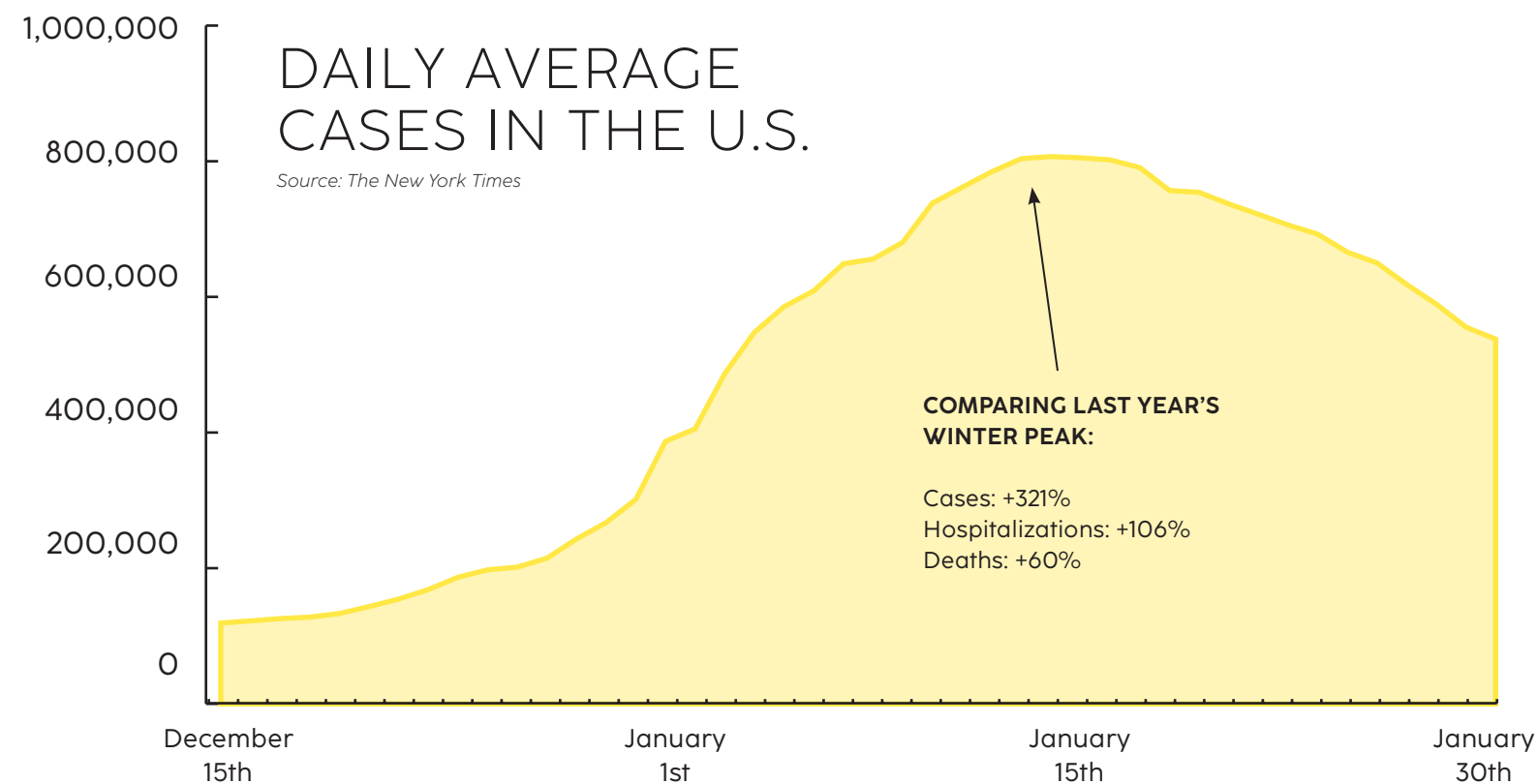
3 MILLION
DAILY TESTS ADMINISTERED



POSITIVE CASES PEAKED AT
1,433,977
ON JANUARY 10TH



30%
POSITIVITY
RATE



CURRENT VARIANTS OF CONCERN

NAME	MUTATIONS	STATUS
Omicron (B.1.1.529)	32	Identified in South Africa in Nov. 2021 and spread around the world. Within a month it was dominant in the U.S.
Delta (B.1.617.2)	10	Emerged in India in late 2020 and spread around the world. Delta carries the L452R spike mutation, among others.
Gamma (P.1)	12	Emerged in Brazil in late 2020.
Beta (B.1.351)	10	Emerged in South Africa in late 2020.
Alpha (B.1.1.7)	11	Emerged in Britain in late 2020.

Source: The New York Times



▲ NC State students and staff stand in line outside of Witherspoon Student Center to get a COVID-19 test Jan. 11.
PHOTO BY: NATALIE FOLSOM