Presentation for Alaska House of Representatives Health and Social Services Committee

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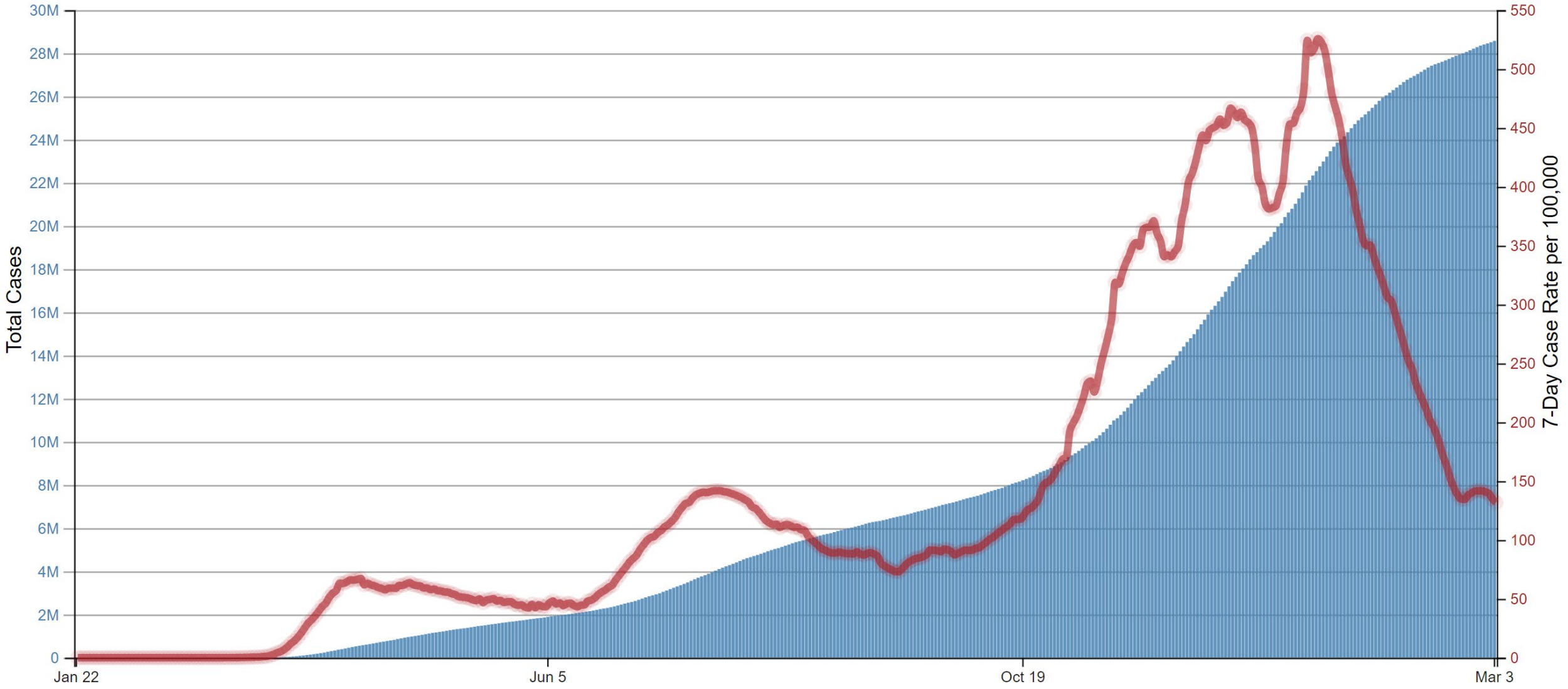
Trends in Total and 7-Day Cumulative Incidence Rate of COVID-19 Cases in the United States Reported to CDC, per 100,000 population



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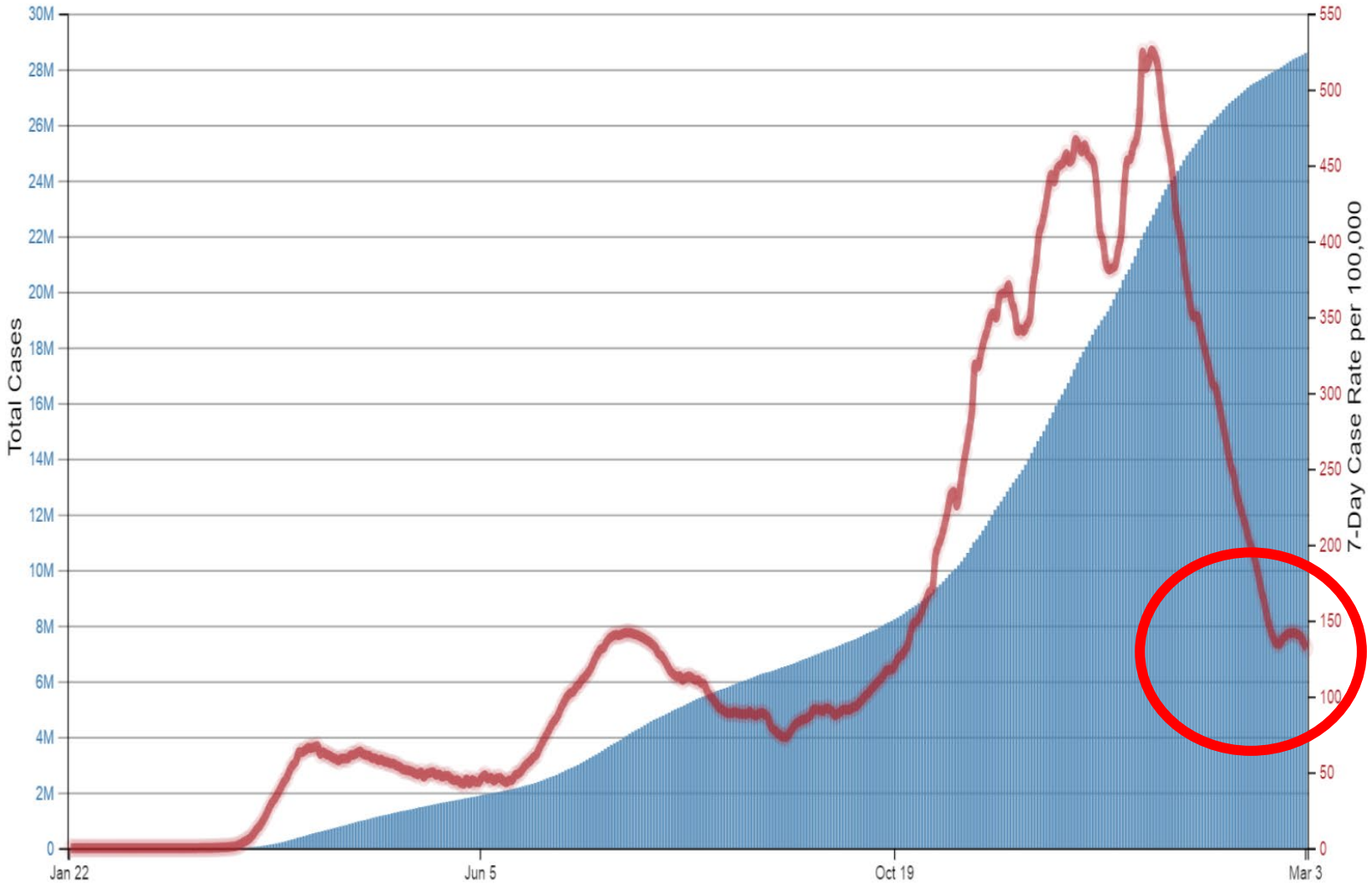

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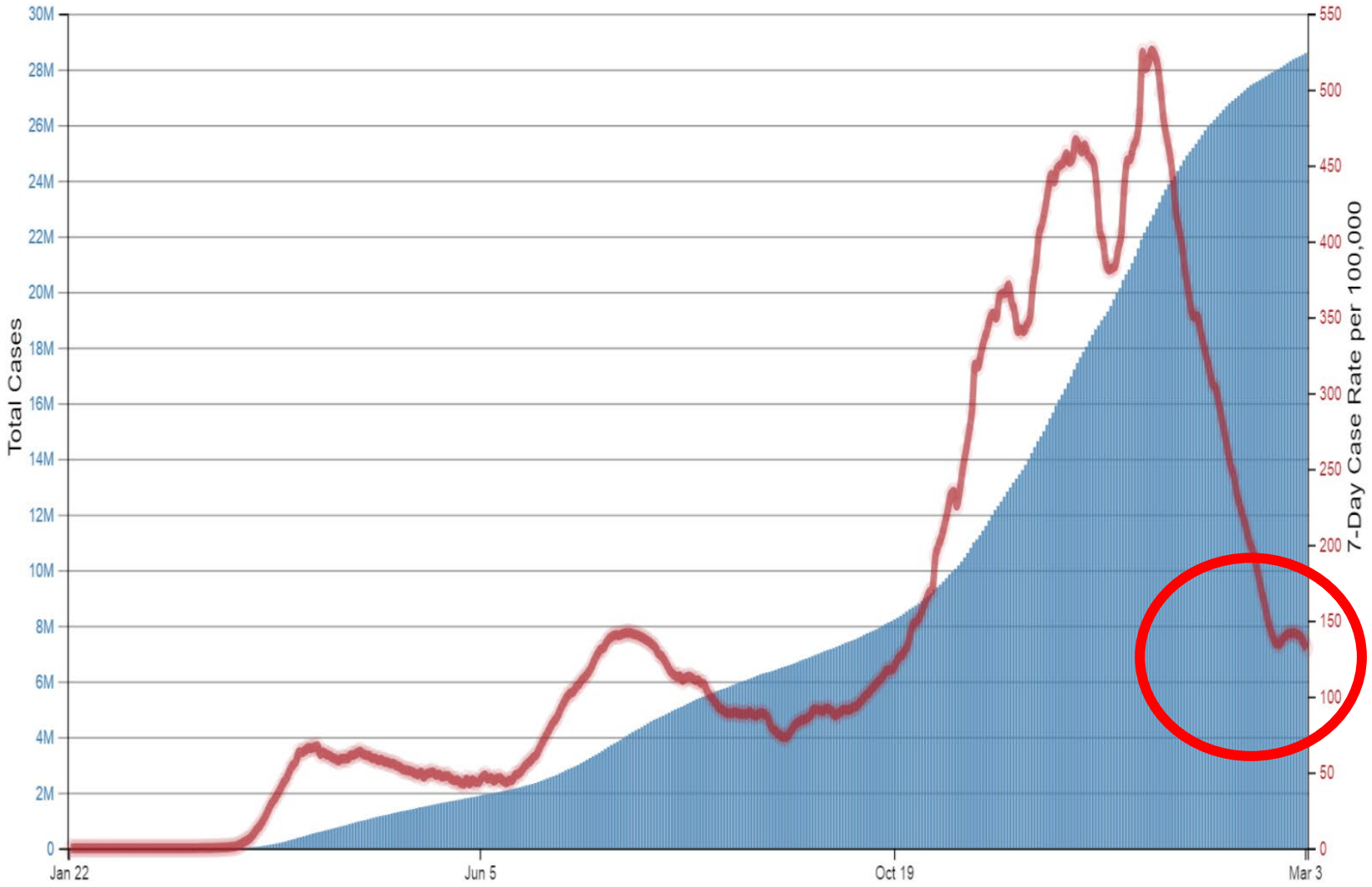
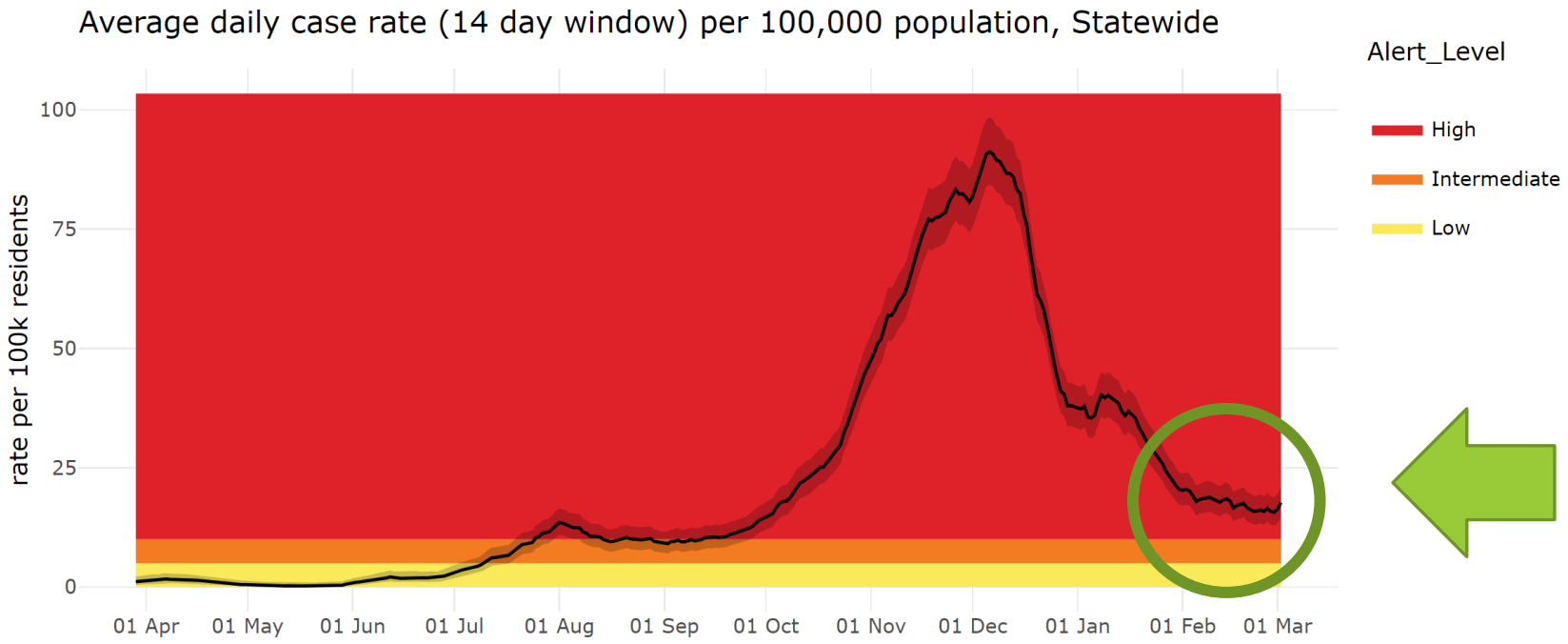


Likely reasons for leveling off:

- Decreased vigilance
- Increase in super-transmissible virus variants
  - “UK variant” B.117

COVID rates in Alaska

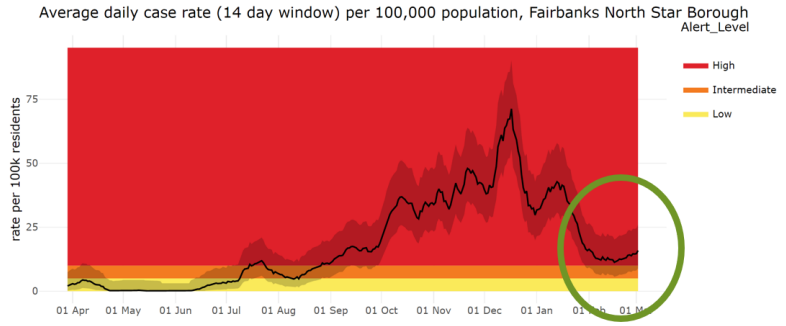


Declining rates have stalled.
The epidemic in Alaska is not over.

Current Alert Level: High

17.71 per 100,000 population

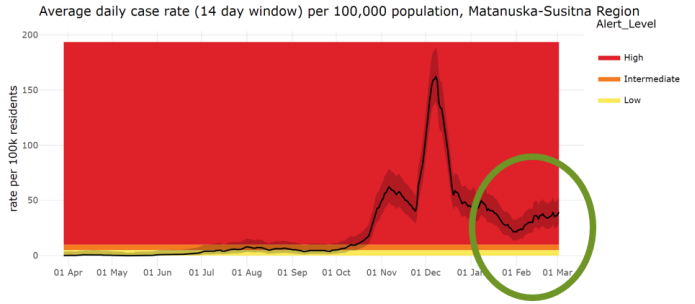
COVID rates increasing in some regions



Current Alert Level: High

15.88 per 100,000 population

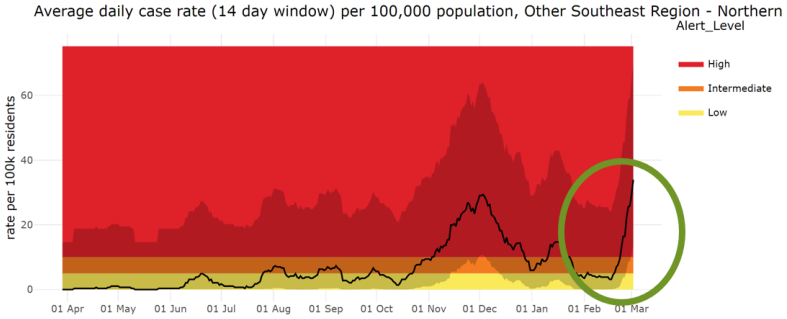
Fairbanks



Current Alert Level: High

39.54 per 100,000 population

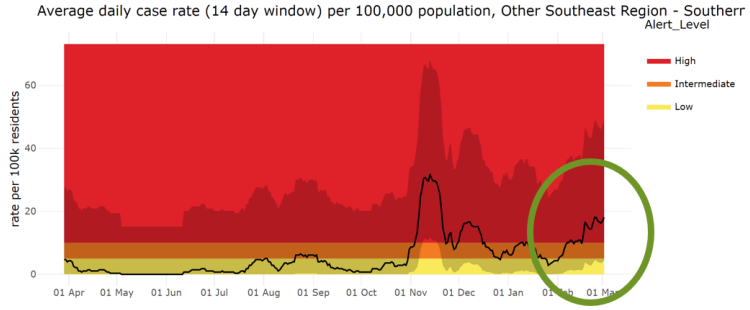
Mat-Su



Current Alert Level: High

33.95 per 100,000 population

Southeast: Northern



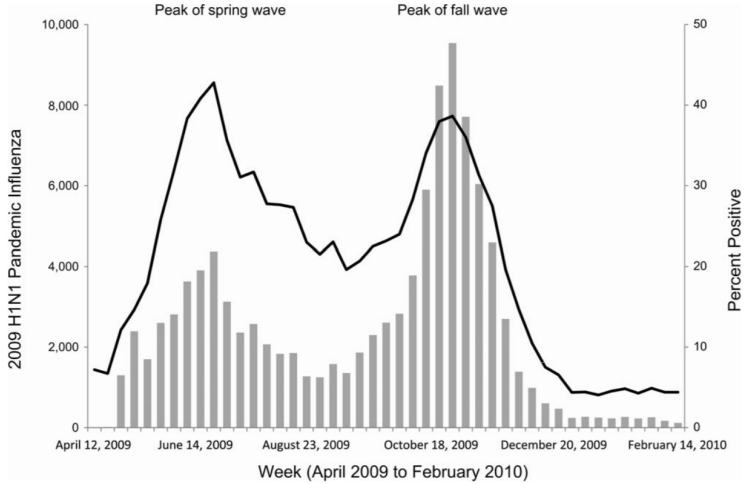
Current Alert Level: High

18.07 per 100,000 population

Southeast: Southern

Timeline of 2009 Influenza Pandemic

- April 15 — First US Case and start of first wave of infections
- April 20 — US Public Health Emergency declared
- October — Second wave in US, first vaccines available
- Late December — Vaccine available to all
- February 2010 — Case rates below seasonal average
- June 23, 2010 — US Public Health Emergency ended



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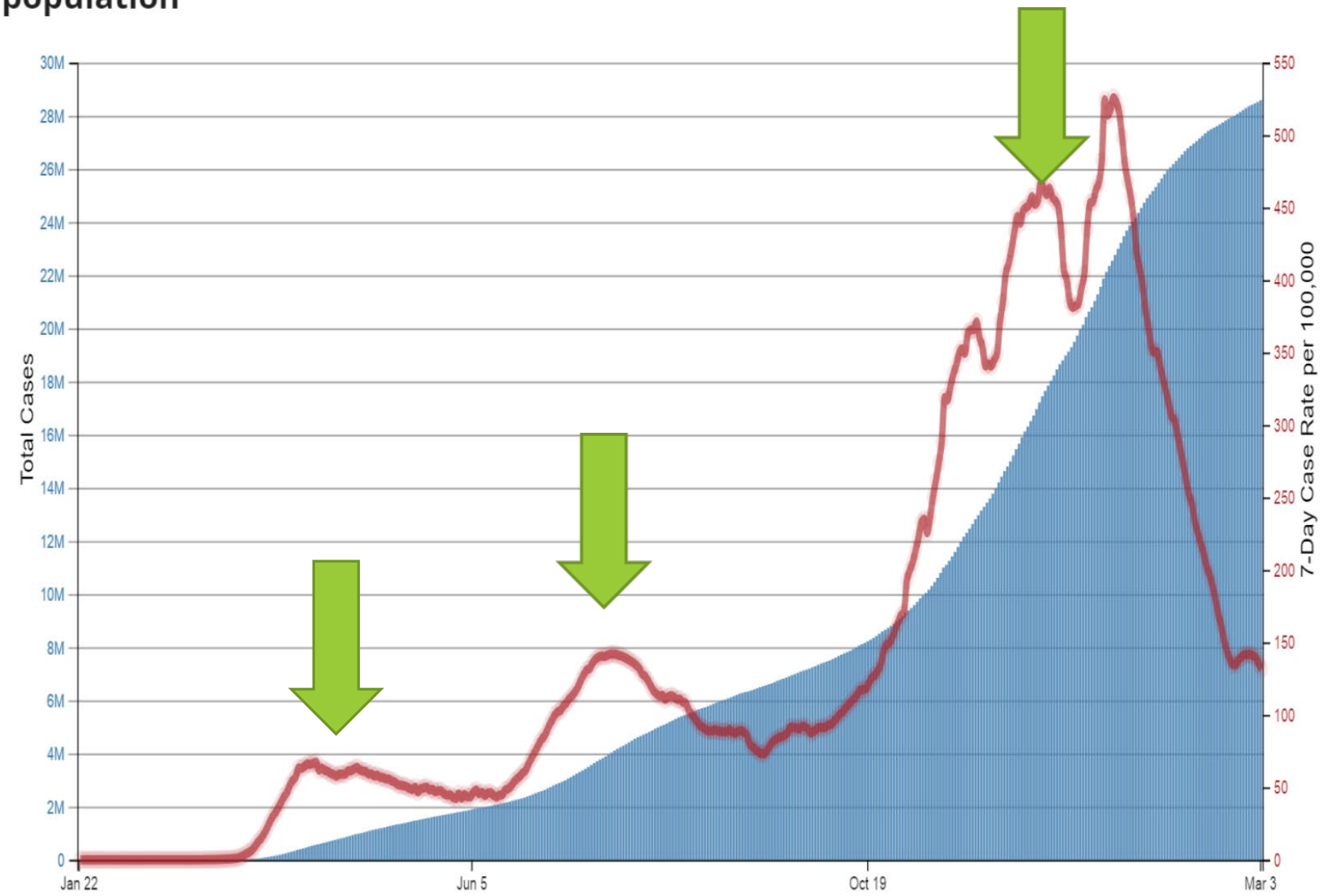

COVID Waves in US

- Spring
- Summer
- Winter

Cannot assume COVID will go away in the Spring

What did we lose when the Emergency lapsed?

- Required traveler testing at airports
  - Decreased participation in voluntary program
  - Increases chances of introducing virus variants into Alaska
- Flexibility and speed in response
  - Contracting, purchasing, alternative cares sites for testing, vaccination, treatment
  - Medical licensing and reciprocity
  - Telehealth from providers outside of Alaska
- Official recognition of urgency and concern about COVID epidemic
  - Sends signal that “All is well” to Alaskans when we need continued vigilance
    - Most Alaskans are not vaccinated or immune
  - Likely to result in people lowering their guard and increased case counts