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'There needs to be a quick and devastating take down': Emails show how Fauci and head of NIH worked to discredit three experts who penned the Great Barrington Declaration which called for an end to lockdowns

- The emails show Fauci and NIH Director Francis Collins attempting to coordinate a 'devastating takedown' of the Great Barrington Declaration (GBD)
- AIER, a libertarian think tank, sponsored the GBD, which largely abandons lockdowns in favor of herd immunity strategy that allows life to return to normal
- In an October 8 email from Collins to Fauci, the head of the NIH calls the GBD the work of 'three fringe epidemiologists' that 'seems to be getting a lot of attention'
- Collins adds that 'there needs to be a quick and devastating published takedown of its premises. I don't see anything like that online yet - is it underway?'
- Fauci later sends Collins multiple op-eds trashing the GBD in Wired and The Nation Magazine
- Dr. Jay Bhattacharya - one of the authors and a DailyMail.com contributor - tweeted that he was the subject of a propaganda attack by his own government

By [STEPHEN M. LEPORE FOR DAILYMAIL.COM](#)

PUBLISHED: 00:16 GMT, 19 December 2021 | **UPDATED:** 13:16 GMT, 19 December 2021

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Dr. **Anthony Fauci** and the head of the National Institute of Health (NIH) colluded on a way to discredit an alternative plan to deal with COVID from a group of experts, released emails reveal.

The emails, some of which were tweeted out on Saturday by Phil Magness, senior research faculty and interim research and education director at the American Institute for Economic Research (AIER), show Fauci and Francis Collins attempting to coordinate a 'devastating takedown' of the **Great Barrington Declaration**.

AIER, a libertarian think tank, sponsored the declaration, which largely abandons lockdowns in favor of a herd immunity strategy that allows life to return to normal.

In an October 8 email from Collins to Fauci, the head of the NIH calls the GBD the work of 'three fringe epidemiologists' that 'seems to be getting a lot of attention.'

Collins adds that 'there needs to be a quick and devastating published takedown of its premises. I don't see anything like that online yet - is it underway?'

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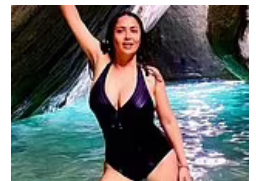
'Nearly losing her was one of the toughest things I've dealt with': Sam Thompson vows to 'never take any day for granted' after sister almost died giving birth



Rebecca Ferguson is engaged! Singer announces she is set to wed beau Jonny Hughes and gushes that 'dreams can come true'



Fierce at 55! Salma Hayek puts her bombshell curves on show in stylish plunging swimsuit



Mel B is awarded MBE for services to domestic violence victims as she dedicates accolade to people in abusive relationships



Mrs Hinch reveals she has bought a countryside house like pal Stacey Solomon as she gives a tour around sprawling grounds

EXCLUSIVE Ioan Gruffudd, 48, makes rare appearance with beaming girlfriend Bianca Wallace, 29, as they enjoy romantic dog walk

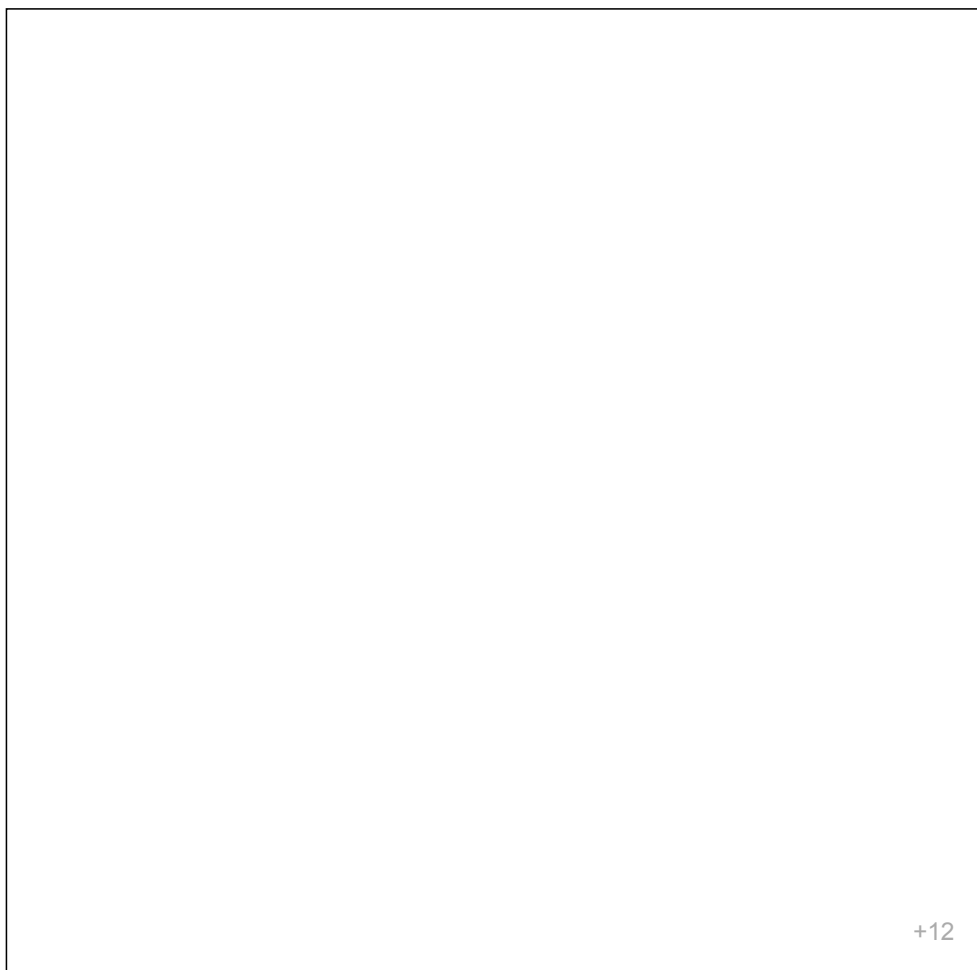
Later in the day, Fauci sends Collins a Wired op-ed that refutes the notion of herd immunity stopping the pandemic.

Collins then sends Fauci an op-ed in The Nation also trashing the GBD.



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An email from NIH Director Francis Collins telling Anthony Fauci that there needed to be a 'devastating published take down' of the Great Barrington Declaration



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Later in the day, Fauci sends along a piece from wired that Fauci said 'debunks this theory,' which relies heavily on ending lockdowns and herd immunity

▶ **'I hated myself back then': Vicky Pattison reveals she was downing ten drinks a day after I'm A Celeb win and turned to therapy to help cope**

▶ **Downton Abbey to downtown shabby... Lady Mary actress Michelle Dockery is laden with shopping after popping into TK Maxx**

▶ **Alessandra Ambrosio kisses beau Richard Lee as she parades her bikini body during Brazil beach day**

▶ **The Masked Singer 2022: Soul star Heather Small, 56, is unveiled as Chandelier and becomes the first celebrity to be eliminated**

▶ **Chris Evans, 55, dons festive shorts while wife Natasha Shishmanian, 41, showcases her washboard abs in a bikini as the couple and enjoy boat trip**

▶ **Travis Scott posts picture of daughter Stormi after returning to social media in wake of Astroworld deaths... while Kylie Jenner prepares to give birth**

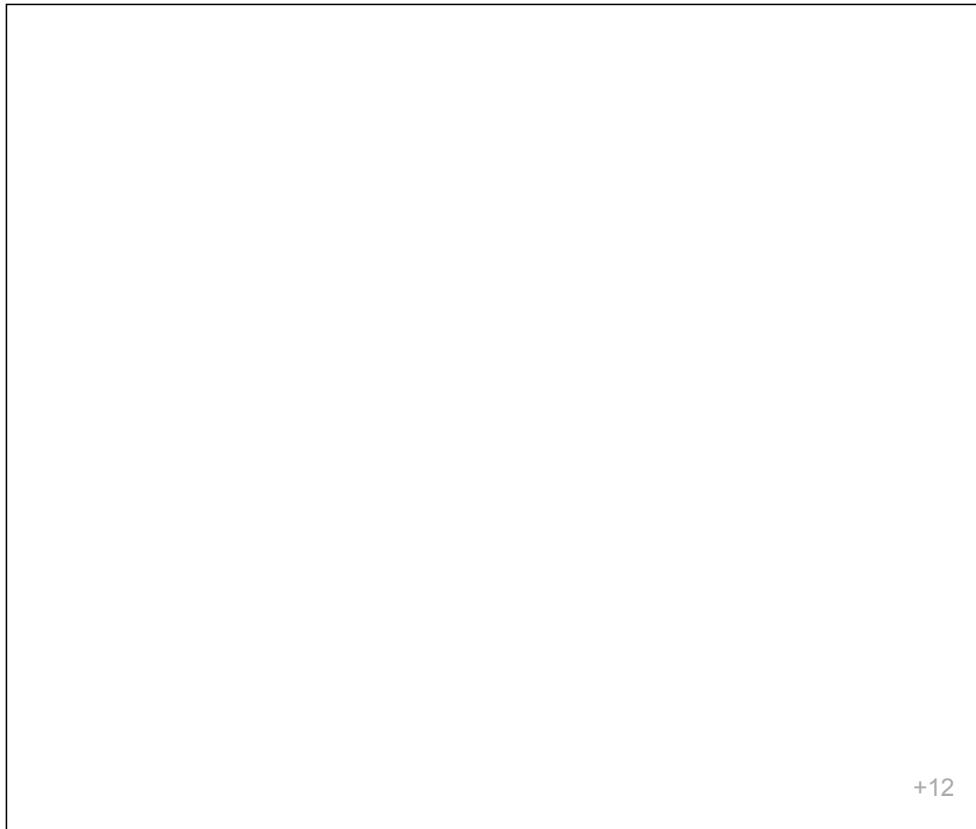
▶ **'Have you ever known a dressing room with so many tears?' Ferne Cotton and Jake Humphrey reveal 'aggressive and catty' environment at CBBC**

▶ **Star Wars actress Daisy Ridley awakens a new force: Conservation activists fight a 'sympathetic' revamp of TV star's £1.85m home**

▶ **Amanda Holden, 50, flaunts her tanned and toned frame in a pretty blue and white bikini as she enjoys her last few days in Antigua**

▶ **Tori Spelling spends New Year's Eve with her five children while 'sick as a dog' husband Dean McDermott recovers from pneumonia**

Nicole Richie bundles up for a New Year's Eve



▶ [bike ride around Santa Barbara with Joel Madden](#)

▶ [Vanessa Hudgens gets a kiss from beau Cole Tucker as she celebrates 'new year, new hobby' with mini golf](#)

▶ [Kourtney Kardashian showcases surgically-enhanced cleavage in VERY racy bra and showgirl ensemble in sexy New Year's Eve snaps](#)

▶ ['What filter is that?' Ioan Gruffudd's ex Alice Evans, 53, accuses his girlfriend Bianca Wallace of EDITING sexy bikini snap](#)

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Fauci sends him along another op-ed from The Nation Magazine trashing the Great Barrington Declaration

A few days later, Collins emails Fauci a Washington Post op-ed he's quoted in headlined 'Proposal to hasten herd immunity to the coronavirus grabs White House attention but appalls top scientists.'

Collins - working under former President Donald Trump at the time - said 'my quotes are accurate but will not be appreciated in the [White House].'

Fauci responds: 'They are too busy with other things to worry about this. What you said was entirely correct.'

Later, Gregg Gonsalves - the writer of The Nation op-ed - sends Collins an email thanking him with a subject line that includes saying legendary AIDS activist Larry Kramer 'would be proud.'

Collins responds with a smiley face.

▶ [Peaky Blinders: Much-anticipated trailer for sixth and FINAL series sees Cillian Murphy's Tommy Shelby open fire in intense scenes](#)

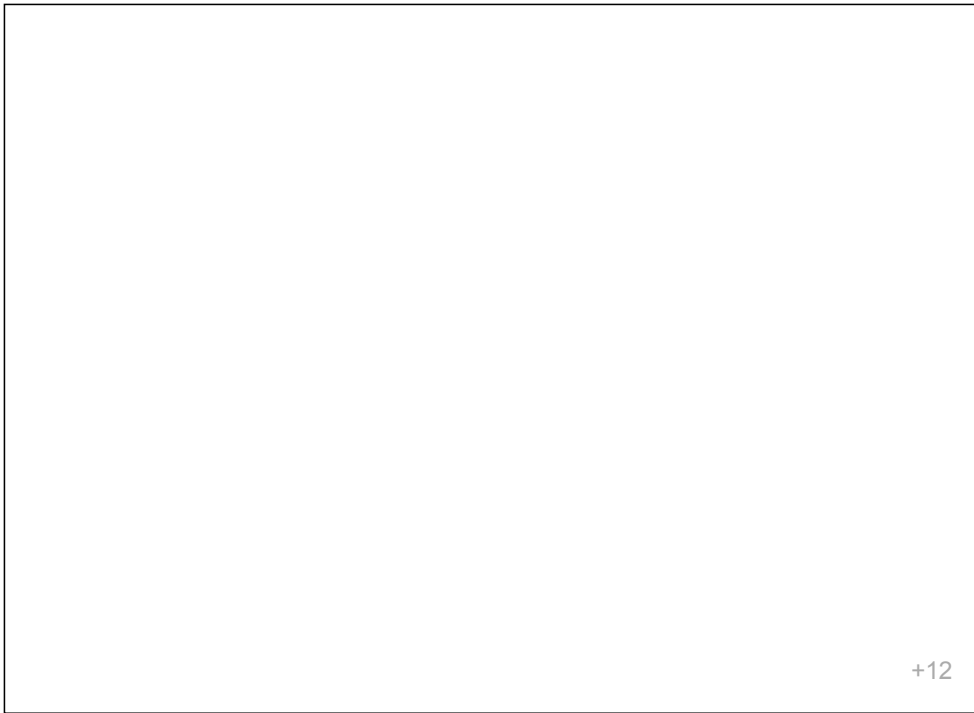
▶ [Maya Jama hints at plans to move to America - after she 'got ENGAGED to beau Ben Simmons after he popped the question over Christmas'](#)

▶ [Hilary Swank reveals her beloved father Stephen Michael has died seven years after she became his 'sole caretaker' following lung transplant](#)

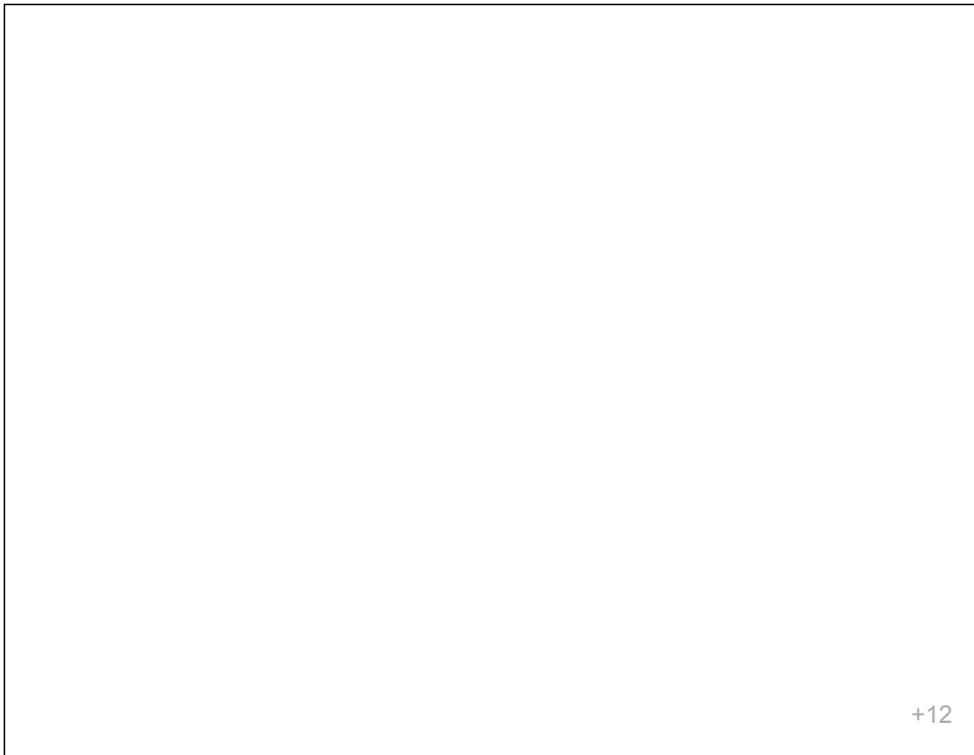
▶ [Kim Kardashian shares busty selfie while posing at home... as beau Pete Davidson turns up the heat in Miami by flashing his tattooed chest](#)

▶ [Revealed: Kate cuts back her 40th birthday plans to a 'smaller affair with just family and close friends' instead of a big party due to Covid risk](#)

▶ [Paris Hilton celebrates New Year's Eve with husband Carter Reum... as her honeymoon rolls into SEVENTH week](#)



A few days later, Collins emails Fauci a Washington Post op-ed he's quoted in headlined 'Proposal to hasten herd immunity to the coronavirus grabs White House attention but appalls top scientists'



Collins is later thanked by Gregg Gonsalves, who wrote the op-ed trashing the GBD in The Nation

The GBD - authored by previous DailyMail.com contributor Jay Bhattacharya of Stanford University, Sunetra Gupta of the University of Oxford and Martin Kullendorff of Harvard University, calls for individuals at significantly lower risk of dying from COVID-19 – as well as those at higher risk who so wish – to be allowed 'to resume their normal lives.'

That would mean allowing people in low risk groups to go to offices, hang out in bars and restaurants and go to sporting and entertainment events.



▶ **David Beckham shares clip kissing daughter Harper as they celebrate New Year with firework display... as Victoria reflects on her 'favourite moments' from 2021**

▶ **Kate Garraway attends an Arsenal match with daughter Darcey, 15, and son William, 12... after being awarded MBE for broadcasting services**

▶ **Charlotte Crosby breaks down in tears in social media clip as she's forced to isolate on New Year's Eve following positive Covid test**

▶ **Madonna posts VERY racy snap of daughter Lourdes, 25, ringing in the New Year at swanky soiree**

▶ **Impractical Jokers star Joe Gatto quitting the show over 'personal issues' and announces split from wife Bessy after eight years of marriage**

▶ **Megan Fox and Machine Gun Kelly enjoy a quiet New Year's Eve sushi dinner at Nobu in Malibu with his daughter Casie, 12**

▶ **'I can't believe what a year it's been': Emotional Stacey Solomon breaks down in tears as she reflects on 2021 and admits it 'doesn't feel real'**

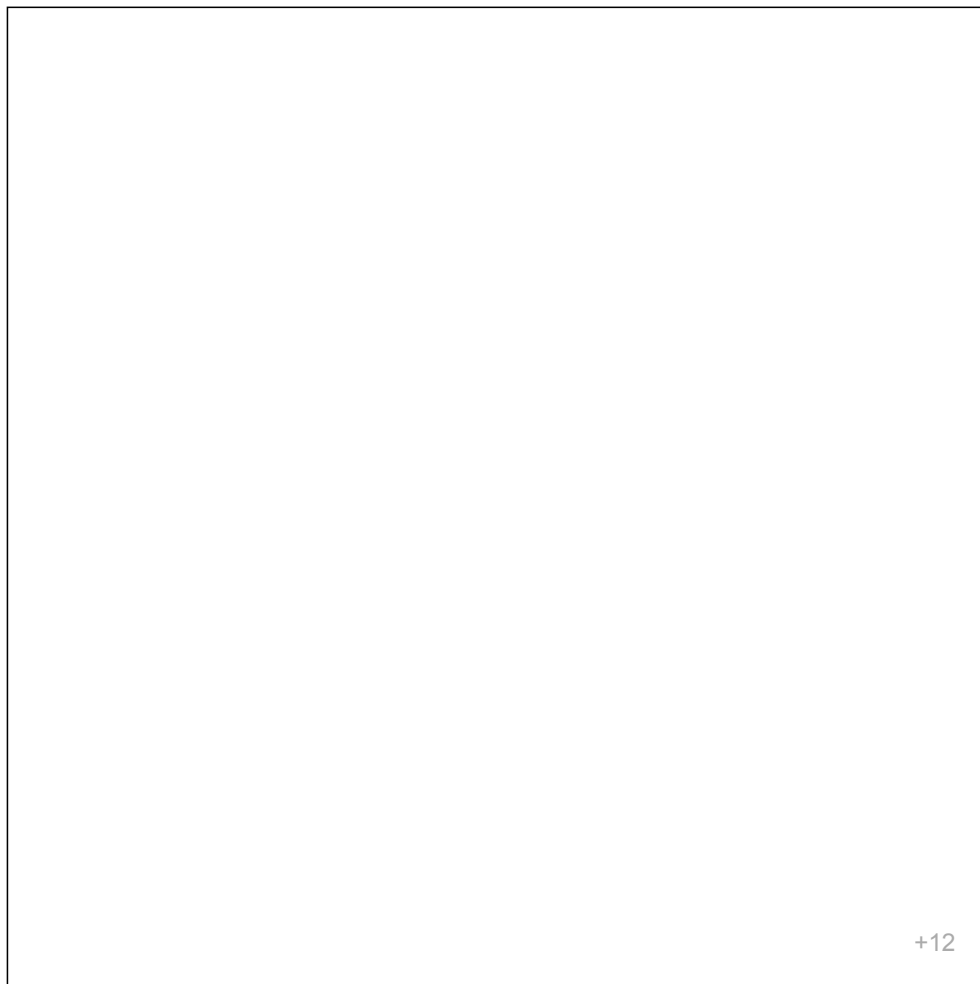
▶ **The Bachelorette's Brooke Blurton and Darvid Garayeli SPLIT just one month after the show's finale**

▶ **Newly-engaged Gemma Collins sips champagne as she enjoys lavish New Year's Day lunch with fiancé Rami Hawash**

The centerpiece of the declaration, according to Dr. Bhattacharya, is a call for increased **focused protection** of the vulnerable older population, who are more than a thousand times more likely to die from COVID infection than the young.

The declaration makes no mention of social distancing, masks, tracing, or long-term Covid cases but suggests that increased infection of those at lower risks would build herd immunity.

Bhattacharya tweeted in response to the emails: 'So now I know what it feels like to be the subject of a propaganda attack by my own government. Discussion and engagement would have been a better path.'



Drs Jay Bhattacharya of Stanford University, Sunetra Gupta of Oxford University and Martin Kulldorff of Harvard University, the main authors of the Great Barrington Declaration

▶ **Duchess of York and daughters Beatrice spotted for the first time since the conviction of Prince Andrew's friend Ghislaine Maxwell for sex trafficking**

▶ **Shirtless Gordon Ramsay, 55, shows off his buff physique as he larks around with son Oscar, 2, while daughter Holly, 22, flaunts her figure in a bikini during Maldives family holiday**

▶ **Kate Ferdinand lives it up with pals on NYE before kicking off 2021 with morning cuddles with son Cree, 12 months, and step-daughter Tia, 10**

▶ **Rita Ora turns up the heat as she goes topless poolside in collection of sexy snaps from her Australian stay**

▶ **Ryan Seacrest, 46, and girlfriend Aubrey Paige, 24, celebrate NYE together and she boasts meeting the TV star was 'the best part of 2021'**

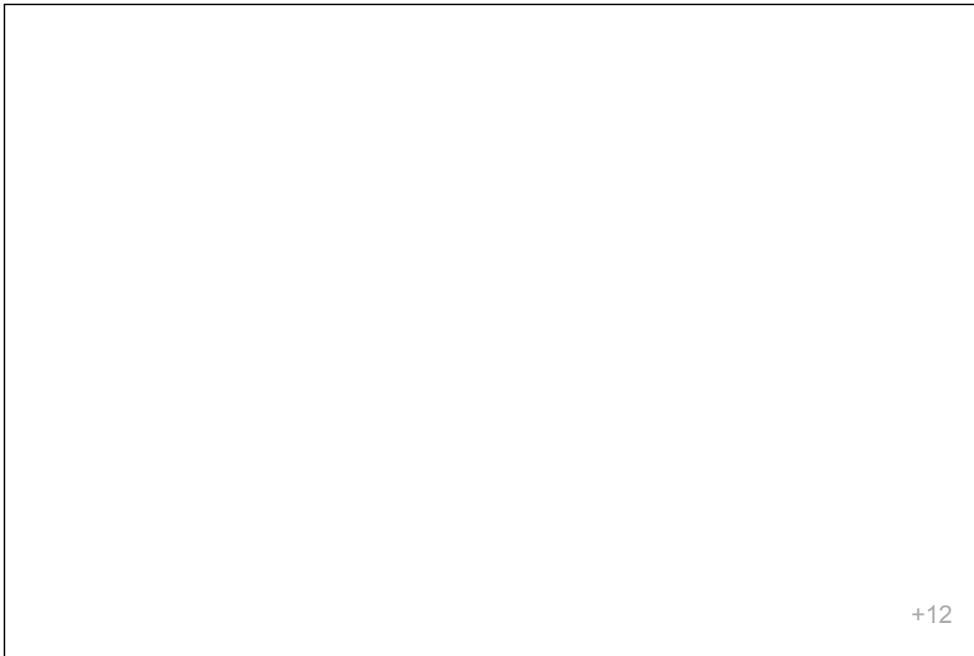
▶ **Chloe Sims gives a rare insight into her family life as she rings in the New Year with series of snaps with her 16-year-old daughter Madison**

▶ **'Everybody's looking': Miley Cyrus' silver top BREAKS and nearly exposes her chest while performing Party In The USA during New Year's Eve Party co-hosted by Pete Davidson in Miami**

▶ **Sofia Vergara gets a kiss from husband Joe Manganiello as happy couple party the night away in Beverly Hills**

▶ **Adele purchasing Sylvester Stallone's mansion in Beverly Hills for \$58M... after 3.5 acre property sat on the market for \$110million with no buyers**

▶ **Molly-Mae Hague and Tommy Fury dress to the nines as they step out for dinner in New York - as fans speculate he will propose on trip**



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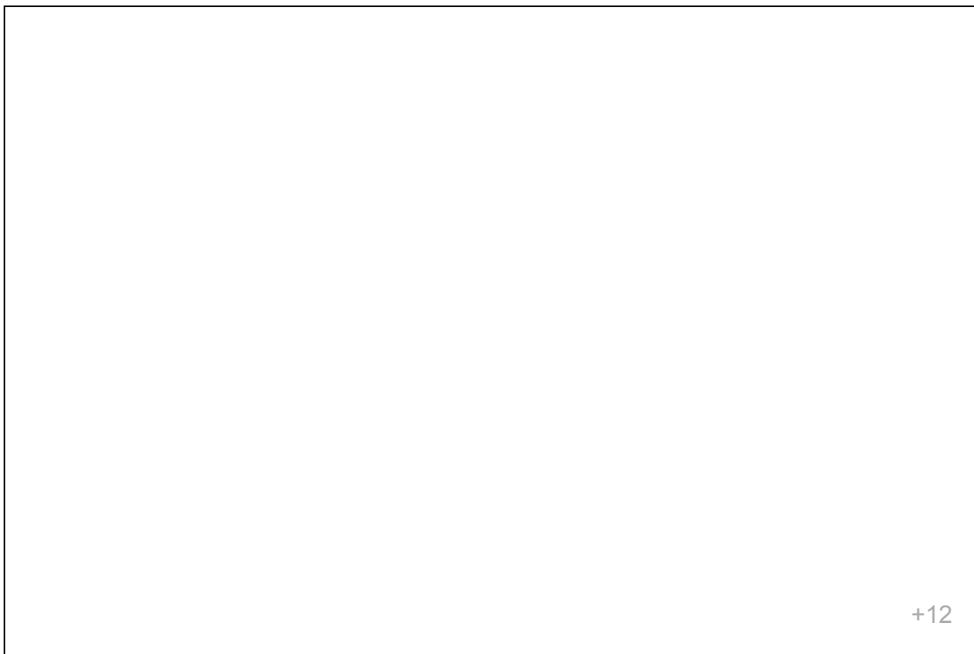
Dr. Anthony Fauci, Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and the Chief Medical Advisor to the President

▶ Nicole Scherzinger, 43, flaunts her incredible figure in a skin-tight velvet ensemble with crystal embellishments as she rings in the New Year in style

▶ It's a Wonderful Life actress Jeanine Ann Roose dead at 84; former child star passed 'away after battling infection'

▶ John Travolta proudly poses alongside his daughter Ella, 21, and son Benjamin, 11, as family celebrate New Year... 18 months after death of Kelly Preston

▶ Patsy Kensit, 53, showcases her phenomenal figure in a duo of scanty bikinis as she enjoys a swimwear try-on session to 'manifest the sun'



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Director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) under both Presidents Trump and Biden Francis Collins

▶ Laura Whitmore shows off her incredible figure in a skin-tight blue jumpsuit while ringing in 2022 with husband Iain Stirling and pals

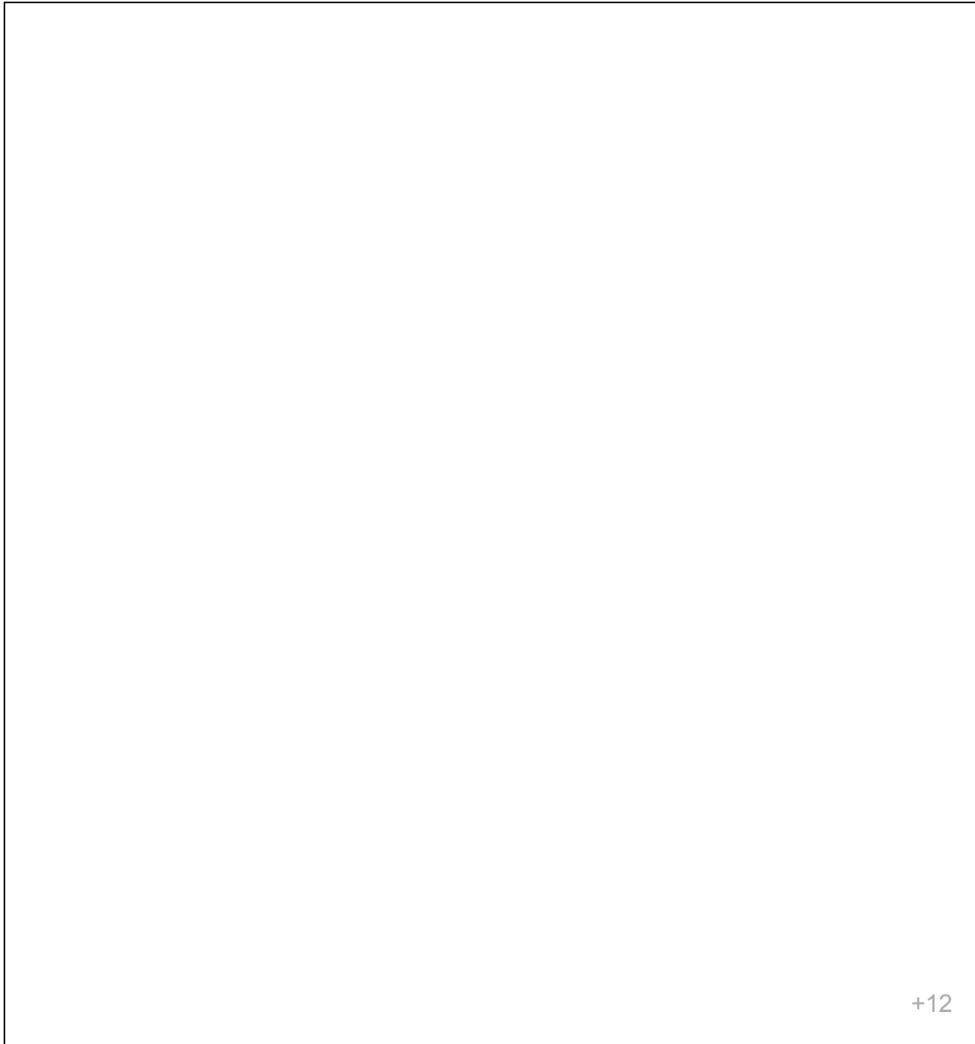
▶ Disgraced Kevin Spacey makes rare appearance as he steps out in Croatia with film director Jakov Sedlar... after being ordered to pay Netflix \$31m over sexual harassment

▶ EXCLUSIVE: Pink-haired Hailee Steinfeld goes braless in a chainmail mini while posing in the shower before rocking a red wig and flashing her abs in latex in new shoot

▶ Royal blue! Zara Tindall is effortlessly elegant in a vibrant coat as she attends New Year's Day meeting at Cheltenham Racecourse

▶ Olivia Bowen is PREGNANT! Love Island star announces she is expecting her first child with co-star husband Alex in sweet New Year's Day post

▶ Brie Larson puts on busty display in beige corset top paired with fluffy silk slippers as she shares popcorn and giggles with boyfriend Elijah Allan-Blitz at Lakers game game



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Phil Magness, Senior Research Faculty and Interim Research and Education Director at the American Institute for Economic Research



Fauci breaks down timeframe for understanding threat of Omicron



Watch the full video

▶ Dame Joan Collins, 88, reveals how her first husband drugged and raped her on their first date, while she was warned by Marilyn Monroe about Hollywood 'wolves' in new documentary

▶ Rihanna puts on a VERY leggy display in a thigh-split black gown as she and casually-clad boyfriend ASAP Rocky leave a New Year's Eve party in Barbados

EXCLUSIVE 'I want to empower women to feel their best': Vogue Williams showcases her phenomenal figure and workout prowess in new shoot as she launches fitness platform

▶ 'She's fed up of my moaning': Eamonn Holmes, 62, admits his back issues and 'emasculating' recovery has put strain on his relationship with 'bored' wife Ruth Langsford, 61

▶ Heavily pregnant Ashley Graham goes NAKED in racy New Year's snap before showing off her bottom during yoga session ahead of welcoming twins

▶ Alessandra Ambrosio flashes her bronzed legs in a thigh slit sequin dress as she rings in the New Year with a kiss for her beau Richard Lee

▶ Harry Potter Return to Hogwarts: Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson and Rupert Grint lead actors recalling life in the Wizarding World

▶ MAFS star Martha Kalifatidis reveals the one symptom she can't shake off after testing positive for Covid-19

▶ Love Island twins Jess and Eve Gale flaunt their curves in racy figure-hugging outfits as they celebrate New Year's Eve in sexy style

Maya Jama 'is ENGAGED to beau Ben



The emails - which happened while Fauci and Collins were working under President Trump - come as President Biden continues to struggle with the explosion of the Omicron variant across the country.

Biden will deliver a speech on Tuesday to announce new Covid measures to fight the rapidly-spreading Omicron variant.

It's anticipated that he will go beyond his already revealed 'Winter Plan' and address booster shots, lockdowns and mask mandates.

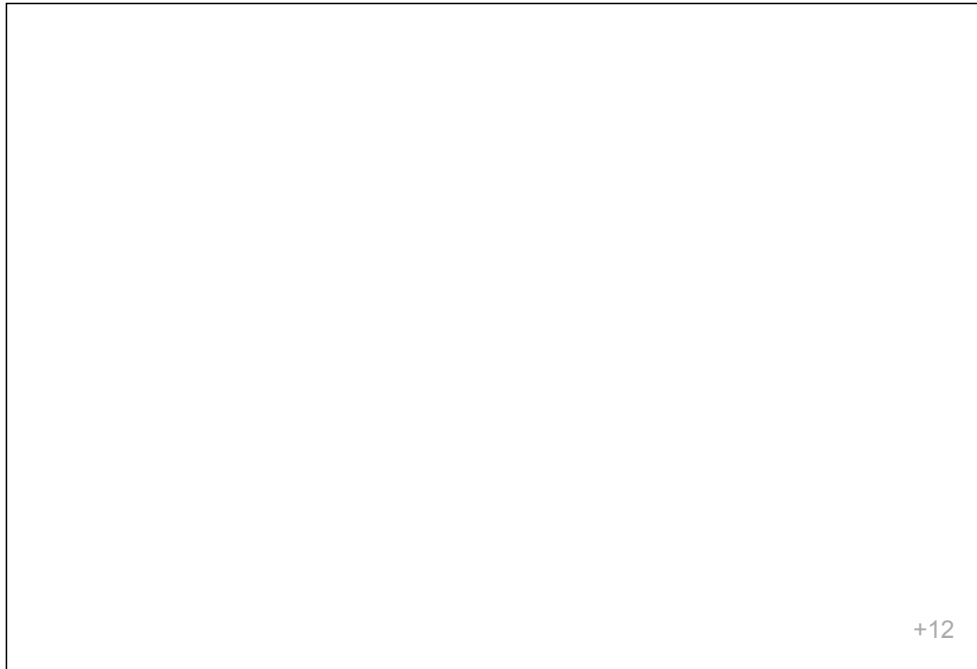
Earlier this month Biden announced a Covid plan to battle the virus throughout the colder months, which included booster shots for all adults, vaccinations for kids in efforts to keep schools open and expanding free at-home Covid testing.

As of Saturday morning, there were 830 cases of the Omicron Covid-19 variant confirmed by DNA sequencing across the country, a 97 percent increase from Friday morning's tally.



In reality, the true number of Omicron cases is much higher, as only 1 to 2 percent of all cases are sequenced for variant markers, but the testing data shows a disturbing national trend.

The CDC estimates that Omicron accounts for at least 13 percent of all new cases in New York, which on Saturday recorded its highest single-day tally of new Covid-19 cases ever at 29,908 - breaking its previous record of 21,027 set just one day earlier.



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▶ [Simmons after he popped the question over Christmas'... following a seven-month romance](#)

▶ [Celeb-favourite sustainable jewellery brand Monica Vinader has launched a HUGE Winter Sale with up to 50% off earrings, necklaces and bangles PROMOTED](#)

▶ [Harry Potter And The Missing Author: JK Rowling receives just 10 mentions in 1 hour and 42 minute-long special after sitting out reunion over trans scandal... despite creating films](#)

▶ [Turning the air Blue! Duncan James gets VERY saucy in a leather basque, fishnet stockings and silk pants as he joins leggy Denise Van Outen for raucous New Year's Eve cabaret](#)

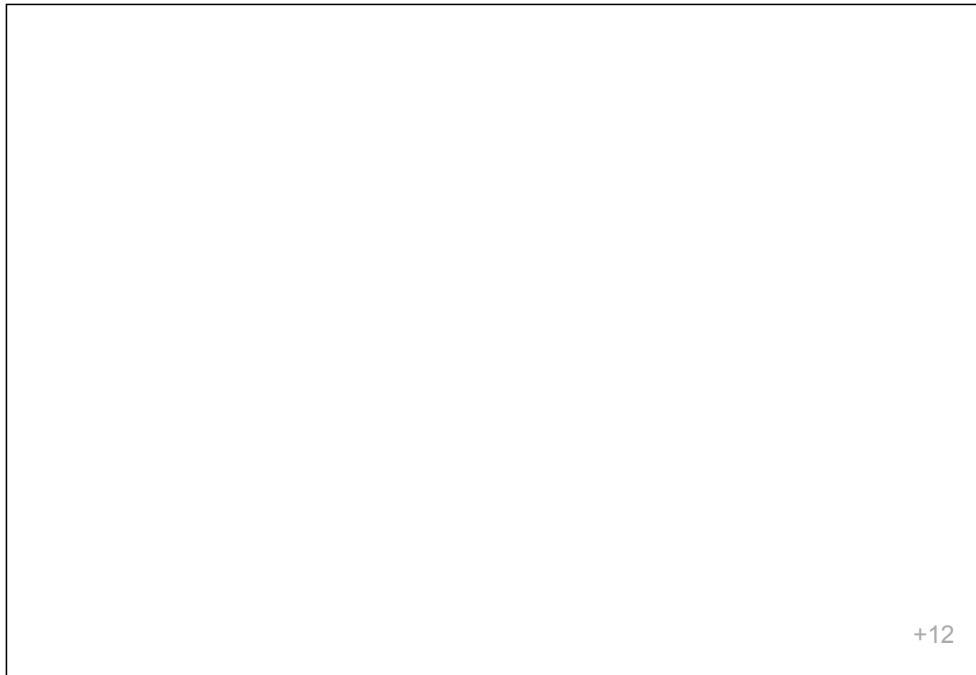
▶ ['I feel something is broken inside': Ellie Goulding reveals she is struggling with 'crippling anxiety' after welcoming her son Arthur, 8 months](#)

▶ ['I cooked a whole human!' Perrie Edwards reflects on pregnancy with bump snaps and gives glimpse into gender reveal and first Christmas with Axel](#)

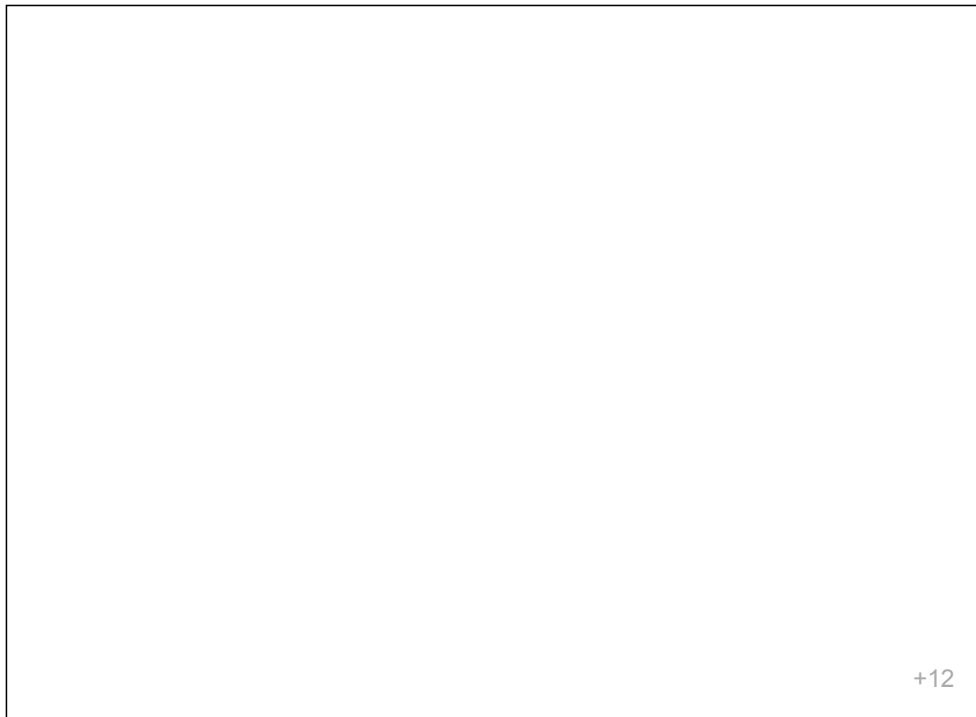
▶ [Miley Cyrus stuns in a plunging fringe jumpsuit to perform cover of Dolly Parton's Jolene with sister Noah Cyrus during NYE special in Miami](#)

▶ [Lauren Goodger and Charles Drury prove they are stronger than ever as they get cosy in sweet selfie while celebrating New Year's Eve... following short-lived break up](#)

▶ [Pregnant Kylie Jenner shows off bump as she reflects on 'blessings' and 'heartache' of 2021... and Travis Scott returns to Instagram too with first post since fans were crushed to](#)



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'The winter Covid-19 surge is here,' warned New York Governor Kathy Hochul, urging everyone to get vaccinated and boosted.

Though New York's hospitalizations, which tend to lag new cases, remain below their peaks, they have climbed 25 percent in the past two weeks, straining the state's healthcare system.

Testing has now confirmed the presence of Omicron in every US state except for Oklahoma, Montana, North and South Dakota, Indiana, and Vermont, though the eventual confirmation of the highly transmissible variant in every state now seems assured.

Share or comment on this article: Emails reveal how Fauci, head of NIH colluded to try to smear experts who called to end lockdowns

[death at Astroworld concert](#)

EXCLUSIVE [Katharine McPhee, 37, vows in red swimsuit after defending husband David Foster, 72, over THAT post-pregnancy bikini comment](#)

▶ [Harry Potter Return To Hogwarts: Stars tearfully remember 'magic' Alan Rickman and 'empathetic' Helen McCrory in reunion show in memoriam](#)

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▶ [Boris Becker's first wife Barbara, 55, looks radiant in a mustard maxi dress as she enjoys a New Year's Eve beach trip with their sons in Miami](#)

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▶ [Bennifer and bikinis! Jennifer Lopez reflects on her rekindled romance with Ben Affleck and poses in sexy swimsuits in her highlights from 2021](#)

▶ [Doja Cat brings the heat in a plunging halter top and cut-out cargo pants as she works the stage during New Year's Eve concert in Miami](#)

▶ [Happy New Year from Hollywood! John Legend and wife Chrissy Teigen take London and Drew Barrymore kicks back at home as they lead celebs ringing in 2022](#)

[Kris Jenner gets out of answering questions about Kim Kardashian and Pete Davidson after](#)