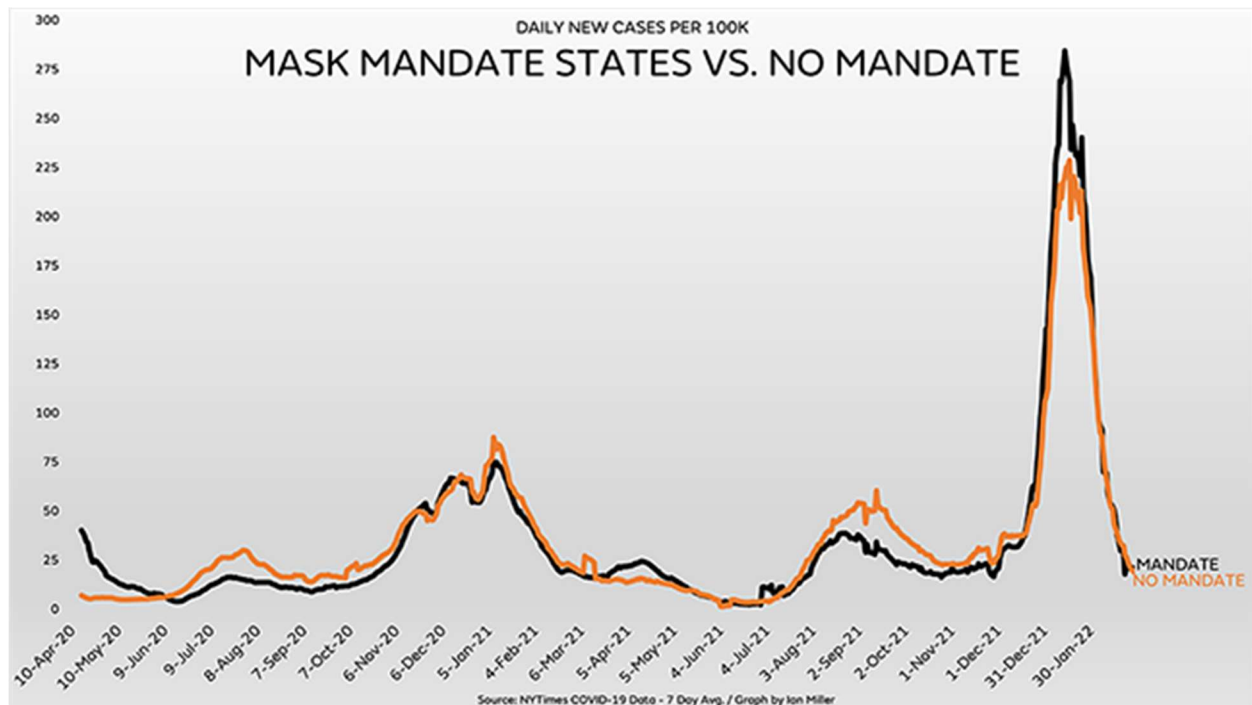
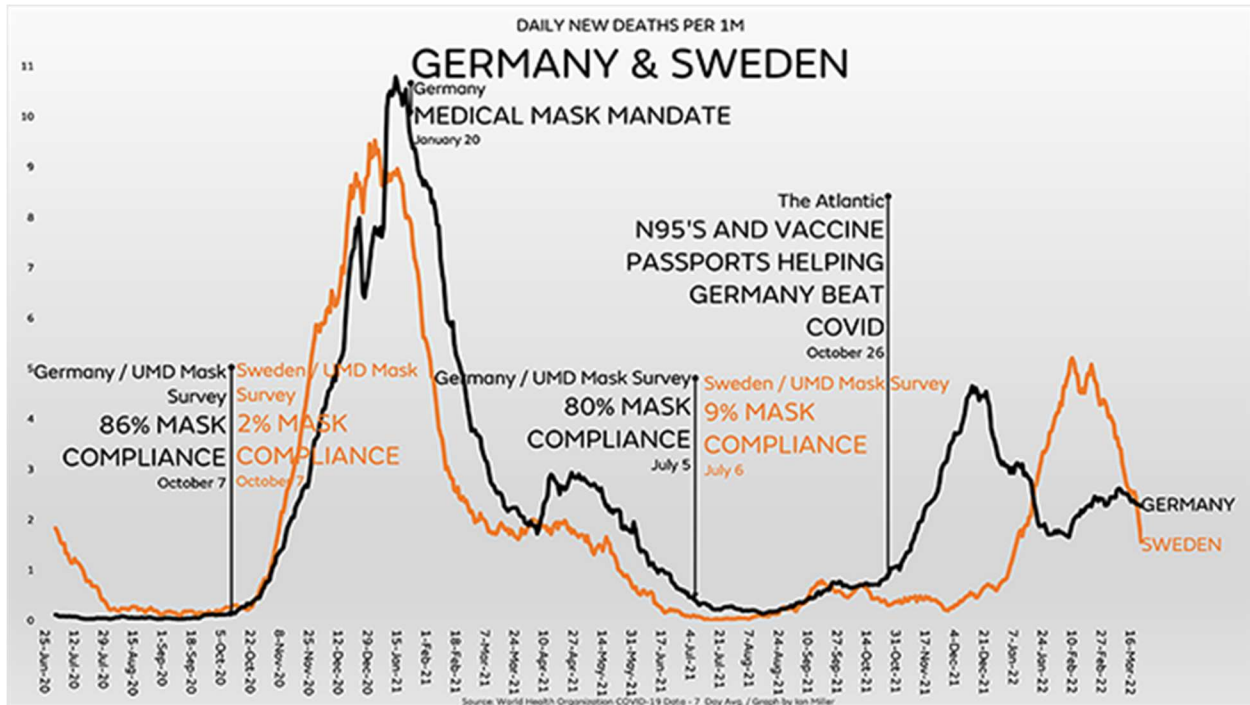


## Comparison of mask Mandates vs None



The graph tracks the results of a natural experiment that occurred nationwide during the pandemic. Eleven states never mandated masks, while the other 39 states enforced mandates. The mandates typically began early in the pandemic in 2020 and remained until at least the summer of 2021, with some extending into 2022. The black line on the graph shows the weekly rate of Covid cases in all the states with mask mandates that week, while the orange line shows the rate in all the states without mandates.

summer of 2020 through March of this year.



The masks in Germany obviously didn't "beat Covid." From the start of the pandemic through this spring, the cumulative rate of [Covid mortality](#) has been slightly higher in Sweden than in Germany (by about 15 percent), but the rate of overall [excess mortality](#) has been slightly higher in Germany (by about 8 percent). Just as in the United States, the mask mandates in Germany produced no net benefits but plenty of inconvenience as well as [outright harm](#). Covering up may give the maskaholics a false sense of security—but they could breathe more easily if they'd just face the facts.