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**Supplementary Material:**

**Estimating the share of SARS-CoV-2-immunologically naïve individuals in  
Germany up to June 2022**

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## 14 I. MULTI-STATE MODEL

### 15 A. Model formulation

We partition the population into  $n_G = 16$  regions corresponding to the German states and  $n_A = 5$  age groups corresponding to ages “00-04” (infants), “05-11” (children), “12-17” (adolescents), “18-59” (adults), “60+” (elderly), chosen in accordance with the population structure of publicly available vaccination data [1]. Consequently, for any region- and age-specific compartment  $X_{A,G}$ , the nation-wide value is given as

$$X_A = \sum_{G=1}^{n_G} X_{A,G}, \quad (\text{S1})$$

the corresponding value for all ages is given as

$$X_G = \sum_{A=1}^{n_A} X_{A,G}, \quad (\text{S2})$$

and the total value is

$$X_{\text{tot}} = \sum_{A=1}^{n_A} \sum_{G=1}^{n_G} X_{A,G}. \quad (\text{S3})$$

16 Because in the further analysis, none of the subpopulations are interacting, we will omit the region-  
17 and age-determining subscripts for simplicity.

For any population of size  $N$ , we are first and foremost interested in the number of susceptible individuals  $S$ , i.e. the number of individuals that have never been in contact with neither a variant of SARS-CoV-2, nor a vaccine against it. We assume that previous to the pandemic, no individual has had contact with any variant of SARS-CoV-2 or a vaccine against them, i.e.  $S(t=0) = N$ . These susceptibles can then either (i) become infected (changing their status to  $I$ ) or (ii) vaccinated (changing their status to  $V$ ). The number of individuals changing their status per day is estimated from official data [1, 2], defining the number of reported newly infected unvaccinated individuals per day as  $\phi_S(t)$  and the number of newly vaccinated individuals per day as  $\beta_S(t)$ . We obtain these rates on a calendar-week basis in order to remove weekly modulations. Because the vaccination status of new infections is unknown for a considerable amount of people, we impute  $\phi_S$  from incomplete incidence data in a procedure outlined further below. The rates are to be interpreted in

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a way such that

$$M_S = \int_0^{t_{\max}} dt \beta_S(t), \quad \text{and} \quad (\text{S4})$$

$$F_S = \int_0^{t_{\max}} dt \phi_S(t) \quad (\text{S5})$$

18 give the cumulative number of vaccinated individuals and the cumulative number of reported in-  
 19 fections of unvaccinated individuals, respectively, both up to time  $t_{\max}$ .

At any time  $t$ , the number of individuals eligible to receive a vaccine is proportional to (a) the number of susceptible individuals and (b) the number of recovered individuals. We assume that infected individuals become eligible for vaccination after an average amount of time  $\tau$  passes. Hence, after obtaining an infection, we assume that individuals change their status with rate  $1/\tau$  to become eligible (status  $Y$ ). Then, the probability for a person that becomes vaccinated at time  $t$  to be of status  $S$  is given as  $p_{V,S} = S/(S+Y)$  and for status  $Y$  as  $p_{V,I} = Y/(S+Y)$ . These equations are implicitly based on the assumptions that recovered individuals share the same vaccination intention as susceptible individuals, which is supported by representative survey studies [3]. Consequently, the vaccination transition rate for both susceptibles and eligible recovered to receive vaccination status is given as

$$\tilde{\beta}_S = \frac{a_\beta \beta_S}{S+Y}. \quad (\text{S6})$$

Here, we further introduced the under-ascertainment ratio of vaccinations  $a_\beta$ . The corresponding transition processes are



where  $C_{IV}$  represents the compartment counting individuals who became infected at least once before receiving a vaccination. The reaction



20 represents the process of recovered individuals becoming eligible for vaccination.

Similarly, the number of individuals eligible to transition to status “unvaccinated infected” is proportional to (a) the number of susceptible individuals and (b) the number of recovered individuals that are eligible for reinfection. We assume that individuals that recently suffered from

an infection are fully immune, but may return to (partial) susceptibility after an average duration of  $\tau$ , equating this to the average duration it takes to become eligible for vaccination for model parsimony and reasons outlined further below. Because reinfections are not registered in the German reporting system, we have to consider the relative probability for a recovered person to be reinfected by introducing an “immunity parameter”  $r$  that represents the relative probability of a recovered person to become infected after time  $\tau$  since the last infection as compared to a fully susceptible person. Hence, the total number of people eligible to be counted as an infection of an unvaccinated individual at time  $t$  is given as  $S + (1 - r)Y$ , the probability that an unvaccinated person that becomes infected at time  $t$  has been infected before is  $p_{I,I} = (1 - r)Y / (S + (1 - r)Y)$ , and  $p_{I,S} = S / (S + (1 - r)Y)$  that they have been fully susceptible. Consequently, the eligibility-corrected vaccination rate is given as

$$\tilde{\phi}_S = \frac{a_\phi \phi_S}{S + (1 - r)Y}. \quad (\text{S10})$$

Here,  $a_\phi$  is the under-ascertainment ratio, accounting for infections that have not been reported. The corresponding transition processes are

$$S \xrightarrow{\tilde{\phi}_S} I \quad (\text{S11})$$

$$Y \xrightarrow{(1-r)\tilde{\phi}_S} I. \quad (\text{S12})$$

21 Again, Eq. (S9) represents the process of becoming eligible (both for vaccination after infection  
22 and reinfection).

Continuing with this line of argumentation, we further consider the adjusted rate of individuals that obtain a breakthrough infection as

$$\tilde{\phi}_V = \frac{\phi_V}{V + (1 - r)C_{VY} + C_{IV} + (1 - r)C_{IVY}}. \quad (\text{S13})$$

23 Here,  $C_{VY}$  are vaccinated individuals that suffered from a breakthrough infection before, and  $C_{IVY}$   
24 counts individuals that, after recovery became vaccinated, then suffered from a breakthrough in-  
25 fection again. The respective transition processes are displayed in Fig. S1.

Similarly, the adjusted booster rate

$$\tilde{\beta}_V = \frac{\beta_V}{V + C_{VY} + C_{IV}} \quad (\text{S14})$$

27 quantifies the rate with which previously vaccinated individuals receive a booster vaccination (pro-  
28 cesses shown in Fig. S1).

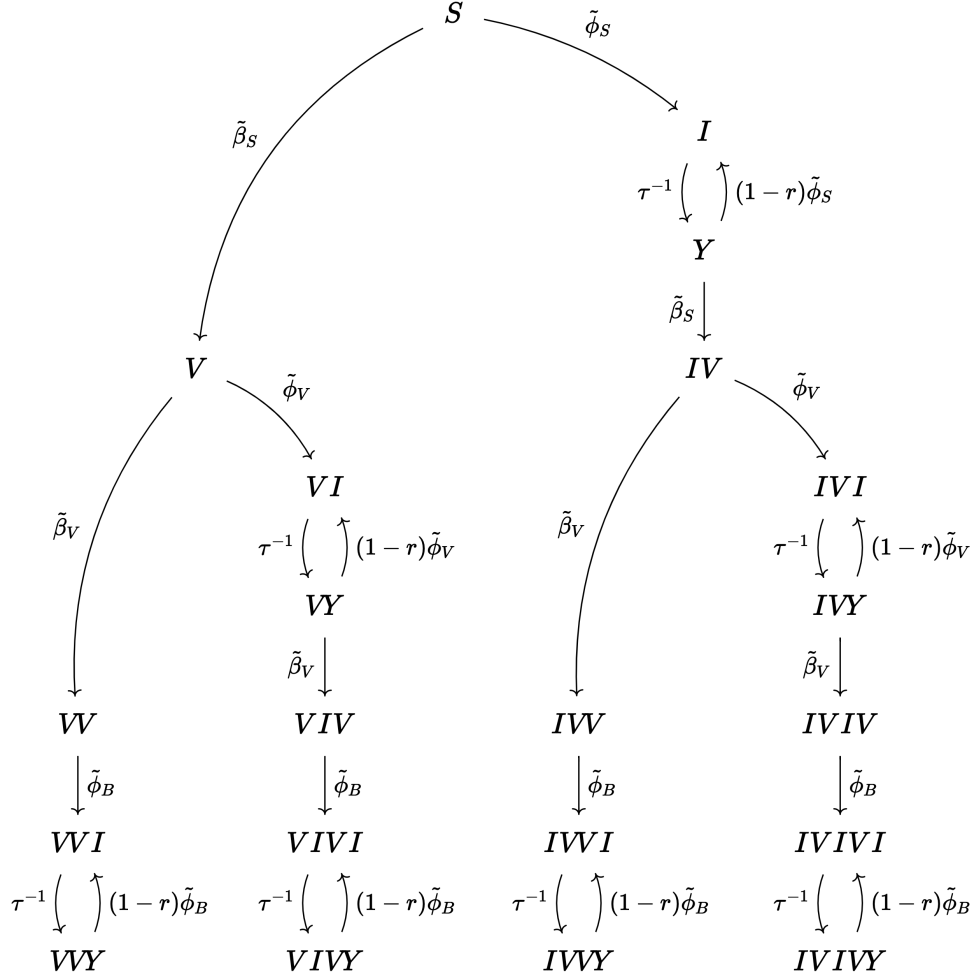


FIG. S1. Vaccination/infection model given by Eqs. (S6)-(S36). Individuals can become infected and recover (compartments ending in  $I$ ), vaccinated (compartments ending in  $V$ ), or eligible for reinfection/vaccination after a previous infection after an average duration of  $\tau^{-1}$  (compartments ending in  $Y$ ). Initially, all individuals are susceptible ( $S$ ). Transition rates are determined by data and scaled by assumed under-ascertainment ratios (not shown here). Individuals that are eligible for reinfection are associated with a relative reduction in susceptibility  $r$ . The order of  $I$  and  $V$  in individual statuses represent the order in which infections and vaccinations happened to the respective individuals.

Finally, the adjusted booster breakthrough rate is

$$\tilde{\phi}_B = \frac{\phi_B}{C_{VV} + C_{VIV} + C_{IVV} + C_{IVIV} + (1-r) [C_{VVIY} + C_{VIVY} + C_{IVVIY} + C_{IVIVY}]}. \quad (\text{S15})$$

<sup>29</sup> For every compartment  $C_{\bullet}$ , the order of  $I$  and  $V$  in the subscript  $\bullet$  represents the order in which

30 infections and vaccinations happened to the individuals counted in the respective compartment.

In total, the model is determined by the following set of ordinary differential equations (ODEs)

$$\partial_t S = -\tilde{\phi}_S S - \tilde{\beta}_S S \quad (\text{S16})$$

$$\partial_t V = \tilde{\phi}_S S - \tilde{\beta}_V V - \tilde{\phi}_V \quad (\text{S17})$$

$$\partial_t I = \tilde{\beta}_S S + (1-r)\tilde{\phi}_S Y - I/\tau \quad (\text{S18})$$

$$\partial_t Y = I/\tau - (1-r)\tilde{\phi}_S Y - \tilde{\beta}_S Y \quad (\text{S19})$$

$$\partial_t C_{IV} = \tilde{\beta}_S Y - \tilde{\beta}_V C_{IV} - \tilde{\phi}_V C_{IV} \quad (\text{S20})$$

$$\partial_t C_{VI} = \tilde{\phi}_V V + (1-r)\tilde{\phi}_V C_{VY} - C_{VI}/\tau \quad (\text{S21})$$

$$\partial_t C_{VY} = C_{VI}/\tau - (1-r)\tilde{\phi}_V C_{VY} - \tilde{\beta}_V C_{VY} \quad (\text{S22})$$

$$\partial_t C_{IVI} = \tilde{\phi}_V C_{IV} + (1-r)\tilde{\phi}_V C_{IVY} - C_{IVI}/\tau \quad (\text{S23})$$

$$\partial_t C_{IVY} = C_{IVI}/\tau - (1-r)\tilde{\phi}_V C_{IVY} - \tilde{\beta}_V C_{IVY} \quad (\text{S24})$$

$$\partial_t C_{VV} = \tilde{\beta}_V V - \tilde{\phi}_B C_{VV} \quad (\text{S25})$$

$$\partial_t C_{VIV} = \tilde{\beta}_V C_{VY} - \tilde{\phi}_B C_{VIV} \quad (\text{S26})$$

$$\partial_t C_{IVV} = \tilde{\beta}_V C_{IV} - \tilde{\phi}_B C_{IVVI} \quad (\text{S27})$$

$$\partial_t C_{IVIV} = \tilde{\beta}_V C_{IVY} - \tilde{\phi}_B C_{IVIV} \quad (\text{S28})$$

$$\partial_t C_{VVI} = \tilde{\beta}_B C_{VV} + (1-r)\tilde{\phi}_B C_{VVY} - C_{VVI}/\tau \quad (\text{S29})$$

$$\partial_t C_{VIVI} = \tilde{\beta}_B C_{VIV} + (1-r)\tilde{\phi}_B C_{VIVY} - C_{VIVI}/\tau \quad (\text{S30})$$

$$\partial_t C_{IVVI} = \tilde{\beta}_B C_{IVVI} + (1-r)\tilde{\phi}_B C_{IVVY} - C_{IVVI}/\tau \quad (\text{S31})$$

$$\partial_t C_{IVIVI} = \tilde{\beta}_B C_{IVIV} + (1-r)\tilde{\phi}_B C_{IVIVY} - C_{IVIVI}/\tau \quad (\text{S32})$$

$$\partial_t C_{VVY} = -(1-r)\tilde{\phi}_B C_{VVY} + C_{VVI}/\tau \quad (\text{S33})$$

$$\partial_t C_{VIVY} = -(1-r)\tilde{\phi}_B C_{VIVY} + C_{VIVI}/\tau \quad (\text{S34})$$

$$\partial_t C_{IVVY} = -(1-r)\tilde{\phi}_B C_{IVVY} + C_{IVVI}/\tau \quad (\text{S35})$$

$$\partial_t C_{IVIVY} = -(1-r)\tilde{\phi}_B C_{IVIVY} + C_{IVIVI}/\tau. \quad (\text{S36})$$

31 **B. Parameters and data**

32 1. *Incidence by vaccination status*

For each combination of age group and region, we obtain the daily number of reported new cases in unvaccinated  $\hat{n}_S(t)$  by “Meldedatum” (date of report), as well as the daily number of reported breakthrough infections  $\hat{n}_V(t)$ , reported booster breakthrough infections  $\hat{n}_B(t)$ , as well as the daily number of infections where the vaccination status is unknown  $\hat{n}_\emptyset(t)$  from the German reporting system SurvStat [4]. In order to assign vaccination statuses to cases where the status is originally unknown, we measure the proportion of infections per status in cases with known status in the last seven days and subsequently obtain the imputed number of daily cases as

$$n_X(t) = \hat{n}_X(t) + \hat{n}_\emptyset(t) \frac{\sum_{t'=t-6d}^t \hat{n}_X(t')}{\sum_{t'=t-6d}^t [\hat{n}_S(t') + \hat{n}_V(t') + \hat{n}_B(t')]}, \quad \forall X \in \{S, V, B\}. \quad (\text{S37})$$

This procedure removes weekly modulations for the imputation. It might be biased towards any of the statuses  $S, V, B$  due to different probabilities of severe disease by vaccination status and thus of being reported in a system of primarily symptom-based testing. Note that, for no region and age groups there were days for which  $\mathfrak{N} = \sum_{t'=t-6d}^t [\hat{n}_S(t') + \hat{n}_V(t') + \hat{n}_B(t')] = 0$  and  $\hat{n}_\emptyset(t) > 0$ , which is why we set  $n_X(t) = \hat{n}_X(t) = 0$  on days where  $\mathfrak{N} = 0$ . With the above definition, the infection rates are given as

$$\phi_X(t) = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{W}(t)|} \sum_{t' \in \mathcal{W}(t)} n_X(t'), \quad \forall X \in \{S, V, B\} \quad (\text{S38})$$

33 where  $\mathcal{W}(t)$  is the set of days  $t'$  in calendar week of day  $t$  meeting  $t' < t_{\max}$ .

34 2. *Vaccination rates*

Similarly, weekly vaccination rates are given as

$$\beta_X(t) = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{W}(t)|} \sum_{t' \in \mathcal{W}(t)} \hat{v}_X(t'), \quad \forall X \in \{S, V\} \quad (\text{S39})$$

35 with  $\hat{v}_S(t)$  and  $\hat{v}_V(t)$  being the number of new vaccinations (new booster vaccinations, respec-  
 36 tively) on day  $t$ . We define “new vaccinations” as entries in the data provided in ref. [1] that  
 37 have an “Impfschutz”-field value of “2”, and as “new booster vaccinations” as entries that have  
 38 an “Impfschutz”-field value of “3”, ignoring single-shot vaccinations with value “1” (in the data,

39 confirmed recovered individuals that received a single vector- or mRNA-vaccine dose are counted  
40 as being fully vaccinated with an “Impfschutz”-field value of “2”). The share of the population  
41 that received only one dose of an mRNA or the Vaxzevria vaccine is expected to be on the order  
42 of 1% of the German population up to and including May 2022 [1]. In the model, the infection  
43 of these individuals follows the same dynamics as the infection of fully susceptible individuals.  
44 Hence, ignoring this vaccination state will barely affect the results.

45 Note that we ignore the small number of vaccinations associated with the region “Bund” (region  
46 id “17”).

### 47 3. *Under-ascertainment*

48 Based on seroprevalence data collected over the first waves in Germany, a nation-wide under-  
49 ascertainment ratio of  $a_\phi \approx 2$  was found, with regional variations that went up to a factor of  $a_\phi \approx 5$   
50 in regions of large outbreaks [5, 6]. In absence of more fine-grained and temporally resolved  
51 estimations, we assume an under-ascertainment of  $a_\phi = 1 + \hat{a}_\phi$  with  $\hat{a}_\phi$  being a Gamma-distributed  
52 random variable such that  $\langle a_\phi \rangle = 2$  and  $\text{Std}[a_\phi] = 1$ .

53 It has further been reported that there might be low under-ascertainment in vaccinations [7]. We  
54 assume an under-ascertainment of  $a_\beta = 1 + \hat{a}_\beta$  with  $\hat{a}_\beta$  being a Gamma-distributed random variable  
55 such that  $\langle a_\beta \rangle = 1.03$  and  $\text{Std}[a_\beta] = 0.02$ .

56 Infants are less likely to display symptoms when infected and are not subject to the strict testing  
57 strategies applied in schools [8]. A lower ascertainment in this age group is, therefore, a plausible  
58 assumption. We hence assume double the value of the under-ascertainment ratio for this age group.

### 59 4. *Eligibility time and immunity of recovered individuals*

60 We assume an average eligibility time of  $\tau = 90\text{d}$  for vaccination after infection or reinfection.  
61 Regarding reinfection, this is a reasonable time scale, as it is of the order of the mean duration  
62 neutralising antibodies can be found after an infection. For vaccinations, the official assumption  
63 for receiving a vaccine after infection has been 3–6 months. In non-representative survey data, it  
64 was found that participants generally followed these recommendations, but with a large number  
65 of participants waiting less and became vaccinated about 3 months after a confirmed infection.  
66 While the cohort of this study is assumed to be composed of highly compliant individuals, the



67 average time to receive a vaccination is also lowered assuming a large number of asymptomatic  
68 infections, where the date of the infection might be unknown to recovered individuals themselves.  
69 Note, however, that we test the influence of this parameter on our results in a sensitivity analysis  
70 (see App. II).

71 We recognize that recovered individuals might still have a lowered susceptibility for reinfection  
72 even after transitioning to the eligibility state. The “recovered immunity” parameter  $r$  quantifies  
73 the relative efficacy against reinfection. For the Alpha variant, this efficacy was observed to be  
74 lower than the vaccine efficacy against infection by mRNA- or vector-vaccines [9]. but of similar  
75 order as the vaccine efficacy against Infection with Delta, taking on values of  $r \approx 0.65$  for both. As  
76 Omicron is considered to be a variant with partial immune escape, we set a lower default value of  
77  $r = 1/2$  for all variants, testing  $r = 0$  (no protection against reinfection) and  $r = 1$  (full immunity)  
78 in sensitivity analyses.

## 79 5. Variant share

For analyses disregarding infections with Omicron, we obtained sequences that were sampled randomly nation-wide and independent of age [10]. For each calendar week  $w$  we obtained the total number  $m(w)$  of randomly sampled sequences with date of extraction  $t$  that lie in  $w$ . We further aggregated the number  $m_o(w)$  of randomly sampled sequences that the software framework “scorpio” identified as “Omicron” or “Probable Omicron”. Then, the share of Omicron on day  $t$  is given as

$$\sigma(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & t < \text{Aug 1, 2021} \\ 1, & w(t) > w_{\max} \\ m_o(w(t))/m(w(t)) & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \quad (\text{S40})$$

80 with  $w_{\max}$  being the last week for which data was available.

81 For analyses labeled “pre-Omicron” we analyzed the model with all incidence rates being  
82 scaled as  $\phi_{\bullet, \text{pre-Omicron}}(t) = \phi_{\bullet}(t)[1 - \sigma(t)]$ .

## 83 6. Simulations

We draw 1,000 pairs of  $(a_{\phi}, a_{\beta})$  as described above and assume those under-ascertainment ratios to be constant across all respective ages and regions (bar infants, whose under-ascertainment

ratio is set as  $a_{\phi, \text{infants}} = \omega a_{\phi}$  with  $\omega = 2$  to account for the fact that under-ascertainment is expected to be higher in this age group, as already discussed above). Then, Eqs. (S16)–(S36) are integrated with Euler’s method using a time step of  $\Delta t = 1d$ , starting on Jan 6, 2020 until May 31, 2022. We then obtain the final state of the compartments, and additionally aggregated states as

$$C_{I^*} = I + Y \quad (\text{S41})$$

$$C_{VI^*} = C_{VI} + C_{VY} \quad (\text{S42})$$

$$C_{IVI^*} = C_{IVI} + C_{IVY} \quad (\text{S43})$$

$$C_{VVI^*} = C_{VVI} + C_{VVY} \quad (\text{S44})$$

$$C_{VIVI^*} = C_{VIVI} + C_{VIVY} \quad (\text{S45})$$

$$C_{IVVI^*} = C_{IVVI} + C_{IVVY} \quad (\text{S46})$$

$$C_{IVIVI^*} = C_{IVIVI} + C_{IVIVY} \quad (\text{S47})$$

$$C_{0V1I} = I + Y \quad (\text{S48})$$

$$C_{1V0I} = V \quad (\text{S49})$$

$$C_{1V1I} = C_{IV} + C_{VI} + C_{VY} \quad (\text{S50})$$

$$C_{1V2I} = C_{IVI} + C_{IVY} \quad (\text{S51})$$

$$C_{2V0I} = C_{VV} \quad (\text{S52})$$

$$C_{2V1I} = C_{VIV} + C_{IVV} + C_{VVI} + C_{VVY} \quad (\text{S53})$$

$$C_{2V2I} = C_{IVIV} + C_{VIVI} + C_{IVVI} + C_{VIVY} + C_{IVVY} \quad (\text{S54})$$

$$C_{2V3I} = C_{IVIVI} + C_{IVIVY} \quad (\text{S55})$$

$$C_{1V} = V + C_{IV} + C_{VI} + C_{IVI} + C_{VY} + C_{IVY} \quad (\text{S56})$$

$$C_{2V} = C_{VV} + C_{VIV} + C_{IVV} + C_{IVIV} + C_{VVI} + C_{VIVI} +$$

$$+ C_{IVVI} + C_{IVIVI} + C_{VVY} + C_{VIVY} + C_{IVVY} + C_{IVIVY} \quad (\text{S58})$$

$$C_{1I} = I + Y + C_{IV} + C_{VI} + C_{VY} + C_{VIV} + C_{IVV} + C_{VVI} + C_{VVY} \quad (\text{S59})$$

$$C_{2I} = C_{IVI} + C_{IVY} + C_{IVIV} + C_{VIVI} + C_{IVVI} + C_{VIVY} + C_{IVVY} \quad (\text{S60})$$

$$C_{3I} = C_{IVIVI} + C_{IVIVY}. \quad (\text{S61})$$

<sup>84</sup> These states combine compartments that have certain commonalities, e.g. compartments  $C_{nVmI}$   
<sup>85</sup> is the number of individuals that were vaccinated  $n$  times and infected  $m$  times (re-infections  
<sup>86</sup> excluded),  $C_{nV}$  is the number of individuals that were vaccinated  $n$  times, and  $C_{mI}$  is the number

87 of individuals that were infected  $m$  times (re-infections excluded, which means that if an individual  
88 was infected  $m = 3$  times, they must have been infected before, between, and after the respective  
89 inoculations.

90 We test how robust our results are if per region and age group, individual pairs  $(a_\phi, a_\beta)$  were  
91 drawn from their respective distribution, i.e. assuming heterogeneous under-ascertainment in ages  
92 and regions per simulation run, which could potentially change the width of the distribution of  
93 respective aggregated values, finding that it does not have a substantial effect.

94 The results of these simulations can be obtained from Zenodo [11].

## 95 II. SENSITIVITY AND OTHER ANALYSES

96 Nation-wide results for all compartments as well as Eqs. ((S41)–(S61)) can be found in Fig. S2.  
97 The compartment with the largest share of the population is  $C_{VV}$ , i.e. boosted and never infected,  
98 assuming a value of 41.5% [35.2%–46.0%]. Considering all variants, the second largest value  
99 can be found for individuals that have never been vaccinated but infected once or more with  $C_{I^*}$   
100 assuming 16.4% [13.4%–19.1%]. This value is considerably lower (5.6% [4.3%–7.5%]) when  
101 infections with Omicron are excluded. Likewise, the share of vaccinated, yet non-infected indi-  
102 viduals  $V$  is estimated to assume 13.6% [12.5%–14.3%] with Omicron infections excluded, but  
103 6.3% [3.8%–8.4%] considering all variants. With Omicron infections excluded, the boosted  
104 and non-infected population assumes an estimated size of 55.8% [54.0%–57.1%], demonstrating  
105 the increased efficacy of the booster vaccination against infection with Omicron as compared to  
106 individuals who only finished the first vaccination series.

107 Regarding the influence of eligibility time, higher values lead to a lower probability of reinfec-  
108 tions and vaccinations of recovereders during the most active period of the vaccination campaign,  
109 implying the estimated number of fully susceptible individuals decreases with increasing  $\tau$ . Like-  
110 wise, the assumed immunity of recovereders  $r$  leads to a decreasing value of fully susceptible in-  
111 dividuals. The results we reported above lie central within the range of results for extreme value  
112 pairs of  $\tau = 30\text{d}$ ,  $r = 0$  (low), as well as  $\tau = 150\text{d}$ ,  $r = 1$  (high). For instance for all ages, the  
113 results vary between median values of 8.3% (low) and 3.1% (high) with our reported result in the  
114 main text ( $\tau = 90\text{d}$ ,  $r = 0.5$ ) being equal to 5.6%. The influence of these parameters are higher for  
115 the younger population with a “low“-to-“high“ variation leading to respective median ranges of  
116 44.8% to 27.5% (infants), 27.0% to 5.7% (children), and 6.3% to 0.0% (adolescents). In the older

117 population, the influence of these parameters is rather small, leading to median ranges of 5.9% to  
 118 1.8% (adults) and 2.9% to 1.1% (elderly). These results are displayed in Fig. S3.

119 In the main text, we assumed that the relative under-ascertainment factor in infants assume a  
 120 value of  $a_{\phi, \text{infants}}/a_{\phi} = \omega = 2$ . For  $\omega = 1$ , fully susceptible infants is higher than what we reported  
 121 in the main text (see Fig. S4). Since empirical values for  $\omega$  are difficult to obtain, we are probably  
 122 underestimating the uncertainty in our results for infants.

### 123 III. ADDITIONAL, SOPHISTICATED MODEL

124 We further want to develop a model that allows waning to be included in the analyses and could  
 125 therefore potentially be used to estimate seroprevalence in future studies.

126 We hypothesize that exposure to either the pathogen or a vaccine results in an initial immune  
 127 response that then decays over a period of time and account for this by introducing intermediate  
 128 compartments representing different gradations of immunity.

We define as  $S$  susceptibles,  $I$  infected,  $V$  vaccinated,  $Y$  breakthroughs from vaccinated  $V$  and  
 $U$  as breakthroughs from boosted  $B$ . For each compartment  $X$ , we consider  $n_X + 1$  gradations,  
 i.e. we assume that individuals who reach the status  $X$  pass through intermediate compartments  
 in the form of a chain from initial  $X_0$  to final  $X_{n_X}$ , per transition  $X_i \rightarrow X_{i+1}$  with transition rate  
 $1/\tau_{X,i+1}$ . This means that for each individual, each of these transitions is subject to a random delay

$$T_{X,i} \sim \text{Exp}(1/\tau_{X,i+1}) \quad (\text{S62})$$

129 where  $\text{Exp}(\lambda_X)$  is an exponential distribution with mean  $\lambda_X^{-1}$ . This approach allows us to more ac-  
 130 curately model both waning of immunity and the timing of vaccination or breakthrough infection.  
 131 For susceptibles, we set  $n_S = 0$ , i.e. no transitions and exactly one gradation.

We denote  $\hat{X}$  as the total number of individuals in status  $X$  that are susceptible to infection.  
 That is, we define

$$\hat{X} = \sum_{i=0}^{n_X} (1 - e_{X,i}) X_i, \quad (\text{S63})$$

132 where  $e_{X,i}$  is the susceptibility reduction of a person in status  $X_i$  (due to previous infection or  
 133 vaccination).

We define  $\tilde{X}$  as the total number of individuals in status  $X$  who can receive one or the next  
 vaccination. Usually, this is the case after a defined time  $\Theta_X$  has passed since the last infection or

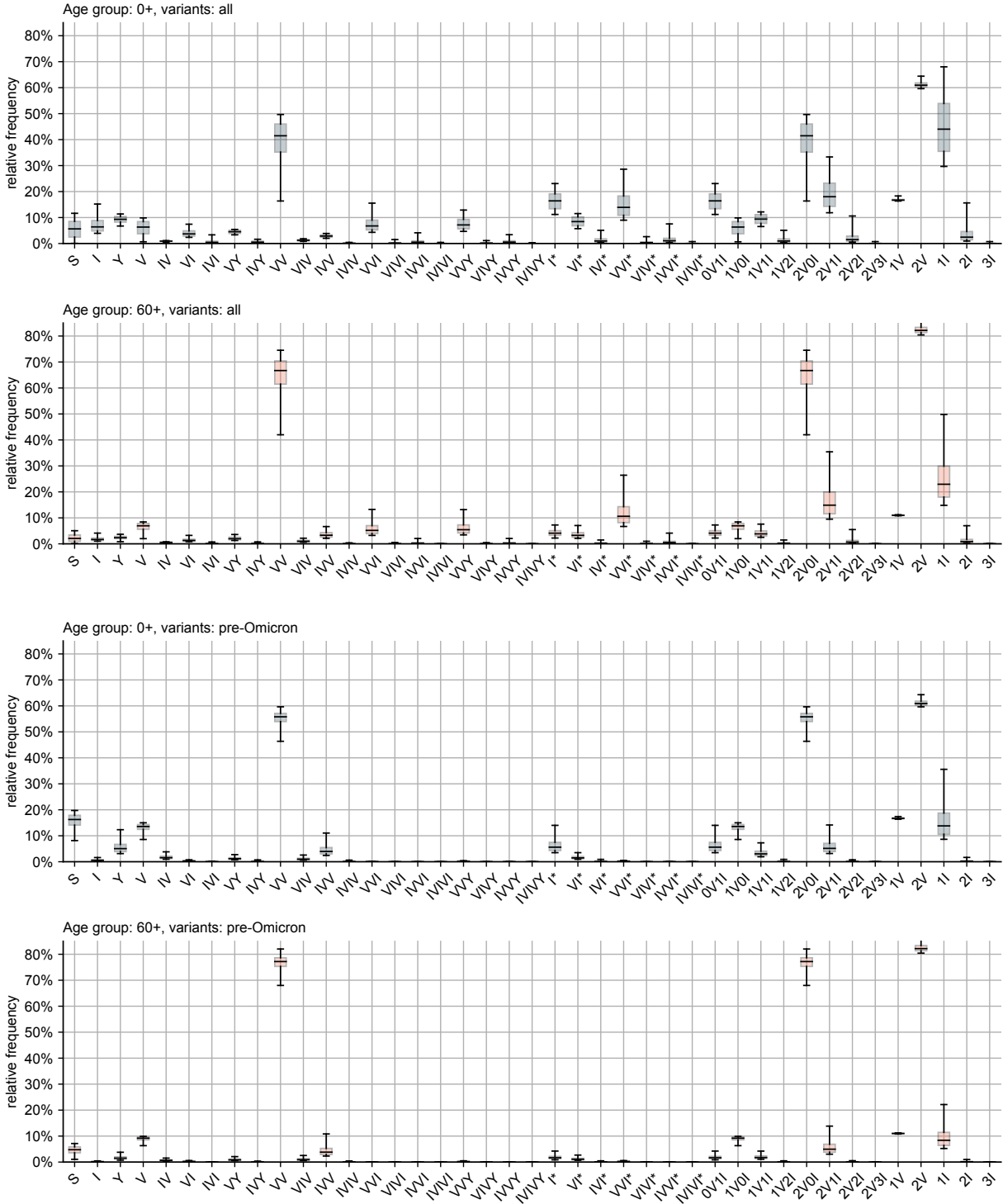


FIG. S2. Relative frequency of all compartments given by vaccination and infection status across Germany, for all age groups and variants as well as for the elderly and pre-Omicron variants. Some compartments shown are aggregates, e.g. labels “ $nVmI$ ” represent the number of individuals that were vaccinated  $n$  times and infected  $m$  times (re-infections excluded), labels “ $nV$ ” give the number of individuals that were vaccinated  $n$  times, and labels “ $mI$ ” are the number of individuals that were infected  $m$  times (re-infections excluded), see Eqs. ((S41))-(S61))

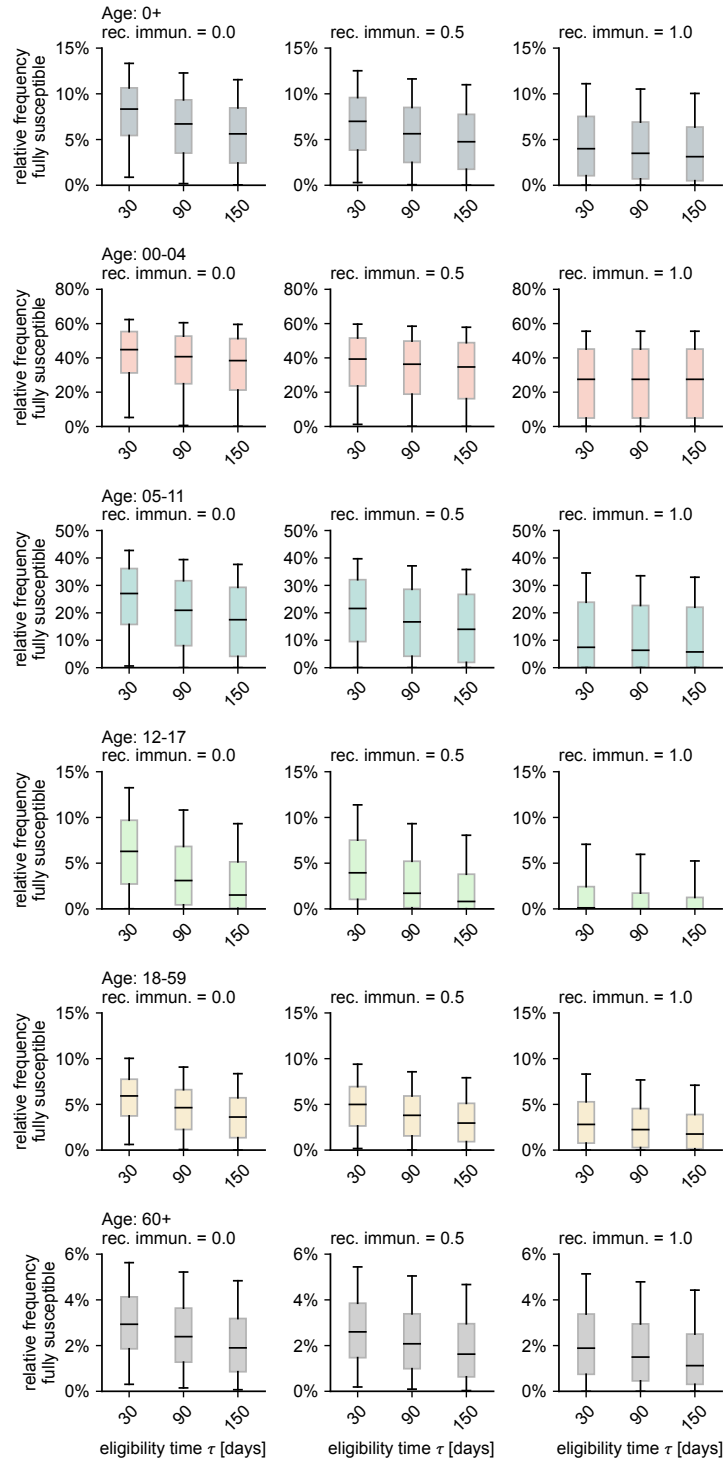


FIG. S3. The influence of the assumed average eligibility duration as well as the long-term immunity of recovered individuals.

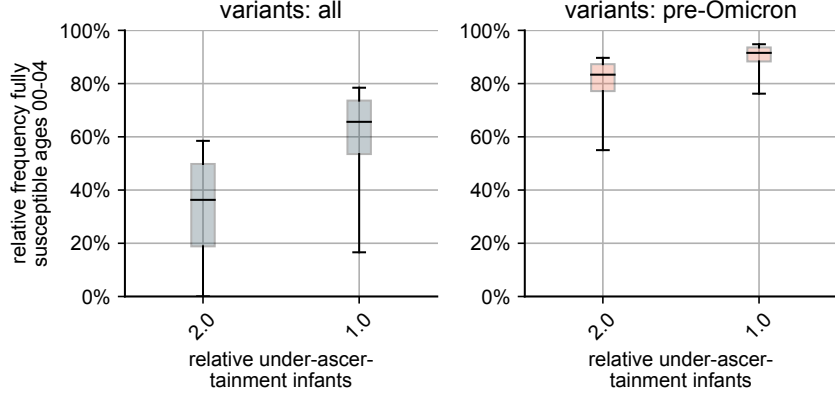


FIG. S4. Influence of relative under-ascertainment for infants. For the main results, we assumed that the relative under-ascertainment factor assumes, for infants, a value of  $a_{\phi, \text{infants}}/a_{\phi} = \omega = 2$ . For  $\omega = 1$ , the number of yet fully susceptible infants is higher than what we reported in the main text.

the last receipt of a vaccine dose (comparable to the ‘eligibility time’ used in the main analyses of this study). The total time it takes for an individual in status  $X_i$  to reach status  $X_{i+1}$  is given by the random variable

$$Z_{X,i} = \sum_{j=0}^i T_{X,j}. \quad (\text{S64})$$

Let  $F_{X,i}(z)$  be the cumulative distribution function of the random variable  $Z_{X,i}$ . Then, the probability  $w_{X,i}$  that a given individual in status  $X_i$  has been in status  $X$  for longer than  $\Theta_X$  is given by

$$w_{X,i} = P(Z_{X,i} > \Theta_X) = 1 - F_{X,i}(\Theta_X). \quad (\text{S65})$$

We find such

$$\tilde{X} = \sum_{i=0}^{n_X} [1 - F_{X,i}(\Theta_X)] X_i. \quad (\text{S66})$$

<sup>134</sup> The probabilities  $w_{X,i} = 1 - F_{X,i}(\Theta_X)$  are constant and can thus be determined numerically after  
<sup>135</sup> defining the times  $\{\tau_{X,i}\}$  and  $\Theta_X$ . For susceptibles, let  $S = \hat{S} = \tilde{S}$ .

Let  $\mathcal{I}(X)$  be the compartment to which an individual in status  $X$  transitions after infection and  $\mathcal{V}(X)$  be the compartment to which an individual in status  $X$  transitions after vaccination. We define the following transitions

$$\mathcal{I}(S) = \mathcal{I}(I) = I \quad (\text{S67})$$

$$\mathcal{V}(S) = \mathcal{V}(I) = V, \quad (\text{S68})$$

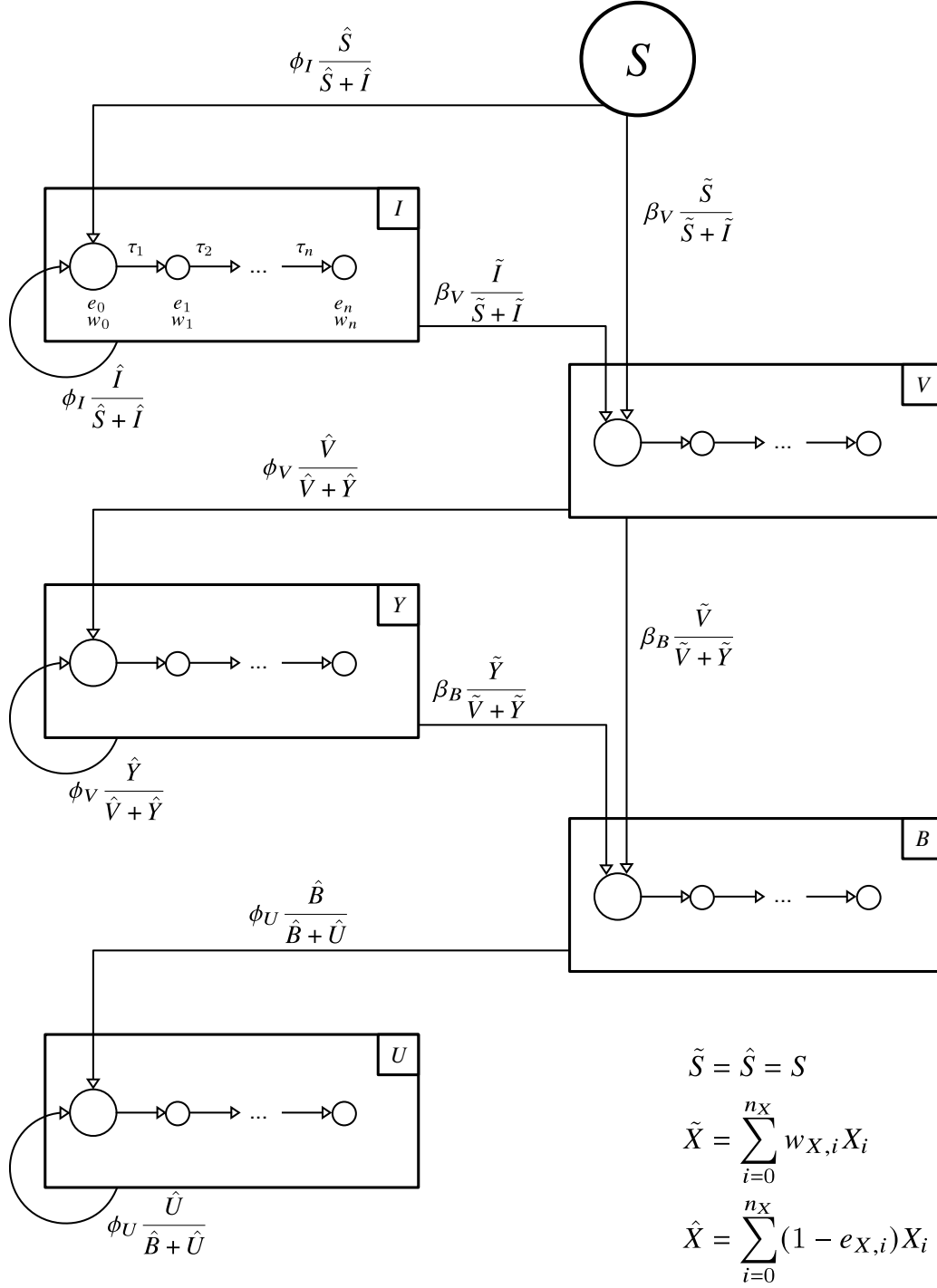


FIG. S5. Detailed model that includes waning.



i.e. susceptibles  $S$  who become infected transition to status  $I$  and susceptibles who are vaccinated transition to status  $V$ . Recovered  $I$  who become infected again transition to status  $I$  and recovered people who get vaccinated transition to status  $V$ . Furthermore,

$$\mathcal{I}(V) = \mathcal{I}(Y) = Y \quad (\text{S69})$$

$$\mathcal{V}(V) = \mathcal{V}(Y) = B, \quad (\text{S70})$$

i.e. vaccinated individuals  $V$  who become infected transition to status  $Y$  and those vaccinated that receive a third dose transition to status  $B$ . Breakthrough-recovereds  $Y$  who become reinfected again transition to status  $Y$  and breakthrough-recovered individuals who become vaccinated transition to status  $B$ . Last,

$$\mathcal{I}(B) = \mathcal{I}(U) = U \quad (\text{S71})$$

$$\mathcal{V}(B) = \mathcal{V}(U) = \emptyset, \quad (\text{S72})$$

i.e. boosted persons  $B$  who become infected transition to status  $U$  but further vaccination is not provided. Recovered booster vaccinated persons  $U$  who become infected again will again transition to status  $U$ . The dynamics of all states  $X_i$  follows

$$\partial_t X_i = \underbrace{\phi_X \delta_{i,0} - \phi_{\mathcal{I}(X)} (1 - e_{X,i}) X_i}_{\text{infections}} + \underbrace{\beta_X \delta_{i,0} - \beta_{\mathcal{V}(X)} (1 - F_{X,i}(\Theta_X)) X_i}_{\text{vaccinations}} + \underbrace{\frac{X_{i-1}}{\tau_{X,i}} - \frac{X_i}{\tau_{X,i+1}}}_{\text{waning}}. \quad (\text{S73})$$

136 By definition, we have  $X_j = 0 \forall j < 0 \wedge j > n_X + 1$ , as well as  $\phi_\emptyset = 0$  and  $\beta_\emptyset = 0$ . Furthermore, we set  
 137  $\beta_S = \beta_I = \beta_Y = \beta_U = 0$  and  $\phi_S = \phi_V = \phi_B = 0$ , that is, there are no infections ending in vaccination  
 138 compartments and no vaccinations ending in infection compartments and no transitions ending  
 139 in  $S$ . Additionally, susceptibles are maximally susceptible (i.e.  $e_S = 0$ ) and from  $n_S = 0$  follows  
 140  $w_S = 1$ . To ensure the validity of transition terms in intermediate compartments, we additionally  
 141 define  $\tau_{X,j} \neq 0 \forall X, j \leq 0 \wedge j > n_X + 1$ .

142 With regard to under-reporting, we assume that under-ascertainment ratios are already included  
 143 in the respective rates  $\phi_\bullet$  and  $\beta_\bullet$ .

Finally, the aim of this analysis is to estimate seroprevalence at time  $t$ . For each state  $X_i \neq S$ , we denote by  $p_{X,i}$  the probability that antibodies are found in a person in state  $X_i$ . Then, the seroprevalence  $P$  of the age group/population of consideration is given as

$$P(t) = \sum_{X \neq S} \sum_{i=0}^{n_X} p_{X,i} X_i(t). \quad (\text{S74})$$

144 The model is illustrated in Fig. S5.

145 A large number of parameters are required to calibrate the model. For each state  $X \in$   
146  $\{I, V, Y, B, U\}$  the number of transitions  $n_X$  have to be defined, then  $n_X$  mean transition times  
147 as well as  $n_X + 1$  susceptibility reductions. For compartments  $I, V, Y$  and  $B$ , eligibility times  $\Theta$   
148 for receiving a vaccination are to be determined. From reporting data, we obtain the daily number  
149 of new infections of unvaccinated  $\phi_I(t)$ , vaccinated  $\phi_V(t)$  and boosted  $\phi_U(t)$  individuals. From  
150 the vaccination archive, we obtain the daily number of completed initial vaccination series  $\beta_V(t)$   
151 and booster vaccinations  $\beta_B(t)$ . Under-reporting of infections and booster vaccinations must be  
152 estimated and accounted for in the respective rates. For each state  $X_i \neq S$ , the probability  $p_{X_i}$  of  
153 finding antibodies in a person in state  $X_i$  must also be defined.

154 All these parameters have to be determined for each of the subpopulations (age groups, re-  
155 gions).

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