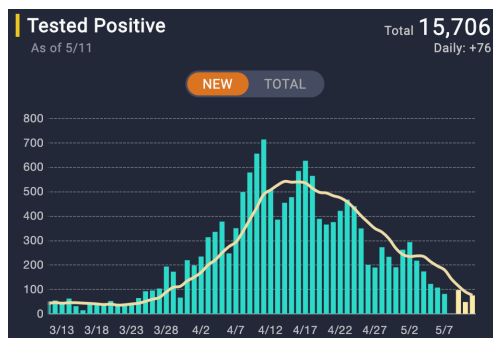


## Situation report – COVID19; Japan, Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> of May 2020

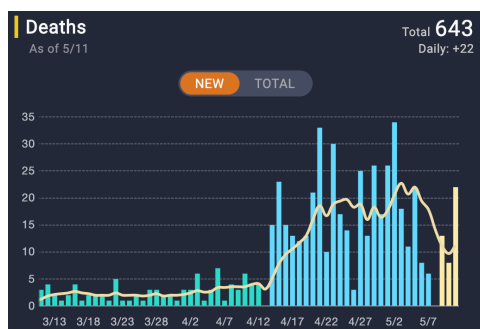
*Confidential – for internal circulation only, not for release to outside parties without the prior consent of the author. This document represents the opinion of the author and does not constitute the provision of medical care. Readers with concerns over their individual health should contact their physician for advice.*

### Caseload in Japan



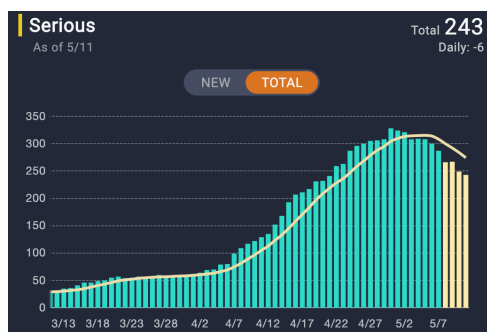
*Green – confirmed by MHLW  
Yellow – as yet unconfirmed (regional report only)*

The drop in the number of new diagnoses has been sustained (see graph). Infections have fallen relatively consistently from a peak seen on the 12<sup>th</sup> of April, one week after the declaration of the state of emergency. New cases now appear to be trending to below 100 per day.



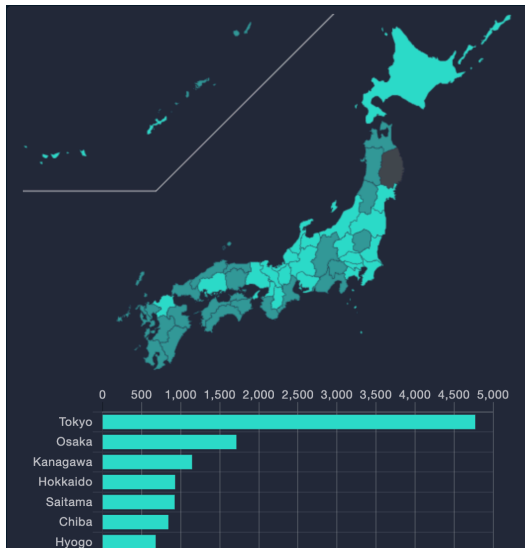
*Green – confirmed by MHLW  
Yellow – as yet unconfirmed (regional report only)*

The number of daily deaths attributed to COVID19 likewise appears to be falling with a death toll for the whole outbreak of 643. As has been seen in other countries, deaths due to COVID19 are significantly more common in the elderly with a mortality rate of 15% in COVID19 patients over the age of 80.



*Green – confirmed by MHLW  
Yellow – as yet unconfirmed (regional report only)*

The number of patients requiring intensive care (ventilation, ECMO or equivalent high level care) has now fallen consistently from a peak on the 30<sup>th</sup> of April. There are now fewer than 250 COVID19 patients in intensive care across the whole of Japan.



### Caseload in Tokyo

Case numbers in Tokyo remain significantly higher than those seen in the rest of Japan. There has, however, been a sustained decline in the number of new diagnoses following the higher levels seen on the first two days of this month. Only 15 new cases were recorded yesterday.

Announcements by both the national and Tokyo metropolitan governments as to how social distancing measures could be gradually eased and schools re-opened in June are expected shortly. It is very likely that some ongoing form of restrictions to social gathering will be needed to prevent a second wave of infections. Given that most measures currently in place are essentially voluntary, though, it is a little difficult to imagine what form a step-wise reduction in restrictions would take.

This is against a background of a significant ongoing reduction in the number of commuters on the metropolitan transport system. Daily use of the subway at peak times remains 65 to 70% below seasonal average levels as has been the case for a month now. This suggests that a return to peak use could quickly lead to more infections.

PCR testing in the capital continues to be sparse and limited by international standards with fewer than 1,000 PCR tests performed on most days,

Number of confirmed cases

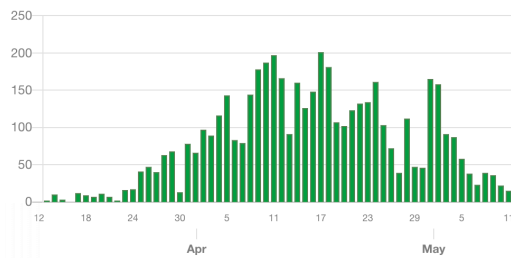
15 persons

5/11 Latest figure (Day-over-day change: -7 persons)

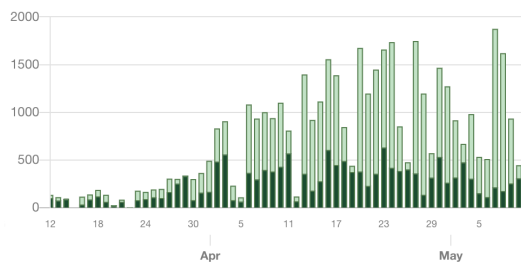
(注) 医療機関等が行った検査も含む

(Note) Excluding the returnees on charter flights or the cruise ship passengers

BY DAY TOTAL



### COVID19 tests (Tokyo)



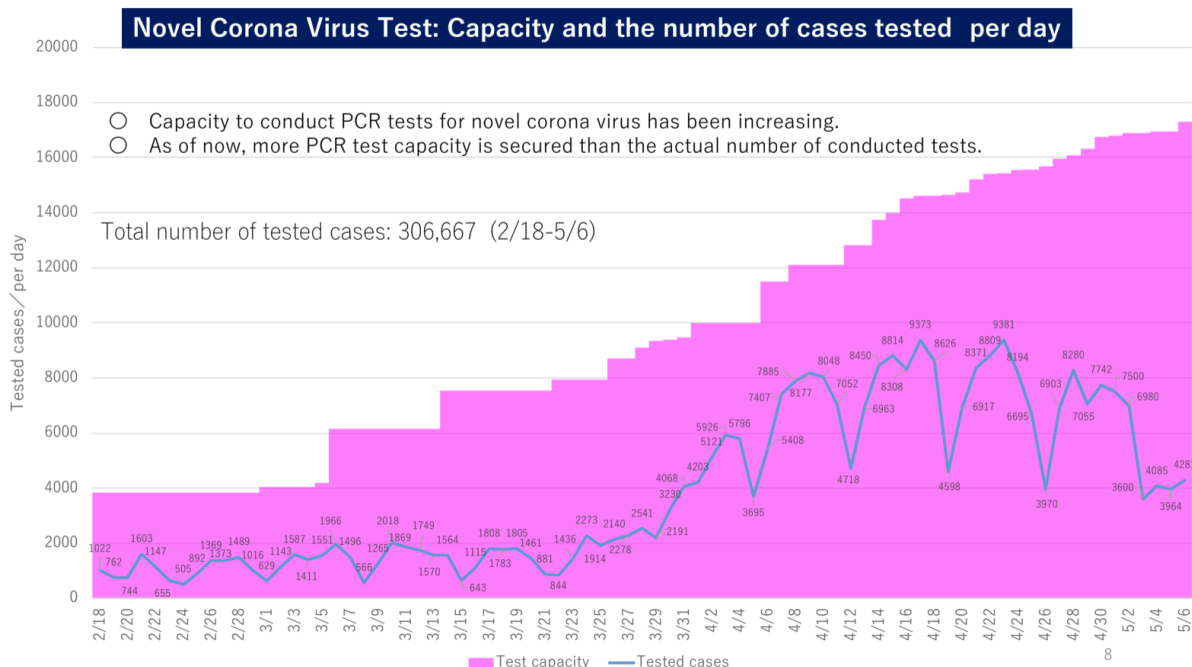
(Note) More than one sample from the same subject may be tested.

(Note) The number is published as preliminary figures and may be revised as confirmed data at a later date

*Dark green – tests conducted by health units; light green - others*

## Testing for COVID19 in Japan

Information recently released by the ministry of health, labour and welfare shows an increase in the capacity to perform PCR analysis to close to 20,000 tests per day though also continues to show that tests actually carried out are well below this capacity:



Media stories have recently focused on the stress that managing the testing system has placed on local health unit workers, with some suggestion that under staffing is causing problems with access to testing. Some health unit workers have reported in excess of 200 overtime hours in a one month period.

## Hospital Care

Across the country, occupancy of hospital beds designated for COVID19 patients is reported to be 19.9% (6,254 occupied from a total capacity of 31,298). Occupancy of designated hospital beds is highest in Tokyo, at 52.3% (2,509 beds occupied from a total capacity of 4,800). The overall pressure on the in-patient medical system is clearly decreasing.

## ***References***

Reported Caseload Graphs and data sourced from MHLW as reported by Toyo Keizai -  
<https://toyokeizai.net/sp/visual/tko/covid19/en.html>

Toyko COVID19 information  
<https://stopcovid19.metro.tokyo.lg.jp/en/>

COVID19 Japan – anti coronavirus dashboard  
<https://www.stopcovid19.jp/>

Updates on COVID-19 in Japan May 8th, 2020  
Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

## ***Resources***

How to get help if you suspect that you have COVID19 (Tokyo residents)  
<https://stopcovid19.metro.tokyo.lg.jp/en/flow>