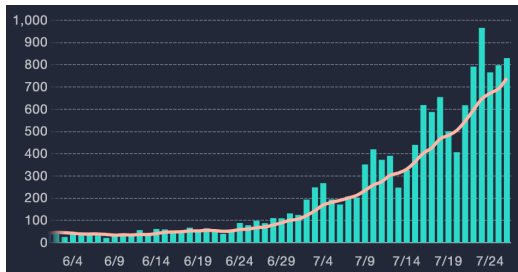


# Situation report – COVID19; Japan, Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> of July 2020

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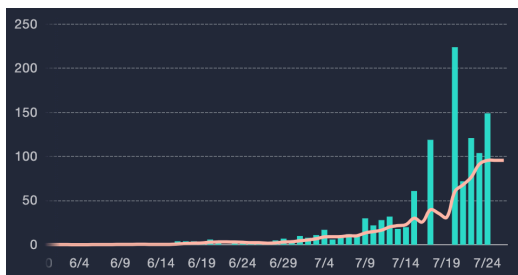
## Current Situation in Japan

(National number of new diagnoses)



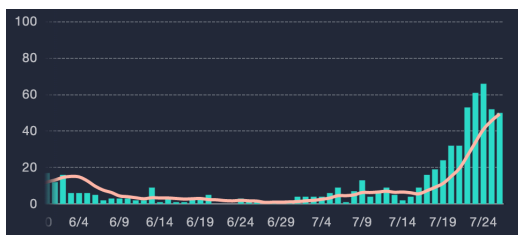
Daily diagnoses have continued to increase and have now surpassed those seen in April and May's first wave of infection. The peak of the initial outbreak on 10<sup>th</sup> of April saw 708 cases while the current highest total number of cases, 966 on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of July, is almost certain to be surpassed in the next week.

## Osaka



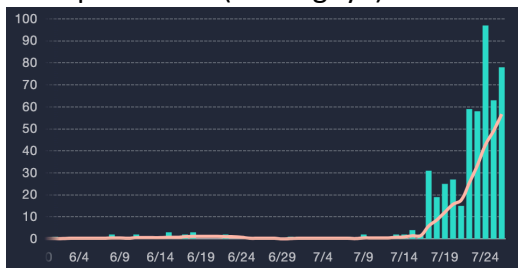
The past two weeks have seen a marked shift with accelerating numbers of infections in urban areas outside of Tokyo and the Kanto region. New diagnoses are surging in many large cities outside of the capital, including Osaka, Fukuoka, Nagoya and Kobe. Reproduction rates in these areas are close to or above 2.0, suggesting that unless new measures are introduced, medical infrastructure may be stretched in the weeks to come.

## Fukuoka



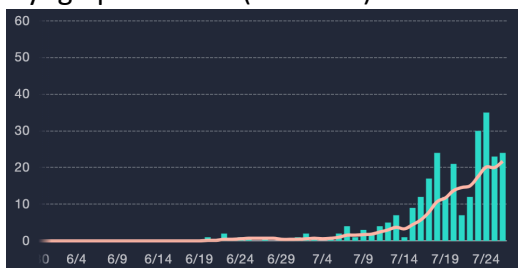
Covid19 is clearly no longer a Tokyo problem. In the 7 days from the 20<sup>th</sup> to the 26<sup>th</sup> of July, 1,803 infections were picked up in Tokyo while 3,374 occurred across the rest of Japan. While per capita rates remain higher in the capital, recent trends suggest that Tokyo simply leads the remainder of the country rather than being disconnected or materially different from other cities.

## Aichi prefecture (inc Nagoya)



Rural areas of Japan continue to be less affected with sporadic infections detected in most areas, though for the most part without any evidence of a sustained upswing in case numbers. Extensive outbound travel from cities during the *o-bon* summer vacation period clearly runs a high risk of leading to more severe illness in areas with higher proportions of elderly and high risk residents, though.

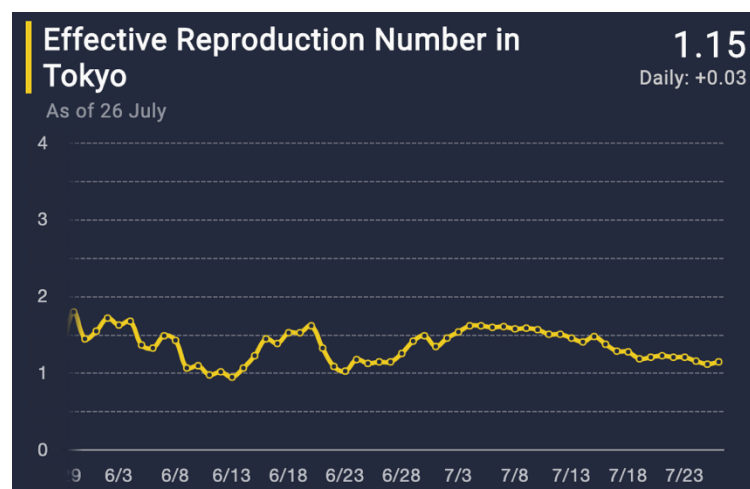
## Hyogo prefecture (inc Kobe)



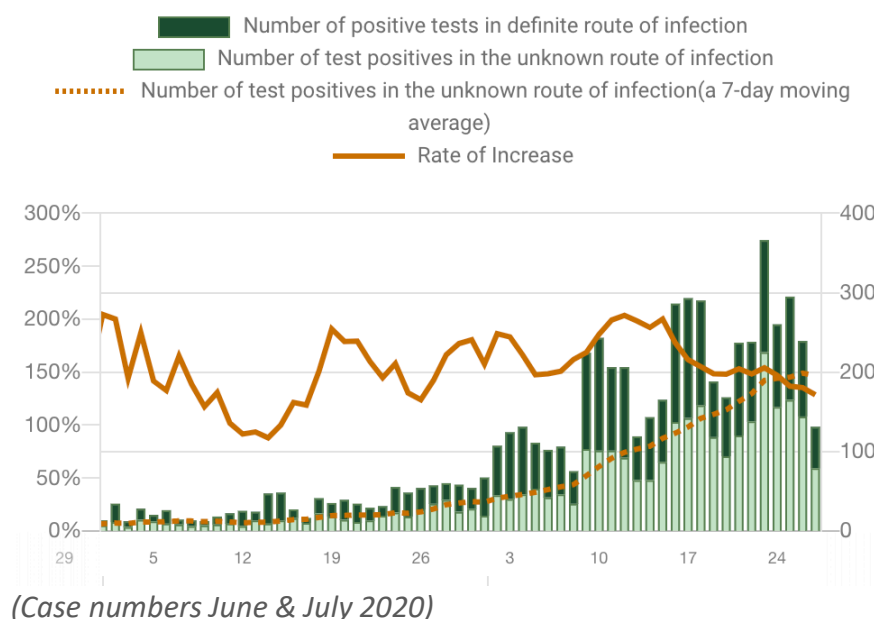
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### Current Situation in Tokyo

Although case numbers have risen and are now regularly running at over 200, the rate of increase has slowed with the reproduction number (R) for Tokyo having fallen from over 1.6 at the start of July to a little over 1 at present, with some discernible downward trend. As this has been achieved entirely by contact tracing and voluntary social distancing, it affords some hope that the COVID19 could be contained without enforced measures such as a new state of emergency. However, the situation cannot be described as under control unless (R) remains below 1.0 for a sustained period of time. Globally, a consistent picture of populations fatiguing under prolonged social distancing raises the problem that most urban areas are vulnerable to new waves of infection as established patterns of work, travel and socialization resume soon after the level of alarm at the prospect of contagion falls.

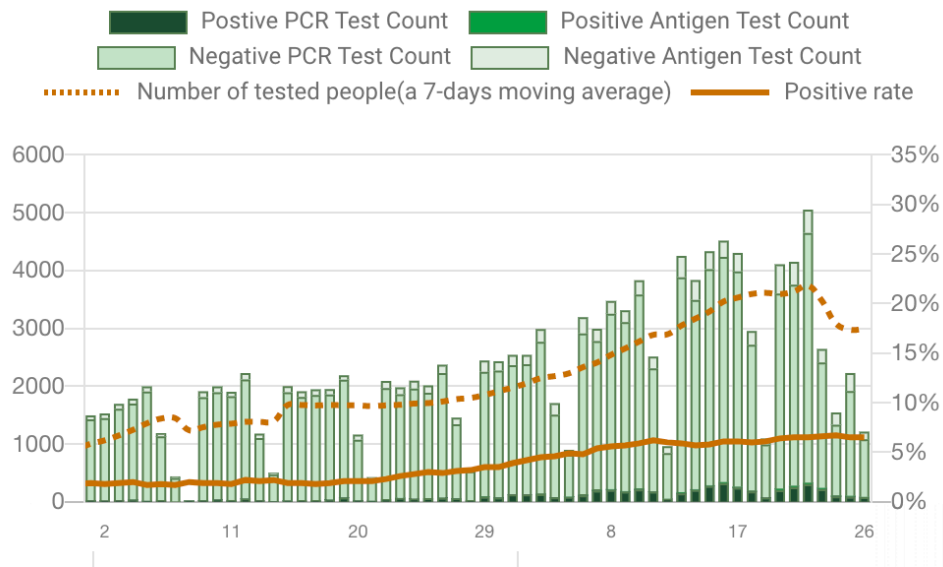


For the past ten days, more than half of patients have no identified source of infection, suggesting that the contact tracing system may be reaching the limits of its effectiveness, possibly due to a shift from clusters of infection to general community spread.



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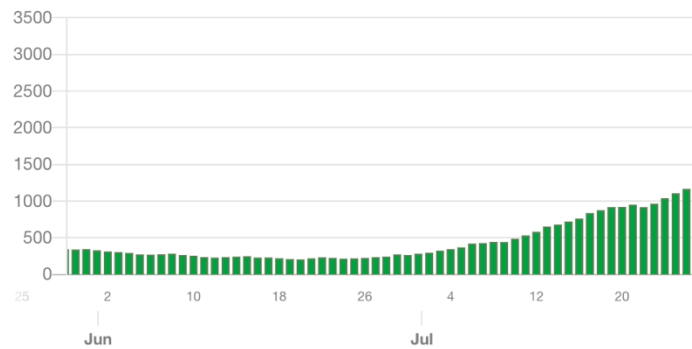
PCR and antigen tests rose to a little over 5,000 (Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July, the final day before the 4 day public holiday). Recently approximately 6.5% of tests have returned positive results.



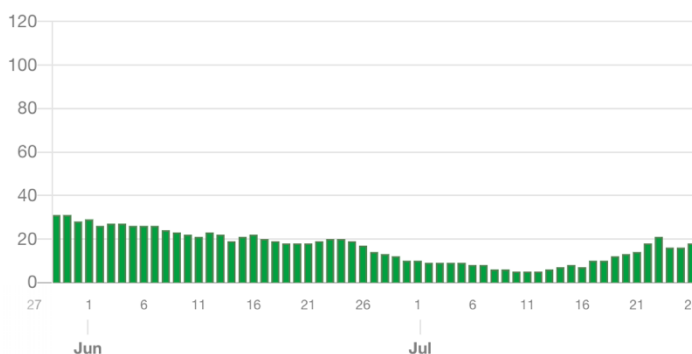
### Hospitals in Tokyo

Over the past week the number of hospitalized patients with COVID19 has increased from 917 to 1260, remaining well within the total capacity of 4,800 beds available. Although increasing numbers of older patients are requiring treatment, at present intensive care beds are not under pressure.

*(Total patient numbers)*



*(Critically ill patients)*



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### ***References***

Reported Caseload Graphs and data sourced from MHLW as reported by Toyo Keizai and the Tokyo metropolitan government –

<https://toyokeizai.net/sp/visual/tko/covid19/en.html>

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

### ***Resources***

How to get help if you suspect that you have COVID19 (Tokyo residents)

<https://stopcovid19.metro.tokyo.lg.jp/en/flow>