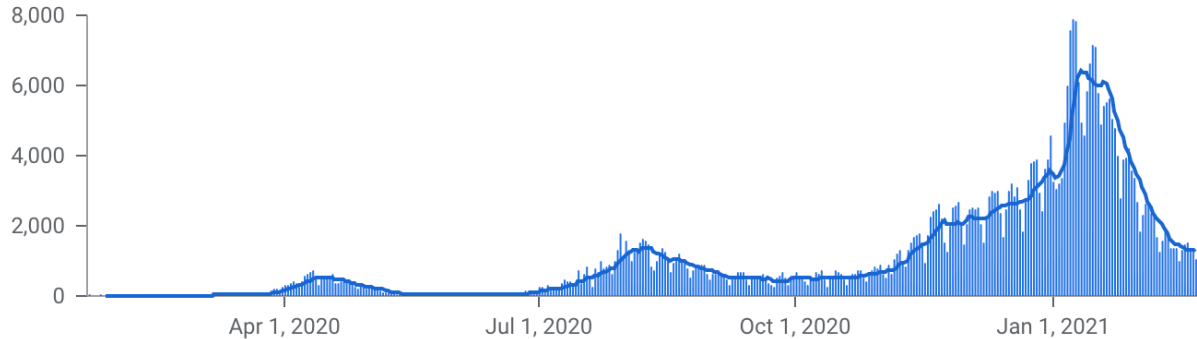


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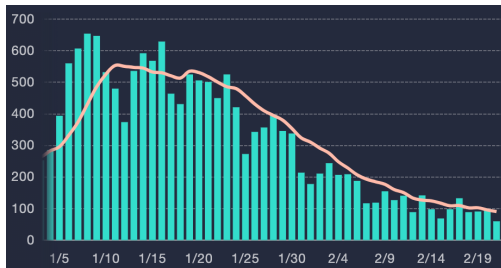
Confidential – for internal circulation only, not for release to outside parties without the prior consent of the author. This document represents the opinion of the author and does not constitute the provision of medical care. Readers with concerns over their individual health should contact their physician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

Current Situation in Japan

National number of diagnoses per day:

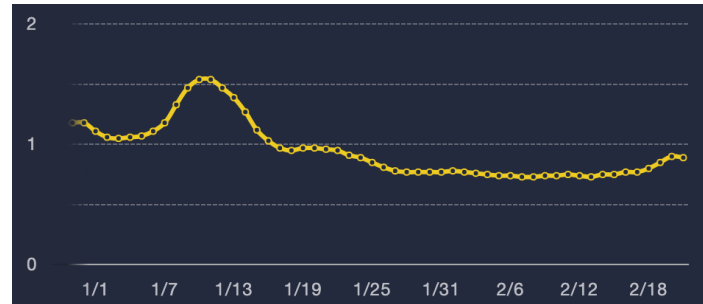


Osaka (R 0.8)

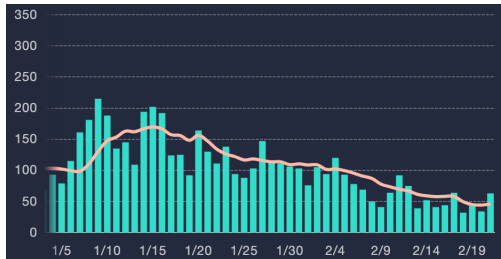


The number of new infections continues to fall across the country, though with some evidence that numbers are starting to level (a slower rate of reduction is seen).

National Effective reproduction number (R 0.89)

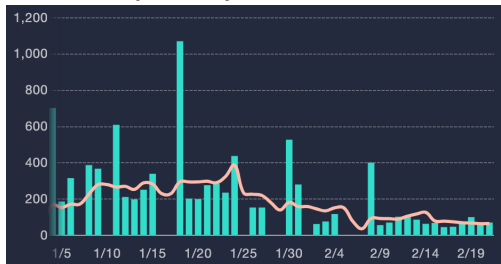


Hokkaido (R 0.84)



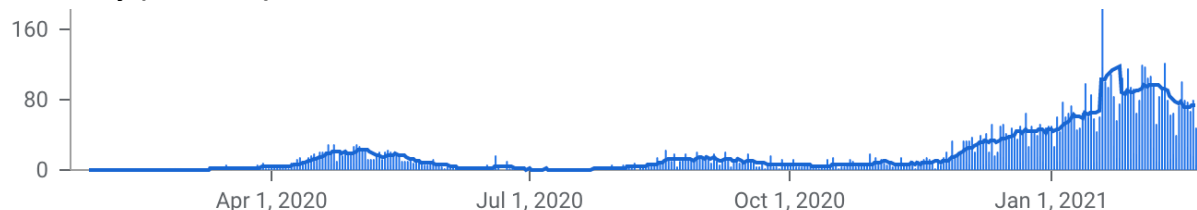
Large urban areas outside of Tokyo all continue to report low (below 1 case per 100,00/day) or declining infection rates and new cases remain relatively sparse in rural Japan.

Fukuoka (R 0.62)



Ten prefectures remain under a state of emergency due to expire on the 7th of March unless extended (Tokyo, Kanagawa, Chiba, Saitama, Osaka, Hyogo, Kyoto, Aichi, Gifu and Fukuoka). Kyoto has petitioned for early lifting of emergency measures.

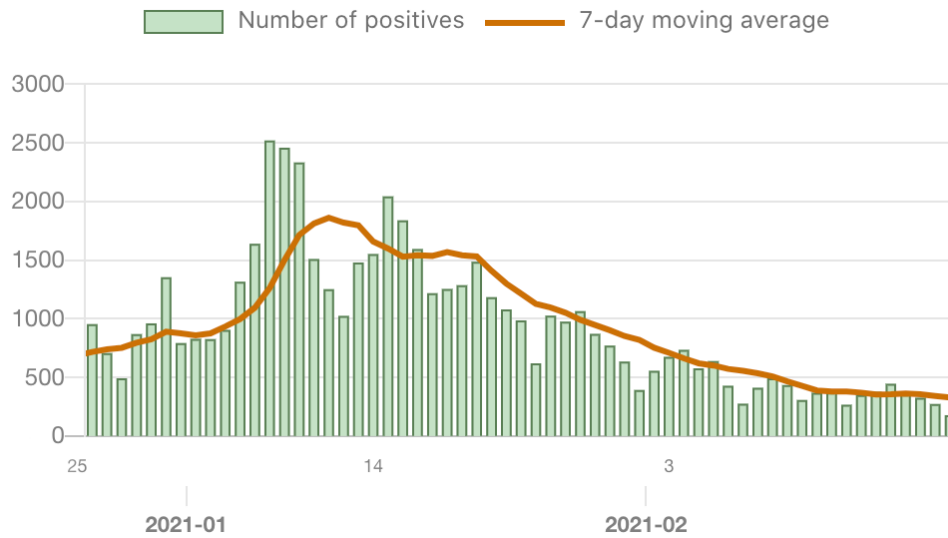
Mortality (National)



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Current Situation in Tokyo & the Kanto Region

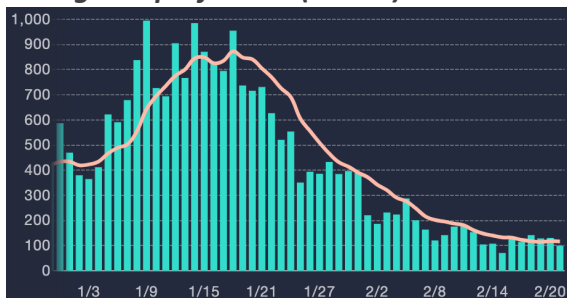
Tokyo daily cases (R 0.93)



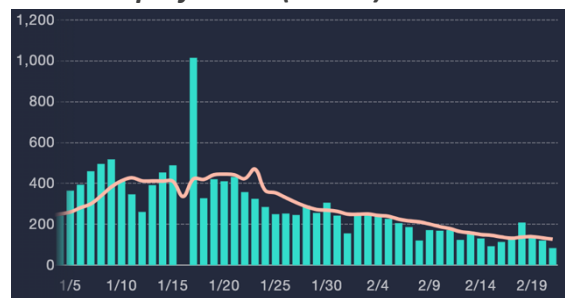
Although yesterday saw the lowest number of reported new cases (178) in over three months, new infections remain above the intended threshold for the cessation of the state of emergency – set at a seven-day average of 140 cases per day. Presently the seven-day average remains over 300.

Across the region rates of infection are stabilizing in Kanagawa and Saitama and have risen marginally in Chiba.

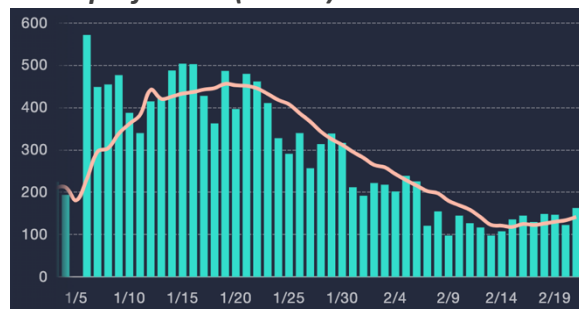
Kanagawa prefecture (R 0.88)



Saitama prefecture (R 0.89)



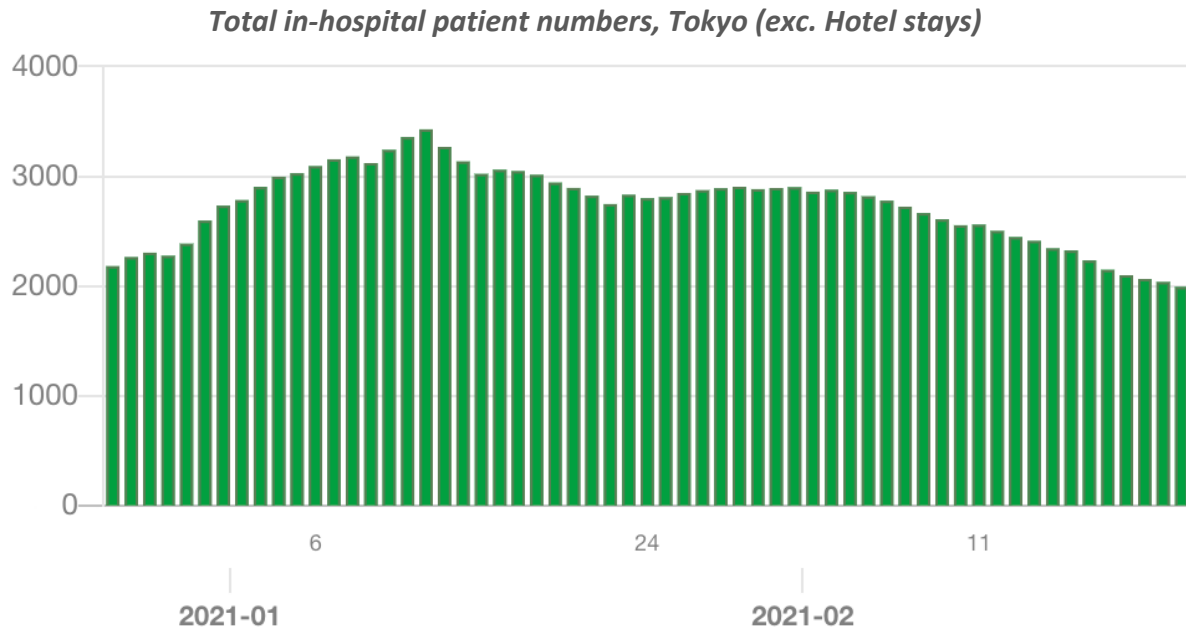
Chiba prefecture (R 1.12)



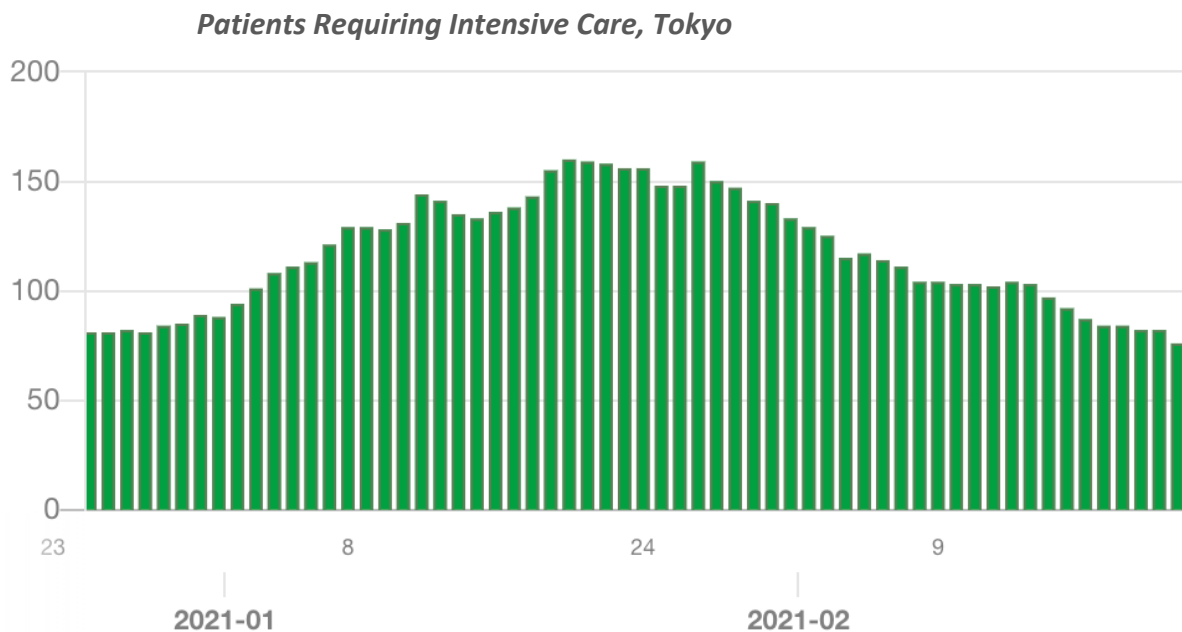
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Hospital Care in Tokyo

Over the past week hospital capacity available for COVID 19 patients have been further expanded from 4,900 to 5,000 beds. Separately, 3,290 beds remain available in hotels for patients who have mild symptoms but who require admission to limit contagion. Hospital bed occupancy has fallen to below 2,000 for the first time in over two months.

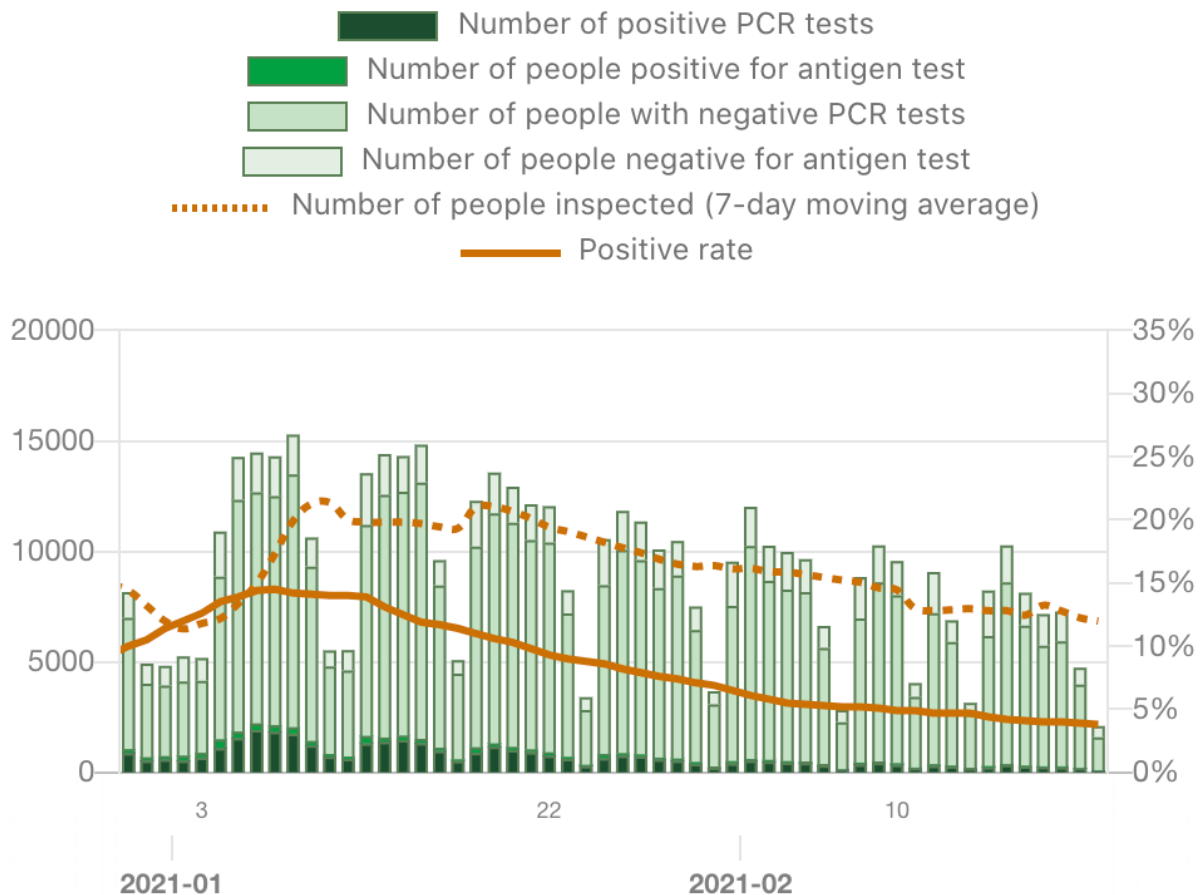


76 patients are currently being treated by intensive care units, out of a total current capacity of 315 beds. Utilization has more than halved in the past month.



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Testing in Tokyo



Test numbers continue to decline, with fewer people seeking advice for new onset infective symptoms than was the case in early January. The rate of positive test results has continued its sustained fall from an early January peak of 14.5% to 3.8%.

COVID-19 Vaccination in Japan

Vaccination of healthcare workers has commenced with the intention to immunize medical staff by the end of March. A much larger immunization program aimed at covering over 35 million people aged 65 or above is then scheduled to begin from April, as yet with no certainty as to how long this will take to complete.

Presently only Pfizer's vaccine is approved for use in Japan, though the Astra Zenica vaccine is currently under review by the health ministry, a process expected to take two months.

Further details of the government's plans are available on the website of the Prime Minister's office:

<https://www.kantei.go.jp/jp/headline/kansensho/vaccine.html>

At present it seems unlikely that earlier vaccination will be available for members of the general public through other channels such as private clinics.

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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>