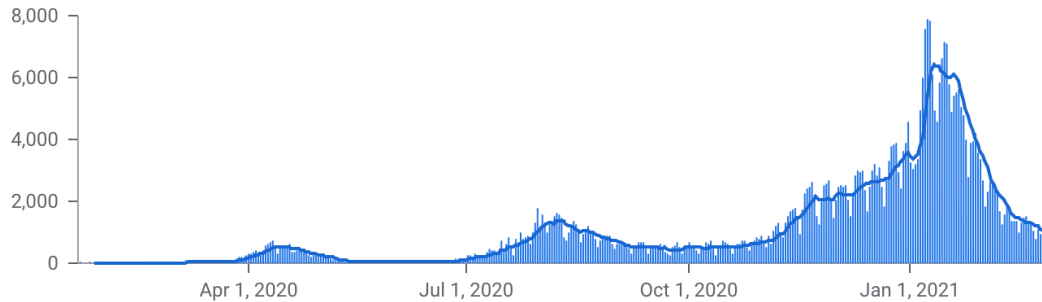


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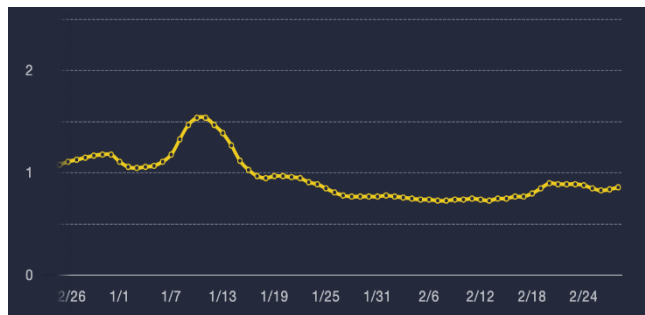
Confidential – for internal circulation only, not for release to outside parties without the prior consent of the author. This document represents the opinion of the author and does not constitute the provision of medical care. Readers with concerns over their individual health should contact their physician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

Current Situation in Japan

National number of diagnoses per day:

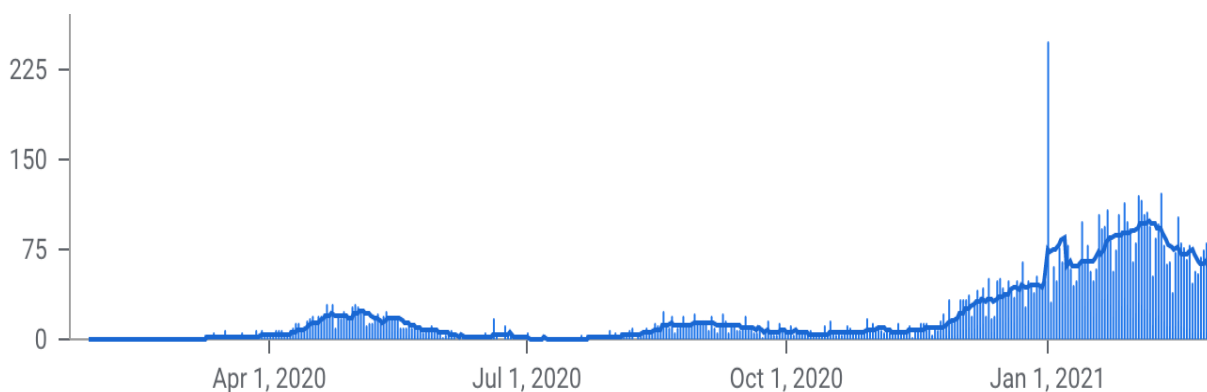


National Effective Reproduction Number (R 0.86)



Japan continues to see falling infection numbers throughout the country, both in urban and rural areas. With an effective-R similar to last week (0.89 → 0.86), the *rate* of reduction has remained constant, neither slowing down nor speeding up.

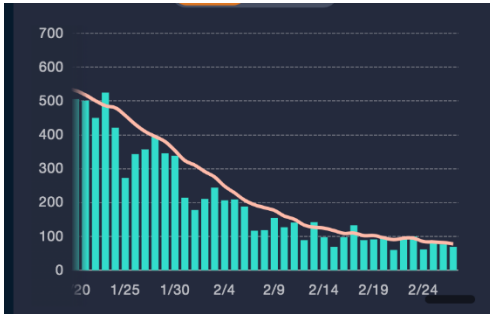
Mortality (National)



In line with falling case numbers, real indicators of clinical burden also continue a steady and expected decline. Daily deaths have fallen from a peak of 121 deaths on Feb 10 2021 to just 27 on Feb 28, representing a decline in moving average of roughly 40% during this period.

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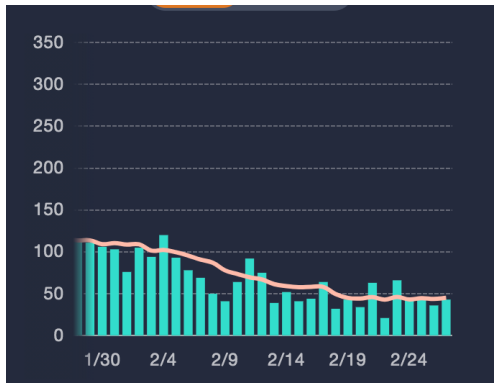
Osaka (R 0.89)



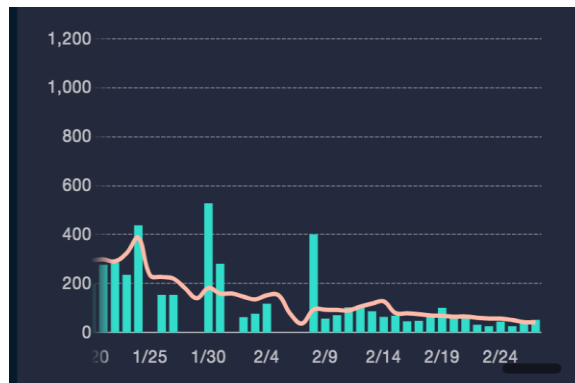
Overall sustained reductions nationally have been sufficiently encouraging for the Government of Japan to lift Emergency Declarations in Osaka, Hyogo, Kyoto, Aichi, Gifu, and Fukuoka prefectures as of March 1, 2021. Kanto remains under a state of emergency, though this is anticipated to expire smoothly on Mar 7 2021

(barring any unforeseen circumstances.) Nonetheless, several urban prefectures have seen substantial slowing in their rates of decrease over the last week, suggesting the need for continued vigilance against resurgence.

Hokkaido (R 0.9)



Fukuoka (R 0.71)

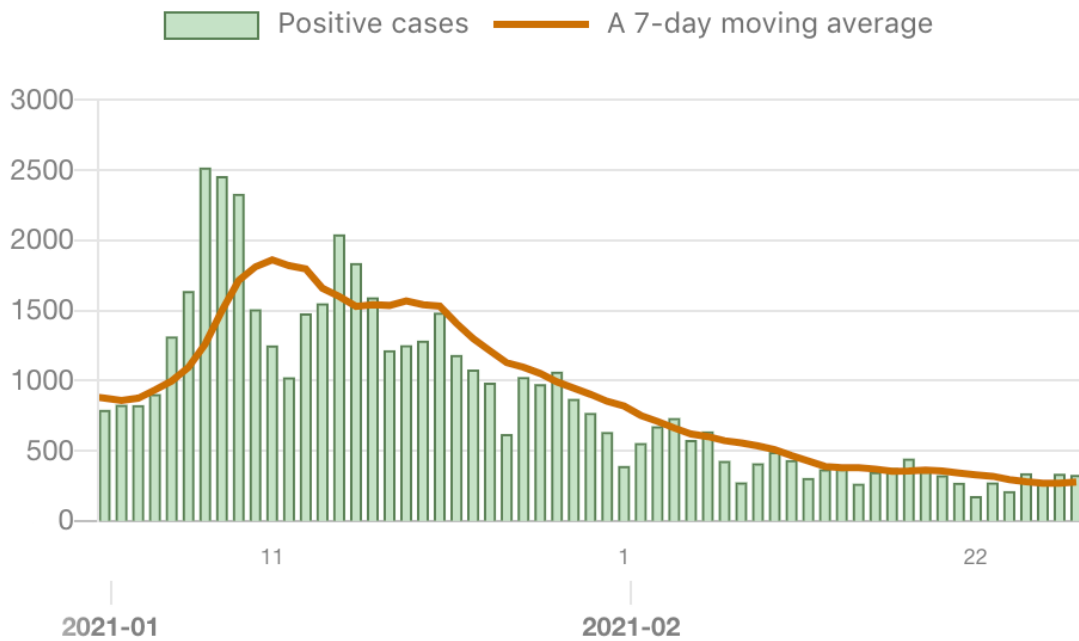


Situation report – COVID19; Japan Mar 2 2021

(extracted data current to Feb 28 2021)

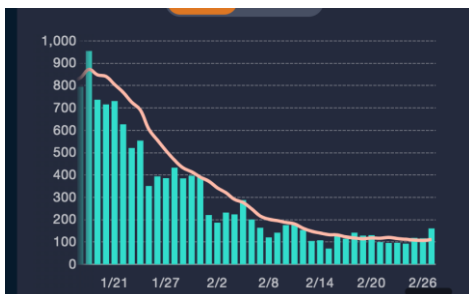
Current Situation in Tokyo & the Kanto Region

Tokyo daily cases (R 0.86)

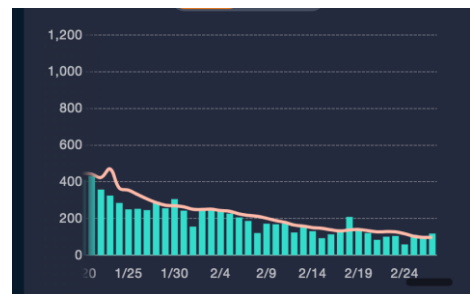


Yesterday (Monday, Mar 1 2021) saw the lowest number of reported new cases (121 cases) since early November 8 2020 (88 cases). It was also a milestone in that Tokyo was no longer the Kanto-area prefecture with the highest number of infection, a dubious honor belonging to Chiba (127 cases) for the day. As Monday numbers reflect weekend dips in testing and reporting, we expect rises in Tokyo through the week.

Kanagawa prefecture (R 0.99)

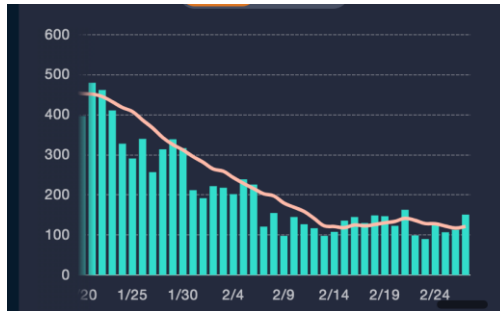


Saitama prefecture (R 0.83)



Chiba prefecture (R 0.87)

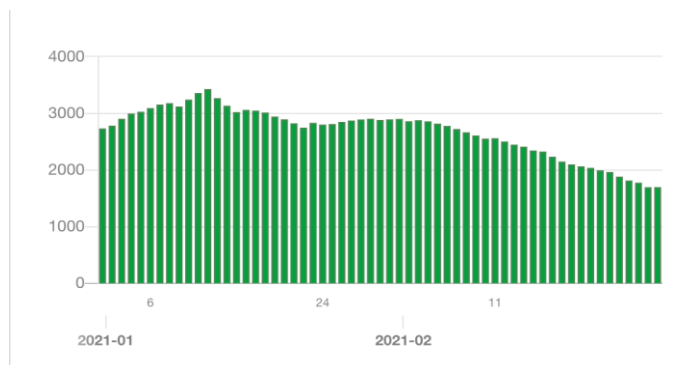
Situation report – COVID19; Japan Mar 2 2021 (extracted data current to Feb 28 2021)



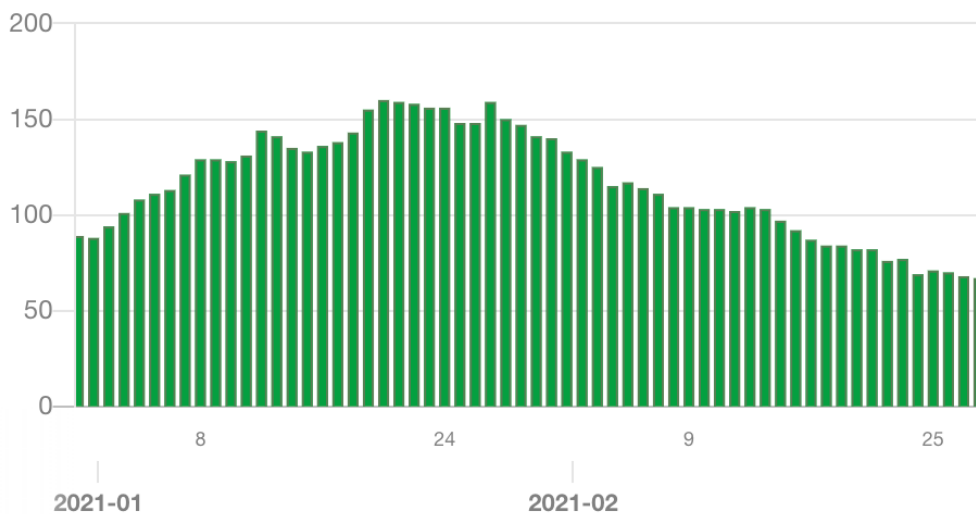
Hospital Care in Tokyo

Over the past week hospital capacity available for COVID 19 patients has stabilized at 5,000 beds, despite steep reductions in patients requiring hospitalization. Less than 10% of the roughly 3000 beds available in hotels for patients with mild symptoms are currently occupied. Routine (non-ICU) bed occupancy stands at 33% in Tokyo, while ICU bed occupancy has further fallen to 18.5% (61 patients) over the last week, reflecting an increase of ICU beds from 315 to 330 beds.

Total in-hospital patient numbers, Tokyo (exc. Hotel stays)

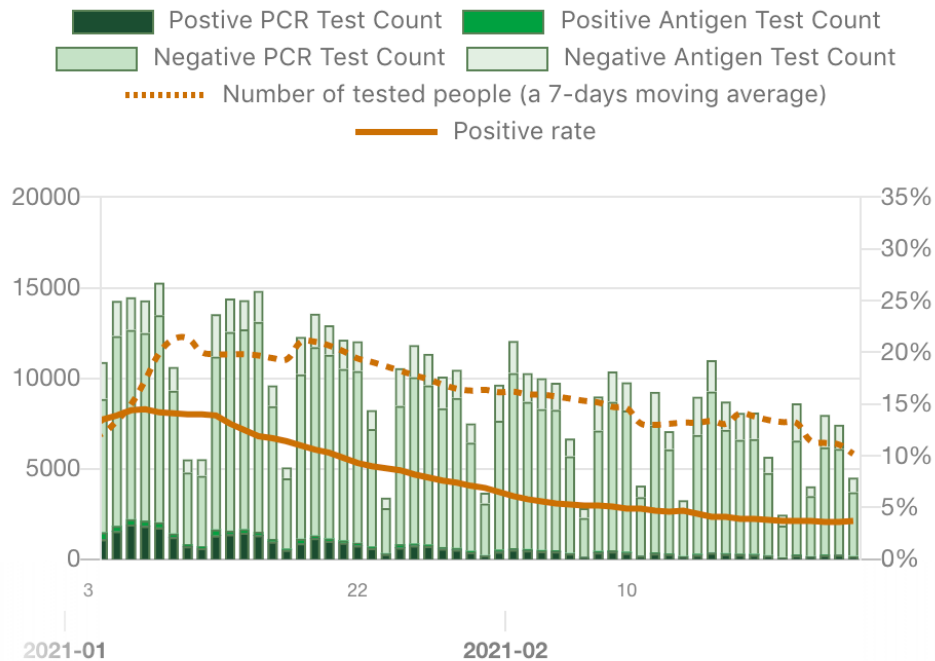


Patients Requiring Intensive Care, Tokyo



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Testing in Tokyo



After a relatively steep decline in testing after the week of Feb 15, when a 7-day average of 6570 daily tests were conducted, testing numbers have plateaued over the last week at around 6200 tests per day. There has been no significant change in the number of persons consulting with the metropolitan COVID hotline since Jan 22 2021, corroborating the current “steady state” of infections in Tokyo. Similarly, rate of positive test results has remained flat at 3.5-3.6%.

COVID-19 Vaccination in Japan

Vaccination of healthcare workers is underway. With metropolitan hospitals, as well as select other facilities, beginning to receive vaccine 2 weeks ago, there have been no reports of major side effects or adverse events. Private hospitals on the front lines of the pandemic will begin receiving their allotments of vaccine this week and into next week, with an expected rollout to all medical and co-medical institutions through the end of March. These rollouts are being coordinated administratively by the MLHW.

The vaccine rollout for the general public will begin on Monday April 12 2021, commencing with those aged 65 or above. Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine will most likely be the vaccine that most individuals receive due to regulatory and approval processes. Moderna vaccine remains in clinical trials in Japan, while the AstraZenica vaccine remains under review by the

Situation report – COVID19; Japan Mar 2 2021 **(extracted data current to Feb 28 2021)**

health ministry. Takeda has begun clinical trials of the Novavax protein-based vaccine, which is anticipated to take several additional months to complete. It should be noted that Moderna's booster for highly transmissible variants (HTV) has begun clinical trials overseas; no reports of substantial clusters of HTVs have yet been reported in mainstream or clinical news outlets in Japan.

Details of the government's plans remain 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.

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>

<https://covid19japan.com/>