

## Situation report – COVID19; Japan 11<sup>th</sup> of May 2021

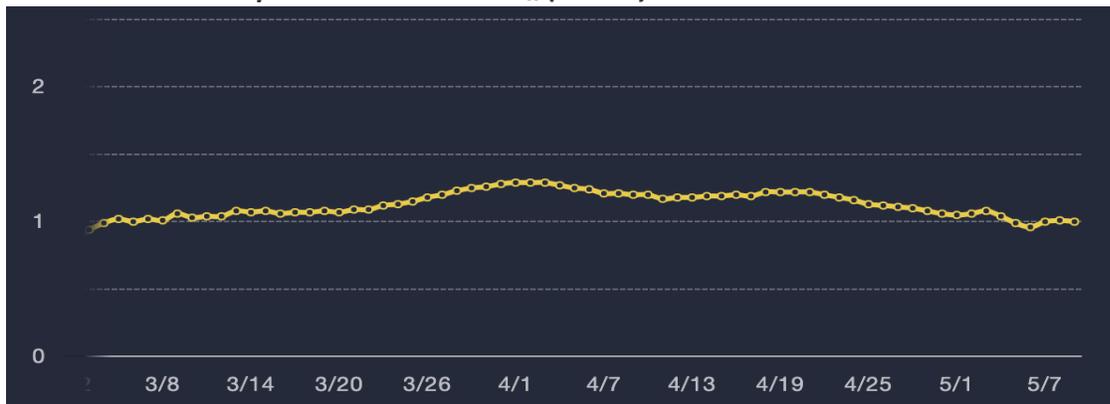
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### Current Situation in Japan

#### Test positives nationally:



#### National Reproduction Rate - $R_{eff}$ (R 1.06)



The cumulative effect of measures in place over the past month has been to slow the rate of increase in new cases but as yet, not to reduce daily infections. Measures which were effective in containing previous waves have been noticeably less successful now that more contagious UK and other N501Y variants have become widespread.

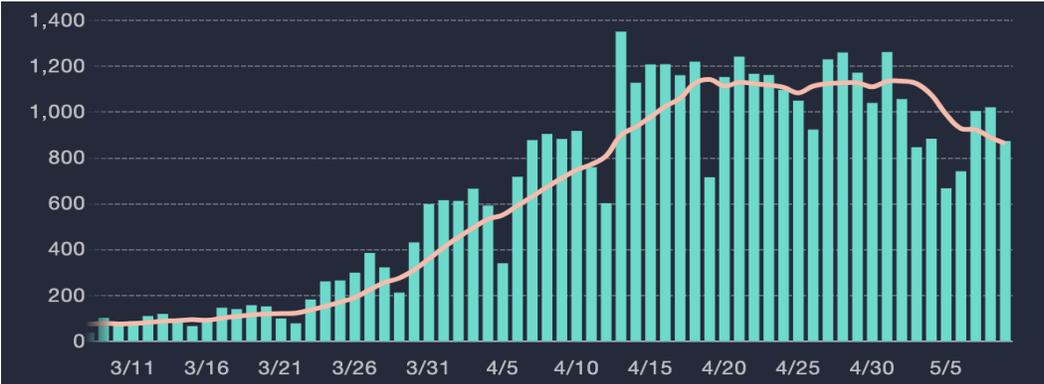
The state of emergency which was imposed to Tokyo and areas of Kansai was due to expire today but has been extended to the end of May. Two new areas of the country (Aichi and Fukuoka) have now been placed under priority prevention measures (Man'en boshi or "Manbo"), with measures similarly due to be in place there until the end of the month. In several other prefectures, priority preventative measures have been extended, again, to the end of May.

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## Regional Situation in Japan - Kansai

Encouragingly, the Kansai region, which was affected earliest in the current 4<sup>th</sup> wave, has begun to show early signs of improvement with a small but significant reduction in new diagnoses in both Osaka and neighboring Hyogo prefecture. Given that the new variant N501Y COVID19 cases account for the large majority of new infections here, this demonstrates that even in dense urban areas, COVID19 can be contained without widescale cessation of economic activity.

### Osaka (R 1.03)



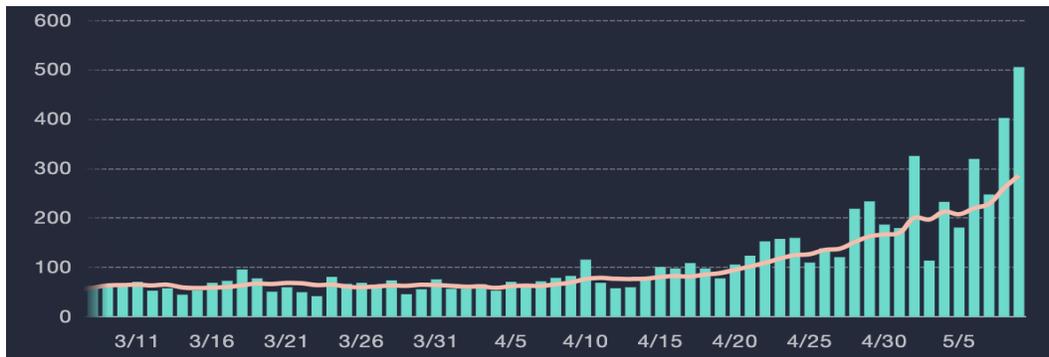
### Hyogo (R 0.97)



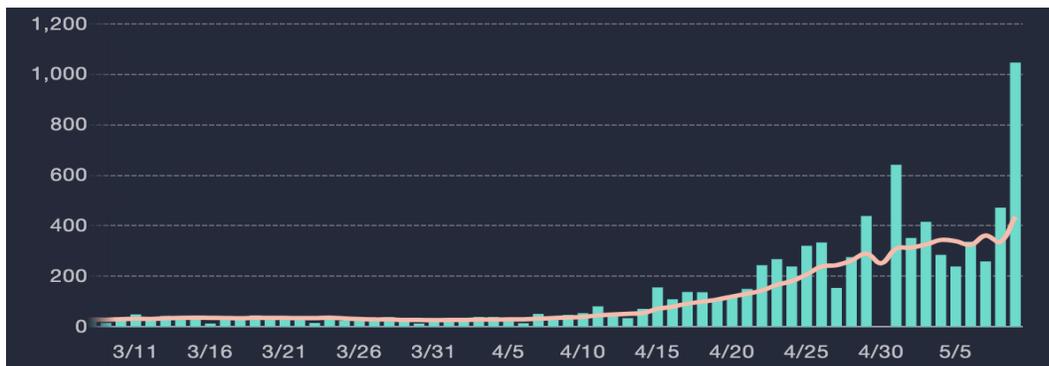
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Cases continue to rise rapidly in several areas which have only recently been subject to priority preventative measures. In addition to Hokkaido and Fukuoka, Gifu and Mie were also placed under these measures on the 9<sup>th</sup> of May. Okinawa and Ehime have been under the same measures since April, though the latter has achieved a 50% reduction in new infections so might reasonably apply for early exit.

### **Hokkaido (R 1.39)**



### **Fukuoka (R 1.35)**



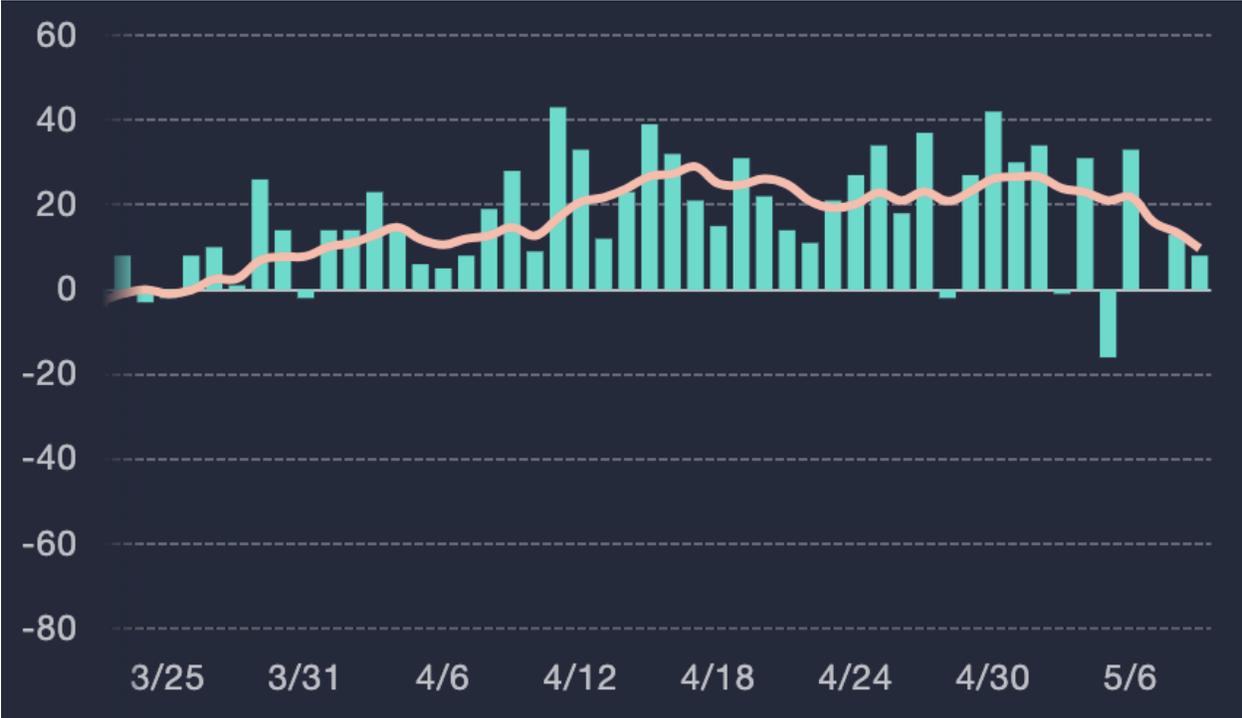
Miyagi's Man'en boshi was allowed to lapse today:

### **Miyagi (R 0.77)**



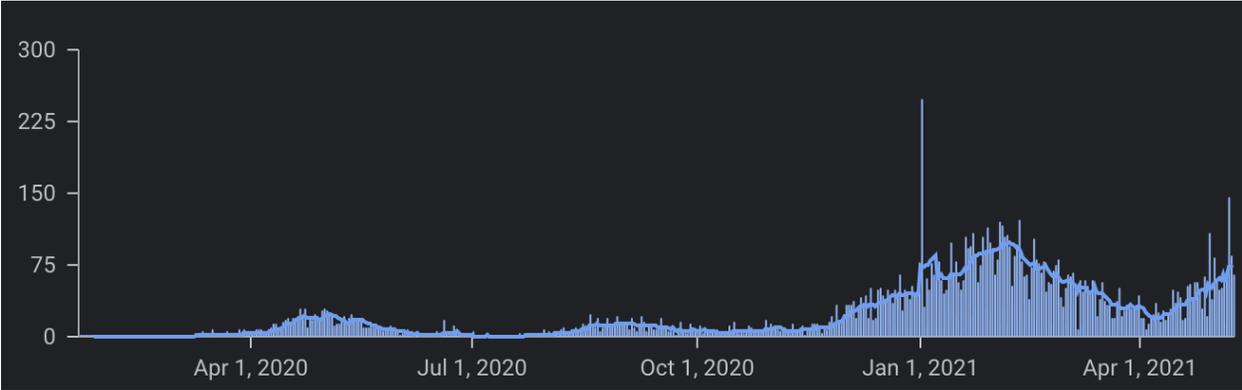
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## Critical Illness (Nationwide)- day by day change



Nationally, 1,152 patients are currently being treated in critical care units, the highest number since the start of the pandemic. For comparison, during the third wave, peak critical illness occurred on the 26<sup>th</sup> of January (1,043 patients in ICU).

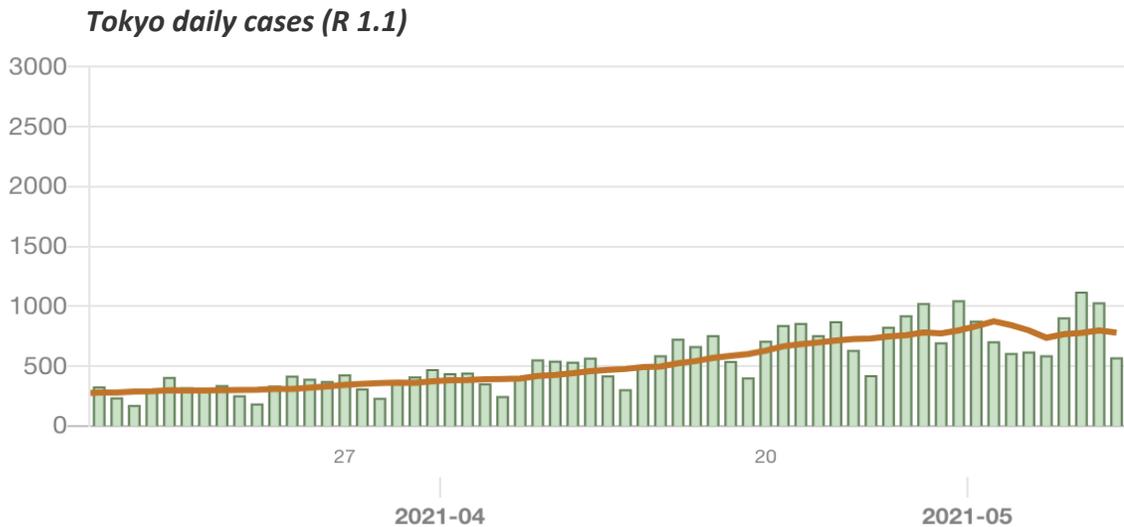
## Mortality (Nationwide)



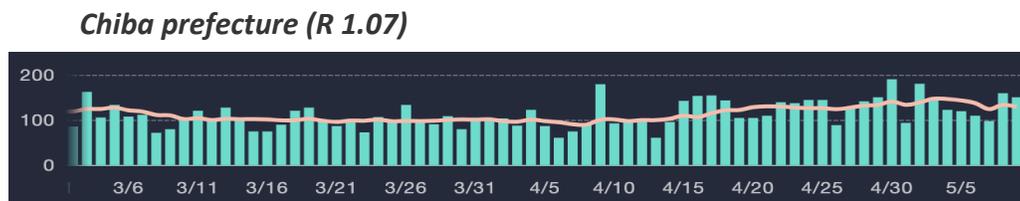
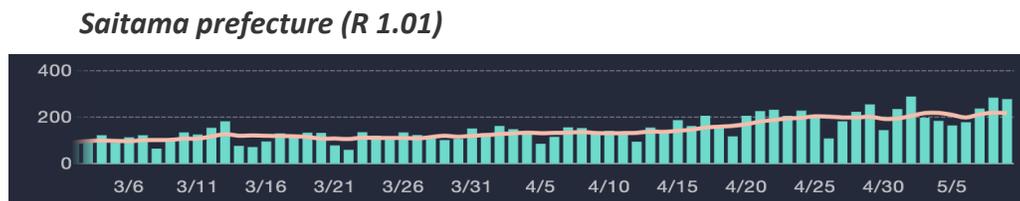
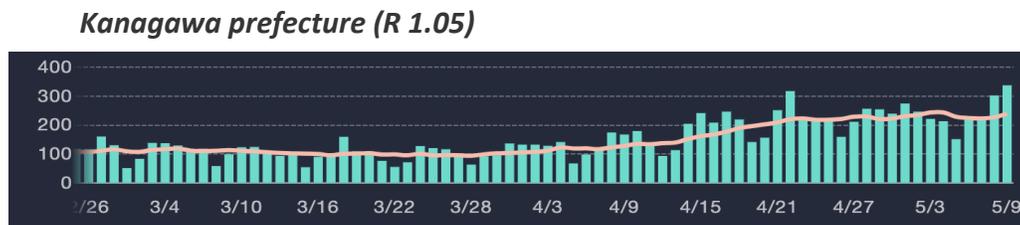
While death rates remain below levels seen in January, based on current trends it seems likely that May and June will see average daily mortality exceeding 100.

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## Current Situation in Tokyo & the Kanto Region



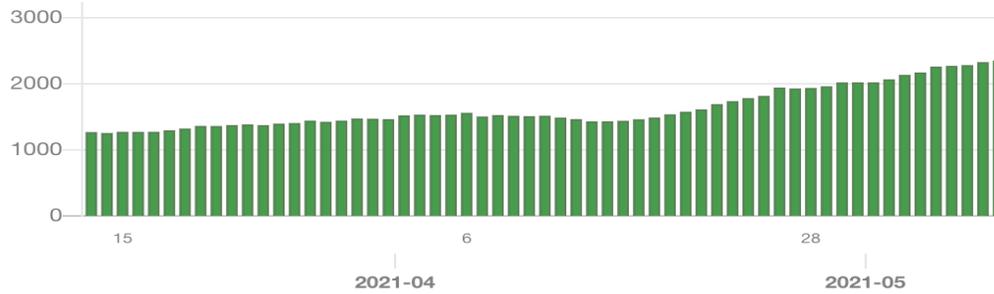
Daily infections in Tokyo may be stabilizing but as with the country as a whole, do not show any clear evidence of having fallen in response to the current state of emergency which has now been in effect for over two weeks. Rates of infection across the region (prefectures neighboring Tokyo) are similarly level:



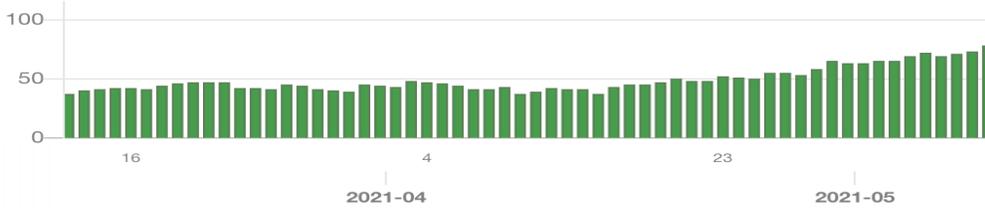
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## Hospital Care and Testing in Tokyo

### Number of hospital patients



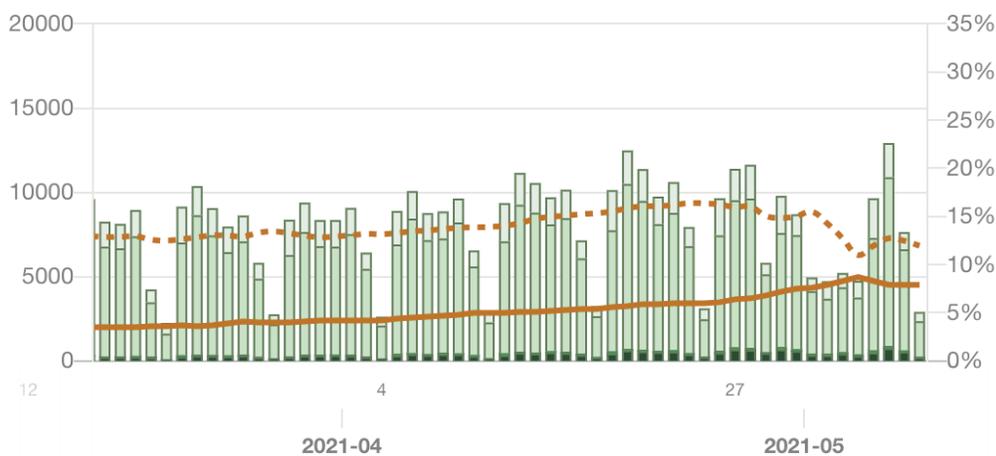
### Number of critically ill patients



Tokyo continues to have enough capacity to manage a significant surge in infections should one occur. Inpatient numbers have risen from a little over 2,000 to 2,346 over the past 7 days, with total available hospital beds allocated to COVID19 care remaining at 5,594.

Similarly, utilization of critical care beds is rising but remains well within capacity, with 78 of 373 intensive care beds currently occupied.

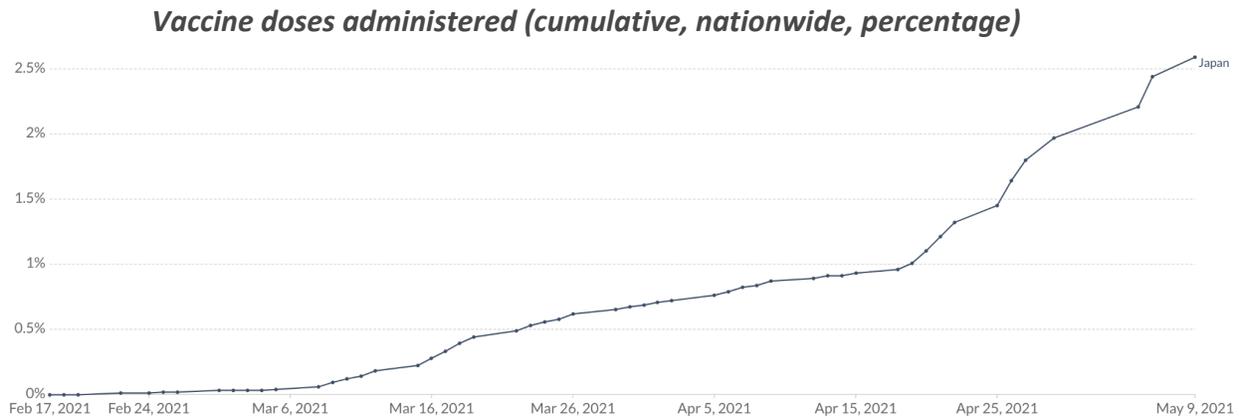
### Testing for COVID 19



Following a fall in testing rates during the holiday period, testing is now resuming at a similar rate to that recorded in April, with rates averaging a little less than 10,000 a day. The rate of positive tests remains largely unchanged at 7.9%.

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### COVID-19 Vaccination in Japan



Approximately 2.5% of the population have had at least one dose of vaccine. This cohort is mostly made up of healthcare workers, of whom 60% have now had at least an initial dose. Small numbers of people over 65 have also now been vaccinated – a little over 330,00 out of a total over 36 million in this group. All regions are now confirming appointment dates for the elderly, with typical dates for inoculation being offered in June.

As reported previously, only Pfizer's vaccine currently holds emergency use approval, with the Moderna vaccine anticipated to become available from next week.

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>

### References and Resources

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/>

<https://www.stopcovid19.jp/#Tokyo>

<https://www3.nhk.or.jp/news/special/coronavirus/vaccine/progress/> **Resources**

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

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

FAQ: How foreign residents can get coronavirus vaccinations in Japan

<https://mainichi.jp/english/articles/20210212/p2a/00m/Ona/046000c>