Situation report – COVID19; Japan 8th June 2021

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Current Situation in Japan

Test positives nationally:



National Reproduction Rate - Reff (R 0.81)



Infections continue to fall for the 4th consecutive week and are more than 50% below the 4th wave peak of early May. The combination of a continued reduction in the rate of contagion in large urban areas together with infections now also peaking in prefectures which were affected later in this wave has led to ongoing improvement in the national effective reproduction number, which has now been below 0.8 for over a week.

Pressure on medical infrastructure has eased nationwide though remains of concern in Kansai and other regions including Hokkaido, Nagoya and Okinawa. Intensive care bed occupancy (national) has, however, fallen for the first time in several weeks and mortality has levelled.

A state of emergency remains in effect across most large urban areas of the country. In addition to Tokyo, Osaka and their adjoining regions, it is also still in place in Fukuoka, Aichi (Nagoya), Hokkaido, Hiroshima, Okayama and Okinawa. Based on current trends it seems probable that emergency measures will be allowed to lapse on their scheduled expiration date – the 20th of June.



Critical Illness (Nationwide)- daily total

Mortality (Nationwide) - daily



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Current Situation in Tokyo & the Kanto Region





Kanagawa prefecture (R 0.91)



Infections continue to fall in both Tokyo and across the remainder of the Kansai region. However, as has been the case for the past month, the pace of reduction in new cases is somewhat slower than the average for the rest of Japan.

Saitama prefecture (R 0.89)



Chiba prefecture (R 0.92)



Hospital Care and Testing in Tokyo



Number of hospital patients

Pressure on medical resources continues to ease gradually. The number of available hospital beds remains the same at 5,594, of which 1,699 (30%) are presently occupied. The rate of occupancy of ICU beds is significantly lower, with 60 (16%) out of an available total of 373 currently in use. Surge capacity is therefore available in the event of an abrupt increase in infections.



Testing for COVID 19

Rates of testing have declined slightly but there has been a further encouraging drop in the percentage of positive results, currently running at 4.3%

Number of critically ill patients

Regional Situation

Infections in Kansai continue to fall and in Osaka, might reasonably be expected to drop to below 100 per day (the rate seen in late February and early March, after the third wave).

Osaka (R 0.71)



Hyogo (R 0.70)



Aichi (Nagoya) and Fukuoka, both remain under a state of emergency, as does Kansai. In both, infections are falling and currently Aichi has slightly more infections per capita than Tokyo.

Aichi (R 0.74)



Fukuoka (R 0.62)



Parts of Japan which entered a state of emergency most recently, including Hokkaido and Hiroshima, are now brining case numbers down though remain of concern. Hokkaido has the second highest per capita rate of infections (behind only Okinawa).





Hiroshima (R 0.60)



COVID-19 Vaccination in Japan



Vaccine doses administered (cumulative, nationwide, percentage)

The rate of vaccinations has continued to increase, the number of doses given reaching over 17.2 million, with 12.9 million receiving at least one dose, as of June 6th. Although the vaccinations are currently only available generally to medical workers and people over the age of 65, it seems that Japan has started to accelerate the vaccine rollout. From June 8th, the government is accepting applications from workplaces and universities for inoculation on site, one university already announcing that 50,000 will be vaccinated on campus, from the 21st of June. This is anticipated to have an impact on the total number of daily cases, as currently, approximately 1/3 of the infections in Tokyo are people in their 20s.

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/0na/046000c