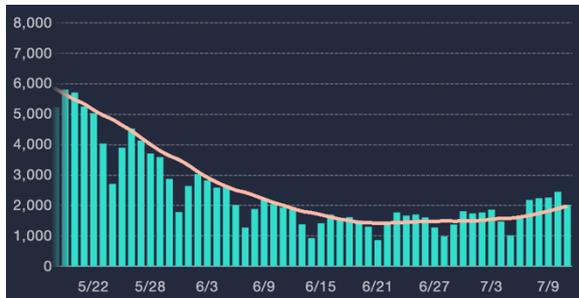


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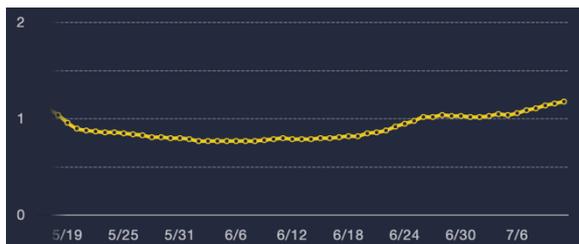
Current Situation in Japan

Test positives nationally:



As the incidence of delta variant infections increases, case numbers are once again rising across Japan, with a relative reproduction rate of 1.18, the highest seen since mid-May. This variant is causing similar increases in contagion in other parts of Asia, with record numbers of infections being recorded in Thailand and Korea.

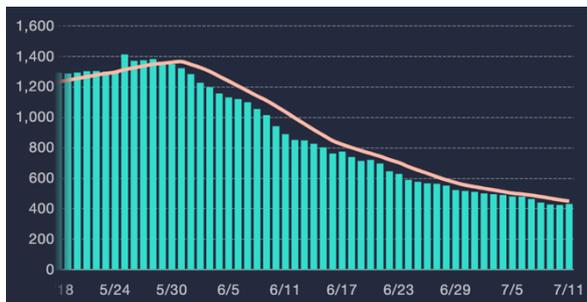
National Reproduction Rate - R_{eff} (R 1.18)



In countries which have vaccinated a high proportion of elderly and medically vulnerable people, spread of delta variant COVID19 has resulted in significantly fewer deaths and hospitalizations than would otherwise have been the case. While Japan’s vaccine rollout has been much slower than that of other industrialized nations, medical workers and a moderate proportion of people over 65 have now been immunized. The consequences of a further 5th wave of infections should thereby be mitigated to at least some degree.

In response to increasing infections, a fresh state of emergency has been declared in Tokyo and will remain in effect until the 22nd of August. The Olympic games will be held without spectators.

Critical Illness (Nationwide)- daily total



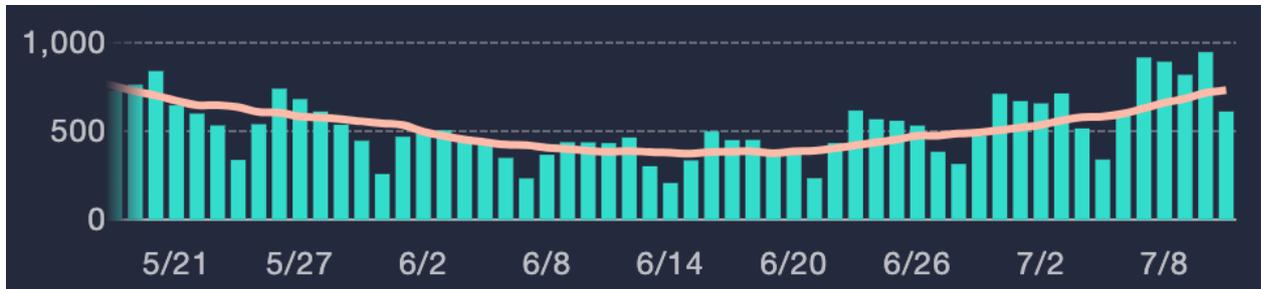
Mortality (Nationwide) - daily



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Current Situation in Tokyo & the Kanto Region

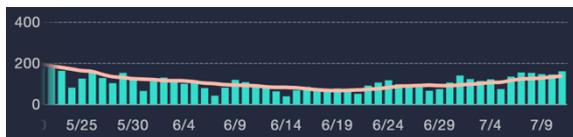
Tokyo daily cases (R 1.18)



Kanagawa prefecture (R 1.23)



Saitama prefecture (R 1.2)



Chiba prefecture (R 1.15)



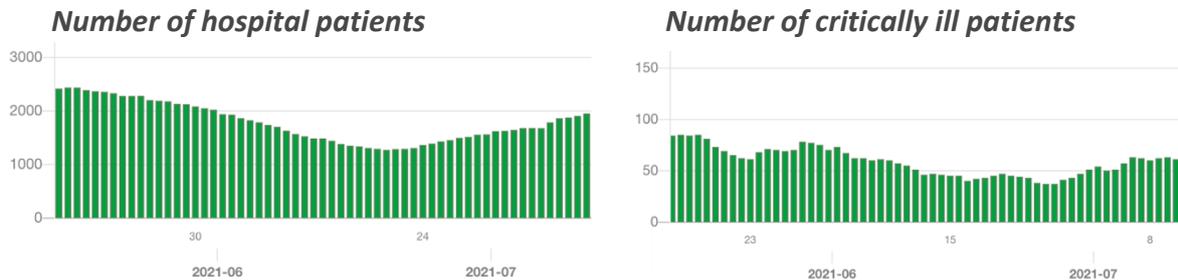
There has been a further acceleration in the rate of new cases across the region, with the 7-day average of daily infections in Tokyo already approaching the levels seen at the height of the 4th wave, approximately 8 weeks ago. Currently 38 infections are occurring per 100,000 people, the highest per capita rate in Japan.

Prefectures neighbouring Tokyo remain under primary prevention measures which are currently scheduled to stay in place until the 22nd of August (as with Tokyo's state of emergency).

Driving these increases is delta variant COVID 19, which was first found to be spreading at the community level in early June. It is 40% more contagious than previous variants and currently accounts for over one third of infections in Kanto. Predictions are that this will rise to 75% of cases by the end of the month, as the delta variant replaces the alpha variant.

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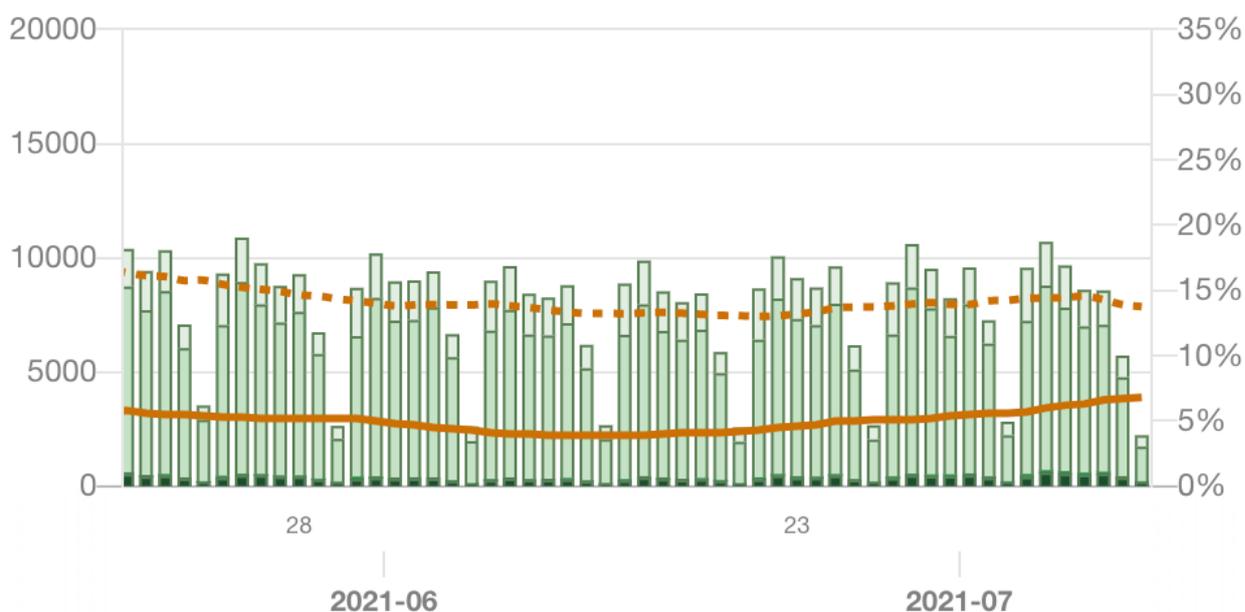
Hospital Care and Testing in Tokyo



Hospitalizations have increased over the past week and continue to do so at a higher rate than anticipated based on new positive tests. This is consistent with preliminary data from the UK and other countries which suggests a higher hospitalization rate from delta variant infections.

The number of available hospital beds has been increased by over 300 during the past week, to 5,882, of which 1,947 (33%) are presently occupied. ICU capacity has also been increased by 19 beds, to 392. Of these, only 55 (14%) of a capacity of 392 are currently occupied. Surge capacity therefore remains in place and the metropolitan government appears to be taking a proactive approach, expanding availability against a further increase in infections.

Testing for COVID 19



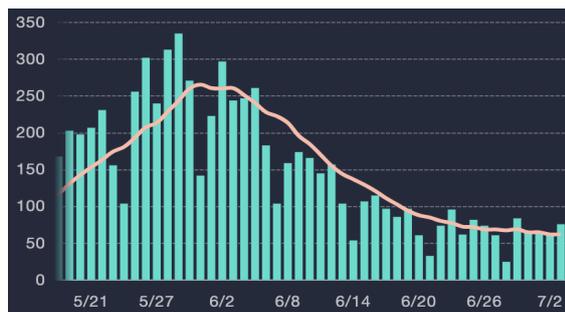
Rates of testing remain stable. The rate of positive results continues to rise, from 5.6% a week ago to 6.8% at present.

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Regional Situation

Okinawa is the only prefecture outside of Kanto to remain under a state of emergency, currently this is due to expire on the 22nd of August. Case numbers have fallen from the early June peak but when viewed on a per capita basis, remain high at 23 infections per 100,000 people, second only to Tokyo.

Okinawa (R 0.86)



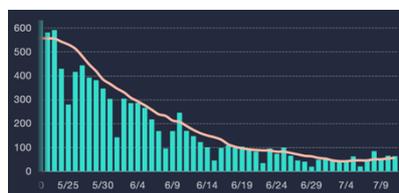
Osaka remains under primary prevention measures. Cases are much lower than in Tokyo but are showing early signs of increasing:

Osaka (R 1.27)

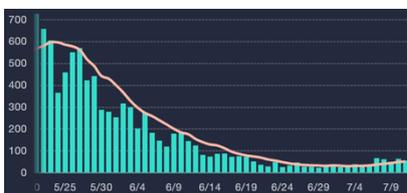


Other large urban areas are no longer under any special measures and presently cases remain low:

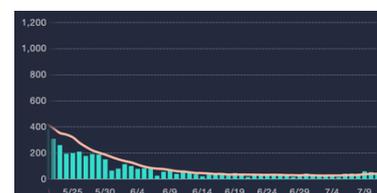
Aichi (R 1.23)



Hokkaido (R 1.42)



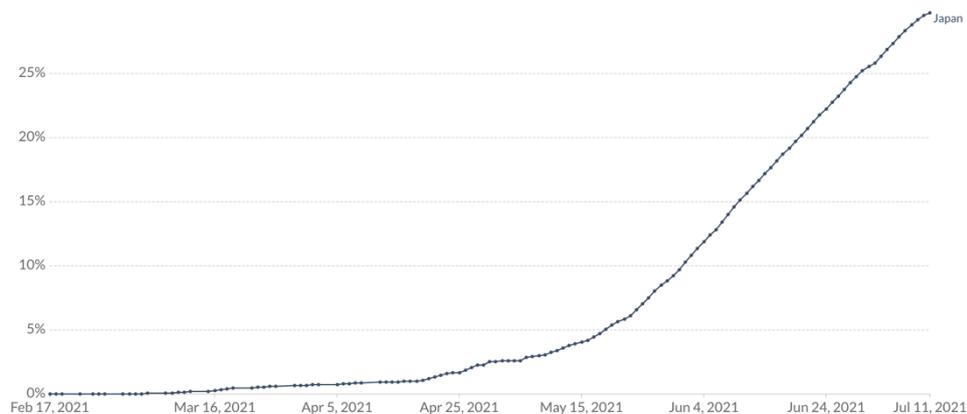
Fukuoka (R 1.31)



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COVID-19 Vaccination in Japan

Vaccine doses administered (cumulative, nationwide, percentage)



Vaccines continue to be administered at a rapid rate, though the number of shots given per day has fallen from a peak of 1.25 million to a little under 1 million per day as of this week:

Vaccines administered (7 day average of daily doses given)



While workplace vaccination schemes have generally been hailed as a success and have clearly accelerated the vaccination rollout, there are increasing reports of shortages of stock at the municipal level, with several local governments suspending new appointments or even cancelling existing reservations. The government's stated aim of immunizing the eligible population by October appears attainable, barring any further slowing in the pace of daily inoculation.

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>

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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>