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Current Situation in Japan

Test positives nationally:



National Reproduction Rate - Reff (R 1.03)

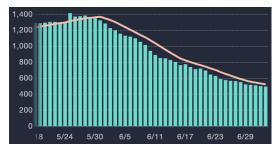


Infection rates are low and relatively stable, with a national relative reproduction rate of 1.03 indicating a very gradual increase in daily cases. Most of parts of Japan exited emergency measures 16 days ago though large parts of the country remain under less stringent primary preventative measures.

A report by the health ministry last week stated that 30% of infections in the Kanto region were caused by delta variant COVID 19, underpinning previous reports which suggested that this variant would become dominant during July as it is believed to be 50% more transmissible than other types. While the variant has been detected in other parts of Japan, the frequency remains lower in the remainder of the country.

As a result of effective vaccination campaigns, many western countries have experienced significantly less pressure to medical resources than would be anticipated on the basis of the number of infections. However, vaccination in Japan has yet to reach the level to which it will robustly protect against the consequences of a substantial increase in infections.

Critical Illness (Nationwide)- daily total



Mortality (Nationwide) - daily



Current Situation in Tokyo & the Kanto Region

Tokyo daily cases (R 1.13)



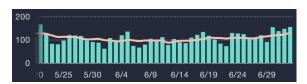
Kanagawa prefecture (R 1.09)



Saitama prefecture (R 1.09)



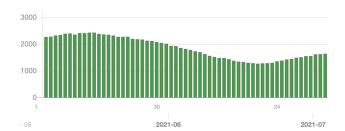
Chiba prefecture (R 1.15)



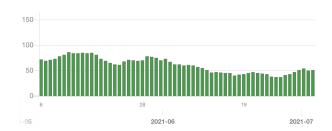
The steady increase in cases continues across the Kanto region for the second consecutive week. Despite the higher incidence of delta variant COVID 19 and the de-escalation of the state of emergency, there has not been an abrupt acceleration in the rate of new infections but rather a continued incremental rise. Relative reproduction numbers are approximately 10% higher here than the national average.

Hospital Care and Testing in Tokyo

Number of hospital patients

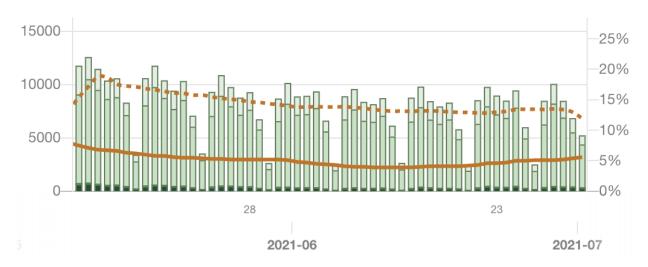


Number of critically ill patients



Hospitalizations have increased over the past week and are running at a slightly higher rate than anticipated based on new diagnoses. 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 remains at 5,594, of which 1,674 (30%) are presently occupied. The rate of occupancy of ICU beds is lower, with 57 (15%) out of an available total of 373 currently in use. Significant surge capacity therefore remains available in the event of an abrupt increase in infections.

Testing for COVID 19



Rates of testing remain stable. The rate of positive results continues to increase from a nadir of 3.9% a month ago to 5.6% yesterday.

Regional Situation

Cases in Osaka remain low and stable, though 148 new infections were reported on the 3rd of July, the highest single day number since the 10th of June. As the main population center for Kansai, Osaka has tended to experience an increase in cases earlier than other parts of the region so any further rise in infections would be significant.

Osaka (R 1.02)

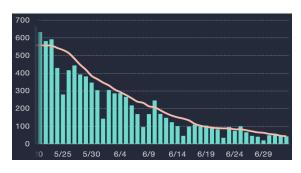


Hyogo (R 1.04)

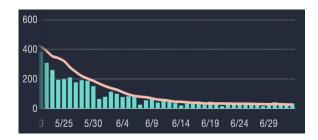


In Aichi (Nagoya) and Fukuoka, case numbers remain low and stable.

Aichi (R 0.66)



Fukuoka (R 0.90)



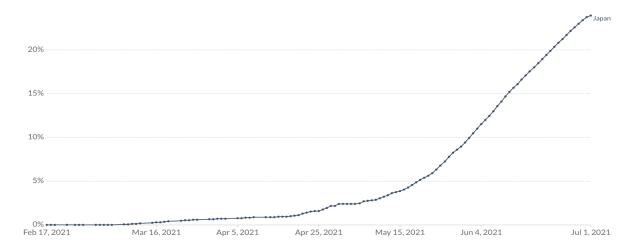
Per capital infections remain higher in Okinawa than any other part of Japan, the prefecture remaining under a state of emergency until the end of next week.

Okinawa (R 0.93)



COVID-19 Vaccination in Japan

Vaccine doses administered (cumulative, nationwide, percentage)



As of July 4th, 24.9% of the population has been inoculated, of which 13.8% have received both doses. The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare has advised that those with a fever for more than 2 days after the vaccination should see a doctor as there is a possibility that it is a COVID symptom. There are some reports of regional supply problems and vaccination rates have now fallen below 1 million per day. Osaka City has temporarily suspended first vaccinations from July 12th, Chiba City has suspended new reservations since July 2nd and Toshima-ku and Fukuoka City have reduced the number of reservations that can be made.

As athletes from around the world arrive to Japan for the Tokyo Olympics, Narita Airport aims to inoculate approximately 16,000 staff working at the Airport. They anticipate that the second doses will be given after the Olympics have started, from the 2nd of August. Finally, Japan has started negotiating with 10 other countries including Italy, France and Greece for its COVID-19 vaccination passports to be accepted.

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/#Tokyohttps://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