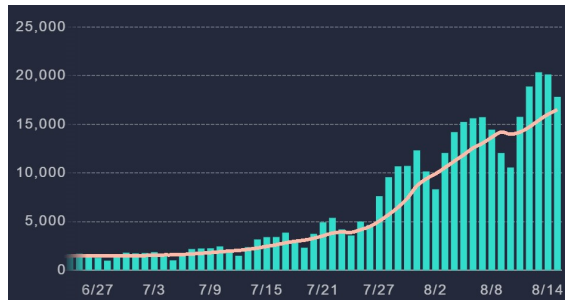


Situation report – COVID19; Japan, August 17th 2021

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Current Situation in Japan

Test positives nationally:

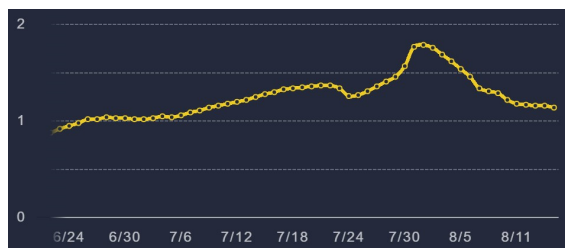


Daily infections continue to rise to previously unrecorded levels though with some continued drop in the effective reproduction rate.

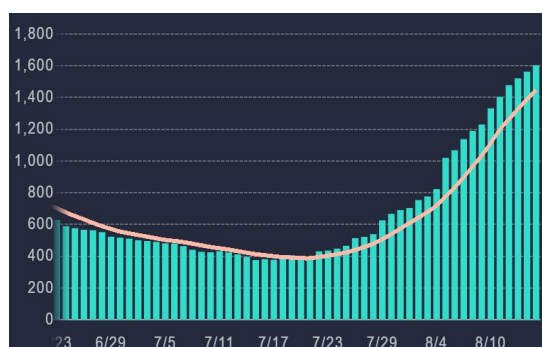
Although mortality remains well below levels seen during previous waves, the number of critically ill patients continues to rise, placing additional strain on medical infrastructure. Over 1,600 people are currently being treated in intensive care units, the highest level since the start of the pandemic. Increasingly, people in their 40s and 50s are presenting with severe symptoms as many people in this age bracket have yet to be vaccinated.

The government has repeated calls for non-essential travel to be curtailed as the o-bon holiday approaches. It has also announced significant extensions to the state of emergency, with seven prefectures to see primary preventative measures expanded to a full state of emergency. Ten other prefectures will be placed under primary preventative measures and in these areas and in areas already under a state of emergency, the duration will be extended to the 12th of September.

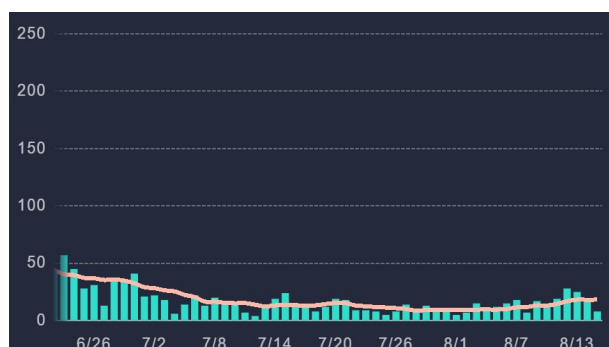
National Reproduction Rate - R_{eff} (R 1.14)



Critical Illness (Nationwide)- daily total



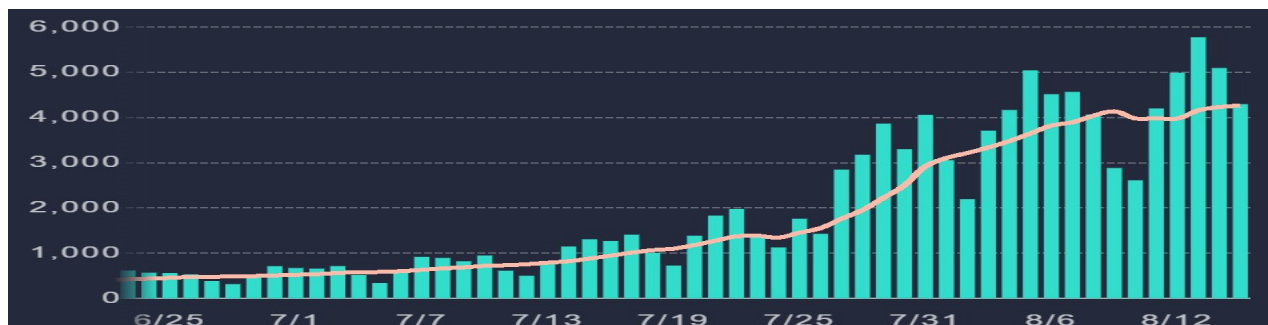
Mortality (Nationwide) - daily



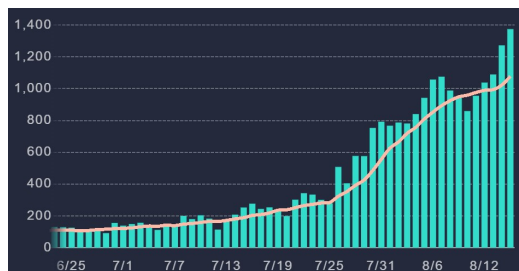
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Current Situation in Tokyo & the Kanto Region

Tokyo daily cases (R 1.04)



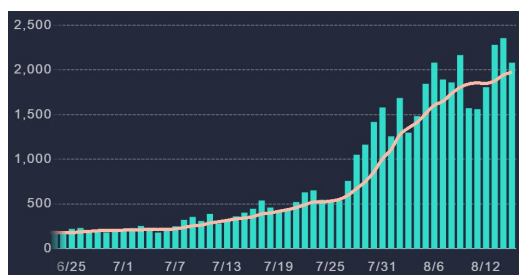
Chiba prefecture (R 1.12)



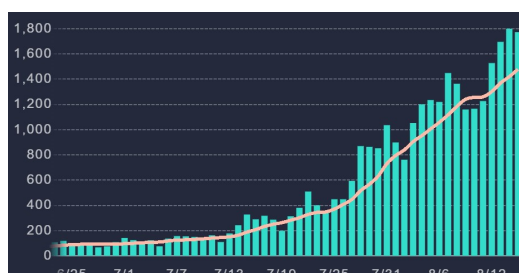
The state of emergency in the Kanto region has been extended to the 12th of September with increasing calls for foot flow in key communal areas to be further restricted. Nevertheless, infection rates continue to climb.

It is as yet too early to say whether Tokyo is starting to see a true levelling off of infections, as over the past week contact tracing has been dramatically cut back, potentially leading to fewer diagnoses. Overworked health units are now prioritizing monitoring of vulnerable COVID 19 patients who remain at home over tracing cases in workplaces

Kanagawa prefecture (R 1.1)



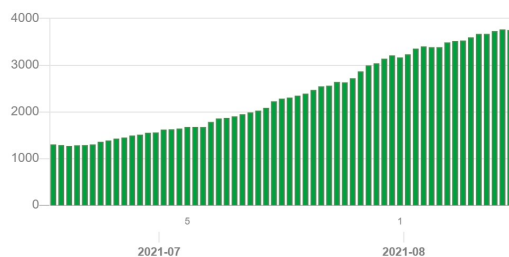
Saitama prefecture (R 1.17)



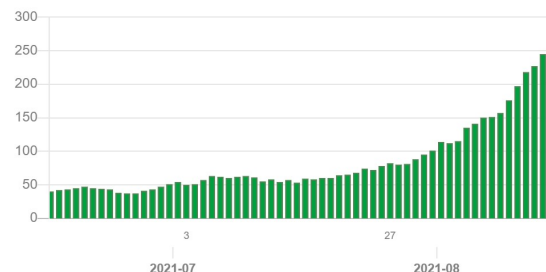
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Hospital Care and Testing in Tokyo

Number of hospital patients



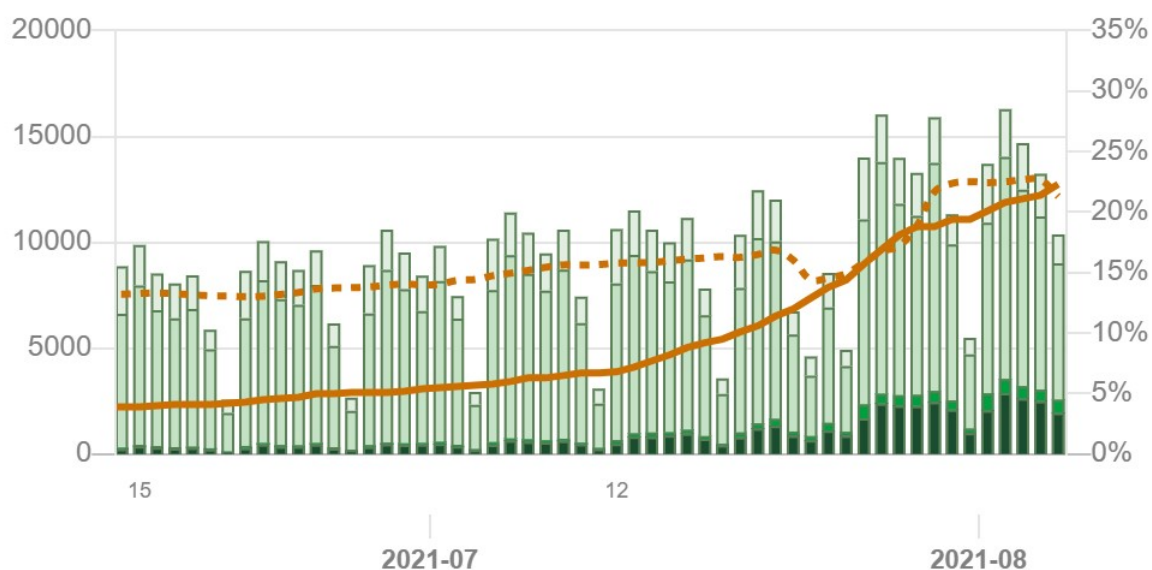
Number of critically ill patients



Hospital occupancy continues to rise despite policy changes limiting admissions to those who are seriously unwell or are at risk of developing severe symptoms. Out of a total capacity of 5,967 COVID 19 designated beds, 3,881 (65%) are presently occupied.

ICU occupancy is of particular concern. 268 of 392 COVID 19 designated intensive care beds are presently in use (68%). Unless there is a fall in new infections, currently available beds look set to be filled by early September.

Testing for COVID 19



The rate of positive tests (24.4%) remains extremely high and continues to rise.

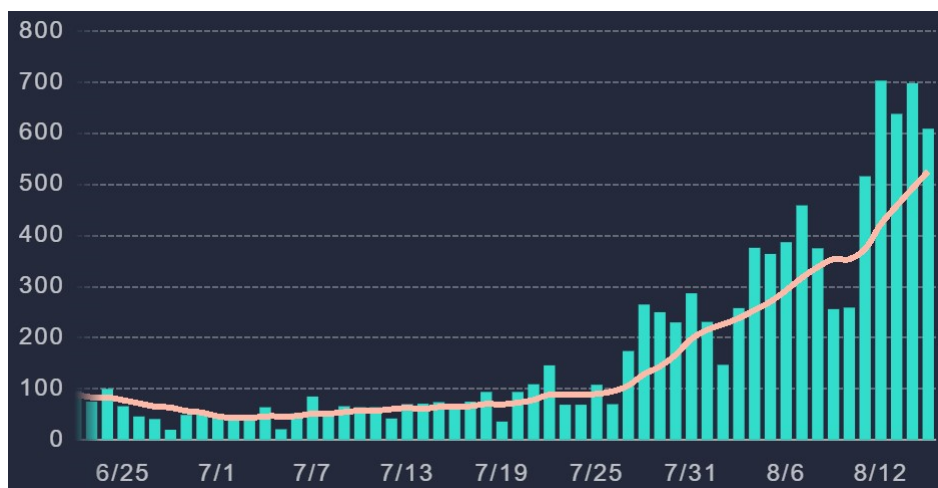
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Regional Situation

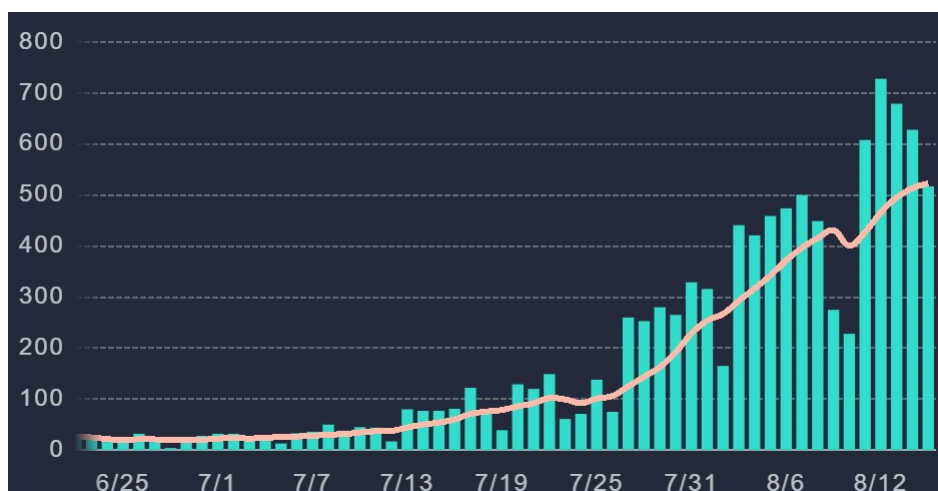
A prefecture-wide state of emergency will go into effect from Friday in Hyogo and Kyoto (Kansai) and also in Fukuoka, Tochigi, Shizuoka, Gunma and Ibaraki, these areas having previously been under primary preventative measures. This brings the total of prefectures and metropolitan areas under a SOE to 13.

Primary preventative measures will remain in effect in six other prefectures (Hokkaido, Aichi, Shiga, Kumamoto, Fukushima and Ishikawa). Additionally, ten prefectures will be subject to these measures – Okayama, Hiroshima, Kagoshima, Kagawa, Ehime, Gifu, Mie, Miyagi, Yamanashi and Toyama.

Aichi (R 1.37)



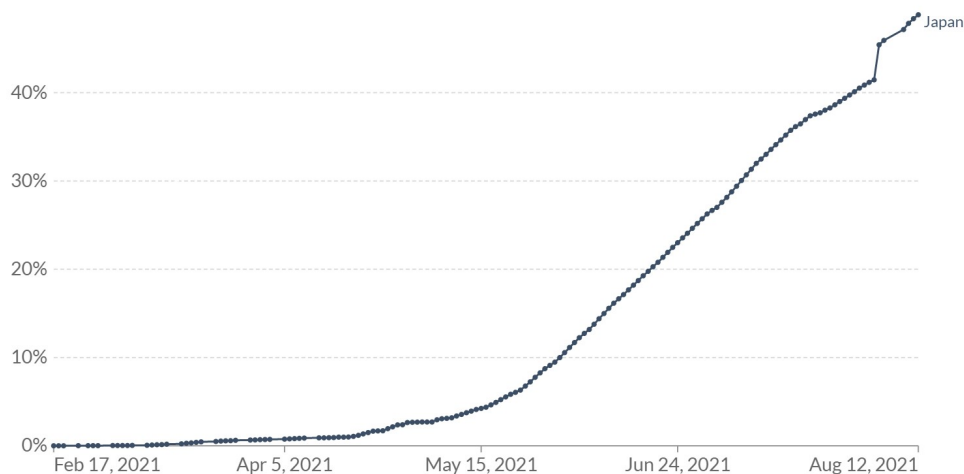
Hyogo (R 1.18)



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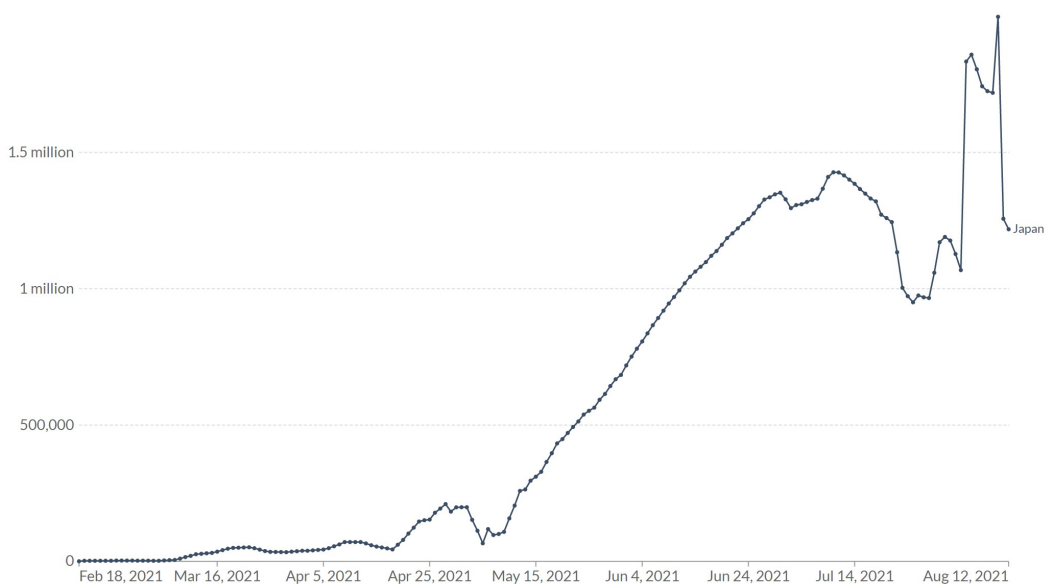
COVID-19 Vaccination in Japan

Vaccine doses administered (cumulative, nationwide, percentage)



Vaccines continue to be administered at a rapid rate, with coverage now approaching 50% of the population (one or more doses).

Vaccines administered (7 day average of daily doses given)



Over the past week an average of approximately 1.35 million doses of vaccine have been administered each day. Distribution of Astra Zenica vaccine is now underway in Osaka and the Kansai region, potentially further accelerating the rollout.

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>