

## Situation report – COVID19; Japan, September 14<sup>th</sup>

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### Current Situation in Japan

#### Test positives nationally:



Daily case numbers continue to fall across Japan, the current fifth wave having peaked over two weeks ago. Critical care bed occupancy began to fall a few days ago, after intensive care occupancy exceeded 2,000 patients in late August and was reported at 1,905 patients on Sunday the 13<sup>th</sup> of September. Historically, 25-30% of patients admitted to ICUs in Japan have died, so total COVID 19 mortalities can be expected to rise significantly over the next few weeks even if new cases continue to decline. This ongoing and relatively severe pressure on medical infrastructure is one of several factors informing the government's decision to extend the state of emergency in place across much of the country.

#### National Reproduction Rate - $R_{eff}$ (R 0.69)

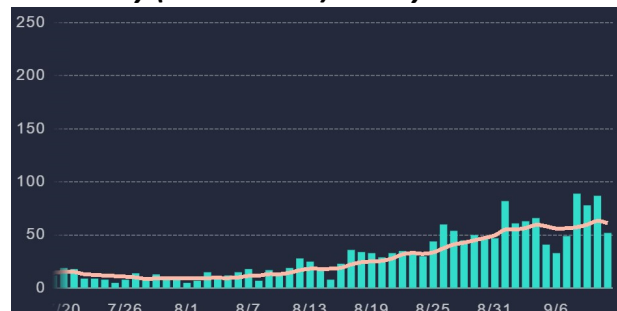


Keidanren (Japan's business lobby) has called for easing of travel restrictions in the form of shortening quarantine periods and exempting vaccinated travellers from needing to quarantine. As an interim measure, quarantine will be shortened from 14 to 10 days in those who can document vaccination, this measure to come into effect at the end of September.

#### Critical Illness (Nationwide)- daily total



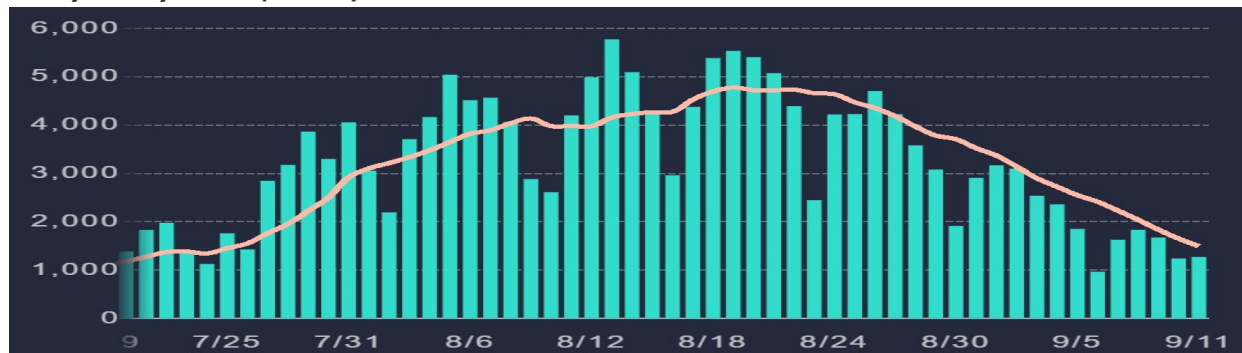
#### Mortality (Nationwide) – daily



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### *Current Situation in Tokyo & the Kanto Region*

#### *Tokyo daily cases (R 0.65)*



#### *Chiba prefecture (R 0.66)*



#### *Kanagawa prefecture (R 0.62)*



#### *Saitama prefecture (R 0.69)*

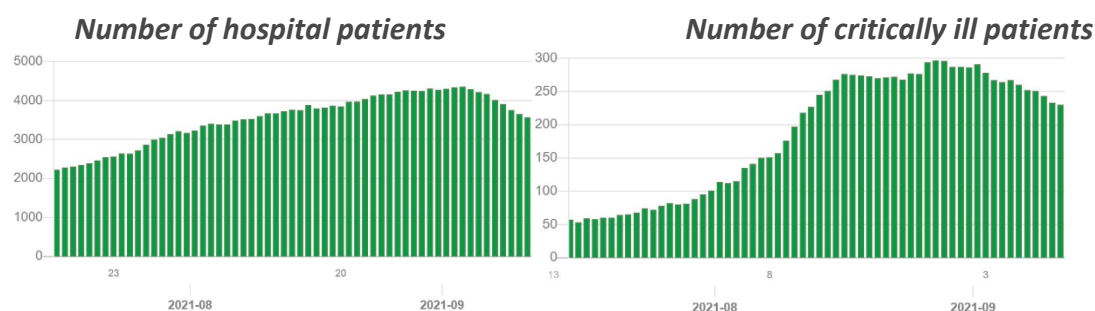


The seven-day average of new infections in Tokyo has fallen from a mid-August peak of just below 5,000 per day to approximately 1,500 as of now, with a similar reduction in contagion duplicated across the region. With occupancy of COVID 19 designated beds remaining well above 50%, though, the state of emergency has been extended until the 30<sup>th</sup> of September in the capital, its three adjacent prefectures and in four further prefectures that boarder Kanto (Shizuoka, Gunma, Tochigi and Ibaraki).

Cardboard beds used for Olympic athletes are being shipped to Osaka for use by patients with minimal or mild symptoms who require admission to a temporary medical facility being established in an exhibition center.

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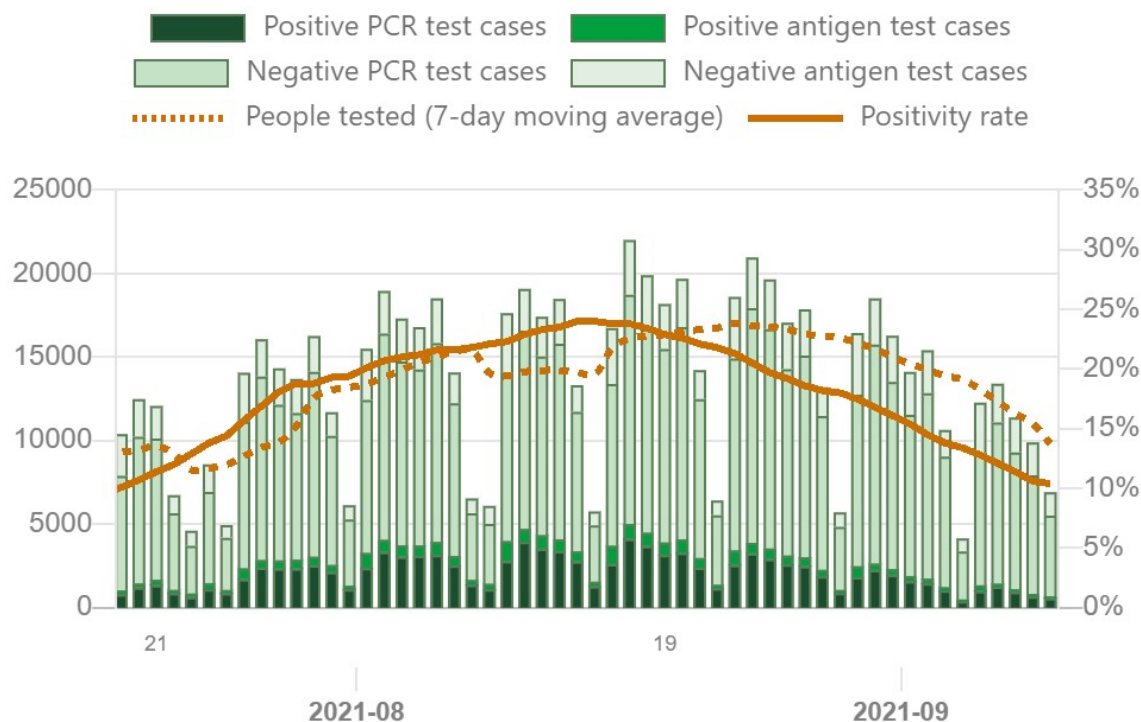
### *Hospital Care and Testing in Tokyo*



Hospital capacity was again expanded over the past week with over 200 more beds being repurposed to care for COVID 19 patients. Out of the current total capacity of 6,583 designated beds, 3,467 (53%) are presently occupied. Admitting patients has become gradually more straightforward and in-patient numbers are now falling. It is to be hoped that the alert level for medical care provision will be stepped down from red to amber before the current state of emergency ends.

The metropolitan government has also added an additional 11 intensive care beds over the past week, while the number of critically patients has fallen. 225 of 503 available beds are now reported to be occupied (45%).

### *Testing for COVID 19*



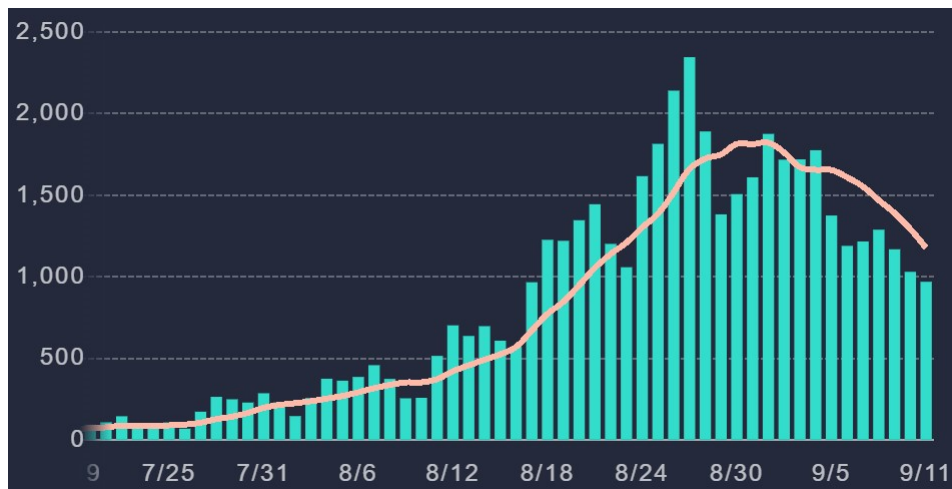
The rate of positive tests has continued to fall for the fourth consecutive week and now stands at 9.8%, from a peak of over 24%. This aligns with the observation that overall cases are falling.

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### *Regional Situation*

27 of Japan's 47 prefectures are presently under restrictions of some kind, of which 19 are under a state of emergency. These prefectures have all seen an extension of measures until the end of September. In two prefectures (Miyagi and Okayama), the state of emergency has been stepped down to primary preventative measures (quasi-emergency state).

#### *Aichi (R 0.78)*



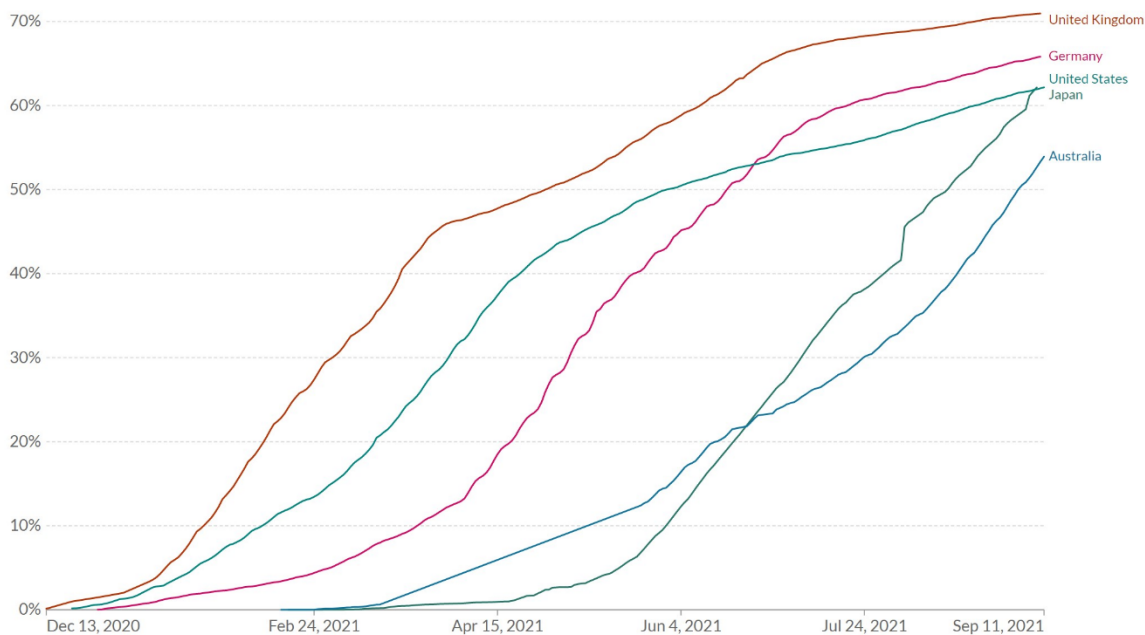
#### *Osaka (R 0.72)*



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### COVID-19 Vaccination in Japan

#### *Vaccine doses administered (cumulative, nationwide, percentage)*



Over 60% of the population have received at least one dose of a COVID 19 vaccine and slightly more than 50% have completed a course of two doses.

#### *Vaccines administered (7 day average of daily doses given)*



Further investigation of contaminants found in vials of Moderna vaccine has determined that particles in the vials in question were stainless steel. It is not believed that this will result in any significant harm to people who received vaccine from these vials and there are no reasons to believe that the vaccine will be any less effective. Some media sources carried stories of deaths in people who had received Moderna vaccine; however, further reports indicate that these were not linked to contaminants and that as of now there is no evidence that these deaths were caused by the vaccine.

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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>