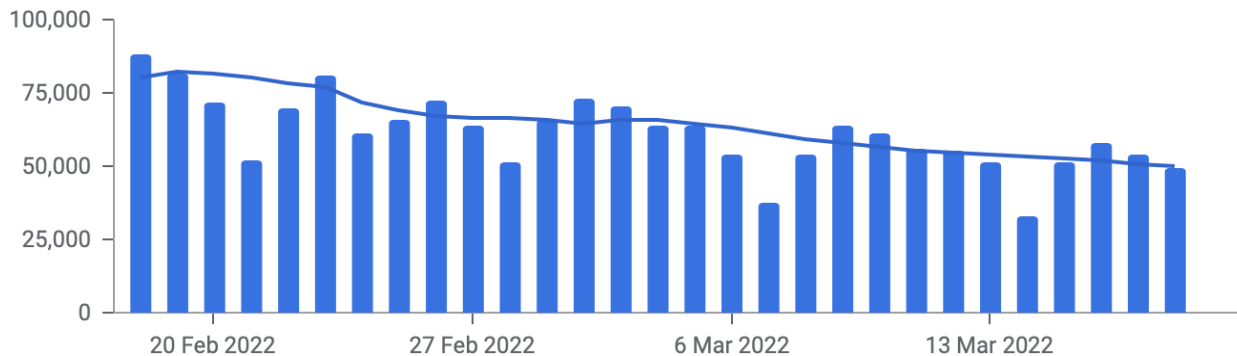


## Situation report – COVID19; Japan, 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2022

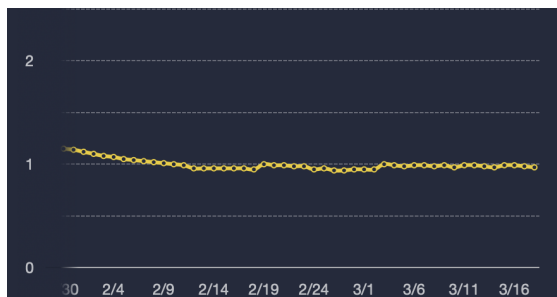
*Confidential – for internal circulation only, not for release to outside parties without the prior consent of the author. This document represents the opinion of the author and does not constitute the provision of medical care. Readers with concerns over their individual health should contact their physician for advice.*

### Current Situation – Japan

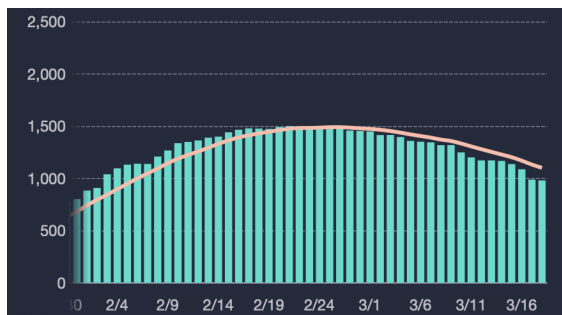
#### Japan - daily Infections (past 30 days)



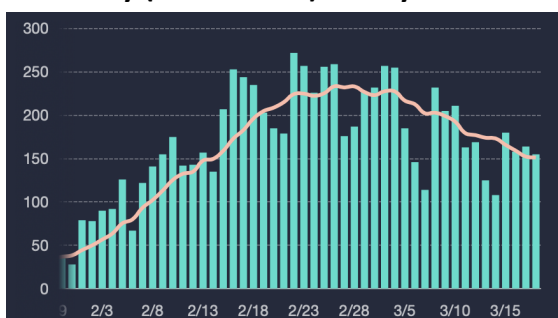
#### National Reproduction Rate – ( $R$ 0.97)



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



#### Mortality (Nationwide) – daily total

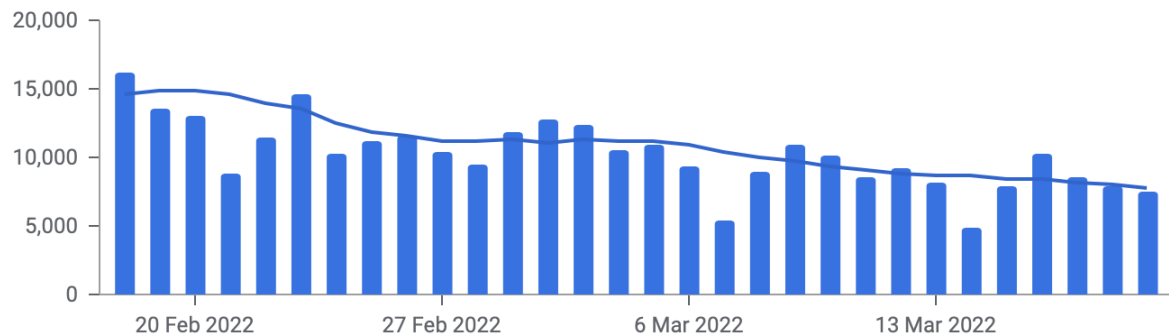


Although case numbers are only falling very slowly, critical illness and COVID19 mortality have now dropped to about two thirds of the peak levels which were seen in the second half of February. The omicron variant continues to circulate but may be causing increasingly mild infections as population immunity rises from the combined effects of immunization and disease exposure. As younger children are now being infected in larger numbers it seems less likely that overall case numbers will fall to the very low levels seen in late 2021 and more probable that omicron variant COVID19 will persist as an endemic respiratory virus, like other coronaviruses and similar viral respiratory infections (rhinoviruses, adenoviruses and some types of influenza virus, for example). Reported case numbers may decline more because of decreased testing as people with milder respiratory symptoms become less worried.

## Situation report – COVID19; Japan, 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2022

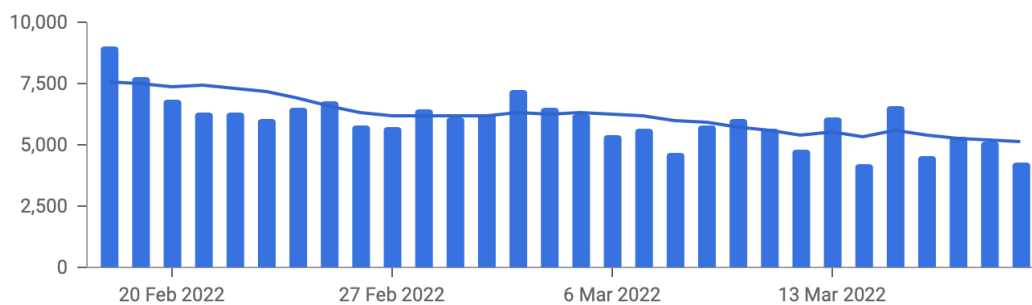
### *Tokyo and the surrounding Kanto region*

#### Tokyo daily infections, past 30 days (R 0.96)

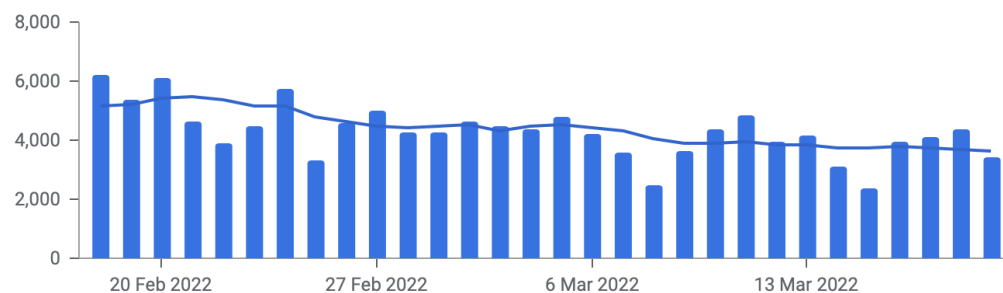


The number of infections continues to fall slowly, with the ongoing shift into younger age cohorts seen over recent weeks continuing. This trend is a consequence of higher vaccination rates in older people and the omicron variant's enhanced ability to infect younger children. Presently only 8.6% of all infections reported in Tokyo are occurring in people over 60, while 34.8% of infections are being recorded in people aged 19 or below.

#### Kanagawa daily infections, past 30 days (R 0.99)



#### Saitama daily infections, past 30 days (R 0.98)



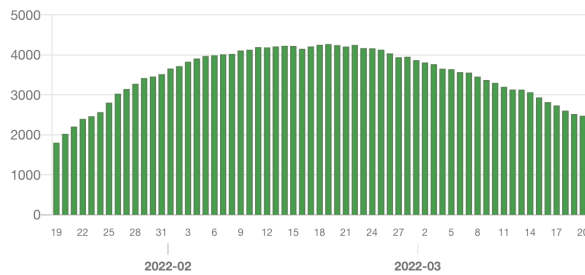
#### Chiba daily infections, past 30 days (R 0.98)



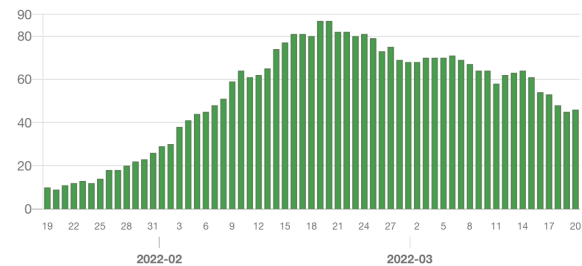
## Situation report – COVID19; Japan, 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2022

### *Hospital Care and Testing in Tokyo*

**Number of hospital patients**



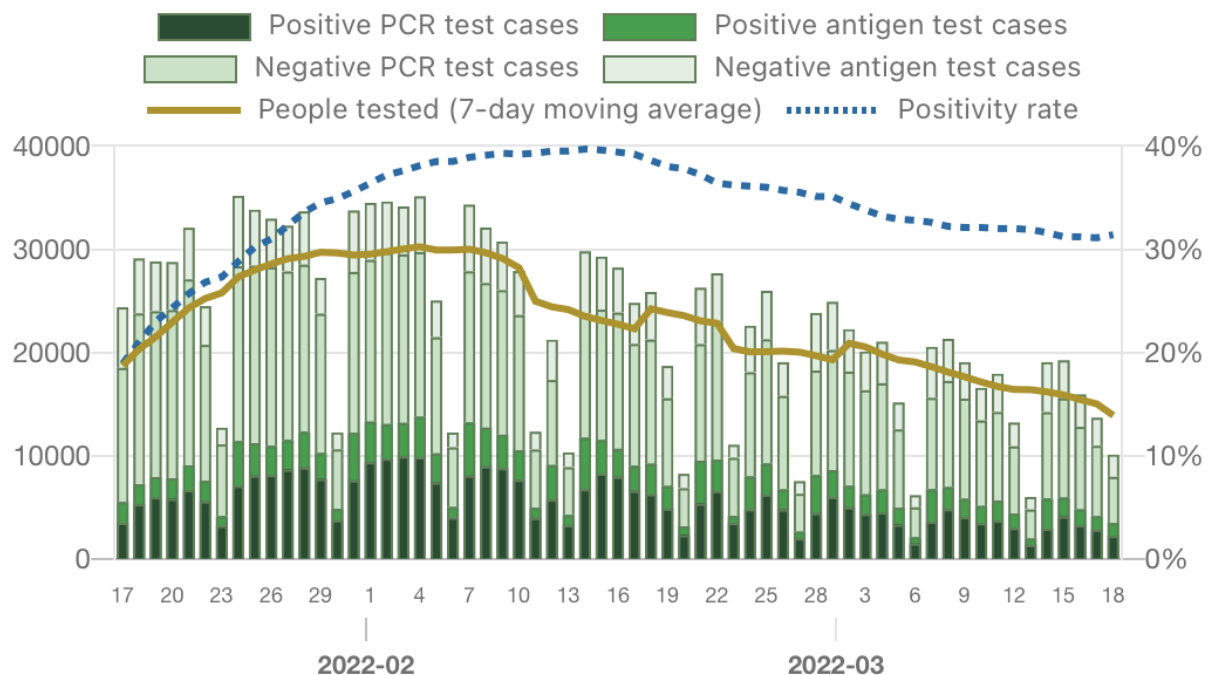
**Number of critically ill patients**



Hospital bed occupancy is falling and is now at 33% (2382 of 7229 beds in use) and has almost halved when compared to the mid-February peak. A gradual reduction in ring-fenced COVID19 beds to allow more non-COVID routine and urgent medical care would seem reasonable.

Intensive care occupancy is also falling and is well within capacity, 8.2% (42 out of 510) of beds being occupied at present.

### **Testing for COVID 19**



Testing has fallen to about half of the volume seen at the start of February but is still returning a high proportion of positive results (over 30%). In comparison, during the winter of 2021/21 (alpha variant wave), positive tests peaked at about 15%, and during the 5<sup>th</sup> (delta variant) wave of last summer, positive results peaked at 24%.

## Situation report – COVID19; Japan, 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2022

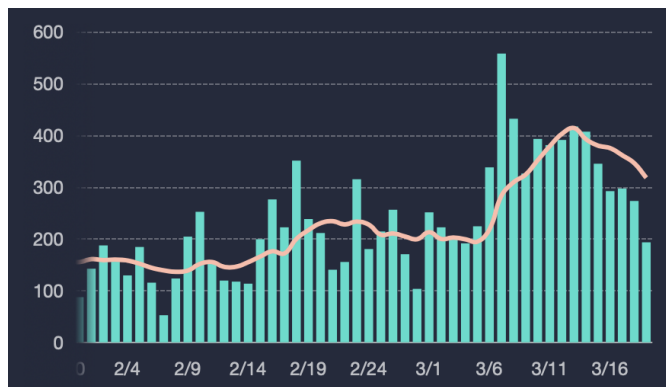
### Regional Situation

#### Quasi-state of Emergency Measures

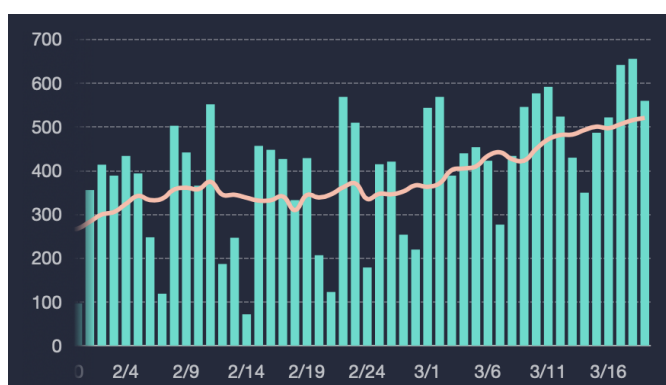
Period	Area
From January 21, 2022 to March 21, 2022	Gunma, Saitama, Chiba, Tokyo, Kanagawa, Gifu, Aichi, Kagawa, Kumamoto
From January 27, 2022 to March 21, 2022	Hokkaido, Aomori, Ibaraki, Tochigi, Ishikawa, Shizuoka, Kyoto, Osaka, Hyogo

Emergency measures have now been allowed to expire in Kansai, Kanto and the other areas listed above (18 prefectures in total). Some rural areas which were allowed to exit quasi-emergency measures earlier in the month have experienced a subsequent rebound in case numbers, though not to the extent that new emergency measures are very likely to be imposed:

#### Fukui (R 0.93)



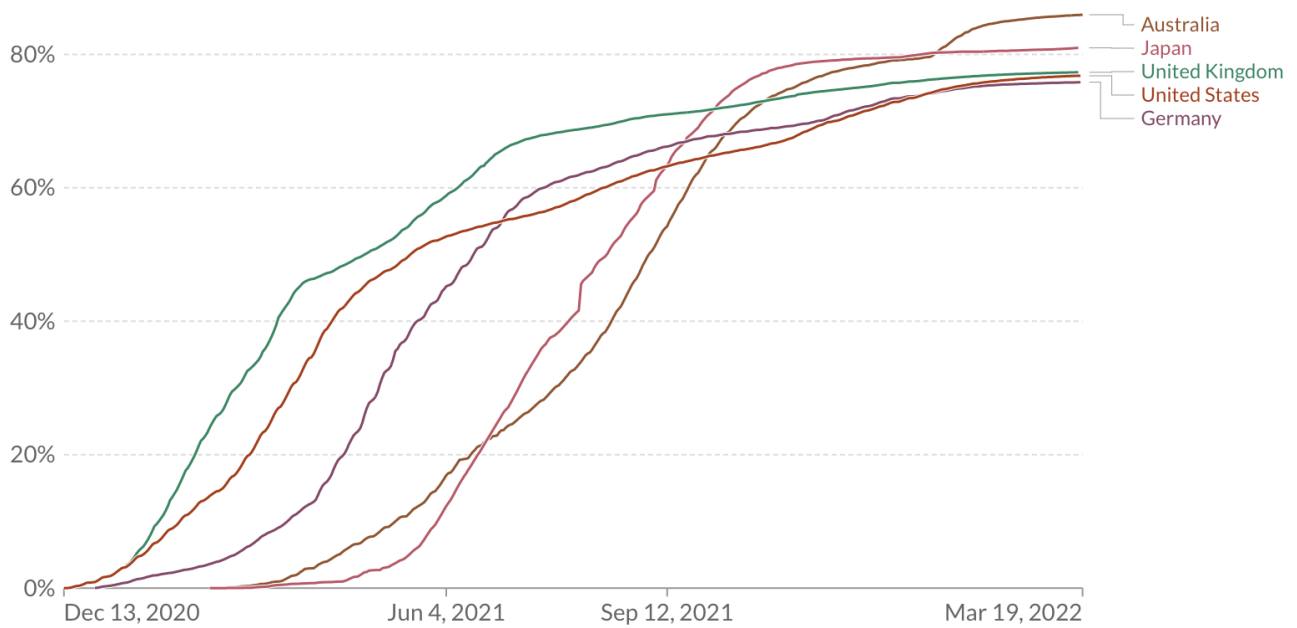
#### Aomori (R 1.02)



## Situation report – COVID19; Japan, 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2022

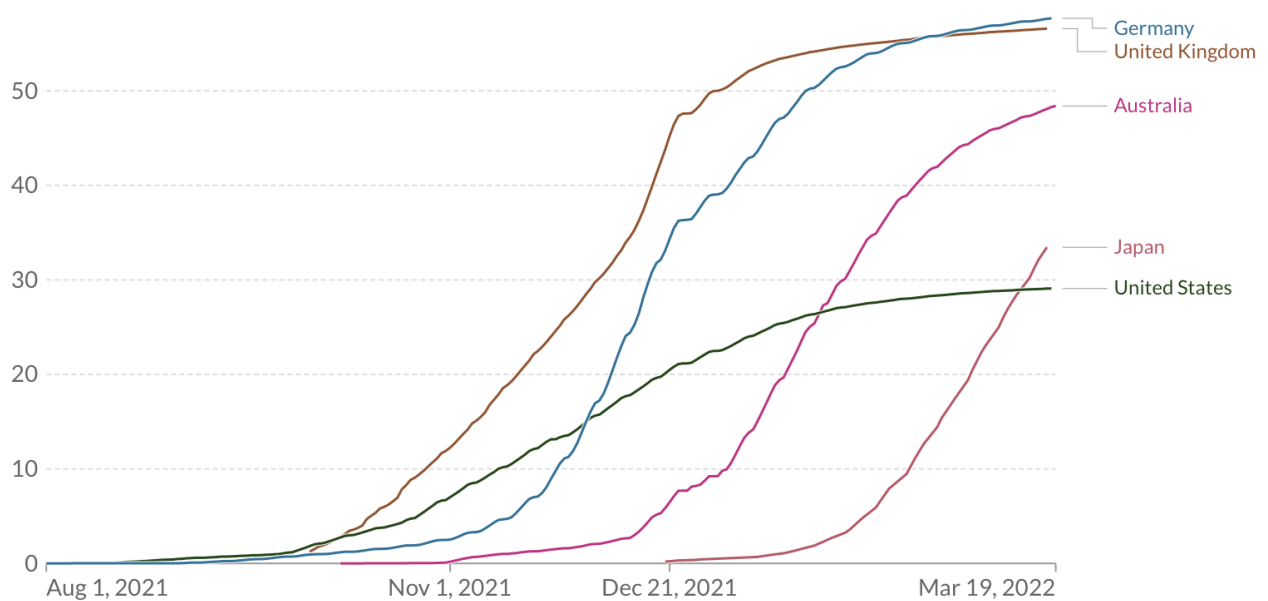
### COVID 19 Vaccinations in Japan

#### Vaccine doses administered (cumulative, nationwide, percentages)



Although the government has come under some criticism for the slow rollout of booster vaccinations, coverage has now overtaken the US (see below) and presently stands at 35% (whole population) with over 76% of people over 65 having received three shots. As children aged 12-18 have now become eligible for boosters, it is possible that coverage will overtake European countries where there has been a policy decision not to give younger people boosters.

#### Booster (3<sup>rd</sup>) vaccine doses administered (cumulative, nationwide, percentages)



## **Situation report – COVID19; Japan, 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2022**

### ***References and Resources***

Reported Caseload Graphs and data sourced from MHLW as reported by Toyo

<https://toyokeizai.net/sp/visual/tko/covid19/en.html>

<https://stopcovid19.metro.tokyo.lg.jp/en>

<https://stopcovid19.metro.tokyo.lg.jp/en/monitoring>

[https://news.google.com/covid19/map?hl=en-GB&mid=%2Fm%2F03\\_3d&gl=GB&ceid=GB%3Aen](https://news.google.com/covid19/map?hl=en-GB&mid=%2Fm%2F03_3d&gl=GB&ceid=GB%3Aen)

<https://ourworldindata.org/covid-vaccinations>

[https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/0000164708\\_00079.html](https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/0000164708_00079.html)