Situation Report - COVID19; Japan, 29th March 2022

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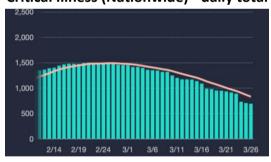
Current Situation – Japan Japan - daily Infections (past 30 days)



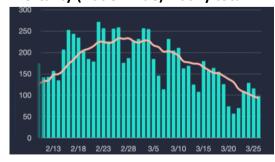
National Reproduction Rate - (R 0.94)



Critical Illness (Nationwide) - daily total



Mortality (Nationwide) - daily total

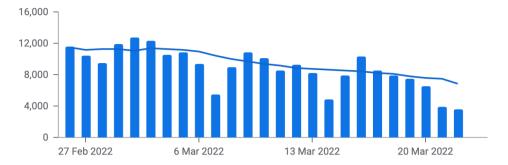


Case numbers continue to trend down gradually though at an average of over 40,000 per day, are still twice as high as they were at the peak of the 5th (delta variant) wave. Intensive care occupancy and mortality are falling rather more rapidly, allowing a gradual shift of medical resources back to non-COVID19 related care. This having been said, daily deaths from COVID19 remain significant at about 100, a level equivalent to the peak of the 4th (alpha variant, early 2021) wave, which was the deadliest outbreak prior to the spread of the omicron variant.

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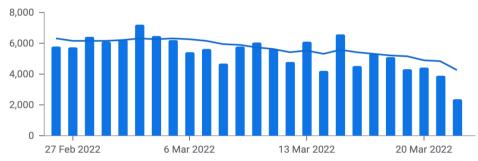
Tokyo and the surrounding Kanto region

Tokyo daily infections, past 30 days (R 0.94)

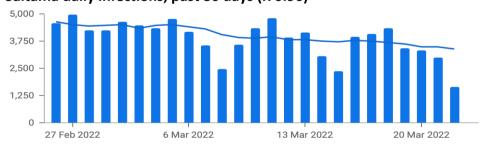


Case numbers continue to fall gradually, and now that the quasi state of emergency has ended businesses are mostly resuming pre-covid operations though are still voluntarily keeping shorter opening hours in some instances. The metropolitan government has encouraged Tokyo residents to avoid larger congregations and the consumption of alcohol while viewing cherry blossoms.

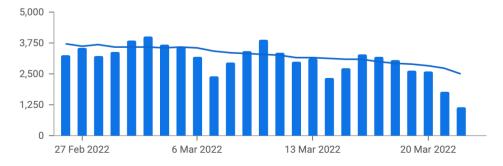
Kanagawa daily infections, past 30 days (R 0.91)



Saitama daily infections, past 30 days (R 0.96)



Chiba daily infections, past 30 days (R 0.92)

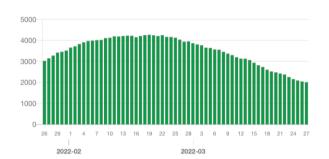


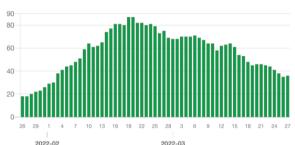
Situation Report – COVID19; Japan, 29th March 2022

Hospital Care and Testing in Tokyo

Number of hospital patients

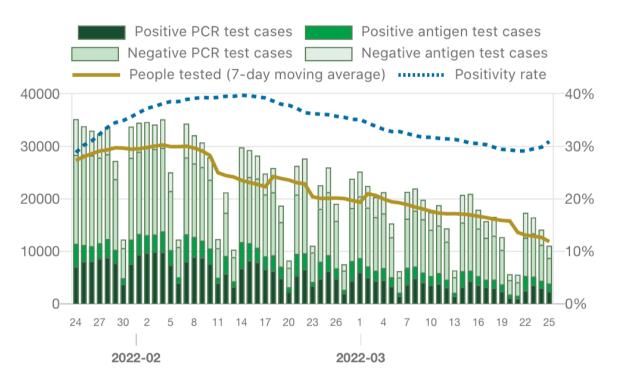
Number of critically ill patients





Hospital bed occupancy has continued to fall to 26.6% (1923 of 7229 beds in use). As of yet there has been no reduction in the number of beds allocated to COVID19 care. Intensive care occupancy is also falling and is well within capacity, 6.5% (33 out of 510) of beds being occupied at present.

Testing for COVID 19 (Positivity rate is 30.9%)



Testing continues to fall 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 5th (delta variant) wave of last summer, positive results peaked at 24%. This suggests that omicron variant COVID19 is likely to persist longer and at a much higher background level than previous variants.

Situation Report - COVID19; Japan, 29th March 2022

Regional Situation

Quasi emergency measures were allowed to expire in Kansai, Kanto and all other affected areas 9 days ago. Currently no areas are under such directives.

Osaka. While Osaka has had the second most total covid cases in Japan (749,637), it currently also experiences the steepest decline in positive cases:

Osaka (R 0.91)



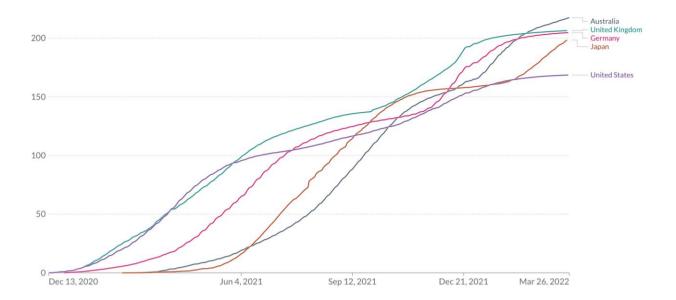
Nagano. A spike in positive covid cases has occurred since the beginning of the skiing season. A U-curved trend is noted in covid cases for the past month:

Nagano (R 1.00)



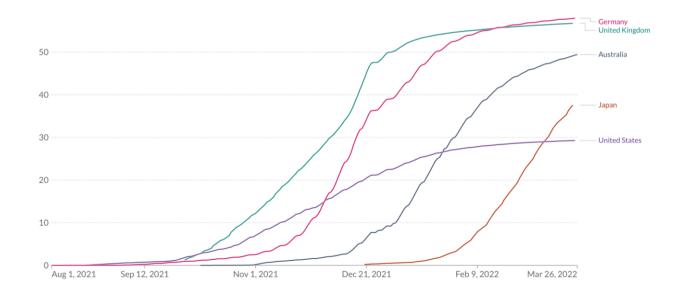
Situation Report – COVID19; Japan, 29th March 2022 *COVID 19 Vaccinations in Japan*

Vaccine doses administered (cumulative, nationwide, percentages)



Although the government came under criticism for the slow rollout of booster vaccinations, coverage has now overtaken the US (see below) and presently stands at 39.8% (whole population) with over 80.7% 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 (3rd) vaccine doses administered (cumulative, nationwide, percentages)



Situation Report – COVID19; Japan, 29th March 2022

References and Resources

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

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://ourworldindata.org/covid-vaccinations

Situation Report – COVID19; Japan, 29th March 2022

Situation Report – COVID19; Japan, 29th March 2022