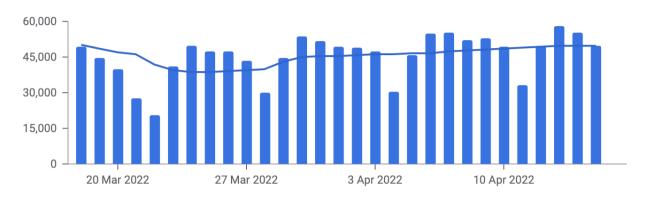
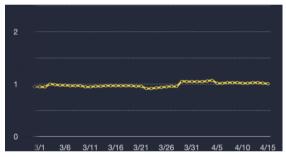
Confidential – for internal circulation only, not for release to outside parties without the prior consent of the author. This document represents the opinion of the author and does not constitute the provision of medical care. Readers with concerns over their individual health should contact their physician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

Current Situation – Japan

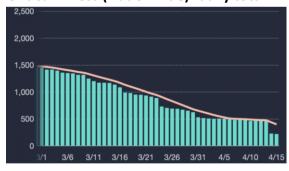
Japan - daily Infections (past 30 days)



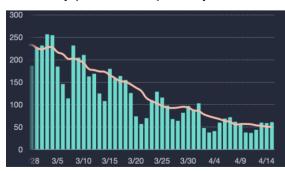
National Reproduction Rate – (R 1.01)



Critical Illness (Nationwide)- daily total



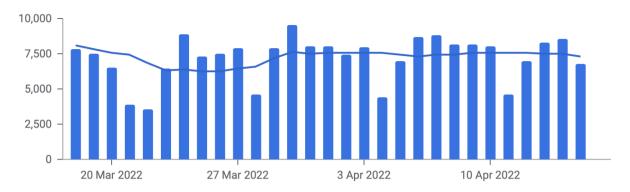
Mortality (Nationwide) - daily total



Active COVID19 cases continue to trend upwards with a very gradual increase in new diagnoses. The proportion of severe infections is falling markedly, though. Daily infections have fallen by less than 50% as compared to the peak of the current wave - from a little over 80,000 per day in early February to approximately 50,000 per day at present. Comparing intensive care bed occupancy over the same period shows that national rates of critical illness have fallen from a mid-February peak of 1,500 to 222 as of the 17th of April. This reduction in severe illness and hospitalization translates into reduced pressure on medical services although for the most part COVID-19 designates facilities are being kept in a state of readiness and not transitioned back to routine (non-COVID19) care.

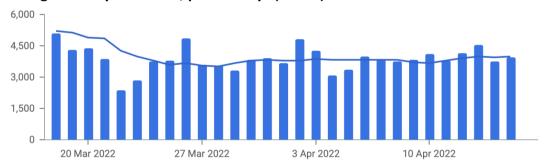
Tokyo and the surrounding Kanto region

Tokyo daily infections, past 30 days (R 0.99)

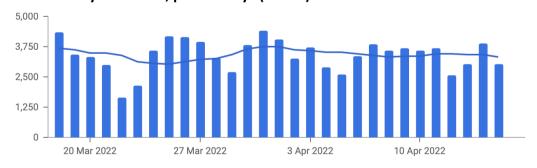


Rates of infection are stable across the region though with a relatively high number of diagnoses being made daily. Contagion continues to occur at about one third of the rate seen in early February, when the seven-day average of new daily infections in the capital was over 18,000. The proportion of infections detected in children fell from over 35% in mid-March to 28% last week, with a corresponding rise in cases detected in people aged 20-40, these now accounting for about 40% of all new infections.

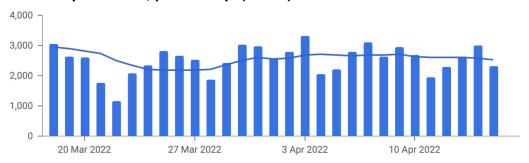
Kanagawa daily infections, past 30 days (R 1.01)



Saitama daily infections, past 30 days (R 1.00)



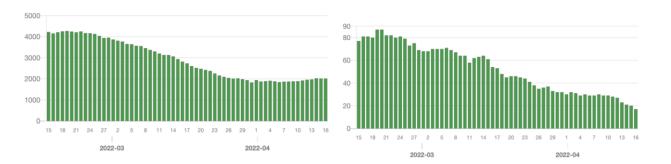
Chiba daily infections, past 30 days (R 0.98)



Hospital Care and Testing in Tokyo

Number of hospital patients

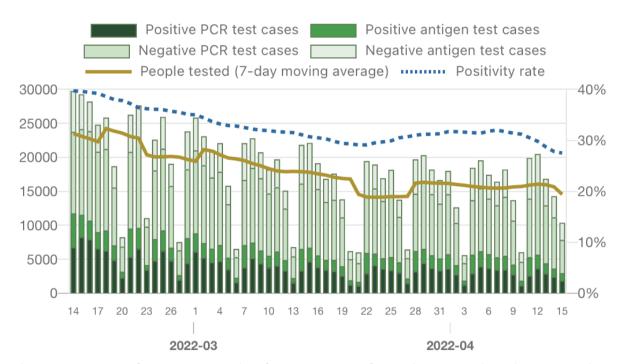
Number of critically ill patients



Hospital bed occupancy is rising slightly, reflecting the increase in case numbers thought to be largely due to dissemination of the Omicron BA2 sub-variant. Presently 27% (1953 of 7229 beds) are in use, the number of beds designated for COVID19 patient care having been stable for some time.

Intensive care occupancy continues to decline and remains well within capacity, 3.1% (16 out of 510) of beds being occupied at present.

Testing for COVID 19



The proportion of positive results from tests performed in people who are either symptomatic or are known contacts has fallen. As shown above, the BA2 sub-variant caused an increase in the rate of positive tests during late March (from about 32 to 34%). The recent decline back to 30% suggests that total new infections can be expected to decline gradually over the next few weeks.

Regional Situation

While infections in urban areas are either stable or declining, some rural areas are seeing increases.

Nagano is one of the 9 prefectures to have the highest number of new infections. Compared to late March, cases have more than doubled.

Nagano (R 1.07)



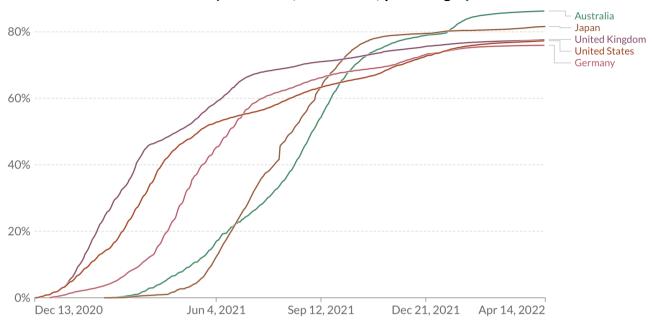
In *Okinawa* the hospital bed usage rate is increasing and the number of new infections is also rising. Only 35% of Okinawa's population has taken the 3rd vaccine, lower than the national figure of 47%.

Okinawa (R 1.04)



COVID 19 Vaccinations in Japan

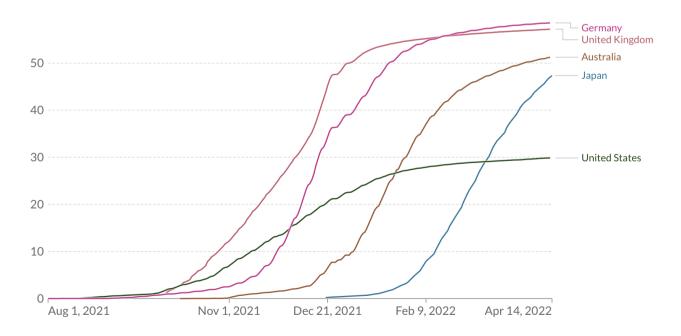




The health ministry has approved Novavax, making this Japan's fourth COVID19 vaccine, and has agreed to source up to 150 million doses from Takeda, who will be producing and distributing locally. Novavax is designed to be administered in two doses at three-week interval and is currently licensed for use in people age 18 and over.

Currently 48.2% of the population have had three doses of a COVID vaccine, coverage rising to 86% in those age 65 and above.

Booster (3rd) vaccine doses administered (cumulative, nationwide, percentages)



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

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https://ourworldindata.org/covid-vaccinations

https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/0000164708_00079.html