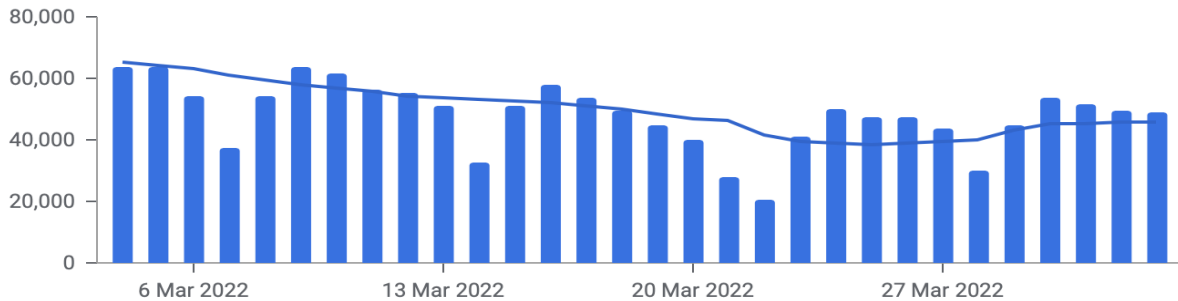


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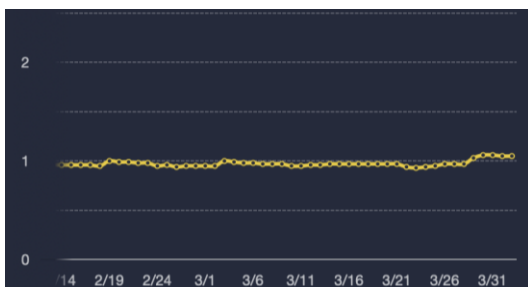
Confidential – for internal circulation only, not for release to outside parties without the prior consent of the author. This document represents the opinion of the author and does not constitute the provision of medical care. Readers with concerns over their individual health should contact their physician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

Current Situation – Japan

Japan - daily Infections (past 30 days)

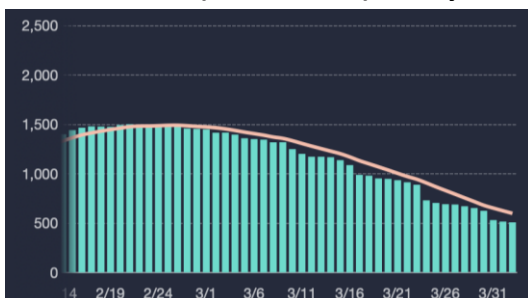


National Reproduction Rate – (R 1.05)



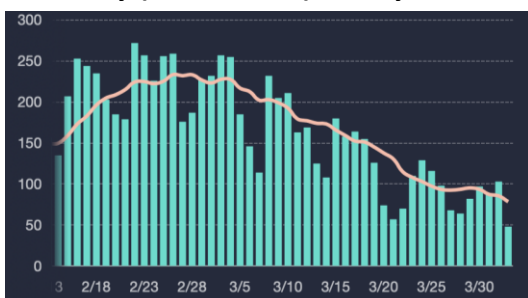
Daily infections (7-day average) have been rising gradually for the past 10 days, with a 15% increase in cases seen between the 23rd of March and the 3rd of April. Although official figures for the percentage of infections caused by the BA2 omicron sub-variant have not been released, it is highly likely that the main cause of the recent resurgence in cases is BA2 replacing BA1 as the dominant strain. Data from Europe has demonstrated that of the two, BA2 is about 30% more contagious.

Critical Illness (Nationwide) - daily total



As yet, the increase in infections has not led to any significant rise in either critical illness or mortality, though in some parts of the country, occupancy of COVID-19 designated beds is no longer falling.

Mortality (Nationwide) – daily total

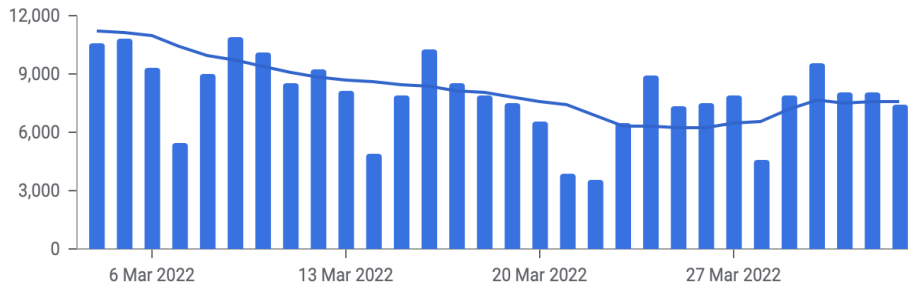


Although no parts of the country are under emergency measures, the health ministry continues to stress the need for people to be mindful of the need to limit the spread of Covid. As school and university graduation ceremonies were thought to be associated with an increase in the spread of infection last year, extra caution has been advised around these events.

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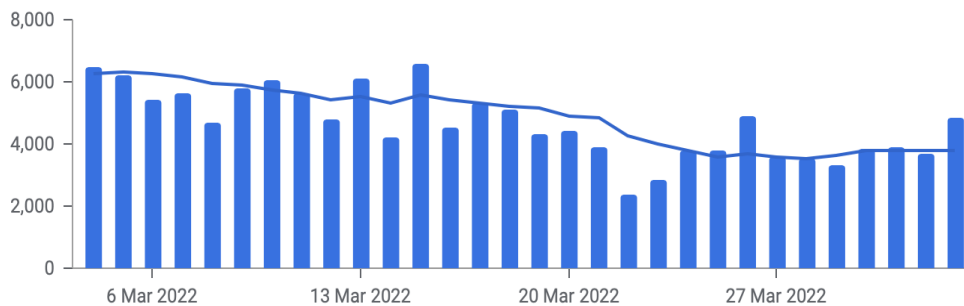
Tokyo and the surrounding Kanto region

Tokyo daily infections, past 30 days (R 1.06)

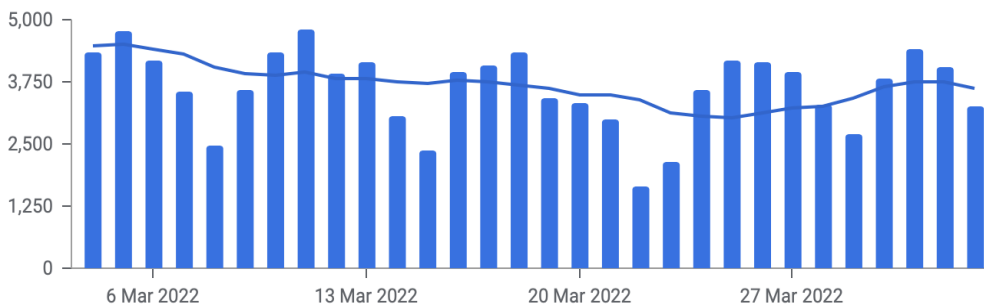


Cases are rising at an equivalent rate to that seen nationally and infections in children continue to account for more than a third of the total. However, vaccination appears to be impacting on the distribution of new cases as the proportion occurring in the elderly (people over 65) has more than halved over the past 6 weeks. Currently only 5.6% of infections are detected in these cohorts.

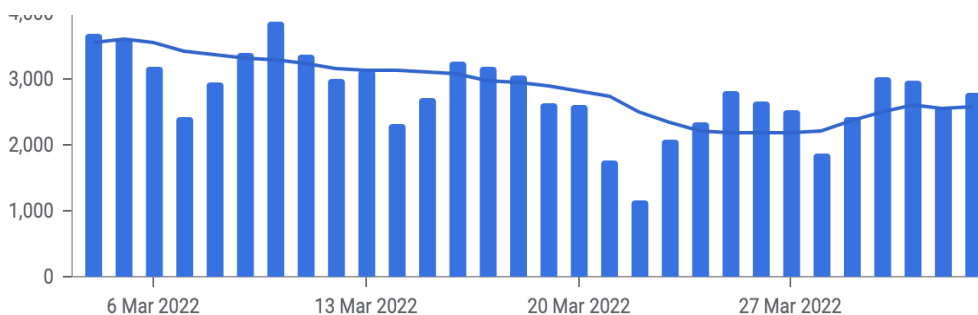
Kanagawa daily infections, past 30 days (R 1.0)



Saitama daily infections, past 30 days (R 1.04)



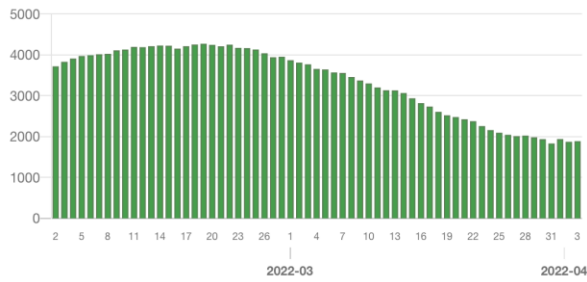
Chiba daily infections, past 30 days (R 1.05)



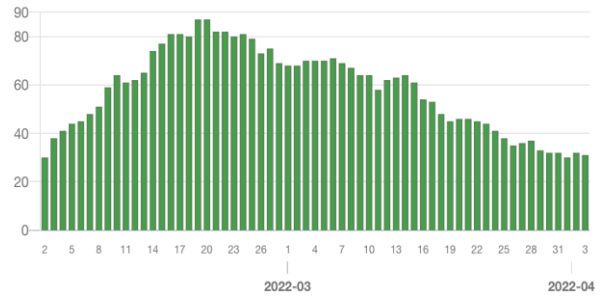
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Hospital Care and Testing in Tokyo

Number of hospital patients



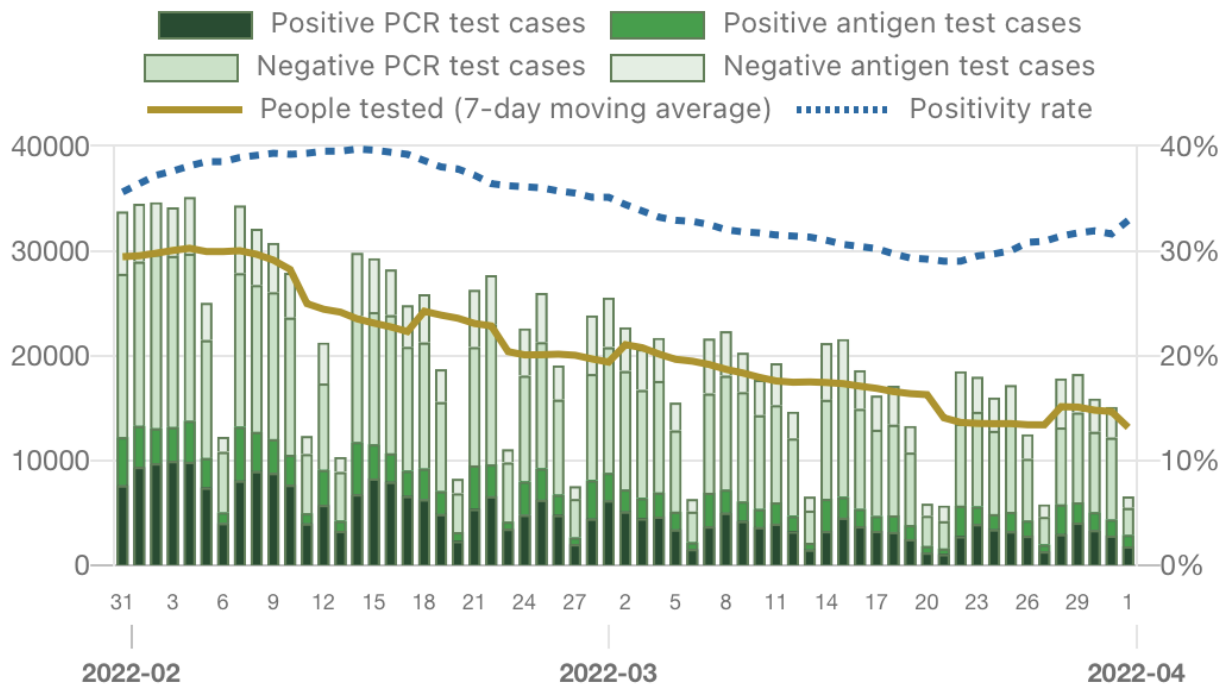
Number of critically ill patients



Hospital bed occupancy has risen marginally over the past few days, to 25.1% (1818 of 7229 beds are in use). With most designated beds unoccupied, though, doctors are more likely to admit elderly or vulnerable people who become infected with COVID19, even if they have very mild symptoms. Some hospitals will currently only administer oral antiviral medications (paxlovid or molnupiravir) to in-patients.

Intensive care occupancy is relatively stable and remains well within capacity, 5.7% (29 out of 510) of beds being occupied at present.

Testing for COVID 19



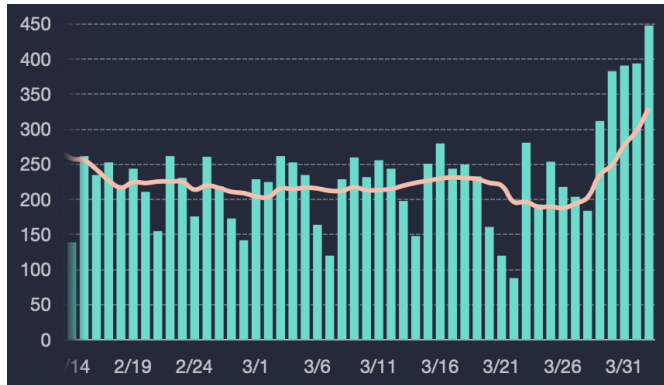
As the BA2 omicron sub-variant circulates at a higher rate, the proportion of positive test results is rising again and now stands at close to 33%.

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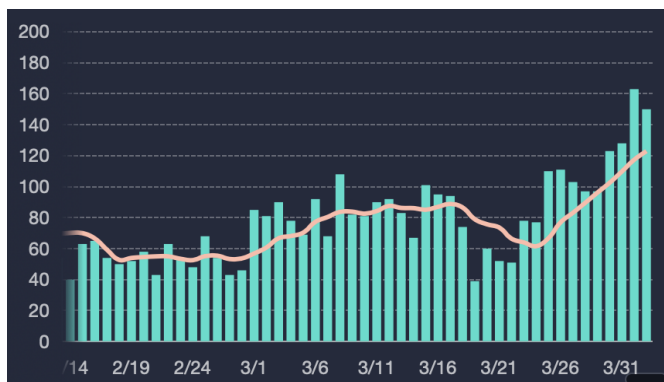
Regional Situation

The most significant increases in infections have occurred in rural prefectures, with Miyazaki prefecture (Kyushu) seeing a near-doubling of cases during the past ten days. Shimane, another relatively isolated rural prefecture, has similarly seen an increase:

Miyazaki (R 1.18)



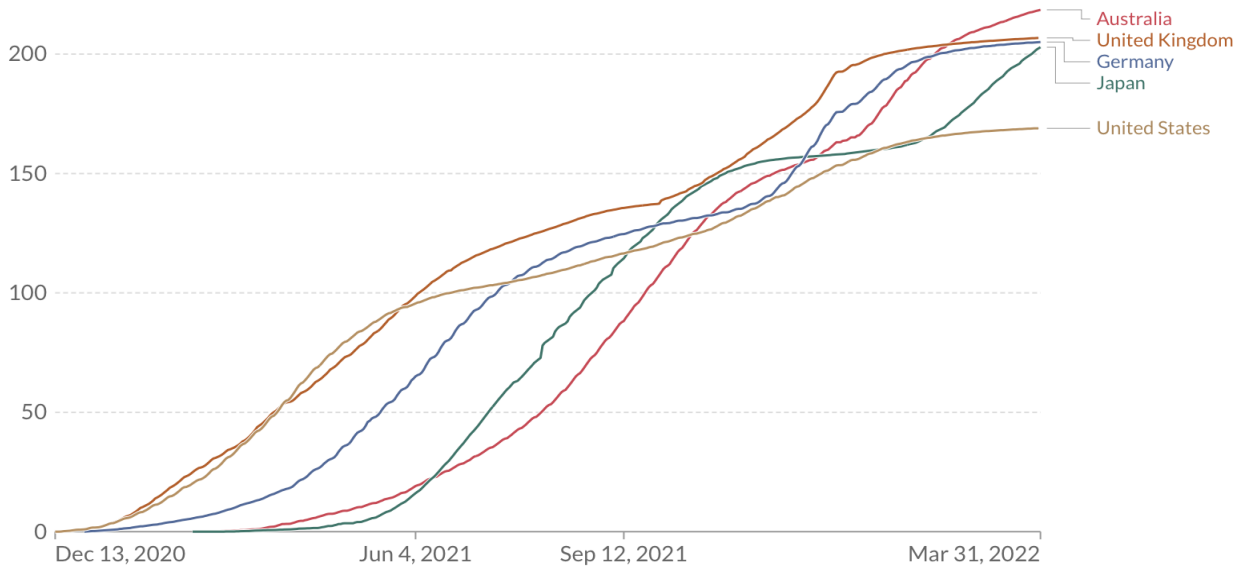
Shimane (R 1.14)



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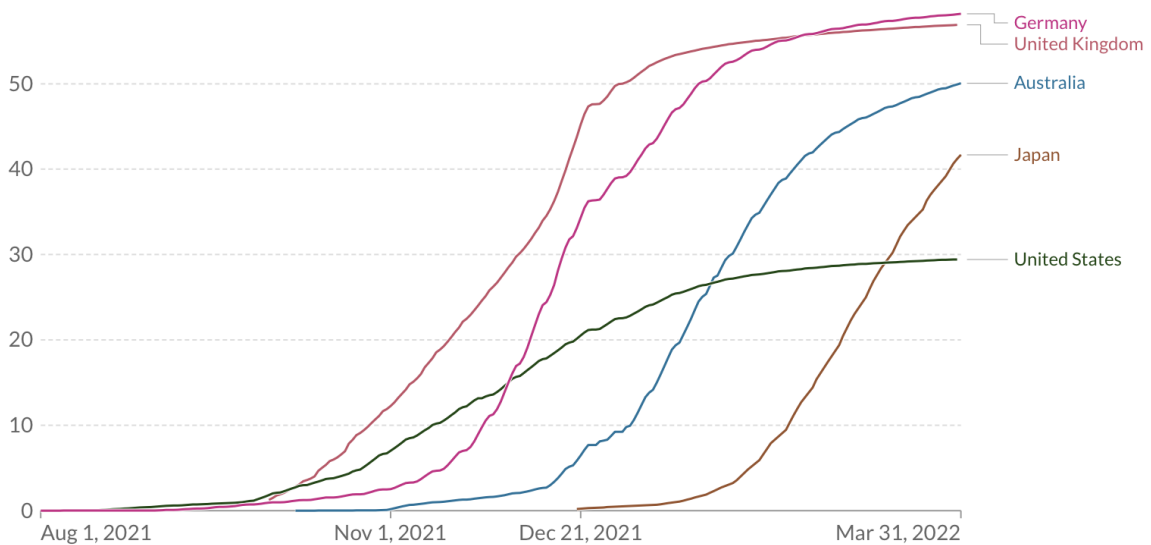
COVID 19 Vaccinations in Japan

Vaccine doses administered per 100 population (cumulative)



82.9% of people over 65 have now received three doses of vaccine, with coverage now having reached 42.5% of the whole population. Discussion is underway on the administration of a 4th dose during the summer. While the government believes that it has procured enough doses of mRNA vaccine for the whole population, a final decision on the timing and target population for the 4th dose is still pending. Coverage may be extended to the whole population or may be limited to higher risk groups, as is currently the case in some other countries.

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



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References and Resources

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

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<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-vaccination>

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