

COVID-19 EPIDEMIOLOGICAL UPDATE

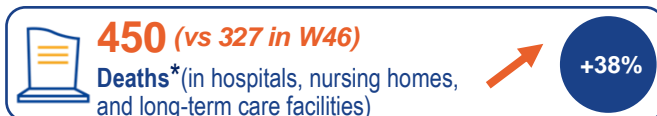
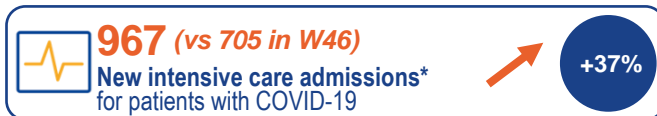
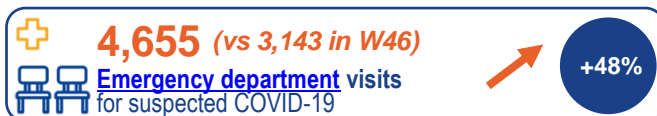
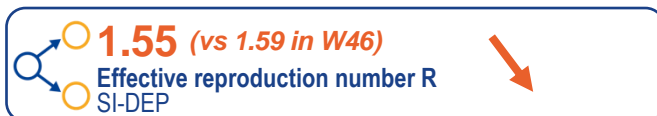
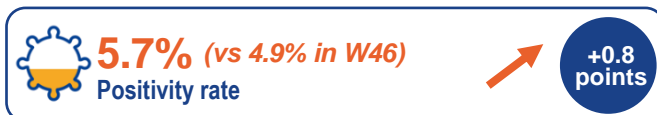
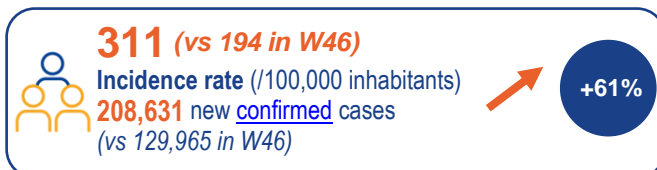
Weekly Report / Week 47 / 2 December 2021

As part of its surveillance, alert, and prevention missions, Santé publique France analyses and publishes COVID-19 data obtained from its network of partners¹ as well as its own studies and surveys. This report is based on data reported to Santé publique France up to 2 December 2021.

Key numbers

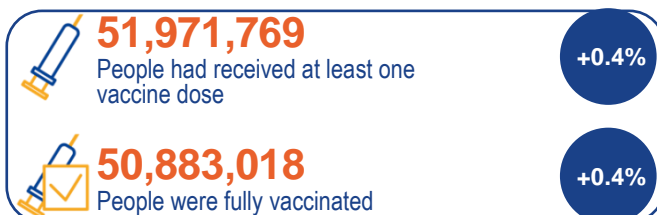
Week 47 (22-28 November 2021)

Compared to week 46 (15-21 November 2021)



On 30 November 2021

Compared to 23 November 2021



Key points

Epidemiological situation

In week 47, another sharp rise in SARS-CoV-2 was observed metropolitan France, along with a surge in new hospital and intensive care admissions.

- Metropolitan France:
 - Incidence rate above 300/100,000 inhabitants among those under 50 years (>600 among 6-10 year-olds)
 - New hospital and intensive care admissions increasing in almost all regions
- Overseas France:
 - Reunion Island: continued high incidence rate with intensive care admissions slightly increasing

Variants

- Delta variant identified in more than 99% of sequenced samples in the Flash Survey from week 45 (8-10 November)
- Eight confirmed cases of Omicron variant in France as of 2 December at 4 pm

Contact tracing

- Lower proportion of new cases linked to known transmission chains
- Fewer people aged 65 years and over among cases and contacts

Prevention

- 30 November 2021 (Vaccin Covid data):
 - 77.4% of the French population had received at least one vaccine dose, and 75.8% were fully vaccinated
 - 42.9% of people aged 65 years and older had received a booster shot, representing 78.5% of the eligible population in this age group
- Severe cases hospitalised in intensive care between 1 September and 30 November:
 - 76% of people under 65 years were unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated
 - 34% of people aged 65 years and older were vaccinated but only 1.4% had received a booster dose
- Importance of combining measures: vaccination, including the booster shot for the eligible population, contact tracing, and preventive measures

[New dashboard](#)
[InfoCovidFrance](#)

*Unconsolidated data. **Due to the national strike by SOS Médecins and the interruption of data transmission since 24 November 2021, data are unavailable.

¹Santé publique France acknowledges the large public health network that contributes to COVID-19 surveillance: healthcare professionals working in private practice and hospitals, emergency departments, hospital and private biology laboratories, learned societies for infectious diseases, resuscitation, and emergency medicine, CNAM, INSERM, and INSEE.

Week 47 (22 to 28 November 2021)

SITUATION UPDATE

In week 47, the circulation of SARS-CoV-2 accelerated markedly throughout metropolitan France, and new hospital and intensive care admissions once again escalated. At the national level, the incidence rate reached 311 cases per 100,000 inhabitants and exceeded 600 cases among 6-10 year-olds. The rate was above 300 in the majority of metropolitan regions. In Reunion Island, the incidence rate continued to increase. As of 2 December at 4 pm, the Omicron variant had been detected in eight samples. Contact tracing data indicate the lower proportion of cases linked to known transmission chains. On 30 November, 75.8% of the French population were fully vaccinated. Among the population aged 65 years and older, 42.9% had received a booster dose. In the current context marked by high viral circulation, screening, rapid self-isolation in case of symptom onset or positive test results, as well as contact tracing remain essential to limit the transmission of the virus. The vaccine and booster in addition to the strict adherence to preventive measures, including the ventilation of enclosed spaces, are also primordial to slow down the spread of SARS-CoV-2 and preserve the healthcare system.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL UPDATE

Nationally, the incidence rate surged in week 47 (+61%) to reach 311 cases per 100,000 inhabitants (vs 194 in week 46). On average, almost 30,000 cases were diagnosed per day. The incidence rate exceeded 300 cases per 100,000 inhabitants for people under 50 years and reached 421 (+56%) among 30-39 year-olds. The highest rates were observed among 0-9 year-olds (389, +85%) and 10-19 year-olds (344, +76%). Primary school children aged 6-10 years had a particularly high incidence rate of 663 (+92%), which was associated with a very high screening rate (13,199, +65%) and a positivity rate of 5.0% (+0.7 points). For the entire population, the screening rate increased substantially in week 47 (5,418/100,000, +37%). The positivity rate reached 5.7% (+0.8 points).

The number of consultations for suspected COVID-19 climbed substantially in emergency departments (4,655, +48%) in all age groups.

The number of new hospital admissions escalated (4,212, +35%), as did new intensive care admissions (967, +37%) (unconsolidated data). On 30 November, 10,310 COVID-19 patients were hospitalised, including 1,837 in intensive care.

In metropolitan France, the incidence rate exceeded 300 cases per 100,000 inhabitants in nine regions. The highest rates were observed in Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur (417, +71%), Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes (392, +80%), and Corsica (386, +26%). Only Normandy had an incidence rate below 200 (179, +49%). The screening rate was the highest in Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur and Corsica (>6,000/100,000). New hospital and intensive care admissions increased in almost all regions and in all age groups.

In overseas France, the incidence rate continued to rise in Reunion Island (254, +14%) with a stable rate of new hospital admissions. In Martinique, the incidence rate remained high despite a sharp drop in screening associated with the recent social unrest. New hospital admissions were high and increasing.

VARIANTS OF CONCERN

The Delta variant represented 99.8% of interpretable sequences in the latest Flash Survey (8-10 November). Data from the more recent surveys are available on the dashboard [InfoCovidFrance](#) (section "variants").

As of 2 December at 4 pm, the Omicron variant had been detected in eight samples in France.

CONTACT TRACING

In week 47, the number of new cases and new [contacts](#) recorded in ContactCovid continued to increase (+60% and +30%, respectively). The average delay between the onset of clinical signs and testing (1.8 days) decreased for the third consecutive week. The proportion of cases previously identified as contacts (17.1%) diminished for the second consecutive week, suggesting that a growing number of transmission chains are not being identified through the contact tracing process.

PREVENTION

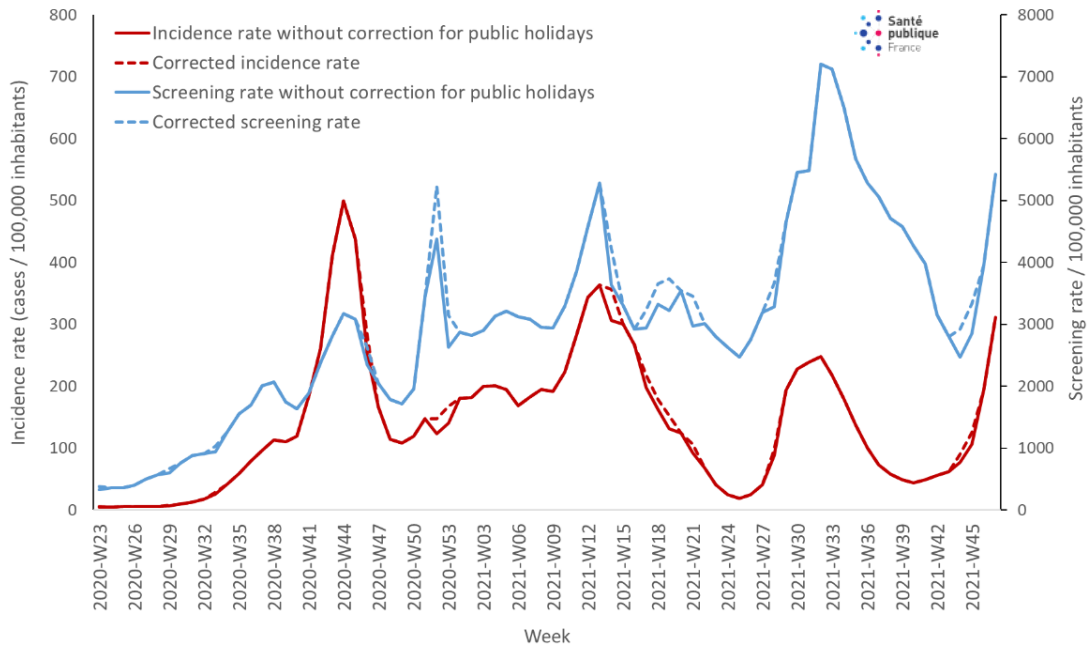
On 30 November, 77.4% of the total population had received at least one vaccine dose, and 75.8% were fully vaccinated. Furthermore, 42.9% of people aged 65 years and older had received the booster shot. This rate corresponded to 78.5% of the eligible population.

Between 1 September and 30 November, 76% of patients under 65 years who were hospitalised in intensive care were unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated. Furthermore, 34% of people aged 65 years and older in intensive care were vaccinated, although only 1.4% had received a booster dose.

Confirmed cases, incidence, and screening rates

Nationally, the [incidence rate](#) surged in week 47 to reach 311 cases per 100,000 inhabitants (vs 194 in week 46, +61%). The [screening rate](#) also showed an upward trend (5,418/100,000 vs 3,951 in week 46, +37%), as did the [positivity rate](#) (5.7%, +0.8 points). Among the 3,313,495 tested individuals who provided information about the possible presence of symptoms, 84% were asymptomatic, once again down this week (86% in week 46). The positivity rate was stable for symptomatic individuals (18.5% vs 18.9% in week 46), although it increased for asymptomatic individuals (3.4% vs 2.7%). The proportion of cases with symptoms fell slightly (52% vs 53% in week 46).

Weekly trends in the incidence and screening rates, with or without correction for the effect of public holidays, since 1 June 2020, France (data on 1 December 2021)



Source: SI-DEP, data processing by Santé publique France

Incidence and screening rates by age group

In week 46, the [incidence rate](#) surged in all age groups, especially among 0-9 year-olds (389, +85%) and 10-19 year-olds (344, +76%). The incidence rate exceeded 300 cases per 100,000 inhabitants for people under 50 years and reached 421 among 30-39 year-olds (+56%). A substantial rise in the [screening rate](#) was also observed for all age groups, especially among 0-9 year-olds (8,329, +64%) and 10-19 year-olds (6,901, +44%). In other age groups, this increase ranged from +16% to +40%. The [positivity rate](#) also showed an upward trend in all age groups, being the highest among 40-49 year-olds (7.0%, +1.1 points) and the lowest among those aged 90 years and older (3.7%, +0.2 points). Primary school children aged 6-10 years had an incidence rate of 663 (+92%) along with a screening rate of 13,199 (+65%) and a positivity rate of 5.0% (+0.7 points).

Weekly evolution of the incidence rate per 100,000 inhabitants by age group since week 36, France (data on 1 December 2021)

69	45	32	35	27	29	38	48	55	80	109	141	90 yrs +	
44	32	26	25	26	35	43	43	56	66	85	117	80-89 yrs	
49	34	32	31	33	43	56	63	80	99	133	182	70-79 yrs	
52	40	33	30	29	37	47	57	81	108	155	237	60-69 yrs	
73	51	42	37	35	39	46	58	83	116	178	277	50-59 yrs	
107	77	63	54	48	53	61	72	110	146	225	373	40-49 yrs	
150	111	84	69	64	67	72	85	132	181	269	421	30-39 yrs	
146	98	73	61	58	61	57	69	105	151	218	320	20-29 yrs	
124	89	72	61	49	50	58	58	81	112	195	344	10-19 yrs	
110	94	70	51	41	44	52	44	66	106	211	389	0-9 yrs	
100	73	57	48	44	48	55	62	91	125	194	311	All ages	
	W36	W37	W38	W39	W40	W41	W42	W43	W44*	W45*	W46	W47	

*W44 and W45: rate corrected for the public holiday effect (1 & 11 November).



Source: SI-DEP

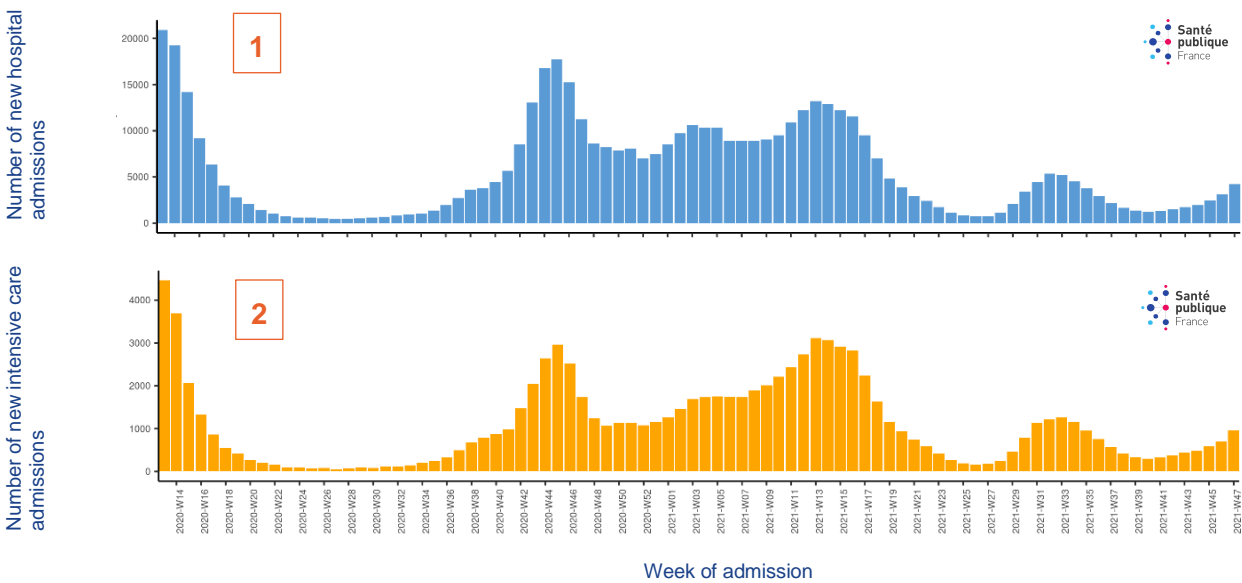
Hospitalisations, intensive care admissions, and deaths

To better understand the hospital dynamics, new hospital and intensive care admissions are analysed by date of patient admission to hospital. New deaths (in hospital and long-term care facilities) are analysed by date of occurrence. **Data from week 47, up to 30 November 2021, are not yet consolidated and may thus be underestimated.**

On 30 November 2021, 10,310 COVID-19 patients were hospitalised in France (vs 8,586 on 23 November, +20%), including 1,837 in intensive care (vs 1,468 on 23 November, +25%).

At the national level, hospital indicators based on the date of admission deteriorated, with 4,212 [new hospital admissions](#) in week 47 (+35% from week 46, vs +27% between weeks 45 and 46) and 967 new intensive care admissions (+37% from week 46, vs +20% between weeks 45 and 46) (unconsolidated data from week 47).

Weekly number of new hospital (1) and intensive care (2) admissions for COVID-19 patients since 23 March 2020, France (data on 30 November 2021)



W47: unconsolidated data.

In week 47, the weekly rates of new hospital and intensive care admissions increased in all age groups. For intensive care admissions, a greater rise was observed in people between 30 and 80 years of age. Among the elderly over 70 years, the rates of both hospital indicators exceeded those observed at the peak of the fourth wave in these age groups.

Weekly rate of new hospital (1) and intensive care (2) admissions per 100,000 inhabitants, by age group, from week 40 to week 47, France

1									2								
	W40	W41	W42	W43	W44	W45	W46	W47		W40	W41	W42	W43	W44	W45	W46	W47
90 yrs +	8.7	12.3	16.7	19.4	19.0	28.8	39.1	45.6	0.3	0.5	0.8	1.0	1.3	0.9	1.2	1.5	
80-89 yrs	7.1	8.1	8.8	10.8	12.1	16.8	20.5	25.6	0.8	1.4	1.2	1.4	1.4	2.2	2.3	2.5	
70-79 yrs	4.1	4.4	5.6	6.3	7.8	9.3	11.0	15.5	1.2	1.4	1.8	2.0	2.6	2.9	3.3	4.9	
60-69 yrs	2.1	2.6	2.9	3.6	3.9	5.0	6.5	8.9	1.0	0.8	1.2	1.5	1.5	1.8	2.2	3.1	
50-59 yrs	1.7	1.6	2.0	2.3	2.3	3.0	4.0	5.8	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.8	1.1	1.4	1.7	
40-49 yrs	1.5	1.2	1.2	1.5	1.5	1.6	2.5	3.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	1.1	
30-39 yrs	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.7	2.0	3.0	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.7	
20-29 yrs	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	1.1	1.0	1.3	1.7	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	
10-19 yrs	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	
0-9 yrs	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.9	1.4	1.6	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	
All ages	1.8	2.0	2.2	2.6	2.9	3.7	4.7	6.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.9	1.1	1.4	

At the national level, there were **440 deaths in hospital** in week 47 (+36% from week 46; unconsolidated data from week 47). In the previous week, this number had risen by 20% compared to week 45. There were also **10 deaths in long-term care facilities** in week 47 (vs 4 in week 46 and 13 in week 45).

Situation at the regional level

The indicators for Guadeloupe and Martinique should be interpreted with caution due to the social unrest in these two overseas departments, which may have affected the access to services and data transmission.

Incidence, positivity, and screening rates

In **metropolitan France**, the incidence rate was up, exceeding 200 cases per 100,000 inhabitants in all regions except for Normandy (179). The positivity rate, which was also on the rise, ranged from 4.1% in Normandy to 7.2% in Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes. The screening rate increased in all regions and was the highest in Corsica and Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur. In week 47, the incidence rate exceeded 200 cases in 78 departments (vs 36 in week 46) and 400 cases in 16 departments. The highest rates were observed in Ardèche (607, +54%), Hautes-Pyrénées (501, +83%), and Jura (494, +97%).

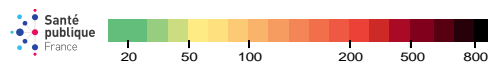
In **overseas France**, the incidence rate increased in Reunion Island (254/100,000, +14%) and French Guiana (89, +14%).

Evolution of the incidence, positivity, and screening rates by region since week 42, France (data on 1 December 2021)

Regions	Incidence rate per 100,000 inhabitants						Positivity rate (%)			Screening rate per 100,000 inhabitants	
	W42	W43	W44*	W45*	W46	W47	W47 vs W46 (%)	W47	W47 vs W46 (points)	W47	W47 vs W46 (%)
Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes	49	55	85	131	218	392	80	7.2	1.3	5,440	48
Bourgogne-Franche-Comté	33	44	73	95	174	309	77	6.4	1.3	4,788	41
Brittany	44	54	77	113	141	214	51	5.0	0.6	4,246	33
Centre-Val de Loire	46	55	77	102	158	211	33	5.6	0.1	3,792	30
Corsica	56	90	131	219	306	386	26	5.8	0.3	6,609	21
Grand Est	42	52	85	124	204	313	53	5.4	0.6	5,764	36
Hauts-de-France	46	55	86	123	194	302	56	5.5	0.5	5,465	42
Ile-de-France	71	74	96	117	191	310	62	5.2	0.8	5,950	38
Normandy	33	37	55	76	120	179	49	4.1	0.6	4,383	28
Nouvelle-Aquitaine	51	58	85	124	193	302	57	6.1	0.6	4,988	40
Occitanie	48	54	79	117	191	331	73	6.2	1.1	5,306	42
Pays de la Loire	73	84	108	156	199	267	34	5.7	0.2	4,712	29
Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur	73	78	107	160	244	417	71	6.5	1.4	6,374	34
Guadeloupe**	50	53	57	69	44	42	-3	2.5	0.8	1,716	-34
French Guiana	234	172	158	118	78	89	14	4.2	0.3	2,153	7
Martinique**	135	116	115	139	164	149	-10	3.6	0.8	4,140	-31
Mayotte	17	30	50	34	36	24	-33	1.5	-1.1	1,559	17
Réunion Island	33	61	120	196	223	254	14	5.0	-0.1	5,044	15

*Data corrected for public holidays (1 & 11 November)

**Data non-interpretable due to social movements in Guadeloupe (W46 & W47) and Martinique (W47)

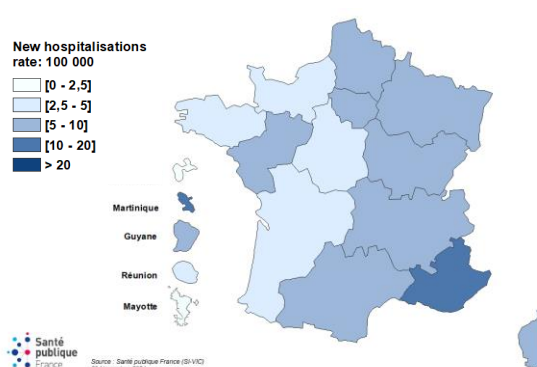


Hospital and intensive care admissions by date of admission

In metropolitan France in week 47, the weekly rates of [new hospitalisations](#) and intensive care admissions increased in all regions except for Centre-Val de Loire where they were stable and Pays de la Loire where intensive care admissions fell. The highest rates of new hospital admissions were observed in Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur and Corsica.

In overseas France, new hospital admissions were the highest in Martinique. They were also increasing in French Guiana and stable in Reunion Island.

Weekly rate of newly hospitalised COVID-19 patients per 100,000 inhabitants, by region, in week 47, France



For further information on the epidemic situation in the regions, consult the [Regional Epidemiological Updates](#).

Variants of concern

The L452R mutation (primarily driven by the Delta variant) was detected in 96.8% of screened positive samples in week 47 (vs 96.7% in week 46). [Sequencing data](#) confirmed the very clear predominance of the Delta variant, which was respectively identified in more than 99.7% and 99.8% of interpretable sequences in metropolitan France in Flash Surveys from week 44 (1-5 November, with 5,250 interpretable sequences) and week 45 (8-10 November, with 2,612 interpretable sequences, unconsolidated data). In overseas France, Delta was identified in more than 99% of interpretable sequences in Flash Surveys from week 43 (25 and 29 October, with 123 interpretable sequences), week 44 (1-5 November, with 72 interpretable sequences), and week 45 (8-12 November, with 99 interpretable sequences) (unconsolidated data for all three surveys). Delta is also the dominant strain at the international level, representing more than 99% of 272,851 samples sequenced in November according to the international database GISAID.

The Omicron variant (21K, B.1.1.529) was classified as a variant of concern (VOC) by the WHO on 26 November. As of 2 December at 4 pm, it had been detected in eight samples in France. Given the high number of mutations, it is difficult to determine its characteristics. Information updates on Omicron are regularly provided on the [Santé Publique France](#) website. Many uncertainties still surround this variant with regard to its transmissibility, severity, and potential to escape immunity (post-vaccination or post-infection). It is therefore the subject of enhanced monitoring in France.

Vaccination

On 30 November 2021, [vaccination coverage](#) based on Vaccin Covid was estimated at 77.4% for at least one dose, **75.8% for full vaccination**, and 12.2% for the booster shot. Among the eligible population aged 12 years and older, 89.9% had received at least one vaccine dose, and 88.0% were fully vaccinated.

Overall, **42.9% of people aged 65 years and older had received the booster shot** (+7.4 points compared to week 46). This corresponds to the ratio between the people vaccinated with the booster and the population of this age group and therefore reflects the level of protection in this population.

It is estimated that 78.5% (+5.2 points from week 46) **of people aged 65 years and older who were eligible for the booster dose on 30 November 2021 had received it.** This allows us to follow the dynamics of the booster campaign in the eligible population while taking into account the delay required before receiving the booster shot. This percentage can theoretically diminish over time if the number of eligible persons evolves faster than the number who received the booster. In the current calculation, the following elements are taken into account: in people aged 65 years and older, the [booster dose](#) was initially recommended 6 months after a complete vaccination schedule for those who received the Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna, or AstraZeneca vaccines; this delay was reduced to 4 weeks for people who received one dose of the Janssen vaccine. The mRNA vaccine dose recommended for people who received one dose of the Janssen vaccine was therefore counted as a booster shot. To give eligible people the time to receive their booster injection, the measuring point for this indicator is taken to be at least 7 months after the last injection for people who were fully vaccinated with Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna, and AstraZeneca, and at least 2 months for Janssen. The recommended delay between the last vaccination and the booster shot was recently modified and, regardless of the vaccine, this indicator will soon be adjusted.

On 30 November, 94.0% of **residents of aged care homes and long-term care facilities** had received at least one vaccine dose, 92.6% were fully vaccinated, and 58.2% had received a booster shot.

Vaccination coverage of healthcare professionals in France on 23 and 30 November 2021 (in %)

	At least one dose (%)		Full vaccination (%)		Booster dose (%)	
	23 November	30 November	23 November	30 November	23 November	30 November
Professionals in aged care homes and long-term care facilities	92.4	92.5	91.5	91.7	6.9	11.4
Professionals in private practice	96.8	96.9	96.5	96.5	28.0	36.9
Salaried healthcare workers in healthcare facilities	92.3	92.5	91.6	91.8	8.1	13.8

Check out the surveys of the week

Update on [nosocomial SARS-CoV-2 infections](#)

For more information on COVID-19, the surveillance systems in place, and vaccination, consult the websites of [Santé publique France](#) and [Vaccination Info Service](#).

For more information on the regional data, see [Regional Epidemiological Updates](#).

Find all the open access data on [Géodes](#)