

# COVID-19 EPIDEMIOLOGICAL UPDATE

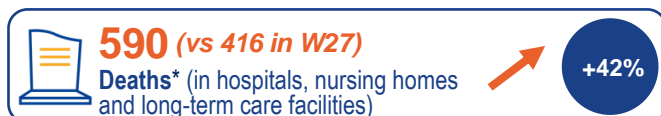
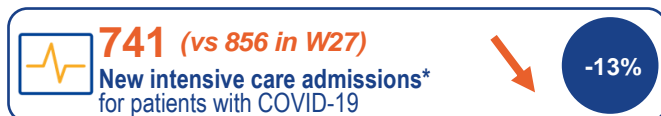
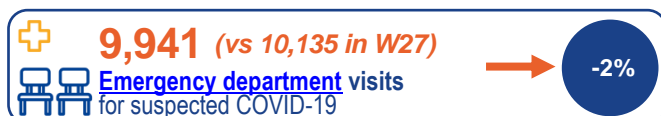
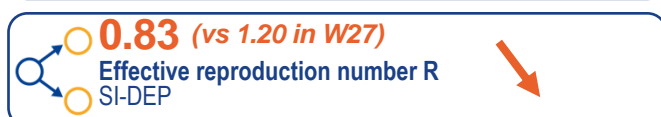
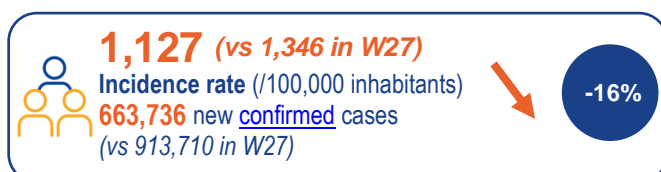
Weekly Report N° 125 / Week 28 / 21 July 2022

As part of its surveillance, alert, and prevention missions, Santé publique France analyses and publishes COVID-19 data obtained from its network of partners<sup>1</sup> as well as its own studies and surveys. This report is based on data reported to Santé publique France up to 20 July 2022.

## Key numbers

Week 28 (11-17 July 2022)

Compared to week 27 (4 - 10 July 2022)



On 18 July 2022:

Compared to 11 July 2022



\*W28: unconsolidated data.

<sup>1</sup>Santé 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.

## Key points

### Epidemiological situation

In week 28, circulation of SARS-CoV-2 declined at national level, with virological indicators remaining high and a continued increase in deaths.

- Metropolitan France:
  - Decrease in incidence rate in most age groups, stabilisation in the 80+ age group
  - Incidence rate down in most regions, notably in Île-de-France and Pays de la Loire
  - Hospital indicators at high levels and number of deaths still rising
- Overseas France:
  - Virological indicators rising at high levels in Guadeloupe
  - Incidence rate still rising in Reunion Island
  - Epidemic resurgence confirmed in Mayotte with moderate incidence

### Variants

- Majority of Omicron BA.5 sub-lineage in the week 27 Flash Survey (4 July)

### Prevention

- Vaccination on 18 July 2022 (Vaccin Covid data):
  - Vaccination coverage for the booster shot stable at 75.0% in the population aged 18+ years and 84.9% in the 65+ age group
  - Second booster shot: 20.0% of 60-79 year-olds (representing 29.2% of those eligible) and 29.5% of people aged 80+ (39.5% of those eligible)
- In the context of the summer holidays and activities that favour transmission of the virus, compliance with the combined measures remains essential to protect the most vulnerable populations. The following precautions are particularly vital:
  - staying up-to-date with COVID-19 vaccinations;
  - self-isolation in case of symptoms and a positive test for COVID-19;
  - application of protective measures, including wearing a mask (around vulnerable people and in closed spaces favourable to transmission, especially public transport and large gatherings), and frequent hand washing. During heatwaves, ventilation of enclosed spaces should be limited to the cooler hours of the day.

## Week 28 (11 to 17 July 2022)

### SITUATION UPDATE

In week 28, circulation of SARS-CoV-2 decreased overall at national level with an R-effective lower than 1 and a 16% drop in incidence rate, which nevertheless remained at a very high level. The decrease was less significant in the 60-79 age group and incidence remained stable in the 80+ age group. Hospital indicators remained high, particularly for people aged 70 and over, while the number of deaths continued to rise. The incidence rate in Guadeloupe, already high, progressed further. Increases in incidence rate were again observed in Reunion Island and Mayotte. Vaccination efforts must be stepped up to improve vaccination coverage, which remains insufficient, particularly in overseas regions and among the elderly. Currently, only 39.5% of eligible 80+ year-olds and 45.4% of eligible nursing-home residents had received a second booster shot. Given the active circulation of SARS-CoV-2 in the context of summer holidays, protective precautions remain necessary to limit the spread of the epidemic. In the event of symptoms, a positive test or high-risk contacts, it is also important to follow the recommended measures.

### EPIDEMIOLOGICAL UPDATE

In week 28, the incidence rate was down after six consecutive weeks of increase (1,127/100,000, -16%), representing more than 90,000 new cases on average per day. This decrease concerned all age groups, except those aged 80-89 and 90+, for which the incidence was stable. A more marked decline was observed among the under-60s. The incidence rate exceeded 1,000 in the 20-79 age group and was highest among 30-39 year-olds (1,490, -17%) and 20-29 year-olds (1,440, -18%). The positivity rate continued to rise in the 60+ age group. It exceeded 30% among 20-79 year-olds and was highest among 50-59 year-olds (39.7%, -0.3 points). The largest decreases were observed among the under-20s (at least -1 point). The screening rate was also down after six weeks of increase (3,384, -16%).

In S28, after several weeks of increase, the number of consultations for suspected COVID-19 stabilized in emergency departments (9,941, -2%) and decreased in SOS Médecins networks (7,685, -10%).

The number of new hospital admissions (7,907, -12%) and new intensive care admissions (741, -13%) remained high. Due to the non-consolidation of data, these downward trends tend to be overestimated and will be confirmed in the next Epidemiological Update. Hospital admission rates were highest among people aged 70 and over. Those aged 90+ had the highest rates of hospitalisation. The [number of deaths](#) in hospitals and long-term care facilities continued to rise, reaching 590 (+42, unconsolidated data for week 28).

In metropolitan France, the incidence rate was down in most regions, particularly in Île-de-France (-30%) and Pays de la Loire (-28%). A less marked decrease

was observed in Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur (-3%), Corsica (-3%) and Bourgogne-Franche Comté (-7%), while the incidence was stable in Grand Est. The highest incidences were observed in Occitanie, Corsica and Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur. Hospital admission rates stopped increasing in all regions. The same trend was observed for the number of intensive care admissions, except in Hauts-de-France and Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, where this indicator was on the rise (unconsolidated data).

In overseas France, the incidence rate was high and continued to rise in Guadeloupe (1,117, +5%). It increased in Reunion Island (547, +32%) and in Mayotte, although the incidence remained moderate in the latter (102, +38%). The situation continued to improve in Martinique (586, -26%) and in French Guiana (395, -8%).

### VARIANTS

The replacement of BA.2 by BA.5 has continued. BA.5 has been in the majority for the past four weeks, representing 58% (90% all sub-lineages included) of interpretable sequences, compared to 5% (9% all sub-lineages included) for BA.2 during the week 27 Flash Survey (4 July). The sub-lineage BA.4 was also detected in 5% of the sequences. The presence of the mutation at position L452 in screening tests continued to increase (87% in week 28 vs 84% in week 27), in line with the progression of BA.5.

### PREVENTION

On 18 July, vaccination coverage was 84.9% for the booster dose among people aged 65 and over. Only 29.2% of 60-79 year-olds and 39.5% of 80+ year-olds, as well as 45.4% of eligible nursing-home residents, had received their second booster dose.

## Where to find the graphs and tables on InfoCovidFrance?

As of 14 July 2022, the Weekly Report (COVID-19 Epidemiological Update) will evolve to 3-page format that provides a global view of the dynamics of the COVID-19 epidemic in France.

The graphs and tables presenting the indicators are available directly on [InfoCovidFrance](#):

### HOSPITAL INDICATORS

- Weekly figures for COVID-19 patients newly admitted to hospital and intensive care units are available in the "Key numbers" tab, in the "Consultations / Hospital" section. The different rates for these indicators are also presented in the "Hospital" tab.
- Weekly rates of COVID-19 patients newly admitted to hospital and intensive care, by age group, are available as two separate graphs in the 'Hospital' tab.

### LONG-TERM CARE FACILITY INDICATORS

The "Long-term care facilities" tab provides information on the following indicators:

- vaccination coverage among residents and staff of nursing homes and long-term care facilities;
- the weekly number of new confirmed cases among residents and staff of long-term care facilities;
- weekly deaths among residents of long-term care facilities.

### VIROLOGICAL DATA AT NATIONAL LEVEL

- The graph "Incidence and screening corrected for public holidays" is available in the "Incidence" tab.
- The heat map "Weekly evolution of the incidence rate by age group" is available in the "Incidence" tab.

### VIROLOGICAL DATA AT REGIONAL LEVEL

- The table "Evolution of the incidence, positivity, and screening rates by region" is presented in the form of graphs at the regional and departmental levels in the "Incidence" tab.

### VARIANTS

- The graph "Evolution of the proportions for each classified variant in the Flash surveys" is available in the "Variants" tab.

### VACCINATION COVERAGE

- The graph "Vaccination coverage by age group" is available in the "Vaccination" tab.

### This week's surveys

Update on [post-COVID conditions \(also known as long COVID\) in France](#)  
Latest results from monitoring of [COVID-19 cases among health professionals](#)

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

### Dashboard

#### [InfoCovidFrance](#)

Key figures and evolution of COVID-19 in France and worldwide