

# COVID-19 EPIDEMIOLOGICAL UPDATE

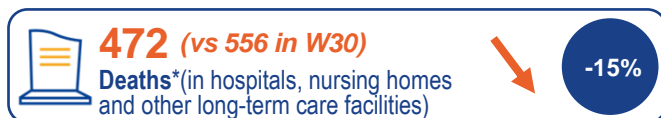
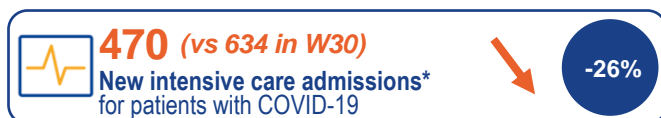
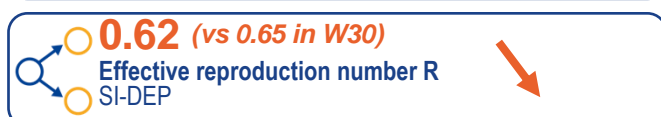
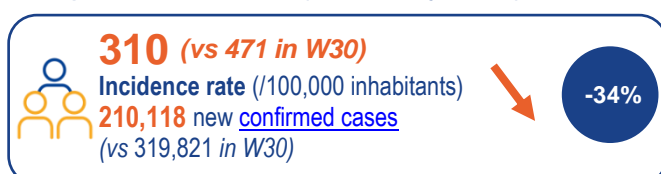
Weekly Report N° 128 / Week 31 / 11 August 2022

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 submitted to Santé publique France up to 10 August 2022.

## Key numbers

In week 31 (1-7 August 2022)

Compared to week 30 (25-31 July 2022)



On 8 August 2022

Compared to 1 August 2022



## Key points

### Epidemiological situation

In week 31, circulation of SARS-CoV-2 continued to decrease in France, along with a drop in hospital admissions. However, virological and hospital indicators remained high.

#### Metropolitan France:

- Decrease in the incidence rate in all age groups and all regions
- The highest incidence rates among 20-39 year-olds and 50-59 year-olds
- Decrease in hospital admission rates continuing throughout the country

#### Overseas France:

- Incidence rate high but falling in Reunion Island and in Guadeloupe
- High positivity rate in Reunion Island and rising in Martinique

### Variants

- Omicron sub-lineages: mostly BA.5 with 93% of sequences in the week 30 Flash Survey (25/07)

### Prevention

#### Vaccination on 8 August 2022 (Vaccin Covid data):

- Stability of vaccination coverage for the booster shot reached 75.3% among the population aged 18+ and 85.2% in the 65+ age group.
- Second booster shot: 25.2% of 60-79 year-olds (32.7% of those eligible according to the period of time since the last injection) and 33.6% of those aged 80 and over (44.6% 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:
  - up-to-date COVID-19 vaccination;
  - self-isolation in the event of symptoms or a positive test for COVID-19;
  - Application of protective measures: systematic mask-wearing around vulnerable people or in enclosed spaces (public transport, large gatherings, etc.) and frequent hand-washing.
- During heatwaves, ventilation of closed spaces should be limited to the coolest hours of the day.

\*W31: 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.

## Week 31 (1 to 7 August 2022)

### SITUATION UPDATE

In week 31, circulation of SARS-CoV-2 continued to slow down in France, with another sharp drop in the incidence rate (-34%). This trend was observed in all age groups and all metropolitan regions. A decrease in hospital indicators was also observed in week 31. In overseas France, the incidence rate dropped in all regions. It nonetheless remained high in Reunion Island, with a positivity rate exceeding 30%, and rising slightly. On 8 August, only 32.7% of those aged 60-79, 44.6% of the 80 and over age group and 49.1% of long-term care facility residents had received their second booster shot, among those eligible (according to the period of time since their last injection). The vaccination effort must therefore be stepped up to improve vaccination coverage, which remains inadequate, especially in France's overseas territories and among the oldest age groups. Similarly, with circulation of SARS-CoV-2 still active, and summer holidays in progress, precautionary measures remain necessary to maintain the current positive trend. In the event of symptoms, a positive test or high-risk contact, it is also necessary to follow the recommended measures.

### EPIDEMIOLOGICAL UPDATE

In week 31, the incidence rate continued to fall for the fourth consecutive week. There were 310 cases for 100,000 inhabitants, i.e. -34%, which corresponds to 30,000 new cases per day on average. This drop was again observed across all age groups. The rates remained above 300 in all age groups, except among the under 20s, where they were below 200. The highest rates were observed among 20-29 year-olds (389, -35%) and 30-39 year-olds (387, -35%). Concerning the positivity rate, it also continued to fall, but the decrease was less pronounced than the previous week (22.0%, -1.8 points vs -5.9 points in week 30). It fell in all age groups, with the exception of the 0-9 age group, where it was stable (18.5%). This indicator still exceeded 25% among 50-69 year-olds. Furthermore, a decrease in the screening rate was also observed for the fourth consecutive week (1,409, -29%), in all age groups. This rate exceeded 2,000 among the 90 and over age group, and was below 1,000 among 0-9 year-olds (625, -35%).

In week 31, consultations for suspected COVID-19 were down in emergency departments (4,157 vs 5,221 visits in week 30, i.e. -20%) and in SOS Médecins associations (3,419 vs 4,376 consultations, i.e. -22%) for the third consecutive week.

Hospital indicators followed the same trend. New hospital admissions were down for the third consecutive week (4,289, -28%). In parallel, 470 intensive care admissions were recorded, i.e. a decrease of 26% (unconsolidated data). The number of deaths in hospitals and long-term care facilities was 472 in week 31 (-15%, unconsolidated data). The [number of deaths](#) nation-wide from all causes among people aged 65 and over was highly in excess between weeks 27 and 29, and seemed to return within the usual fluctuation margins in week 30 (to be confirmed with consolidation of data).

In metropolitan France, the incidence rate fell in all regions, from -22% in Corsica to -41% in Pays de la Loire. It was the highest in Corsica (598, -22%) and Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur (427, -31%). These regions also had the highest screening rate. Rates of new hospital admissions were down in almost all regions, with the highest numbers in Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur and Bourgogne-Franche-Comté. The intensive care admission rate also fell in almost all areas.

In overseas France, the incidence rate dropped in all regions. The highest rate was again found in Reunion Island (528, -22%), where the positivity rate was above 30% (+1.2 points). The incidence rate was also high in Guadeloupe (386, -36%). The rate of new hospital admissions was down in Guadeloupe and in Martinique, and stable in Reunion Island and French Guiana.

### VARIANTS

Omicron is almost the only variant present in France and its BA.5 sub-lineage is currently omnipresent. In metropolitan France, BA.5 (all sub-lineages included) accounted for 93% of interpretable sequences in the week 30 Flash Survey (25/07). The proportion of BA.4 (all sub-lineages included) in Flash Surveys remains stable, with 5% of interpretable sequences in the week 30 Flash Survey. The detection of mutations in position L452 by screening tests stabilised at high levels (91% in week 31 vs 90% in week 30) in connection with circulation of BA.5.

### PREVENTION

On 8 August, vaccination coverage was at 85.2% among those aged 65 and older for the booster shot. Only 32.7% of those aged 60-79, and 44.6% of the 80 and over age group and 49.1% of long-term care facility residents had received their second booster shot, among those eligible (according to the period of time since their last injection).

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

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

The graphs and tables presenting the indicators are available directly on [InfoCovidFrance](#), where a weekly report is published in addition to the dashboard:

### 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.

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