

COVID-19 EPIDEMIOLOGICAL UPDATE

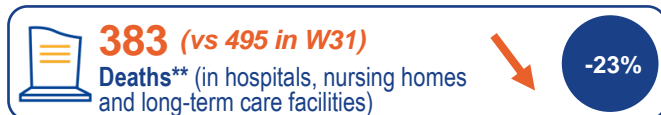
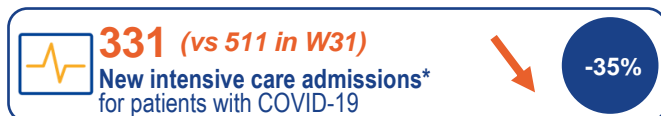
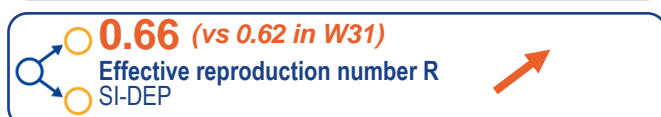
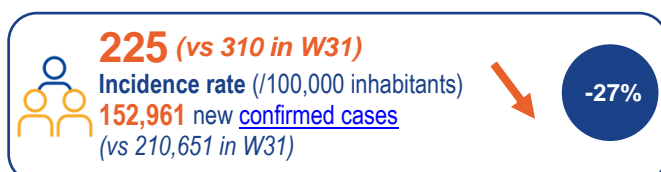
N° 129 / Week 32 / 18 August 2022

As part of its surveillance, alert, and prevention missions, Santé publique France analyses and publishes COVID-19 data obtained from its network of partners¹ as well as its own studies and surveys. This report is based on data submitted to Santé publique France up to 17 August.

Key numbers

Week 32 (8-14 August 2022)

Compared to week 31 (1-7 August 2022)



As of 15 August 2022

Compared to 8 August 2022



Key points

Epidemiological situation

In week 32, epidemiological indicators continued to improve throughout all French territories except Reunion Island.

- Metropolitan France:
 - Continued decline in the incidence rate in all age groups and regions
 - Incidence rates highest in the 20-39 years and 90+ age groups
 - Hospital admission rates continue to fall across the country
- Overseas France:
 - Incidence and positivity rates high and rising in Reunion Island

Variants

- Omicron sub-lineages: BA.5 omnipresent, again accounting for 93% of sequences in the week 31 Flash Survey (1 August)

Prevention

- Vaccination on 15 August 2022 (Vaccin Covid data):
 - Vaccination coverage for the booster dose remains stable at 75.3% in the population aged 18+ and 85.2% in the 65+ age group
 - Second booster dose: 25.8% of 60-79 year-olds (representing 32.5% of those who are eligible according to the vaccination schedule) and 34.1% of people aged 80+ (45.2% of those who are eligible)
- In the context of the summer holidays and activities conducive to transmission of the virus, upholding the combined protective measures remains essential:
 - staying up-to-date with COVID-19 vaccinations;
 - self-isolation in case of a positive test for COVID-19 and/or symptoms;
 - application of precautionary measures, including wearing a mask systematically around vulnerable people and in enclosed spaces favourable to transmission (especially on public transport and at large gatherings), and frequent hand washing. During heatwaves, ventilation of enclosed spaces should be limited to the cooler hours of the day.

*W32: unconsolidated data.

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 32 (8 to 14 August 2022)

SITUATION UPDATE

In week 32, the decrease in circulation of SARS-CoV-2 continued with an improvement in epidemiological indicators across all metropolitan regions. The incidence rate was down in all age groups and hospital admission rates continued to decrease throughout the country. In overseas France, the incidence rate decreased in all regions except Reunion Island, where it remained high and on the rise, with a positivity rate of 38.0%. On 15 August, among those eligible according to the vaccination schedule, only 32.5% of 60-79 year-olds and 45.2% of 80+ year-olds had received their second booster dose. Vaccination efforts must therefore be stepped up to improve vaccination coverage, which remains insufficient, particularly in the overseas regions and among the elderly. Given the context of the summer holidays and continued active circulation of SARS-CoV-2, precautionary measures remain essential in order to maintain the positive evolution currently observed. It is also important to follow the recommended measures in the event of symptoms, a positive test or high-risk contacts.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL UPDATE

In week 32, the incidence rate was 225 cases per 100,000 inhabitants. It continued to decline for the fifth consecutive week (-27%), averaging nearly 22,000 new cases per day. This decline was again observed across all age groups. Rates remained around 250/100,000 in most age groups, except for the under-20s where they were significantly lower (88 for 0-9 year-olds and 127 for 10-19 year-olds). The highest rates were observed among 30-39 year-olds (280, -28%), 20-29 year-olds (278, -29%) and in the 90+ age group (278, -23%). The decline in the positivity rate was confirmed to be slowing down this week (20.5%, -1.5 points). It fell in all age groups, except among 0-9 year-olds, where it has been stable for several weeks (18.4%, -0.1 points), and among 10-19 year-olds, where it was on the rise (14.8%, +1.3 points). This indicator remained highest among 50-59 year-olds (24.6%, -1.8 points). As for the screening rate, it was again decreasing at national level (1,097, -22%) and in all age groups. This was the lowest rate seen in the past two years (since August 2020). It remained highest in the 90+ age group (1,922, -16%), was less than 1,000 among 10-19 year-olds (859, -31%) and fell to 500 among 0-9 year-olds (477, -24%).

In week 32, the number of consultations for suspected COVID-19 was down for the fourth consecutive week in emergency departments (3,252 vs 4,157 visits, -22%) and in SOS-Médecins organisations (2,704 vs 3,419 consultations, -21%).

Similar trends were observed for hospital indicators. Hospital admissions were again in sharp decline (3,115, -33%), as were admissions to intensive care units (331, -35%, unconsolidated data). The [number of deaths](#) in hospitals and long-term care facilities was 383 in week 32 (vs 495 in week 31, i.e. -23%, unconsolidated data).

In metropolitan France, the incidence rate fell throughout the territory. It varied from -26% in Corsica and Normandy to -33% in Pays de la Loire. It was highest in Corsica (446, -26%) followed by Provence-

Alpes-Côte d'Azur (315, -27%). These regions also continued to have the highest screening rate (over 1,500/100,000). Hospital admission rates were down in all regions. The highest rates were observed in Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur and Corsica. Intensive care admissions were also lower in the majority of regions.

In overseas France, incidence rates were down in all regions except Reunion Island, where it was again on the rise. Reunion Island also had the highest incidence rate (586, +10%). Similarly, the positivity rate was very high and showing a strong increase in this region (38.0%, +6.2 points). The incidence rate was also high in Guadeloupe, although decreasing (283, -27%). As for hospital indicators, the rate of new admissions decreased in all territories and was highest in Reunion Island.

VARIANTS

Omicron circulates almost exclusively in France and its BA.5 sub-lineage is currently omnipresent. In metropolitan France, BA.5 (all sub-lineages combined) represented 93% of interpretable sequences in the Flash Survey of 1 August for week 31 (stable compared to the Flash Survey for week 30). The proportion of BA.4 (including all its sub-lineages) in the Flash Surveys remains stable, with 7% of interpretable sequences in the Flash Survey for week 31. The detection of mutations at position L452 in screening tests stabilised at high levels (92% in week 32 vs 91% in week 31), in line with the circulation of BA.5. Further information is available in the [variants risk assessment of 10 August 2022](#).

PREVENTION

On 15 August, vaccination coverage was 85.2% for the booster dose among people aged 65 and over. Among those eligible according to the vaccination schedule, only 32.5% of 60-79 year-olds and 45.2% of 80+ year-olds, as well as 49.8% of 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 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 to supplement 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 under "Consultations / Hospital". 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 regional and departmental-level graphs 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