

COVID-19 EPIDEMIOLOGICAL UPDATE

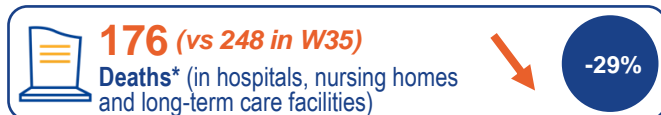
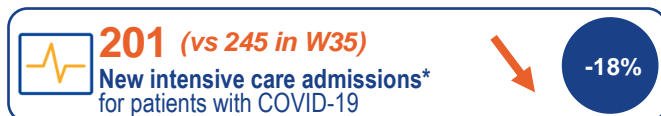
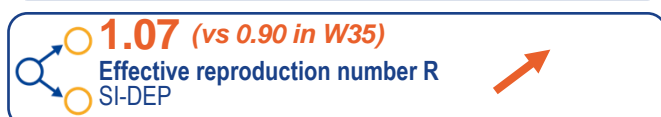
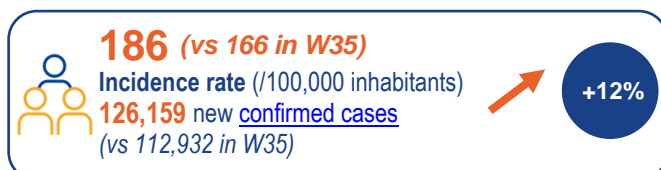
N° 133 / Week 36 / 15 September 2022

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 received by Santé publique France up to 14 September 2022.

Key numbers

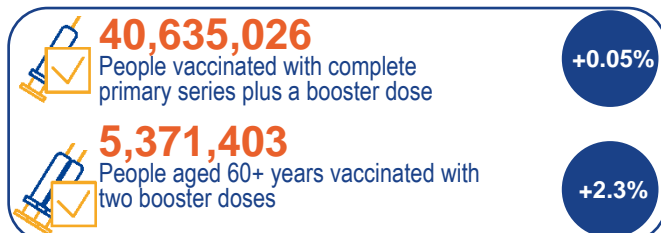
Week 36 (5-11 September 2022)

Compared to week 35 (29 August-4 September)



On 13 September 2022

Compared to 5 September 2022**



Key points

Epidemiological situation

In week 36, circulation of SARS-CoV-2 went back on the rise after several weeks of improvement in the epidemic situation, while hospital indicators continued to decrease at national level.

- Metropolitan France:
 - Incidence rate on the rise, particularly among the under-20s
 - Increased incidence rate in most regions
 - Continued decline in new hospital admissions across most of the country
- Overseas France:
 - Incidence rate falling in all regions

Variants

- Omicron sub-lineages: BA.5 omnipresent, accounting for 93% of sequences in the week 34 Flash Survey (22 August)

Prevention

- Vaccination on 13 September 2022 (Vaccin Covid data):
 - Vaccination coverage for the booster shot stable at 74.3% in the population aged 18+ years and 82.4% in the 65+ age group
 - Second booster dose: 28.3% of 60-79 year-olds (representing 33.9% of those eligible given the date of their last injection) and 36.1% of people aged 80+ (47.4% of those eligible)
- Given the acceleration in circulation of SARS-CoV-2, compliance with the combined measures remains necessary:
 - staying up-to-date with COVID-19 vaccinations, including the second booster dose for the elderly;
 - self-isolation in case of a positive test for COVID-19 and/or symptoms;
 - continued application of precautionary measures, including wearing a mask, particularly around vulnerable people and in enclosed areas favourable to transmission (especially public transport and large gatherings), as well as frequent hand washing and ventilation of enclosed spaces.

*W36: unconsolidated data. **Due to a technical incident, data on vaccination coverage could not be estimated for 12/09/2022. The data presented, as well as comparisons with the previous week, are therefore based on data from 13/09/2022.

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 36 (5 to 11 September 2021)

SITUATION UPDATE

In week 36, the incidence rate increased after several weeks of decrease in most metropolitan areas. The trend was more heterogeneous across age groups, with the increase mainly driven by the under-20s. Meanwhile, hospital indicators continued to decline in the majority of regions. In overseas France, virological indicators were also down in all territories. It is essential to step up the vaccination effort given that vaccination coverage remains insufficient, particularly for the second booster dose among the elderly. On 13 September, among those eligible according to the vaccination schedule, only 33.9% of 60-79 year-olds and 47.4% of 80+ year-olds had received their second booster dose. In addition, given the intensified circulation of SARS-CoV-2, it remains important to take all necessary precautions for the protection of vulnerable people and to follow the recommended measures in the event of symptoms, a positive test or high-risk contacts.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL UPDATE

In week 36, the incidence rate increased for the first time after 8 weeks of decline. It was 186/100,000 inhabitants (+12% vs -9% in week 35), representing more than 18,000 new cases per day on average. The rise in incidence was primarily borne by the under-20s, with an increase of 111% in the 0-9 age group (208) and 46% in the 10-19 age group (141). There was also a notable increase among 30-39 year-olds, who showed the highest rate this week (247, +15%). As for the positivity rate, it has stabilised at national level (17.1%, +0.2 points). However, trends were very heterogeneous across age groups. It rose sharply among the under-20s (by more than 4 points), was stable among 20-39 year-olds and continued to fall, although to a lesser extent, in the other age groups. It was highest among 0-9 year-olds (28.7%, +4.8 points), followed by 10-19 year-olds (22.8%, +4.5 points). The screening rate, which had stabilised during the previous week, increased to 1,086/100,000 in week 36 (+10% vs +2% in week 35). It was increasing or stable in all age groups, with a particularly marked increase in the 0-9 age group (723, +76%). It was highest again in the 90+ age group (1,704, +1%) and lowest among 10-19 year-olds (619, +17%).

In week 36, after 7 consecutive weeks of decrease, consultations for suspected COVID-19 stabilised in emergency departments at 1,863 visits (i.e. -0.3%) and were on the rise in SOS Médecins associations (2,113 consultations, +18%). In terms of age groups, consultations increased among the under-15s and remained stable among adults.

Hospital indicators continued to decrease at national level. In total, 1,925 hospital admissions (i.e. -16%, unconsolidated data) and 201 intensive care admissions (-18%, unconsolidated data) were recorded in week 36. The [number of deaths](#) declared in hospitals and long-term care facilities was 176 in week 36 (vs 248 in week 35, i.e. -29%, unconsolidated data).

In metropolitan France, the incidence rate went back on the rise in nine regions, notably Hauts-de-France,

Normandy and Centre-Val de Loire, where the increase was greater than or equal to 30%. Only in Corsica did this indicator remain in decline (161, -16%). It was lowest in Île-de-France (119, +11%) and highest in Grand Est (216, +23%) and Brittany (215, +18%). Hospital admissions decreased in the majority of regions, although an upward trend was observed in Normandy and Centre-Val de Loire. The highest hospital admission rates were again recorded in Bourgogne-Franche-Comté, followed by Corsica.

In overseas France, the incidence rate decreased in all territories. It remained highest in Reunion Island (296, -45%), despite a sharp decline. Hospital admission rates were down in all territories. This indicator remained highest in Reunion Island (8.3/100,000), although it continued to decrease.

VARIANTS

Omicron circulates almost exclusively in France and its BA.5 sub-lineage is currently omnipresent. In metropolitan France, BA.5 (all further sub-lineages combined) represented 93% of interpretable sequences in the Flash Survey of week 34 (22 August)¹. The sub-lineage BA.4 (including all further sub-lineages) remains in circulation, with 6% of interpretable sequences in the Flash Survey for week 34¹ vs 4% for week 33. The BA.2.75 sub-lineage is detected at low levels, with 0.6% of interpretable sequences in the Flash Survey for week 34. The detection of mutations at position L452 in screening tests remains stable at high levels (93% in weeks 35 and 36), in line with the circulation of BA.5. Further information is available in the [variants risk assessment of 7 September 2022](#).

PREVENTION

On 13 September, vaccination coverage for the booster dose was 82.4% in the 65+ age group. Meanwhile, vaccination coverage for the second booster dose among those eligible (according to the date of their last injection) progressed marginally to 33.9% among 60-79 year-olds, 47.4% among 80+ year-olds, and 52.1% among nursing-home residents.

¹The data presented here relate to the week 34 Flash Survey as less than 500 sequences were available for week 35, an insufficient amount to make robust estimates for the proportion of different variants.

Where to find the graphs and tables on InfoCovidFrance?

As of 14 July 2022, the COVID-19 Epidemiological Update is produced in a condensed, 3-page format that provides an overview of the COVID-19 epidemic situation 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.

This week's survey

Update on [possible reinfections with SARS-CoV-2](#)

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