

COVID-19 EPIDEMIOLOGICAL UPDATE

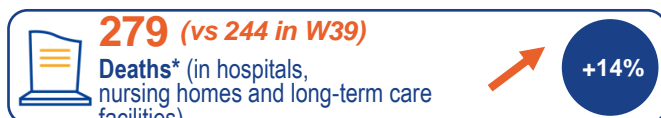
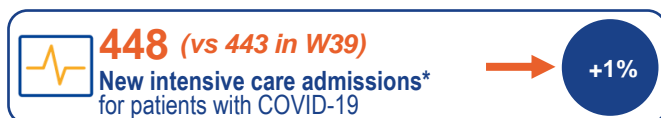
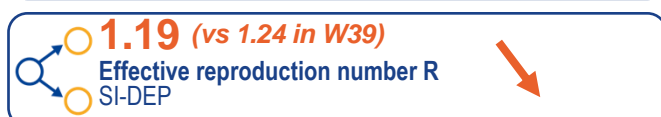
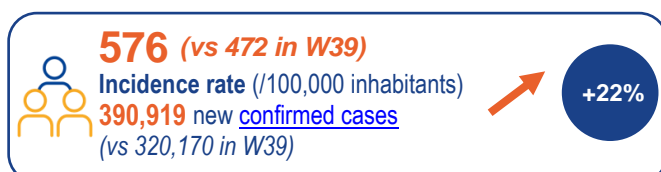
N° 137 / Week 40 / 13 October 2022

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 reported to Santé publique France up to 12 October 2022.

Key numbers

Week 40 (3-9 October 2022)

Compared to week 39 (26 Sept.-2 Oct. 2021)



On 10 October 2022

Compared to 3 October 2022



*W40: 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.

Key points

Epidemiological situation

In week 40, circulation of SARS-CoV-2 increased again throughout metropolitan France, with a further rise in hospital admissions.

- Metropolitan France:
 - Incidence rate above 500/100,000 inhabitants at national level
 - Increasingly marked rise in incidence rate among the elderly
 - Incidence rate stable among 0-9 year-olds and falling again among 10-19 year-olds
 - Number of deaths on the rise
- Overseas France:
 - Incidence rate falling or stable at low levels in all territories

Variants

- Omicron sub-lineages: BA.5 omnipresent, accounting for 89% of sequences in the week 39 Flash Survey (26 September)

Prevention

- Vaccination on 10 October 2022 (Vaccin Covid data):
 - 74.4% of the population aged 18+ and 82.5% of the 65+ age group had received a first booster dose
 - 30.4% of 60-79 year-olds (representing 35.9% of those who are eligible given the time since their last injection) and 37.7% of people aged 80+ (49.3% of those who are eligible) had received a second booster dose
- Given the intense circulation of SARS-CoV-2, compliance with the combined measures remains crucial:
 - up-to-date COVID-19 vaccination, including a booster dose of bivalent vaccine (protecting against the original strain and the Omicron variant of Sars-CoV-2) for eligible individuals already vaccinated with a primary course;
 - self-isolation in case of a positive test for COVID-19 and/or symptoms;
 - continued application of precautionary measures, including wearing a face mask, particularly around vulnerable people and in enclosed spaces favourable to transmission (public transport, large gatherings, etc.), frequent hand washing and ventilation of interiors.

SITUATION UPDATE

In week 40, circulation of SARS-CoV-2 increased again throughout metropolitan France. The incidence rate exceeded 500 cases per 100,000 inhabitants at national level, with an increasingly marked rise in the older age groups. After 2 weeks of decline, this indicator stabilised in the 0-9 age group, and a decrease was again observed in the 10-19 age group. New hospital admissions and the number of deaths continued to rise. In overseas France, the situation continued to improve in all regions. On 11 October, among those eligible according to the vaccination schedule, only 35.9% of 60-79 year-olds and 49.3% of 80+ year-olds had received their second booster dose. In view of the epidemic momentum and the decrease in use of protective measures, vaccination coverage must be reinforced, particularly for the booster dose of bivalent vaccine (protecting against the initial strain and the Omicron variant of SARS-CoV-2) among those already vaccinated with a primary course and eligible for the autumn campaign. The importance of adhering to preventative measures to protect vulnerable individuals must be emphasised. Compliance with other recommended measures remains vital in the event of symptoms, a positive test or high-risk contacts.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL UPDATE

In week 40, the incidence rate continued to rise reaching 576 cases per 100,000 inhabitants (+22%), i.e. an average of more than 55,000 new cases per day. This increase concerned all age groups except 10-19 year-olds, where the incidence rate fell further (275, -16%), and 0-9 year-olds, where it stabilised after 2 weeks of decline (167, +4%). The greatest increases were seen in the 70+ age group ($\geq +40\%$) where, alongside the 40-59 age group, the incidence rate was highest ($> 700/100,000$).

The screening rate was up again at national level (2,089/100,000, +9%), but decreased for the second consecutive week in the 10-19 age group (1,331, -17%). It remained lowest among 0-9 year-olds (1,077, +6%) and highest in the 90+ age group (3,204, +20%).

The positivity rate (27.6%, +2.9 points) continued to climb in the population aged 20 and over. It stabilised among 0-9 year-olds (15.5%, -0.3 points) and 10-19 year-olds (20.6%, +0.1 points) after 3 and 2 weeks of decline, respectively. It was highest among 40-49 year-olds (32.2%, +2.5 points) and 50-59 year-olds (33.8%, +3.2 points).

In long-term care facilities, the number of new confirmed cases increased for the third consecutive week (4,126 in week 40, +35% compared to week 39, unconsolidated data).

In week 40, the number of consultations for suspected COVID-19 increased in SOS Médecins organisations (4,285 consultations, +15%) and emergency departments (4,895 visits, +24%). These increases concerned all age groups, except children for emergency-department visits.

The increase in hospital admissions continued with 5,834 new admissions (+13%), including 448 (+1%) for intensive care. Higher figures are expected upon data consolidation. In the previous week (week 39), the consolidated hospital indicators were showing

strong increases: +40% for hospital admissions and +37% for intensive care. The number of deaths in hospitals and long-term care facilities continued to rise in week 40 (279, +14%, unconsolidated data).

In metropolitan France, the incidence rate increased further across the entire territory. It exceeded 700/100,000 inhabitants in Grand Est (816, +25%), Bourgogne-Franche-Comté (748, +24%) and Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes (730, +31%). The rate of new hospital admissions was up or stable in all regions.

In overseas France, the situation continued to improve across all territories, with incidence and hospital admission rates decreasing or remaining stable at low levels.

VARIANTS

Omicron circulates almost exclusively in France and its BA.5 sub-lineage remains omnipresent. In metropolitan France, BA.5 (all sub-lineages combined) represented 89% of interpretable sequences in the Flash Survey for week 39 (26 September). The sub-lineage BA.4 (including all further sub-lineages) continues circulating, with 9% of interpretable sequences in the Flash Survey for week 39. The BA.2.75 sub-lineage is detected at very low levels, with 1% of interpretable sequences in the Flash Survey for week 39. The detection of mutations at position L452 in screening tests remains stable at high levels (94% in week 40 and 93% in week 39), in line with the circulation of BA.4 and BA.5 observed in sequencing. Further information is available in the [variants risk assessment of 5 October 2022](#).

PREVENTION

On 10 October, vaccination coverage for the booster dose was 82.5% in the 65+ age group. Meanwhile, vaccination coverage for the second booster dose among those eligible (according to the date of their last injection) amounted to 35.9% for 60-79 year-olds, 49.3% for 80+ year-olds, and 54.4% of nursing-home residents.

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.

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