

# COVID-19 EPIDEMIOLOGICAL UPDATE

Weekly report / Week 27 / 16 July 2021 / N°72

As part of its surveillance, alert, and prevention missions, Santé Publique France analyses and publishes COVID-19 data obtained from its network of partners as well as its own studies and surveys. This report is based on data reported to Santé publique France up to 15 July 2021.

## Key numbers

Week 27 (5-11 July 2021)

Compared to week 26 (28 June-4 July 2021)



As of 13 July 2021

Compared to 6 July 2021



## Key points

### Epidemiological situation

In week 27, the deterioration of the epidemiological situation accelerated in a context marked by a sharp increase in the number of people attending gatherings and a clear progression of the Delta variant, which is now the dominant variant in metropolitan France.

- Increase in the incidence rate in all age groups, especially among young adults
- Stabilisation of hospital admissions and decline in intensive care admissions at the national level, with increases observed in several regions
- Metropolitan France:
  - Incidence rate above 50/100,000 inhabitants in Occitania, Île-de-France, and Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur
  - Increased circulation of SARS-CoV-2 in all regions
- Overseas France: high incidence rate in Martinique, Guyana, and Reunion Island

### Variants of concern

- Mutation L452R (largely driven by the Delta variant): 63% of screened positive samples

### Contact tracing

- Decrease in the proportion of new cases previously registered as contacts at risk, indicating the lower identification of transmission chains
- Sharp increase in the number of cases who reported attending a public venue

### Prevention

- Vaccination coverage as of 13 July:
  - 54.0% for at least one dose and 42.5% for full vaccination
  - Around 10% of 70-79 year-olds and 20% of those aged 80 years and older have not received a single dose
- Importance of vaccination in the entire eligible population
- Importance of limiting contacts at risk and respecting barrier measures and contact tracing to limit the spread of the virus
- In case of symptoms, requirement for immediate self-isolation and rapid testing

\* Santé publique France acknowledges the large network of partners that contribute to its COVID-19 surveillance: private practice doctors, medico-social emergency (SAMU), Centre 15, hospital doctors, hospital and private medical biology laboratories, learned societies for infectious diseases, resuscitation, and emergency medicine, CNAM, INSERM, and INSEE.

### SITUATION UPDATE

In week 27, the deterioration of the situation continued to accelerate. The effective R value (SI-DEP) of 1.5 attests to the strong dynamic of virus transmission. The incidence rate increased in all age groups. This increase was the highest among 10-39 year-olds and impacted all regions. The Delta variant now represents the majority of viral sequences in metropolitan France. Contact tracing data confirm the sharp increase in the number of cases who attended public venues. As of 13 July 2021, 54% of the population had received at least one vaccine dose, and 42% were fully vaccinated. Given the strong increase in viral circulation, the start of the summer holidays, and the rapid spread of the Delta variant, it is important to encourage the vaccination of all eligible people by reinforcing incentives and facilitating access to vaccines in order to achieve a sufficient level of herd immunity as soon as possible. It is also crucial to maintain a high level of adherence to preventive measures, notably by limiting contacts at risk and self-isolating in the case of symptoms, confirmed infection, or contact with a confirmed case.

#### EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SITUATION

At the national level, an increase in the **incidence rate** (40/100 000, +62%) was observed in all age groups. This increase was the highest among 10-19 year-olds (63/100,000, +78%), 20-29 year-olds (115, +77%), and 30-39 year-olds (57, +67%). The **screening rate** increased among 10-59 year-olds (4,196/100,000, +25%), declined among 0-9 year-olds (1,195, -32%), and remained stable among those aged 60 years and older. The **positivity rate** was the highest among 20-29 year-olds (1.9%, +0.5 point) and on the rise among symptomatic individuals (8.1% vs 5.7% in week 26).

The number of consultations for suspected COVID-19 increased in SOS Médecins organisations (1,047, +61%) and emergency departments (1,118, +15%). This rise involved all age groups, particularly those aged 15 years and older.

**The decline in the number of declarations of new hospital (783, -2%) and intensive care admissions (154, -11%)** was less marked this week, being stable among those under 65 years. The number of hospitalised COVID-19 patients as of 13 July was **7,135 (-7%)**, including **946 (-9%) in intensive care**.

At the national level in metropolitan France, the **incidence rate increased in all regions**; it exceeded 50/100,000 inhabitants in Occitania (59), Île-de-France (55), and Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur (51). The sharpest increases were observed in Corsica, Occitania, Pays de la Loire, and Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur. The effective reproduction number estimated on 10 July based on virological data (SI-DEP) was significantly higher than 1 in all regions. The incidence rate more than doubled in 31 departments (vs 13 in week 26).

In the overseas territories, a **sharp increase in the incidence rate** was again recorded in Martinique (278/100 000, +143%), where hospital indicators were also on the rise. The incidence rate remained high in **Guyana** and **Reunion Island** (185 and 166, respectively).

#### VARIANTS OF CONCERN

The Delta variant became dominant across the French mainland: the L452R mutation (largely driven by the Delta variant) was detected in 63% of screened positive samples (vs 43% in week 25). This variant represented 55% of interpretable sequences in Flash survey #13 on 29 June.

#### CONTACT TRACING

In week 27, contacts recorded in ContactCovid increased by 57% and cases by 63%. The number of cases in high-risk public venues again increased sharply (bars +209%, restaurants +120%, cultural events +100%, tourist accommodation +175%, sports facilities +33%). The percentage of cases previously registered as contacts diminished (17.9% vs 19.8% in week 26), while in a context of stable international travel (10%).

#### PREVENTION

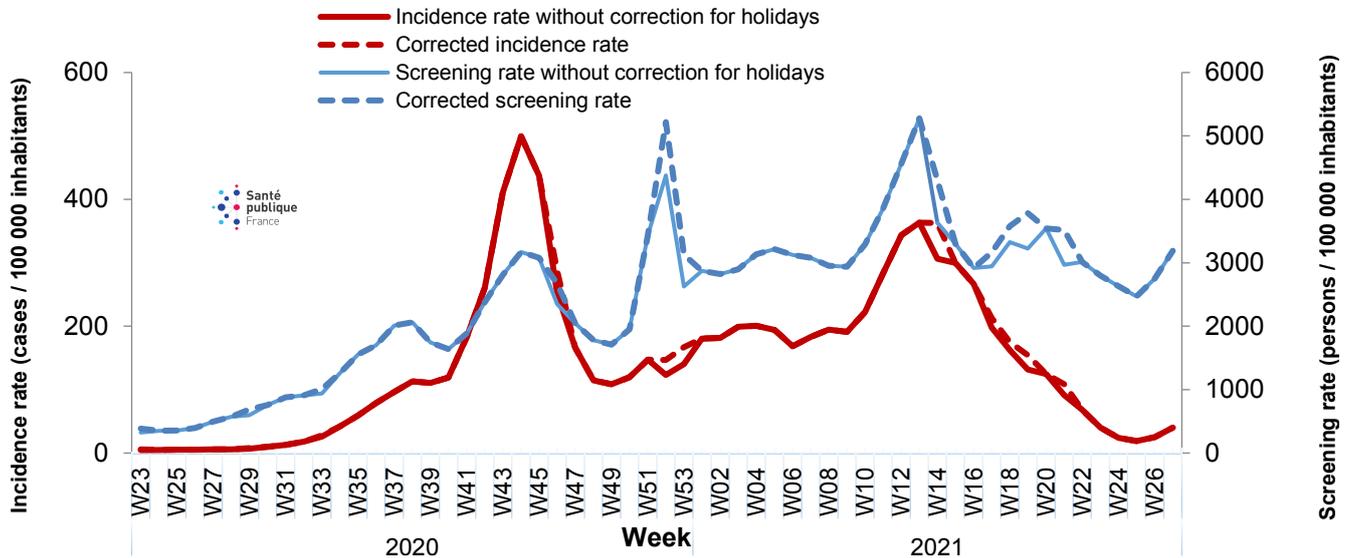
As of 13 July 2021, **54.0% of the population in France had received at least one vaccine dose, and 42.5% were fully vaccinated**. Overall, 21.4% of 12-17 year-olds and 53.6% of 18-49 year-olds have received at least one dose. Around 10% of 70-79 year-olds and 20% of those aged 80 years and older are yet to receive a single dose, with the vaccination coverage in these populations showing only limited progression in the past several weeks.

Vaccination coverage was high among residents of nursing homes and long-term care facilities (89.0% for at least one dose and 83.6% for full vaccination) and among healthcare professionals in private practice (81.6% and 77.1%, respectively). Professionals working in nursing homes and long-term care facilities had a lower vaccination coverage: 62.4% and 52.7%, respectively.

## Confirmed cases, incidence, and screening

At the national level, the [incidence rate](#) was 40 per 100,000 inhabitants (+62%), while the [screening rate](#) was 3,189 per 100,000 inhabitants (+16%). The [positivity rate](#) rose to 1.3% (+0.4 point). This rate increased among symptomatic individuals (8.1% vs 5.7% in week 26) and remained stable among asymptomatic individuals (0.7% vs 0.6% in week 26). Overall, 46% of cases were symptomatic, a slight increase from week 26 (44%).

### Weekly trends in the incidence and screening rates, with or without correction for the effect of public holidays, since 1 June 2020, France (as of 15 July 2021)

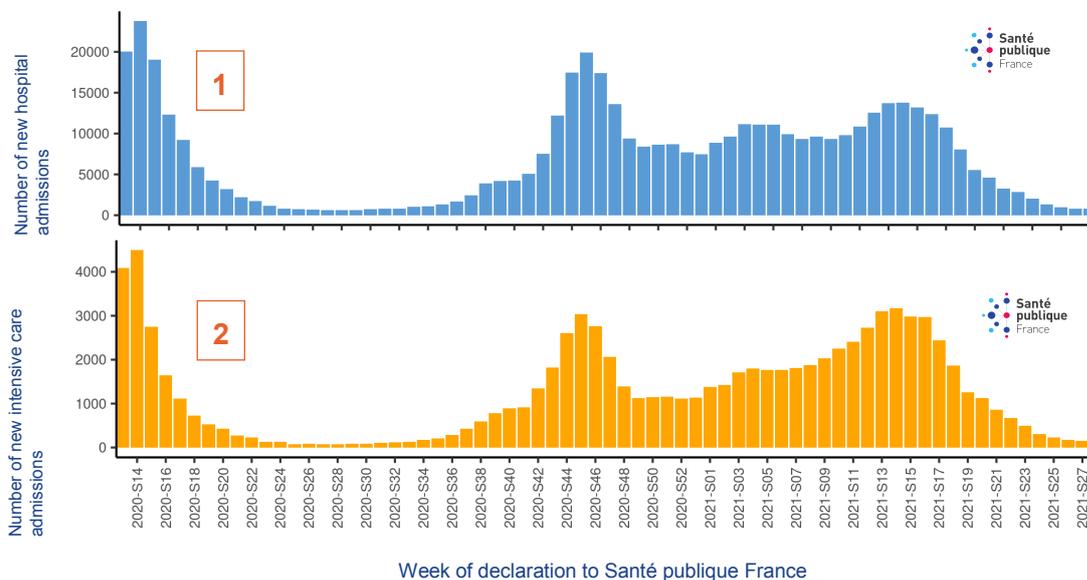


Source: SI-DEP

## Hospitalisations, intensive care admissions, and deaths

- At the national level, as observed since week 13, the decrease in hospital indicators based on the date of declaration continued in week 27 with **783 new hospital admissions** (-2%) and **154 new intensive care admissions** (-11%). Nevertheless, an increase in new hospital admissions was observed, notably in Ile-de-France, Normandy, and Martinique, while new intensive care admissions rose in Martinique. Vigilance should be maintained in Occitania due to the increase in new hospital admissions based on the date of admission, which should be consolidated in the following weeks.

### Weekly number of new hospital (1) and intensive care (2) admissions for COVID-19 patients since 23 March 2020, France (as of 11 July 2021)



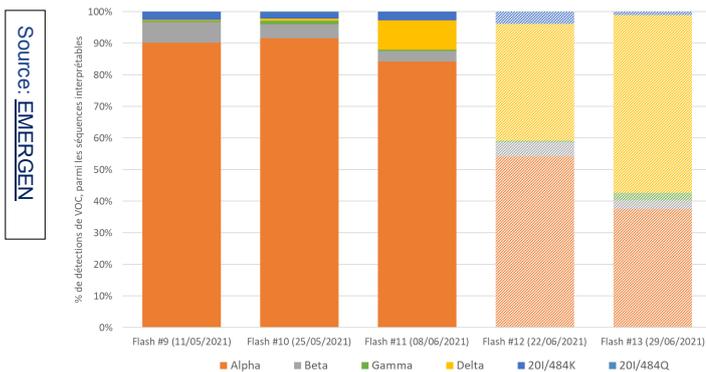
Source: SI-VIC

- At the national level, there were **165 deaths** in week 27, down from week 26 (-7%), with a weekly mortality rate of 0.2 per 100,000 inhabitants.

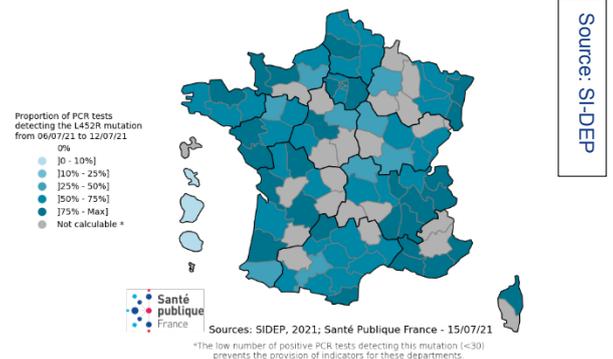
## Variants of concern

The detection of the L452R mutation (largely driven by the **Delta variant**) **increased sharply**: it accounted for 63% of screened positive samples in week 27 (vs 43% in week 26). [Sequencing data](#) confirm that the Delta variant has become the dominant [variant](#) in metropolitan France since week 26, representing 55% of interpretable sequences in Flash survey #13 on 29 June (vs 35% for Flash #12 on 22 June). In overseas France, other variants are predominant: Beta in Reunion Island, Gamma in Guyana, and Alpha in the Antilles.

Proportion of variants of concern detected by sequencing in the Flash surveys (#9 to #13)



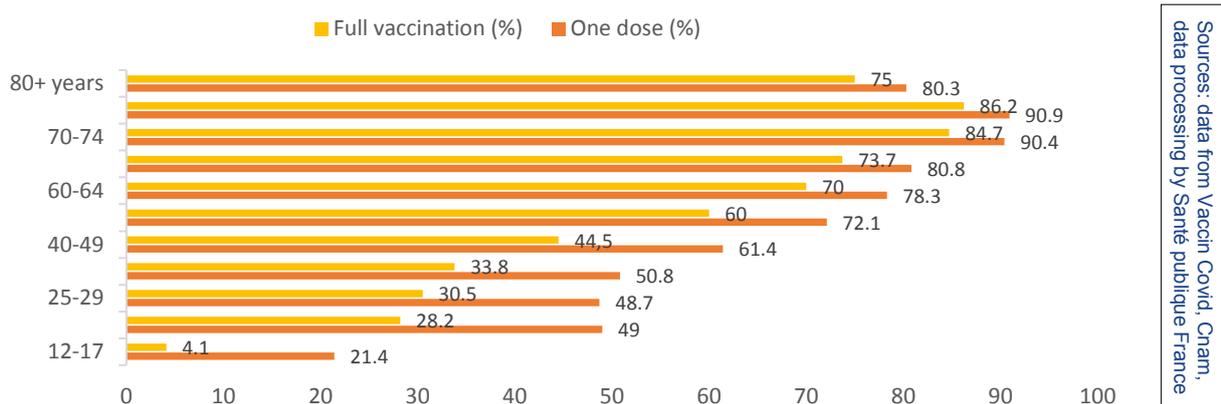
Proportion of PCR tests detecting the L452R mutation, by department, in week 27



## Vaccination

On 13 July, the [vaccination coverage](#) of the population aged between 18 and 49 years was estimated at 53.6% for at least one dose and 35.7% for full vaccination, while it was 84.4% and 78.9%, respectively, among those aged 75 years and older. **Among the population aged 12 years and older, 36,227,786 have received at least one dose (62.7%) and 28,499,518 (49.3%) are fully vaccinated.** Vaccination coverage for at least one dose was 89% for residents of nursing homes and long-term care facilities (83.6% for full vaccination), 62.4% for professionals working in nursing homes and long-term care facilities (52.7% for full vaccination), and 81.6% for healthcare professionals in private practice (77.1% for full vaccination).

Vaccination coverage by age group in France as of 13 July 2021 (in %)



Consult the [Santé Publique France](#) website for more information on COVID-19 and the surveillance systems. All data are open access and available from [Géodes](#)

**Check out the survey of the week**  
Update on the [evolution of the SARS-CoV-2 epidemic among children under 18 years during the school year](#)

For more information on the regional data, refer to the [regional epidemiological situation](#)