Japan

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- Invited Professor at Université de Tours (2017)
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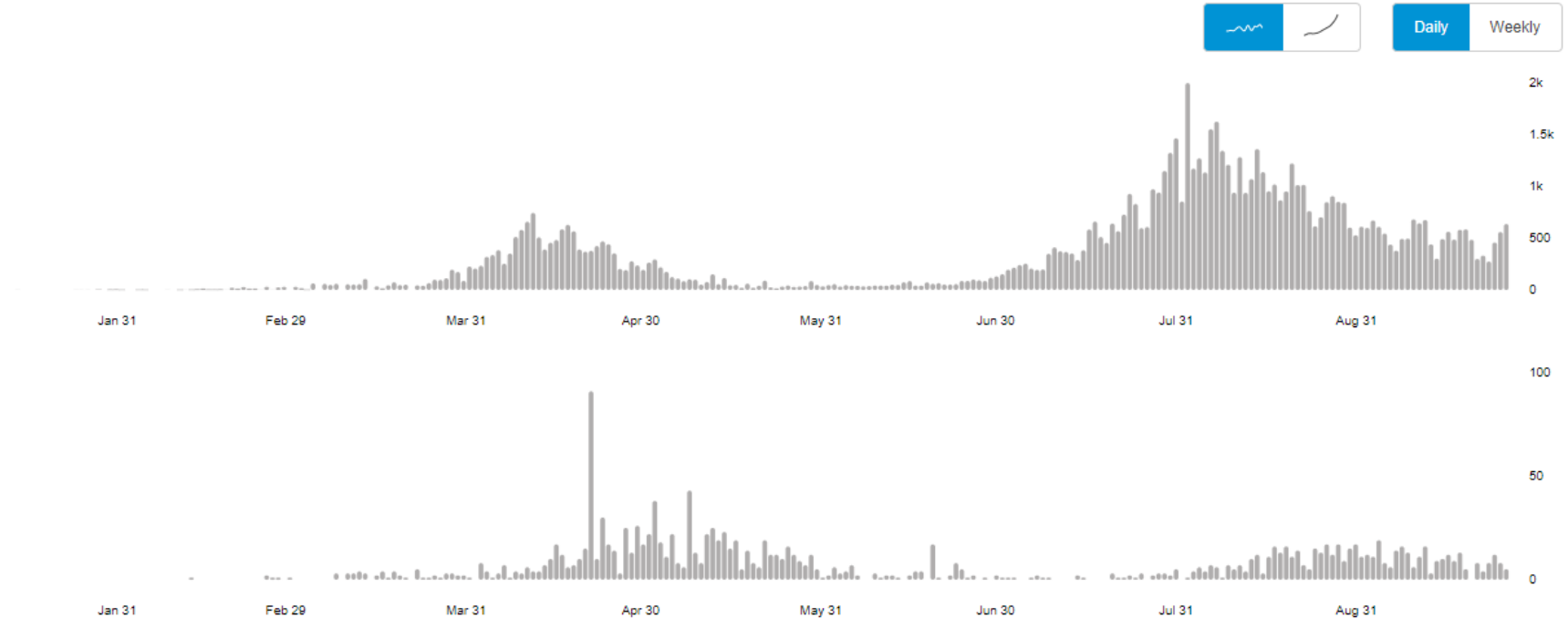
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Infection in Japan is not as serious as in western countries

In **Japan**, from **Jan 3** to **1:08pm CEST, 27 September 2020**, there have been **81,690 confirmed cases** of COVID-19 with **1,545 deaths**.

Japan Situation

81,690 confirmed cases

1,545 deaths

Source: World Health Organization

https://covid19.who.int/region/wpro/country/jp

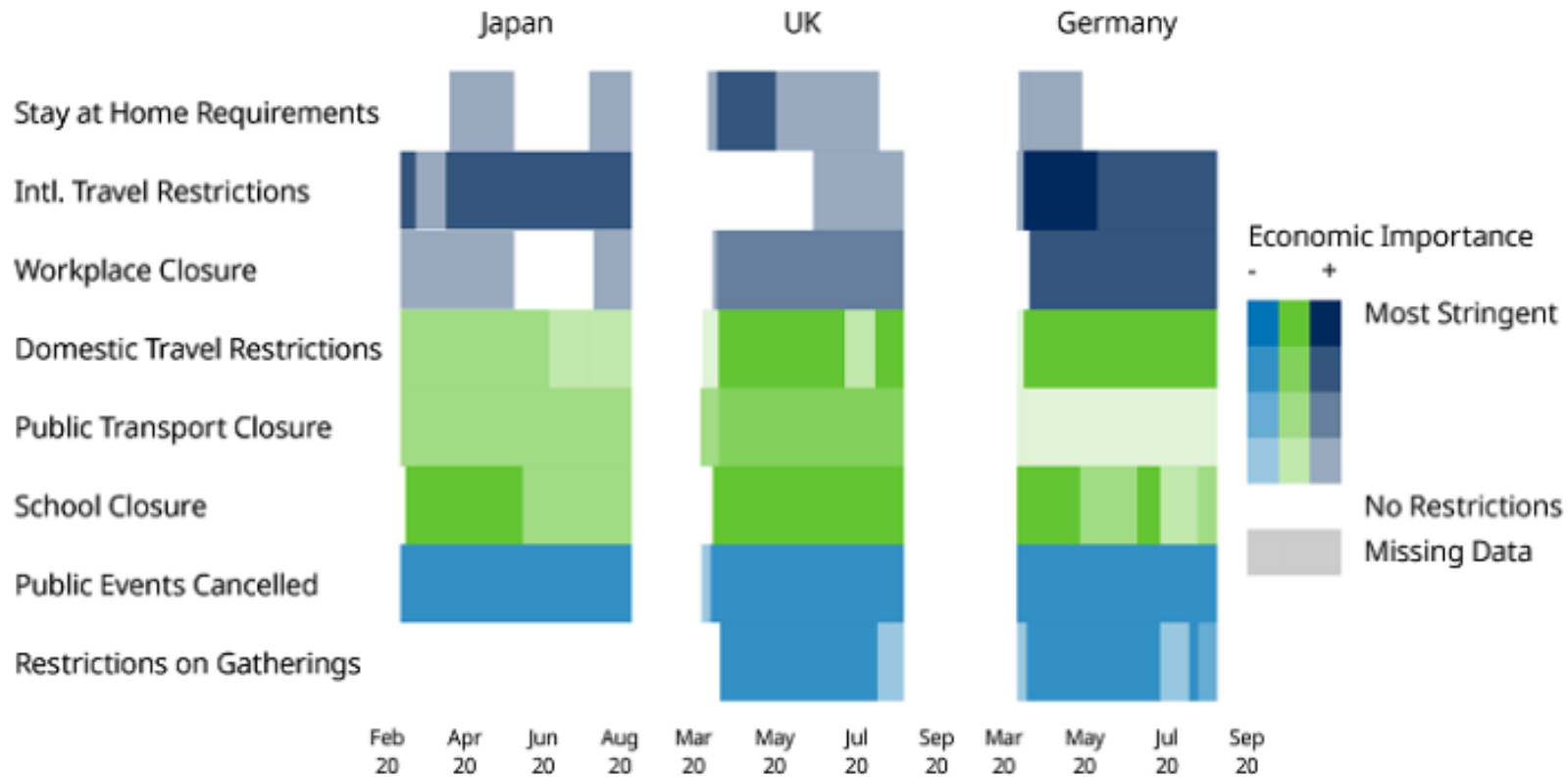# No Lockdown was carried out

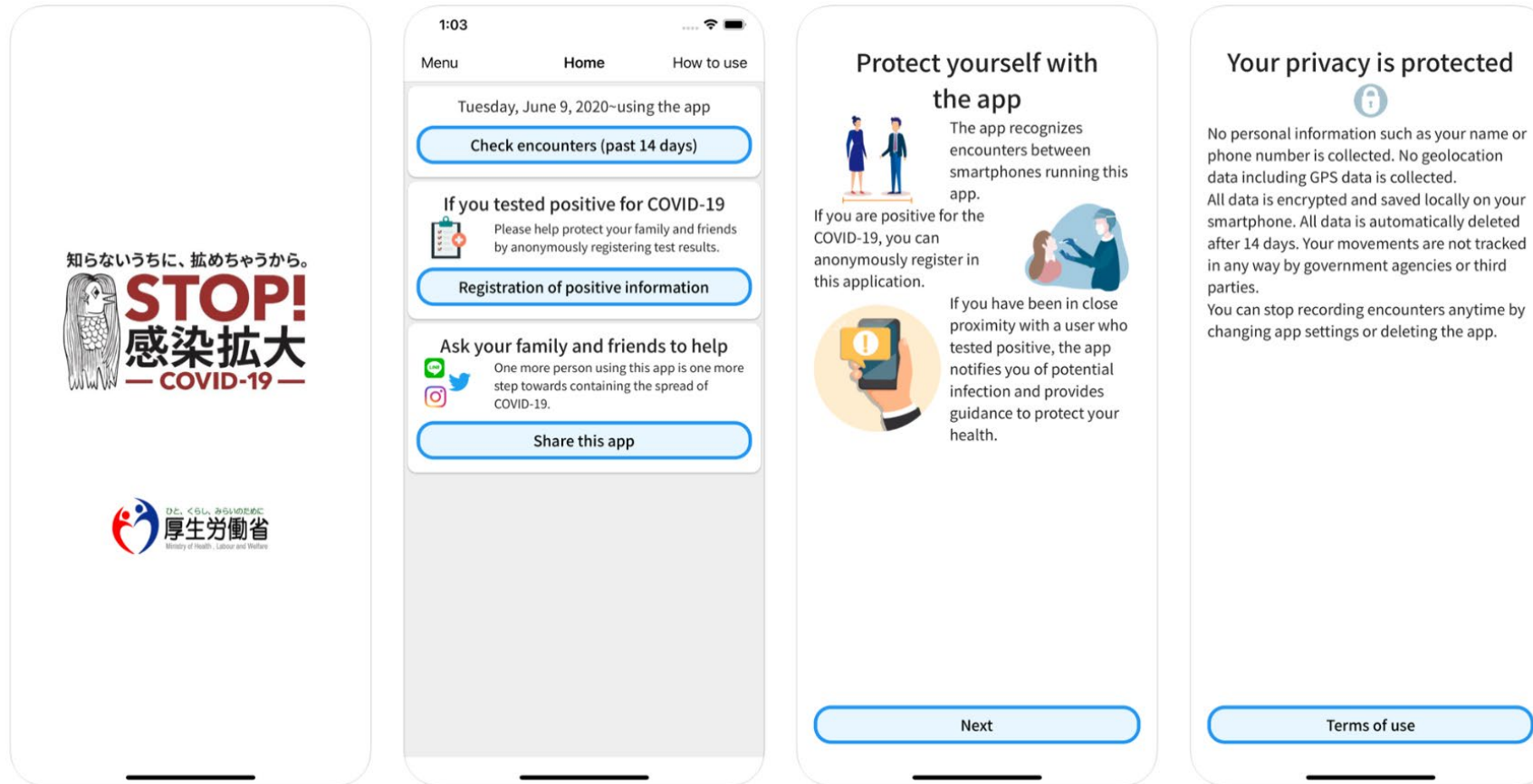Some lockdown measures were less stringent in Japan

Schroders

Source: Data Insights Unit, as at 11 August 2020. 482805

https://www.schroders.com/en/insights/economics/what-the-data-tells-us-about-japans-response/

"COCOA" was launched on June 19

- 17.5 millions downloads(14% of the population)
- 900 notifications.
- Aside from this, some local government also use QR Code system.

Under-registration

- When a PCR test tests positive, the individual is required to enter the positive information into the app, but in reality, many of them do not enter this information.

- As a result, only about 900 positive registrations have been made. The number of positive registrations should be much higher, as there were over 60,000 people tested positive during this period.

Bugs

- Government does not have sufficient information about bugs in the app.

- To protect privacy, the information collected through the app was kept to a minimum.

- As a result, it was not possible to collect information about the bugs and the information needed to fix these bugs was not available.

- To deal wiht this, it is currently under consideration to add a function to send operation logs when a bug occurs, with the consent of the user.

Actions notified person should take

- Currently, contact notifications are understood as an opportunity for the notified person to take a PCR test.

- However, due to limited testing capacity, even with a contact notification, it takes up to five days to get tested.

- Therefore, it has been argued that the main purpose of contact notification is understood as an opportunity for self-isolation, and the user interface should be changed to achieve this.

Expanding functionality of the app

- The current app only has the ability to notify the user of contact with a person tested positive.

- It is argued that additional features should be added for more effective infection control.

- Specifically, the app could ask the recipient to enter health information (body temperature, chills, taste disorder, etc.), and then analyze it with an algorithm to recommend a medical consultation, or use this health information for research.

- However, such an expansion of functions would be a major policy change and may not be easy to implement.