

Coronavirus: COVID-19
Current Update – July 1, 2022

Recent change: Our weekly updates will no longer include case numbers because public health units are no longer required to report them. Even before this change, the reported case counts were already likely lower than the actual number of cases. This is because, as of December 31, 2021, Ontario has only been providing PCR tests to high-risk individuals who are also showing symptoms. The number of hospitalizations and people in Intensive Care Units (ICU) are more accurate indicators of the current COVID-19 situation.

Going forward, Public Health Ontario (PHO) will be publishing weekly COVID-19 summaries instead of daily summaries.

The report begins by stating that the numbers it is reporting do not represent how much COVID-19 is in Ontario. PHO warns to interpret these numbers with caution because they are not entirely accurate. Cases, contacts, and outbreaks are only being managed in high-risk populations and settings. There is also a delay in reporting, especially with severe outcomes.

Hospital admissions and deaths seem to have stopped going down. These numbers are similar to last week. People who are 80 years old and older continue to have higher rates of hospitalizations and deaths compared to other age groups.

The total number of outbreaks in high risk settings increased to 64 last week, compared to 67 the week before and 61 two weeks before. Except for hospitals, all congregate care and congregate living settings reported more outbreaks last week compared to the week before.

Last week, there were 722 cases associated with outbreaks, up from 526 last week. Last week, 379 new cases were reported in Long-Term Care homes (compared to 288 the week before) and 151 cases were reported in retirement homes (compared to 123 the week before).

Source:

1. https://www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/Documents/nCoV/epi/covid-19-weekly-epi-summary-report.pdf?sc_lang=en

Upcoming Vaccine Clinics

Toronto Public Health continues to host summer pop-up vaccine clinics across the city during Toronto's Canada Day festivals and special events. This is part of Team Toronto's continued efforts to bring COVID-19 vaccination opportunities to places people live, work and play.

These family-friendly and youth-friendly clinics will provide first, second, third, fourth, and children's COVID-19 doses to eligible residents age five and up on a walk-in basis. Pfizer and Moderna will be offered by Toronto Public Health nurses who will also answer any questions you have about COVID-19 and vaccines.

Even though proof of vaccination is not required to access spaces anymore, COVID-19 vaccines have been scientifically proven to lower the risk of illness, hospitalization, and death. Not only that, getting vaccinated helps you to protect yourself, your loved ones, and the community. Data shows that people with three doses have the lowest rates of hospitalization, ICU and death over any other level of vaccination.

No appointment or health card required!

Today & This Weekend

- High Park Canada Day Festival at High Park, 1873 Bloor St. W.
When: **Friday, July 1**, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- East York Canada Day Festival at Stan Wadlow Park. 373 Cedarvale Ave.
When: **Friday, July 1**, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Canada Day event at Mel Lastman Square, 5100 Yonge St.
When: **Friday, July 1**, 2 to 7 p.m.
- CIMA Mayor's Cricket Trophy event at Sunnybrook Park, 1132 Leslie St.
When: **Saturday, July 2**, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Lakeshore Ribfest at 1 Colonel Samuel Smith Park Dr.
When: **Saturday July 2 and Sunday, July 3**, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Other Upcoming Vaccine Clinics

- Afrofest at Woodbine Park, 1695 Queen St. E.
When: Saturday, July 9 and Sunday, July 10, 1 to 7:30 p.m.
- Dragon Boat Challenge (GWN Sport Regatta) at Marilyn Bell Park, 1095 Lakeshore Blvd. W.
When: Saturday July 9, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Change to Metro Hall Vaccine Clinic Hours of Operation

As of Monday, July 4, the City-run vaccine clinic at Metro Hall will be open from Monday to Friday 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

As of Friday, July 8, Metro Hall will operate five days a week, on Sundays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and from Mondays to Thursdays from noon to 6 p.m.

Source:

1.

<https://www.toronto.ca/news/toronto-public-health-hosting-pop-up-covid-19-vaccination-clinics-throughout-canada-day-weekend-and-at-many-upcoming-summer-events/>

Ontario’s COVID-19 Vaccine booking portal:

Those eligible for a vaccine can book here: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/book-vaccine/>.

Or by phone at: 1-833-943-3900.

For general information about vaccines, call: 1-888-999-6488.

In Toronto? Here are two transportation options to go to your vaccine appointment:

1. The Ontario Community Support Association’s Accessible Drive-to-Vaccines program provides door-to-door rides to vaccination sites for people with disabilities, including seniors with mobility issues. You must have a vaccination appointment booked. You need to request a ride at least 48 hours before the appointment. To book, call 211 or click [here](#) to request an appointment online.

2. Wheel-Trans is committed to providing vaccine rides to the elderly and people with disabilities in Toronto. Wheel-Trans is offering individual rides to City-run mass vaccination sites, pharmacies, doctor’s offices, and clinics that are giving out vaccines. Customers may be joined by one Support Person on their Wheel-Trans ride.

You may be eligible for Wheel-Trans service if your disability prevents you from using the TTC’s conventional transit for all or part of their trip.

If you are not yet a Wheel-Trans customer, and you think you may qualify for Wheel-Trans service, you are invited to apply by calling Wheel-Trans Customer Service at 416-393-4111, Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Existing Wheel-Trans customers can book their rides to and from their vaccine appointments by calling Wheel-Trans Reservations at 416-393-4222, seven days a week from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. or through the Wheel-Trans Self-Booking Website. Access the website by clicking here: <https://mywheel-trans.ttc.ca/SelfBooking2020/Login?ReturnUrl=%2fSelfBooking2020>.

Upcoming Events:

North Yorkers

The Communication Enrichment Class (ongoing)

The class is running virtually on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 1pm. You can find the online blog at <https://nydpcec.wordpress.com/> where class activities will be posted before each class. If you or someone you know has a communication disability and may be interested in

participating in the class, please contact Jessica, our Manager of Client Services via email at jessica.nydp@gmail.com.

March of Dimes

One to One Peer Support Program

The One to One Peer Support program is still running. No one understands quite like somebody who has lived the same experience. Our Peer Support program pairs caregivers with peers who are also experienced in caregiving and can offer practical advice and support by phone or a video chat. Contact Angie Clark by email at aclark@marchofdimes.ca or call 1-905-301-8114 for more information or to get connected.

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If you or someone you know uses Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC), and requires resources related to COVID-19, please contact Jessica (jessica.nydp@gmail.com) and she can assist you in accessing and/or creating various communication tools.

If you think you may be experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, take the self-assessment at www.ontario.ca/coronavirus. Follow all directions from your medical provider or your local health unit at the following phone numbers:

Telehealth Ontario: 1-866-797-0000

Toronto Public Health: 416-338-7600

Peel Public Health: 905-799-7700

Durham Region Health Department: 905-668-7711

York Region Public Health: 1-877-464-9675

Please refer to previous updates as lots of important information has been provided that may still be relevant. If you have any questions or require more information on how you can protect yourself and those around you from the COVID-19 virus, please contact our Senior Manager of Client Services/Lead AAC Facilitator Jessica at 416-222-4448 or jessica.nydp@gmail.com.