

Coronavirus: COVID-19
Current Update – June 24, 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 first report was published yesterday. It compares data from two weeks ago (June 5 to 11) with data from last week (June 12 to 18).

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 and downward trends 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 continue to decrease from the peak in the sixth wave. 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 61 last week, compared to 42 the week before. All congregate care and congregate living settings reported more outbreaks last week compared to the week before. The only exception were shelters and correctional facilities, which reported no new outbreaks this week.

Two weeks ago, there were 487 cases associated with outbreaks. Last week, this number went up by one. However, last week, 116 cases were reported in retirement homes (compared to 56 the week before) and 84 cases were reported in hospitals (compared to 49 the week before). Retirement homes and hospitals showed the greatest increase of cases associated with outbreaks.

Source:

1.

https://www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/Documents/nCoV/epi/covid-19-weekly-epi-summary-report.pdf?sc_lang=en&hash=128BC85BFFFEE6CDE4A9E908DAC85D70

Scarborough COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic for People with Disabilities

Hosted by Surrey Place in partnership with the SAAC Autism Centre.

When: Sunday June 26 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Where: 10 Milner Business Ct, Suite #102, Scarborough, ON M1B 3C6

- 1st, 2nd, 3rd doses available! Ask for eligibility criteria.
- No OHIP required
- Private quiet rooms with one-on-one personalized support
- Drive through option
- Family members are welcome!
- No walk-ins. By appointment only.

To book an appointment, please call 416-925-5141 x 4444 or email covid@surreyplace.ca. We can provide other accommodation resources, such as specialized volunteers (e.g., ASL interpreters) or specialized equipment (e.g., wheelchairs to use). Please let us know well in advance so that we can plan accordingly.

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Other Vaccine Clinics This Weekend

No appointment required!

- Toronto Beaches Rib Fest, Woodbine Beach Park, 1675 Lake Shore Blvd E.
When: Friday 4 p.m. – 8 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 12 p.m. – 7 p.m.
- Youth Vaccine Outreach event, Dentonia Park, 80 Thyra Ave.
When: Friday 5 p.m. – 8 p.m.
- Toronto Fiesta Extravaganza, Albert Campbell Square, 150 Borough Dr.
When: Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- B'Well Clinic & Wellness, The Rexdale Community Hub, 21 Panorama Court
When: Saturday from 11:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
This is a free community event for Black, Caribbean, and African communities. In addition to COVID-19 vaccination, there will also be blood pressure checks, a community farmer's market, natural juice bar, dominoes, a henna bar, raffles, food, and music! There is also a drop-in 'fitness and socialize' event from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m.

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SickKids COVID-19 Vaccine Confidence Webinar

This is an opportunity to learn about COVID-19 vaccines and get answers to your questions in order to make the best decision for yourself and your child.

Topics include:

- Overview of vaccines available for children and youth
- Review the risks and benefits of COVID-19 vaccination
- Discuss common concerns and questions related to the COVID-19 vaccine

When: Wednesday June 29th at 12:00 p.m.

Zoom Info Session Link: <https://utoronto.zoom.us/j/7655315867> Meeting ID: 765 531 5867

Alternatively, phone: +1 647 558 0588 Canada

Or find your local number here: <https://utoronto.zoom.us/u/kbF2IH2D9B>

More Resources:

- [SickKids COVID-19 Vaccine Consult Service](#)
- [Service de consultation sur le vaccin contre la COVID-19](#)
- [SickKids COVID-19 Info Hub](#)
- [Toronto Public Health - COVID-19: Vaccines for Children & Youth](#)

COVID-19 Vaccines for Children Younger than 5 Under Review

Health Canada is currently reviewing Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine for kids between the ages of six months and five years old. A decision for Moderna could come "over the next few weeks," said Dr. Howard Njoo, deputy chief public health officer.

Health Canada has not yet received a submission from Pfizer for the under-five age group, but a spokesperson for Pfizer Canada said the company is in ongoing discussions with Health Canada about it and that they are preparing their submission.

"As with all COVID-19 submissions, Health Canada is expediting this review," said Health Canada.

Source:

1.

https://globalnews.ca/news/8928560/covid-vaccine-kids-under-5-canada/?fbclid=IwAR0xoIoVNEjORrlUy4ND2NoZhhW4oJEMWygrLhX5G_DN9tbw-J9JDD7akmE

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.