

Coronavirus: COVID-19
Current Update – October 28, 2022

Public Health Ontario’s Weekly COVID-19 Summary

Public Health Ontario (PHO) warns us to interpret these trends with caution because they are not entirely accurate. COVID-19 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 and deaths. Recently, experts have said reported case counts are a severe underestimate of the actual extent of COVID-19 infections in Ontario.

Over the past seven days, there were 1,921 hospitalizations and 121 COVID-19-related deaths. Ontario hasn’t seen COVID-19 hospitalizations this high since February 9, 2022!

This number also includes data from October 15, 16, and 17, which was not included in last week’s report. Last week, the province’s weekly COVID-19 summary said that there were 67 deaths, down from 72 the week before.

This week, the number of reported cases in Ontario increased to 9,634 from 9,392 last week. A gradual increase in cases and percent positivity has been happening over the past 6 weeks. The province’s wastewater signal is also at its highest point in about a month, and the data suggests that the amount of COVID-19 will continue to increase in the province.

The total number of outbreaks in high-risk settings stayed the same at 216. The number of outbreaks decreased in Long-Term Care homes and hospitals, and increased in retirement homes and congregate living (includes group homes/supportive housing and shelters).

Sources:

1. https://www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/Documents/nCoV/epi/respiratory-virus-overview-ontario.pdf?rev=bfeb718c6dcd44eebb1c3794e2ee61fb&sc_lang=en
2. https://www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/Documents/nCoV/epi/covid-19-weekly-epi-summary-report.pdf?sc_lang=en
3. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/covid-19-ontario-oct-27-2022-1.6631924>

Are you autistic in Toronto/GTA? Join Autistics for Autistics on Zoom for a vaccine info session followed by a hangout!

When: Wednesday November 2, 2022 from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Info session: The new COVID-19 booster vaccines (6-6:45pm)

Hangout: An all-topic text + audio chat (6:45-8pm)

Accessibility:

- Text box chat

- ASL Interpretation
- CART
- Audio chat also available for the hangout

To register and get the Zoom link, email a4aontario@gmail.com!



Live Webinar: COVID Long Haul

Join Scarborough Centre for Healthy Communities' live Zoom webinar with guest speaker Dr. Alexandra Rendely, a physical medicine and rehabilitation physician at the University Health Network's Toronto Rehab and a clinician in quality and innovation at the University of Toronto. Bring your questions because there will be a live Q&A discussion period!

Long Haul COVID, sometimes called Long COVID or Post-COVID Conditions, refers to physical or psychological symptoms that persist more than 12 weeks after getting COVID-19.

This live webinar with Dr. Alexandra Rendely will explain and clarify what the research says on Long Haul COVID. This presentation will include: the difference between COVID and Long Haul COVID, how to reduce or prevent Long Haul COVID, and what support is out there for people impacted.

When: Tuesday November 8, 2022 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Participants who complete the session evaluation will be entered into a draw to win a 50\$ gift card! Click [here](#) to register on Eventbrite.

Surrey Place COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic for Children 6 Months to 4 Years Old

When: Sunday November 6 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Where: 10 Milner Business Court, Scarborough ON

By appointment only, no walk-ins. The deadline to make an appointment is Wednesday, November 2nd. To book an appointment, please call 416-925-5141 extension 4444 and leave a voicemail or email team.vaccine@surreyplace.ca.

Accessibility:

- Private room and drive through (in car) vaccinations are available
- Minimal to no wait times
- Minimal people
- Snacks, beverages, stimulant toys, and other toys/books/playthings
- Calm and quiet environment with patient and accommodating staff

Our clinics are designed to accommodate individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. Please contact Surrey Place directly if your child needs other accommodations or if you would like to recommend someone to our clinic who has an additional accessibility need.

To contact Surrey Place, please call 416-925-5141 extension 4444 and leave a voicemail with your name, number, and best time to contact you back. The call back may be from a private number. You can also email team.vaccine@surreyplace.ca.

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SickKids COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics

SickKids Hospital is hosting weekly COVID-19 vaccine clinics for any infant/child aged six months to under five years who requires accommodations due to medical complexity, developmental disorder, mobility challenges, communication, behavioural and other specialized needs (including significant needle phobia).

This clinic will happen each Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. More dates and times are expected to become available soon.

It's by appointment only. To make an appointment, you need to be referred through your doctor. For any questions regarding patient referrals, contact mobile.vaccination@sickkids.ca.

Do you have questions or concerns about the COVID-19 vaccine for children? Book an appointment with the SickKids COVID-19 Vaccine Consult Service. Visit sickkids.ca/vaccineconsult to book an appointment!

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Health Connect Ontario - 811

Connect with a Registered Nurse day or night for free, secure and confidential health advice.

Check your symptoms, get health advice with referrals to local & specialized services as needed and access to a medical library. Access safe, high-quality care and avoid unnecessary visits to the emergency room. This service is an easy way to get connected to care you or

your loved ones need, but it does not replace your other touch point with your health care provider. In a medical emergency call 911 immediately.

OHIP not needed. Anonymous calls accepted.

Refugee Health Hotline calls are now redirected automatically to 811

Online (including live chat): [Ontario.ca/healthconnectontario](https://ontario.ca/healthconnectontario)

Call: 811 or toll free TTY line 1-866-797-0007

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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.

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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 your 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 1 p.m. 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:

Health Connect Ontario: 811
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.