

Coronavirus: COVID-19
Current Update – September 16, 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.

There were 314 reported hospital admissions this week, compared to 372 last week. Reported deaths decreased to 54 this week compared to 70 last week. The total number of outbreaks in high-risk settings was 135 this week, down from 150 last week. There was an increase in Long-Term Care homes, from 30 last week to 47 this week. There was a slight increase in retirement homes, from 35 last week to 36 this week, and hospitals, from 39 last week to 23 this week. There was a decrease in congregate living settings (including correctional facilities, shelters, and group homes/supporting housing), from 46 last week to 29 this week.

Source:

1. https://www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/Documents/nCoV/epi/respiratory-virus-overview-ontario.pdf?sc_lang=en&hash=0AEA8C9213A4E002814E9E148059F904

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Just Released: Epidemiological Summary of COVID-19 Cases in First Nations Communities

The Government of Canada recently shared information on the state of COVID-19 in First Nations communities. It includes charts that show current trends over the past 53 weeks, ending on August 30, 2022. To check it out, click [here!](#)

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Two New Vaccine Resources for the Black Community are Now Live!

Scarborough Health Network’s VaxFacts Clinic is partnering with the Black Physicians’ Association of Ontario to provide a dedicated service for members of Black communities who would like to discuss vaccines with a trusted healthcare provider also from the Black community. These doctors are ready to talk, listen, and help you get the facts.

To request a phone consultation with a Black physician at the VaxFacts clinic, visit shn.ca/VaxFacts or call 416-438-2911 ext. 5738.

Last week, the vaccine resource Auntie Betty was launched. Auntie Betty is providing the Black community with COVID-19 health information to keep themselves and their families healthy. It has translation, live chat, information, and resource support. Click [here](#) to check it out!

Auntie Betty is provided in partnership with Access Alliance Multicultural Health & Community Services, Scarborough Centre for Health Communities and the [Black Vaccine Engagement Team](#).

Upcoming Pop-Up Vaccine Clinics

There are multiple pop-up vaccine clinics throughout Toronto. Check out our website's newest page to see all the posters of upcoming City of Toronto mobile clinics, including those in schools!

All of these clinics will provide first, second, third, fourth, and children's COVID-19 doses to eligible residents aged five and up on a walk-in basis. 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, Intensive Care Unit (ICU) and death over any other level of vaccination.

No appointment or health card required! Clinics may ask you for another form of ID. It can be a government-issued ID (including non-Canadian documents and expired documents), a piece of mail with your name on it, a pay stub, or a student card.*

This Weekend's Pop-Up Vaccine Clinics

- Toronto International Film Festival, TIFF Bell Lightbox, 350 King St. W.
When: Every day from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. until 3 p.m. on Sunday, September 18
- Vax and Ride is back offering COVID-19 vaccine clinics at TTC subway stations. Clinics are family-friendly and youth-friendly. They will offer first, second, third, fourth doses and children's COVID-19 doses to eligible residents who are older than four years old. Walk-ins only. No appointment, health card or TTC fare payment is required to access the clinics. For more information, including locations and hours of operation, click [here](#).

To see posters with information about other vaccine clinics in Toronto, click [here](#). To see posters with information about school mobile vaccine clinics, click [here](#).

Click [here](#) for more information about pop-up clinics.

COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic for Children with Disabilities and Their Siblings

If one of your children has a disability that needs specialized accommodations to get vaccinated, they can get the 1st dose of the paediatric Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine at a clinic especially for them! If one of their siblings does not have a disability, they can get their 1st dose too!

If your child is hearing or seeing impaired, please email phillip.woodward@surreyplace.ca so they can make sure that they have the appropriate volunteers at the clinic.

Date: Sunday, October 2nd

Time: 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (by appointment only)

Location: 2 Surrey Place, Toronto, ON M5S 2C2

Eligibility Criteria:

- someone with a disability OR their sibling
- At least six months old and younger than 5 years old at the time of the appointment.

How to book:

- Surrey Place East clients: contact your clinician
- For all others:

Email: covid@surreyplace.ca OR call and leave a voicemail at 416-925-5141 ex. 4444

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!

COVID-19 Vaccines & Children Town Hall

Do you work or volunteer in Toronto's childcare and early learning sector?

Toronto Public Health (TPH) is hosting webinars about COVID-19 vaccine safety and benefits for children.

The webinars are presented by Dr. Vinita Dubey, the Associate Medical Officer of Health. There will be a question and answer period, and you don't need to register!

These sessions will also cover Monkeypox and risk for children.

Monday, September 19 from 2 – 3 p.m.

Click [here](#) to join online. Or join by telephone: 416-915-6530. Access code: 2460 732 9767
Online password may be required. If it asks, the password is: Toronto

Thursday, September 22 from 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Click [here](#) to join online. Or join by telephone: 416-915-6530. Access code: 2459 747 7874
Online password may be required. If it asks, the password is: Toronto

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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 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 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:

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.