

Coronavirus: COVID-19 Current Update – September 2, 2022

Public Health Ontario’s Weekly COVID-19 Summary

Public Health Ontario (PHO) has been publishing weekly COVID-19 summaries instead of daily summaries.

Their report begins by stating that the numbers it is reporting do not represent how much COVID-19 is in Ontario. PHO warns us 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.

There were 330 reported hospital admissions this week, compared to 439 last week, which is a decrease of 25%. Reported deaths increased to 72 this week compared to 62 last week.

Outbreaks in high-risk settings decreased 14% compared to last week: The total number of outbreaks in high-risk settings was 147 this week, down from 170 last week. Decreases were observed in all settings except for group homes/supportive housing, which went up by 8%.

There were 2,252 outbreak-associated cases reported this week compared to 2,395 last week. Cases declined 19% overall in congregate living settings (correctional facilities, shelters, and group homes/supporting housing). Cases declined 5% overall in congregate care settings (Long-Term Care homes, retirement homes, and hospitals).

Source:

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

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Moderna’s Bivalent Booster Approved in Canada

Yesterday, Health Canada authorized Canada’s first COVID-19 bivalent booster shot.* Moderna’s bivalent booster offers protection from the Omicron variant and the original version of the virus.*

CTV News reported: “It’s essentially two vaccines in one,” said Canada’s Chief Medical Adviser Dr. Supriya Sharma.* “This booster is also intended to extend the durability of protection. This will help us face the next wave.”*

At the moment, it is only available for teens between 12 and 17 years old with moderately to severely immunocompromising conditions and/or who have biological or social risk factors that place them at high risk of severe outcomes from COVID-19.*

NACI recommends that, if you are eligible for a booster this fall, you should not delay your booster to wait for a bivalent vaccine.* This is especially recommended for people who are at increased risk for severe outcomes from COVID-19.*

If you would like to learn more about bivalent vaccines, click [here](#).

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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

- Canadian National Exhibition (CNE), Where: Enercare Centre, 100 Princes' Blvd.
When: Thursday, September 1 to Monday, September 5 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Toronto Dragon Festival, Nathan Phillips Square, 100 Queen St. W.
When: Saturday, September 3 and Sunday, September 4 from noon to 7 p.m.
- Toronto International Film Festival, TIFF Bell Lightbox, 350 King St. W.
When: Thursday, September 8 to Tuesday, September 13 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
and Wednesday, September 14 to Sunday, September 18 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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

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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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Accessible COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic for kids 6 months to under 5 years old

For children ages 6 months to under 5. Parents with accessibility needs are also welcome. Walk in only. No appointments.

This clinic has:

- onsite ASL interpreters, Deaf interpreters and attendant assistance
- private rooms
- quiet space and cots available to lie down
- ability to request other accommodations in advance (To request other accommodations, online or call 416-338-7600 (TTY: 416-392-0658).

Date: September 10, 2022, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Location: Metro Hall, 214 Wellington Street West

Information about accessing the building:

Enter the clinic from 214 Wellington Street West, which is the south side of Metro Hall, through the main floor rotunda. Prior to entering the clinic, people will be screened and then guided to the entrance. The clinic is down a flight of stairs and a staff person will be there to guide people into the main entrance of the clinic. There is also a ramp that people can use to access the clinic. The building and clinic are accessible.

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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, September 11th

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

Location: Surrey Place East at 10 Milner Business Court, Scarborough

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.
- Toronto-based resident living in an M postal code

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

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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.