

Coronavirus: COVID-19
Current Update – November 2, 2021

As of November 2nd, 2021, Canada has a total of 1,719,278 confirmed cases of COVID-19. Ontario has 600,708 cases and Toronto has 181,014 cases.

Ontario reports 331 new COVID-19 cases

Today, there are 331 new cases of COVID-19 in Ontario. The seven-day average is 371, up slightly from 364 at this time last week. The positivity rate is 1.5%.

Of these 331 new infections, 195 people are either unvaccinated, partially vaccinated or have an unknown vaccination status. The remaining 136 people are fully vaccinated.

Today's cases were mostly found in: York Region (44), Toronto (42), Peel Region (36), Ottawa (23), Simcoe-Muskoka (22), and Hamilton (21).

According to the province, there are 230 COVID-19 patients in hospital, including 45 people who are fully vaccinated and 185 people who are either not fully vaccinated or have an unknown vaccination status.

In Ontario, 13,774 vaccine doses were given in the last 24 hours. Over 11 million people in Ontario are fully vaccinated, which is 84.6% of the population that is eligible for a vaccine. Meanwhile, 88.2% of people in Ontario who are eligible for a vaccine have had at least one dose.

Sources:

1. <https://covid19tracker.ca/index.html>
2. <https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/ontario-reports-331-new-cases-of-covid-19-seven-additional-deaths-1.5648252>

COVID-19: Benefits of being fully vaccinated

The City of Toronto has outlined a few of the benefits of being fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Vaccines protect us against the virus and help keep our communities and businesses open. For more information, you can text "VACCINE" to 1-833-750-0888. The benefits include:

1. Protects you and those around you from COVID-19, including variants of concern, such as the Delta variant, which can lead to severe illness, hospitalization, and death
2. If you are a close contact of someone who has COVID-19, you may not need to isolate
3. Helps you feel more comfortable returning to work, school, sports, and other activities

4. Permits you to participate in activities, as well as to enter certain non-essential businesses and organizations
5. Possible exemption from quarantine after international travel

The Government of Canada has created the following infographic outlining what protocols to follow based on vaccination status in certain settings. All health measures in public settings must still be followed.

SETTING OR ACTIVITY <small>(Always follow local guidelines for gatherings and public health measures)</small>	YOU ARE NOT VACCINATED OR PARTIALLY VACCINATED	YOU ARE FULLY VACCINATED <small>(i.e. you have received the full series of a vaccine authorized in Canada at least 14 days ago)</small>
Outdoors with a small group of fully vaccinated individuals  <i>e.g. small family BBQ, camping with friends/family, swimming at the lake, sharing a hug</i>	No mask or physical distancing is necessary if everyone is comfortable with that	No mask or physical distancing is necessary
Indoors with a small group of fully vaccinated individuals  <i>e.g. dinner with a small group of friends, watching a sporting event on TV, sharing a hug</i>	Consider removing your mask and being physically close to the fully vaccinated individuals if everyone is comfortable with that, AND nobody is at risk of more severe disease or outcomes	No mask or physical distancing is necessary
Outdoors with people from multiple households who are unvaccinated, partially vaccinated, or their vaccination status is unknown  <i>e.g. playing a close contact sport, gathering with a group of friends, child's outdoor birthday party, outdoor wedding</i>	For now, consider wearing a mask if physical distancing cannot be maintained, especially if you or others are at risk of more severe disease or outcomes	No mask or physical distancing is necessary
Indoors with people from multiple households who are unvaccinated, partially vaccinated, or their vaccination status is unknown  <i>e.g. private celebrations or ceremonies, indoor birthday party, places of worship, fitness facility</i>	Wear a mask and maintain physical distancing Follow the measures put in place by the owner/organizer to reduce the risk of COVID-19 Keep windows and doors open, if possible	Follow the measures put in place by the owner/organizer to reduce the risk of COVID-19 If you are at risk of more severe disease or outcomes, consider wearing a mask and maintain physical distancing Keep windows and doors open, if possible
Indoors or outdoors in a large crowd where people are closely gathering  <i>e.g. crowded concert, organized sporting event, house party</i>	Wear a mask Follow the measures put in place by the owner/organizer to reduce the risk of COVID-19 Maintain physical distancing wherever possible Consider only attending events where there are safety plans in place that follow local public health advice	If you are at risk of more severe disease or outcomes, consider wearing a mask and maintain physical distancing. Even if you are not at risk, you may still consider wearing a mask at an indoor crowded setting Follow the measures put in place by the owner/organizer to reduce the risk of COVID-19

Sources:

1. <https://www.toronto.ca/home/covid-19/covid-19-vaccines/covid-19-benefits-of-getting-vaccinated/>
2. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/awareness-resources/vaccinated-against-covid-19-public-health-measures.html>

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's a safe transportation option to go to your vaccine appointment:

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.

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.