

## **Coronavirus: COVID-19**

### **Current Update – September 27, 2021**

As of September 27th, 2021, Canada has a total of 1,603,963 confirmed cases of COVID-19. Ontario has 584,541 cases and Toronto has 177,925 cases.

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#### **Ontario reports fewer than 700 new COVID-19 cases for third straight day**

Today, there are 613 new cases of COVID-19 in Ontario. This comes after 640 cases were reported on Saturday and 653 on Sunday. The seven-day average is 621, down from 710 at this time last week. The positivity rate is 2%.

Of these 613 new infections, 454 people are either unvaccinated, partially vaccinated or have an unknown vaccination status. The remaining 159 people are fully vaccinated.

Today's cases were found in: Toronto (117), Peel Region (70), York Region (48), Hamilton (46), Windsor-Essex (45), Ottawa (41), Brant (26), Wellington-Guelph-Dufferin (26), Durham (26), and Waterloo (22) All other health units reported fewer than 20 cases in Ontario.

There are 184 patients in an Intensive Care Unit, and 130 of them are breathing with the help of a ventilator. Vaccination data is not available for hospitalizations on Mondays due to a lack of reporting over the weekend.

In Ontario, 20,454 vaccine doses were given in the last 24 hours. Over 10.4 million people in Ontario are fully vaccinated, which is 80.9% of the population that is eligible for a vaccine. Meanwhile, 86.5% 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-fewer-than-700-new-covid-19-cases-for-third-straight-day-7-day-average-continues-to-drop-1.5601776>

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#### **Ontario's COVID-19 rates lower than expected due to public health measures, experts say**

Case counts for COVID-19 are lower than experts projected for Ontario. It was anticipated that September would have a surge in cases, possibly seeing 4,000 cases a day, which would last throughout the winter season. Surprisingly, daily case counts have stayed under 1,000. Hospitalizations and ICU admissions have also been stable.

"There is a little bit of cautious optimism in that with society being more open, kids back to school, all of the things that we would have concerns about leading to escalating transmission, we're not seeing"

One factor leading to these lower rates are the high levels of vaccination in Ontario. Now about 86% of the eligible population has received at least one dose. The other factor is our adherence to public health measures.

Beate Sander, co-chair of the province's modelling consensus table, reminds us that this "doesn't mean a bump won't materialize in a few weeks...The situation is so very fragile. So things could turn really quickly"

It is likely that cases will rise as school infections increase and as the cold weather sets in. Rates of infection have been increasing among 5–11-year-old children as in-person classes resumed. Additionally, cold weather means that more gatherings and activities will move indoors, increasing possible transmission.

"I have seen modelling where we have a significant rise in January and February after the Christmas holidays, and that is disconcerting." With this in mind, it is important to keep following public health guidelines.

Source:

1. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/ontario-covid-rates-public-health-measures-1.6190130>

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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'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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:jessica.nydp@gmail.com).