

Coronavirus: COVID-19
Current Update – September 15, 2021

As of September 15th, 2021, Canada has a total of 1,556,355 confirmed cases of COVID-19. Ontario has 576,389 cases and Toronto has 176,549 cases.

Ontario reports just under 600 new COVID-19 cases, the seven-day average drops slightly

Today, there are 593 new cases of COVID-19 in Ontario. The seven-day average is 722, down from 732 at this time last week. The positivity rate is 2.5%.

Of these 593 new infections, 447 people are either unvaccinated, partially vaccinated or have an unknown vaccination status. The remaining 146 people are fully vaccinated.

Today's cases were found in: Toronto (141), Peel Region (61), Ottawa (46), Windsor-Essex (45), Hamilton (38), and Niagara Region (34). All other health units reported fewer than 30 cases in Ontario.

According to the province, there are 346 COVID-19 patients in hospital, including 35 people who are fully vaccinated and 311 people who are either not fully vaccinated or have an unknown vaccination status. There are 188 patients in an Intensive Care Unit, and 125 of them are breathing with the help of a ventilator.

In Ontario, 35,691 vaccine doses were given in the last 24 hours. Over 10.2 million people in Ontario are fully vaccinated, which is 78.9% of the population that is eligible for a vaccine. Meanwhile, 85.3% 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-just-under-600-new-covid-19-cases-seven-day-average-drops-slightly-1.5586165>

Ontario releases new details on how people will prove their COVID-19 vaccine status starting September 22

Ontario has released new guidance for businesses to support the vaccine certificate program which is starting in one week. From September 22 to October 22, Ontario residents will need to show businesses a printed or downloaded second dose receipt along with a government issued ID. Acceptable IDs include: a driver's license, health card, birth certificate, citizenship card, passport, or Indian Status card. IDs do not need to have a photo. Employees will match the name

and date of birth listed on your vaccination receipt to the information on your ID. An “enhanced certificate” will be available October 22 which will be on your phone.

Unvaccinated people with valid medical reasons and children under 12 are exempt. If you have a medical exemption to the COVID-19 vaccine, you must present identification and a written document from a health practitioner stating that you have a medical reason for not getting the vaccine.

List of places where you need proof of vaccination in Ontario:

- Restaurants and bars (excluding outdoor patios)
- Nightclubs (including outdoor areas)
- Meeting and event spaces, such as banquet halls and conference/convention centres
- Facilities used for sports and fitness activities and personal fitness training, such as gyms, fitness, and recreational facilities (with the exception of youth recreational sport)
- Sporting events
- Indoor areas of waterparks
- Indoor areas of commercial film and TV productions with studio audiences
- Casinos, bingo halls and gaming establishments
- Concerts, music festivals, theatres, and cinemas
- Strip clubs, bathhouses, and sex clubs
- Racing venues

List of places where you will not need proof of vaccination in Ontario:

- At no time will anyone be prevented from accessing necessary medical care, food from grocery store, basic medical supplies, or other essentials
- Voting in the upcoming federal election
- Outdoor settings, including patios, with the exception of outdoor nightclub spaces
- Takeaway and delivery services from restaurants and bars
- To access an outdoor area that can only be accessed through an indoor route
- Retail shopping
- Salons and barbershops
- Places of worship
- Banks

Sources:

1. <https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/ontario-releases-new-details-on-how-people-will-prove-their-covid-19-vaccine-status-starting-sept-22-1.5584504>
2. <https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/this-is-where-you-need-and-don-t-need-proof-of-vaccination-in-ontario-1.5569587>

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

3-Part Series with Caroline Tapp-McDougall

Session 3: Slow Caregiving

Date: RESCHEDULED for Monday, September 20th at 2:00pm.

Register:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=LgLPEQJhz0Oew_OpyuNE5Y_YdjYHf_hHnLBGvolxLIpUMIAzQTBfMDc0T09PWdk0S00xRUhMWIBMSy4u

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.

3-Part Series with Caregiving – A Family Affair

This series happened in April, and answered the question: How can families remain strong and intact throughout the caregiving experience? If you missed it or would like to re-watch it, please click below. The access code for all sessions is Care2021.

Session 1: How Care Shapes Family - The first webinar in this series will explore how families change when care needs cause everyone to examine the workability of old family dynamics.

Click here to watch:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/Fc5xD9ny1EdcYK8WuxiEtxmgzKb7Nk2CHkVxvfZH3nFpHc78OQaEfc7s5I4ZKfC0.rRNaho3SFstjrfq2>

Session 2: Remaking the Family The second webinar in this series will explore how to intentionally reshape family relationships and dynamics in order to build a strong and sustainable care team. Click here to watch:

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/kOZCFmWg5uWf_LCf8r0XaJK55z6dC6kNTuIXwLX2oJaU5S7egmtFJfNy7uDC9q65.Gr5BYq2kBTZszSYh

Session 3: A Toolkit for Caregivers - The third and final episode in this series will offer tools and strategies to assess the wellbeing of family members individually and gauge how well the family is meeting challenges as a team. Click here to watch:

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/8KXgbihXQcDFQbemjEPKVgtazMqCK13bxO_adxzeJTPJM4xIAArK-tzls3UD-ZT3.tBtEP81bttPoBxT-

For recordings of previous webinars please contact Angie Clark at aclark@marchofdimes.ca.

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.