

Coronavirus: COVID-19
Current Update – April 12, 2021

As of April 12th, 2021, Canada has a total of 1, 066, 158 confirmed cases of COVID-19. Ontario has 391, 009 cases and Toronto has 124, 234 cases.

Tory hopes 18+ residents in Toronto hot spots will soon be able to use provincial booking system

Toronto Mayor John Tory says pop-up COVID-19 vaccination clinics will continue to operate throughout the week. All Toronto residents aged 60 and older are eligible to book an appointment at these centres, along with those 50 and older in hot spot neighbourhoods identified by the province. The city is working with the province to open up the provincial appointment booking system to residents over the age of 18 in the city's hot spot neighbourhoods.

“As of yet, it is not possible for the 18 plus people, as opposed to those 50 and over, to use the provincial registration system but we're working on that with the province and hopefully before too long it will be possible for 18 plus people in hot spot neighbourhoods to use the provincial registration system,” Tory said.

Three more city-run mass immunization centres opened up in Toronto today, including sites at Cloverdale Mall, the North Toronto Memorial Community Centre, and the Carmine Stefano Community Centre. There are now nine mass vaccination sites being operated by the City of Toronto. Click [here](#) to view the full list of Toronto's City-run and hospital-run vaccine clinic locations, as well as pharmacies with the AstraZeneca vaccine.

In York Region, some clinics have been forced to temporarily close due to a lack of vaccine supply. A York Region spokesperson said: “We are forced to temporarily close clinics at Canada's Wonderland and the Georgina Ice Palace, effective Tuesday, April 13, 2021. These clinics will remain closed until we receive additional vaccine.”

Sources:

1. <https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/tory-hopes-18-residents-in-toronto-hot-spots-will-soon-be-able-to-use-provincial-booking-system-1.5383806>
2. <https://www.toronto.ca/home/covid-19/covid-19-protect-yourself-others/covid-19-vaccines/covid-19-how-to-get-vaccinated/covid-19-future-city-operated-immunization-clinics/#location=&lat=43.727941&lng=-79.210739>

To learn more about new eligibility requirements for COVID-19 vaccines in Toronto, York, Peel, and Durham, check out the newest post on our website by clicking [here](#).

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Ontario's daily COVID-19 cases top 4,000, another 15 deaths

For the second day in a row, Ontario has more than 4,400 new cases of COVID-19. There were 4,401 new cases confirmed today and 4,456 new cases yesterday. It is the third time in the past four days where more than 4,000 new cases have been recorded.

Of today's new cases, 1,282 are in Toronto, 772 in Peel Region, 339 in Ottawa, 330 in York Region, 224 in Durham Region, 177 in Halton Region, 147 in Niagara Region, 129 in Hamilton, and 122 in Middlesex-London. Currently, there are 34,758 active cases of COVID-19 throughout the province.

Ontario's positivity rate is 9.5%, compared to 7.7% yesterday. Today's positivity rate is the highest since early January when a rate of 9.7% was recorded. The seven-day average is 3,781, which is the average number of new cases per day based on the past 7 days. This time last week, it was 2,757. In the last 24 hours, 15 more people have died due to the virus.

Starting today, Ontario hospitals will be ramping down elective surgeries and non-urgent procedures to increase capacity in Intensive Care Units (ICUs). The province says this move could increase patient beds by as much as 1,000. This decision is due to the fact that the healthcare system has been struggling to manage an unprecedented number of hospitalizations and ICU admissions. Of the 1,646 patients in hospitals with COVID-19, 619 are currently in ICU units.

Health officials have said that the pandemic's third wave is being driven by virus variants. Since the province began searching for mutations, nearly 25,000 tests have been flagged as mutations.

Of today's new cases, nearly 50% of them (2,162) are variants of concern — the majority of which is the UK variant (2,153). Also, there are 6 more new cases of the P.1 variant (the Brazil variant), and another 3 cases of B.1.351 (the South African variant).

More than 74,000 additional doses of a COVID-19 vaccine were given out on Sunday, and so far, over 333,400 Ontarians have been vaccinated.

Sources:

1.<https://toronto.citynews.ca/2021/04/12/ontario-covid-19-update-april-12/>

2.<https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/ontario-reports-more-than-4-400-covid-19-infections-as-icu-admissions-climb-1.5383868>

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:

March of Dimes

Caregiver Webinars

Caregiver Connection Group – Caregiver conversation series – 10 weeks

Date: Starting Thursday, March 4th, at 2:00pm – every Thursday, join anytime

To register for any or all sessions: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/march-of-dimes-canada-caregiver-conversation-series-tickets-142228614615?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

Resources and Supports for Caregivers

Date: Monday, April 12th at 2:00pm

To register:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/caregiver-webinar-supports-and-resources-for-caregivers-registration-146646554793?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

The Importance of Socialization for Family Caregivers

Date: Monday, April 19th at 2:00pm

To register:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/the-importance-of-socialization-for-family-caregivers-registration-146947573147?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

If you or someone you know uses Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC), and requires resources related to COVID-19, please contact Sarah (sarah.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 back 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 Outreach Communication

Facilitator Sarah, at 416-222-4448 or

sarah.nydp@gmail.com