

**Coronavirus: COVID-19**  
**Current Update – April 23, 2021**

As of April 23rd, 2021, Canada has a total of 1, 160, 342 confirmed cases of COVID-19. Ontario has 437, 310 cases and Toronto has 138, 007 cases.

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**Toronto administers over 1 million COVID-19 vaccine doses**

As of this morning, 1, 004, 339 COVID-19 vaccine doses have been given in Toronto, making it the first local health region in Canada to administer more than one million doses.

In Toronto, vaccinations are available at city-run immunization clinics for residents aged 60 and older, and residents 50 years of age and older who live in hot spots. Toronto residents aged 40 and older can book vaccinations at participating pharmacies to receive the AstraZeneca vaccine. Residents 18 years of age and older living in hot spots can also get a vaccine at mobile and pop-up clinics in their community.

Earlier this week, Mayor John Tory announced that vaccine doses in 13 Toronto hot spots will be tripled over the next two weeks.

As of Thursday evening, more than 4.2 million doses of vaccine have been administered across Ontario and more than 351,350 people have been fully vaccinated.

Source:

<https://www.cp24.com/news/toronto-administers-over-1-million-covid-19-vaccine-doses-1.5399244>

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**Ontario reports more than 4,500 new COVID-19 cases, another 34 deaths**

There were 4, 505 new cases confirmed today, up from 3, 683 new cases yesterday. Today is the third-highest daily case count during the pandemic.

Of the 818 COVID-19 patients in Ontario's ICU units, 593 are breathing with the help of a ventilator.

The province's positivity rate is 8.8%. The average number of new cases per day based on the past 7 days is 4, 132, which is down from 4, 292 a week ago today. In the last 24 hours, 34 more people have died due to the virus.

Regarding variants of concern, yesterday health officials have confirmed another 2, 700 new cases of the UK variant in the province, as well as another 21 cases of the South African variant and 6 cases of the Brazilian variant.

More than 4.4 million Ontario residents have received at least one shot of a COVID-19 vaccine. At least 355, 208 Ontarians have been fully vaccinated against the disease.

Today, the first person in Ontario has been diagnosed with blood clotting linked to the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine. He is a man in his 60s. He received treatment and is recovering at home.

Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health Dr. David Williams reiterated that all COVID-19 vaccines administered in Canada are safe and prevent serious illness, hospitalization, and death related to the deadly disease.

“This case marks the fourth case of [vaccine-induced immune thrombotic thrombocytopenia] VITT out of more than 1.1 million doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine that have been administered in Canada to date,” he said.

The provincial government also announced today that pregnant people in Ontario are now eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine. Pregnant individuals will still need to book their shot through the [provincial vaccine booking system](#) or the provincial call centre at 1-888-999-6488, but a letter from a doctor is not required. The government said that the extended dose interval of 16 weeks will still apply to this group.

Sources:

1.<https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/ontario-reports-more-than-4-500-new-covid-19-cases-another-34-deaths-1.5399425>

2.<https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/ontario-reports-first-confirmed-case-of-blood-clotting-linked-to-astrazeneca-vaccine-1.5399615>

3.<https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/pregnant-people-in-ontario-now-eligible-for-covid-19-vaccine-under-highest-risk-designation-1.5399381>

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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:**

## **March of Dimes**

### **Caregiver Webinars**

#### **Caregiver Connection Group – Caregiver conversation series – 10 weeks**

Date: Starting Thursday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 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>

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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 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](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 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](mailto:sarah.nydp@gmail.com)