

Coronavirus: COVID-19
Current Update – August 10 2021

As of August 10th, 2021, Canada has a total of 1,442,417 confirmed cases of COVID-19. Ontario has 553,125 cases and Toronto has 171,426 cases.

Ontario reports more than 300 new COVID-19 cases 5 days in a row

There are 321 new cases of COVID-19 today, down from 325 yesterday, 378 on Sunday, and 423 on Saturday. The seven-day average is 306, up from 283 and 198 a week ago. The last time the seven-day average was at this level was June 24. Yesterday, the positivity rate was 2.3%, which is the highest it's been since late June. Today, the positivity rate is 1.7%.

Today is the first day that the government is publicizing the information that they track on how many cases and hospitalizations were in people who are fully vaccinated, partially vaccinated, and unvaccinated. So far, the numbers aren't exactly consistent with the daily COVID-19 case counts, but "the data quality will continue to improve as hospitals continue to submit data," the website says.

Of the people who got COVID-19, about 67% were unvaccinated, 14% had one dose or were within 14 days of their second dose, and 20% were people who were fully vaccinated.

Ontario Health Minister Elliott said on social media that, out of the 94 people hospitalized with COVID-19, 28 are unvaccinated. Of the 113 people who were in the ICU yesterday, 83 of them had not yet received a COVID-19 vaccine. Currently, there are 109 people in Intensive Care Units due to COVID-19, which is down from 113 yesterday and 106 a week ago.

Of today's cases, there are 96 in Toronto, 31 in Peel, 31 in Hamilton, 30 in York Region, and 29 in Hamilton. Other areas with more than 10 new COVID-19 cases are: Hamilton (31), Windsor-Essex (22), Halton (16), Middlesex-London (75), Simcoe Muskoka (15), and Waterloo (10).

Yesterday, 48,278 doses of COVID-19 vaccines were given out. Over 9.3 million people in Ontario have both doses and are fully vaccinated.

Sources:

1. <https://www.cp24.com/news/ontario-reports-321-new-covid-19-cases-two-deaths-1.5541168>
2. <https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/covid-19-cases-in-ontario-drop-below-350-after-a-spike-in-infections-no-new-deaths-reported-1.5539717>

A Moderna vaccine production plant is coming to Canada

This morning, it was confirmed that the CEO of Moderna Stephane Bancel will sign the agreement with federal Innovation Minister Francois-Philippe Champagne in Montreal. The details about where the new vaccine manufacturing plant will be built still need to be negotiated.

This is the second major deal that Ottawa has made to get mRNA vaccines made in Canada in the last three months! In May, Minister Champagne said that Ottawa will give \$199 million to Resilience Technologies in Mississauga. This will cover about half the cost of expanding the plant that they already have, which will allow the plant to make up to 640 million doses of mRNA vaccines every year.

He commented that spring of 2020 was when Ottawa became a more attractive location for a number of life sciences companies. This is because the federal government promised \$2.2 billion for biotechnology research and commercial production over the next seven years. About half of that is a fund directly targeting companies that want to expand or set up production lines in Canada.

Currently, the Moderna vaccine is produced in Switzerland and New Hampshire, U.S., and it's finished and packaged by companies in Europe and the United States. In other words, Canada has not been involved with vaccine production with Moderna.

Throughout the pandemic, Canada has been reliant on importing vaccines because our pharmaceutical industry has not been invested in for about 30 years. Many of the scientists working on making COVID-19 vaccines in the U.S. are from Canada, but left to go where life science industries were invested in and doing well.

In addition to COVID-19, Moderna has mRNA products in development for illnesses including influenza, heart disease, cancers, and autoimmune disorders.

Source:

1. <https://www.ctvnews.ca/health/coronavirus/moderna-to-sign-agreement-to-build-mrna-production-plant-in-canada-1.5541042>

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

Caregiving and Resources

Date: Monday, September 13, 2021 at 2:00 pm.

In this webinar, Heather Cresswell will share her the emotional and physical struggles of caregiving and the wonderful supports she received for over 34 years. There will be tips and testimonials for all Caregivers. She will discuss her approach with her Mom on how she dealt with regular daily activities, appointments and services. She will give insight on what takes place when caring for a loved one long term.

Register:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=LgLPEQJhz0Oew_OpyuNE5Y_YdjYHf-hHnLBGvolxLIpUMIAzQTBfMDC0T09PWDk0S00xRUhMWIBMSy4u

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-hHnLBGvolxLIpUMIAzOTBFMDc0T09PWDk0S00xRUhMWIBMSy4u

Caregiver Support e-Learning Sessions (ongoing)

These sessions are delivered entirely online. This learning model enables you to work through these sessions at your own pace and time. There are 7 short videos and 4 modules. Each module takes about 30 minutes. These sessions provide tools to meet the unique needs of caregivers with the aim of reducing stress and learning new coping and problem-solving skills.

Register:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=LgLPEQJhz0Oew_OpyuNE5Y_YdjYHf-hHnLBGvolxLIpUMIAzOTBFMDc0T09PWDk0S00xRUhMWIBMSy4u

Caregiver Connection Group (paused until September)

Caregiver Webinars and Caregiver Conversations will not take place in August. They will re-start on September 9, 2021 at 2:00 pm. You will need to re-register, and please do this before September.

Register or re-register:

<https://www.marchofdimes.ca/en-ca/programs/Pages/Online-Support.aspx#Conversation>

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.

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

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.

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 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.