

Coronavirus: COVID-19
Current Update – August 5 2021

As of August 5th, 2021, Canada has a total of 1,434,957 confirmed cases of COVID-19. Ontario has 551,338 cases and Toronto has 170,964 cases.

Ontario reports over 200 new cases of COVID-19

There are 213 new cases of COVID-19 today, up from 139 yesterday. The seven-day average is 198, up from 165 a week ago. The positivity rate is 1.2%.

Of these new cases, there are 44 in Toronto, 31 in Peel Region, 18 in York Region, 17 in Hamilton, 17 in Windsor, 14 in Waterloo, 11 in Halton Region, 10 in Ottawa, 10 in Middlesex-London, and 7 in Durham Region.

Across the province, there are at least 113 people in Intensive Care Units due to COVID-19. Of those patients, 77 are breathing with the help of a ventilator.

Yesterday, 58,213 doses of COVID-19 vaccines were given out. Since the beginning of the province's COVID-19 vaccination campaign, Ontario has given out more than 19.7 million doses. Over 9.1 million people in Ontario have both doses and are fully vaccinated.

Sources:

1. <https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/new-covid-19-cases-in-ontario-jump-back-above-200-1.5535502>
2. <https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/ontario-reports-drop-in-covid-19-cases-logs-fewer-than-150-new-infections-1.5534032>

Ontario hospitals begin to brace for fourth wave of COVID-19

Yesterday, Brampton Civic Hospital had zero COVID-19 patients in critical care for the first time since the start of the pandemic! This is a significant milestone since Brampton has had particularly high rates of COVID-19, even compared to other cities in the Peel Region.

However, the Ontario Hospital Association (OHA) advises hospitals to prepare for a fourth wave. "This pandemic is ending but a fourth wave could still inflict a deadly toll on the unvaccinated," OHA president Anthony Dale said in a statement.

On the topic of who will be affected by the fourth wave, York Region emergency physician Dr. Steve Flindall said, “I think it’s going to primarily be younger unvaccinated children, and of course the adults who have chosen not to get the vaccine.”

“The risk of being on the brink of collapse of the hospital and health-care system, like we were in April—I don’t think that we should see that, or expect that, in the coming months because of the vaccine rate that we have here in Ontario,” said Dr. Dale Kalina, medical director of infection and control at Joseph Brant Hospital.

“Given that thousands of Ontario children under the age of 12 will be returning to indoor in-person learning in just a few weeks, it's vital that all eligible residents receive both shots to keep transmission levels low, protect vulnerable populations and ensure that access to non-COVID related hospital services is not disrupted a further time,” said Dr. Kalina.

Many experts remain optimistic that Ontario’s health-care systems will not succumb to the same strain as during the third wave of the virus, when non-urgent surgeries had to be postponed and patients were transferred between hospitals to access critical care.

Source:

1. <https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/ontario-hospitals-begin-to-brace-for-fourth-wave-of-covid-19-1.5534889>

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

3-Part Series with Caroline Tapp-McDougall

Session 2: Daily Triumphs

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

Registration link to be updated soon.

Caregiver Connection Group

Caregiver Conversation Series

Date: Thursdays at 2:00pm (ongoing)

To register:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/march-of-dimes-canada-caregiver-conversation-series-tickets-142228614615?aff=ebsdoporgprofile>

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.