

Coronavirus: COVID-19
Current Update – July 21 2021

As of July 21st, 2021, Canada has a total of 1,424,360 confirmed cases of COVID-19. Ontario has 548,609 cases and Toronto has 170,379 cases.

Ontario reports under 135 new cases of COVID-19

Ontario reported 135 new cases of COVID-19 today, slightly up from 127 new cases yesterday, but down from 153 this time last week. The seven-day average is 150, down from 164 at this time last week. The positivity rate is 0.8%.

Of these new cases, there are 26 new cases in Toronto, 16 in Peel Region, 13 in Durham Region, 12 in the Region of Waterloo and 10 in Middlesex-London. There are 145 COVID-19 patients in intensive care in Ontario hospitals, which is 35 fewer people than one week ago.

So far, over 18.47 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines have been administered in the province.

Sources:

1. <https://www.cp24.com/news/ontario-reports-135-new-covid-19-infections-4-more-deaths-1.5517478>
2. <https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2021/07/21/covid-19-coronavirus-updates-toronto-canada-july21.html>

Ontario's vaccine rollout so far

The following numbers are from the Ontario Government and COVID-19 Canada Open Data Working Group. This information is current as of yesterday, July 20 at 8:00 PM.

Keep in mind that the number of people who are vaccinated is not the same as the total doses given. This is because people have to wait for several weeks in between doses before they are fully vaccinated.

The province's total population is 14.7 million people, and 70.0% have at least one shot and 55.4% are fully vaccinated. Out of the 12.1 million adults who are 18 years old and older, 80.3% (9,708,948 people) have one dose and 64.8% (7,831,921 people) are fully vaccinated.

In Ontario, there are 13 million people who are 12 years old and older and eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine. Out of the eligible population, 79.1% (10,313,756 people) have received at least one shot, and 62.6% (8,165,247 people) have been fully vaccinated.

On Tuesday, Ontario's new chief medical officer of health, Dr. Kieran Moore, commented that the province's vaccination goals to lift public health restrictions should be much higher than what the province originally set when the Roadmap to Reopen was created months ago. The reason for his concern is the Delta variant.

Dr. Moore said, "The modelling... tells us that once we're at around 90% of the eligible population immunized that the risk of Delta will be less for us... If we remain at around 20% of the population unvaccinated we won't build community immunity and you'll get breakthrough infections in those individuals that are vaccinated because not all individuals, especially those that are elderly or vulnerable or immune suppressed, will get full protection from the vaccine."

Infections have dramatically increased in parts of Europe where restrictions have been lifted. This change is believed to be due, in large part, to the Delta variant, which we know to be more transmissible than the original virus and other variants of concern.

Sources:

1. <https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2021/07/21/covid-19-coronavirus-updates-toronto-canada-july21.html>
2. <https://www.cp24.com/news/ontario-reports-135-new-covid-19-infections-4-more-deaths-1.5517478>

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=ebdsoporgprofile>

Caregiver Webinar

What to do when you need funding for Assistive Devices and how March of Dimes Canada can help

Date: Monday, July 26th at 2:00 pm.

To register:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/funding-for-assistive-devices-how-march-of-dimes-canada-can-help-registration-160967248373?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.