

**Coronavirus: COVID-19**  
**Current Update – May 18, 2021**

As of May 18th, 2021, Canada has a total of 1,335,724 confirmed cases of COVID-19. Ontario has 513,102 cases and Toronto has 161,904 cases.

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**Ontario reports just over 1,600 COVID-19 cases today, marking the lowest daily count since March**

The province has recorded the lowest number of new daily COVID-19 cases since late March today, with 1,616 cases reported. The seven-day rolling average of new cases now stands at 2,287, which is down from 2,352 the previous day. There were an additional 17 virus-related deaths reported today, involving one resident of Long-Term Care.

Provincial labs processed 22,915 tests in the previous 24 hours, and there are another 20,325 still under investigation. Today's case count generated a positivity rate of 7.6 percent. There are currently 24,966 known active cases throughout the province, down from 31,151 one week ago.

Locally, Toronto reported 472 new cases, Peel Region reported 360, York Region reported 116 new cases, Durham reported 102, and Hamilton reported 114 today. The lower case numbers reported will eventually have an effect on hospital occupancy, but currently the numbers are still high. There are 1,484 people receiving treatment for COVID-19 in provinces across Ontario, down from 1,546 at the end of last week. Of the number of hospitalizations today, 764 are in intensive care and 559 people are breathing with the help of a ventilator.

Source: <https://www.cp24.com/news/ontario-reports-1-600-covid-19-cases-lowest-daily-count-since-late-march-1.5432501>

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**All adults (18+) become eligible for the first dose of a vaccine in Ontario**

Today marks an important day in the pandemic, when all people aged 18 and over are eligible for their first dose of a vaccine in the province. This decision to expand the eligibility for adults comes a week ahead of schedule, and it is due to a large increase in supply of the approved vaccines. Ontario is set to receive an additional 2.2 million doses of Pfizer and Moderna vaccines this week.

Toronto officials have warned that the city's clinics are almost fully booked with vaccine appointments for the next two weeks, and therefore people who became eligible today may still have

to wait until June. However, the city has opened up an additional 120,000 appointments for the last three weeks in June, due to this increase in supply.

Earlier this month, the province said that it was on track to administer the first dose of vaccine to at least 65 percent of Ontarians by the end of May. As of Sunday evening, the province has administered more than 7.1 million doses of vaccine, and it is expected that Ontario will receive an additional 4.7 million doses of the Pfizer vaccine in June.

Source: <https://www.cp24.com/news/toronto-adds-120k-vaccination-appointments-as-all-adults-become-eligible-to-get-a-shot-1.5432309>

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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**

**Stress Management for Caregivers**

Date: Monday, May 31<sup>st</sup> at 2:00pm

To register: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/stress-management-for-caregivers-registration-151071788787>

**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=ebsoporgprofile>

**Better Living Health and Community Services  
Wellness Breaks and Lunch n' Learns**

Getting off the Path to Burnout with Dr. Marci Kostenuik

Date: Wednesday, May 19<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 to 1:30pm

To register: <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJluf-urqDktH9Oj01j8gFIMz8y6T33y1nz1>

Music for Emotional Expression with SarahRose Black

Date: Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 to 1:00pm

To register: <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0ufu6uqjwjEtRpr86FUvBHq-B2wRHqRWnh>

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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)