

Coronavirus: COVID-19
Current Update – November 13, 2020

As of November 13th, 2020, Canada has a total of 285, 276 confirmed cases of COVID-19. Ontario has 91, 180 cases with Toronto having 33, 322 cases.

Sources:

<https://www.ctvnews.ca/health/coronavirus/tracking-every-case-of-covid-19-in-canada-1.4852102>

<https://www.toronto.ca/home/covid-19/covid-19-latest-city-of-toronto-news/covid-19-status-of-cases-in-toronto/>

Ontario's COVID-19 case count surpasses 1,000 for eighth straight day

Today is the eighth day in a row where the province's number of new COVID-19 cases is above 1, 000. Today, the province reported 1, 396 new infections. Ontario's daily case count has dipped after a record high was reached on Thursday (1, 575). Before that, the province also saw record-breaking case counts on Wednesday (1, 426) and Tuesday (1, 388).

Taking this into account, within the past 7 days, Ontario's average number of new cases per day has risen to 1, 355, up from 1, 299 the day before. This time last week, 997 was the average number of cases per day based on the past seven days.

Health officials say that the province's positivity rate is at 3.4%, compared to about 2.4% at this time last week. In the last 24 hours, officials across Ontario processed 40, 509 tests, up from 39, 559 the day before.

Most of these new cases were reported in Toronto (440), Peel Region (440), York Region (155), Halton (55), Waterloo (43), Hamilton (43), Durham Region (41) and Ottawa (41).

There are currently 452 patients in an Ontario hospital for COVID-19, up from 431 the day before. 106 of these patients are in an Intensive Care Unit, and 67 of them are breathing with the assistance of a ventilator.

Including deaths and recoveries, Ontario has seen 89, 784 cases of the virus. As of today, 1, 018 more cases in Ontario have been resolved, bringing the province's total number of recovered patients to 76, 238. Since yesterday, 19 more people have died due to the virus in Ontario, and 10 of those people were residents of Long-Term Care homes. The province's total number of deaths due to the virus is 3, 312 people.

Of Ontario's 1, 396 new cases, 514 of them are people between the ages of 20 and 39, and 409 new cases are people between the ages of 40 and 59. Meanwhile, 212 new cases were confirmed

among people who are 19 years of age and younger, and 183 new cases are among people between the ages of 60 and 79. People who are 80 years of age and older represent 85 of today's new cases.

Yesterday, the province released new COVID-19 modelling data. The latest modelling projects there will be a 5% virus growth rate, which would put Ontario on track for 6, 500 new cases a day by mid-December. In this scenario, Ontario could see more than 400 patients in intensive care within the next six weeks.

According to the government, non-COVID-19 capacity and all scheduled surgeries at Ontario hospitals can be maintained when there are less than 150 novel coronavirus patients being treated in intensive care. However, once that number rises above 150, it becomes harder to support non-COVID-19 needs. If that number exceeds 350, it becomes "impossible," according to the government.

After the projections were released publicly, Ontario Premier Doug Ford said he would "make a decision" on how to move forward after a briefing from his health team on Friday morning. He will be speaking at Queen's Park at 2:30 p.m. today.

Source: <https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/ontario-s-covid-19-case-count-surpasses-1-000-for-eighth-straight-day-1.5187598>

Ontario predicts COVID-19 health system strain; Quebec mulls school closures

Yesterday, the province released new modelling data that predicts how the virus could spread in the weeks ahead. These projections suggest that the province's caseload is likely to strain the healthcare system to the point where surgeries will be cancelled.

The latest modelling suggests there will be a 5% virus growth rate, which would put Ontario on track for 6, 500 new cases a day by mid-December. Under a 3% growth rate, it would be 2, 500 cases daily.

Dr. Adalsteinn Brown, Co-chair of Ontario's COVID-19 Science Advisory Table, called the 5% growth rate a "slightly optimistic" scenario.

The Ontario Medical Association, which represents tens of thousands of physicians, urged the provincial government to lower thresholds that determine when a lockdown should be considered. In some cases, the OMA called for these restrictions to be tightened by 50% more than the current level.

Ontario Premier Doug Ford said the government's plan was approved by the province's top doctor, and that the new tiered lockdown system considers mental health and the economy.

Other provinces across Canada are trying to reduce the spread, too. Quebec's Premier is considering school closures. Alberta is enforcing new public health measures to relieve an increase in hospitalizations and intensive care admissions, such as group sports and fitness classes being cancelled for 2 weeks, and social gatherings in homes being strongly advised against.

Meanwhile, today is the first day of Manitoba's widespread restrictions to address steadily increasing COVID-19 cases, including the cancellation of in-person religious services, and non-essential stores and restaurants are restricted to curbside pickup and delivery. Saskatchewan is announcing new public health measures today to address having more than 100 new cases for six consecutive days.

Source: <https://www.thestar.com/politics/2020/11/12/new-restrictions-take-effect-in-manitoba-as-ontario-awaits-new-covid-19-projections.html>

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

Harmony Place

Online Music Therapy Sessions

Date: Wednesdays and Fridays, starting Friday August 7th, and Wednesday August 19th 2020

Time: 2:30 – 3:30pm

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82054622001?pwd=Z2xyZjFZQUpNRFB6YzAwU085N3pGUT09>

Meeting ID: 820 5462 2001

Passcode: 051424

For more information, contact Wanda by email at: wanda@harmonyplace.on.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