

Coronavirus: COVID-19
Current Update – September 3, 2021

As of September 3rd, 2021, Canada has a total of 1,508,570 confirmed cases of COVID-19. Ontario has 567,878 cases and Toronto has 174,730 cases.

Ontario logs more than 800 new COVID-19 cases for second day in a row, more than 10 million people have been vaccinated

Today, there are 807 new cases of COVID-19 in Ontario. The seven-day average is 731, up from 665 at this time last week. The positivity rate is 3.2%.

Of these 807 new infections, 628 people are either unvaccinated, partially vaccinated, or have an unknown vaccination status. The remaining 179 people are fully vaccinated.

Today's cases were mainly found in: Toronto (175), Peel Region (136), York Region (85), Durham Region (50), Windsor-Essex (72), Ottawa (49), and Hamilton (46). All other local public health units in Ontario reported fewer than 30 new cases.

According to the province, there are 326 COVID-19 patients in hospital, with 169 people in an Intensive Care Unit, and 105 of them are breathing with the help of a ventilator. In hospital, 292 patients are not vaccinated or have an unknown vaccination status, and 34 are fully vaccinated.

In Ontario, 43,855 vaccine doses were given today. Now 10,006,367 people in Ontario are fully vaccinated, which is 77.37% of the population that is eligible for a vaccine. Meanwhile, 84% of people in Ontario who are eligible for a vaccine have had at least one dose.

Sources:

1. <https://covid19tracker.ca/index.html>
2. <https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/ontario-logs-more-than-800-new-covid-19-cases-for-second-straight-day-1.5572391>

Ontario science table says we must speed up COVID-19 vaccination to avoid fourth-wave lockdown

The Ontario science advisory table released new modelling showing that we are heading into the fourth wave of this pandemic. The advisors state that we must increase vaccination across the province to avoid a lockdown and to reduce breakthrough infections. To read more about breakthrough cases, click [here](#) to see our post on this topic.

The science table says that the fourth wave may exceed intensive-care-unit capacity and that it will affect all age groups. The best way to protect against the virus, and from severe symptoms is to be vaccinated.

“We do not expect to see the same proportion of severely ill cases in the vaccinated. Among the unvaccinated, we do expect to see a rapid increase in the number of seriously ill people needing hospital care as workplaces and education re-open in September.”

The science table predicts that more than 85% of the eligible population will need to be vaccinated to avoid a lockdown this fall. Right now, just over 77% of the eligible population in Ontario is fully vaccinated.

The advisory group also recommends that we reduce our contact with others by about 70% of pre-pandemic levels until we reach herd immunity. They also suggest that we continue to physically distance, limit social gatherings, mask indoors, work from home when possible, and reduce indoor density.

After the vaccine certification program was announced this week, Ontario saw COVID-19 vaccine appointments double within 24 hours. Health Minister Christine Elliott announced that we are “already seeing thousands more Ontarians roll up their sleeves” with almost half of the appointments booked for a first dose. The provincial booking system jumped from 3,479 appointments booked on August 31 to 7,125 on September 1.

Sources:

1. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/ontario-covid-19-vaccination-rate-1.6161726>
2. <https://www.insauga.com/ontario-must-speed-up-covid-19-vaccination-to-avoid-fourth-wave-lockdown-says-science-table/>
3. <https://www.cp24.com/news/ontario-sees-covid-19-vaccine-appointments-double-after-announcing-passport-program-1.5571438>

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 support 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_YdjYHfhHnLBGvolxLIpUMIAzQTBfMdc0T09PWdk0S00xRUhMWIBMSy4u

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_YdjYHfhHnLBGvolxLIpUMIAzQTBfMdc0T09PWdk0S00xRUhMWIBMSy4u

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 Jessica (jessica.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 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 Senior Manager of Client Services/Lead AAC Facilitator Jessica at 416-222-4448 or jessica.nydp@gmail.com.