

DAILY EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SUMMARY

COVID-19 in Ontario: January 15, 2020 to March 24, 2022

Due to changes in the Ministry of Health's [updated guidance on testing and case, contact and outbreak management](#), case counts in this report are an underestimate of the true number of individuals with COVID-19 in Ontario. In addition, data for hospitalizations, intensive care unit (ICU) admission and deaths in the most recent reporting period should be interpreted with caution due to data entry and reporting lags.

In alignment with the Ministry of Health's updates to COVID-19 death reporting, COVID-19 deaths in this report will include deaths for which COVID-19 is the underlying cause of death, COVID-19 contributed to but was not the underlying cause of death, and those with a type of death unknown or missing.

Introduction

This report includes the most current information available from CCM as of **March 24, 2022**.

A [weekly summary report](#) is available with additional information to complement the daily report.

Please visit the interactive [Ontario COVID-19 Data Tool](#) to explore recent COVID-19 data by public health unit, age group, sex, and trends over time. For more information about whole genome sequencing, please see the [SARS CoV-2 Whole Genome Sequencing in Ontario report](#).

This **daily** report provides an epidemiologic summary of recent COVID-19 activity in Ontario. The change in cases is determined by taking the cumulative difference between the current day and the previous day.

In this document, the term 'change in cases' refers to cases publicly reported by the province for a given day. Data corrections or updates can result in case records being removed and/or updated from past reports and may result in subset totals for updated case counts (i.e., age group, sex) differing from the overall updated case counts.

The term public health unit reported date in this document refers to the date local public health units were first notified of the case.

Highlights

- There are a total of 1,148,336 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Ontario reported to date.
- Compared to the previous day, this represents:
 - An increase of 2,761 confirmed cases (percent change of +7.8%)
 - An increase of 15* deaths (percent change of +114.3%)
 - An increase of 1,818 resolved cases (percent change of -8.6%)

*This number only includes deaths that have occurred in the last month. In addition, 7 deaths that were reported more than one month ago were added to the cumulative total based on data cleaning.

Case Characteristics

Table 1a. Summary of recent confirmed cases of COVID-19: Ontario

	Change in cases March 23, 2022	Change in cases March 24, 2022	Percentage change March 24, 2022 compared to March 23, 2022	Cumulative case count as of March 24, 2022
Total number of cases	2,561	2,761	+7.8%	1,148,336
Number of deaths	7	15	+114.3%	12,388*
Number resolved	1,990	1,818	-8.6%	1,118,196

Note: The number of cases publicly reported by the province each day may not align with case counts reported to public health on a given day; public health unit reported date refers to the date local public health was first notified of the case. Data corrections or updates can result in case records being removed and or updated from past reports. The number of deaths presented in the change in cases column for each day only includes deaths that occurred in the last 30 days.

*7 deaths were added to the cumulative total based on data cleaning.

Data Source: CCM

Table 1b. Summary of recent confirmed cases of COVID-19 by age group and sex: Ontario

	Change in cases March 23, 2022	Change in cases March 24, 2022	Cumulative case count as of March 24, 2022
Sex: Male	1,094	1,068	543,735
Sex: Female	1,624	1,679	597,855
Ages: 0-4	58	66	34,207
Ages: 5-11	116	109	68,929
Ages: 12-19	171	190	98,666
Ages: 20-39	1,084	1,202	439,394
Ages: 40-59	712	767	319,116
Ages: 60-79	308	296	138,001
Ages: 80 and over	116	138	49,636

Note: Not all cases have an age or sex reported. Data corrections or updates can result in case records being removed and/or updated from past reports and may result in subset totals (i.e., age group, sex) differing from past publicly reported case counts.

Data Source: CCM

Table 2. Summary of recent confirmed cases of COVID-19 in long-term care homes: Ontario

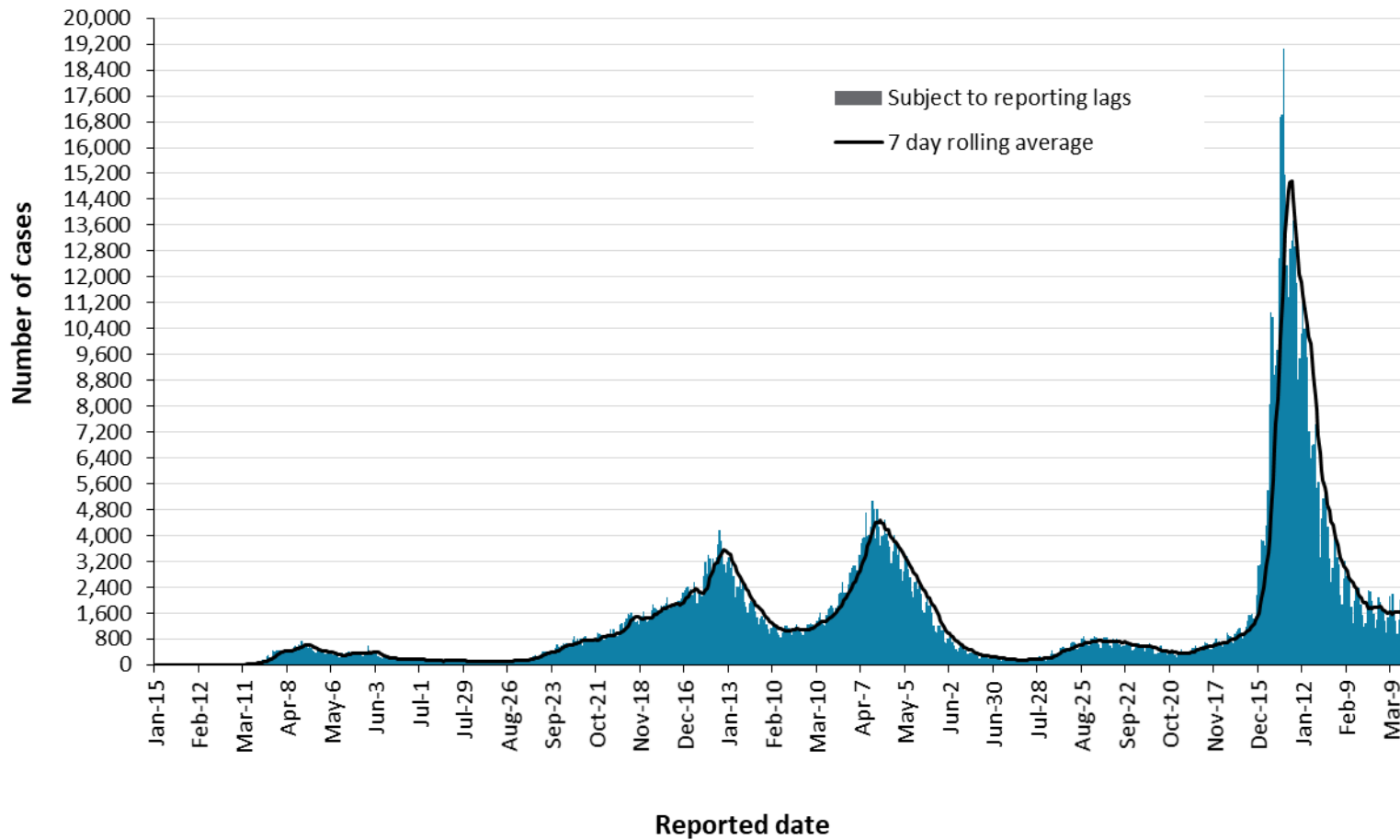
Long-term care home cases	Change in cases March 23, 2022	Change in cases March 24, 2022	Cumulative case count as of March 24, 2022
Residents	34	55	25,566
Health care workers	7	35	11,770
Deaths among residents	3	0	4,403
Deaths among health care workers	0	0	10

Note: Information on how long-term care home residents and health care workers are identified is available in the [technical notes](#). Also, the change in cases in these categories may represent existing case records that have been updated.

Data Source: CCM

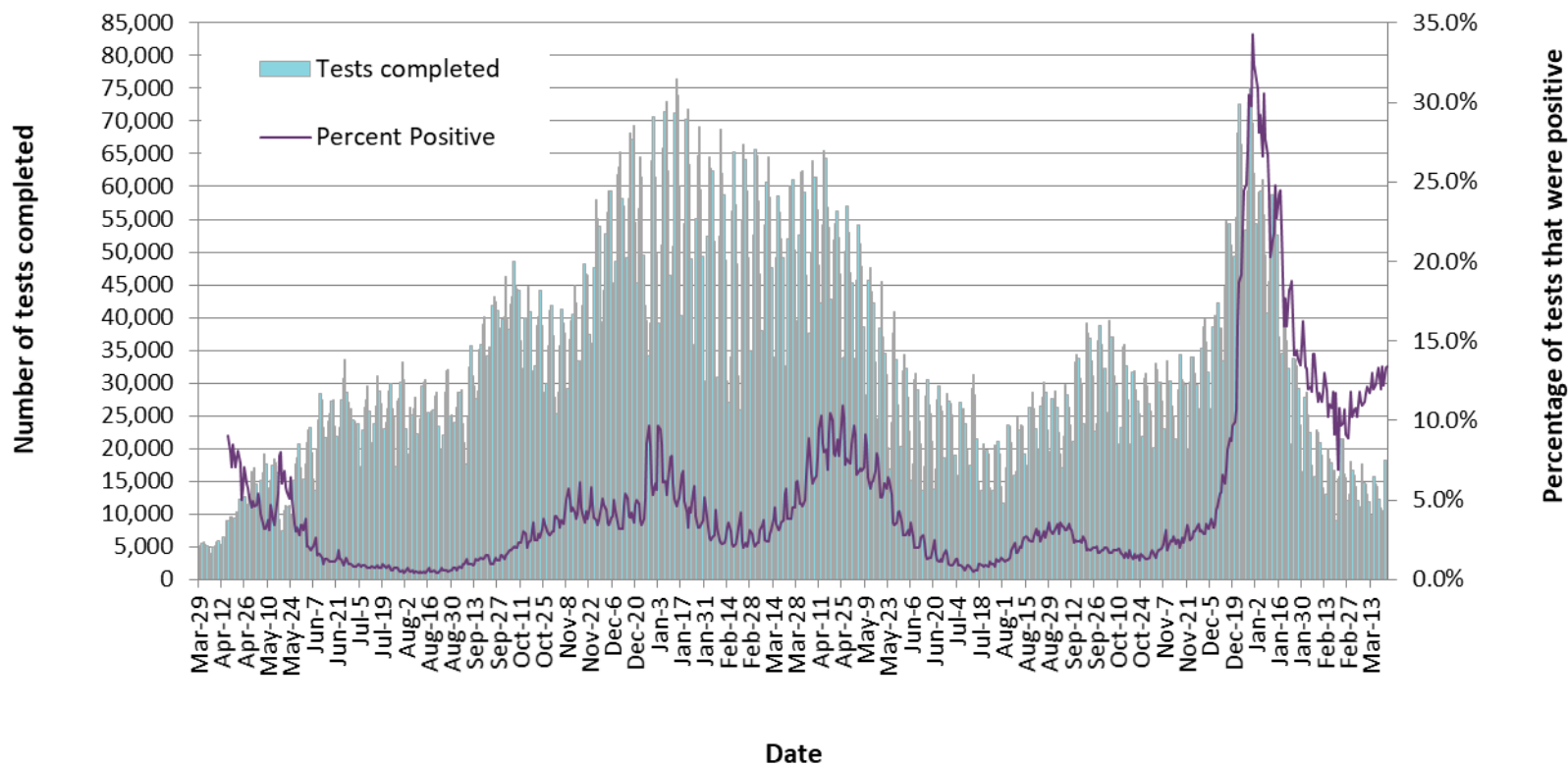
Time

Figure 1. Confirmed cases of COVID-19 by public health unit reported date: Ontario, January 15, 2020 to March 24, 2022



Note: Changes in testing eligibility went into effect on December 31, 2021, limiting access to testing and resulting in a change in the population being tested.
Data Source: CCM

Figure 2. Number of COVID-19 tests completed and percent positivity: Ontario, March 29, 2020 to March 23, 2022

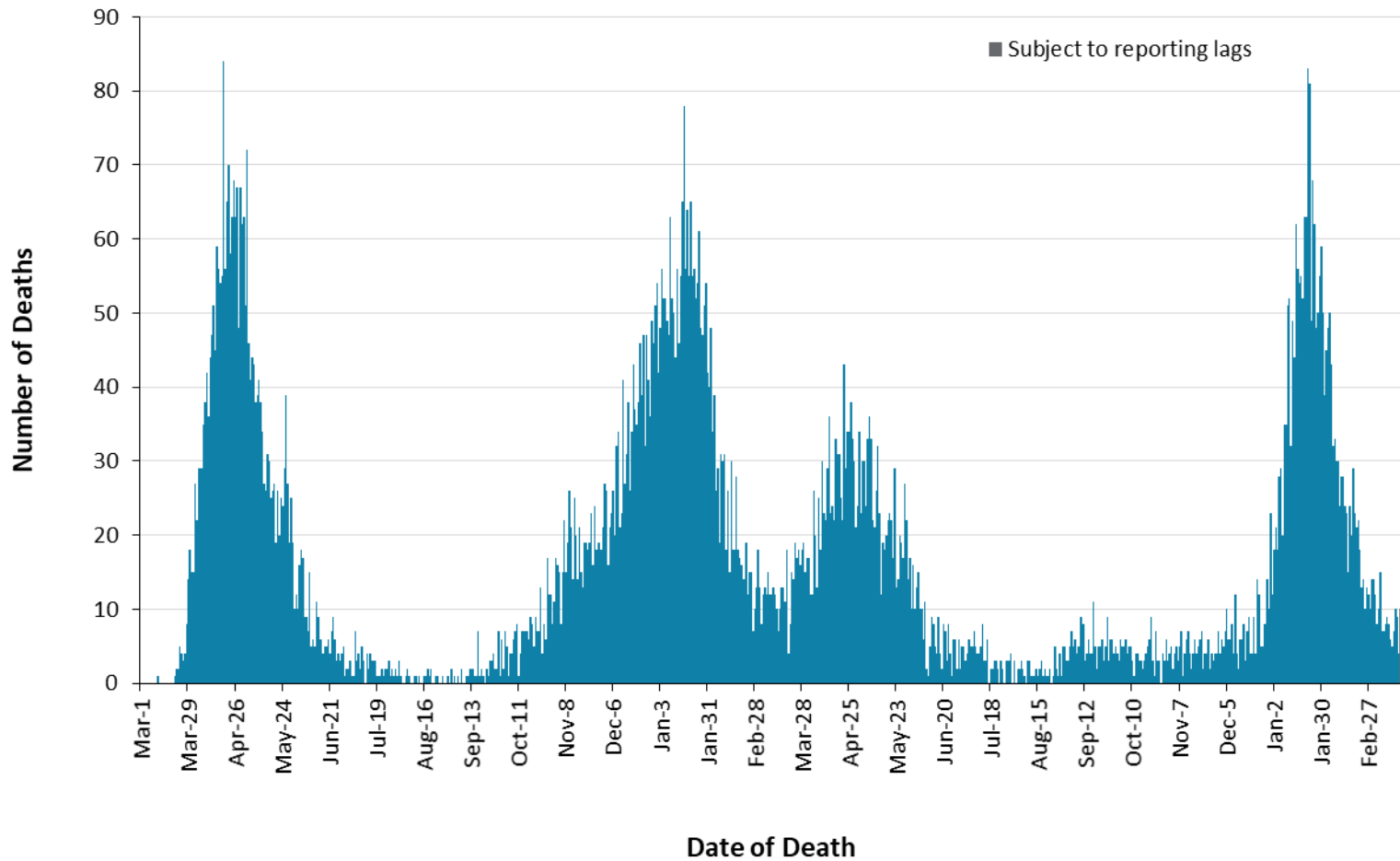


Note: The number of tests performed does not reflect the number of specimens or persons tested. More than one test may be performed per specimen or per person. As such, the percentage of tests that were positive does not necessarily translate to the number of specimens or persons testing positive. Changes in testing eligibility went into effect on December 31, 2021, limiting access to testing and resulting in a change in the population being tested.

Data Source: The Provincial COVID-19 Diagnostics Network, data reported by member microbiology laboratories.

Severity

Figure 3. Confirmed deaths among COVID-19 cases by date of death: Ontario, March 1, 2020 to March 24, 2022



Note: Cases without a death date are not included in the figure.

Data Source: CCM

Table 3. Confirmed cases of COVID-19 by severity: Ontario

	Cumulative case count as of March 24, 2022	Percentage of all cases
Cumulative deaths reported (please note there may be a reporting delay for deaths)	12,388	1.1%
Deaths reported in ages: 19 and under	13	<0.1%
Deaths reported in ages: 20-39	129	<0.1%
Deaths reported in ages: 40-59	883	0.3%
Deaths reported in ages: 60-79	4,164	3.0%
Deaths reported in ages: 80 and over	7,198	14.5%
Ever in ICU	7,941	0.7%
Ever hospitalized	43,336	3.8%

Note: Not all cases have an age reported. Data corrections or updates can result in case records being removed and/or updated and may result in totals differing from past publicly reported case counts. Percentage of deaths reported for each age group is calculated using all cases in the age group as the denominator.

Data Source: CCM

Geography

Table 4. Summary of recent confirmed cases of COVID-19 by public health unit and region: Ontario

Public Health Unit Name	Change in cases March 23, 2022	Change in cases March 24, 2022	Cumulative case count	Cumulative rate per 100,000 population
Northwestern Health Unit	56	68	6,280	7,735.4
Thunder Bay District Health Unit	25	24	9,634	6,108.8
TOTAL NORTH WEST	81	92	15,914	6,661.6
Algoma Public Health	51	64	6,337	5,377.6
North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit	35	18	4,373	3,381.8
Porcupine Health Unit	12	44	6,144	7,228.2
Public Health Sudbury & Districts	39	55	12,341	6,012.5
Timiskaming Health Unit	15	22	1,322	3,901.4
TOTAL NORTH EAST	152	203	30,517	5,341.8
Ottawa Public Health	139	192	65,353	6,265.1
Eastern Ontario Health Unit	28	49	14,098	6,531.1
Hastings Prince Edward Public Health	54	40	7,678	4,442.5
Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox & Addington Public Health	109	110	12,052	5,760.2
Leeds, Grenville & Lanark District Health Unit	20	43	7,225	4,015.1
Renfrew County and District Health Unit	18	21	3,668	3,381.5
TOTAL EASTERN	368	455	110,074	5,704.9

Public Health Unit Name	Change in cases March 23, 2022	Change in cases March 24, 2022	Cumulative case count	Cumulative rate per 100,000 population
Durham Region Health Department	100	118	55,206	7,759.9
Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit	24	26	7,530	3,948.0
Peel Public Health	163	167	174,851	11,182.3
Peterborough Public Health	18	28	6,022	4,065.7
Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit	146	109	37,824	6,256.9
York Region Public Health	148	156	100,922	8,408.3
TOTAL CENTRAL EAST	599	604	382,355	8,653.1
Toronto Public Health	565	510	286,544	9,588.5
TOTAL TORONTO	565	510	286,544	9,588.5
Chatham-Kent Public Health	22	18	7,196	6,749.2
Grey Bruce Health Unit	44	26	6,890	3,911.4
Huron Perth Public Health	41	18	6,119	4,184.1
Lambton Public Health	44	15	10,154	7,636.2
Middlesex-London Health Unit	95	110	33,457	6,552.4
Southwestern Public Health	36	42	11,751	5,368.0
Windsor-Essex County Health Unit	96	82	38,864	9,018.3
TOTAL SOUTH WEST	378	311	114,431	6,643.5
Brant County Health Unit	28	18	10,269	6,687.4
City of Hamilton Public Health Services	122	160	50,273	8,642.1
Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit	27	8	7,380	6,149.6

Public Health Unit Name	Change in cases March 23, 2022	Change in cases March 24, 2022	Cumulative case count	Cumulative rate per 100,000 population
Halton Region Public Health	88	127	43,859	7,183.2
Niagara Region Public Health	66	79	35,680	7,406.7
Region of Waterloo Public Health and Emergency Services	59	92	41,727	6,894.4
Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health	28	102	19,313	6,190.2
TOTAL CENTRAL WEST	418	586	208,501	7,278.0
TOTAL ONTARIO	2,561	2,761	1,148,336	7,793.8

Notes: Health units with data corrections or updates could result in records being removed from totals, leading to negative or zero counts.

Data Source: CCM

Outbreaks

Table 5. Summary of recent confirmed COVID-19 outbreaks reported in long-term care homes, retirement homes and hospitals by status: Ontario

Institution type	Change in outbreaks March 23, 2022	Change in outbreaks March 24, 2022	Number of ongoing outbreaks	Cumulative number of outbreaks reported
Long-term care homes	9	5	74	2,232
Retirement homes	6	3	54	1,526
Hospitals	3	3	27	1,187

Note: Ongoing outbreaks are those that are reported in CCM as 'Open' and without a 'Declared Over Date' recorded. The start of the outbreak is determined by the onset date of first case, or if missing the outbreak reported date, or else if that is also missing, then the outbreak created date.

Data Source: CCM

Technical Notes

Data Sources

- The data for this report were based on information successfully extracted from the Public Health Case and Contact Management Solution (CCM) for all PHUs by PHO as of **March 24, 2022 at 1 p.m.** for cases reported from May 1, 2021 onwards and as of **March 24, 2022 at 9 a.m.** for cases reported up to April 30, 2021.
- CCM is a dynamic disease reporting system, which allows ongoing updates to data previously entered. As a result, data extracted from CCM represent a snapshot at the time of extraction and may differ from previous or subsequent reports.
- Ontario population estimate data were sourced from Statistics Canada. Population estimates 2001-2020: Table 1 annual population estimates by age and sex for July 1, 2001 to 2020, health regions, Ontario [unpublished data table]. Ottawa, ON: Government of Canada; 2021 [received April 22, 2021].
- COVID-19 test data were based on information from The Provincial COVID-19 Diagnostics Network, reported by member microbiology laboratories.

Data Caveats

- Due to changes in the availability of testing, driven by increasing COVID-19 cases related to the Omicron variant, case counts in this report are an underestimate of the true number of individuals with COVID-19 in Ontario. As such, data should be interpreted with caution.
- The data only represent cases reported to public health units and recorded in CCM. As a result, all counts will be subject to varying degrees of underreporting due to a variety of factors, such as disease awareness and medical care seeking behaviours, which may depend on severity of illness, clinical practice, changes in laboratory testing, and reporting behaviours.
- Data cleaning for older cases is incorporated on Mondays and Thursdays and may impact the case count published on Tuesdays and Fridays.
- Lags in CCM data entry due to weekend staffing may result in lower case counts than would otherwise be recorded.
- Only cases meeting the confirmed case classification as listed in the [MOH Case Definition – Coronavirus Disease \(COVID-19\) document](#) are included in the report counts from CCM.
- Cases of confirmed reinfection, as defined in the provincial case definitions, are counted as unique investigations.
- Case classification information may be updated for individuals with a positive result issued from a point-of-care assays.
- The number of tests performed does not reflect the number of specimens or persons tested. More than one test may be performed per specimen or per person. As such, the percentage of tests that were positive does not necessarily translate to the number of specimens or persons testing positive.
- Reported date is the date the case was reported to the public health unit.

- For surveillance purposes, a COVID-19 death is defined as a death resulting from a clinically compatible illness unless there is a clear alternative cause of death that cannot be related to COVID-19 (e.g., trauma, medically assisted death). There should be no period of complete recovery from COVID-19 between illness and reported death.
- Deaths are determined by using the Outcome and Type of Death fields in CCM. COVID-19 deaths are counted where the Outcome value is 'Fatal' and the Type of Death value is not 'DOPHS was unrelated to cause of death'.
 - COVID-19 deaths are placed in time using the 'Date of Death' field in CCM. If the date of death is missing, the outcome date field is used as a proxy.
- Resolved cases are determined only for COVID-19 cases that are not considered COVID-19 deaths. The following cases are classified as resolved:
 - Cases that are reported as 'recovered' in CCM based on local public health unit assessment
 - Cases that are not hospitalized and are 14 days past their symptom onset date or specimen collection date (where symptom onset date is not known)
 - Cases that are currently hospitalized (no hospital end date entered) and have a status of 'closed' in CCM (indicating public health unit follow-up is complete) and are 14 days past their symptom onset date or specimen collection date
 - Cases that died with a Type of Death = "DOPHS was unrelated to cause of death". These are considered resolved for the purpose of COVID-19 surveillance and reporting
- Hospitalization includes all cases hospitalized (or that had their hospital stay extended) because of COVID-19. It includes cases that have been discharged from hospital as well as cases that are currently hospitalized. Includes Intensive Care Unit (ICU) cases but not emergency room visits. Hospitalizations were identified by a reported hospital admission date or reported 'Yes' for hospitalization/ICU
- ICU admission includes all cases for which an ICU admission date was reported at the time of data extraction. It is a subset of the count of hospitalized cases. It includes cases that have been treated or that are currently being treated in an ICU.
- Orientation of case counts by geography is based on the permanent health unit. This is equivalent to the diagnosing health unit (DHU) in iPHIS. DHU refers to the case's public health unit of residence at the time of illness onset and not necessarily the location of exposure. Cases for which the DHU was reported as MOH-PHO (to signify a case that is not a resident of Ontario) have been excluded from the analyses.
- Male/Female information presented in this report are sourced from the Sex field in CCM and are intended to represent sex assigned at birth. On October 14, 2021 changes were made in CCM to enable reporting on the Sex field where these data are supplemented by archived Male/Female information previously entered in the Gender field.
- COVID-19 cases from CCM for which the Classification and/or Disposition was reported as ENTERED IN ERROR, DOES NOT MEET DEFINITION, IGNORE, DUPLICATE or any variation on these values have been excluded. The provincial case count for COVID-19 may include some duplicate records, if these records were not identified and resolved.

- Ongoing outbreaks are those that are reported in CCM as 'Open' and without a 'Declared Over Date' recorded. Closed outbreaks are 'Closed' or have a 'Declared Over Date' recorded in CCM or where the outbreak start date (determined by the onset date of first case, or if missing the reported date, or if missing the created date) is more than 5 months from the current date, even for outbreaks where the outbreak status value selected in CCM is 'OPEN'.
- 'Long-term care home residents' includes cases that reported 'Yes' to the risk factor 'Resident of a long-term care home'; or 'Yes' to the risk factor 'Resident of nursing home or other chronic care facility' and reported to be part of an outbreak assigned as a long-term care home (via the Outbreak number or case comments field); or were reported to be part of an outbreak assigned as a long-term care home (via the outbreak number or case comments field) with an age over 70 years and did not report 'No' to the risk factors 'Resident of long-term care home' or 'Resident of nursing home or other chronic care facility'. 'Long-term care home residents' excludes cases that reported 'Yes' to any of the health care worker occupational risk factors.
- The 'health care workers' variable includes cases that reported 'Yes' to any of the occupation of health care worker, doctor, nurse, dentist, dental hygienist, midwife, other medical technicians, personal support worker, respiratory therapist, first responder.
- 'Health care workers associated with long-term care outbreaks' includes 'health care workers' reported to be part of an outbreak assigned as a long-term care home (via the outbreak number or case comments field). Excludes cases that reported 'Yes' to risk factors 'Resident of long-term care home' or 'Resident of nursing home or other chronic care facility' and 'Yes' to the calculated 'health care workers' variable.
- Percent change is calculated by taking the difference between the current period (i.e., daily count or sum of the daily count over a 7-day period) and previous period (i.e., daily count or sum of the daily count over a 7-day period), divided by the previous period.

Appendix A

Table A1. Weekly rates of confirmed COVID-19 cases per 100,000 population over recent rolling 7-day periods, by reported date and public health unit: Ontario, March 9, 2022 to March 21, 2022

Public Health Unit Name	Mar 9 to Mar 15	Mar 10 to Mar 16	Mar 11 to Mar 17	Mar 12 to Mar 18	Mar 13 to Mar 19	Mar 14 to Mar 20	Mar 15 to Mar 21	% change from Mar 9 – Mar 15 to Mar 15 – Mar 21
NORTH WEST								
Northwestern Health Unit	517.3	598.6	612.2	603.6	592.5	554.3	479.2	-7.4%
Thunder Bay District Health Unit	166.8	171.2	159.8	156.6	145.2	157.3	137.0	-17.9%
NORTH EAST								
Algoma Public Health	276.6	292.8	276.6	286.8	286.0	293.6	285.1	+3.1%
North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit	113.7	106.7	103.6	102.1	92.8	92.0	99.8	-12.2%
Porcupine Health Unit	237.6	224.7	201.2	196.5	165.9	171.8	172.9	-27.2%
Public Health Sudbury & Districts	162.2	160.3	149.6	140.8	135.9	136.4	125.7	-22.5%
Timiskaming Health Unit	94.4	138.7	123.9	132.8	126.9	141.7	153.5	+62.6%
EASTERN								
Ottawa Public Health	58.2	63.6	59.2	59.2	58.7	57.6	54.8	-5.8%
Eastern Ontario Health Unit	59.8	62.1	59.8	51.0	53.7	57.0	62.1	+3.8%

Public Health Unit Name	Mar 9 to Mar 15	Mar 10 to Mar 16	Mar 11 to Mar 17	Mar 12 to Mar 18	Mar 13 to Mar 19	Mar 14 to Mar 20	Mar 15 to Mar 21	% change from Mar 9 – Mar 15 to Mar 15 – Mar 21
Hastings Prince Edward Public Health	136.0	140.0	153.3	141.2	151.6	146.4	149.9	+10.2%
Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox & Addington Public Health	256.2	277.7	250.0	253.8	250.9	245.2	262.4	+2.4%
Leeds, Grenville & Lanark District Health Unit	78.4	76.1	68.9	67.2	63.4	67.8	70.0	-10.7%
Renfrew County and District Health Unit	78.4	74.7	75.6	78.4	77.4	75.6	70.1	-10.6%
CENTRAL EAST								
Durham Region Health Department	64.0	63.8	66.3	66.2	65.4	66.5	65.9	+3.0%
Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit	58.2	52.4	53.0	55.1	57.7	58.2	61.9	+6.4%
Peel Public Health	31.3	31.3	31.7	30.8	31.8	33.3	33.8	+8.0%
Peterborough Public Health	85.1	79.7	78.3	74.9	79.7	75.6	85.7	+0.7%
Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit	79.9	91.1	92.0	97.4	102.1	106.5	107.4	+34.4%
York Region Public Health	49.0	49.7	50.9	51.4	51.9	54.7	56.7	+15.7%
TORONTO								

Public Health Unit Name	Mar 9 to Mar 15	Mar 10 to Mar 16	Mar 11 to Mar 17	Mar 12 to Mar 18	Mar 13 to Mar 19	Mar 14 to Mar 20	Mar 15 to Mar 21	% change from Mar 9 – Mar 15 to Mar 15 – Mar 21
Toronto Public Health	61.7	63.8	63.0	64.0	63.5	65.4	68.2	+10.5%
SOUTH WEST								
Chatham-Kent Public Health	71.3	79.7	81.6	77.8	71.3	64.7	63.8	-10.5%
Grey Bruce Health Unit	103.3	101.6	94.2	96.5	93.7	99.9	101.6	-1.6%
Huron Perth Public Health	73.2	78.0	94.4	97.1	88.9	88.9	86.8	+18.6%
Lambton Public Health	76.7	85.7	85.7	92.5	91.0	90.2	94.0	+22.6%
Middlesex-London Health Unit	94.4	95.2	96.4	90.7	85.8	90.9	83.8	-11.2%
Southwestern Public Health	63.0	69.0	69.4	72.2	73.1	79.5	79.0	+25.4%
Windsor-Essex County Health Unit	104.4	103.5	98.6	103.3	108.6	114.2	114.2	+9.4%
CENTRAL WEST								
Brant County Health Unit	67.7	67.7	74.9	66.4	71.6	78.1	86.6	+27.9%
City of Hamilton Public Health Services	89.2	87.3	83.7	87.2	86.1	93.5	100.2	+12.3%
Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit	75.0	72.5	66.7	71.7	66.7	70.0	60.0	-20.0%
Halton Region Public Health	69.0	69.9	63.5	61.6	61.7	61.9	67.5	-2.2%

Public Health Unit Name	Mar 9 to Mar 15	Mar 10 to Mar 16	Mar 11 to Mar 17	Mar 12 to Mar 18	Mar 13 to Mar 19	Mar 14 to Mar 20	Mar 15 to Mar 21	% change from Mar 9 – Mar 15 to Mar 15 – Mar 21
Niagara Region Public Health	79.1	80.8	77.6	80.5	81.8	85.9	86.8	+9.7%
Region of Waterloo Public Health and Emergency Services	55.2	61.0	63.8	63.4	60.3	64.9	60.6	+9.8%
Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health	70.5	73.1	73.7	76.6	76.6	82.4	82.4	+16.9%
TOTAL ONTARIO	75.7	78.4	77.0	77.2	76.7	78.8	79.3	+4.8%

Note: Rates are based on the sum of the daily case counts during the date ranges specified in each column.

Data Source: CCM

Table A2. Number of confirmed COVID-19 cases with a fatal outcome by date of death in the last 30 days: Ontario

Date of Death	Number of deaths
February 23, 2022	13
February 24, 2022	14
February 25, 2022	10
February 26, 2022	13
February 27, 2022	12
February 28, 2022	10
March 1, 2022	14
March 2, 2022	14
March 3, 2022	12
March 4, 2022	8
March 5, 2022	10
March 6, 2022	15
March 7, 2022	7
March 8, 2022	7
March 9, 2022	8
March 10, 2022	9
March 11, 2022	8
March 12, 2022	6
March 13, 2022	5
March 14, 2022	7
March 15, 2022	10
March 16, 2022	9

Date of Death	Number of deaths
March 17, 2022	4
March 18, 2022	10*
March 19, 2022	8*
March 20, 2022	9*
March 21, 2022	5*
March 22, 2022	5*
March 23, 2022	5*
March 24, 2022	1*

Note: Cases without a death date are not included in the table.

*Subject to reporting lags

Data Source: CCM

Citation

Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario). Epidemiologic summary: COVID-19 in Ontario – January 15, 2020 to March 24, 2022. Toronto, ON: Queen’s Printer for Ontario; 2022.

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